

## DOCUMENTARY HISTORY, &amp;c.

## CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS, PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES, &amp;c.

## NEW-HAMPSHIRE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Proceedings of the House of Representatives of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, who convened at EXETER, as Delegates from the several Towns, Parishes, and places in said Colony, on the 21st day of DECEMBER, A. D. 1775, and continued a Congress until the 5th day of JANUARY, A. D. 1776, and then (by leave of the honourable the Continental Congress) resolved themselves into a House of Representatives or Assembly for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.*

"In Congress, Friday, November 3, 1775.

"The Congress taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on the *New-Hampshire Instructions*:

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Provincial Convention of *New-Hampshire* to call a full and free Representation of the People; and that the Representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such a form of Government as, in their judgment, will best produce the happiness of the People, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Province during the continuance of the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

"By order of Congress:

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"A true copy. Attest:

"NOAH EMERY, *Deputy Secretary*."

—  
In Congress, at Exeter, January 5, 1776.

*Voted*, That this Congress take up Civil Government for this Colony, in manner and form following, viz:

We, the Members of the Congress of *New-Hampshire*, chosen and appointed by the free suffrages of the People of said Colony, and authorized and empowered by them to meet together and use such means and pursue such measures as we should judge best for the publick good; and in particular, to establish some form of Government, provided that measure should be recommended by the Continental Congress; and, a recommendation to that purpose having been transmitted to us from the said Congress, have taken into our serious consideration the unhappy circumstances into which this Colony is involved, by means of many and grievous and oppressive Acts of the *British* Government, depriving us of our natural and constitutional rights and privileges; to enforce obedience to which Acts, a powerful Fleet and Army have been sent into this country by the Ministry of *Great Britain*, who have exercised a cruel and wanton abuse of their power, in destroying the lives and property of the Colonists in many places with fire and sword; taking the ships and lading from many of the honest and industrious inhabitants of this Colony employed in commerce agreeable to the laws and customs a long time used here.

The sudden and abrupt departure of his Excellency *John Wentworth*, Esq., our Governour, and several of the Council, leaving us destitute of legislation; and no Executive Courts being open to punish criminal offenders, whereby the lives and property of the honest people of this Colony are liable to the machinations and evil designs of wicked men: Therefore, for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the securities of the lives and property of the inhabitants of this Colony, we consider ourselves reduced to the neces-

sity of establishing a form of Government, to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with *Great Britain*; protesting and declaring that we never sought to throw off our dependance upon *Great Britain*, but felt ourselves happy under her protection, while we could enjoy our constitutional rights and privileges; and that we shall rejoice if such a reconciliation between us and our Parent State can be effected as shall be approved by the Continental Congress, in whose prudence and wisdom we confide.

Accordingly, pursuant to the trust reposed in us, we do resolve that this Congress assume the name, power, and authority of a House of Representatives, or Assembly, for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and that said House then proceed to choose twelve persons, being reputable freeholders and inhabitants within this Colony, in the following manner, viz: Five in the County of *Rockingham*, two in the County of *Strafford*, two in the County of *Hillsborough*, two in the County of *Cheshire*, and one in the County of *Grafton*, to be a distinct and separate branch of the Legislature, by the name of a Council for this Colony; to continue as such until the third *Wednesday* in *December* next; and seven of whom to be a quorum to do business.

That such Council appoint their President; and, in his absence, that the senior Counsellor preside.

That a Secretary be appointed by both branches, who may be a Counsellor, or otherwise, as they shall choose.

That no Act or Resolve shall be valid and put into execution, unless agreed to and passed by both branches of the Legislature.

That all publick officers for the said Colony, and each County, for the current year, be appointed by the Council and Assembly, except the several Clerks of the Executive Courts, who shall be appointed by the Justices of the respective Courts.

That all Bills, Resolves, or Notes, for raising, levying, or collecting Money, originate in the House of Representatives.

That, at any session of the Council and Assembly, neither branch shall adjourn for any longer time than from *Saturday* till the next *Monday* without consent of the other.

*And be it further Resolved*, That if the present unhappy dispute with *Great Britain* should continue longer than this present year, and the Continental Congress give no instruction or direction to the contrary, the Council be chosen by the people, of each respective County, in such manner as the Council and House of Representatives shall order.

That General and Field-Officers of the Militia, on any vacancy, be appointed by the two Houses; and all inferior officers be chosen by the respective Companies.

That all Officers of the Army be appointed by the two Houses, except they should direct otherwise in the case of any emergency.

That all Civil Officers for the Colony, and for each County, be appointed, and the time of their continuance in office be determined, by the two Houses; except Clerks of Courts, and County Treasurers, and Recorders of Deeds.

That a Treasurer and Recorder of Deeds for each County be annually chosen by the people of each County, respectively: the votes for such officers to be returned to the respective Courts of General Sessions of the Peace in the County, there to be ascertained as the Council and Assembly shall hereafter direct.

That Precepts, in the name of the Council and Assembly,



signed by the President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall issue annually, at or before the first day of *November*, for the choice of a Council and House of Representatives, to be returned by the third *Wednesday* in *December* then next ensuing, in such manner as the Council and Assembly shall hereafter prescribe.

Upon reading the Petition of the Agents for the Town of *Newtown* against *Joseph Bartlett*, Esq., (being present before the House,) *Ordered*, That the parties be heard thereon before this House on the 18th day of *January* current, if the Assembly be then sitting; and if not, then on the second day of their sitting after that time.

*Voted*, That the Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., be Speaker of this House.

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., be Clerk of this House.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Esq., be Assistant Clerk of this House.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, January 6, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the last Book of Records of the Court of Probate be returned to *William Parker*, Esq., in order for him to complete the Records.

*Voted*, That the several Muster-Rolls of Captain *Salter* and Captain *Daniel* be paid agreeable to the Return of the Committee for examining Muster-Rolls, stopping out such stoppages as are mentioned in their report thereon.

*Voted*, That the Matrosses under command of Captain *Salter* and Captain *Daniel* be paid off monthly for the future.

*Voted*, That the Account of the Selectmen of *Northampton*, amounting to seven Pounds nineteen Shillings, (for Blankets,) be paid.

*Voted*, That the Treasurer and Deacon *Samuel Brooks* be a Committee to receive and pay off for all the Blankets that may be collected in this Colony for the Continental Army, and to make report thereof to this House.

Then the House proceeded to choose twelve Counsellors for this Colony; and voted that the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., be first Counsellor for this Colony; the Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., second; *William Whipple*, Esq., third; *Josiah Bartlett*, Esq., fourth; *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esq., fifth, Counsellors for the County of *Rockingham*; *Thomas Westbrook Waldron*, Esq., sixth; and *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., seventh, for the County of *Strafford*; *Wyseman Claggett*, Esq., eighth; and *Jonathan Blanchard*, Esq., ninth, for the County of *Hillsborough*; *Samuel Ashley*, Esq., tenth; and *Benjamin Giles*, Esq., eleventh, for the County of *Cheshire*; and *John Hurd*, Esq., twelfth, for the County of *Grafton*, for the current year.

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., be Secretary for this Colony for the current year.

Then the honourable the Council and Secretary left the House.

Whereupon the House voted that *Clement March*, Esq., be Chairman of this House *pro tempore*.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., have an Order on the Treasury for three hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, three o'clock, afternoon.

Monday, January 8, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment; and the Chairman not being present,

*Voted*, That *Philips White*, Esq., be Chairman *pro tempore*.

*Voted*, That this House proceed to the choice of a Speaker, and that he be chosen by ballot.

And the Votes being counted, it appeared that *Philips White*, Esq., was chosen Speaker of this House; who took the chair accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Esq., be Clerk of this House.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of five Members of this House to draw up Rules for the order of this House;

And that Captain *Giddinge*, Captain *Long*, Major *Downing*, *John Dudley*, Esq., and Colonel *Walker*, be the Committee for that purpose, to report as soon as may be.

Monday, January 8, 1776, P. M.

*Voted*, That Precepts be sent out to the several Towns and places in this Colony, whose Representatives are advanced to the Council, to choose new Members to represent them in the Assembly.

The Clerk of this House being necessarily called out of the House,

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., be Clerk *pro tempore*.

*Voted*, To choose two Monitors;

And that *Israel Morey*, Esq., and Dr. *Levi Dearborn*, be Monitors of this House.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, January 9, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed yesterday to draw up Rules for the order of the House, made report of twelve Rules, following;

Which being distinctly read and considered,

*Voted*, That the same be accepted, adopted, and made Rules for the order of this House; and are as follows, viz:

*First*. That whosoever shall, by any misbehaviour in speech or action, justly offend any of the Members of the House, shall, for the first offence, be admonished; and for the second, shall be fined as the House shall see meet.

*Second*. That no Member speak twice to any matter in debate before the House until every Member have liberty to speak once to the same matter, if he should see cause.

*Third*. That every Member direct his speech to the Speaker, and not one to another; and when any Member has a mind to speak to any matter in debate, he shall stand up and ask leave of the Speaker, and not speak without his consent; and shall be silent at his command. But if the Member speaking thinks such command unseasonable, or unreasonable, the Speaker shall take a vote of the House thereon; to which such Member shall submit, on pain of forfeiting such sum as the House shall determine.

*Fourth*. That, whenever it happens that there are as many votes on one side of a question as on the other, without the Speaker, then the Speaker shall make the casting vote.

*Fifth*. That if the Speaker be absent, the House may choose a Speaker *pro tempore*, that the business of the House be carried on without delay.

*Sixth*. That if any Member, after being qualified and entered, shall absent himself at any time, without leave, from the House, he shall be liable to be fined at the discretion of the House.

*Seventh*. That if any Member of this House shall, by the major part of the House, be thought unfit, and not qualified for said place, it shall be in the power of the House to dismiss such person, giving notice to the Town or Towns, Parish or Parishes, where he belongs, to choose another to fill up such vacancy.

*Eighth*. That every Bill, to be passed in this House, be read three times; and that there be two adjournments of this House before any Bill be passed into an Act.

*Ninth*. That the Speaker and thirty of the Members returned, be a House to do business.

*Tenth*. That no Vote that is passed in the House shall be reconsidered by a lesser number than were present when passed.

*Eleventh*. That no Vote shall be valid unless passed by a majority of the Members present.

*Twelfth*. That no Member make any new motion until that which is under consideration is determined or postponed.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey* be excused from being a Monitor to this House; and that *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., be chosen and appointed in his room.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Long*, Colonel *Morey*, and *John Dudley*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Council, and report to this House what business is necessary to be immediately entered upon.

General *Folsom* came down from the Board, and informed the House that the honourable Council had appointed a Committee to join the Committee of this House, to confer and report what business shall be immediately entered upon;

and the Committee of this House immediately attended them accordingly.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., Colonel *Walker*, *James McClarey*, Esq., Colonel *Evans*, and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee to draft an Act to confirm the Proceedings of the late Congresses, excepting what relates to the Pay of the Members of this House.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery* and *Samuel Cutts*, Esqs., and Colonel *David Gilman*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to revise the system of Laws lately in force in this Colony, and to report what alterations, additions and amendments of them are necessary to be made in our present circumstances, for the guidance of the Executive Officers of Government.

The honourable Council joined to the above Committee the Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, *Ebenezer Thompson*, and *Wyseman Clagett*, Esqs.

*Voted*, That Mr. Secretary *Thompson* and Colonel *Baker* be desired, as soon as may be, to procure two books for Records, the one for the honourable Council, and the other for this House; and that the Treasurer be directed to pay for them.

The House adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, January 10, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Clerk of the House being necessarily called away,

*Voted*, That *Timothy Walker*, Jun., Esq., be Clerk *pro tempore*.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., Captain *Prentice*, Mr. *Baldwin*, and Mr. *Chase*, be a Committee to state the Wages of the present House of Assembly and the honourable Council, and make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That the Clerk of this House apply to the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., Clerk of the late House of Assembly of this Colony, for the Journals and Files of said late Assembly.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey*, Colonel *Gerrish*, Major *Bellows*, and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee to state the quantity and quality of Fire-Arms necessary to be purchased by this Colony, and make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., be, and hereby is, appointed Treasurer and Receiver-General for this Colony, for one year, from the twenty-first day of *December* last, and to continue after that time, until a new appointment of the General Assembly, he giving bond, with two sufficient sureties, in the sum of one hundred thousand Pounds, to the Speaker of this House for the time being, in behalf of the Colony, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

Sent up to the Board by Colonel *Gilman* and Captain *Moulton*.

*Voted*, That the Town of *Allenstown*, being taxed the last year the sum of three Pounds six Shillings and one Penny more than their proportion with other towns in this Colony, the said town be abated that sum.

Sent up by Colonel *Gilman* and Captain *Moulton*.

*Voted*, That the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., be Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature for this Colony; that *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., be Second Justice, *Leverett Hubbard*, Esq., Third Justice, and *Elisha Paine*, Esq., Fourth Justice of said Court.

Sent up by Colonel *Gilman* and Captain *Moulton*.

Adjourned to half after two o'clock, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

Upon a motion made by *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq.,

*Voted*, That he wait upon the honourable Council, and inquire whether they have received any publick Letters.

Mr. *Blanchard* came down from the Board, and informed the House that the honourable Council had received no publick Letters but what they had communicated to the House.

The House adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock, fore noon.

Thursday, January 11, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *William Parker*, Esq., one of the Paymasters to our Forces, have an Order on the Treasurer, for three hundred and thirty-five Pounds seven Shillings and five Pence, to pay off the Rolls yet unpaid; and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer for the same accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Theophilus Gilman* and *Charles Rundett* be added to the Committee for examining Accounts against this Colony.

A Petition of sundry Members of this House being read:

*Voted*, That it lay upon the table for consideration.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

A copy of an anonymous Letter was brought into the House by one of the Members, and ordered to be read, (by the Speaker;) whereupon the Clerk of the House read the same, and it is as follows:

"Portsmouth, January 11, 1776.

"DEAR SIR: As the Committee chosen yesterday by this town, are just a going to *Exeter* with a Petition and Remonstrance to the Congress against their proceedings, I thought I would just inform you of it; for I think it gives a silly cast to all their doings. I hope they will not comply with their request. The objection was first started in the Committee at the work-house, the night before last, and the town-meeting called yesterday; the meeting was very thin—not above forty or fifty persons in it. Every one in the meeting voted for it, though I believe they were actuated by different motives. They have voted to send circular letters to all the towns, that they may remonstrate likewise. It was proposed, I think, by designing men, on purpose to make a division in the Colony, and, I believe, will go near to effect it, unless the wisdom of the Congress prevents it. I am, &c.,  
VERITAS."

Read a Petition from sundry Members of this House, and also a Remonstrance or Petition of the Town of *Portsmouth*.

The House examined several Gentlemen lately from *London*, about the state of affairs there concerning *America*.

*Voted*, That the Petition from the Town of *Portsmouth* lay for consideration.

*Voted*, That the Petition of fourteen Members of this House be dismissed.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker* be added to the Committee for examining Muster-Rolls, in the place of *Philips White*, Esq., our Speaker.

*Voted*, That *John Hurd*, Esq., be Recorder of Deeds and Conveyances, &c., for the County of *Grafton*.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, January 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Captain *John George Turner's* Company of Artillery be paid out of the Treasury the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, towards their wages in the service of this Colony, and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer for the same.

Adjourned till half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Timothy Walker* and *William Parker*, Esqs., be a Committee to join with the Secretary, by leave of the honourable Board, to prepare and correct the plan or form of Government for this Colony, and fit it for the press.

Captain *Long* and Mr. *Sherburne* brought in the following Dissent and Protest; which was read, and is as follows, viz:

"We, the subscribers, chosen by the People of several Towns in the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, to represent them in the Congress of said Colony, held at *Exeter*, on the 21st day of *December*, 1775, beg leave to enter our dissent to,

and protest against, the present plan of taking up Government, for the following reasons: First. That the vote of the Continental Congress countenancing the same, was obtained by the unwearied importunity (both within door and without) of our Delegates there, as appears by their letter. Second. That the said vote does not appear to have been unanimous, but we have reason to think very otherwise. Third. Because the Colonies of *New-York* and *Virginia*—which are in similar circumstances with us, are much larger, and more opulent, and, we presume, much wiser, (to whom we would pay all due deference,)—have not attempted any thing of the kind, nor, as we can learn, ever desired it. Fourth. Because we have no ground on which to pretend to make a Council, as our neighbours of the *Massachusetts*, who act by Charter never vacated on any legal trial. Fifth. Because it appears assuming, for so small and inconsiderable a Colony, to take the lead in a matter of so great importance. Sixth. Because our constituents never expected us to make a new form of Government, but only to set the Judicial and Executive wheels in motion. Seventh. Because the Congress, as such, could have done what was necessary, and their power could not be enlarged by any act of their own. Eighth. Because the expense of the Colony is greatly augmented thereby. Ninth. Because it appears to us too much like setting up an Independency on the mother country.

“NORTH HILL, *Newington*.

“LEVI DEARBORN, *Newington*.

“RICHARD DOWNING, *Portsmouth*.

“SAMUEL SHERBURNE, *Dover*.

“STEPHEN EVANS, *Portsmouth*.

“PIERCE LONG, *Rye*.

“NATHAN GOSS, *Dover*.

“OTIS BAKER, *Kensington*.

“EZEKIEL WORTHEN, *Stratham*.

“BENJAMIN BARKER, *Rochester*.

“JAMES KNOWLES, *Sandwich and Moultonborough*.

“DANIEL BEEDE, *Lee*.

“HERCULES MOONEY, *Lee*.

“January 10, 1776.”

A Committee from the Town of *Portsmouth* brought into the House a request from the Town of *Portsmouth*; which was read, and is as follows, viz:

“Colony of New-Hampshire.

“At a Town-Meeting held at *Portsmouth*, this 12th day of *January*, 1776, Voted unanimously, That *Ammi B. Cutter*, Esq., *George King*, Esquire, and Captain *George Wentworth*, be a Committee to write a Letter to the Congress, requesting to be favoured with the original of an anonymous Letter read in Congress this day.

“The said Committee accordingly returned with the following draft; which was voted to be forthwith sent to the Congress, and is as follows:

“*Portsmouth*, January 12, 1776.

“To the Honourable Congress at *EXETER*:

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Committee appointed to prefer the Petition of this Town, of the 10th instant, having acquainted us that, after they had preferred the same, and had retired, they were informed that a letter, subscribed *Veritas*, was read before your Honours, purporting that it was voted at a very thin meeting, with other assertions utterly false, scandalous, and derogatory to the honour of the town; it is our duty to acquaint your Honours, that there were upwards of two hundred persons present, who unanimously voted therefor; and we earnestly request that your Honours will indulge us with a sight of the original letter, of which that was a copy, in order that the author who has been guilty of this scandalous falsehood, may receive the reward of his just demerit.”

“A true copy. Attest:

“JOHN PENHALLOW, *Town Clerk*.”

The Petition of the principal Inhabitants of *Southampton*, relating to the Estates of *Elijah Brown* and *Moses Brown*, praying that this House would make some effectual act, or lay some bar, so that they may not squander away their Estates without the knowledge of the town, &c., being read,

Ordered, That it lay for further consideration.

The Committee to draw a plan for providing Fire-Arms for a Colony stock, report as follows, viz:

That for every good Fire-Arm manufactured in this Colony, made after the following manner, viz: A barrel three feet nine inches long, to carry an ounce ball, a good bayonet with blade eighteen inches long, iron ramrod, with a spring to retain the same, the maker's name engraved on the lock, which shall be delivered at *Exeter*, to *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Receiver-General, on or before the 1st of *May* next, the owner of such fire-arms receive three pounds for each, of said Receiver-General, after having tried said gun in the presence of the said Receiver-General with four inches and a half of powder, well wadded, at the owner's own risk. And that there be appointed one good man, well approved, in each County, to receive any fire-arms so made in said County, on the same condition, (as before-mentioned for the Receiver-General to receive them,) and the persons so appointed to receive the money for the number of guns so delivered.

Which Report being read and considered,

Voted, That the same be received and established as a resolve of this House.

And, Voted, That Colonel *Evans*, for the County of *Strafford*; Samuel *Emerson*, for the County of *Grafton*; Major *John Bellows*, for the County of *Cheshire*; and Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, for the County of *Hillsborough*, be Receivers of Fire-Arms, according to the aforesaid Resolve.

The Memorial and Remonstrance of the Freeholders of the Town of *Portsmouth*, being brought into the House, was read, and is as follows:

“Colony of New-Hampshire, *Portsmouth*, January 10, 1776.

“To the Honourable body now sitting at *EXETER*, in and for said Colony:

“The Memorial and Remonstrance of the Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the Town of *Portsmouth*, in legal town-meeting convened, humbly shews:

“That your Memorialists are greatly alarmed by the information of their Delegates, that they, together with other Delegates of the several towns in said Colony, were about to dissolve their existence as a Congress, and assume that of a House of Representatives, and to proceed to an election of twelve Counsellors, who are to act as another branch of legislation, for the future government of this Colony; which measure your Memorialists, with all decency, tenderness, and respect, beg leave to remonstrate against, for the following weighty reasons:

“First. As we are of opinion that the inhabitants of the Colony do not generally approve of this measure, we could therefore have wished to have had the minds of the people fully taken on such a momentous concernment, and to have known the plan before it was adopted and carried into execution, which is their inherent right.

“Secondly. We humbly conceive that such a measure is an open declaration of independency, which we can by no means countenance, until we shall know the sentiments of the *British* nation in general. We have hitherto viewed the controversy as with the Ministry and Parliament only; and our enemies are styled the Ministerial Army and Navy, and we have considered them as acting contrary to the voice of the nation. We have just received certain advices that our friends in *Great Britain* are at this time exerting themselves, and uniting in their petitions for a redress of our grievances, and, in all probability, will make a powerful diversion in our favour, and will finally prevail, if it is once fully believed that we are not aiming at independency. But when they perceive we are setting up new forms of Government, they will be exasperated against us; and, losing sight of their former friendship and affection, will be filled with resentment, and charge us with duplicity.

“Thirdly. We have the highest opinion of the upright disposition of the Congress, and that what they have done is intended for the general good; but at the same time we must beg leave to suggest our apprehensions that this measure will have a tendency to disunite us, which is a most alarming consideration, as being a circumstance which we are well informed our enemies greatly expect, and would be rejoiced to hear of. We would be cautious of prolixity in addressing your Honours, but must beg leave to repeat that the Ministry, among other deceptions, have asserted that the rebellious war (as they term it) now levied, is become more general, and is manifestly carried on for the purpose of

establishing an independency. This our friends in *Great Britain* utterly deny. While we are governed by a Congress, they have a right so to do, because necessity compels us to the measure; but they will certainly make a very wide distinction between necessity and what will be called usurpation, the consequences of which deserve due weight.

We therefore pray that the assumption of Government may at least be suspended for the present, and that some regulation may be adopted for the preservation of property, under such restrictions as the Congress in their wisdom shall think proper. And your Memorialists as in duty bound shall ever pray. A true copy. Attest:

"JOHN PENHALLOW, Town Clerk."

*Voted*, That *Moses Nicholas, Esq.*, be an Assistant to the Clerk of this House.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts, Timothy Walker*, and *David Gilman, Esqs.*, be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board, about the adjournment of the Council and Assembly, and to make report at what time, and to what time, the honourable Board think best to adjourn.

Adjourned for a quarter of an hour; then met according to adjournment.

An Act for confirming and establishing the Votes, Resolves, and Proceedings of the several late Congresses of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, read the second time.

Mr. *Blanchard* came from the Council, and informed the House that the honourable Board had appointed a Committee to confer with the Committee of this House about adjourning.

*Voted*, That Captain *Pierce Long* be paid out of the Treasury the sum of one hundred Pounds, towards his account as Barrackmaster, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer for the payment thereof.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts, Timothy Walker*, and *David Gilman, Esqs.*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to draw up a Recommendation of an *Indian* Preacher to the *Indian Nations*.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock, A. M.

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment, and made a collection in the House for the Rev. Mr. *Joseph Johnson*, of five Pounds two Shillings and six Pence: presented him by Mr. *Cutts*.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee to collect the evidence of losses sustained in this Colony since the shutting up of our Ports.

*Voted*, That *John Giddinge, Esquire*, and Captain *John Emery*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to collect the evidence of losses sustained in this Colony since the shutting up of our Ports.

*Voted*, That the Staff-Roll of Colonel *Wingate*, amounting to seventy-three Pounds, nineteen Shillings and four Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Upon reading the Petition of the Town of *Dover*,

*Voted*, That they be heard thereon on *Thursday* next if this House be then sitting; and if not, then on the second day of their next session.

The Petition from *Greenland*, and that from *Portsmouth*, to be heard on the same day.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, Colonel *Morey*, Captain *Prentice*, Captain *Long*, and Mr. *Sherburne*, be a Committee to draft a Letter in answer to the request of the Committee of *Portsmouth*.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, three o'clock, afternoon.

Monday, January 15, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Bill for confirming and establishing the Votes, Resolves, and Proceedings of the several late Congresses of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, having been read a third time,

*Voted*, That it pass to be enacted.

*Voted*, That Captain *Abijah Learned* be allowed and

paid out of the Treasury the sum of twenty-three Shillings and four Pence, (being so much short allowance to him in the late Pay-Roll of the Congress,) and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Upon reading the Petition of the Selectmen of *Newington*,  
*Voted*, That they be heard thereon on *Thursday* next, if the General Assembly be then sitting; and if not, then on the second day of the next session of the Assembly.

*Voted*, That the Members of the honourable Council, and the Members of this House, receive five Shillings per day for their attendance on the General Assembly, *Sundays* included, and two Pence per mile travel to and from their homes, excepting such Members as live within fifteen miles of the place where the General Assembly sits, who shall receive pay for their travel to and from their homes, and have no pay for *Sundays*; and that each Member living more than fifteen miles from Court shall receive pay for their travel on every adjournment of the Assembly for a longer time than from *Saturday* till *Monday*, excepting the travel on one late adjournment from *Saturday* till *Tuesday*, on which adjournment they are to receive pay for *Sunday* and *Monday*; and that they receive their pay at the end of every Session, out of the publick Treasury, on Pay-Roll to be certified by the Secretary and Clerk of the House, respectively, and lodged with the Treasurer.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, January 16, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Evans*, Captain *Wait*, and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee to examine into and allow such Muster-Rolls as may be laid before them, and report thereon.

*Voted*, That Major *James Hackett* forthwith repair to *Portsmouth* and the Fortresses at *Piscataqua Harbour*, and muster the Artillerymen and Matrosses, and make return to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Speaker*, Colonel *David Gilman*, Colonel *Walker*, and Captain *Moulton*, be a Committee to inquire into the structure and cost of a Powder-Mill, and make a report to this House as soon as may be.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of Safety, to consist of three Members of this House and of the Council, to transact the business of this Colony in the recess of the General Assembly.

*Voted*, To build a Galley at the charge of this Colony, to cruise on our Sea-Coast, and to be used for the benefit of defending our Armies and of annoying our enemies.

The Petition of the Town of *Rochester* being read,

*Voted*, That the Petitioners be heard thereon on *Thursday* next, if this House be then sitting; and if not, then on the second day of the next session of the Assembly.

*Voted*, That *Philips White, Esq.*, Captain *Josiah Moulton*, and Captain *Pierce Long*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to act as a Committee of Safety for this Colony in the recess of the General Assembly; and that they have the same powers and authority as the late Committee of Safety, appointed by the late Congress, had.

*Voted*, That the Muster-Roll of Captain *John Brewster*, amounting to £84 8s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That a Letter of recommendation and of directions be presented to the Rev. Mr. *Joseph Johnson*, to be signed by the Speaker of this House and by the President of the Council.

*Voted*, That Captain *John Bell*, Captain *Hercules Mooney*, and Colonel *Timothy Walker*, be a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to write and forward a Letter to General *Sullivan*, concerning *Adam Stuart*, late of *Londonderry*, being a person suspected of being inimical to this country.

*Voted*, That the Account of Captain *Jacob Tilton*,

amounting to ten Pounds seventeen Shillings and four Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Esq., Captain *Stephen Harriman*, and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to prepare and bring in a Bill for establishing the Fees of the several Officers in this Colony.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, *Israel Morey*, and *John Bellows*, Esqs., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to consult about Fire-Arms, and to prepare a Letter in answer to a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, respecting the same.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, January 17, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of a number of the Freeholders of the Parish of *Brentwood* being read,

*Voted*, That the Petitioners be heard thereon to-morrow, if they see cause.

Upon reading an ignominious, scurrilous, and scandalous piece printed in the *New-Hampshire Gazette* and *Historical Chronicle*, (No. 1001,) of Tuesday, January 9, 1776, directed or addressed to the Congress at *Exeter*,

*Voted*, That *Daniel Fowle*, Esq., the supposed printer of said Paper, be forthwith sent for and ordered to appear before this House, and give an account of the author of said piece; and further to answer for his printing said piece, so much derogatory to the honour of this Assembly, as well as of the honourable Continental Congress, and injurious to the cause of liberty now contending for.

*Voted*, That the Hon. *John Wentworth*, Esq., of *Somerset*, be one of the Counsellors for the County of *Strafford*, in the room of *Thomas Westbrook Waldron*, Esq., who was chosen, but did not accept.

*Voted*, That the Billeting-Roll of Captain *Moses Leavitt*, amounting to eighty-seven Pounds twelve Shillings and nine Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give his warrant on the Treasurer, or Paymaster, for the payment thereof.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Thursday, January 18, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Baker*, Colonel *Walker*, and Colonel *Mony*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to wait on *John Langdon*, Esq., at *Hampton-Falls*, or wherever they may meet him, and desire him to repair to this House as soon as he conveniently can.

A Letter prepared by the Committee of both Houses, in answer to one received from General *Washington*, respecting Fire-Arms, &c., being read,

*Voted*, That the same be transcribed, and sent to his Excellency General *Washington* as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Major *Parker*, Mr. *Gibson*, and Captain *Wait*, be a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to take into consideration what method is best to be taken to obtain security for Debts in Civil Cases, and how far the same shall be prosecuted and carried into execution as to the recovery of such Debts.

Upon reading the Petition from *Newtown*, in behalf of Second Parish:

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., Captain *Prentice*, Mr. *Balch*, Mr. *Baldwin*, Captain *Wait*, *James Betton*, Esq., and Major *Bellows*, be a Committee to examine into the matters of the complaint, and make report thereon as soon as may be.

The said Committee made the following Report thereon, viz:

Upon considering the prayer of the within Petition, and hearing the evidences on both sides, find that the within named *Joseph Bartlett*, Esq., was not legally chosen by the Town of *Newtown* to represent them in Congress on May 17th, 1775.

Per order: NATHANIEL BALCH, *Chairman*.

The Petitions from the Towns of *Portsmouth*, *Dover*, *Newington*, *Rochester*, *Stratham*, *Northampton*, *Rye*, *New-Market*, *Kensington*, *Greenland*, and a part of *Brentwood*, against taking up Government in the new form established by this House, being read and considered, (by both Houses being come together in the Town-House,) and fully argued by Mr. *John Pickering*, Counsel for the Petitioners:

The House adjourned till to-morrow, nine o'clock, A. M.

— Friday, January 19, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of five persons to consult with some of the members of the Committee of Safety of *Portsmouth*, and report to this House what they think best to be done respecting removing the People from *Gosport*; and that Dr. *Levi Dearborn*, Captain *Wait*, Colonel *Evans*, *John McClary*, Esq., and Captain *Moulton*, be the said Committee.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey*, Colonel *David Gilman*, and Colonel *Evans*, be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Council, about laying our plan of Government before the honourable the Continental Congress, and taking their advice thereon, and to make report to the House as soon as may be.

The Committee appointed to consult about removing the People from *Gosport*, made report to the House as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed for the above-said business, beg leave to report: That it is our opinion that the inhabitants of *Gosport*, on the *Isle-of-Shoals*, remain there until further orders from this House; and that they be allowed to purchase any necessaries of life, sufficient for their own families, at *Rye Harbour*, or *Little Boar's Head*, in *Northampton*, on making pay for the same in cash, or good fish. Provision to be made by some two persons near said harbours for the above purpose, or by a Committee for that purpose, in behalf of the Colony; and that the said inhabitants be forbid going to, or trading in, any other harbour or harbours.

Which Report being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the Inhabitants of *Gosport* remain on that Island till further orders from this House.

*Voted*, That Captain *Moses Barnett*, of *Londonderry*, be, and hereby is, empowered to take and certify Depositions for *Adam Stuart*, and against him, concerning the complaint and information of the Committee of Safety of *Londonderry*.

The honourable Board sent down the following Vote of Council, viz:

"Colony of New-Hampshire, in Council, January 19, 1776.

"Upon reading the Letters from his Excellency General *Washington* and General *Sullivan*, requesting Recruits from the Continental Army, the Board are of opinion that the requisition ought speedily to be attended to, and would therefore recommend a vote to be passed for the raising one regiment out of our Militia now in the service; and that a Committee of the honourable House be appointed to join with a Committee of the Board, and fully authorized to carry the same into execution.

"*Voted*, That the foregoing be sent to the honourable House.

"Attest: E. THOMPSON, *Secretary*."

General *Washington's* Letter is as follows:

"Cambridge, January 16, 1776.

"SIR: The alarming and almost defenceless state of our lines, occasioned by the slow progress in raising recruits for the new Army, and the departure of a great number of the Militia, which had been called in for their support till the 15th instant, rendered it necessary for me to summon the General Officers in Council, to determine on proper means to be adopted for their preservation. For this purpose, they met at Head-Quarters yesterday and to-day, and finding that it was with the utmost difficulty and persuasion that such of the latter as are now here have been prevailed upon to continue till the last of the month, (after which there is not the remotest probability of their staying a moment,) they have judged it expedient, and absolutely necessary, that thirteen regiments should be forthwith raised, equal to those of the new establishment, to be officered according to the usual mode of their respective Governments, which are to



repair to this camp by the last instant, if possible, to be in readiness to act in such manner, till the 1st of *April*, as circumstances may require. Of this number, they apprehend the *Massachusetts* should furnish seven, *Connecticut* four, and your Government two, being agreeable to the proportion settled by Congress.

"In order that each regiment may consist of a proper number of officers and men, I have enclosed you a list for their regulation, and of the Continental pay. I must earnestly solicit your attention and regard to arms, ammunition, blankets, kettles, and clothing, that they may come as well provided with these necessaries as possible, particularly the first, as, from the amazing deficiency here, I shall not have it in my power to supply them. G WASHINGTON.

"Hon. *Matthew Thornton*, Esq."

Another Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*.

"Cambridge, January 21, 1776.

"SIR: In the hurry of my last despatches to you, of the 19th instant, I forgot to intimate that, for the encouragement of the regiment destined for *Canada*, a month's advance pay will be allowed officers and soldiers by me, in behalf of the Congress; at the same time, I think it but right that you should be apprized of the intention of this Government to allow their regiment another month's pay, to enable the men to provide for so long and fatiguing a march, and, in the mean time, leave something for their families to subsist upon during their absence. I have no doubt but that this last advance will be pleasing enough to Congress, and that the money will be speedily refunded; but as I have no authority to direct it, and would not appear, by any act of mine, to put the three regiments for *Canada* upon a different footing than those who have been raising for this Army, I only give you a hint of the intention of this Government, that, if you think proper, the regiment from your Colony may be placed upon the same footing, as I know all kind of distinctions are considered by troops with an evil and jealous eye. Such necessaries as are absolutely requisite for the march of this regiment you will please have provided, upon the best terms you can, and regular accounts, with vouchers thereof, kept, that payment may be made. The importance of despatch will, I am persuaded, appear in so urgent a light to you, that I need add nothing on this head, but shall be glad to hear what progress you make in the business.

"Being with the sincerest regard and esteem, sir, your most obedient humble servant, G. WASHINGTON."

The House adjourned to two o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Account of the Committee of Safety of *Exeter*, amounting to seventy-nine Pounds thirteen Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give his order on the Treasurer for payment of the same.

The information and complaint of the Committee of Safety of *Londonderry*, against *Adam Stuart*, being read and considered in the House,

*Voted*, That the parties be heard thereon on *Tuesday* next, afternoon.

*Voted*, That there be an Assistant Clerk of this House; and that *Noah Emery*, Esq., the present Clerk, have liberty to appoint said Assistant.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., Captain *Prentice*, *James Betton*, Esq., and Major *Bellows*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to examine into and report what Wages or Pay each Committee-man, that have been employed by the late Congresses, and by this House, ought to receive for their services, and to make report to this House thereof.

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, be desired to forward the Blankets collected for the Continental Army, to Head-Quarters, as soon as may be, with an account thereof to the General, and to receive the money for them, or a receipt from the Commissary-General.

*Voted*, That the Muster-Roll of Captain *James Merrill*, amounting to four Pounds five Shillings and three Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President give his order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, *John McClary*, Esq., and *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to make report to this House what pay Dr. *Hall Jackson* ought to receive for his past services to this Colony, and what establishment he shall have in future.

*Voted*, That Captain *Moulton*, Colonel *David Gilman*, and Major *John Bellows*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult about appointing the Field-Officers of the Regiment this day voted to be raised for the Continental Army, and for further carrying the said vote into execution, and make report to this House.

*Voted*, To raise one Regiment of Soldiers forthwith, to consist of eight Companies; each Company to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and seventy-six Privates, all to be on the lines of the Continental Army by the first day of *February* next, and to continue in the service until the first day of *April* next, on the establishment of the Continental Army; and also to raise more men, so as to make up another Regiment, of the same number, in case General *Sullivan* shall fail of raising a full Regiment out of our Militia now in the service; and that a Committee of this House be appointed to join with a Committee of the honourable Board, and be fully authorized to carry this vote into execution, saving to the Council and Assembly the right of appointing the Field-Officers.

*Voted*, That *Joseph Wait*, Esq., be Colonel of the Regiment, voted to be raised in this Colony for the Continental Army; and that *Henry Gerrish*, Esq., be Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Isaac Butterfield*, Esq., be Major, of said Regiment.

*Voted*, That the Regiment this day voted to be raised in this Colony, to continue in the service until the first day of *April* next, and to be on the lines of the Continental Army by the first day of *February* next, on the establishment of the Continental Army, shall be, instead of that service, inlisted for the service in the Northern Army, commanded by General *Schuyler*, now in *Canada*, to continue in that service until the first day of *January* next, unless sooner discharged, and to be on the same establishment with the other officers and soldiers in the said Army; and that Colonel *Timothy Bedel* command the said Regiment as Colonel; that *Joseph Wait*, Esq., be Lieutenant-Colonel; and *Isaac Butterfield*, Esq., be Major, of such Regiment; and that each officer and soldier that shall inlist in said service, shall receive two months' advance pay upon their being mustered; and in case the said Major *Butterfield* shall be by any means rendered incapable of proceeding in said service, that a blank commission be given to Colonel *Bedel* or Colonel *Wait*, to appoint some other person to be Major in his stead, this vote notwithstanding.

*Voted*, That the Muster-Roll of Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, amounting to thirty-one Pounds fourteen Shillings and six Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give his order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Doctor *Hall Jackson*, Mr. *Sherburne*, and Captain *Long*, be a Committee to procure one hundred and fifty stand of Arms, now in *Portsmouth*, belonging to the *Massachusetts* Colony, and all the Duffills for Blanketing, that they can procure at *Portsmouth*, and transport them to *Exeter*, as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey* be appointed to procure four hundred Hatchets, and also Snow-Shoes, for the use of the Regiment going to *Canada*, sufficient for their service.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Richard Champney* be desired to procure and deliver to the Treasurer one hundred and twenty good Tin Kettles, as soon as may be, for the use of the Regiment going to *Canada*.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey* and Major *Bellows* be Mus-



termasters of the Regiment going to *Canada*, and also Paymasters of their advance Wages, when they are mustered at *Coos*, or elsewhere.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, nine o'clock in the morning.

Monday, January 22, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That whereas by a vote of *Saturday* last, Colonel *Morey* and Major *Bellows* were appointed Mustermasters and Paymasters to the Regiment going to *Canada*, and were directed to pay their advance Wages when mustered at *Coos*, or elsewhere:

It is now further *Voted*, That the said Paymasters deliver one half of said advance Pay to the Field-Officers, to be paid to the Soldiers upon their enlistment, and the other half to be paid on their passing muster.

*Voted*, That Colonel *David Gilman*, *James Betton*, Esq., and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee of the honourable Board concerning General *Sullivan's* appointing Officers for a new Regiment, and his requisition to this Assembly concerning said Regiment; and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Nicholas Gilman*, Captain *Josiah Moulton*, and Captain *Ezekiel Worthen*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to hire or agree with a person or persons to build, for the use of this Colony, a Row-Galley, agreeable to a plan or draft presented to this House by Major *Hackett*.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That there be added to the Pay of each of the Members of the honourable Council, and of this House, one Shilling per day for their attendance in Congress and on this Assembly, for six months, from the first sitting of Congress, on the twenty-first of *December* last.

Mr. *Champney* reported to the House that he had procured twenty-three six-quart Kettles at *Portsmouth*, and that thirty more will be ready at *Newburyport* on *Wednesday* night next, and that thirty more can be ready at *Newburyport* by *Saturday* night week.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Evans*, *John Dudley*, Esq., and *Ichabod Rawlins*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of choosing Delegates or a Delegate for this Colony, to represent us at the Grand Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, for the year ensuing.

*Voted*, That *Wyseman Clagett*, Esq., be Attorney-General for this Colony for the current year.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Timothy Walker*, Esq., go to Head-Quarters as soon as may be, and inquire what number of Troops are enlisted there, belonging to this Colony, to be in the service till the first of *April* next, and what Officers they choose to command them; and to make any further inquiries concerning the state of our Troops there; and to make report thereof to this House, or to the Committee of Safety, as soon as may be.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, January 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, Captain *Prentice*, and Colonel *David Gilman*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together, and make report to this House, as soon as may be, what may be best to be done in respect to the Regiment now raising for the Continental Army, and commissioning them.

*Voted*, That Major *Downing*, *John Dudley*, Esq., and Colonel *Morey*, be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board, about nominating three Delegates to represent this Colony at the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Timothy Walker*, Captain *Josiah Moulton*, Captain *Prentice*, Mr. *Jacob Abbott*, Colonel *Evans*, and Colonel *Morey*, be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Council, about the appointment of the Civil Officers in this Colony.

The following Vote of Council was brought down from the Board, viz:

"In Council, *January 23, 1776*: Whereas, by law, all persons appointed to Offices in Towns or Parishes in this Colony are required to take an oath for the faithful discharge of their duty therein; and as difficulties have, and often may arise by reason of no Magistrate attending Town or Parish meetings, nor being appointed in some Towns or Parishes; for remedy whereof, it is now *Resolved*, That the Moderator of any such Town or Parish meeting, which may be held in this Colony, be, and is hereby, empowered to administer the oath appointed by law to any Clerk of such Town or Parish; and afterwards such Clerk is hereby empowered to administer the oaths appointed by law to all other Town or Parish Officers.

"Read, and sent down to the honourable House for concurrence.  
M. WEARE, President."

In the House of Representatives, *January 23, 1776*: Resolve being read, *Voted*, That this House concur therewith.  
P. WHITE, Speaker.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Nahum Baldwin* receive out of the Treasury thirty-five Pounds, to purchase Fire-Arms for this Colony, and to be by him accounted for; and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

And *Voted*, To send one of the Members of this House, (being of the Committee of Safety) and one of the honourable Council, whom they shall appoint, as a Committee to treat with his Excellency General *Washington* about officering the Regiment now raising for the Continental Army; and that said Committee have full power to settle those matters with the General; and that Captain *Josiah Moulton* be the Committee from this House.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Rawlins*, Mr. *Cutts*, and Colonel *David Gilman*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to inquire into the state of the Treasury, and also to report what further sum of Bills of Credit is necessary to be emitted on the faith of this Colony for our present exigencies, and in what manner to be emitted; and, also, to receive of the Treasurer all such Bills as are on interest, now in the Treasury, and to bring the same to be burnt to ashes before the General Court.

*Voted*, That Captain *John Caffe* be, and is hereby, appointed to countersign the Bills of Credit now lying in the Treasury not countersigned.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., *Ichabod Rawlins*, Esq., Colonel *David Gilman*, *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., *John McClary*, Esq., and Major *Tash*, be a Committee to examine into the matters of complaint of the Committee of *Londonderry* against *Adam Stuart*, who is suspected of being inimical to this country; and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That *Josiah Barillett*, *John Langdon*, and *William Whipple*, Esqs., be, and hereby are, appointed Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, for the term of one year from this time; any one of them (in the absence of the others) to have full power to represent the Colony; and that not more than two of them attend at one time.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board, and make report to this House in what manner, and in what name, such Writs, Warrants, and Precepts, as may be necessary to be issued in cases of Trespasses, Assaults, and other Breaches of the Peace, and also for collecting of Taxes, shall be issued; and that Dr. *Levi Dearborn*, Captain *Mooney*, and Captain *Caffe*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Report of the Committee appointed to hear and examine into the matters of complaint of the Committee of *Londonderry* against *Adam Stuart*, be received and filed.

And *Ordered*, That Captain *Long*, Mr. *Rawlins*, and Mr. *Emerson*, write a Letter to the General Court at *Watertown*, to advertise them of the trial of said *Stuart* before a Committee of this House, and that they have adjudged him to be inimical to the cause of *American* liberty.

Upon the application of *Daniel Jackson* for liberty to sail as a Privateer against our enemies,

*Voted*, That *Ichabod Rawlins*, and *John McClary*, Esqs., and *Mr. Baker*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult on that matter, and commission him in such manner as they shall think best, and lay the same before this House for their approbation.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, January 24, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To direct our Delegates at the Continental Congress to purchase and send here, on freight, one thousand barrels of Flour, on account and risk of this Colony, at the best and cheapest rate possible.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Morey*, Colonel *Gerrish*, and Dr. *Dearborn*, be a Committee to view and buy twenty Fire-Arms, procured for the use of this Colony by Mr. *Moses Parsons*.

*Voted*, That Dr. *Joshua Brackett* be Judge of the Court of Admiralty for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*; and that *Samuel Penhallow*, Esq., be Register of said Court.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker* and *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult and draw up such Rules and Regulations for the Court of Admiralty to be governed by, as may appear to be legal and necessary at this time, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to draw up Instructions for the Committee voted to be sent to General *Washington* about officering the Regiment now raising for the Continental Army; and that Colonel *Walker* and *James Betton*, Esq., be the said Committee from this House.

*Voted*, That the draft for a Commission for Captain *Daniel Jackson*, as master and commander of the Privateer *Enterprise*, brought by Mr. *Clagett* into this House by order of Council, is acceptable to the House, and that the same be sealed up in a letter and sent to the Committee of Safety of *Portsmouth*, who are to take bond of said *Jackson* for his faithful discharge of his trust, in case the same measure is adopted by the General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; the bond to be for one thousand Pounds.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

— Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That in case the Regiment now raising for the Continental Army be raised at the lines or elsewhere, or nearly filled up under the officers appointed by General *Sullivan*, that the same officers stand according to his appointment. Otherwise that the Committee of this House nominate six persons as candidates—three of which to be Field-Officers of said Regiment, viz: Colonel *William Stark*, Major *Thomas Tash*, Major *David Copp*, Colonel *Jonathan Burnam*, Colonel *Henry Gerrish*, and Captain *Hercules Mooney*.

*Voted*, That the sum of eleven hundred and twenty-eight Pounds and fifteen Shillings, in paper Bills, on interest, received out of the Treasury by the Committee of both Houses, be forthwith burnt to ashes in presence of both Houses; and that the said Committee be, and hereby are, discharged in full from the receipt thereof.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of *Amos Eastman*, for Guns, amounting to thirty-two Pounds sixteen Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That Captain *Richard Emms*, now a prisoner at *Portsmouth*, receive out of the Treasury fifteen Pounds, towards his subsistence, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

The Vote of this House of *January 15*, 1776, relating to the Pay of the Members of the honourable Council and of this House, being sent up to the honourable Board; and being sent down to this House, (by Mr. *Giles*,) concurred with this amendment, viz: That the money drawn out of the Treasury, by each Member of the House of Representatives, for their attendance, shall be added to the next Tax

Bill of the constituents of each respective Member. Which being read and considered,

*Voted*, That this House adhere to their former Vote.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

— Thursday, January 25, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley* and *James Betton*, Esqs., be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board, concerning settling the dispute between Colonel *Hobart* and Colonel *Stark*, and make report thereon to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Colonel *David Gilman* and Captain *Prentice* be added to the Committee of Safety, for the purpose of fitting out the Regiment under command of Colonel *Bedel* for *Canada*.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety proceed to fit out and send off to *Canada* the Regiment under command of Colonel *Bedel*, the sitting of the General Assembly notwithstanding.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, Mr. *Gibson*, and Captain *Bell*, be a Committee of this House, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Board, about an adjournment of the Council and House, and to make report as soon as may be.

*Voted*, To send no answer to Colonel *Hobart's* message by Mr. *Gray*.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., Commissary, receive out of the Treasury five hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, The Committee of Safety of *New-Market* their Account for Fire-Rafts, amounting to thirty-nine Pounds six Shillings and three Pence half-penny, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., *Otis Baker*, Esq., Mr. *Jacob Abbott*, Captain *Prentice*, and Mr. *Emerson*, be a Committee to join with a Committee of the honourable Board to nominate proper persons in the respective Counties in the Colony to administer an Oath to the respective Officers of each County in said Colony, and to nominate a Committee in each County to receive Bonds of the Record-ers of Deeds and Conveyances, Register of Probate, and County Treasurer, in the respective Counties in this Colony; also, to nominate a Committee in each County to remove the Record of Deeds and Conveyances and of Probate to the places where they are to be kept in the respective Counties.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

— Friday, January 26, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Matthew Morley*, a prisoner here, receive out of the Treasury twelve Pounds, towards his subsistence, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., Major *Barker*, Captain *Prentice*, Captain *Worthen*, *John McClary*, Esq., and *James Betton*, Esq., be a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, about settling the Wages of both Houses.

*Voted*, That Captain *Long*, Major *Downing*, and Deacon *Knowles*, be a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to consider of the petitioning the honourable the Continental Congress, with regard to the settling one or more Battalions of Soldiers at *Portsmouth*, or any other part of this Colony, for the defence thereof, upon the Continental charge and establishment.

*Voted*, That *Philips White*, Esq., and *Noah Emery*, Esq., for the County of *Rockingham*; Colonel *Baker* and *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq., for the County of *Strafford*; *Matthew Patten*, Esq., and *Moses Nichols*, Esq., for the County of *Hillsborough*; *Thomas Sparhawk*, Esq., and *Benjamin Bellows*, Jun., Esq., for the County of *Cheshire*; *Samuel Emerson*, Esq., and *Daniel Brainard*, Esq., for the County of *Grafton*, be, and hereby are, appointed Committees, in conjunction with a Committee from the honourable Board,

in the respective Counties, to administer Oaths or Oath of Office to the several persons chosen into office in the aforesaid Counties; also, to take Bonds of the respective Record-ers of Deeds and Conveyances and County Treasurers, in a respectable sum, to *Philips White*, Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Speaker for the time being, faithfully and impartially to execute their office. Also, to remove the Records of Deeds and of the Probate Offices, and those of the Secretary, and deliver them to the persons now appointed to keep those offices; also, upon the death or incapacity of any of the aforesaid officers, where Records are kept, that they, in their respective Counties, be empowered to take such Records and safely keep them till the then next sitting of General Assembly.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice* and Captain *Hercules Mooney* be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to prepare a form of an Oath, or Oaths, to be taken by the several Officers of the respective Counties in this Colony.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker* and Captain *Long* be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Council, to consult about the most convenient method of obtaining Flour from abroad.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Gilman* and Colonel *Evans* be a Committee to procure seventy Axes, for the use of the Regiment destined for *Canada*, on the best terms they can get them.

Upon reading the Vote of the honourable Council, that the Pay due to the several Members of the General Assembly be drawn out of the Treasury at the end of the Session, according to the Votes of the House; and the question, Whether the same shall be replaced in the Treasury by the constituents of each Member, as well as the future wages, be put off until the second *Wednesday* of the sitting of the General Assembly after this adjournment?

*Voted*, Not to concur.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Esq., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury six Shillings per day for each day's attendance in the late Congress and in the House of Representatives, for his service as Clerk of said Houses, over and above his wages as a Member of the same.

*Voted*, That the Justices of the Peace through this Colony, and of the several Counties within the same, be directed to try no Actions in Civil Cases until further orders of the General Assembly. That, after the first day of *April* next, the several Courts of General Sessions of the Peace sit in the respective Counties, at the terms heretofore appointed by law, and not before. That the Justices of the Peace make use of the same Forms in the issuing their process in Criminal Cases, as has been legal formerly. That the several Courts of Sessions at their meeting take up and determine all matters that lay unfinished by the last Court of General Sessions held in such County.

That the Superior Court of Judicature, &c., and the several Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, in their respective Counties, be not opened till further orders of the General Assembly.

That the Justices of the Peace be guided by the laws of this Colony, in determining criminal matters, till otherwise determined by the General Assembly. That the laws of this Colony, printed in the late edition thereof, originally made and passed by the legislative authority of this Colony, may at present (until a more careful revision and amendment of them) be a guide to all Executive officers of this Colony, and be considered as law, except an Act requiring persons to take an oath of allegiance, (in the first page;) all clauses respecting the Governour and Council sitting or acting as a Court of Appeals; the clause allowing an appeal to the King in case, &c.; the Act for fixing triennial Assemblies; and an Act laying an excise on Spirituous Liquors.

*Resolved*, That there be emitted twenty thousand and eight Pounds sixteen Shillings, lawful money, upon the credit of this Colony, for the use and service thereof, in Bills of the following denominations, viz: 3,176 bills of six Dollars; 3,176 bills of five Dollars; 3,176 bills of four Dollars; 3,176 bills of three Dollars; 3,176 bills of two Dollars; 3,176 bills of one Dollar. And that the same shall be redeemed by a tax on the Polls and Estates of the inhabitants of this Colony, in the following manner, viz: £5,000 by

the 26th day of *January*, in the year of our Lord 1783; £5,000 more by the 26th of *January*, 1784; £5,000 more by the 26th of *January*, 1785; £5,008 16s. more by the 26th of *January*, 1786. And that the form of said Bills be as follows, viz:

"Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

" . . . . Dollars.

. . . . Dollars.

"No. ( )

January 26, 1776.

"The possessor of this bill shall be paid by the Treasurer of this Colony . . . . dollars, by the . . . . ; which bill shall be received for the aforesaid sum in all payments at the Treasury, and all other payments by order of the Council and Assembly.

" . . . . Dollars.

. . . . Dollars.

} Committee."

That *Josiah Moulton*, Jun., *Joseph Gilman*, and *Philips White*, Esquires, or any two of them, be a Committee to sign said Bills.

That *Meshech Weare*, Esq. and Doctor *Levi Dearborn* be a Committee to procure Paper and superintend the Press, while the Money is printing, and deliver the same to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor.

All which Bills, after their redemption, shall be burnt to ashes in the presence of the Council and Assembly.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, January 27, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the honourable Council and House of Representatives shall be adjourned from this day to the first *Wednesday* in *March* next, to meet at the Town-House in *Exeter*, at three of the clock, afternoon.

*Voted*, That Mr. Secretary *Thompson* shall receive three Shillings per day, for sixteen days' attendance on the late Congress as Secretary, over and above his wages as a Member of said Congress, (out of the grant made yesterday to *Noah Emery*, as Clerk of said Congress,) and that he receive six Shillings per day for his services as Secretary to the Colony, over and above his wages as a Counsellor.

*Voted*, That Captain *Ezekiel Worthen* be chief commander of the forces at and near *Piscataqua* Harbour, and that he, with the soldiers there, erect such Battery, on and near *Great-Island*, as shall be necessary to prevent the enemy from landing there; and that he receive a Major's commission, and have a Major's pay.

*Voted*, That the Roll of Captain *William Prescott*, amounting to one hundred and seventy-one Pounds fourteen Shillings five Pence half-penny, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That the Oath to be taken by the several Justices of the Peace in this Colony shall be the same as that in the last edition of the Law Book; and that all other officers be sworn diligently, faithfully, and impartially, to execute the offices to which they are appointed.

Adjourned one hour, then met.

*Voted*, That *William Whipple*, Esq., our Delegate to the Continental Congress, have and receive, out of the Treasury one hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That the Receiver-General and *Samuel Brooks* receive all the Blankets offered to them, from this day until the first day of the next session of this Assembly, and pay for them out of the Treasury.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety be directed to write to the Continental Congress, and lay the plan of Government, taken up by this Colony, before them, and let them know that a number of the Members of this House dissented to and protested against the same, (supposing it breathed too much of the spirit of independence,) and to know the judgment of the Congress thereon.

*Voted*, That Captain *Turner* be, and hereby is, discharged from the service of this Colony as Captain of a Company of Artillery, and also of his said Company, and that Major *Ezekiel Worthen* take the command of said Company.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Safety receive out of the Treasury nine Shillings per day, for their past service, and for every day of their sitting in future, in the recess of the General Court, they paying their expenses; and that they be allowed the same travel as the Members of the General Court have.

*Voted*, That the following Petition be sent to the Continental Congress, viz:

*To the Honourable Congress of the UNITED COLONIES of NORTH AMERICA.*

*Humbly sheweth the Council and Assembly of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:*

That by reason of their vicinity to the Town of *Boston*, and the enemy's ships-of-war often hovering round their coast and harbour, they have been kept, for many months past, in perpetual alarm; have been at a very great expense in preparing to defend themselves, at least thirty thousand pounds, lawful money, in erecting batteries, mounting cannon, and supporting soldiers, having had fourteen hundred men under pay at one time, exclusive of two hundred matrosses to guard the metropolis, and expect, the ensuing spring, to be under the necessity of raising a much larger number; and as you have been pleased to order a number of battalions of men to be raised, to guard other Colonies, and as this is by far the poorest Colony on the Continent, according to the number of inhabitants, we most humbly pray your Honours would order such a number of men to be raised and stationed at *Portsmouth*, and, in case of any emergency, to assist our neighbour Colonies, as you in your wisdom shall see fit.

The House adjourned to the first *Wednesday* in *March* next, to meet then at the Town-House in *Exeter*; at three of the clock, afternoon.

*A List of the Members returned as Delegates from the several Towns and places in the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, to sit in Congress, began and held at EXETER, on the twenty-first day of DECEMBER, A. D. 1775, and continued as a Congress until the eighth day of JANUARY, 1776, when the Council separated from the House, and then being, according to the plan of Government, two distinct branches of the Legislature, formed into a General Court.*

#### NAMES OF REPRESENTATIVES.

PORTSMOUTH: *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., Captain *Pierce Long*—3.  
HAMPTON: Captain *Josiah Moulton*—1.  
NORTHAMPTON: *Dr. Levi Dearborn*—1.  
EXETER: *John Giddinge*, Esq., *Noah Emery*, Esq.—2.  
LONDONDERRY: *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., (advanced to the Council,) *Mr. John Bell*—2.  
RYE: *Nathan Goss*—1.  
KINGSTON AND EAST-KINGSTON: *Samuel Philbrook*—1.  
GREENLAND: *Clement March*, Esq.—1.  
NEWINGTON: *Richard Downing*, Esq.—1.  
STRATHAM: *Benjamin Barker*—1.  
NEWMARKET: *Thomas Tash*, Esq.—1.  
SOUTHAMPTON AND NEWTOWN: *Philips White*, Esq.—1.  
KENSINGTON: Captain *Ezekiel Worthen*—1.  
PLASTOW AND ATKINSON: *Samuel Kimball*—1.  
HAMPSTEAD: *John Calfe*—1.  
SALEM: *Caleb Dustin*—1.  
PELHAM: *James Gibson*—1.  
CHESTER: *Stephen Morse*, Captain *Robert Wilson*—2.  
RAYMOND AND POPLIN: *John Dudley*, Esq.—1.  
BRENTWOOD: *Samuel Dudley*, Esq.—1.  
HAMPTON FALLS AND SEABROOK: *Hon. Meshech Weare*, Esq.—1.  
DEERFIELD AND NORTHWOOD: *Jeremiah Eastman*—1.  
CANTERBURY AND LOUDOUN: *Thomas Clough*—1.  
CHICHESTER, EPSOM, AND ALLENSTOWN: *John McClary*, Esq.—1.  
PEMBROKE: *David Gilman*, Esq.—1.  
WINDHAM: *James Betton*, Esq.—1.  
BOW AND DUNBARTON: Captain *Caleb Page*—1.  
CONCORD: *Timothy Walker*, Jun., Esq.—1.  
EPPING: *Nehemiah Wheeler*—1.  
NEWCASTLE: *Henry Prescott*, Esq.—1.  
DOVER: *Stephen Evans*, Esq., *Otis Baker*, Esq.—2.

DURHAM: *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq.—1. (Advanced to the Council.)

LEE: Captain *Hercules Mooney*—1.

SOMERSWORTH: *Ichabod Rollins*, Esq.—1.

ROCHESTER: Deacon *James Knowles*—1.

BARRINGTON: Captain *Samuel Hayes*—1.

GILMANTON AND BARNSTEAD: *Joseph Badger*, Esq.—1.

SANBORTON AND MEREDITH: *Ebenezer Smith*, Esq.—1.

LEAVITTSTON, WAKEFIELD, AND MIDDLETON: *Mr. Nathaniel Balch*—1.

MOULTONBOROUGH, TAMWORTH, AND SANDWICH: *Daniel Beede*, Esq.—1.

AMHERST: *Moses Nichols*, Esq., *Mr. Nahum Baldwin*—2.

DUNSTABLE: *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq.—1.

HOLLIS: *Stephen Ames*—1.

WEARE: *John Worth*—1. (Advanced to the Council.)

HOPKINTON: Captain *Stephen Harriman*—1.

NEW-IPSWICH: *William Shattuck*—1.

MASON AND RABY: *Mr. Amos Dakin*—1. (Advanced to the Council.)

LITCHFIELD AND NOTTINGHAM WEST: *Wyseman Clagett*, Esq.—1. (Advanced to the Council.)

BEDFORD: *Jonathan Blanchard*, Esq.—1.

DEERFIELD AND GOFFSTOWN: *Moses Kelley*, Esq.—1.

BOSCAWEN AND SALISBURY: *Henry Gerrish*, Esq.—1.

TEMPLE AND PETERBOROUGH: *Samuel Moore*—1.

WILTON, LYNDSEBOROUGH, MILE STRIP, AND DUXBURY FARM: *Mr. Jacob Abbot*—1.

HENNIKER, DEERING, HILLSBOROUGH, AND SOCIETY LAND: Captain *Joseph Simonds*—1.

KEENE: Major *Timothy Ellis*—1.

WALPOLE: Major *John Bellows*—1.

CHARLESTOWN: *Mr. Elijah Grout*—1.

CLAREMONT: Captain *Joseph Wait*—1.

DUBLIN AND MONADNOCK No. 5: *Eliphalet Stone*—1.

PACKERSFIELD, LIMERIC, CAMDEN, AND GILSUM: *Robert Pollock*—1.

MARLOW, SURRY, AND ALSTEAD: *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice*—1.

HINSDALE AND CHESTERFIELD: *Archibald Robinson*—1.

CORNISH, PLAINFIELD, PROTECTWORTH, AND GRANTHAM: *Moses Chase*, Esq.—1.

UNITY, ACWORTH, LEMPSTER, SAVILE, CROYDEN, AND NEWPORT: *Benjamin Giles*, Esq.—1. (Advanced to the Council.)

NEW-CHESTER, PLYMOUTH, COCKERMOUTH, AND ALEXANDRIA: *Samuel Emerson*, Esq.—1.

RUMNEY, HOLDERNESS, CAMPTON, AND THORNTON: *Daniel Brainard*, Esq.—1.

LYME, ORFORD, WARREN, DORCHESTER, WENTWORTH, AND PIERMONT: *Israel Morey*, Esq.—1.

HAVERHILL, LYMAN, BATH, GUNTHWAIT, LANDAFF, AND MORRISTON: *John Hurd*, Esq.—1. (Advanced to the Council.)

APTHORP, LANCASTER, NORTHUMBERLAND, STRATFORD, COCKBURN, COLBURN, CONWAY, SHELBURNE, AND THE TOWNS ABOVE: Captain *Abijah Learned*—1.

*Proceedings of the honourable the House of Representatives of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, begun and held at the Town-House in EXETER, on WEDNESDAY, the sixth day of MARCH, Anno Domini 1776, by adjournment.*

Wednesday, March 6, 1776, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of *Brentwood*, called *Baptists*, being read,

*Voted*, That it lay for consideration.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, March 7, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee to make some necessary additional Rules for the order of this House; and that *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *John Dudley*, Esq., *Joseph Badger*, Esq., *Doctor Levi Dearborn*, and *John McClary*, Esq., be a Committee for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Selectmen of *Mason* be cited to appear before this House, on the 19th day of *March* current, if this House be then sitting; and if not, then on the second day

of their sitting afterwards, to answer for their conduct in not returning the Precept sent to them by the late Congress, requiring them to send a Member, to represent the Towns of *Mason* and *Raby* in said Congress.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Amos Dakin* have a seat as a Member of this House until the matter of his choice be heard and determined by this House.

*Voted*, That the Account of the Selectmen of *Sandown*, for Blankets, amounting to nine Pounds, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., and *John Dudley*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together, and make report to this House, what business is most necessary to be entered upon immediately.

Which Committee made report as follows, viz:

The Committee appointed by both Houses, to report the business necessary to be acted upon at this session, beg leave to report as follows:

That the Superior Court be opened (as soon as may be) for punishing criminals and trespassers.

That the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace for the several Counties be in future opened, and held as usual; likewise the Inferior Courts for the trial of trespasses only.

That five hundred men, including officers, and those under the command of Captains *Salter* and *Daniels*, be raised, and be on the lines at *Portsmouth*, by the first day of *April* next; and the company of Artillery be raised, and to be reckoned a part of said number: their wages to be the same as those in the Colony service the last year. That there be one gentleman appointed to act as a General officer, to command all the troops, in case of an alarm or attack. That proper measures be taken to complete the several Minute Regiments. That no officer enlist any man for the service of this Colony who hath not a good fire-arm. That provision be made for the five hundred men, and such of the Militia as may be called in. That the resolve giving and confirming to the several Constables and Collectors the same power and authority for collecting of Rates and Taxes they formerly held by law, be printed in handbills, and distributed. That proclamation be made of the form of Civil Government lately established in this Colony, and the list of civil officers, that all persons may conform accordingly. That in case of an alarm or attack when the Council and Assembly, or Committee of Safety, are not sitting, the General officer call in the Militia for the defence of this Colony.

That a Proclamation issue for a general fast.

MATTHEW THORNTON, *Chairman*.

Which Report being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the same be received, accepted, and established as a Resolve of this House.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of *Nicholas Nicolle*, amounting to two Pounds five Shillings and eight Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Adjourned to half-past eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 8, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

A Petition of *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, *Samuel Cummings*, and *Thomas Cummings*, relative to their being summoned before the Committee of Safety of *Hollis*, *Dunstable*, *Merrimack*, and *Litchfield*, being read,

*Voted and Ordered*, That the Petitioners be heard thereon, on the 20th day of *March* instant, if this House be then sitting; and if not, then on the second day of their sitting afterwards; and that they cause *Robert Fletcher*, the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, or Correspondence, of *Dunstable*, *Hollis*, *Litchfield*, and *Merrimack*, to be served with a copy of the Petition and Order thereon, that the said Committee may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer thereof should not be granted; and the said Committee are hereby ordered to cease all further proceedings against the Petitioners until that time.

A Petition of *Enoch Bean* against *Benjamin Dow* and others, being read and considered,

*Voted and Ordered*, That *Benjamin Dow* and *Noah Dow*, both of *Gilmanton*, and *John Glidden* and *David Glidden*, both of the *Gore*, so called, be cited to appear before this House, on *Friday*, the 22d day of *March* instant, to answer for their contempt of the order of the Congress appointing a Committee of Safety of *Gilmanton*, to hear and try a trespass, or trespasses, complained of by said *Bean*, to be committed by said *Dows* and *Gliddons* upon lands in said *Bean's* possession.

*Voted*, That *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *Joseph Badger*, Esq., *Dr. Dearborn*, Captain *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice*, and *Mr. Elijah Grout*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to revise and correct the Table of Fees for the several Officers of this Colony, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That *Moses Nichols*, Esq., Colonel *Walker*, and *Mr. Baldwin*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together, and make a form of a Proclamation of the Publick Officers appointed for this Colony, and of the opening of the several Courts of Justice, and also for a Publick Fast throughout this Colony, and to make report thereon to this House as soon as may be.

Adjourned to half-past eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 9, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Timothy Walker*, *David Gilman*, and *Stephen Evans*, Esquires, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to hear, examine and adjust Accounts and Demands against this Colony, by way of petition or otherwise, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer and consult about the best method of securing the Powder Vessels expected soon on this coast, and to report thereon to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Long*, *Mr. Sherburne*, and *Ichabod Rawlins*, Esq., be the Committee for that purpose.

Which Committee, being joined by a Committee from the Board, made the following Report, viz:

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for the security of the expected Powder Vessels, beg leave to make the following report: That it is advisable to send a small vessel to all the Eastern ports, to give them intelligence that two of the enemy's privateers are hovering about our harbour, which we have reason to apprehend are cruising after our powder vessels, now expected, and beg them to apprise the Captains thereof, if they should go into their ports. Likewise, that a Committee be appointed to look out for a suitable vessel to fix as a privateer, to be employed to cruise after our enemies; and to make an estimate of the cost, and make return of their doings as soon as may be.

NATHANIEL FOLSON, *Chairman*.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee to look out for a proper Vessel of War to guard our coast, and to make an estimate of the cost and expense of such Vessel, and to confer with the Captains of the Privateers now in *Piscataqua* Harbour about taking the Armed Vessels now hovering on this coast, and also to despatch a small Vessel (if they think necessary) to the Eastward, to acquaint the people there of the said Armed Vessels, and make report as soon as may be; and that *Mr. Cutts*, Captain *Long*, and *Mr. Sherburne*, be the Committee for that purpose.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, at three o'clock, afternoon.

Monday, March 11, 1776, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer and consult about some method respecting opening the Civil Courts, and what restrictions they shall be laid under; and Colonel *David Gilman*, *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., and *Matthew Paten*, Esq., be the Committee for that purpose.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to write an answer to



General *Washington's* Letter, and desire him to return the Powder lent him; and that Captain *Long* and Colonel *Badger* be the Committee for that purpose.

*Voted*, To raise a Regiment consisting of seven hundred and twenty-five men, including officers; to be raised in any part of this Colony, excepting from the Towns of *Portsmouth*, *Rye*, *Northampton*, *Hampton*, *Greenland*, *Newington*, and *Stratham*; to be on the lines at *Piscataqua* as soon as possible; also, to raise one Company of Artillery, consisting of forty-two men, exclusive of officers, to be on the lines immediately, and continue in the service until the last of *December* next, unless sooner discharged; and that their pay be the same as the Provincials had the past year.

*Voted*, To raise three Companies, consisting of one hundred men each, including officers, out of each of the following Regiments, viz: *Portsmouth*, *Dover*, and *Hampton*, to be on the lines at *Portsmouth* immediately, with arms and ammunition complete, and there to continue till further orders, their pay to commence at the time of their marching, and to be the same as the Provincials had the past year; and that Colonel *Steven Evans* be Colonel of said Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel *Joshua Wentworth* be Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major *Enoch Page* be Major, of said Regiment.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, March 12, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Mr. *John Smith* be, and hereby is, appointed to join with Dr. *Nichols* and Mr. *Baldwin*, (in the room of Colonel *Walker*.) as a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together and make a form of a Proclamation for a Publick Fast throughout this Colony; also, a Proclamation of the Publick Officers appointed for this Colony.

The Council sent down the following Vote from the Board:

"In Council, March 12, 1776: *Voted*, That a Regiment of men, consisting of three hundred, be raised with all speed, to be stationed at or near *Portsmouth*, and to be continued in the service (unless sooner discharged) until the last day of *December* next; the persons appointed to enlist the men to be so chosen as that the men may be as equally taken, as possible, out of the Towns in the Counties of *Rockingham*, *Strafford*, and *Hillsborough*; to be paid the same wages as the Officers and Soldiers in this Colony service received last year. Also, that a Field-Artillery Company at *Portsmouth* (of the same number as that which served last fall) be raised immediately. That Lieutenant-Colonel *Wentworth*, Colonel *Evans*, Colonel *Moulton*, and Colonel *Gilman*, be directed to warn all the Militia under their command to hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning, properly equipped, and with five days' provision; which Militia, in case of their going into actual service, are to be paid as other Troops.

"That Sentries be fixed at *Newcastle* and *Hampton*, who, on appearance of the enemy's Fleet, are to give the most special notice.

"Also, that persons be agreed with to hold themselves in readiness, on order from proper authority, to notify General *Washington*, and alarm the country, in case of the enemy's appearance. Likewise, that an express be sent off to *Cambridge*, to gain intelligence of General *Howe's* movements, and request a restoration of the Powder lent General *Washington*.

"Sent down for concurrence:

"E. THOMPSON, Secretary."

In the House of Representatives, March 12, 1776: The above Vote of Council being read,

*Voted*, That the same be, and hereby is, concurred.

P. WHITE, Speaker.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, Mr. *Cutts*, Captain *Worthen*, Deacon *Knowles*, Captain *Harriman*, Dr. *Nichols*, Colonel *Badger*, and Major *Tash*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to consult about officering and commissioning the Regiment now to be raised, and make report to this House as soon as may be.

Upon reading a Petition of the majority of the North-

Company of *New-Market*, for removing Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom* from his office, &c.,

*Voted*, That the Petitioners be heard thereon to-morrow afternoon before this House, and that the Petitioners, at their own cost, serve the said Lieutenant-Colonel *Jeremiah Folsom* with a copy of the Petition and Order thereon, that he may appear and show cause, if any he have, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

Upon reading a Petition of the Inhabitants of *New-Market*, praying that Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom* may be dismissed from his office, &c.,

*Voted*, That the Petitioners be heard thereon to-morrow, at three o'clock, afternoon, before this House; and that the Petitioners, at their own cost, serve the said Lieutenant-Colonel *Jeremiah Folsom* with a copy of the Petition and Order thereon, that he may appear and show cause, if any he have, why the prayer thereof should not be granted.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together on the expediency of sending a Committee to *Coos*, to examine about the Troops raised for *Canada*, &c.; and that Colonel *Badger*, Dr. *Dearborn*, Captain *Long*, and Dr. *Nichols*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Stephen Clark*, amounting to seventy Pounds four Shillings and seven Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury; and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That the following Instructions be given to Colonel *Gerrish*, viz:

To Colonel GERRISH:

You are desired to proceed to *Orford* and deliver the letters you are intrusted with to Colonels *Morey* and *Bedel*; to inquire into the reason of the long delay of Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment from marching, and endeavour to collect the sense of the people through that part of the country, as well as those immediately concerned in fitting them off, what has occasioned the delay; also, to find what number of men is enlisted; what number marched; and what number soon to march, with the names of the officers commanding the parties marched, and the companies they belong to, and make return of your doings, as soon as may be, to this Court, or Committee of Safety, if the Court should not be sitting.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, March 13, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of twelve Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer about officering the Regiment now to be raised and commissioned for the defence of this Colony; and that Dr. *Dearborn*, Major *Tash*, Mr. *Sherburne*, Colonel *Gilman*, James *Betton*, Esq., John *Dudley*, Esq., Colonel *Evans*, Deacon *Knowles*, Colonel *Badger*, Dr. *Nichols*, Matthew *Patton*, Esq., and Deacon *Amos Dakin*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose; and are to nominate to this House three persons for chief Colonel, out of which one is to be appointed; and, also, three persons, for a Major, out of which one to be appointed; and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Captain *Nathaniel Sartel Prentice* forthwith repair to *Cambridge*, and carry the Letter now prepared to General *Washington*, and request of him to return the Powder lent by this Colony for the Continental Army.

*Voted*, That a Committee be chosen, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of making Copper Coin, and make report to this House; and that Captain *Pierce Long*, Jonathan *Lovewell*, Esq., and Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, be Committee for the above-mentioned purpose.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to confer upon the expediency of making Copper Coin, made report as follows, viz:

That they find it expedient to make Copper Coin for the benefit of making small change; and as the Continental and other bills are so large, that *William Moulton* be empowered to make so many as may amount to one hundred pounds weight, subject, when made, to the inspection and direction



of the General Assembly before circulation; also, we recommend that one hundred and eight of said coppers be equal to one Spanish-milled Dollar; that the said coin be of pure copper, and equal in weight to *English* half-pence, and bear such device thereon as the General Assembly may approve.

WYSEMAN CLAGETT, *Chairman*.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of *New-Market* against Lieutenant-Colonel *Jeremiah Folsom*, being read,

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be postponed to Friday next, afternoon.

Voted, That the Letters prepared to send to Colonel *Bedel* and Colonel *Morey* be transcribed, and sent to them, respectively, signed by the President of the Council.

Voted, That Colonel *March* have leave to go home.

Voted, That Major *Downing* have leave to go home.

Voted, That Mr. *Speaker* have leave to go home.

Adjourned till eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 14, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That the following persons be appointed to their respective offices in the Regiment now to be raised for the defence of this Colony, viz: *David Gilman*, Esq., Colonel; *Hercules Mooney*, Esq., Major; *Nathan Brown*, of *Poplin*, *John Calfe*, of *Hampstead*, *Caleb Hogsdon*, of *Dover*, and *Timothy Clements*, of *Hopkinton*, Captains; *William Cooper*, of *Southampton*, *James Aiken*, of *Londonderry*, *Abraham Perkins*, of *Sanbornton*, and *Nathan Fifield*, of *Ware*, Lieutenants; *Ebenezer Perry*, of *Wilton*, *Meshech Bell*, of *New-Castle*, *Thomas Gorden*, of *Raymond*, and *William Stillson*, of *Somersworth*, Ensigns.

Voted, That Colonel *Henry Gerrish* be, and hereby is, appointed to repair to *Orford*, and deliver the Letters prepared by this Court to Colonel *Bedel* and Colonel *Morey*, and to return back and make report to this House, or to the Committee of Safety, as soon as may be, agreeable to Instructions to be given him by the Council and House of Representatives.

Also, Voted, That Colonel *Walker*, Mr. *Lovewell*, and Mr. *Brainard*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to prepare Instructions for said *Gerrish*, and lay the same before this House as soon as may be.

Whereas *Aaron Quimby*, *Ebenezer Collins*, and *Daniel Murray*, have made complaint to this House against Captain *John Parker*, for wronging them in making up his Muster-Roll, &c.

Voted, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to hear the said parties, examine the said Roll, and make report to this House as soon as may be; and that *John Dudley*, Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, and Colonel *David Gilman*, be a Committee of this House for that purpose.

Voted, That a Committee be chosen, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of joining with the *Massachusetts* Colony in granting a Bounty unto the Privateers belonging to this and the *Massachusetts* Colony, that may take any of our enemy's Ships-of-War upon this coast; and that Captain *Long*, Mr. *John Bell*, and Major *Tash*, be a Committee for the above mentioned purpose, and make a report to this House.

Voted, That the Widow *Mary Shannon* draw the Wages due, and for Clothing and Gun lost by her dead husband, *George Shannon*, at the battle of *Bunker-Hill*, the 19th of June last; and in case there is an administration upon said *Shannon's* Estate, Mr. *Thomas Clough* is to be accountable for the Money.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

Voted, That the Account of the Selectmen of *Sandown* for Blankets, amounting to nine Pounds, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Voted, That *Jeremiah Bryant*, Esq., be allowed and paid out of the Treasury forty Shillings for his services to this Colony up to this time, and that the eleven men that assisted him in carrying down the Fire-Raft to *Portsmouth*, be allowed and paid six Shillings each for their assistance, amounting to three Pounds and six Shillings, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Adjourned to five o'clock this afternoon, and attended the funeral of the Rev. Mr. *Odlin*; and then met according to adjournment.

Voted, That Mr. *Cutts*, Colonel *Evans*, and Captain *Long*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer on the expediency of commissioning the Officers of an Independent Company at *Portsmouth*, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

Voted, That *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., *James Betton*, Esq., Mr. *Sherburne*, Mr. *Knowles*, and Major *Mooney*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to hear the matters of accusation laid against *Joseph Kimball*, Esq., and *William Kimball*, by the Committee of Safety of *Henniker*, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

Voted, That the Account of the Committee of Safety of *Somersworth*, amounting to twenty-nine Pounds ten Shillings and one Penny half-penny, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to hear the matters of accusation against *Joseph Kimball*, Esquire, and *William Kimball*, by the Committee of Safety of *Henniker*, made report as follows, viz:

That the complaint, so far as it relates to *Joseph Kimball*, be dismissed, and that *William Kimball* be cited to appear and answer.

WYSEMAN CLAGETT, *Chairman*.

Which Report being read,

Voted, That the same be received and filed.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 15, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed by both Houses, to hear the complaint of *Aaron Quimby*, *Ebenezer Collins*, and *Daniel Murray*, against Captain *John Parker*, and to examine into said *Parker's* Roll, made report as follows, viz:

First. That the stoppages on said roll are not well vouched. Secondly. That *Asa Petie*, Jun., *Stephen Lowell*, *James Brown*, and *Joshua Bedel*, are made up in the roll, and were never in the service. Thirdly. That *John Kennedy* was made up in the roll about two months more than he was in the service. Fourthly. That it appears that *Ebenezer Collins* served as a Sergeant, and made up in the roll as a Corporal.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman*.

Which Report being read and considered,

Voted, That the same be received, accepted, and filed, and that the parties be further heard thereon, on the second day of the next sitting of this Assembly.

Voted, That the Rev. Dr. *Haven* have and receive out of the Treasury twenty Pounds, for his good services amongst our Soldiers at *Piscataqua* up to this time; and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment thereof.

Voted, That a form of a Proclamation for a Publick Fast throughout this Colony, now read in this House, be forthwith printed, and dispersed throughout this Colony.

Voted, That Mr. *Lovewell*, Captain *Moulton*, *David Gilman*, Esq., *John Dudley*, Esq., and *James Betton*, Esq., be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine into the matters of dispute between Colonel *Samuel Hobart*, Paymaster of the Troops of this Colony, and Colonel *John Stark* and others, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

Voted, To choose a Committee of three members of this House, to confer with a Committee from the honourable Board, about the appointment of *Tobias Leighton* for an

Ensign, in the room of *William Stillson*, and make report as soon as may be; and that Captain *Worthen*, Mr. *John Bell*, and *John McClary*, Esq., be the Committee for that purpose.

Upon reading a Petition of a number of the Inhabitants of *New-Market*, against Lieutenant-Colonel *Jeremiah Folsom*, (before the Council and House,) and the parties being heard thereon,

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock.

— Saturday, March 16, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the Petition of the Inhabitants of *New-Market* against Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom*; and, after conference on the same,

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to advise with the said Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom* and the Petitioners; and to propose to this House a method of reconciliation between the Petitioners and said *Folsom*; and that *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., *Matthew Patten*, Esq., and Captain *Josiah Moulton*, be a Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Officers and Soldiers for the Regiment now to be raised for the defence of this Colony, upon their being mustered, receive each one month's advance Wages; and that there be a Mustermaster and Paymaster appointed in each County where they are to be raised, to take the money out of the Treasury and pay them. And that *Nicholas Gilman*, Esq., Receiver-General, for the County of *Rockingham*, Deacon *Nahum Baldwin*, for the County of *Hillsborough*, and Colonel *Otis Parker*, for the County of *Strafford*, be Mustermasters and Paymasters to the said Regiment; and that Captain *Pierce Long*, Captain *Josiah Moulton*, and Colonel *Timothy Walker*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to commission and fit out said Regiment.

Sundry Petitions of the Officers and Soldiers of the Sixth Regiment in this Colony, against their Field-Officers, being read,

*Voted*, That the said Field-Officers be cited to appear before this House on the second *Tuesday* of the next session of this House, that they may show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said Petitioners may not be granted.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee to confer with a Committee from the honourable Board, respecting the expediency of purchasing a quantity of Firewood for the use of the Fortresses at *Piscataqua* Harbour, and make report thereon; and that *John Dudley*, Esq., *Jonathan Lovewell*, Esq., and *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., be the Committee for that purpose.

*Voted*, That *James McCluer* be appointed Adjutant of the Regiment now to be raised for the defence of this Colony.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, three o'clock, afternoon.

— Monday, March 18, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Captain *Pierce Long* have and receive out of the Treasury fifty-four Pounds, to pay off the Portledge bill of the Schooner *Gorham*, *Robert Parker*, master, and to be by him accounted for; and that the President of the Council give order for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That the Officers and Soldiers of the Regiment now to be raised for the defence of this Colony, have the same Wages as the Troops employed in this Colony the last year had, and also two Dollars to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier, for finding themselves a Blanket.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

— Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *Noah Emery*, Jun., be, and hereby is, appointed forthwith to repair to the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and request of the Hon. *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq., at *Newburyport*, the Hon. *Timothy Pickering*, Esq., at *Salem*, or any other gentleman furnished therewith, to favour this Colony with copies of the Acts of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, lately made, relative to the seizing and condemning Vessels infesting our sea-coasts; also copies of the

Commissions given to Judges and Registers of the Admiralty.

*Voted*, That a Committee of five members of this House be chosen, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together about the bounty and price of Saltpetre, and all other matters relating thereto, and make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Mr. *Cutts*, Mr. *Lovewell*, Captain *Prentice*, Deacon *Knowles*, and Mr. *Emerson*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

Which Committee being joined by a Committee of the honourable Board, made report: That three shillings and six pence, per pound, be the stated price of Saltpetre, and that the Counties heretofore promised, be paid in addition thereto; these regulations to continue no longer than the time limited for the bounty: That a Committee be appointed, well skilled in chemistry, to receive all genuine Saltpetre, and give the owner a certificate of such reception, directed to the Treasurer of this Colony, who shall be directed to pay for the same agreeable to the above price and bounties. That a Committee be appointed to get a Powder-Mill erected on the best terms they can, and as soon as possible, within the limits of the Town of *Exeter*.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman*.

Which Report being read,

*Voted*, That the same be received and filed.

And *Voted*, That Dr. *Josiah Gilman*, of this town, be, and is hereby, appointed to receive, examine, and store what Saltpetre may be brought in; and his certificate shall empower the Receiver-General to pay therefor, agreeable to the Resolve of the General Assembly.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Ezekiel Worthen*, Jun., amounting to seven Pounds ten Shillings and six Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the Account of the Committee of *Stratham*, amounting to twelve Pounds ten Shillings, for Fire-Rafts, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, afternoon.

— Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Samuel Morrill*, for boarding, nursing, and doctoring, amounting to two Pounds nineteen Shillings and six Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

The Petition of Dr. *Hall Jackson* being read and considered,

*Voted*, That Dr. *Moses Nichols*, Dr. *Levi Dearborn*, and Colonel *David Gilman*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to examine into the subject-matter of the said Petition, and make report thereon as soon as may be.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to endeavour a reconciliation between Lieutenant-Colonel *Jeremiah Folsom* and the *Newmarket* Petitioners, report: That as Colonel *Folsom* was not able to attend the Committee in person, it is out of their power to effect a reconciliation, and therefore advise, for the sake of the peace, union, and good order of that part of the regiment, he, the said Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom*, resign his commission. All which is humbly submitted in the name, and per order of the Committee.

JONATHAN BLANCHARD, *Chairman*.

Which Report being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the same be received, and that the Secretary send a copy of the same, and of this Vote, to the said Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsom*, that he may give his answer to this House as soon as may be.

*Resolved*, That if any person or persons, in any County within this Colony, who have held or pretend to hold any office or offices under the former Administration, and not being confirmed by the present Council and Assembly, having in his or their custody any Books, Records, Papers, and Files, shall deliver up the same to any new officer or officers, appointed in his or their room and stead by the Council and Assembly, upon demand; and upon refusal, the Sheriff of the County, where such recusant dwells, is hereby authorized and required to demand of him, or them,

such Books, Records, Papers, and Files; and upon non-compliance, to commit such recusant or recusants to his County Jail, there to remain until further order of the General Assembly. A copy of the Vote of the said Assembly, attested, to be full evidence of the appointment of such new officer or officers.

The Committee appointed to lay Captain *Eliphalet Ladd* under proper restrictions, &c., made the following Report, viz:

Provided this honourable Court think it advisable to give Captain *Ladd* permission to prosecute a voyage to the *West-Indies*, in a private capacity, we are of opinion that it is absolutely necessary he should be laid under the following restrictions, viz:

1st. That he shall exert himself, to the utmost of his power, to procure powder, arms, saltpetre, sulphur, and German steel.

2d. That he shall proceed to no other ports but those that are foreign, beginning at *St. Lucia* and ending at *Hispaniola*.

3d. If he will agree to comply with the first request, he may be permitted to load on board such produce as is not forbid by the Continental Congress, giving this Court, or a Committee appointed by them, sufficient bonds for his performing the abovesaid voyage.

4th. That he shall not be permitted to purchase, with the nett proceeds of his cargo, any of the produce of the *West-Indies*, if powder, arms, saltpetre, sulphur, and steel, can be had at any of the ports aforesaid; but if at the first, second, or third Island, he cannot sell his cargo, and those articles can be had there, and at no other place, he must proceed from the Island he may sell at, after he has received his cash, and purchase the same; he must leave no stone unturned to accomplish this end, and when performed, he must proceed home here, and give the refusal of the same to this Colony.

PIERCE LONG,  
JOSEPH WAIT,  
ICHABOD ROLLINS.

Which Report being read and considered,

*Voted*, That the same be received; and that Captain *Long*, Mr. *Rollins*, and Mr. *Cutts*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to take proper security of Captain *Eliphalet Ladd*, for his proceeding on the voyage mentioned in the above Report, under the several restrictions therein mentioned.

*By the Council and Assembly.*

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Congress of this Colony have, agreeable to a recommendation from the honourable Continental Congress, resolved and formed themselves upon a form of Government, by a Council and House of Representatives, which plan has been published and dispersed through the Colony, and is to be in force during the present dispute with *Great Britain*, unless otherwise advised by the Continental Congress; conformable to which said plan of Government, the Council and Assembly have chosen and appointed the proper officers for the administration of justice in the several Counties, who are to be sworn to the faithful discharge of their several trusts. It is therefore expected that no person or persons claim or exercise any civil authority but such as are or may be appointed as aforesaid, on the penalty of being deemed inimical to their country. Provided, nevertheless, and this Proclamation is intended, Not to interfere with the power of the necessary Committees of Safety, chosen in the several Towns through the Colony, by virtue and in consequence of any recommendation or Resolves of the Continental Congress; whereof all persons concerned are to take due notice, and govern themselves accordingly. And at the same time it is earnestly recommended, that in this distressing day of publick calamity, when our enemies are watching all opportunities to ensnare and divide us, every one would strive to prevent, and, if possible, to quell all appearance of party spirit, and to cultivate and promote peace, union, and good order, and by all means in their power to discourage profanity, immorality, and injustice.

*God save the People.*

*Voted*, That this Proclamation be transcribed, printed, and published throughout this Colony.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, March 20, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, Esq., *Timothy Walker*, Esq., and Captain *Long*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together on the account of *Ezekiel Worthen*, Jun's Wages, and make report thereon as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Colonel *David Gilman* receive out of the Treasury twelve Pounds, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Major *Tash*, Doctor *Dearborn*, and Mr. *Jacob Abbot*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, respecting a Petition from *Marlow*, *Stoddard*, and *Camden*, and make report thereon as soon as may be.

*Voted*, That Mr. *John Smith*, of *Durham*, be, and hereby is, appointed to sign the Bills of Credit of this Colony, now at the Treasury, in the room of Mr. *Joseph Gilman*, who prays to be excused.

*Voted*, That each Captain in the Regiment now to be raised for the defence of this Colony, receive out of the Treasury forty-three Pounds four Shillings, for their Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers' Blanket Money, and that each of said Captains give bond, with surety, to the Treasurer, to account for the same, and that the President of the Council give order for payment accordingly.

The Petition and Account of the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Kittery*, praying to be paid for two pair of Fire-Rafts, &c., read and considered.

*Voted*, That the prayer of said Petition be not granted, but dismissed.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Doctor *Hall Jackson* receive out of the Treasury, for his services, and the services of *Clement Jackson*, Esq., and Mr. *Clement March*, Jun., to, and for the Troops stationed at *Portsmouth* and *Piscataqua* Harbour, to this time, seven Pounds ten Shillings, per month, for five months past, amounting in the whole to the sum of thirty Pounds ten Shillings, and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

Upon hearing and considering the Petition of *Leonard Whiting*, *Benjamin Whiting*, *Samuel Cummings*, and *Thomas Cummings*, all of *Hollis*, against the Committee of Safety for the Towns of *Hollis*, *Dunstable*, *Merrimack*, and *Litchfield*, as on file, which being read and agreed by counsel, before both Houses, in the Town-House in *Exeter*,

*Voted*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed until the second *Tuesday* of the next sitting of this House, in order that the full evidence of both parties may be procured and brought in.

*Resolved*, That if any person, or persons, in either County within this Colony, who have held, or pretend to hold, any office, or offices, under the former Administration, or any other authority whatever, and not being confirmed by the present Council or Assembly, still retain in his, or their, custody any Books, Records, Papers, and Files, should refuse to deliver up the same on demand to the new officer, or officers, appointed in his, or their, stead by the Council and Assembly, upon such refusal the Sheriff of the County where such delinquent dwells, is hereby authorized and required to demand of him, or them, such Books, Records, Papers, and Files; and upon non-compliance with said Sheriff's demand, he, the said Sheriff, shall take the said delinquent before either of the Justices of the County, who, upon examination of the matter, unless the said offender shall give sufficient reasons for his non-compliance, shall have full power to commit him, the offender, to the County Jail, there to remain till he comply with this direction, and pay cost of commitment, or until further order of the General Assembly; a copy of the Vote of the said General Assembly, attested, to be full evidence of the appointment of such officer, or officers.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 21, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Samuel Hutchins*, of *Portsmouth*, be

Lieutenant of the Artillery Company there, in the room and stead of *John Marden*, lately appointed by this House, who is otherwise engaged.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Abel Webster* and *Samuel Dearborn*, for transporting *Indians*, amounting to three Pounds eighteen Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to agree with some suitable person to build a Powder-Mill in this Colony, and that Major *Philbrick*, Major *Barker*, and *Samuel Dudley*, Esq., be a Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That Major *James Hackett* be appointed Muster-master of the Troops now raised, and to be raised, for the defence of this Colony.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Daniel*, for five Privates not mustered, amounting to ten Pounds twelve Shillings and eleven Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *David Gilman* receive out of the Treasury forty-three Pounds four Shillings, for Captain *Clements*, to pay off his Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, and that he take security of said *Clements* to account for the same, and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That Major *Mooney* receive out of the Treasury one month's advance Pay, and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That *George Jerry Osborne* be Lieutenant of the Matross Company commanded by Captain *Salter*, in the room and stead of *Thomas Pickering*, who has resigned.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, amounting to one hundred and fifty-four Pounds twelve Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That the Pay-Roll of Captain *Titus Salter*, amounting to one hundred and ninety-four Pounds sixteen Shillings and nine Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., be commissioned as Captain of an Independent Company of Cadets at *Portsmouth*, and that he rank as Colonel; that he have three Subaltern Officers for said Company under him, to be commissioned by the Council and Assembly: the Company not to exceed forty-eight Rank and File; that they be under the direction and command of the General Officer of the Colony, and not to be obliged to march, or do duty, more than ten miles out of the Town of *Portsmouth*, and that the Lieutenant of said Company rank as Lieutenant-Colonel; the Second Lieutenant as Major, and the Ensign as Captain.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, afternoon.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Walker*, *John Dudley*, Esq., and Captain *Prentice*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, and make report as soon as may be what business is most necessary to be transacted before the adjournment of the House and Council, also what time to adjourn from and to.

Which Committee being joined by a Committee of the honourable Council, made report, viz: That a Committee of Safety be appointed to act in the recess of the Court. That the regulations about Saltpetre be finished, and directions about a Powder-Mill. That a Committee of three be appointed, (in the recess of the Court,) to draw out and present to the Court at their next session, for their approbation, a Table of Fees for a reward of the several officers of Government for their services. That the Court be adjourned on *Saturday* next, to the first *Wednesday* in *June* next, giving the President of the Council and Speaker of the House power to call the Court together in a case of necessity, in their opinion.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman*.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of Captain

*Ezekiel Worthen*, amounting to twenty Pounds seventeen Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order on the Treasurer for payment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together upon a Petition of sundry Committees of Safety and Correspondence, concerning the prices of Goods, and the necessities of life, &c., being raised to exorbitant prices, since the Continental Association, and to make report thereon to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Barnett*, Deacon *Baldwin*, and Captain *Moulton*, be the Committee of this House for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the stated price of Saltpetre in this Colony be three Shillings and six Pence per pound, exclusive of the bounties heretofore voted, until the eighth day of *June* next. That Doctor *Josiah Gilman*, of *Exeter*, be, and hereby is, appointed to inspect, receive, and store, whatever Saltpetre, made within this Colony, may be brought to him within the time aforesaid, and that his certificate, of what quantity he receives, to the Treasurer, shall empower him to pay the prices and bounties aforesaid, to such persons as produce the same, agreeable to the votes of the Assembly.

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Friday, March 22, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed by both Houses, to confer about Instructions for the Commissary who shall deliver out Provisions to the Troops at *Portsmouth*, made report as follows, viz:

First. That a Commissary be appointed constantly to attend every allowance day, upon the Troops at or near *Portsmouth*.

Second. That the Commissary proceed to deliver out Provisions, agreeable to the Return of the Quartermaster, every allowance day.

Thirdly. That the Commissary deliver one gill of rum, per day, to each man going upon fatigue, and not otherwise: the number to be ascertained by the Adjutant.

Fourthly. That an agent Victualler be appointed to provide all the necessaries for the Army.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman*.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice* and Deacon *Baldwin* be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to regulate and settle the Table of Fees for the several Officers in this Colony, and lay the same before this House the next session.

*Voted*, That *John Dudley*, *Samuel Sherburne*, *Richard Downing*, *Elijah Groat*, and *James Gibson*, Esquires, be a Committee, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, in order to nominate and recommend a number of persons for the Committee of Safety, to act in the recess of the General Court, and the powers proper to give them.

*Voted*, That the Quartermaster at *Portsmouth* be, and hereby is directed, forthwith to transport to *Exeter*, under a proper guard, three thousand pounds weight of the Powder now in the Magazine there, and that, after the same be landed and stored, the same to be under the care and direction of the Council of Safety.

*Voted*, That the Quartermaster at *Portsmouth* be directed to deliver to *Samuel Sherburne*, Esq., thirty pounds weight of Powder, for the use of his Company of Cadets, and to be by him accounted for.

*Voted*, That Doctor *Hall Jackson* be, and hereby is, appointed Surgeon of our Troops at *Piscataqua*, and that his wages be seven Pounds ten Shillings per month.

Whereas *Joseph Bartlett*, Esq., of *Newtown*, has, by undue means, obtained a seat in the late Congress at *Exeter*, and received pay for his travel and attendance, out of the Treasury of this Colony; and it hath since been adjudged by this House that said *Bartlett* was not legally appointed to sit in said Congress: Therefore,

*Voted*, That said *Bartlett* be ordered forthwith to replace the sum he received for his said pay into the Treasury; and that the Clerk of this House notify the said *Bartlett* of this notice.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to

confer together upon the Accounts of the late Committee of Safety, and make report to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, Doctor *Nichols*, and Deacon *Knowles*, be a Committee for that purpose.

*Voted*, That the Account of *Meshech Weare*, Esq., for his time and expenses going to *Cambridge*, amounting to four Pounds twelve Shillings, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the Treasurer pay him the same accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., be, and hereby is, appointed Commissary and Victualler to our Troops at *Piscataqua*, for the current year, and that he deliver out no more than single Rations to any of the Officers of our Troops; and that he deliver to each man one gill of Rum, per day, when going on fatigue, and not otherwise: the number to be ascertained by the Adjutant; and that he deliver out Provisions agreeable to the Return of the Quartermaster, every allowance day; and that he render his Accounts to this House, or to the Committee of Safety, at every three months' end.

Adjourned to half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That *John McClary*, Esq., Doctor *Dearborn*, and Captain *Moulton*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of sending some part of the Militia to *Portsmouth* and *Newcastle*, immediately, for the defence of *Piscataqua* Harbour, and places adjacent.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of the Committee of *Durham* for Fire-Rafts, amounting to six Pounds one Shilling and three Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment thereof accordingly.

*Voted*, That the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq., *Ebenezer Thompson*, Esq., and *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esq., of the Council, the Hon. *Philips White*, Esq., *Pierce Long*, *John Dudley*, *Josiah Moulton*, *Stephen Evans*, and *Robert Wilson*, Esquires, of the Assembly, be, and hereby are, appointed a Committee of Safety for this Colony, to act in the recess of the General Court, with the same powers and authority as any former Committee of Safety of this Colony have had; and also to convene the Council and Assembly upon any emergency, in the time of their recess. That any five of them be a quorum to do business; that they render an account of their doings to this House the first week of their next session; and that they have eight shillings per day for their attendance on the business, paying their own expenses.

The Petition of *Rebecca Felton*, concerning the Will of her late husband, *William Felton*, being read,

*Voted*, That the Petitioner be heard thereon, on the second *Thursday* of the next sitting of this Assembly.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee of three Members of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together upon the Accounts of the late Committee of Safety, and report to this House as soon as may be; and that Captain *Prentice*, Dr. *Nichols*, and Deacon *Knowles*, be the Committee for that purpose.

Which Committee, being joined by a Committee of the honourable Board, made report as follows, viz:

That they are of opinion that the expenses of the said Committee of Safety be paid out of the publick money, and recommend that each of them be paid five shillings per diem wages.

WYSEMAN CLAGETT, *Chairman*.

Whereas there are sundry Towns in the Colony, settled these few years, both within the lines of what is called *Mason's Patent*, and under grants from the Crown, which have not the benefit of Incorporation, and thereby unable to choose proper Officers to assess and collect the Colony Taxes,

*It is hereby Resolved*, That, upon application of three of the Freeholders of said Town to the Selectmen of the adjoining Town, (if incorporated,) otherwise to the Selectmen of the nearest Town incorporated, they (the Selectmen) are authorized, and hereby required, to undertake and act for such Town, and to take Inventories of Estates, make Rates, and issue Warrants, to such or either of the Freeholders of said Town as they may think suitable persons; to

levy, collect, and receive the said Rates and Taxes, (the charge of the Selectmen's time in said business to be included and paid by the Town so taxed,) which Tax shall be transmitted to the Receiver-General, according to his warrant.

The House adjourned to to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, March 23, 1776.

Met according to adjournment.

*Voted*, That the expenses of the late Committee of Safety of this Colony be paid out of the Treasury; and that they receive out of the Treasury five Shillings per day each for wages, and that the President give order for payment thereof.

*Voted*, That the balance of the Account of *Nathaniel Folsom*, Esq., amounting to two Pounds eight Shillings and six Pence, be allowed and paid out of the Treasury, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

*Voted*, To choose a Committee to agree with Colonel *Toppin*, for the purchase of seven Cannon, belonging to him, now at our Batteries, at *Piscataqua* Harbour, not to exceed twenty Pounds for each Cannon; and that Mr. *Sherburne* and Colonel *Evans* be the Committee for that purpose, to make report to the Committee of Safety.

*Voted*, That Deacon *Williams* have and receive, out of the Treasury, twenty-four Shillings in full, for the use of his House, and firing, for the several Committees of this House, to this time, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

*Voted*, That the several Officers, appointed by this House, proceed in their respective business immediately after their taking their respective oaths of office, (without having commissions;) not to interfere with a former Vote of this House for opening the several Courts to try criminal cases and trespass only.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Timothy Walker* be added to the Committee for examining Accounts, &c.

*Voted*, That the Committee of Supplies be paid for their services and expenses, eight Shillings per day when doing business abroad, and four Shillings per day when they did business at home.

*Voted*, That the Inventories of Rateables, Estates, and Polls, in and throughout this Colony for the current year, be taken in the month of *April* next, and the several rates at which the said Estates are to be set, to be hereafter considered by this Court.

*Voted*, That Captain *Long*, our Barrackmaster, be ordered to build Barracks, or hire Houses, on *Great-Island*, to lodge our Soldiers in, as he shall find most convenient.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Elijah Grout* have, and receive, out of the Treasury, twenty-five Pounds, to be by him accounted for, and that the President of the Council give order of payment.

*Voted*, That Captain *Prentice*, Colonel *Evans*, Mr. *Patten*, and Mr. *Grout*, be a Committee of this House, to join a Committee of the honourable Board, to confer together about the Pay-Roll of the Members of this House, and to make report to this House as soon as may be.

Which Committee being joined by a Committee from the honourable Board, made report: That it is their opinion that each Member receive their pay out of the Treasury, in the same manner, and on the same conditions, they did the last session, and that the Secretary and Clerks immediately make out the rolls for the same.

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman*.

*Therefore, Voted*, That the pay of the several Members of the Council and of this House, for this session, be drawn out of the Treasury in the same manner, and on the same conditions, as for the last session; and that the Secretary and the Clerk of the House immediately make out the Rolls for the same, and certify them to the Treasurer.

Then the House adjourned to the first *Wednesday* in *June* next, the fifth day of said month, then to meet at the Court-House in *Exeter*, at three of the clock, afternoon.

Attest:

NOAH EMERY,

Clerk House of Representatives.



## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEE.

Philadelphia, March 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: After a warm contest, occasioned by the high estimation the Members of Congress have of your worth and abilities, (every one wishing to have you where he had most at stake,) the Congress have at length determined to supersede the orders given you to proceed to *Canada*, and have this day come to a resolution that you shall take the command of the Continental Forces in the Southern Department; which comprehends *Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia*.

The Congress have also appointed six new Brigadier-Generals, viz: *John Armstrong, William Thompson, Andrew Lewis, James Moore, Lord Stirling, and Robert Howe*, Esquires, four of whom are to command under you, in the Southern Department, and two in the Middle. By this conveyance, I have forwarded the commission for his Lordship. As soon as your health, and the necessary orders you may think proper to give for putting *New-York* in a state of defence, will permit, I have it in charge to direct that you repair to the Department put under your immediate command.

In expectation of seeing you soon in this place on your way, I need not add, but, that I am, with every sentiment of regard and esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Hon. Major-General Lee, at *New-York*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LORD STIRLING.

Philadelphia, March 1, 1776.

MY LORD: I do myself the honour of enclosing to you a commission of Brigadier-General in the Continental Army. From the high opinion the Congress entertain of your zeal and attachment to the *American* cause, they flatter themselves you will do everything in your power to discharge your duty to your country on this important occasion. I have it in charge from Congress to direct that you continue at *New-York* until further orders.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

The Right Hon. Lord Stirling, at *New-York*.

## JAMES DUANE TO LORD STIRLING.

Philadelphia, March 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am afraid you will suspect I have been unmindful of your request, when last here, and of your interest; but I beg you will be assured, that inattention to my friends is one of the vices of which I feel myself incapable.

The first opportunity I have embraced to solicit your promotion, in which I was so happy as to be supported by my friends. Your Lordship is accordingly appointed a Brigadier-General for the Middle Department, comprehending *New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the Lower Counties, and *Maryland*; the Colonies to the southward, the four Eastern Provinces, and *Canada*, form the other three Departments.

It is now determined that General Lee shall command in the Southern Department, where an immediate attack is expected. The debates of this day did him singular honour, and evinced the confidence the Congress place in his zeal and abilities. He was given up to the Southern Colonies, as the most exposed, with great reluctance. General Schuyler, with Brigadier-General Thompson and yourself, are destined for the Middle Department. The Commander-in-Chief for *Canada* remains to be filled up, and is a subject of some perplexity as well as of very great importance. It was the anxious wish and earnest advice of our much lamented friend, *Montgomery*, that he should be succeeded by General Lee; but the situation of our affairs has prevented it. General Schuyler's very precarious state of health, and the danger to which his native Province is exposed, will, we suppose, make the disposition respecting him very agreeable.

Present my respectful compliments to him and to General Lee, and believe me to be, with great regard, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

JAMES DUANE.

To Lord Stirling.

## EASTON, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Easton, March 1, 1776.

"We, the subscribers, inhabitants of *Chestnut-Hill* and *Hamilton* Townships, in the County of *Northampton*, being conscious of our misdemeanour and accumulated guilt, as well in entering into a written agreement and unlawful combination, to bid defiance to the laws of our country and to resist the authority of the civil Magistrates, as also in wickedly and maliciously defaming and slandering the honourable Continental Congress: We therefore acknowledge ourselves highly culpable, and ask pardon of our offended countrymen, promising in the most solemn manner, as a token of our sincere repentance, to yield and deliver up into the hands and custody of the Committee-men of the said respective Townships, within ten days from this date, all our arms, to be by them kept and detained until, both by our words and actions, it shall evidently appear that we merit the favour and confidence of our fellow-citizens.

"JOHANNES ZIGLIN, SEN.,

"JOHANNES ZIGLIN, JUN.,

"THOMAS JAMES,

"JACOB HIPGE,

"EDWARD EVANS."

Resolved, That the above be published in the *English* and *German* Newspapers.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT TRAILL, Clerk.

## PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee, March 1, 1776.

*Henry Juncken*, of this city, having voluntarily sent to this Committee the following Letter, which is voted a proper acknowledgment of his own,

Ordered, That the same be published in all the Newspapers, *English* and *German*, in and near this city.

T. MATLACK, Secretary pro tem.

"GENTLEMEN: Whereas I have been charged, before you, of being inimical to the noble struggle for liberty in general, as well as to the Association in particular. And whereas there may have words dropped in conversation, which may be construed as tending to discourage those which otherwise would have associated, the which was never my intention to do. And whereas I value liberty as dear as life, and am sensible that I shall reap a proportionable benefit in the success of this our noble struggle for the same, my interest and that of the publick being inseparably connected.

"And whereas I am sorry for any unguarded word or expression which may have dropped from my mouth, and which may convey even the most distant sense of being inimicably disposed to this our noble struggle; being also deeply concerned for the displeasure of the publick in general, as well as my respected fellow-citizens in particular, for whom I have nothing but love and good-will at heart, and with whom I wish to live in peace, harmony, and friendship. Therefore, to appease their minds, and to convince the publick in general that this my declaration is sincere, and that I am not insensible to the duty of my country, I do hereby, of my own free will and accord, and without any persuasion, threat, or compulsion whatever, ask their pardon for any offence by me to them, or any of them, given. My future conduct will and shall prove that I am equally with them engaged in the same good cause, and that I am determined, as I always have been, to stand or fall with them in this our noble struggle for liberty.

"HENRY JUNCEN.

"To the Gentlemen of the Committee of Inspection."

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *NEW-YORK*.

The Petition of JOSIAH ROBERSON, JOHANNES TACK, &c., of *MARBLETOWN*, in the County of *ULSTER*, and Province of *NEW-YORK*, humbly sheweth:

That whereas the Township of *Marbletown* formerly contained a sufficient number of men for three distinct Companies of Militia, which, although increased since that time, have, by the Committee of said Town, for local conve-



niences, only divided into two Beats or Districts, and now forms two Companies, of upwards of one hundred men each. And whereas certain dissatisfactions have arisen, about the choice of a Captain in the Southwest District of said Township, which we humbly conceive may have an evil tendency to disunite the good people of this town, if some suitable remedy be not applied in time.

And whereas it is judged that the most effectual method for removing dissatisfaction from amongst us would be to raise a Company of Grenadiers, under the command of *Charles W. Broadhead*, Captain, *Jacob Delamater*, First Lieutenant, *Moses M. Cantine*, Second Lieutenant, and *Jacob Chambers*, Ensign.

We therefore (having obtained the previous approbation of the Commanding Officer of this Regiment, together with the Committee, and the Officers of the Militia of said Township) humbly pray, that we may be embodied into a Company of Grenadiers, in said Regiment, and that the said *Charles W. Broadhead*, *Jacob Delamater*, *Moses M. Cantine*, and *Jacob Chambers*, may be commissioned as above-mentioned. And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Jacob J. Freer,	John Roosa,	Levi Pawling, Jun.,
Benoni Mulks,	Martinus Oosterhout,	John McKenry,
Cornelius Tack,	Hanna's Oosterhout,	Johan. Van Leuven,
Thos. Schoonmaker,	J. A. Van Wagener,	David Hetkim,
John Sluyter,	Peter Van Wagener,	Daniel Mowers,
Johannes G. Rosa,	Johannes Krom,	Petrus Mowers,
Dirck Chambers,	William Krom,	William Love,
James Mekemson,	Jacob Rapelya,	Edward Deval,
John Rapleigh,	John Van Demerken,	Aldert Roosa,
William Cantine,	Wilhelmus Roosa,	William Hardy,
Solomon Vandemerk,	Lues Brodhead,	John Cantine, Jun.,
Thomas Chambers,	Mindert Newkirk,	Robert Has,
Arie Tack,	Peter P. Oosterhout,	Abraham Saler,
Isaac Robison,	John Davis,	Daniel Schoonmaker,
John Cusnehan,	James Robison,	Samuel Dodge,
Joseph Chambers,	Samuel Brodhead,	

Marbletown, March, 1776.

#### WILLIAM BARKER TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Amenia, Dutchess County, March 1, 1776.

SIR: I have received orders under your hand, to enlist men in the Continental service, as a Captain, and am very sorry the privates are not allowed as much pay as our near neighbours in *Connecticut*, who are allowed fifty-three shillings and four pence for a bounty, and fifty-three shillings and four pence per month, which discourages our men from enlisting in our Province; but a bigger discouragement, I take it to be, that there is no time prescribed for their enlistment. Also, one place, the orders say, they (the soldiers) to find their own arms, and in another place, arms and accoutrements for the men, &c., to be provided at the publick expense; and no mention is made of any advance pay, which appears to me that it will be absolutely necessary that they should have one month's pay before they march, in order to furnish themselves. Under those discouragements, I find it very dull raising men. If, therefore, sir, you can, by a line by the bearer, give me any further directions in these matters; you will greatly oblige, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM BARKER.

To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Congress at *New-York*.

#### GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, March 1, 1776.

SIR: I received the 24th your favour of the 19th of last month per *Bennett*. Captain *Troop's* company, raised hereabouts for the Colony battalion, half of it marched two days ago. They escorted eight hundred weight of powder in casks, to prevent embézzlement. The residue will follow the 11th. I hear some other of the companies moved forward this week, and will be followed soon. I expect they will need the arms and accoutrements you gave encouragement to supply them. Your direction to the Paymaster-General, to make an estimate of what is still due, and to pay it to the gentlemen of our Pay-Table to pay off the men, is a salutary measure, which will answer very good purposes to prevent complaints. Our Treasurer's chest is dry. To have it replenished from yours as speedily as possible, will be very agreeable. I have noticed Lieutenant-Colonel *Mott* of the mistake relative to billeting allowance made him, and our Pay-Table are informed of it, and

will govern themselves accordingly. Mr. *Lee*, of *Charlestown*, moved to me for an allowance for his service at *Skeneborough*, after the taking of *Ticonderoga*. I informed him that a complete account must be made out, before anything could be done here, and that I would write to you upon it; since which, Captain *Lusk*, who was at the first taking of *Ticonderoga*, and places adjacent, and in service afterwards at *St. John's*, came to me to ask a settlement and payment to those who were employed in that first service. I told him, that in my opinion, the Congress intended that whole affair should be at Continental expense. And as several Colonies were concerned in it, and had advanced money to several persons thereon, so it could not be done without a perfect account made up of the whole services, provisions, &c., and the advancement each Colony had made; that for that end I would write to the honourable Continental Congress to appoint a Committee, to meet at some convenient time and place, with power to call on all concerned therein for their accounts, to liquidate the same, and to make their report thereon, and thereby justice obtained for those brave men who undertook and so happily effected that work.

This gave present satisfaction to him, and may do the same for Mr. *Lee*. If you judge this method expedient, your application to Congress will greatly facilitate their compliance with my request thereon.

I am, with great regard and esteem, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

#### JOHN STEVENSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

March 2, 1776.

Dr. *Stevenson* begs leave to present a memorial to the honourable the Council of Safety, now sitting, to acquaint them, that some time ago, he had engaged a quantity of gunpowder from Mr. *John Craig*, merchant, which the Committee of *Baltimore* Town took for the publick service, and being at present greatly distressed for a small supply of powder to carry on his copper-works, requests that he may be supplied with such a quantity as they shall think proper, and he will with pleasure repay any charge in replacing the same.

JOHN STEVENSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, now sitting at *Baltimore*.

#### C. BEATTY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, March 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have the petition of one of the companies in the Thirty-Third Battalion, praying that you will commission the gentlemen therein mentioned. The company seems to be well satisfied to be commanded by them, and I am of opinion they will make good officers, therefore, hope you will approve of them. Captain *Mantz*, who was appointed Quartermaster of our troops by the last Convention, has declined serving in that capacity; therefore, I hope you will have the commissions for him and the other officers of his company, made out and sent up with the others, by the first safe hand, and you will oblige, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

C. BEATTY.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

N. B. Mr. *Lewis Rush*, who was appointed Quartermaster to the Thirty-Third Battalion, has accepted of a commission in the *Pennsylvania* Troops, therefore has declined serving as a Quartermaster in said battalion. In order to have the vacancy filled up, I consulted with the rest of the Field-Officers of said battalion, and we unanimously agreed to recommend Mr. *William Ritchie* as a man well calculated to fill up the place. If he should meet with your approbation, we pray that a commission may issue, and be transmitted with the above.

C. B.

To the Council of Safety of *MARYLAND*:

The Petition of sundry of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of *Frederick* County, who compose the company to which Colonel *Charles Beatty* was formerly elected Captain, and Colonel *Baker Johnson* First Lieutenant, the

removal of whom to their present appointments have occasioned vacancies, we, therefore, to render the company complete, and that it may exercise in battalion, as directed by the resolves of the Convention, have gone into a choice of officers to fill the vacancies above-mentioned, and have appointed Mr. *John Adlum* Captain, *John Furguson* First Lieutenant, *Christian Weaver* Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Beatty* Ensign. If those gentlemen meet with your approbation, of which we have but little doubt, we hope that commissions may issue, and be transmitted to Colonel *Charles Beatty* by the first opportunity.

Signed per order: *WILLIAM RITCHIE, Clerk.*

#### ON SENDING COMMISSIONERS TO TREAT WITH THE CONGRESS.

The man who would penetrate all the designs, and thoroughly acquaint himself with the several manœuvres of the *British* Government, ought carefully to attend to two objects. The Prime Minister is always considered as the central wheel of all Government movements; and the eyes of every one are fixed upon him, and his motions alone attended to. But in the present case, where he is confessedly ostensible, the affair is quite otherwise; and he who wishes to distinguish between the measures which proceed from the real Minister, and will be prosecuted, and those which the ostensible is directed to hold out, (as barrels to a whale,) may, perhaps, find the true clue to guide through the labyrinth in the following observations.

*Great Britain* has steadily and invariably pursued one course of conduct towards these Colonies for the last twelve years; and yet politicians have constantly charged her with fickleness, and a want of a regular plan. He who discerns the true cause of this inconsistent consistency, can point out its nature, end, and use, and show that this fickleness demonstrates the firmest steadfastness, sees into the bottom of the present *British* policy, and comprehends all her measures. This knowledge I wish every member of the honourable Continental Congress possessed of, with virtue and spirit sufficient to withstand all their efforts to destroy our liberties.

As soon as the Parliament is called, the King gives certain intimations of his designs, and applies for the approbation and support of the Commons. Here we have a small opening of the designs of the Cabinet, no more being communicated than is absolutely necessary for obtaining a general concurrence and vote of aids from Parliament. This being once obtained by way of Address, a new plan opens, and that spirit, which was roused by this discovery of the real designs of the Government, is laid asleep as quickly as possible, and the real Minister now retiring behind the curtain, the ostensible one succeeds to his place. You may therefore observe, that, as soon as the hands of the secret Cabinet are let loose by Loyal Addresses, things take a new turn in Parliament immediately; and the Prime Minister, as if totally forsaking the high ground he had lately taken possession of, begins to open new plans, of a very different nature from that held out in the Speech from the Throne, and recommended in the Addresses of both Houses of Parliament. The King and his cabal go to work with all the secrecy and vigour they are masters of, and Lord *North* assumes his new character, which is that of the Deceiver of *America* and Amuser of the Nation. And he has hitherto played his part so well, that all has gone on to their mind. He last year rendered them invisible, even to their own party, and had like to lose all by it, so that he was forced to take off the mask, and partly discover himself, before he could carry matters in the House. Any one who remembers his motion, will feel the force of what is here related; and he who recollects that said motion arrived but a few weeks before the order for seizing Messieurs *Hancock* and *Adams*, which opened the present scene of the war, must perceive that he acted in the capacity I have assigned him. Even they who entertain the most indifferent opinion of the Administration, were, by this motion, induced to believe, for a time, that they meant to give up the matter. He is now playing the same game over again. Proposals for a reconciliation, Commissioners, and what not, are now held out, as the motion was last year, and for the same purposes.

The two parties now divide, each going to his own proper business: the King, and his Secret Cabinet, to arraying

the greatest military force they can muster, and despatching them to butcher us with the utmost expedition; Lord *North*, and the Parliament, to amuse the nation, and distract and divide the Colonies, by every hypocritical art in their power. Thus the two plans go hand-in-hand; the one to divide, the other to conquer. Was it not precisely so last year? Is it not so now? All ye timid, irresolute, terrified, and double-faced Whigs, who have, by one means or other, crept into authority, open your mouths wide, and bawl stoutly against every vigorous measure until the Commissioners arrive. They will bring pockets well-lined with *English* Guineas; Patents for Plans, Pensions, and Titles in abundance, will attend them. Your palms will be first greased. You are the only men who can complete the Parliamentary plans for raising an *American* Revenue! *Common Sense* says this winter is worth an age. Rejoice that it is now past. Do all in your power to pass the spring in activity, and matters may yet go to your minds. Lord *North's* motion last winter did much for you; the Commissioners, equally improved, will probably crown your wishes. I shall thank God, and heartily rejoice, if your influence reach not the Councils and proceedings of the Congress.

Depend upon it, my Countrymen, "*Divide et impera*" is the instruction of every Commissioner, and his orders will be delay, divide, distract, as much as possible, until the forces are all arrived, and they be in a condition to enforce their plan. Then they will inform you that they have received orders by which they are commanded to break off the treaty. Too many have already lost sight of the King, and our real enemies, and are so fascinated with the prospect of Commissioners, that I begin to dread the snare, and cannot help crying out to you, Oh, foolish *Americans*! Who has bewitched you, that you should put any confidence in men who spill your blood with as little ceremony and reluctance as a butcher would that of an ox! Is this all you know of the King and his Ministers?

I know there is not a Tory now on the Continent but hopes these Commissioners will effect their purpose, and are preparing to give them every possible assistance, and very few Whigs who have not their fears on the occasion. Every thinking man on both sides of the question must, and does believe, that their sole errand is to cajole and deceive, and that large promises, lies, bribery, and corruption, are the means they will use. I beseech you to lend all your spirit and vigour to the Congress on the occasion. Depend upon it they will want it. Pray them to take one decisive step; to send orders to the Commander-in-Chief in each Province to arrest said Commissioners, in the name of the *Thirteen United Colonies*, as soon as they set foot on shore, and send them, under strong guards, to the Congress, with the strictest injunction that they be permitted to speak with no man, besides the guards and their servants, until they arrive in *Philadelphia*; and that, as soon as they arrive, a deputation from Congress wait upon them, and ask them this one plain question, Have you authority to order home your fleets and armies immediately? If they answer in the negative, then to break off all further conference, and send them off that instant to the enemy's head-quarters, with this information, that we scorn as much to treat with a dagger at our breasts, as we disregard their forces. If they answer in the affirmative, then to assure them that, as soon as the intelligence of their fleets and armies' safe arrival in *Great Britain*, shall have reached *America*, the conference shall be opened, and not before; that they, in the mean time, shall be kept in safe custody, treated like gentlemen, but not permitted to correspond or converse with the inhabitants before the treaty is completed. Every hour spent in conference with Commissioners before this takes place, is an hour lost to *America*, and two gained to *Great Britain*; besides the immense damages which will arise from the powers of deceit and corruption, *English* gold, Government promises, pensions, titles, and every art which malice, cunning, and religious hypocrisy can invent or use, will be played off against our liberties. These, judiciously applied, will convert such among the great as have not virtue and integrity to withstand their force; and you will be sold without pocketing a penny of the price. Without pocketing did I say? Nay, yourselves must pay it. Hard lot, indeed! But if you have not virtue and spirit sufficient to support the Congress in executing these measures for your security, you deserve it. I conclude, by exhorting you to keep on the watch;

lose not sight of the King and the Army, by looking at the Prime Minister, Parliament, and Commissioners. One bold stroke will effectually defeat the machinations of the latter, and then the former will stand alone and unsupported; and a second vigorous exertion will crush their evil designs against your liberties. Remember, these Commissioners are the wooden horse which is to take those by stratagem whom twelve years' hostility could not reduce. Act, then, like *Laocoon*; strike the dagger into his breast, and never permit your credulity or inactivity to give the perjured *Sinon* an opportunity of making a worn-out, deluded, or corrupted Whig the altar on which to offer up your dear-bought privileges.

CASSANDRA.

P. S. I shall be told this would be treating the Commissioners too cavalierly. To this I answer, Men coming on such an errand, cannot be treated too much so. Let any one show the least mark of a design in Administration to relinquish their claims, and I will treat them with the utmost ceremony and respect. I will publish an *ancient testimony* in their own favour, if it can be but considered as doing them honour. For though I trust I shall never prostitute a pure and holy religion to pay my court to men, though they be Kings, yet I will do any right thing for those who come on so good an errand.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL ARMSTRONG.

Philadelphia, March 2, 1776.

SIR: The Congress, from a sense of your merit and zeal in the *American* cause, have been induced to appoint you a Brigadier-General in the Continental Army. I do myself the honour of enclosing your commission; and shall only add, that I have it in charge from Congress to direct that you repair as soon as possible to *South-Carolina*, there to take the command of the Continental Troops till further orders.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

*John Armstrong, Esq., Brigadier-General.*

N. B. A letter of the same form was, at the same time, sent to General *Thompson*, directing him to repair to *New-York* to join the Continental Troops, under the command of General *Lee*.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, March 2, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of this day, covering the commission of a Brigadier-General of that venerable body where you preside, does me great honour. The importance of the station in which they are pleased to place me, as well as the trust and confidence implied in the appointment, fills me with concern. Conscious as I am of my small degree of military knowledge, and sensible, very sensible, of the decline of nature, I had no right to expect an appointment of this sort, and beg leave to assure the Congress that I accept the commission from a sense of duty to this much-injured country, and shall, by divine aid, endeavour to execute it to the best of my ability. Permit me, sir, to request you may please to return my grateful thanks to that august body for this mark of their confidence, and to assure them of my readiness to comply with their future commands to the utmost of my power.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

COLONEL WHIPPLE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 2, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here the 28th ultimo. The roads were so extremely bad it was impossible for me to get here sooner. The papers which Captain *Long* gave me, sealed up and directed to the President, I delivered on my arrival. They were yesterday read in Congress, and referred to a Committee.

My colleague talks of leaving me in about a fortnight; by that time I hope I shall be able to forward the determination of Congress on the petition for a battalion. If your

Delegates could have been furnished with an estimate of the Colonial expenses they might have improved them to advantage. But you may be assured we shall do the best we can without them. But I beg the account may be sent forward as soon as possible, or, if the accounts cannot be got ready, let me be furnished with an estimate both of the Continental and Provincial charges.

I was much surprised to find there was no instructions among the papers given me by Captain *Long*; not a word about purchasing the flour which was so much talked of, when I was last with the Committee. If anything of that sort is to be done, I should be glad to be advised of it as soon as possible, for no doubt the risk increases with the advancement of the season. The Congress have appointed six more Brigadier-Generals, four for the Southern, and two for the Middle Department. It is probable General *Lee* will have the command of the Southern Army. I have nothing new that I can communicate; when I have you may be assured I shall be very particular, and I hope I shall hear from you often. All the Delegates, except from *New-Hampshire*, are furnished weekly with all the transactions of their respective Colonies, and really wish to be on a footing with them in that respect. I shall write to you again shortly. In the mean time give me leave to assure you that I am, with great respect, your most obedient and faithful servant,

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

To the Honourable Colonel *Weare*.

COLONEL JOSIAH BARTLETT TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 2, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 8th ultimo, per Colonel *Whipple*, I received the 28th, and am glad to be informed of the spirited behaviour of our Colony in raising a regiment for *Canada* without waiting for the order of Congress.

The several matters relative to our Colony affairs are, according to order, laid before Congress. As soon as a determination is had, I hope to be the bearer of them myself to you.

I am very sorry for the unhappy difficulties in our Colonies, at a time when we have nothing to expect from our inveterate enemies but war and bloodshed, notwithstanding their hypocritical pretences of treating and reconciliation to amuse us. I pray *God* we may not be taken in the snare.

I am your most obedient servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare, Esq.*

P. S. I should have wrote more largely but the post this minute is setting off.

J. B.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED NEW-YORK, MARCH 2, 1776.

An affair has lately been discovered here which has given no small uneasiness to the Congress. Some manoeuvres of Governour *Tryon* convinced that Assembly that he was perfectly acquainted with their proceedings, and they were at a loss to guess from what quarter he could get his intelligence. At length a doubt arose in the breast of Mr. *Duane* (a principal Member of the Congress) that his valet, who had formerly lived with Governour *Tryon*, had, at night, when he went to bed, taken his minutes out of his pocket, which he had copied, and sent to his late master. He informed the Congress of his suspicion, and it was agreed that he should put, as usual, some minutes in his pocket, but they should be fictitious ones, in order, if possible, to ascertain his servant's dishonesty before he was apprehended. This was accordingly done; the servant, as it is supposed, copied and sent them to the Governour, who soon found that the servant either had imposed on him, or was himself imposed on, and therefore gave him notice to take care of himself: he fled immediately on this to Governour *Tryon*, who sent him over to *England* in the last ship that sailed from hence.\*

\*PHILADELPHIA, January 9th.—At breakfast I was visited by *Paul Fooks's* housekeeper, who informed that their boy, *Neal*, had heard his sister *Rosanna Thompson*, who lived at *Richard Bache's*, say that *James Brattle*, servant-man to *James Duane*, one of the *New-York* Delegates, was employed by Governour *Tryon* to collect and send him all the news he could find, on board the *Asia*, for which he should be

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Province of NEW-YORK.

The Memorial of sundry Merchants and other Inhabitants of the City of NEW-YORK, humbly setteth forth:

We, the subscribers, beg leave humbly to represent to this honourable Congress, that we have observed for a considerable time past *Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price*, of this city, merchants, suffering great hardships, under the censure of the Committee; and conceiving their case to be singularly hard, and being persuaded that they will in future earnestly endeavour to avoid giving any just cause of offence, we humbly pray that this honourable Congress will be pleased to take their case into consideration, and grant them such relief as in your wisdom may seem meet.

Anthony Lisperard, for	Thomas Jones,	Richard Sharpe,
Leonard Lisperard,	William M. Pagan,	John Moore,
Anthony Lisperard, for	Abraham Lott,	Abr. B. Bancker,
self,	Van Zandt & Keteltas,	Richard Yates,
John Jones,	Alexander Robertson,	Smith Ramadge,
Cornelius Ray,	Robert Gault,	Oliver Templeton,
Richard Ray, Jr.,	Francis Lewis, Jr.,	G. W. Beekman,
John Ramsay,	William Walton,	Samuel Clossey,
Cornelius P. Low,	Wynandt Keteltas,	Hugh Gaine,
Samuel Baird,		James Seagrove.

COLONEL BUDD TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Mamaroneck, March 2, 1776.

SIR: Some time past I had a small boat taken from me. I am informed she is gone to the *Asia* man-of-war. I should take it as a particular favour if you would get a permit for the bearer, Mr. *William Grey*, to go on board in search of her, as he is acquainted with her.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

GILBERT BUDD.

To John McKesson, Esq.

THOMAS MOFFAT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Blooming-Grove, March 2, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have a return for several officers in the Militia and Minute departments, occasioned by vacancies on account of the advancement of some, and others refusing to qualify. The Committee desire you would endeavour to get the commissions made out for them, and sent up as soon as possible; and, also, that you would get a commission made out for *Vincent Helms*, Ensign, in the company of Captain *Samuel Raymond*, in the Minute department, a return whereof has been made, but no commission come.

I am, with respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant. By order of the Committee:

THOMAS MOFFAT, Clerk.

JAMES ROSEKRANS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Fishkill, March 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance to my orders, in making report from time to time of my progress in inlisting men and raising a company to be employed as part of the *American* Continental Army, I hereby inform the honourable Congress that I last evening met my Lieutenants, *Lee* and *Laurence*, and Ensign *Balding*, and find that we have inlisted sixty-five men, and I do expect, without any doubt, to be ready to have my full company mustered the week after next. And

well rewarded, and also be preferred to some post. In consequence of which, he had written to him, and in particular the day our fleet sailed, with their number, &c. On this information, I called upon some of our Committee at the Coffee-House. *Joseph Dean* went with me, but could gain nothing. We returned. Then *John Bayard* went with me to *Joseph Reed's*: he not at home; thence to see him at the Committee of Safety; not there; thence to the Court-House; found him. After taking his advice, went to *Hall's* printing-office; took *Richard Bache* home with us; called his maid; examined her. She seemed confounded, but, on the whole, denied it. From thence to the Coffee-House, where, consulting Major *Cox*, he joined us two. We went to the State-House; called out Mr. *Duane*; informed him; he seemed confounded; requested us to attend him to his house. We did. He called his man; examined him; took him up stairs and made search, all to no purpose. We then went, took him with us to *Paul Fooks's*; examined the boy, who persisted. We brought the boy back to Mr. *Duane's* lodgings; sent for the young woman, who, upon seeing her brother, confessed that what he had said was true. *James* was called and interrogated, but all to no purpose. Then Major *Cox* and Mr. *Duane* took him up stairs again, and while they were employed in that business, he slipped down stairs, out through the yard, and they have seen no more of him. Major *Bayard* and myself waited for them in the parlour. Thus he escaped.—*C. Marshall.*

whereas I further make not the least doubt but that I shall be ready to be called upon sooner than any other Captain in this County by odds; I therefore pray that I may be considered as oldest Captain in the regiment to which I am to belong.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JAMES ROSEKRANS.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress at New-York.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO KINGSTON (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Albany, March 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 29th *February*, by Captain *Hasbrouck*, he has just now delivered me. As I had never heard from him since he left this, I did not know if he had recruited, or intended to recruit his company; I therefore could not join him to Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment, which were the only troops that I was empowered by Congress to raise. He will, however, continue in the service if he chooses, and it be agreeable to you, in one of the four regiments to be raised in, and for the immediate defence of this Colony; and you have nothing more to do than to send his name to the Provincial Congress.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To William Ellsworth, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Kingston.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 8, 1776.]

Lebanon, March 2, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Lee*, of *Castleton*, moved to me for an allowance to be made him, and those employed under him, for their service at the iron works, and other business, at *Skenesborough*, after the first taking of *Ticonderoga* until they were dismissed. Also, Captain *Thomas Lusk*, one of the first adventurers in the reduction of *Ticonderoga* and places adjacent, moved for a settlement and payment to those who undertook and were employed in that service.

I gave them my opinion, that the honourable General Congress intend that affair, and transactions thereon, should be a Continental expense; that inhabitants belonging to divers Colonies were concerned, that each Colony had advanced money, and that it is needful a full account should be prepared of the services, provisions, and advancements, to be examined and liquidated by some suitable persons thereto appointed. Therefore this serves to move the honourable Congress, that a Committee be appointed, fully authorized and empowered to call on all concerned therein, for their accounts of services and disbursements, and to appoint and notify some convenient time and place to hear, examine, and liquidate the same, and make report thereof, that justice may be done, and those brave men who undertook and so happily effected that work, generously rewarded.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable President Hancock.

MANIFESTO SENT ON SHORE AT NEW-PROVIDENCE.

To the Gentlemen, Freemen, and Inhabitants of the Island of NEW-PROVIDENCE:

The reasons for my landing an armed force on the Island is, in order to take possession of the powder and warlike stores belonging to the Crown; and if I am not opposed in putting my design in execution, the persons and property of the inhabitants shall be safe; neither shall they be suffered to be hurt, in case they make no resistance.

Given under my hand on board the Ship *Alfred*, March 3, 1776.

ESECK HOPKINS, Commander-in-Chief.

PERMISSION TO CAPTAIN HINSON.

By the Hon. ESECK HOPKINS, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Fleet, and, at present, off the BAHAMA Islands.

Whereas I have this day received a Petition from *Joseph Hinson*, setting forth that the Brig *Christina*, under his com-

mand, from *St. Thomas*, bound to the *Mississippi*, belonging to the subjects of his *Danish Majesty*, was obliged to put into this port in a leaky condition, and praying leave to sell his cargo, to enable him to repair his said vessel; and whereas it is the intention of the United Colonies of *North America* that all good offices should be done to the subjects of foreign States, I do, by virtue of the authority in me vested by the Delegates of the said United Colonies in Congress assembled, give leave, and empower him, the said *Joseph Hinson*, to sell all the said cargo, in order to defray his expenses in this port.

Given under my hand, at the Fort of *Nassau*, March 7, 1776.  
ESECK HOPKINS, *Commander-in-Chief*.

SIR: You are hereby directed, upon receipt of this, to deliver to Captain *Hinson* all the goods in the King's Stores which belong to him, or his owners, and for so doing this shall be your sufficient authority.

Given under my hand at Fort *Nassau*, March 7, 1776.  
ESECK HOPKINS, *Commander-in-Chief*.

To Mr. *Gardner*, Keeper of the King's Stores.

ORDERS GIVEN TO THE SEVERAL CAPTAINS AT SAILING FROM  
NEW-PROVIDENCE.

SIR: You are to keep company with the ship I am in, if possible; but, should you separate by accident, you are then to make the best of your way to *Block-Island* Channel, and there to cruize in thirty fathom water (south from *Block-Island*) six days, in order to join the Fleet.

If they do not join you in that time, you may cruize in such places as you think will most annoy the enemy, or go into port, as you think fit; and acquaint me by the first opportunity, so that you may receive further orders.

ESECK HOPKINS, *Commander-in-Chief*.

Ship *Alfred*, March 18, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, TO A  
GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 3, 1776.

As the following Resolutions will, I am persuaded, give you the greatest satisfaction, I have sent you a copy of them, that, rather than our enemies should possess our merchant shipping and our capital town, we unanimously resolved that all shall perish in a noble conflagration, lighted by ourselves.

"Savannah, in Georgia, March 2, 1776,  
"In the Council of Safety."

"For the safety of this Province, and the good of the United Colonies, it is,

"*Unanimously Resolved*, That the houses in the Town of *Savannah*, and the hamlets thereto belonging, together with the shipping now in our port, the property of, or appertaining to, the friends of *America*, who have associated and appeared, or who shall appear in the present alarm to defend the same, and also the houses of widows and orphans, and none others, be forthwith appraised.

"*Resolved*, That it shall be considered as a defection from the cause of *America*, and a desertion of property, in such persons who have, and shall leave the Town of *Savannah*, or the hamlets thereunto belonging, during the present alarm; and such persons shall be precluded from any support or countenance towards obtaining an indemnification.

"*Resolved*, That it be incumbent upon the friends of *America* in this Province, to defend the Metropolis, as long as the same shall be tenable.

"*Resolved*, That, rather than the same shall be held and occupied by our enemies, or the shipping in the port of *Savannah* taken and employed by them, that the same shall be burnt and destroyed.

"*Resolved*, That orders shall be issued to the commanding officer, directing him to have the foregoing Resolutions put into execution.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"EDWARD LANGWORTHY, *Secretary*."

JOHN HANSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, March 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 2d *February* came to hand a

few days ago, enclosing a resolve of the Congress, respecting the collection of gold and silver in this Province, together with your appointment of myself and others to collect the same in this County. Am sorry to acquaint you that it is not in my power to render the publick any service in that way, on the terms proposed, no one being willing to part with their gold and silver without receiving the paper immediately in exchange. Any orders your Honours may at any time think proper to intrust me with, shall always be complied with, as far as may be in the power of, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANSON, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, March 3, 1776.

On your arrival in *France*, you will for some time be engaged in the business of providing goods for the *Indian* trade. This will give good countenance to your appearing in the character of a merchant, which we wish you continually to retain among the *French*, in general, it being probable that the Court of *France* may not like it should be known publickly that any agent from the Colonies is in that country. When you come to *Paris*, by delivering Dr. *Franklin's* letters to Monsieur *Le Roy*, at the *Louvre*, and Mons. *Dubourg*, you will be introduced to a set of acquaintance, all friends to the *Americans*. By conversing with them, you will have a good opportunity of acquiring *Parisian French*, and you will find in Mons. *Dubourg* a man prudent, faithful, secret, intelligent in affairs, and capable of giving you very sage advice.

It is scarce necessary to pretend any other business at *Paris* than the gratifying of that curiosity which draws numbers thither yearly, merely to see so famous a city. With the assistance of Mons. *Dubourg*, who understands *English*, you will be able to make immediate application to Mons. *De Vergennes*, *Ministre des Affaires Etrangères*, either personally or by letter, if Mons. *Dubourg* adopts that method, acquainting him that you are in *France* upon business of the *American Congress*, in the character of a merchant, having something to communicate to him that may be mutually beneficial to *France* and the *North American Colonies*; that you request an audience of him, and that he would be pleased to appoint the time and place. At this audience, if agreed to, it may be well to show him, first, your letter of credence, and then acquaint him that the Congress, finding that in the common course of commerce it was not practicable to furnish the Continent of *America* with the quantity of arms and ammunition necessary for its defence, (the Ministry of *Great Britain* having been extremely industrious to prevent it,) you had been despatched by their authority, to apply to some *European Power* for a supply. That *France* had been pitched on for the first application, from an opinion that if we should, as there is a great appearance we shall, come to a total separation from *Great Britain*, *France* would be looked upon as the power whose friendship it would be fittest for us to obtain and cultivate. That the commercial advantages *Britain* had enjoyed with the Colonies, had contributed greatly to her late wealth and importance. That it is likely great part of our commerce will naturally fall to the share of *France*, especially if she favours us in this application, as that will be a means of gaining and securing the friendship of the Colonies; and that as our trade was rapidly increasing with our increase of people, and in a greater proportion, her part of it will be extremely valuable. That the supply we at present want is clothing and arms for twenty-five thousand men, with a suitable quantity of ammunition, and one hundred field-pieces. That we mean to pay for the same by remittances to *France*, or through *Spain*, *Portugal*, or the *French Islands*, as soon as our navigation can be protected by ourselves or friends; and that we, besides, want great quantities of linens and woollens, with other articles for the *Indian* trade, which you are now actually purchasing, and for which you ask no credit; and that the whole, if *France* should grant the other supplies, would make a cargo which it might be well to secure by a convoy of two or three ships-of-war.

If you should find Mons. *De Vergennes* reserved, and not inclined to enter into free conversation with you, it may



be well to shorten your visit; request him to consider what you have proposed; acquaint him with your place of lodging; that you may yet stay some time at *Paris*; and that knowing how precious his time is, you do not presume to ask another audience; but that if he should have any commands for you, you will, upon the least notice, immediately wait upon him.

If at a future conference he should be more free, and you find a disposition to favour the Colonies, it may be proper to acquaint him, that they must necessarily be anxious to know the disposition of *France* on certain points, which, with his permission, you would mention—such as whether, if the Colonies should be forced to form themselves into an independent state, *France* would probably acknowledge them as such, receive their Ambassadors, enter into any treaty or alliance with them for commerce or defence, or both? If so, on what principal conditions? Intimating that you shall speedily have an opportunity of sending to *America*, if you do not immediately return, and that he may be assured of your fidelity and secrecy in transmitting carefully anything he would wish conveyed to the Congress on that subject.

In subsequent conversations, you may, as you find it convenient, enlarge on those topics that have been the subjects of our conferences with you; to which you may occasionally add the well-known substantial answers we usually give to the several calumnies thrown out against us.

If these supplies, on the credit of the Congress, should be refused, you are then to endeavour the obtaining a permission of purchasing those articles, or as much of them as you can find credit for.

You will keep a daily journal of all your material transactions, and particularly of what passes in your conversation with great personages; and you will, by every safe opportunity, furnish us with such information as may be important.

When your business in *France* admits of it, it may be well to go into *Holland*, and visit our agent there; Mons. *Dumas*, conferring with him on subjects that may promote our interest, and on the means of communication.

You will endeavour to procure a meeting with Mr. *Bancroft*, by writing a letter to him, under cover to Mr. *Griffiths*, at *Turnham-Green*, near *London*, and desiring him to come over to you, in *France* or *Holland*, on the score of old acquaintance. From him you may obtain a good deal of information of what is now going forward in *England*, and settle a mode of continuing a correspondence. It may be well to remit him a small bill to defray his expenses in coming to you, and avoid all political matters in your letter to him. You will also endeavour to correspond with Mr. *Arthur Lee*, Agent of the Colonies, in *London*. You will endeavour to obtain acquaintance with Mr. *Garnier*, late *Chargé des Affaires de France en Angleterre*, if now in *France*—or, if returned to *England*, a correspondence with him as a person, extremely intelligent and friendly to our cause. From him you may learn many particulars, occasionally, that will be useful to us.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
BENJAMIN HARRISON,  
JOHN DICKINSON,  
ROBERT MORRIS,  
JOHN JAY.

JOSEPH REED TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 3, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have not been favoured with any thing from you since my two last; but that never makes any difference in my writing, as your claims of friendship and gratitude upon me are superior to all other.

The Congress have made an appointment of Generals, as by the enclosed paper. *Armstrong* is ordered to *South-Carolina*, *Thompson* to *New-York*; the others keep their present situations. General *Lee's* destination is changed to *Virginia*, from undoubted authority that it will be a principal scene of action. The Congress have acceded to the proposition respecting myself: so that unless some new event, unforeseen and very important, should happen, I shall be with you this summer. I must beg your indulgence till I can get my family into some convenient situation, and settle my affairs. In the mean time I am forwarding your camp

equipage, which I have extended, in many small particulars, beyond your order.

*Arnold* is to be intrusted with the affairs of *Canada*, *Wooster* having either resigned or been superseded, I know not which. *Melchior* is come from *Quebeck* in twelve days, where he left our little army, now strengthened to fifteen hundred men, in good spirits, and still pleasing themselves with the hopes of being masters of the town. I have not yet seen him, so that I can give you no further particulars; but I understand they are like to want battering-cannon and mortars. No arrivals of powder or arms since my last, or any account of our fleet, though, from their present cruising ground, we hope they will fall in with Lord *Cornwallis* and the transports.

Notwithstanding the act of Parliament for seizing our property, and a thousand other proofs of a bitter and irreconcilable spirit, there is a strange reluctance in the minds of many to cut the knot which ties us to *Great Britain*, particularly in this Colony and to the southward. Though no man of understanding expects any good from the Commissioners, yet they are for waiting to hear their proposals before they declare off. However, yesterday I was informed letters had been sent to *France*, to know what encouragement we might expect from that quarter.

Our coast is yet clear. It is a golden opportunity to make provision for the war, which I hope will not be lost. If the other Provinces had done anything like this, in the making of arms this winter, we should have been tolerably provided. We shall, by the 1st of *April*, have made four thousand stand since last *October*; every part done here. We are casting cannon, and there is more saltpetre made than in all the Provinces put together. Six powder-mills are erecting in different parts. The two near this city deliver two thousand five hundred pounds per week, and are now in very good order. Many, many attempts have been made to get a bounty for the *New-England* Troops, but without effect. The Congress are resolved that you shall abandon the lines, and give up their country to be ravaged, if they will not defend it upon the same terms as those insisted here; such as march to *Canada* only excepted.

The Assembly have it under consideration to raise two thousand men for the defence of this Province, but I doubt its taking; perhaps there may be half the number. I am told we can easily raise two or three more battalions, if we had arms, &c., for them. I do not think I shall bring any person with me when I come. Mr. *Webb* has long had an inclination to be in your family. If the post should be agreeable to him, and he is agreeable to you, I believe I should prefer him to any other.

The post is just going, so that I have only time to add, that I am, my dear sir, yours most affectionately,

JOSEPH REED.

To General Washington.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, March 3, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: My destination is altered. Instead of going to *Canada*, I am appointed to command to the southward. There has been a great promotion of Brigadier-Generals: *Armstrong*, *Thompson*, *Lewis*, *Moore*, *Stirling*, and *Howe*, are the six. Four are to serve under my orders, viz: *Armstrong*, *Lewis*, *Moore*, and *Howe*. As I am the only General Officer, on the Continent, who can speak and think in *French*, I confess I think it would have been more prudent to have sent me to *Canada*; but I shall obey with alacrity, and hope, with success. *Griffin* has resigned, as he flatters himself he can do better in the commercial line. I have, in his room, appointed one of the sons of *Lewis Morris*, to whom I was under a sort of engagement. Lord *Stirling* will take the command until the arrival of *Schwuyler*. His Lordship is active and discreet.

In my last, I gave you my plan of defence for this city and environs; but from want of men, shall be obliged to leave it in a poor condition. A regiment of Associators are, I am told, ordered from *Philadelphia*. I have likewise sent for a battalion from the *Jerseys*; but, on the other hand, *Ward's* and *Waterbury's* Regiments will, I suppose, according to their laudable custom, leave the place the moment their time is expired, which is the 12th of this month.

I heartily pray that you may give Mr. *Howe* a handsome



salute on his leaving *Boston*. I am not yet informed who is to take the command in *Canada*. No time, I am sure, is to be lost. As I am ordered away immediately, I must consign the affairs of *New-York* to Lord *Stirling*. I think he will acquit himself well.

I have nothing material to trouble you with at present, further than to assure you that I am, and ever shall be, dear General, yours most sincerely,

CHARLES LEE.

To General *Washington*.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, March 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have this evening the honour of receiving your letter of the 1st instant, enclosing a commission to me of Brigadier-General in the Continental Army.

This instance of the good opinion which the Congress entertain of my zeal and attachment to the *American* cause, does me high honour, and I receive it from my country with that gratitude and satisfaction which will excite me to do everything in my power to deserve it. I wish I had more knowledge and experience, and was better qualified to execute the arduous task I am now appointed to. But the Congress may rest assured that, in every situation, I will endeavour to do the best I can, and execute their commands as far as it is possible.

I must beg leave to mention that the first battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops have not yet received their medicine-chest, although I have several times wrote to the Committee appointed for that purpose at *Philadelphia*. That regiment is still deficient in many articles, which are mentioned in the letters I transmitted to you on the 19th of *February*, and which will more fully appear by the returns I shall send you by the next post. I shall continue to pay the fullest attention to that battalion, until I receive further order from Congress.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient and most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

COLONEL STARK AND OTHERS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Winter-Hill, March 3, 1776.

SIR: We, the subscribers, hereby certify, that Captain *Daniel Rogers* has been employed as a Deputy Engineer under General *Sullivan*, of the works erected on *Winter* and *Ploughed Hills*, since the 16th day of *July* last, on a promise of reasonable satisfaction for his services. We have from time to time observed his conduct, and always see him alert and active in forwarding the works, and found him extremely serviceable in the department he acted in, and would recommend him to your Excellency for what wages your Excellency may think necessary for his past services.

JOHN STARK, Colonel.

JOHN NIXON, Colonel.

ENOCH POOR, Colonel.

THOMAS POOR, Lieutenant-Colonel.

ISRAEL GILMAN, Lieutenant-Colonel.

THOMAS NIXON, Lieutenant-Colonel.

JOHN MOOR, Major.

ANDREW COLBURN, Major.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, March 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favours of the 28th of *January*, and 1st and 8th of *February*, are come to hand. For the agreeable accounts contained in one of them, of your progress in the manufacture of powder, and prospect of getting arms, I am obliged to you, as there is some consolation in knowing that these useful articles will supply the wants of some part of the Continental Troops, although I feel too sensibly the mortification of having them withheld from me, Congress not even thinking it necessary to take the least notice of my application for these things.

I hope in a few nights to be in readiness to take post on *Dorchester Point*, as we are using every means in our power to provide materials for this purpose; the ground being so hard frozen yet, that we cannot intrench, and therefore are

obliged to depend entirely upon chandeliers, fascines, and screwed hay, for our redoubts. It is expected that this work will bring on an action between the King's Troops and ours.

General *Lee's* expedition to *New-York* was founded upon indubitable evidence of General *Clinton's* being on the point of sailing. No place was so likely for his destination as *New-York*, and no place where a more capital blow could be given to the interests of *America*. Common prudence, therefore, dictated the necessity of preventing an evil which might have proved irremediable, had it happened. But I confess to you honestly, I had no idea of running the Continent to the expense which was incurred, or that such a body of troops would go from *Connecticut* as did, or be raised upon the terms they were. You must know, my good sir, that Captain *Sears* was here, with some other gentlemen of *Connecticut*, when the intelligence of *Clinton's* embarkation (at least the embarkation of the troops) came to hand. The situation of these lines would not afford a detachment. *New-York* could not be depended upon; and of the troops in *Jersey*, we had no certain information, either as to their numbers or destination. What then was to be done? Why, *Sears* and these other gentlemen assured me, that if the necessity of the case was signified by me, and General *Lee* should be sent, one thousand volunteers, requiring no pay, but supplied with provisions only, would march immediately to *New-York*, and defend the place till Congress could determine what should be done, and that a line from me to Governor *Trumbull* to obtain his sanction, would facilitate the measures. This I accordingly wrote in precise terms, intending that these volunteers, and such of the *Jersey* Regiments as could be speedily assembled, should be thrown into the city for its defence, and for disarming the Tories upon *Long-Island*, who, I understood, had become extremely insolent and daring; when behold, instead of volunteers, consisting of gentlemen without pay, the Governor directed men to be voluntarily enlisted for this service, upon Continental pay and allowance. This, you will observe, was contrary to my expectation and plan; yet, as I thought it a matter of the last importance to secure the communication of the *North-River*, I did not deem it expedient to countermand the raising of the *Connecticut* Regiments on account of the pay. If I have done wrong, those Members of Congress who think the matter ought to have been left to them, must consider my proceedings as an error of judgment, and that a measure is not always to be judged by the event.

It is moreover worthy of consideration, that in cases of extreme necessity like the present, nothing but decision can ensure success; and certain I am, that *Clinton* had something more in view by peeping into *New-York*, than to gratify his curiosity, or make a friendly visit to his friend Mr. *Tryon*. However, I am not fond of stretching my powers; and if the Congress will say, "Thus far, and no farther, you shall go," I will promise not to offend whilst I continue in their service.

I observe what you say in respect to my wagon. I wanted nothing more than a light travelling-wagon, such as those of *New-Jersey*, with a secure cover, which might be under lock and key—the hinges being on one side, the lock on the other. I have no copy of the memorandum of the articles which I desired you to provide for me, but think one dozen and a half of camp-stools, a folding table, plates and dishes, were among them.

What I meant, therefore, was, that the bed of the wagon should be constructed in such a manner as to stow these things to the best advantage. If you cannot get them with you, I shall despair of providing them here, as workmen are scarce, and most exorbitantly high in their charges. What I should aim at is, when the wagon and things are ready, (which ought to be very soon, as I do not know how soon we may beat a march,) to buy a pair of clever horses of the same colour, hire a careful driver, and let the whole come off at once, and then they will be ready for immediate service.

I have no doubt that the Treasury, by application to Mr. *Hancock*, will direct payment thereof, without any kind of difficulty, as Congress must be sensible that I cannot take the field without equipage, and after I have once got into a tent, I shall not soon quit it. I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

## COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF GEORGIA TO THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH-CAROLINA.

In the Council of Safety, Savannah, March 4, 1776.

The intimate connection between this and your Province, in a particular manner renders it necessary to acquaint you with the occurrences in the former, since the date of our last, to which, and the despatches preceding, we refer you.

Our dispositions, in the evening of the 2d, were such as appeared to our officers the most likely to prevent the landing of our enemy; and so as, if they should make their landing good, either above or below the town, to prevent their getting in; however, notwithstanding our vigilance, they, by collusion with the masters and others on board the merchant shipping, which hawled near the shore of *Hutchinson's Island* in the night time, got on board these ships, about four o'clock yesterday morning, to the number, as far as we are competent to judge from the observations we made and the intelligence we received, of between two and three hundred, where they effected to conceal themselves.

We had our fears respecting these shipping, and therefore kept a good watch upon them; but it was impossible for sentinels on this shore to descry them in boarding from the other, the vessels being betwixt.

Captain *Rice*, who commanded a boat of observation, was sent on board the shipping about nine o'clock, to order the rigging on shore, and was, without any noise or the smallest knowledge of us, kidnapped. This we did not know, till about half an hour afterwards: two sailors, under pretence of coming on shore for clothes, gave information of the troops being on board the shipping, and of *Rice's* being taken. About three hundred men were then immediately marched to *Yamacraw*, opposite the shipping, with three four-pounders, and threw up a breastwork. The armed Schooner *Hinchinbrook*, of — guns, with a number of men on board, which, with others, went up the *Back* river in the afternoon of the day preceding, about this time set sail down the *South* river, with intent, no doubt, of covering the landing of the troops from on board the merchant shipping; but being continually fired at by two companies of riflemen, who were placed in ambuscade, she was obliged to come very slow, and often came too, and returned a very smart fire, at every place where the riflemen fired from, until the tide was spent, and she could not get down. During the course of their firing, only one of our men got wounded, and that slightly, in the thigh; but on board, several were seen to fall.

In town we had exhibited a still more interesting scene; we found the officers and men clamorous about the capture and detention of *Rice*; and two gentlemen, Lieutenant *Daniel Roberts*, of the *St. John's* Rangers, and Mr. *Raymond Demere*, of *St. Andrew's* Parish, solicited and were permitted to go on board, to demand a surrender of *Rice* and his people. They accordingly divested themselves of their arms, and were rowed by a negro on board a vessel, in which were Captain *Barclay*, the Commodore, and Major *Grant*; and these officers, contrary to all the principles which cement society and govern mankind, immediately arrested our deputies, and yet detain them as prisoners. We waited with anxious expectation for near half an hour, when we demanded our deputies, (by the help of a trumpet,) without getting any other but insulting answers; whereupon we fired two four-pounders directly into them; and then they informed us, that they would send an answer in writing; which they presently after did, signed by Lieutenant *Roberts* and Mr. *Demere*, purporting that, if we would send two of the persons in whom the people most confided, they would treat with them.

Captain *Screven*, of the *St. John's* Rangers, and Captain *Baker*, of the *St. John's* Riflemen, chagrined, no doubt, (the former particularly, on account of his Lieutenant,) by the detention of our deputies, took about a dozen of riflemen in a boat, and rowed directly under the stern of Captain *Inglis*, in whose vessel were a great part of the soldiery, and, in peremptory terms, demanded the deputies; and were answered, after one shot from Captain *Baker*, by a discharge directly down upon them, of near two hundred shot, both from swivels and small-arms, which was kept up while they were in reach; the Captains and men in the boat, not one in the smallest degree confused, or even, perhaps, disappointed by the attack, fired their rifles, most of them three times, and, as they say, not without execution; and won-

derful to tell, not a man of them killed; one man only received a slug in the fleshy part of his shoulder, which was immediately cut out, without the smallest inconvenience or danger. The spectators all declared, as we now do, that such a Providential deliverance has not yet been known.

This unmanly attack upon a few men, in an open boat, produced a general fire from our field-pieces and intrenchments, and as smart a return from two four-pounders and several swivels from the shipping, which lasted from about twelve o'clock to four; and although they often fired langridge, which continually whistled about our men, not a single man was even touched; but we have no doubt a number of the enemy met with a worse fate, as they were seen frequently to fall.

About four o'clock we called a council, and determined to have the vessels immediately burnt, and issued orders to Colonel *McIntosh* accordingly; whereupon, the *Inverness*, late Captain *McGillivray*, loaded with rice and deer-skins, was set on fire and cut loose, to the amount of fifteen thousand pounds sterling. Upon this the soldiers, in the most laughable confusion, got ashore in the marsh, while our riflemen, and field-pieces with grape-shot, were incessantly galling them. The shipping were now also in confusion; some got up the river, under cover of the armed schooner, while others caught the flame; and, as night approached, exhibited a scene, as they passed and repassed with the tide, which, in any other but the present times, would be truly horrible, but is now a subject only of gratulation and applause.

The ships of Captains *Inglis* and *Wardel* neither got up the river, or on fire. They were ordered on shore, and now are prisoners of Captain *Screven*, in the country, and their vessels brought close in to a wharf. They were permitted to write to Captain *Barclay* in the evening, to inform him of their situation, and to request an exchange of prisoners, which the latter peremptorily refused.

We have thus given you a particular detail of things, as they really happened, to prevent the belief of any erroneous intelligence, and from which you will be competent to judge of our situation.

Colonel *McIntosh* laid before the Board a resolution of your Congress, to aid us, accompanied by a letter from Mr. *Lowndes*; and we are very glad that you have determined to afford us further assistance. We wish it may arrive in time.

By order of the Council of Safety:

WILLIAM EWEN, *President*.

To the Honourable the Congress, or Council of Safety, for South-Carolina.

## AQUILA HALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Harford Town, in Committee, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As the Convention of this Province has ordered to disband the companies of Minute-men, and that the Committees of the Counties pay off the said companies, for which purpose money will be wanting, as well as to comply with some contracts for arms that this Committee has agreed for, and for which long since the money was requested, but the amount has never yet been had for the enabling of this Committee to comply with the above, we would hope your Honours will furnish this Committee with four hundred pounds, by Mr. *Thomas Hall*, for the purpose aforesaid. Accounts of which, and for the faithfully laying out the same, shall be rendered to the next Convention of this Province.

Signed by order of the Committee:

AQUILA HALL, *Chairman of Committee*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

## GEORGE STRICKER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The man who had the blankets for sale in this town could not stay to know your answer to my letter. I have, therefore, taken them, as I knew of none elsewhere to be had. I hope you will excuse my conduct in so doing, as well as the liberty I have taken to give him an order on the Paymaster for the money. The blankets were already engaged, but he let me have them to oblige the Province.

The amount of money I have given an order for is eighty-nine pounds fourteen shillings, for seventy-eight blankets.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your obliged humble servant,

GEORGE STRICKER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CALVERT COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, Calvert County, March 4, 1776.

This Committee, agreeable to the request of the honourable Council of Safety, inform their Honours, that at *Drum-Point*, (near the mouth of *Patuxent*.) there are two dwelling-houses, with fire-places to each, and a store-house, and very near thereto a school-house, on the river side, which the proprietors are ready and willing should be used by Captain *Beall's* men; and this Committee offer it as their opinion, that that is the most proper place for the troops to be stationed at in this County. Signed by order:

E. JOHNSON, *Clerk pro tem.*

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO DR. FRANKLIN.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, March 4, 1776.

SIR: In order to carry into execution the resolve of Congress, for the manufacturing of fifty tons of saltpetre into powder, the Committee of Safety have purchased a seat for erecting a powder-mill, which they intend to build in such manner as to manufacture about four tons per week; and they are of opinion it will be necessary to build a magazine for the secure keeping of the powder, as it is made at a suitable distance from the mill. This being a proper season for erecting the same, those gentlemen, who have the superintendence of the mills, will be able at the same time to oversee the building the magazine.

The Committee request you will please to take the opinion of the Congress relative to the erecting such magazine.

By order of the Committee.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE ROSS, *Chairman.*

To Doctor *Franklin*.

SAMUEL TUCKER TO LORD STIRLING.

New-Brunswick, March 4, 1776.

MY LORD: Your letter of the 1st current I received this morning; and, as our Congress had adjourned last evening, I convened as many members of our Committee of Safety as were in this city, who unanimously advised the sending your letter to the Continental Congress, which I shall forward by the first good opportunity.

We have passed an ordinance for raising two Artillery Companies, to consist of sixty-four men each, officers included: one to remain in *East*, the other in *West-Jersey*; to be enlisted for twelve months, unless sooner discharged; to act occasionally in conjunction with our Militia; and have ordered six field-pieces for each division to be immediately purchased, with all the necessary equipments, &c.

*Bergen* County have agreed to accept payment for the seventy-nine stand of arms taken by Captain *Meeker*, which they have valued at four pounds ten shillings for each stand, and which our Congress have agreed shall be paid. I most sincerely wish your Lordship all manner of success in your arduous employments; and have the honour to be your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To Lord *Stirling*.

P. S. Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley* is condemned by Congress.

In Congress, New-Jersey, March 2, 1776.

The Congress proceeded to the determination of the prize-ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, now lying at *Elizabethtown Point*, lately seized by Lord *Stirling*, with a detachment of the Continental Forces and Militia; and it appearing, by the testimony of credible witnesses upon their oaths, that the said Ship, *John H. Dempster*, master, sailed from *London* some time last fall, laden with stores, shipped by

order of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, bound to the Port of *Boston*, or any other Port in *America*, the said cargo, by the bill of lading, dated the 30th day of *November*, 1775, to be delivered unto the Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces in *America*, or to his order; and the honourable the Continental Congress having, previous to the taking of the said Ship, resolved that all Transport Vessels in the same service, having on board any Troops, Arms, Ammunition, Clothing, Provisions, or Military or Naval Stores, of whatever kind soever, and all vessels, to whomsoever belonging, that shall be employed in carrying Provisions, or other necessities, to the *British* Army or Armies, or Navy, that now or shall hereafter be within any of the United Colonies, or any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, for the use of such Fleet or Army, shall be liable to seizure, and, with their cargoes, shall be confiscated:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*, with such of her cargo as was shipped by order of the said Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, directed, as by said bill of lading, to be delivered at the Port of *Boston*, or elsewhere, unto the Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces in *America*, or to his order, shall be, and the same is hereby, confiscated to the use of the captors, pursuant to the general directions for distribution resolved on by the said honourable Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the said Ship and Cargo be disposed of by any two agents or persons, to be chosen, the one by Lord *Stirling*, and the other by the Committee of *Elizabethtown*.

*Resolved*, That all the necessary expense and charge which have arisen by guarding and securing said Prize, and supporting the Seamen, be first deducted out of the nett proceeds of such sales.

*Resolved*, That the amount of the sales of the said Ship and Cargo (the expense and charge of guarding and securing the same, and supporting the seamen, being first deducted and paid thereout) be divided among the captors, as well as those of the Militia sent out by the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, as such of the Continental Forces as were employed in that service under Lord *Stirling*; that the said distribution be made among the officers, privates, and to the vessels employed in the said capture, in such manner as is usually distributed in the neighbouring Colonies, agreeable to the resolutions of the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That all such Goods, Wares, and Merchandises, on board said Ship, belonging to the Captain, Mates, and Seamen, as their, or either of their own private property, be reserved for the proprietors thereof, and delivered to them free of all cost and deductions.

*Resolved*, That the Captain and Seamen belonging to said Ship when seized, be suffered to go to any place they may think proper, his Majesty's Fleet or Army only excepted.

And this Congress recommend to the captors of said Ship to make some gratuity to each of the Seamen taken on board, to enable them to travel to some other parts in pursuit of business.

A true copy:

W. PATERSON, *Secretary.*

ROBERT OGDEN TO LORD STIRLING.

Elizabethtown, March 4, 1776.

MY LORD: I heartily congratulate you on your appointment to be Brigadier-General, and which will give every friend to his country great pleasure to see that posts of so much importance are filled by gentlemen of the first abilities, and so strongly attached to the common cause; sincerely wish all officers, from the highest to the lowest, may be advanced according to their abilities, merit, and valour; and none but such be employed in the service.

There are many fire-arms lost, or, at least, at present missing, that were lent (by the inhabitants of the town) to furnish Captain *Meeker*, and the parties under him, to assist your Lordship in taking the Ship *Blue-Mountain-Valley*. He has been applied to for the arms, but says he knows nothing about them, who had them, nor where to be found. His ignorance and high temper makes it difficult to treat with him; perhaps, though, fire in his constitution may be serviceable on a forlorn hope. It would be very kind if your Lordship would give orders to inquire whether there are any spare arms in the battalion, that do not belong

to the men. Perhaps some, if not all, may be found and returned.

I am sorry to intrude so much upon your Lordship's time, but will take it as a particular favour if you could look over those papers sent from *Thomas Bartow*, Esq.'s, office; sign them, and send either to him or me. It has cost me twenty odd pounds for resurveying, and should be glad to have them recorded, let the event happen as it may with respect to these troublesome times; and I cannot flatter myself that your Lordship will have more leisure a month or two hence than at present.

I am, with great esteem, your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,

ROBERT OGDEN.

To the Earl of *Stirling*.

GENERAL LEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: The letters I received last night from the Commander-in-Chief and General *Greene*, were, unfortunately, thrown into the fire; but, according to my best recollection, the reasons given by the General for surmising, or rather concluding, that it was the intention of the enemy to evacuate *Boston*, were these: That they had withdrawn their mortars and heavy cannon from *Bunker's Hill* and *Charlestown*; that their transports were hauled into the wharves; that some people, who had left the town lately, declared that the officers' baggage was sent on board; in short, it is, from every circumstance, concluded by those who are before the place, and those who have lately left the place, that they are soon to abandon *Boston*; and that, consequently, they will attempt to establish themselves here. May I, sir, take the liberty to express my uneasiness on a subject which is more properly a matter of consideration for the Congress. The liberation of the notorious enemies of liberty and their country, on giving bonds for their good behaviour, appears to me, in our present situation, extremely ill imagined. It is so far from a security, that it is rather adding virus to their malignancy. The first body of troops that arrive will cancel these bonds. Some vigorous, decisive mode must be now adopted, of discovering on whom you may depend, on whom not. The crisis will admit of no procrastination. I cannot, therefore, help wishing, for the common safety, and the honour of this Province in particular, that some test may be immediately offered, that we may be enabled to distinguish our friends from our foes. The latter must not, and cannot, be suffered to remain within your walls, to co-operate with those without in working your destruction.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress.

COLONEL GRAHAM TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Horne's Hook, March 3, 1776.

SIR: The Quartermaster of our regiment having declined serving any longer in that station, the Field-Officers have agreed to recommend Mr. *James Cock* as a person properly qualified for the office. If the honourable Congress should approve of him, I beg that his commission may be made out as speedily as possible, that so necessary an office may not be vacant.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

LEWIS GRAHAM, Lieutenant-Colonel.

To Brigadier-General *Woodhull*.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO COLONEL GRAHAM.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: Your letter relative to a Quartermaster for your regiment was read. The Congress are of opinion that the Colonels of the different regiments should appoint their own Quartermasters, and give them a warrant. They recommend this mode to Colonel *Drake* as often as occasion may require it. I am directed to inform you of this.

I remain, sir, your very humble servant,

ROBERT BENSON, Secretary.

To Colonel *Lewis Graham*.

COLONEL SWARTWOUT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I was just now informed that Lieutenant *Lee*, of Captain *Rosekran's* company of the Provincials, had sent in a letter to your honourable Board, setting forth that he made claim to part of Captain *Clark's* company of Minutemen, in my regiment. The true state is this, that is to say: Captain *Clark* raised the greatest part of a company of Minute-men, agreeable to the rules and regulations of the Congress; after which time, Lieutenant *Lee* tried to enlist some of the company, without being lawfully authorized, as will appear by your minutes; for Captain *Clark* had come here with his company before Lieutenant *Lee* had received his warrant for recruiting; so, consequently, what he had done before was void. And when Minute-men and Militia are called into active service, as we are at present, they are to be under the same rules and regulations equal to the Continental Troops, and, consequently, no more liable to have their men enlisted out of their regiment than any other. All I ask is an equal right with the rest of the regiments, agreeable to the rules of Congress.

A recruiting Lieutenant of Captain *Barnum's* company is returned, with seventeen men, to join the company. I expect daily the others to return, with their recruits, to join their companies. And if my men should thus be liable to be taken away, it will discourage the recruiting officers in the Minute service; but, however, when my regiment is discharged, am very willing they should enter into the Provincial service; but not till then, as they are at present of utility in carrying on the fortifications.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, Colonel.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

COLONEL HAY TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Haverstraw, March 4, 1776.

SIR: I found it impossible to get the regiment of Minute-men completed out of my regiment, to go under the present officers. I was, therefore, obliged to promise them that they should have an opportunity of choosing their own officers, from Captains downwards. As soon as they had that promise, they cheerfully turned out. I must, therefore, request that the Committee of Safety will give commissions to persons that are chosen by the Minute-men that are now going down to *New-York*. If the officers who are chosen by their privates get their commissions, I am positive that I can get the Minute Regiment completed in a short time.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

A. HAWKES HAY.

To the *New-York* Congress.

N. B. Excuse this incorrect scrawl, as the men are now on their march, and I have not time to make a fair copy.

To the Honourable Representatives of the Province of *NEW-YORK*, in Provincial Congress assembled.

The Petition of *DAVID SHADDEL*, of the City of *NEW-YORK*, Coachmaker, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner, being well affected to the cause of his country, has on all occasions exerted himself, whenever called on, to the utmost of his power and abilities.

That on *Sunday*, the 18th day of *February* last, while he was assisting in removing the cannon from the Battery, he had the misfortune to have his hand and arm crushed in a terrible manner, so that he has ever since been incapable of earning anything for the support of his wife and family; and, what adds now to his unhappiness, is, that he has no prospect of getting better for some weeks.

That your Petitioner, for want of work these few months past, is so far reduced in his circumstances, as not to be able to support the increasing expenses which this accident has laid him under, without having recourse to the benevolence of the charitable and well-disposed.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly hopes that, as he now suffers in the cause of his country, this honourable Congress will take his case into their consideration, and grant him such relief as they in their wisdom shall think proper.

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray,  
&c.

New-York, March 4, 1776.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing account of the hurt  
*David Shaddel* received on the 18th ultimo, is true.

JOHN CHARLTON.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO THE SEVERAL COLONELS OF THE  
MINUTE-MEN AND MILITIA OF THE COLONY.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: This accompanies the resolve of Congress requesting you to hold your regiment in readiness to march at a moment's warning. We are apprehensive that the Ministerial Army at *Boston* may attempt to land in this Colony in a short time. Your zeal for the publick cause, we trust, will stimulate you, and the officers under your command, to use all possible diligence to comply with this resolution. We have only to add that no time should be lost in executing this order, and that you forthwith return to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, the present state of your regiment, as to the number of men, arms, accoutrements, and ammunition; and, if the Minute Regiments do not compose one-fourth part of the Militia of your County, you are hereby ordered to cause the Minute Regiments to be completed, agreeable to the rules and orders of this Congress, of the 20th of *December* last.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO CONGRESS OF NEW-JERSEY.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: From the intelligence just received from General *Washington*, there is reason to believe that the Ministerial Troops at *Boston* are about leaving that city; and as it is probable they will attempt a foothold in some of the Middle United Colonies, we think it expedient that the Militia and Minute Regiments in the Colonies should be ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march on the first alarm. We have given the necessary orders in our own Colony for this purpose, and beg you would issue the like orders in your Colony.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, at *New-Jersey*.

WILLIAM ELLSWORTH TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Kingston, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We, the Committee of Safety and Observation of the Town of *Kingston*, on the 29th day of *February* last past, wrote a letter to General *Schuyler*, at the request of Captain *Elias Hasbrouck*, and therein acquainted the General of the intention and inclination of Captain *Hasbrouck* to be continued in the service, and also the desire of this Committee to continue him; and the answer this Committee received is enclosed in this letter. And as it is agreeable to the Committee that the Captain should be continued in the service, (and you will see that in the General's letter there is no mention made of subaltern officers,) we therefore thought fit to raise the company with expedition, at the request of Captain *Hasbrouck*, and to recommend these persons, to wit: *Moses Yeoman* for Second Lieutenant, and *Petrus W. Meyer* for Ensign; and if these persons meet the approbation of the honourable Provincial Congress, we pray that their warrants be sent up immediately. Respecting the First Lieutenant, the Captain proposes to have him recommended from the Committee under whose District he lives.

We respectfully remain your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM ELLSWORTH, *Chairman*.

To the President of the Provincial Congress in the City of  
*New-York*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA,  
DATED NORTH-CAROLINA, MARCH 4, 1776.

I now, my worthy friend, most sincerely and heartily congratulate you on the success of the *American* arms in this Province; and be assured that, let General *Clinton* land when he pleases, we are ready for him at all points.

Our natural situation gives us many advantages, and the worthy men in this country do not want spirit. *Dunmore* to the North, and *Martin* to the South, have given us full employment for some time past, and have already made the whole Province soldiers. It is altogether out of my power to describe the ardour that at this very hour prevails in this Province; almost every man, at an hour's warning, is ready to turn out in his country's cause. Colonel *Moore* is, by the Council, ordered to disarm all the Highlanders and Regulators, and to take all the ringleaders into custody, to send them to *Halifax* Jail, and to possess himself of their estates, and to make the return of his proceedings to the Provincial Congress, to be held at *Halifax* on the 2d of *April* next; which, it is hoped, will amount to something handsome. His Excellency Brigadier-General *Donald McDonald* I had the honour of seeing at *Newbern*. He is far advanced in life, being in the sixty-fifth year of his age. By this time, he is a close prisoner in *Halifax* Jail, as the Council expressly ordered him there.

The Committee of Safety of *Virginia* offered our Council assistance, much to their honour; and I verily believe *South-Carolina* would have offered every relief, had there been any necessity for it; but we had men enough to settle the account current with the Insurgents. Colonels *Moore*, *Martin*, *Caswell*, *Polk*, *Thackston*, *Lillington*, and *Long*, have great merit. Any one of these gentlemen, in this country, would be an over-match for a *Howe*, a *Burgoyne*, or a *Clinton*. Their knowledge of the country, and necessary modes of attack, would frustrate any attempt fallen upon by the characters last mentioned. The whole Province, in general, consider Regulars in the woods as an easy conquest, and I am firmly of their opinion. How small must Governour *Martin* feel himself, after promising Government two thousand men, not to have it in his power to supply the Ministry with a single man; and after having, with ostentatious parade, brought up a sloop-of-war and three armed vessels within half a mile of *Wilmington*, for the purpose of receiving the Regulators and Highlanders from *Negro-Head Point*, to sneak off with two vessels at a time, after hearing of the defeat of his emissaries; but nothing can equal his quixotism, but that of the Ministry, his masters.

In Colonel *Moore's* letter, you will observe he mentions a Captain *Macleod* killed; this man was Adjutant-General of the Highland Regulating Army.

Our troops under Colonel *Howe* are ordered into this Province immediately. *Felix Kenan* is a prisoner of ours; that infamous fellow is by this time a prisoner in *Halifax* Jail. *James Hepburn* was Secretary to his Excellency Brigadier-General *McDonald*. The great Colonel *Cotton*, we hope, by this time, is a prisoner in *Halifax* Jail.

After the Insurgents gave way, there never was such a scouting hardly ever known before. We expect next *Friday* to hear of the number of ringleaders taken.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL  
OF NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED NEWBERN, MARCH 5, 1776.

Governour *Martin* has been too successful in exciting an insurrection of the banditti among the Highlanders and Regulators. We refer you to a copy of Colonel *Caswell's* letter, and other enclosed papers, for the particular account of them. We have given orders that the persons and properties of the ringleaders should be secured, and that all who were in arms, or aiding and abetting, should be disarmed, and every other effectual measure pursued to prevent their giving Governour *Martin* any aid in case of the arrival of his expected reinforcements. We have everything to hope from the vigilance, skill, and activity of the officers, and the bravery, spirited, and patriotick behaviour of the troops on this occasion. A noble ardour appeared in every part of the country, through all ranks of people; insomuch that, in less than a fortnight, nine thousand four hundred men and upwards were embodied, and on their march against the enemy; more might have been raised, had they been necessary. We hear that the men-of-war are on their way to *Wilmington*; the inhabitants have removed all their valuable effects, apprehending that the Governour will prevail on the officers of the men-of-war to act the same tragedy there which Lord *Dunmore* lately played at *Norfolk*, to his immortal infamy.



We have ordered that the Provincial Congress should meet at *Halifax* the second of next month.

We have appointed Committees to confer with *Virginia* and *South-Carolina*, on the most proper mode of defence to be adopted by these Colonies the ensuing campaign.

We understand General *Clinton* is arrived in *Virginia* with the transports and troops from *Boston*, but have not yet any advice of the arrival of those expected from *Great Britain*.

One Mr. *Achison*, Midshipman of the *Syren*, with three sailors, were drove over *Ocracock Bar* in distress, who were taken prisoners and brought to *Newbern*; the Midshipman and one sailor are sent to *Halifax* as prisoners, the other two discharged in this town. It appears the *Syren* had taken a vessel of ours on the coast, and those men were conducting the prize to *Boston*, when they were forced over the bar.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL JAMES MOORE, IN THE CONTINENTAL SERVICE, TO THE HON. CORNELIUS HARNETT, ESQ., PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED WILMINGTON, MARCH 2, 1776.

On the earliest intelligence that the Tories were collecting and embodying at *Cross-Creek*, which I received on the 9th of *February*, I proceeded to take possession of *Rockfish-Bridge*, within seven miles of *Cross-Creek*, which I considered as an important post. This I effected on the 15th, with my own regiment, five pieces of artillery, and a part of the *Bladen* Militia; but as our numbers were by no means equal to that of the Tories, I thought it most advisable to intrench and fortify that pass, and wait for a reinforcement. By the 19th, I was joined by Colonel *Lillington*, with one hundred and fifty of the *Wilmington* Minute-men, Colonel *Kenon*, with two hundred of the *Duplin* Militia, and Colonel *Ashe*, with about one hundred of the Volunteer Independent Rangers—making our numbers, then, in the whole, about eleven hundred; and from the best information I was able to procure, the Tory Army, under the command of General *McDonald*, amounted to about fourteen or fifteen hundred.

On the 20th, they marched within four miles of us, and sent in, by a flag of truce, the Governour's Proclamation, a manifesto, and letter from the General, copies of which, together with another letter, and my answers, you have enclosed. I then waited only until Colonel *Martin* and Colonel *Thackston*, who, I had certain intelligence, were on their march, should get near enough to cut off their retreat, and determined to avail myself of the first favourable opportunity of attacking them. However, contrary to my expectations, I learned, on the 21st, that they had, the night before and that morning, crossed the *North-west River*, at *Campbelltown*, with their whole army, sunk and destroyed all the boats, and taken their route the most direct way to *Negro-Head Point*. I then despatched an express to Colonel *Caswell*, who was on his march to join us, with about eight hundred men, and directed him to return and take possession of *Corbert's Ferry*, over *Black River*, and, by every means in his power, to obstruct, harass, and distress them in their march; at the same time I directed Colonel *Martin* and Colonel *Thackston* to take possession of *Cross-Creek*, in order to prevent their return that way. Colonel *Lillington* and Colonel *Ashe* I ordered, by a forced march, to endeavour, if possible, to reinforce Colonel *Caswell*; but if that could not be effected, to take possession of *Moore's Creek Bridge*, whilst I proceeded back with the remainder of our army, to cross the *North-west* at *Elizabethtown*, so as either to meet them on their way to *Corbert's Ferry*, or fall in their rear and surround them there.

On the 23d, I crossed the river at *Elizabethtown*, where I was compelled to wait for a supply of provisions until the 24th, at night, having learned that Colonel *Caswell* was almost entirely without. Just when I was prepared to march, I received an express from Colonel *Caswell*, informing that the Tories had raised a flat which had been sunk in *Black River*, about five miles above him, and, by erecting a bridge, had passed it with their whole army.

I then determined, as the last expedient, to proceed immediately, in boats, down the *North-west River* to *Dollison's Landing*, about sixty miles from them, and to take possession of *Moore's Creek Bridge*, about ten miles from them; at the same time acquainting Colonel *Caswell* of my inten-

tions, and recommending to him to retreat to *Moore's Creek Bridge*, if possible; but if not, to follow on in their rear.

The next day, by four o'clock, we arrived at *Dollison's Landing*; but as we could not possibly march that night, for want of horses for the artillery, I despatched an express to *Moore's Creek Bridge*, to learn the situation of affairs there, and was informed that Colonel *Lillington*, who had the day before taken his stand at the bridge, was that afternoon reinforced by Colonel *Caswell*, and that they had raised a small breastwork, and destroyed a part of the bridge.

The next morning, (the 27th,) at break of day, an alarm-gun was fired; immediately after which, scarce allowing our people a moment to prepare, the Tory Army, with Captain *McCloud* at their head, made their attack on Colonel *Caswell* and Colonel *Lillington*; and finding a small intrenchment next the bridge, on our side, empty, concluded that our people had abandoned their post, and in the most furious manner advanced within thirty paces of our breastwork and artillery, where they met a very proper reception. Captain *McCloud* and Captain *Campbell* fell within a few paces of the breastwork, the former of whom received upwards of twenty balls through his body; and in a very few minutes their whole army was put to the flight, and most shamefully abandoned their General, who was next day taken prisoner.

The loss of the enemy in this action, from the best accounts we have been able to learn, is about thirty killed and wounded; but as numbers of them must have fallen into the creek, besides many more that were carried off, I suppose their loss may be estimated at about fifty. We had only two wounded, one of which died this day.

Thus, sir, I have the pleasure to inform you, has most happily terminated a very dangerous insurrection, and will, I trust, put an effectual check to toryism in this country.

The situation of affairs, in this place, made it necessary for me to return here, which, at the special request of the Committee, I did last night, with my regiment. The large requisitions made by the men-of-war, who now lie just below the town, gave the inhabitants reason to apprehend everything that could be suffered from their disappointed vengeance. However, the Committee have most spiritedly determined rather to suffer the worst of human evils than afford them any supplies at all; and I have no doubt we shall be able to prevent them from doing any great injury.

In order to lessen, as much as possible, the expense incurred by this expedition, I some time ago directed Colonel *Martin* to disband all the troops under his command except one thousand, including the Regulars, and with those secure the persons and estates of the Insurgents, subject to your further orders, and then to proceed to this place, unless otherwise directed. However, as I do not think the service, just now, requires such a number of men in arms, I shall immediately direct him to disband all except the Regulars, and with those to remain in and about *Cross-Creek*, until further orders.

#### COLONEL CASWELL TO NORTH-CAROLINA CONGRESS.

Camp at Long-Creek, February 29, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to acquaint you that we had an engagement with the Tories, at Widow *Moore's Creek Bridge*, on the 27th current. Our army was about one thousand strong, consisting of the *Newbern* Battalion of Minute-men, the Militia from *Craven*, *Johnston*, *Dobbs*, and *Wake*, and a detachment of the *Wilmington* Battalion of Minute-men, which we found encamped at *Moore's Creek* the night before the battle, under the command of Colonel *Lillington*. The Tories, by common report, was three thousand; but General *McDonald*, whom we have a prisoner, says there were about fifteen or sixteen hundred. He was unwell that day, and not in the battle. Captain *MacLeod*, who seemed to be the principal commander, with Captain *John Campbell*, are among the slain.

The number killed and mortally wounded, from the best accounts I was able to collect, was about thirty; most of them were shot on passing the bridge. Several had fallen into the water, some of whom, I am pretty certain, had not risen yesterday evening when I left the camp. Such prisoners as we have made, say there were at least fifty of their men missing.

The Tories were totally put to the rout, and will certainly disperse. Colonel *Moore* arrived at our camp a few hours

after the engagement was over. His troops came up that evening, and are now encamped on the ground where the battle was fought. And Colonel *Martin* is at or near *Cross-Creek*, with a large body of men. Those, I presume, will be sufficient effectually to put a stop to any attempt to embody again. I therefore, with Colonel *Moore's* consent, am returning to *Newbern*, with the troops under my command, where I hope to receive your orders to dismiss them. There I intend carrying the General. If the Council should rise before my arrival, be pleased to give order in what manner he shall be disposed of. Our officers and men behaved with the spirit and intrepidity becoming freemen, contending for their dearest privileges.

RICHARD CASWELL.

To the Hon. *Cornelius Harnett*, President of the Provincial Congress of *North-Carolina*.

*List of Rifle-Guns and other articles already taken from the Highlanders and Regulators, viz :*

Fifteen hundred Rifle-Guns, all of them excellent pieces; two Medicine Chests, immediately from *England*, one of them valued at three hundred Pounds Sterling; one box, containing half-Johanneses and *English* Guineaas, discovered by a negro secreted in a stable at *Cross-Creek*; thirteen Wagons, with complete sets of Horses; eight hundred and fifty common Soldiers, taken prisoners, disarmed, and discharged.

We have flying parties out, taking the ringleaders and all suspected persons, and disarming the common soldiers throughout the whole back country.

*List of Prisoners taken by Colonel LONG, and now in HALIFAX Jail.*

Colonel *John Piles*, Major *Thomas Collins*, Captain *David Jackson*, Captain *Enoch Bradley*, Captain *John Piles*, Captain *Thomas Bradford*, Captain *William Bradford*, Lieutenant *Stephen Parker*, Lieutenant *Donald McDonald*, (wounded through the thigh,) Ensign *John Downing*, and Doctor *Roberson York*; also, in *Halifax Jail*, four of the name of *Fields*, one of the name of *Turner*, and three of the name of *Bell*, with a Midshipman and Quarter-Gunner, of the *Scorpion* man-of-war.

*List of Prisoners taken by Colonel MARTIN, and sent to HALIFAX Jail.*

Colonel *Kingsborough McDonald*, Colonel *Hugh McDonald*, Colonel *Thomas Rutherford*, Colonel *Hector McNeil*, Colonel *Alexander McDonald*, Captain *Morrison*, Captain *Mackenzie*, Captain *Thomas Weir*, Captain *Leggate*, Captain *Solomon Cross*, Captain *Person*, Captain *McCoy*, Captain *Muse*, of the Light-Horse, Captain *John Mulkeson*, Captain *Neil McCarter*, Adjutant *Fraser*, Lieutenants *Colin McIever*, *Joshua Hewes*, *Duncan Cameron*, *Donald Muse*, *Donald Cameron*—and sundry other Lieutenants and Ensigns, whose names I have not yet an account of—*Kenneth McDonald*, Aid-de-Camp; *James Hepburn*, Secretary; *Parson Battie*, Chaplain; *Aaron Verdy*, Wagonmaster; Doctor *Morrison*, Commissary. He also took about three hundred and fifty Guns and Shot-Bags, with about one hundred and fifty Swords and Dirks.

DONALD McDONALD, ESQ., LATELY CREATED BRIGADIER-GENERAL IN THE TORY ARMY BY GOVERNOUR MARTIN, TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL MOORE.

Head-Quarters, February 19, 1776.

SIR: I herewith send the bearer, *Donald Morrison*, by advice of the Commissioners appointed by his Excellency *Josiah Martin*, and in behalf of the Army now under my command, to propose terms to you as friends and countrymen. I must suppose you unacquainted with the Governor's Proclamation, commanding all his Majesty's loyal subjects to repair to the King's royal standard, else I should have imagined you would, ere this, have joined the King's Army, now engaged in his Majesty's service. I have therefore thought it proper to intimate to you, that, in case you do not, by twelve o'clock to-morrow, join the Royal standard, I must consider you as enemies, and take the necessary steps for the support of legal authority.

I beg leave to remind you of his Majesty's speech to his Parliament, wherein he offers to receive the misled with

tenderness and mercy, from motives of humanity. I again beg of you to accept the proffered clemency. I make no doubt but you will show the gentleman sent on this message every possible civility; and you may depend, in return, that all your officers and men which may fall into our hands, shall be treated with an equal degree of respect.

I have the honour to be, in behalf of the Army, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

DONALD McDONALD.

To the Commanding Officer at *Rockfish*.

P. S. His Excellency's Proclamation is herewith enclosed.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL MOORE'S ANSWER.

Camp at *Rockfish*, February 19, 1776.

SIR: Yours of this day I have received; in answer to which I must inform you, that the terms which you are pleased to say, in behalf of the Army under your command, are offered to us as friends and countrymen, are such as neither my duty or inclinations will permit me to accept, and which I must presume you too much of an officer to expect of me. You were very right when you supposed me unacquainted with the Governor's Proclamation; but as the terms therein proposed are such as I hold incompatible with the freedom of *Americans*, it can be no rule of conduct for me. However, should I not hear further from you before twelve o'clock to-morrow, by which time I shall have an opportunity of consulting my officers here, and perhaps Colonel *Martin*, who is in the neighbourhood of *Cross-Creek*; you may expect a more particular answer; mean time you may be assured that the feelings of humanity will induce me to show that civility to such of your people as may fall into our hands, as I am desirous should be observed towards those of ours, who may be unfortunate enough to fall into yours.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
JAMES MOORE.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL MOORE TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL McDONALD.

Camp at *Rockfish*, February 20, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to my promise of yesterday, I have consulted the officers under my command, respecting your letter, and am happy in finding them unanimous in opinion with me. We consider ourselves engaged in a cause the most glorious and honourable in the world, the defence of the liberties of mankind, in support of which we are determined to hazard everything dear and valuable; and in tenderness to the deluded people under your command, permit me, sir, through you, to inform them, before it is too late, of the dangerous and destructive precipice on which they stand, and to remind them of the ungrateful return they are about to make for their favourable reception in this country. If this is not sufficient to recall them to the duty which they owe to themselves and their posterity, inform them that they are engaged in a cause in which they cannot succeed, as not only the whole force of this country, but that of our neighbouring Provinces, is exerting and now actually in motion to suppress them, and which must end in their utter destruction. Desirous, however, of avoiding the effusion of human blood, I have thought proper to send you a copy of the Test recommended by the Continental Congress, which, if they will yet subscribe and lay down their arms, by twelve o'clock to-morrow, we are willing to receive them as friends and countrymen. Should this offer be rejected, I shall consider them as enemies to the constitutional liberties of *America*, and treat them accordingly.

I cannot conclude without reminding you, sir, of the oath which you and some of your officers took at *Newbern*, on your arrival to this country, which I imagine you will find difficult to reconcile to your present conduct. I have no doubt that the bearer, Captain *James Walker*, will be treated with proper civility and respect in your camp.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
J. MOORE.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL McDONALD TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL MOORE.

Head-Quarters, February 20, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour by Captain *James Walker*, and observed you declared sentiments of revolt, hostility,

and rebellion to the King, and to what I understand to be the Constitution of this country. If I am mistaken, future consequences must determine; but while I continue in my present sentiments, I shall consider myself embarked in a cause which must, in its consequences, extricate this country from anarchy and licentiousness. I cannot conceive that the *Scots* Emigrants, to whom I imagine you allude, can be under greater obligations to this country than to that King under whose gracious and merciful Government they alone could have been enabled to visit this Western region: and I trust, sir, it is in the womb of time to say, that they are not that deluded and ungrateful people which you would represent them to be. As a soldier in his Majesty's service, I must inform you, if you are yet to learn, that it is my duty to conquer, if I cannot reclaim all those who may be hardy enough to take up arms against the best of masters, as of Kings.

I have the honour to be, in behalf of the Army under my command, sir, your most obedient servant,

DONALD McDONALD.

To James Moore, Esq.

#### NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

*Journal of the Proceedings of the Provincial Council of NORTH-CAROLINA, held at NEWBERN, on the 28th day of FEBRUARY, Anno Domini 1776.*

#### NORTH-CAROLINA:

Pursuant to a Resolve of the last Provincial Council, held at the Court-House, in the County of Johnston, the said Council was to have been held the 17th day of March next, at the place aforesaid; but Mr. President finding it necessary, required a meeting sooner than that period, and summoned the Members thereof to meet at the Town of Newbern, on the 27th day of this instant, February, 1776. And a sufficient number of Members not appearing until the 28th following, when, Mr. President, Abner Nash, James Coor, Willie Jones, Wightstill Avery, John Kinchen, and Thomas Person, Esqs., appeared, and took their seats in Council.

The Council adjourned until to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, March 1, 1776.

The Council met according to adjournment.

Whitmill Hill, Esquire, one of the Members of Council, appeared and took his seat in Council.

The Continental Congress having recommended that the President of the Provincial Council of North-Carolina and Georgia be requested to procure Committees of their several bodies to repair immediately to Charlestown, and there to confer with a Committee of the Council of Safety of South-Carolina, upon weighty important matters relative to the defence and security of these Colonies:

The Council taking the same into consideration,

Resolved, That Abner Nash and John Kinchen, Esqs., be appointed on the part of this Province, and that they repair to Charlestown, South-Carolina, as soon as may be convenient to them.

Resolved, That Robert Atchison, Midshipman, and Richard Dummer, lately belonging to the *Syren* man-of-war, now prisoners here on parole, be sent to Halifax Town, and delivered into the care of the Committee of that town.

Ordered, That Colonel John Bryan attend to the execution of this order, and direct an officer with four men to execute the same.

Whereas, the Province of South-Carolina hath, on application, and at the request of this Board, supplied this Province with one thousand weight of Gunpowder for the defence thereof; in order to pay for the same:

Resolved, That the Treasurers, or either of them, be empowered and directed to draw a bill on the Continental Treasury for the sum of eleven hundred and fifty-eight Dollars and one quarter of a Dollar, payable to the order of the Council of Safety of South-Carolina for the time being, and that the said Treasurers be further directed to remit the said bill to the Treasury in Philadelphia, subject to the order of the said Council of Safety, or Provincial Congress of South-Carolina, for one thousand weight of

Gunpowder, for the use of the Continental Troops in the service of this Colony.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, March 2, 1776.

The Council met according to adjournment.

William Bourk, charged with being inimical to the liberties of America, was brought before this Council, when Mr. John Strange appeared as a witness, who, first being sworn, deposed and saith, that last night he heard the said William Bourk express himself in the following manner, viz:

"That we should all be subdued by the month of May, by the King's Troops. That General Gage deserved to be damned; he had not let the Guards out to Bunker's Hill, and it would have settled the dispute at that time. That there was forty-seven thousand Troops expected soon to America, and it would be in vain to pretend to defend ourselves against them." All which the said William Bourk acknowledged, and further said, "he wished the time would happen this instant; but was sure the Americans would be subdued by the month of August."

Resolved, That the said William Bourk be sent to the Town of Halifax, and committed to close Jail, there to remain till further orders.

Ordered, That Colonel John Bryan attend to the execution of the above Resolve.

Resolved, That no Pork, Beef, Flour, Bacon, Rice, or Peas, be exported from any part of this Province, after this day, without first obtaining leave from the Provincial Congress, excepting for returns for Salt, Arms, or Ammunition, actually imported into this Colony.

Resolved, That all the good and merchantable Flour and Pork now for sale in this Province, be immediately purchased for the use of the publick, and that the following persons be appointed to perform this service: Mr. James Coor, for the District of Newbern; Mr. John Webb, for the District of Halifax; Mr. Francis Brice, for the District of Wilmington; Mr. Memucan Hunt, for the District of Hillsborough; Mr. Adam Alexander, for the District of Salisbury; and Mr. Robert Smith, for the District of Edenton.

Samuel Spencer, Esq., one of the Members of Council, appeared and took his seat.

Resolved, That either of the Treasurers draw on the Continental Treasury for three hundred Dollars, in favour of Abner Nash and John Kinchen, Esqs., for their expenses to Charlestown on the publick service, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That Thomas Wade, Esquire, be appointed Colonel of the Regiment of Anson Militia, in the room of Samuel Spencer, resigned; and that Thomas Harris be appointed First Major of the same Regiment, in the room of James Auld, resigned; and that Commissions issue accordingly.

The Continental Congress having recommended to the Committee of Safety of Virginia, and the Provincial Council of North-Carolina, to meet together, and confer, and conclude upon such operations as they may think most for their mutual interest,

The Council taking the same into consideration,

Resolved, That Samuel Johnston, Thomas Jones, and Thomas Person, Esqs., be appointed on the part of this Province accordingly.

Samuel Johnston and Thomas Jones, Esqs., two of the Members of Council, appeared and took their seats.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Town and County Committees in this Province, immediately to disarm all suspected persons within their several jurisdictions.

Whereas, David Love, Second Major of the Anson Militia, now in the actual service of this Province, hath been accused on the oaths of Richard Farr and William Convention, Jun., with having refused to obey the orders of a superior Officer, and other ways misbehaved: Therefore,

Resolved, That the said David Love be suspended, and immediately put under an arrest; and that Colonel James Moore be directed to order a General Court-Martial to try him for said offence.

*Resolved*, That *David Baron* be allowed the sum of twenty Pounds, Proclamation Money, for so much advanced by him to pay for work done on the Guns, Carriages, and for Horse-hire, and other services to further the expedition against the Insurgents, as appears by the *Newbern* District Committee; that either of the Treasurers pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *William Williams*, with the *Martin* and *Bertie* Troops under his command, do return to their respective Counties with the same, first sending off to Colonel *James*, under a sufficient guard, such Ammunition as he now has in his possession.

This Council, in the warmest terms, return the gentlemen Officers and Soldiers from the Counties of *Martin* and *Bertie*, their thanks for their readiness and spirited conduct in marching against the enemies of their country.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Sunday, March 3, 1776.

The Council met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Publick Treasurers, or either of them, be empowered to draw on the Continental Treasury for any sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand Dollars, towards defraying the expense of the Troops on the Continental establishment in this Province.

*Resolved*, That all the Publick Records, of what nature soever, in the custody of the Secretary, be immediately removed from the Secretary's Office, and that all the Papers appertaining to the Court of Chancery, or any other person, be immediately removed, and kept in some secure place, by Mr. *Christopher Neale*, who is hereby required to see this necessary order carried into execution; and in case of necessity, to call on the Colonel of the Militia for sufficient force for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Committees in this Province, to remove the Publick Records of their respective Counties, and secure the same in the hands of some trusty person, wherever the same are now in the hands of persons suspected to be inimical to the *American* rights.

*Resolved*, That the next Congress shall be held at the Town of *Halifax*, in the County of *Halifax*, the 2d day of *April* next, and that the Printer to this Province give notice of the same, by printing and dispersing a number of Handbills, and inserting this Resolution in his publick Gazette.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, March 4, 1776.

The Council met according to adjournment.

Whereas, by sundry Resolutions of the Continental Congress, the Provincial Council is authorized to permit exportation from this Province, under certain restrictions, in order to procure in return Salt, Arms, and Ammunition. And whereas, persons willing to adventure, may, from the difficulty of making application, lose the opportunity of so doing:

*Resolved*, That *Archibald MacLaine*, *Richard Quince*, Sen., and *Henry Toomer*, for the District of *Wilmington*; *James Davis*, *Alexander Gaston*, and *Christopher Neale*, for the District of *Newbern*; and *John Smith*, *Andrew Lytle*, and *Samuel Dickinson*, for the District of *Edenton*, be appointed Commissioners to carry the said Resolution into execution in their respective Districts, under the Rules, Regulations, and Instructions, formed and laid down by this Council.

Instructions for the Commissioners, viz:

That no Pork, Beef, Flour, Bacon, Rice, or Peas, be exported, except in return for Salt, Arms, or Ammunition, actually imported into this Province.

That before any person be permitted to export any commodity whatever, he enter into Bond, with good and sufficient security, in the sum of twenty-five hundred Dollars, that he will comply with the Resolutions of the Continental Congress respecting the importation of Salt, Arms, or Ammunition, and also take the following Oath:

"You swear that you will not land the cargo shipped in the ———, in any part of the world prohibited by the

General Congress, and that you will not export in said Vessel more Staves and Naval Stores than is contained in the Manifest exhibited, and that you will, to the utmost of your power, invest the proceeds of said cargo in Salt, Arms, and Ammunition, or either of them."

*Resolved*, That the Freeholders of *Currituck* County may choose one Delegate in the room and stead of Mr. *Joshua Campbell*, deceased.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to Colonel *Thomas Polk* and Major *John Pifer* to recruit seven hundred and fifty men, to be formed into a Regiment, upon the Continental establishment, at the next Provincial Congress.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *John Bryan*, of *Craven* County, take into his possession of the Effects of Captain *James Green*, and *John Owens*, his security, sufficient to satisfy a Bond entered into with the Committee of *Newbern*, and retain the same in his hands, subject to the control of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Isaac Gregory*, Messrs. *Abner Harrison* and *Peter Dauge*, or any two of them, do immediately take into their possession all the Estate of *Robert Gilmour*, of what nature or kind soever, now in the hands of *Thomas Humphries*, and others, in the Counties of *Currituck*, *Pasquotank*, and *Perquimans*, and secure the same in the best manner they can, until further orders.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of Mr. President, sixty Pounds, Proclamation Money, to pay Expresses, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Ordered*, That *Henry Young* be appointed First Major of the Regiment of Militia for the County of *New-Hanover*, and that *John Dubois* be appointed Second Major and Adjutant in the same Regiment.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of the Town of *Salisbury* be allowed the sum of five Pounds ten Shillings for Express, and for conveying a Tory Captain to *South-Carolina*, being for money advanced; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Council be given to Colonel *James Moore*, and all the brave Officers and Soldiers of every denomination, for their late very important services rendered their country, in effectually suppressing the late daring and dangerous insurrection of the Highlanders and Regulators; and that this Resolve be published in the *North-Carolina Gazette*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Robert Howe* is justly entitled to the most honourable testimony of the approbation of this Council, for his important services while in the Colony of *Virginia*, rendered to the common cause of *American* liberty; and that the President transmit the warmest thanks of this Board, in the fullest and most honourable terms, to Colonel *Howe*, and all the brave Officers and Soldiers under his command, for their spirited conduct, having acquitted themselves greatly to their honour and the good of their country.

The Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, March 5, 1776.

The Council met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *John Bryan* dismiss the Militia now in arms in the Town of *Newbern*, as there appears to be no immediate occasion for their service, and that he assure them they will be paid for the time they have attended.

*Resolved*, That the Colonels of the several Regiments of Militia in this Province, do immediately call a General Muster of their respective Regiments, and cause every Officer and Soldier thereof to appear at such muster complete in Arms, Ammunition, and Accoutrements, and certify the same to the next Provincial Congress, to be held at *Halifax* on the 2d day of *April* next, the number of effective Men in each respective Regiment, that are able to turn out in the service of their country on any emergency, the number of Arms fit for service, and the quantity of Ammunition in each Regiment.

*Resolved*, That all persons who shall be disarmed by the Town and County Committees, and other suspected per-

sons who have not taken up arms against this Colony, shall be required to take the following Oath, on pain of imprisonment, viz:

"I do solemnly and sincerely swear on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that during the present unhappy contest between *Great Britain* and *America*, I will not, under any pretence whatever, oppose, or take up arms to oppose, the measures of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or any Troops raised by, or acting under, the authority of either; nor will I directly, or indirectly, either personally or by letter, counsel, advise, or give intelligence to any of his Majesty's Governours, Generals, Officers, Soldiers, or others, employed by land or sea, to carry into execution and enforce obedience to the several acts of the *British* Legislature, deemed oppressive to these Colonies. I will not, by example, opinion, advice, or persuasion, endeavour to prejudice the people, or any of them, in favour of Parliamentary measures, or against those recommended by the General and Provincial Congresses, until it shall please God to restore peace and good understanding to the contending powers."

*Resolved*, That either of the Publick Treasurers draw on the Continental Treasury for two hundred and twenty-five Dollars, in favour of *Samuel Johnston*, *Thomas Jones*, and *Thomas Person*, Esqs., for their expenses to *Virginia* on the publick service, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

It appearing to this Council, that *Lott Strange*, master, and *John Strange*, owner, of the Sloop *Kingfisher*, have been guilty of importing certain *British European* Goods, contrary to the Continental Association,

*Resolved*, That the said *Lott Strange* and *John Strange* enter into Bond in the sum of five hundred Pounds, to the Committee of *Perquimans* County, for their future good behaviour, and that they depart the Port with their said Vessel in ballast, within one month from this day; and when the said *Lott Strange* and *John Strange* shall have given such Bond, then the said Committee is hereby directed to deliver up the said Sloop *Kingfisher*, with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and other property belonging to the said *Lott* and *John Strange*.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Richard Caswell* send, under a sufficient guard, Brigadier-General *Donald McDonald*, taken at the battle of *Moore's Creek Bridge*, to the Town of *Halifax*, and there to have him committed a close prisoner in the Jail of the said Town, until further orders.

*Farquard Campbell* was brought before this Council by Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Rhodes*, under a warrant from Colonel *Moore*; and no sufficient proof appearing against the said *Farquard Campbell*,

*Resolved*, That he be allowed to depart at this time, and appear at the Provincial Congress the 2d day of *April* next.

The said *Farquard Campbell* then personally promised and undertook to appear at the time and place aforesaid, to answer such matters and things as he should be then and there charged with.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Robert Rowan* be empowered to summon and enforce the attendance of such persons at the next Provincial Congress, to be held at *Halifax*, on the 2d day of *April* next, as he shall think to be material witnesses against *Farquard Campbell*, of *Cumberland* County, respecting a charge against the said *Farquard Campbell*, of some conduct inimical to the cause of *America* and this Province, in the late insurrection of the Highlanders and Regulators.

CORNELIUS HARNETT, *President*.

By order:

JAMES GREEN, Jun., *Clerk*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, March 5, 1776.

The Tories and tools of Administration are constantly crying out that the Congress is aiming at independence, and pretend now that they would wish to see *America* put into the situation it was in the year 1763. I say pretend, now, because now they find it impossible to bring *America* to the abject state of slavery they were willing to reduce her, and have no hopes of succeeding in their scheme of despotism, unless they can take advantage of our love of the *British* Constitution, and attachment to *Great Britain*, by alarming

us with the thoughts of a separation, by raising a distrust in the Congress, and fears of an unsettled and imperfect republick, or, at the same time, by lulling us into a state of security, and flattering us with an expectation of an accommodation. That the Ministry (whatever Lord *North* may be supposed to mean by something he said to that effect) do not wish to see us restored to the situation we were in 1763, must be evident from their not embracing the offers of the Congress to accept of those terms; for if they desired it—if they preferred peace to war, and were willing to put a stop to the effusion of the blood of their fellow-subjects, they would have eagerly embraced the petition of the Congress, and made it the basis of an honourable negotiation, which must speedily have brought about a happy and lasting reconciliation. But the King, who had early imbibed principles of despotism, and who has found means to make himself absolute, even in *England*, by means of a venal Parliament and a servile army of sycophants, and who has lately tasted the sweets (it was but a taste) of an absolute monarch, in his Kingdom of *Quebeck*, was determined not to admit it as a basis of a negotiation, scorning to treat with Rebels; and declaring, from his throne, that we meant but to deceive and "lull him into a security, by professions of attachment and loyalty, whilst we were preparing for war." And from the King's speech, the world would suppose that we had so far got the start of him, in our preparations, that he was obliged to call in foreign troops to his assistance. His Majesty, does, it is true, most graciously say, "It may not be amiss to empower certain persons to pardon such offenders as shall repent and turn from their evil ways." But he says nothing like what his tools here have said; nor can there be the least foundation for the report, which was lately so industriously propagated, viz: That several of the obnoxious acts were repealed, and that Commissioners were on their way to *Philadelphia*, to treat with the Congress. Whoever will read the vote of the House of Commons, on Lord *North's* motion, of *November* 28th, and the resolve of the *Irish* House of Commons, on *Friday*, the 21st of *November*, and will also consider the great preparations *England* is making for a war, the arrival of men-of-war with transports here, and knows that Lord *Dunmore* is actually intrenching at *Tucker's Mills*, that he is daily recruiting his army of slaves, that there has lately been a dangerous commotion in *North-Carolina*, and that the *English* commander at *Detroit* has instigated some *Indians* to make an attack on our frontiers, who have actually scalped several people—I say, whoever knows and considers these things, must see that the story of Commissioners, repeal, and accommodation, was intended but to lull us into security, or to insult and mock us. It is therefore high time to look to ourselves; and if we cannot enjoy the privileges of *Englishmen*, when connected with them, let us instantly break off those fetters of affection which have hitherto bound us to them; and if *England* calls in foreign assistance, let us follow the wisdom of her example, and do so likewise.

#### TALBOT COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Talbot County, March 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to a letter from you, requesting our sentiments of a place the most proper for the Independent Company, appointed by the Convention, to be stationed in this County, we beg leave to propose *Oxford*, which, in our opinion, is the most convenient for that purpose.

We are, with much respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### GEORGE PLATER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Sotterly, March 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to the order of the Congress, transmitted by you, I have collected what gold I could in *St. Mary's* County, and now send it by Colonel *Fitzhugh*, amounting to two hundred and twenty-four pounds one shilling and three pence, as noted below. You will be pleased



to give him an order on the Treasurer for the paper money to that amount.

One hundred and six guineas,	- - -	£185 10s. 0d.
Twenty-three half-guineas,	- - -	20 2 6
Five half-johanneses,	- - -	15 0 0
One two-pistole piece,	- - -	2 15 0
One half-pistole,	- - -	13 9

£224 1s. 3d.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE PLATER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOHN HALL.

[No. 29.]

Annapolis, March 5, 1776.

SIR: We hear that a forty-four-gun man-of-war and two sloops are on their way up the bay. The city is but weak, and we judge it necessary to have all the men drawn to town we can, for its defence. We should be glad you will give directions to all the companies and men in your battalion, that can be got ready, to repair, as soon as possible, to town. We should be glad to see you as early in the morning as you can.

We are, &c.

To Colonel John Hall.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONELS DORSEY AND WEEMS.

[No. 30.]

Annapolis, March 5, 1776.—Eight o'clock at night.

SIR: The Council of Safety have this moment received, by express, an account that a large ship-of-war and two tenders were, this afternoon, considerably above the mouth of *Patuxent*, and it is supposed they are now off *Annapolis*. Whether they entered into our river or to *Baltimore*, is not known. But be their destination to either place, it is absolutely necessary to have your battalion in readiness to march at an hour's warning.

We are, &c.

TO THE APOLOGIST.

Philadelphia, March 5, 1776.

SIR: Every fresh opportunity of defending injured innocence must afford an uncommon degree of pleasure to so generous a mind as that of the *Apologist*. Give me leave, sir, to lay before you another part of the conduct of our Assembly, on which to exercise your benevolence. I have long lamented their great inattention to the rights of their constituents; but, lest I should be esteemed a carper, or desirous of hurting their influence or utility, I kept it to myself until your appearance. But as the principles on which you form your apology are new to me, I make no doubt but you will be able to remove any uneasiness at what I think an usurpation of our rights, or an ignorance of our rank in society.

The whole period I mean to lay before you commenced with the summer of the year 1774, and will end with the day on which they shall relinquish the usurped and illegal claims; and I charge all upon our present Assembly—not because they began or will end the usurpation, but because they continue it, while it is fully in their power to remove it forever.

I hold it as a firm principle in my politicks, that the powers of legislation can only be conferred by the society at large, and that freemen never intrust their representatives with the right of transferring it. I also hold it equally firm, that the right of instructing lies with the constituents, and them only; that the representatives are bound to regard them as the dictates of their masters, and not left at liberty to comply with or reject them, as they may think proper. These are my data, and on these I found what I offer for your consideration.

In the summer of the year 1774, Committees were fairly chosen throughout the Province, and directed by their constituents to meet in Convention, and there fix upon a mode to have the Province fairly and fully represented in Congress. They met accordingly, and finally agreed that three out of their own body, and four out of the House of Assembly, should be Delegates for the Province. They further

agreed to leave the final nomination of the whole to the House, and only to recommend the three out of their own body, by name, little suspecting that the House would ever set up claims inconsistent with the desires of their constituents. The Convention accordingly recommended three out of their own body, at the same time requesting that four out of the House should be added to them, the whole to receive their nomination from the House; but the Assembly not only rejected the three recommended by the Convention, but refused to admit the members of the Convention to hear their debates on the occasion; and publicly declared, that the request of their constituents was inconsistent with their privileges, and that they could not, in duty to their constituents, comply with their desires. This principle, then avowed and since acted upon, is, in my opinion, more destructive of liberty than any claim of *Great Britain*; for if representatives, chosen by ourselves and clothed with our authority, are, in consequence, to hold rights inconsistent with ours, farewell to liberty.

They refused to nominate the men of our choice, purely because they were our choice; for the very next year, when we ceased to hold them out as our choice, they nominated them, though, in so doing, they were obliged to contradict every principle on which they founded their former refusal. They thereby convinced us that they meant to hold prerogatives which would be as inconsistent with our interest as they were alien to the Constitution. I confess to you, sir, that the freemen tacitly betrayed their own cause in permitting them to do so. But this by-the-bye. I hope it will not interfere with your apology.

Finding we were fairly asleep, and not to be waked by this conduct, they have adopted their last plan as best answering their purposes; for by it they can have such a representation in Congress, and Committee of Safety, as they choose, and all power will finally be stolen out of the hands of the people. You, sir, I doubt not, are satisfied of this. If you are not, only converse an hour with any member of our Committee of Inspection, and he will tell you how much authority is left in their hands, though the only body legally chosen on the present occasion. Look around you, and you will see Delegates in Congress, and members in our Committee of Safety, whom the free choice of the people would not admit in our Committee of Inspection, not to say into the House of Assembly. Thus the right of election is fairly lost, and we may no longer complain of attempts to tax us without our consent; for if matters continue in their present channel, we shall not only be taxed without, but against our consent.

If my memory serves me, a worthy member of the then Assembly, on the 18th of *June*, 1774, pointed out to the freemen of this city, in the clearest and strongest terms, the danger of committing the choice of Delegates to the Assembly. But the eloquence of another prevailed; and to please one man, we then relinquished a right which will never be exercised to our advantage until we resume it. Our Assembly has as good a right to elect a King for us as to appoint one man to represent us in Congress or Committee of Safety; especially such as is not of their own body. I will boldly affirm, that they cannot retain that privilege but at the expense of our liberties. You have apologized, I acknowledge, for the kind of instructions given to their Delegates in Congress; but you have passed over what is infinitely more important—the right they had to instruct them at all.

You are a pretty good hand at framing apologies, and I assure you I start matters which may stand in need of them, purely for the good of my country, and from a desire to establish our liberties. You will do me the favour, therefore, to offer a proper salve for such proceedings, as I cannot think they were bound by their oaths to behave in this manner. But if you see these matters in the light I do, I trust you will join me in recommending to the House to adopt some plan, at the present sitting, whereby every person, who is to be our representative in any publick body, may be annually elected, as the members of the House are, by the freemen at large, and thereby be brought under their control, as they ought to be, but at present are not. This measure would be such an apology as would effectually remove all suspicion of danger or dangerous designs. If not, a Convention ought to do it. To leave it undone is, in effect, to give up our liberties.

THE CENSOR.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE TO THE SEVERAL COUNTY COMMITTEES OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, March 5, 1776.

The Committee for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* have always been attentive to the important duty enjoined upon them by the resolution of the late Provincial Convention, to call another Convention when they may judge it necessary. But though many circumstances have occurred which seemed to invite a general conference, yet the Committee have been willing to hope that security against every impending evil would have been procured, without subjecting the Province to the trouble and expense, at this uncomfortable season of the year, of appointing Deputies, and attending in Convention. They would have been happy could they have found their expectation so fully answered as the exigence of the times required. On a review of the proceedings of the late sessions of Assembly, from a prospect of the very vigorous measures resolved upon by the *British* Administration, which the latest accounts assure us may every day be expected to take place; alarmed at the appearance of intrigue, by the appointment of Commissioners (as it is given out) to treat with the Colonies, though we have reason to believe they are invested only with an insulting power to pardon, (perhaps to corrupt and divide,) the Committee judged they could not acquit themselves to their own consciences, to you, and to the *American* interest, had they not given the Province an immediate opportunity of a conference, in which they might speak the unrestrained language of determined freemen, and act with that vigour which has ever been the characteristic of *Pennsylvania*, when free from the influence of partial counsels. The Committee were of opinion, at a late meeting, that a Provincial Convention ought to be called.

Among other subjects, which they proposed for consideration, they had the following in view:

As the opposition given to the present measures arises chiefly from the members representing the three interior Counties, who constitute a majority of the House, though two of them are inferior to several other of the Counties which have not half their number of members, the proceedings of the Assembly might more properly be said to be the proceedings of those three Counties than of the Province in general; to concert means therefore of effecting a more full and equal Representation, the Committee thought an object worthy your immediate attention; conducive to the strength and dignity of the House of Assembly; and essentially necessary to the safety of this Province in particular, and the United Colonies in general.

As the present unequal Representation is the ground of every other complaint, the Committee had this principally in view. There are others which are attended with immediate danger, and, we thought, required immediate remedy. To name them will be sufficient:

Our Military Association labours under the imperfections and injustice of the "Rules and Articles," though almost a year has been employed in framing and correcting them.

The providing of Arms, &c., has been first intrusted, and since continued, (notwithstanding remonstrances,) to persons who have in some instances so far neglected the duty as that they have it yet almost to begin.

The Military measures of the Province are under the direction of a Committee of Safety, many of the members not having the authority of the people, notwithstanding a power of so great importance ought not to be intrusted to others than their immediate Representatives.

The appointment of gentlemen as Delegates from this Province in Congress, who are not of the Assembly, and the instructions given to them, by which they are bound to disclose every, even military movement, and are prevented from the free exercise of their judgments as the necessity of the times may require, appear unsafe, as well as dishonourable; to have a direct tendency to countenance the illiberal insinuations of our enemies; to create jealousies and divisions among ourselves; and to mislead the neighbouring Colonies into a false opinion of the sense of this Province.

These, gentlemen, are the objects the Committee had in view to recommend to your attention. They also wished to confer with you on the means of giving the aid of the back Counties to the exposed parts of this Province on the navigable waters, should they be actually invaded, and their trade suspended, agreeable to your virtuous resolution at the

late Convention. These being provided for, we doubt not the Province would sustain its part in the present unhappy, yet noble contest, with dignity to itself, and safety to the whole. And we rely that the united representation of the Deputies of the Province on that occasion convened, or such other means as their wisdom might have proposed, would have been effectual to give full relief.

But, gentlemen, we have further to inform you that, after having passed the vote for holding a Convention, the Committee had the pleasure of a conference with several of the members of the House; and they found, with great satisfaction, that those gentlemen indulged themselves in the hopes that a full and equal representation would be obtained, in consequence of petitions now before the honourable House, from several of the Counties, and that the other matters would be attended to. The Committee, therefore, have ordered us, their Committee of Correspondence, not to forward, for the present, their letters for calling the Convention; and have instructed us to communicate to you the foregoing information; and, also, that they have prepared petitions, to be signed by the inhabitants of this city, concurring in the prayer for a more equal representation, the event of which we wait.

By order of the Committee, and in their behalf, we are, gentlemen, your friends, &c.

THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, March 5, 1776.

Whereas some persons in this City, whose affluence ought to set them above the temptation of taking an advantage of the distresses of their fellow-citizens, have, within a few days, engrossed great quantities of Salt, Rum, Cocoa, Coffee, Pepper, Sugar, and Molasses, in order to sell them again at exorbitant prices, and thus add to the calamities of our country, while it is struggling under the oppressions of a bloody and vindictive Ministry.

*Resolved, therefore,* That this Committee will most steadily oppose such base and cruel practices, and expose the authors of them, of whatever rank and degree in life. For which purpose the District Committees are requested to make immediate inquiry into the grounds of this complaint, and report to this Committee, to-morrow evening, the names of those persons whom they find, or have good reason to suspect, of such practices, in order that justice may be done to our suffering country, and those persons meet with the infamy and treatment they deserve.

By order of the Committee of Inspection, &c.

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Secretary*.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read and debated, March 9, 1776.]

New-York, March 5, 1776.

SIR: I received your commands on *Sunday* evening, and should have answered them immediately, but waited for the result of an application I had made to *Waterbury's* and *Ward's* Regiments, requesting them to remain here until they can be replaced by a certain number of troops from *Philadelphia* and the *Jerseys*. They have unanimously consented to stay till the 25th of this month, which is a fortnight longer than the term they were enlisted for. Before the expiration of this time, I am in hopes that some measures will be taken by the Congress, for throwing into the city, its environs, and *Long-Island*, a force sufficient to dispute the ground with any number of troops we have reason to expect; not that I would imply that those two *Connecticut* Regiments remaining here would be able to prevent the landing and lodging themselves in the island, of even five battalions of the enemy, should they choose to attempt it, but these two regiments will enable us at least to lay the foundation of the necessary works. I have ordered a regiment from the *Jerseys*, who will be here, I hope, in a few days. I shall not, sir, trouble you with a detail of our intended works, as I shall have the honour of paying my respects in person to the Congress in a very few days, for on *Thursday* it is my intention to set out.

I am in very little pain about the execution of what we have concerted, as it is committed to the hands of Lord *Stirling*, who shows much intelligence and activity. As

this place will probably be the scene of a good deal of action, it would be prudent to add something to their present stock of ammunition. I find by their returns, that there is in the whole Colony, (that sent up to Fort *Constitution* included,) five tons and a half.

The numerous body of professed Tories in *Long* and *Staten Islands*, with not a few within the walls of the city, is a most alarming consideration. The measure adopted by the Provincial Congress, of obliging them to give bonds as a security for their good behaviour, can answer no purpose but that of rendering them more bitter and virulent. The first regiments of our gracious Sovereign's cut-throats which arrive here will indubitably cancel these bonds. I am well assured, indeed, that these bonds are made a publick joke of already by the worthy gentlemen who gave them. In short, the friends to liberty are, to a man, convinced that the Tories will take arms when encouraged by the appearance of any Royal troops. The delicacy of our situation, and the dangerous crisis of affairs, have therefore determined me to take a decisive step, which alone, according to my judgment, can secure us. I have offered a test, drawn up in such terms that, refusal or consent to take it, must be a criterion by which we may be able to distinguish those whose swords are whetted to plunge into the vitals of their country, and whose (if not drawn in defence of the common rights) may be expected to remain quietly in their scabbards. The first I have directed to be seized without further ceremony; and I should think myself highly criminal in omitting so salutary a step, before it is too late. Perhaps I judge wrong; if I do, I must myself take the shame of being reputed weak, rash, and precipitate. The intelligence I have received from General *Washington* will, at all events, justify in some measure my dispensing with forms.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

GENERAL LEE TO COLONEL ISAAC SEARS.

New-York, March 5, 1776.

SIR: As I have received intelligence from the Commander-in-Chief that there is the greatest reason to expect very soon at this place a considerable army of the enemy, it appears to me that I should be in the highest degree culpable, that I should be responsible to God, my own conscience, and to the Continent of *America*, in suffering, at so dangerous a crisis, a knot of professed foes to liberty and their country to remain any longer within our own bosom, either to turn openly against us in arms, (in conjunction with the enemy,) or covertly to furnish them with intelligence, and carry on a correspondence, to the ruin of their country. I must desire that you will offer the enclosed Test to the people of whom I send you a list. Their refusal might be considered an avowal of their hostile intentions. You are therefore to secure their persons, and, without loss of time, to send them up, as irreclaimable enemies to their country, to close custody in *Connecticut*. *Richard Hulot* is to have no conditions offered to him, but to be secured without ceremony. I am, sir, yours,

CHARLES LEE, Major-General.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Sears*, Deputy Adjutant-General.

COLONEL NICOLL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Fort Constitution, March 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This garrison is greatly in want of many articles at present, especially sauce, beef, soap, candles, drink, and fuel; neither have we had any fresh provisions for two months past, the want of which is a great discouragement to the men, as they work daily. We are also in want of pots, tramsels, bowls, and dishes, for the barracks, as there are none here but what the Commissioners claim, and say they must have, to carry to *Pooploop's Kill*. There must be a sufficient quantity of those necessities provided and sent here shortly, or the garrison will be in a bad situation when the Commissioners call for theirs. I should not have troubled you with these matters, but have wrote to Mr. *Livingston*, according to your directions, formally on that head, and received for answer, that Mr. *Phelps*, who was

appointed to provide for this garrison, would be here in a short time, and make the necessary provision; but he has not attended yet, neither do I know when he will.

Enclosed you have an account delivered to me by the Commissioners, for powder, ball, and cartridge-paper, by them delivered to Captain *Raymond*, previous to my taking the command here; none of which he returned. You can deal with him, for them, as you think proper. Several of the Minute-men now in garrison are destitute of guns; neither are they able to procure them, by reason of their scarcity, and there is a number of good arms in store, but the Commissioners are not willing to let them go without orders, as they were directed to keep them safe in their custody. I think it would be prudent to let the men have arms and accoutrements, so as to be properly equipped, in order that they may be disciplined to the use of them, provided the commanding officer of any such deficient company will give his receipt for them, and engage to return them, when he is discharged from this garrison, as good as he received them.

I shall be able in a few days to make a return of the state of my regiment, having despatched the necessary orders for that purpose. It is absolutely necessary that a baker should be fixed here upon some certain principle, there having been no provision made by the Commissary for that purpose. While Captain *Raymond* commanded, he gave flour to a baker, who returned an equal weight of bread, and allowed him soldier's pay, with all necessary attendance; which I think is too much wages, amounting to ten or twelve pounds per month. I have partly agreed with the same man, who is a good baker, and now out of the service, for four pounds per month, but he requires to have his wood, and people to attend upon him, and I do not know what to do about closing the bargain. Would be glad of some instructions in the premises, or that a baker may be otherwise appointed.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, March 5, 1776, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., and *B. Huntington*, Esquires.

Voted, An order of one hundred and fifty Pounds, on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Uriah Haydon*. (Order given of this date.)

An order was given to Colonel *Sears* to forward three tons of Iron to Captain *Benjamin Williams*, or Captain *Hayden*, at *Saybrook*.

An order was this day given to *Jonathan Fitch*, Esq., to furnish Provisions for the Brig *Defence* for a cruise of nine weeks.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, March 14, 1776, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Voted, That Mr. *John McCleave*, of *New-Haven*, be, and he is hereby, appointed Second Lieutenant of the Brig *Defence*, instead of Lieutenant *Hopkins*, resigned.

Voted, That Captain *Joseph Thompson* be, and he is hereby, appointed as a Lieutenant, to enlist thirty Men to carry on and finish the Works begun at *Black-Rock*, in *New-Haven*, and to serve as troops under command of said *Thompson* at said Works, or where they shall be ordered in defence of this Colony, until further orders. Said Lieutenant *Thompson* to appoint two Sergeants to assist him in said service.

Whereas, the Treasurer of this Colony is doubtful concerning his duty to receive the Continental Bills into the Treasury in discharge of publick Taxes, laid by Act of the General Assembly, to be paid in Bills of Credit of this Colony, or silver or gold; and thereon he hath made application to the Governour and his Committee, appointed to

assist him in the recess of the General Assembly, for their advice. And, whereas, it is necessary to support the union of the Colonies, and the free circulation and credit of Continental Bills, that they be received in all payments. Thereupon it is,

*Resolved*, (By the Governour and his Council aforesaid,) That it is their clear and unanimous opinion, that the Treasurer take and receive the Continental Bills, so called, in all payments in the Treasury, and that he notify the same in the publick newspapers, that the Constables and Collectors of Taxes in this Colony may conform themselves accordingly.

Voted unanimously.

Orders made for Captain *Edward Mott* to repair with his Company to his station at *Groton*, and advise the Governour, from time to time, of his situation and proceedings, &c.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esqs., be appointed a Committee to repair to *Philadelphia*, and apply to Continental Congress for a remittance of Continental Bills due this Colony, and bring forward the sum received. To inform of the situation and circumstances of our two Regiments sent to *New-York*, and receive directions concerning them. To ask the loan of Cannon from *New-York*; and also desire the Colonels of the two *Connecticut* Regiments to remain there until further instructions. And to confer with our Delegates and others, on the matters relative to the state of the United Colonies, and the things needful for our defence and security, and to follow such instructions as are given them; and make report accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Jabez Huntington* and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqs., be appointed a Committee to take the best advice they think proper concerning the mode of rigging the Row-Galley now building by Captain *Lester*, and order said Galley to be rigged accordingly.

And dismissed till next *Tuesday*.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, *March 18, 1776*, Present:

His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Jedediah Elderkirk*, *Joshua West*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Called by special order of the Governour on receiving advice from General *Washington*, that the Troops were withdrawing from *Boston*, and bound, as he supposes, to *New-York*, and entreating that two thousand men from the frontiers of this Colony may be forthwith thrown into *New-York*, till he can march his Army there.

*Samuel Bryant* and *Zebulon White* were present, who had been sent for near *Middleborough*, &c., as Cannon Founder and Moulder, &c. The first demands two Dollars, and the other one and one-third Dollar per day, and to be supported. And having great necessity of them, and they affirming that they have had, and are offered the same near home, it is, therefore, and on that ground, agreed to allow them that pay and support. But it is agreed and understood, that if said *Bryant* does not succeed, he is to have no other allowance than his support. And they are desired and sent forward to *Salisbury* for the purpose of pursuing the business of making Cannon, &c.

It is *Voted*, That Colonel *Joshua Porter* be, and he is hereby, appointed chief Provider and Overseer of the works at the Furnace in *Salisbury*, and to do whatever shall be needful and proper to promote the publick service at that place, observing such orders as shall be given to him from time to time by his Honour the Governour and this Council, or the General Assembly of this Colony, and keep proper accounts, to be rendered when required. (And this sent in a Letter to said *Porter* by said workmen.)

In consequence of a Letter from General *Washington* to his Honour, of the 14th instant, informing that the enemy have embarked their Troops, and are now making a shameful retreat from *Boston*, and destined, in all probability, to *New-York*, a place, as he says, of infinite importance, both to them and us, and that much depends upon the priority of possession; and therefore entreating us immediately to throw two thousand men into that City, from the

frontiers of this Colony, to maintain the place till he can arrive there with the Army under his command.

It is, on consideration, *Voted* and *Resolved*, as the unanimous opinion of this Board, That the emergency of the present case is fully within the meaning and provision of the law of this Colony providing for the relief and succour of any towns or places attacked by the enemy, or in danger thereof. And that the present is a very important case, and may in its consequences determine the fate of *America*. And that therefore his Honour the Governour be advised, and he is advised, to give immediate orders to the Colonels or present commanding Officers of the Fourth, Ninth, Sixteenth, Second, Seventh, Tenth, and Twenty-Third Regiments of Militia, forthwith to assemble their respective Regiments in whole or in parts, as they shall judge most proper, and unless a suitable proportion, as hereafter mentioned, shall freely and forthwith voluntarily, (as is hoped they will,) offer themselves, that they immediately detach the following numbers of able-bodied men from their respective Regiments, viz: From the Fourth Regiment, three hundred and sixty; from the Ninth, three hundred and sixty, and from the Sixteenth, one hundred and eighty men, inclusive of Officers, or very nearly, and not exceeding those numbers, to be formed into one Regiment or Battalion, to consist of ten Companies of ninety men each, including Officers, and to be under the command of Colonel *G. Sellick Silliman*, Lieutenant-Colonel *John Mead*, and Major *John Chandler*, and under such Captains and other Officers in the present Militia, or that have been lately in service, as the Field-Officers in the several Regiments from which they may be taken or drafted shall appoint or agree to. And that from the Second Regiment, two hundred and seventy; from the Seventh, three hundred and sixty; from the Tenth, one hundred and eighty, and from the Twenty-Third, ninety men, including Officers, or very nearly, but not exceeding that number, to be formed into one Regiment or Battalion, to consist of ten Companies of ninety men each, including Officers, and to be under the command of Colonel *Matthew Talcott*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Jabez Thompson*, and Major *Silvanus Graves*, and such Captains and other Officers as aforesaid, as the Field-Officers in the several Regiments from which they may be taken or drafted, shall appoint or agree to: and that said Regiments forthwith march, or repair by land or water to *New-York*, to be under the command of the Commander-in-Chief there, to assist in securing and maintaining that place until General *Washington* can arrive there with the Army under his command, and they be properly dismissed, which may be soon expected. And while in service they to be entitled to the same wages, &c., as the other Troops in the *New-England* Colonies are entitled to.

*Jonathan Fitch*, Esq., and Captain *Samuel Squire*, are appointed to make proper provision for the march and transportation of the Troops now ordered to *New-York*, by land or water, as shall be found best, and for their subsistence on their march or passage, if need be, keeping clear accounts to be laid before Congress.

Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

Met again by adjournment from yesterday.

Present: the same as yesterday, except Mr. *Wales*, ill with the gout; and P. M., added, his Honour the Deputy-Governour.

Mr. *Babcock*, of *New-Haven*, came in, &c., and moved sundry things; among others, put in a Memorial praying liberty to erect a Powder-Mill, in behalf of *Jeremiah Atwater*, *Isaac Doolittle*, *David Austin*, and himself, and promising immediately to set about and finish it for the purpose of manufacturing Gunpowder. And on consideration is granted to be erected at *New-Haven*, with condition and expectation that the matter be pursued and perfected with all possible despatch.

(Copy of substance gave Mr. *Doolittle*, May 2, 1776.)

And the time very busily spent in preparing Orders, Letters, &c., to the Colonels of the seven Regiments before mentioned, from whom men were yesterday directed to be drafted for the *New-York* expedition, &c.; and many preparations to set forward that affair, till about four o'clock, P. M.

Those things were despatched by Mr. *Lane*, of *Killingworth*, with orders to carry and send and deliver to whom directed, &c.

The matter of Colonel *Dyer* and Colonel *Williams*, the expediency of their going to *Philadelphia*, &c., taken up, and again discoursed largely: The Deputy-Governour not present before, heartily approves it, and all present remain of the same opinion, &c. Colonel *Doolittle* objects, &c., and I am not willing, &c. And considered and advised that the Governour will please to propose proper instructions, &c., and lay them before the next meeting, &c.

Mr. *Waters*, one of the Engineers, came in, and discoursed about the matter of the Fortifications at *New-London*, &c., and urges to be excused from that service, from an apprehension that Colonel *Mott* and he should not agree, &c., &c.; but are not willing to release him, but advise that he go down directly, and assist in the best manner, &c., &c.

Adjourned till *Friday* next.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, *Friday, March 22, 1776*, by adjournment from *Tuesday*; Present:

His Honour the Governour, Hon. Deputy-Governour *Griswold*, *Jabez Huntington*, Esq., *William Williams*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

A Letter from Colonel *Talcott*, who is ordered to *New-York*, &c., showing his insuperable difficulties respecting Guns, and want of marching money, &c.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Hosmer* furnish Colonel *Talcott*, for the use of his Regiment, with such number of Guns and Bayonets, which he had procured for the Colony, as shall be found indispensably necessary for them, being bound in an expedition to *New-York*, to assist in defending that place until General *Washington* can arrive, &c.; and a Letter sent him, enclosing the above, &c., informing that Colonel *Fitch* is ordered to provide for the march or passage, and if money is necessary, to advance or borrow, as there is none in the Treasury, &c.

Allowed an Account of *Sims Edgerton*, Jail-keeper at *Norwich*, for keeping Dr. *Church*.

From 24th November to 22d March, is seventeen weeks, at eight Shillings, - - -	£6 16 0
Seven and a half loads of Wood, at six Shillings, - - - - -	2 5 0
Guarding the Jail forty-seven days, at three Shillings, - - - - -	7 1 0
Providing, paying, and finding two Sentries, forty-seven nights, at six Shillings, - - -	14 2 0
	£30 4 0

Allowed an Account of *Seth Miner*, for building a Yard and Pickets about *Norwich Jail*, to secure Dr. *Church*, according to the order of Congress, &c., amounting to nineteen Pounds thirteen Shillings and ten Pence. (An Order given for both.)

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour be desired to direct the Sheriff of *New-London County*, not to suffer Dr. *Church* to go abroad, nor out of close prison, more than once in each week, and that with the Sheriff's own personal attendance, until further orders.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, be a Committee fully authorized and empowered to move the Convention of the Colony of *New-York*, or, in their absence, the Committee or Council of Safety, for the loan of such a number and size of Cannon as they can spare without detriment; to urge the necessity of such a measure, and to secure the return of the value thereof in behalf of this Colony; when obtained, forthwith to forward them, and make report to the Governour and Council of Safety accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, be a Committee to confer with the Commander-in-Chief at *New-York*, concerning the necessity of the two *Connecticut* Battalions, under command of Colonels *Waterbury* and *Ward*, continuing in service, and also of the two

Militia Regiments lately ordered, and concert proper measures relative to both; and to consult the two Colonels named in the circumstances of their respective Regiments; to direct and order them, if need be, to continue in the service till advice can be received from the Continental Congress, and conform themselves to such orders as shall be received; otherwise to order them as emergency do require, as well as the two Militia Battalions; and report to the Governour and Council accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, be a Committee to repair to *Philadelphia*, to apply to the honourable Continental Congress for a remittance of Continental Bills for this Colony; to give their receipts, and forward and deliver to the Treasurer of the Colony the sum received on its behalf; to urge the necessity and expediency of such a supply; to inform of the state and number of the Continental Battalions in Continental service, and especially of those lately sent to *New-York*; also, to show the number and circumstances, and ask directions concerning the Prisoners of various denominations in this Colony, and make report to the Governour and Council accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, be a Committee to repair to *Philadelphia*, to confer with our Delegates, and others, relative to the present state of the United Colonies; on the things needful for our defence and safety; on the subject and on the manner of treatment of the Commissioners sent from *Great Britain*; and to inform what they find relative to and necessary for the safety and security of *New-York*, and places adjacent; and make report to the Governour and Council accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, be directed to purchase, at *New-York* or *Philadelphia*, sufficient quantity of Rigging for the Colony Ship now building, or procure Hemp sufficient to make the same, as shall appear most advantageous for this Colony, and forward the same, if in Hemp, to Mr. *James Tilley*, at *New-London*—if in Rigging, to Captain *Uriah Hayden*, at *Saybrook*—and give as early advice as possible of their proceedings thereon.

*Voted*, That *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, make use of so much of the Colony's Money, that they shall receive at *Philadelphia*, as to pay for the Rigging or Hemp which they are ordered to purchase for the Colony Ship; and, also, pay what is due to Colonel *Isaac Sears*, for sundries he purchased for this Colony; take receipts for what they pay, and lodge the same with the Pay-Table, and take their order on the Treasurer, to answer so far as they pay, in lieu of lodging the money.

*Voted*, That Mr. *David Trumbull*, as soon as possible he can, forward what Colony Arms he has in hands to Mr. *Joshua Huntington*, in *Norwich*, to be by him forwarded to *New-London*, to Captain *John Ely*, now stationed there in the Colony service, and take a proper receipt accordingly; and, also, that Colonel *Williams*, in like manner, deliver five Colony Arms now in his hands.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Huntington* is desired to procure four Hand-Carts to be made, for the use of the Colony Works at *New-London*.

*Voted*, That *John Mills* is appointed Lieutenant of the Troops employed for defence at the Fortifications at *Fairfield*.

*Voted*, That *Samuel Smedley* is appointed Lieutenant of Marines on board the Brig *Defence*, belonging to this Colony.

*Voted*, That the number of Men lately ordered for Guards, and building Battery at *New-Haven*, be augmented; that, instead of thirty, there be allowed fifty; that Captain *Joseph Thompson*, in the former vote appointed a Lieutenant, be a Captain of said fifty Men, with liberty of one Lieutenant for said Company, to be nominated and appointed by Colonels *Dyer* and *Williams* on their way to *Philadelphia* next week.

*Voted*, That the Guns, Barrels, and Gun-Locks, lately imported into *New-Haven* by Colonel *Sears*, be purchased (if suitable, and to be reasonably had) for the use of the Colony; and that Colonel *Dyer* and Colonel *Williams*, going that way, be desired to inquire, and make the purchase if they think advisable.



At a meeting, &c., *Saturday, March 23, 1776*, Present: His Honour the Governour, Honourable Deputy-Governour, Colonel *Jabez Huntington*, *William Williams*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That Captain *Theophilus Stanton*, of *Stonington*, be, and he is, appointed Captain of the Row-Galley building at *Norwich*.

*Voted*, That the Men raised, inlisted, and stationed on the Sea-Coasts of this Colony for defence, through the ensuing season, who shall find and equip themselves with good and sufficient Fire-Arms and Accoutrements, causing them to be appraised, shall be allowed three Shillings for the use of each Gun; and, if lost, spoiled, or damaged in the service, by inevitable Providence, the owner to be paid the value of such loss or damage sustained.

*Voted*, That his Honour be desired to direct the Committee of the Lead-Mine at *Middletown*, as soon as may be, to forward one ton of said Lead to Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, of *New-London*, for the use of the Colony, as the Governour shall order.

*Voted*, That *Elijah Backus*, Esq., be employed and desired, as soon as may be, to work and manufacture two Ship-Anchors, of twelve hundred weight each, for the use of the Colony.

*Voted*, That the Row-Galley building at *New-Haven* be called the *Whiting*. And sundry Letters prepared, Copies, &c. And dismissed.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, at *Norwich, March 27, 1776*, Present:

His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Ordered Mr. *James Tilley* to purchase what Rope-Yarns he could of Mr. *Evan Malbone*, and what Yarns will be needful to furnish the Colony Ship with Cordage for Rigging, and manufacture the same at the cheapest rate that he can.

#### C. DUGAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour is now before me, desiring my baking the remainder of your flour as quick as possible, which I am not able to do, on account of the low price you have allowed: This last three months we have sunk considerable money in baking for you, owing to the great advance in the price of wood, wages, provisions, &c.; that we have been obliged to make an entire stop of baking your flour in my hands, which we are sorry for. At the time I began to bake for you, wood was bought from eight shillings to ten shillings per cord, and most other articles in proportion. We have been obliged all this winter to give from twenty shillings to thirty shillings for wood, and much such prices for everything else. However, the bearer, Mr. *Hollingsworth*, can inform you better than I can of the rise of almost every necessary of life, and the impossibility of baking now for you at three shillings per hundred. I imagine we have got baked, of your flour, about one thousand barrels, and have yet on hand about four or five hundred barrels, yet unbaked, which I wish was baked, as it is growing very bad.

I have a brig lying in *Boston, New-England*, that will carry about twelve hundred barrels of flour; a fine vessel, and well found; have a good man as master for her, that can be much depended on as to conduct and attachment to our cause. I would propose either selling her, or chartering to you; which, if we could agree, would have her ordered round immediately; and, as she is a small vessel, and counted a very fast sailer, do think we could get her round with considerable safety; for, if the King's ships were in our bay, of which she could hear at the Capes, must then go into *Chincoteague*, *Sinepuxent*, or some other inlet there.

You will please take this into your consideration, and give me an answer in two or three days, when I expect to be with you in *Annapolis* for that purpose; as, also, to see what is to be done with the rest of your flour in my hands. And am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

CUMBD. DUGAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### CALVERT COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

At Mr. Thomas Cleverly Dare's, on the Cliffs, }  
Calvert County, March 6, 1776. }

Whereas a Man-of-War, supposed to be of twenty guns, or upwards, and two Tenders—one a Sloop, the other a Schooner—both armed vessels, have anchored off this shore yesterday afternoon, (the Man-of-War about six miles off, the Tenders close in shore, within one mile,) with design, as is suspected, that is inimical to this neighbourhood, having taken a *New-England* Vessel yesterday noon at the mouth of the River. The Committee consisting of the following gentlemen, viz: Colonel *Benjamin Mackall*, Major *James Wilkinson*, Messrs. *Samuel Hance*, *Edward Reynolds*, *Walter Smith*, *Kenzy Johns*, Dr. *James Gray*, Dr. *E. Johnson*, and Mr. *James Heighe*. Mr. *Hance* in the Chair; *E. Johnson*, Clerk.

*Resolved*, That at this time of imminent danger the Colonel of this County be empowered, and he is hereby empowered, to station any number of the Militia of this County as he shall think proper, not exceeding one hundred men, to watch the motions of the said Vessels, and to repel any force from them; and to empower the commanding officer, or officers, of the said guard to contract with any person or persons to supply with provisions the said guard.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk do inform the honourable the Council of Safety of these proceedings, by post or express, directly, for their orders herein.

Signed by order: E. JOHNSON, Clerk pro tem.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

#### JOSHUA BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have agreed with *William Thomas* to act as Adjutant to the Twenty-Fifth Battalion of Militia. If a commission is to be filled up for him, please to enclose it to me. I have not yet heard that any persons are commissioned as Majors to this battalion. Captain *Andrew Beall*, it seems, has applied for one, and, I am told, is so sure of getting a Majority, that he has quit the command of his company as Captain. We have had great confusion about the appointment of Field-Officers already. I ordered a meeting of officers yesterday, many of whom attended, and find, by them, that *Andrew Beall* would be a person very disagreeable, both to themselves and companies. Some of the officers declare they will not be commanded by him, and seemed desirous that I should recommend gentlemen for Majors. This might be giving offence to many, as I at this time do not know who would be most proper persons for that post. I can only give it as my opinion, that *Thomas Williams* and *Richard Hall*, who were the choice of the majority of the officers heretofore, would be the most likely to give satisfaction to the officers and men in general.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSHUA BEALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### ROBERT TAYLOR TO JOHN HALL.

SIR: As the Council of Safety seem to be at a loss who to appoint as Majors to our battalion, I shall take the liberty of recommending two gentlemen to your notice, viz: Captain *Thomas Snowden* and Lieutenant *Walter Bowie*; they are both very worthy, and I am sure will give general satisfaction. It is said our Quartermaster, Mr. *Wootton*, will be advanced; if he should, Mr. *J. Magruder* would be exceeding proud to succeed him in that business. I have nothing to add, only that I am, sir, your most humble servant,

ROBERT TAYLOR.

To *John Hall*, Esq

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEES IN FREDERICK COUNTY.

[No. 31.]

Annapolis, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You heretofore received from the Council of Safety an order to collect all the publick arms in your District, and return a state thereof. The publick service now requires that they should be sent down to *Annapolis* as soon as possible. We, therefore, request you to send whatever publick arms may be in your custody, or power,

to us in *Annapolis*, by Captain *Stricker's* Company, or under a guard; and whatever expense may be incurred shall be fully reimbursed.

We are, &c.

To the Committees of Observation for the several Districts of *Frederick* County.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 6, 1776.

SIR: Since my last, I have had the honour of receiving your letters of the 24th and 30th of *January*, 9th, 14th, 18th, 21st, and 26th of *February*, which were communicated to Congress. On the settlements and adjustments of accounts, the Congress have not yet come to any determination; nor have they yet had time to contrive expedients for remedying the inconveniences mentioned in that of the 9th, which is referred to, and will be taken up, in a Committee of the Whole.

The Congress highly approve your care and attention in stopping Lord *Drummond's* letter, and entirely concur with you in sentiment with regard to his Lordship's officious and unwarrantable zeal.

The situation of the Middle and Southern Colonies hath engaged the attention of Congress. These are divided into two departments: the Middle, comprehending *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Delaware*, and *Maryland*, under the command of a Major-General and two Brigadier-Generals; the Southern, comprehending *Virginia*, *North* and *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, under the command of a Major-General and four Brigadier-Generals. As there is reason to think that the force of our enemies will be directed against the Colonies in the Southern Department, Major-General *Lee* is appointed to that command. The Brigadier-Generals are, *John Armstrong*, *William Thompson*, *Andrew Lewis*, *James Moore*, Esq., Lord *Stirling*, and *Robert Howe*, Esq. Of these gentlemen, General *Armstrong* is directed to repair to *South-Carolina*; General *Lewis* and General *Howe* to *Virginia*; General *Moore* to *North-Carolina*; and General *Thompson* and Lord *Stirling* to *New-York*. And that our affairs in *Canada* may be under the direction of an able officer, and General *Schuyler's* health not permitting him to go thither, or, if he could, as his presence is so necessary in *New-York*, the Congress have promoted Brigadier-General *Thomas* to the rank of a Major-General, and directed him to repair to *Canada*, and take the command of the Continental Forces in that quarter. I have accordingly enclosed him his commission, and am to desire you will give him orders to repair, with all expedition, to his post. To enable him to execute the purposes Congress have in view in *Canada*, they have ordered twelve battering-cannon to be sent from *New-York*, and have forwarded ten tons of powder. Of this article, we have lately received several supplies, and have some time ago ordered five tons and a half to be sent to you; which, if you have not already received, will, I hope, soon reach you. The Congress have also ordered ten tons more of powder to be sent to you, which will set out to-morrow or next day. Besides this, in the beginning of last month they ordered ten tons of saltpetre to be sent to Mr. *Wisner's* powder-mill, in the Colony of *New-York*; and on the 12th of the same month, ten tons to Mr. *Livingston's* mill, in the same Colony, and ten tons to the Council of *Massachusetts*, with a desire to have it manufactured into gunpowder with all possible expedition, and sent to you for the use of the Army under your command. Besides this, I have the pleasure to inform you that the powder-mills in this Colony are employed, and more mills are building, which will be employed; so that I have strong hopes we shall soon have a plentiful supply of that necessary article.

With regard to arms, I am afraid we shall, for a time, be under some difficulty. The importation is now more precarious and dangerous. To remedy this, a Committee is appointed to contract for the making arms; and, as there is a great number of gunsmiths in this and the neighbouring Colonies, I flatter myself we shall soon be able to provide ourselves without risk or danger. But we must, like other States engaged in the like glorious struggle, contend with difficulties. By perseverance, and the blessing of God, I trust, if we continue to deserve freedom, we shall be enabled to overcome them. To that Being, in whose hands is

the fate of nations, I recommend you and the Army under your command.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. The enclosed letter I request the favour you will please order to be delivered to Mr. *Cushing*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO MAJOR-GENERAL THOMAS.

Philadelphia, March 6, 1776.

SIR: The situation of *Canada* being, at this juncture, an object of the greatest importance to the welfare of the United Colonies, the Congress have been anxious to fix upon some General Officer, whose military skill, courage, and capacity, will probably insure success to the enterprise. In Major-General *Thomas* they flatter themselves they will not be disappointed. Accordingly, I do myself the honour to enclose your commission; and shall only add, that Congress have the firmest reliance on your exerting yourself to the utmost.

I beg leave to refer you to General *Washington* for the necessary instructions on your expedition; and am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Thomas*.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO JAMES WARREN.

Philadelphia, March 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: An express goes off in a few hours for the camp, and affords just time to hint a few things, which I beg you will communicate to the honourable House.

It is of great importance that your Militia should be well armed and equipped; and powder is essentially necessary. Without it, what will be the distresses of the sea-coast frontiers, and how can they defend themselves? I have heard of my vessel in the service of the Colony, and am apprehensive of her being detained at *St. Antonio*, in *Spain*. I saw a letter from the master to the commander of a ship arrived in this place, and find that Captain *Johnson* was waiting for his crew, which had been despatched from *Bilboa* by Messrs. *Guad\*\** ten days before, and ought to have arrived in two or three days at most. He was very uneasy, and intended to get another crew if his own did not arrive soon; and I have since heard a rumour that the vessel is detained, which there is reason to fear. She had on board four hundred and thirty barrels of powder, or, in other words, twenty-one tons and a half; and, should she arrive, will clear for the Colony seven thousand five hundred pounds lawful, estimating the powder at five shillings per pound, which is low. But this is a trifling consideration compared with other advantages. Five tons were ordered to *Cambridge* about a week since from the *Jerseys*; since which, twenty-seven tons and a half have arrived here, with about five tons of saltpetre, and three hundred stand of arms. Ten tons of this powder is also ordered to the camp at *Cambridge*; but this will not equip your Militia. Pray let a petition be immediately preferred for the return of the powder which we have lent the Continent, and I apprehend it can be obtained—I mean the powder collected from the towns in the *Massachusetts*. Mr. *Hunt* can furnish a list of the most of them. I would beg one thing further, that you will not suffer any of your stocks of ammunition to be carried out of the Colony, or into the camp, without pressing necessity, or the desire of Congress. News is just arrived of five tons more powder imported into *North-Carolina*, and each Colony looks out for itself, as the times require it.

The Congress have this day preferred General *Thomas*, and made him a Major-General. He is ordered to proceed, without delay, to *Canada*; and General *Lee* is to go to the Southern Colonies.

We are obliged to the honourable House for the Journals and Acts of Assembly lately sent here, and hope that the other Journals will be forwarded when ready, and that one or more persons will be appointed to transmit weekly the doings of the Assembly, as great advantages will result to the Colony from this step. The file of letters, memorandum, and day-books of the Committee of Supplies, are

much wanted in adjusting the Colony accounts. I understand they are left with Deacon *Cheever*.

I cannot help inculcating the necessity of attending to powder, and carefully preserving it; for, should the enemy remove, and the Army follow them, our Colony may be destitute of this article; and what a situation will it then be in? One thing further I will beg leave to hint: the Assembly, some time since, passed a resolve relative to fire-arms; and I cannot learn that any great number have been yet manufactured. Is it not necessary to inquire into the cause of it, and appoint a Committee to contract with individuals, who manufacture for a certain number in a convenient time? The Southern Colonies give a higher encouragement than we have offered; and it may be of great importance to follow their example. This the Assembly will decide.

Pray give my best respects to Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Orne*, Messrs. *Sullivan*, *Cooper*, *Freeman*, and all our other friends, believing me to be sincerely, sir, your friend and very humble servant,

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

To the Honourable *James Warren*.

P. S. Pray forward the enclosed letters.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, March 6, 1776.

The several District Committees having returned their Reports, relating to the engrossing Salt, Rum, Sugar, Spice, Pepper, Molasses, Cocoa, and Coffee, it clearly appears that the scarcity of those articles is artificial, and that several persons, whose names are returned to this Committee, but from tenderness to their families are not published, have formed a cruel design to add to the distresses of their suffering fellow-citizens and country, by collecting great quantities of and exacting exorbitant prices for the above articles; a conduct at any time shameful, but at a period of public calamity most barbarous and oppressive, more especially on the poor and middling ranks of life.\*

*Resolved, therefore*, That this Committee are bound, in duty and justice to the inhabitants of this City and Province, to give an immediate check to such base and mercenary practices; and for that purpose have fixed the undermentioned prices as just, reasonable, and generous, respect being had to the publick as well as the seller of such goods; and if any persons shall be so lost to virtue, honour, and the publick good, as to demand greater prices for the above articles, now imported, than are hereinafter limited, or shall

\* *PHILADELPHIA, March 7, 1776.*—I was yesterday greatly disturbed by an incident which fell out in this city. A gentleman was brought before the Committee of Inspection, for refusing to take a *Maryland* Convention Bill. The Committee, on hearing the matter, were obliged to dismiss the complaint as without their commission. Every good citizen must be distressed with the contemplation of grievances they cannot find means to redress. Certainly these several Colonial currencies are of this sort. The great intercourse we are obliged to have with each other, from *Georgia* to *Canada*, renders these currencies very troublesome, I may indeed say distressing; and, notwithstanding the expense of striking a bank, sufficient to sink every penny of these emissions, I must beg leave to propose it to the consideration of the honourable Continental Congress, whether this grievance does not absolutely demand this sole, adequate, and effectual redress? A sufficient number of bills might be struck in *Philadelphia*, even of the lowest value judged necessary, and sent in sheets to each Colony, where Committees, of their respective Conventions or Assemblies, would sign each for themselves. Their respective proportions can be as easily settled by Congress as any other general charge; and should an overplus remain to some, after sinking all the bills they have emitted, they would have so much in bank for future emergencies. To this plan, if the establishment of a Mint were added, where the plate, with which many families abound, could be fitted for a ready exchange with foreigners, for commodities of which the most opulent will soon be in want, I flatter myself the salutary consequences would soon become sensible to every one. I shall trouble my readers with no arguments to enforce these measures, as the inconveniences on the one hand, and the advantages on the other, are too obvious to need them.

Though the Committee of Inspection cannot be accused of entire inattention to the publick safety, in the late villainous attempt made to injure us by a set of monopolists, I cannot think the sore has yet been probed to the bottom. A gentleman, some time since from *Great Britain*, informed me that, on a like occasion, the regrated commodities were forcibly taken from the monopolizers, and put into the hands of gentlemen of character, who sold them at a reasonable price to all men alike, and returned the money to the owners; and, by that means, that abominable practice has never since existed in that part of the country, the people being resolute to recur to the remedy as often as the disease appears.

"Resist beginnings, late is physick used,  
When, by delays, the ills are deep infused."

LUKE, THE PHYSICIAN.

refuse to sell such articles under false pretences of exportation, pre-engagement, or otherwise, in order to avail themselves of the scarcity of such goods, and enhance the price, this Committee do declare that they will expose such persons, by name, to publick view, as sordid vultures, who are preying on the vitals of their country in a time of general distress.

The Committee, therefore, do request all persons, of whom demands are made above the prices limited, or who shall be refused to purchase as above, immediately to make their case known to some of the Committee, when such offender, being convicted before a general meeting of the Committee, will soon experience what are the feelings and resentment of an injured and insulted people.

Common *West-India* Rum, four Shillings and six Pence per hogshead, or greater quantity.

Molasses, two Shillings per hogshead.

Country Rum, two Shillings and six Pence per hogshead.

Coffee, eleven Pence by the bag or bale.

Cocoa, five Pounds per hundred.

Chocolate, sixteen Pence per pound.

Pepper, five Shillings, per pound, by the bag or bale.

Loaf Sugar, single, fourteen Pence per pound.

Lump Sugar, one Shilling.

*Muscovado* Sugar, first, sixty-five Shillings per hundred, and other qualities in proportion.

Salt, *Lisbon*, four Shillings per single bushel, or greater quantity.

*Liverpool* Blown Salt, five Shillings per single bushel, or greater quantity.

*Jamaica* Spirits, of common quality, five Shillings and six Pence per gallon.

The prices of goods, hereafter imported, will be put on a proper footing by the Committee, according to the circumstances of such importation.

Ordered to be published by the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

J. B. SMITH, Secretary.

#### TO MESSRS. HALL AND SELLERS.

Philadelphia, March 6, 1776.

After premising, that in the following Essay you are by no means to expect a formal answer to the piece signed *Rationalis*, I would inform you, that in a company, where the important doctrine of Independency was pretty thoroughly agitated a few evenings ago, I gathered the plan of the moderate man to be for bearing arms and repelling the force that might be sent against *America*, till *Great Britain* would grow weary of the enterprise, and be willing to make up with us on equitable terms. This he urged to be necessary, for the reasons commonly produced to maintain that position: as our descent from *Britain*, our connection by blood, interest, language, laws, constitutions, religion, commerce, &c., with its inhabitants; our need of the national protection, if attacked by any foreign power, and the lulaby of our having been a very happy and flourishing people during our dependance upon the Parent State.

To all this was answered, that there were certain times when minor States, as well as persons, became capable to judge and act for themselves; that the obligations for parental care and protection could never extend so far as to entitle the former to oppress the latter in demands of an indefinite consideration for such a favour; and finally, that unless the minor State should at some certain time be allowed to have power to debate, and settle the quantum due for protection, and choose whether it comply with such certain terms, or give up the protection offered, they were by no means on an equal footing with natural persons, who, at a moderately early age, were at full liberty to leave their parents, and do the best they were able for themselves. *America*, it was observed, was not sent out a Colony at the charge of *Great Britain*, and, for all the protection afforded her, might well be esteemed an orphan instead of a child; and with all the clamour raised on that head, with intention to lull the people into a submission to the most ruinous exactions, were a fair account stated, it would be found that the balance in favour of *America* would amaze all mankind! It was further observed, that the efforts used to persuade the *Americans* they are in a state of perpetual non-age and

dependance discovers something very different from maternal affection or common justice. If minors labour for parents, they are also supposed to be provided for in all things by them, and to become lords of all they possess at certain periods. Here the parallel fails respecting States, each of which is presumed immortal. It remaining, therefore, that the *American* States are neither the Provinces, Colonies, nor children of *Great Britain*, any more than of *Holland*, *Ireland*, or *Germany*, and that from their very settlement *Britain* meant rather to milk than suckle them; the pretended right to control their manufactures and commerce, to sell them the lands at a heavy purchase, and subject to an enslaving quit-rent, which were in great part gained by their own blood and treasure, is founded in presumption of superior force rather than solid reason. Luxury (and the search of ways and means to support it) is arrived to such a pitch in *Britain*, that the junto, who have usurped a tyrannick power, want Provinces to drain off wealth, as their patterns, the debauched *Romans*, had. Many are found so base as to be willing their countrymen should become tributary to such vultures, if they might have a small pittance for gathering the tax: yea, even on condition it were demanded at the point of the bayonet. Here is the true foundation of the claim of *Great Britain*, and here is the undeniable cause of the support this claim finds in *America*! What then are the honest, industrious, and independent freemen of *America* to do in this case? My guide I have so long followed tells us, declare independence immediately! Issue a manifesto, containing a full view of our rights, our grievances, and the unwearied applications we have made for their redress? Apply to the State, of whose readiness and power to assist us we have undoubted assurance. A neglect to improve the openings given us for that purpose may inspire those statesmen with resentment, and incite them to accept overtures from our enemies, and then we may indeed become Provinces! If we can withstand the tyrant of *Britain* without allies, we can, incontestibly, better withstand him with an ally that has ever commanded a very complaisant behaviour from him. This ally can wish for nothing more than such share of our commerce as will be convenient to both parties; and as that must be rather a gain than a loss to us, we must be stupid beyond conception to delay the measure. *England* has long protected *Portugal*, for a much less lucrative trade than we would carry on with *France*. Men must be very blind who cannot see the fairness, the openness, and safety of this obvious road to honour, wealth, freedom, and internal happiness. By how many ways does Divine Providence invite us to emancipate ourselves from a state which, remained in, would be the ruin of our posterity as certainly as they became human beings! Let prejudiced mortals dream what they may, and confound the ignorant with their jargon, freedom and dependancy are opposite and irreconcilable terms; and dependancy on a power over which we have no influence nor control, is slavery, or I am yet ignorant of the term. The petty tyrants of every country always wish to have the people dependant on such a power; for, under colour of authority from that power, they can carry on their oppressions, vexations, and depredations; and when they are expostulated with on the occasion, they are sorry indeed they are put upon so disagreeable a service, but what can they do? Such are their express orders! I am widely mistaken if nine-tenths of the clamour raised against *American* independency do not arise from that quarter. They tell you, "they had rather be governed by the mild and wise laws of *Great Britain*, than the decrees of an *American* mob." The truth is, neither they, nor their principals, wish to be governed by any laws that will effectually secure the liberty and property of the people from their ravenous clutches. If the people, by any means, obtain an adequate share in the legislature of this country, they know their visions of golden mountains, and millions of acres of tenanted soil, will all vanish, and themselves remain in the despised rank of their honest and contented neighbours. I am apt to think, however, that both principals and accomplices for once overshot themselves, and carried the matter too far for a safe and honourable retreat. Circumstances have strangely co-operated to open scenes which no human foresight could have viewed in their full latitude. And what is there now wanting to complete the triumph of the friends of human nature, but a little fortitude, patience, and perseverance.

All *Europe* must allow, that while *America* was in the greatest good humour with her old mother, a scheme was laid to keep up a large standing army in her capital towns, and to tax her at pleasure for the support of it. They see that, from time to time, the most fraudulent and violent measures have been taken to support their entirely unprecedented claim, till at last, drained of their national troops, they have applied for assistance to other nations. By the law of nations we were discharged from our allegiance the moment the army was posted among us without our consent, or a single farthing taken from us in like manner; either of these being fundamental subversions of the Constitution. It remains entirely with ourselves to have ample justice done to us. We have nothing to do but declare off, and appeal to the *droit des gens*. A very respectable power has given as unequivocal proofs as can be wished of her disposition to right us. Even the body of the people manifest the warmest desire to form a friendly alliance; witness the assiduous respect shown to a private gentleman, whom they only suspected to be a Delegate from the Congress. And on the other hand, what does all the hurry of appointing Commissioners, and no one knows what, on the other side the *British* channel, indicate? Besides the discoveries of *Cassandra*, I will venture to affirm, that our ambitious master at length begins to fear in good earnest, that the string drawn too light will break, and leave all his Colonies to make new bargains for themselves. Obstinate and mulish as he is, he cannot longer persuade himself that two such potent communities as *France* and *North America* will neglect such a fortunate opportunity to pay themselves the prodigious sums he has damaged them in a few past years. Ay, say some moderate men; that is our fear, that *France* will be for invading *Canada* or the *Floridas*, and thus we shall forever be involved in war. Nothing, I confess, is more probable, if *France* can have nothing to expect from us in an amicable and commercial way; but *e contra*, if we cast off her ancient enemy, there still remains *Islands*, which, from present appearances, she has some eye upon. From what has happened in the *Mediterranean*, it seems she is now no way skittish about affronting *Oceana* on her own element.

I cannot express my contempt of those wretches who say, let us by all means defend ourselves against the violence of Administration, till we bring them to reasonable terms, and then unite again, as we shall ever stand in great need of the protection of *Great Britain*. I verily believe a party among us feels much need of foreign protection; but a people who can make the proudest tyrant in *Europe* talk of *Hanoverians*, *Hessians*, *Russians*, *Scotch-Dutchmen*, and half an Eastern world, even while they are in the very infancy of preparation for defence, need not keep such a puling and whining about protection.

I must again exclaim, I cannot have patience with such inconsistent mortals, as dissuade us from accepting assistance from a power who has at present no possible claim upon us, nor can ever demand more than we voluntarily and expressly stipulate; and that when we are in actual war with a power, by themselves called the most formidable in *Europe*, and yet press us to fight that power alone, and bring her to terms, that we may enjoy her protection—if such do not wish to have us reduced, rather than protected by the arms of *Great Britain*, I am a novice in politicks.

One word concerning these august Commissioners we hear so much of every day. Those *Americans* who flatter themselves their mission bodes any advantage to the country in general, will find themselves as much deceived as they have hitherto been by any similar declaration. The true state of the case is simply this: Their efforts to subdue us to their absolute command, have sounded through every court in Christendom, yea, in all quarters of the world, and they cannot keep themselves from doubting of their success. Now a formidable armament is to come, and with them the Commissioners, to receive submission, and grant pardons on the most humiliating terms they can reduce us to, that they may let *Europe* know their great power in reducing their rebellious subjects to a sense of their duty. They are certain their time is short; they therefore aim to put as good a face upon the matter as possible, but at any rate to put an end to it for the present, still retaining so much acknowledged power as will sink us into slavery, whenever they find a proper opportunity to exercise it.

Finally, by the most unconstitutional, cruel, and unjust

measures, they have driven us to arms; we have emitted millions on the credit of the United Colonies; those millions must be sunk by the power which issued them, or a fund of the like kind can never again be established in *America*. Had our enemies no other object in view than the discredit of the Continental currency, it would be sufficient to engage them to send a good number of emissaries, on any pretence which might give them opportunity to effect it. One deposit we have in our hands, which will solidly fund all the money we will need during the contest, which must inevitably be given up by the most favourable negotiation we can possibly flatter ourselves to expect. Surely a declaration of confiscation on one side, will warrant reprisal on the other. This is not only just in point of the present question, but absolutely necessary to keep the power of the Crown within any possible limits, which cannot be while it is possessed of millions of acres of land, which it may dispose of at pleasure.

All parties agree we must one time separate from *Britain*. Set us back to 'sixty-three, and we will be as lucky as a farmer who should have all his houses, fences, &c., destroyed, and the fields and meadows, cleared in that time, grown up again.

CANDIDUS.

NEWARK (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Newark, New-Jersey, March 6, 1776.

SIR: The resolve of Congress, of the 20th *February*, which Mr. *Livingston* did me the favour of forwarding to me, I laid before the Committee of this town the first opportunity after I received it.

The respectful deference which the Committee owes to Congress would have led them to have immediately sent the two prisoners to *Philadelphia*; but it appearing by the said resolution of Congress, that it was founded on the misinformation that the prisoners were not employed in the business for which they had liberty to stay, the Committee were of opinion that Congress would approve of their delaying to send them to *Philadelphia*, until the Congress should be truly informed of the state and particular circumstances of this matter.

Upon inquiry, the Committee found that *Brown*, one of the prisoners, was a brass-founder, and though he understood the brass-mounting for muskets, knew nothing of making gun-locks; that he and *Thompson*, the other prisoner, had, since Mr. *Alling*, their employer, had made his shop convenient for the business, been engaged each in their several occupations. That *Alling*, in consequence of the leave obtained from Congress, had contracted to supply upwards of two hundred gun-locks for the use of the United Colonies, which contract was in part executed, but he would be very unable to fulfil his contracts, if *Thompson* should be taken from him. That though the prisoners at first, from a dread of punishment in case they hereafter joined their regiment, seemed to choose to be employed about repairing arms only, yet they have since married here, and thinking themselves settled in this country, *Thompson* exerts himself in the gun-lock business, and *Brown* is making the mounting, &c. This circumstance of their marrying here also makes them very unwilling to remove, from the connection they now have in consequence thereof, with the inhabitants of this place.

If the Congress shall, after being informed of these circumstances, direct both, or either of these men, to be sent to *Philadelphia*, the Committee will, on receiving such directions, obey them without hesitation.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

By order of the Committee:

LEWIS OGDEN, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

NEWBURGH COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Newburgh, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Elias Hasbrouck* having laid before us General *Schuyler's* letter to the Committee of *Kings-ton*, and a copy of a letter from the Committee of *Kingston* to your honourable House, both purporting his raising a company for one of the regiments to be raised in this Colony, and in the letter from the said Committee of *Kingston*,

it appears that the person to be appointed for the said *Hasbrouck's* First Lieutenant, is to be recommended by the Committee of the Precinct in which the said Lieutenant may reside. And *Cornelius Hasbrouck*, son of Colonel *Hasbrouck*, of this Precinct, being a person nominated by the said Captain *Hasbrouck*, we having taken into consideration the qualification of the aforesaid Lieutenant, and being perfectly acquainted with him, do hereby recommend him as a very worthy fit person. Therefore, pray you will favour him with a warrant as First Lieutenant to said Captain *Hasbrouck*.

And are, very respectfully, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ABEL BELKNAP, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

I hereby certify that I am perfectly well acquainted with *Cornelius Hasbrouck*, above-mentioned, and can with propriety recommend him as a worthy person for a commission of First Lieutenant of Captain *Hasbrouck's* Company.

THOMAS PALMER.

To the President of the Provincial Congress now convened in the City of *New-York*.

R. HARPUR TO JOHN JAY.

Fishkill, March 6, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Godwin* informing me that Lieutenant *Peter Rosa*, a Second Lieutenant in Captain *Belknap's* Company, is, on condition of being admitted into the new establishment, capable of inlisting the greater part, if not all, of the said company, of which, requiring my approbation, I cannot refuse it, consistent with my opinion of the public good. The said company being well fledged already, makes it a very desirable object to retain them; and Mr. *Rosa* being well acquainted with them, puts it in his power to complete Captain *Godwin's* Company in a few days, which he will undertake to do on the terms of receiving a Lieutenantcy in said company, where, there being now a vacancy, I should wish he was placed.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. HARPUR.

To *John Jay*, Esq., present.

P. S. If you concur in opinion with me, please to signify the same in writing, and we shall hand it to the Committee of Arrangement at *Esopus*. Mr. *Sacket* writes me from *King-street*, that on the 1st instant, our Militia below had scoured *Frog's Neck*, took off about one hundred and fifty horned-cattle, and a large number of horses; that they had passed by one of the enemy's ships, within musket-shot of her, without receiving the least interruption.

Sir, yours as before,

R. H.

JOHN JAY TO R. HARPUR.

DEAR SIR: I am well content that the gentleman you recommend should have the vacant Lieutenantcy, provided his appointment will not do injustice to persons better entitled to it by former services; but of this, my being so long detained from the Committee of Arrangement, prevents my being a proper judge.

I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN JAY.

Mr. *Harpur*.

THOMAS PALMER TO GENERAL LEE.

Newburgh, Ulster County,  
Above the Highlands, March 6, 1776.

SIR: We this day arrived safe up the river (with the three vessels containing the cannon, shot, &c.) at *Newburgh-Landing*, which is seventy miles from *New-York*. Our passage has been attended with much difficulty and danger, on account of cold head-winds, and the river exceedingly full of ice. The vessels are now in safe harbour on the west shore; but on the landing opposite, on the east shore, the only place where the cannon must be landed, the flats are yet shut up with ice; but I conceive it practicable to cut a channel through to shore, which we shall attempt immediately; the carriages for the transporting the cannon are



completed, and the horses ready to proceed as soon as the cannon can be landed. The bearer, Captain *Brown*, has been very useful and alert with his men, in bringing the vessels thus far safe; and as we can be supplied at this port with sufficient assistance for the further procedure with the cannon, I thought it prudent, with Captain *Brown's* advice, to dismiss him with his men.

I am, sir, with due respect, your most humble servant to command,

THOMAS PALMER.

To *Charles Lee, Esq., &c., &c.*

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 15, 1776.]

Albany, March 6, 1776.

SIR: Instead of one hundred and twenty sleds to convey the cannon and provision from *Fort George, Ticonderoga, &c., to Canada*, with the utmost efforts only seventy-six could be procured; the great scarcity of forage, and danger of going at this advanced season, deters them. The winter here is entirely broken up, and I believe *Hudson's River* will be clear of ice in a few days. It may be best, therefore, that the remainder of the troops from *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* should embark at *New-Windsor*, or still lower down, if craft can be procured.

Only one company of Colonel *Burrel's* Regiment is gone past here. I greatly fear that the remainder will not be able to pass the Lakes on ice, unless a sudden change in the weather takes place. Some horses, and one man, have already been drowned on *Lake George* and *Lake Champlain*. It would be happy for us if the Lakes immediately opened, as I have got matters in such a way that I can immediately send on the troops by water; but, should the Lakes become impassable in any way, I must of necessity detain the troops at this place until they open, as well to save the expenditures of what pork we have at *Fort George*, as that they cannot be quartered there.

All the *Six*, and some other *Indian* nations, are now holding a conference at *Onondaga*. I expect they will soon request the like at this place. I dread their coming, as we have nothing for them; and unless something is given, they are always disgusted.

The sleds that left this with the last *Pennsylvania* Company, I am this moment informed, are returned, not being able to proceed farther than twenty miles from this, *Hudson's River* being broken up there, but as yet impassable.

I have not yet been able to discover that there is any truth that the *Highlanders* are enlisted; I shall continue my inquiries, and if the report has any foundation, I will make them prisoners.

On the 28th ultimo I sent General *Wooster* something above twenty-one hundred pounds in specie, which I have collected on my notes, payable in like money, on demand. We are greatly distressed for money for the current expenses of the day.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock, Esq.*

COLONEL HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Roxbury Camp, March 6, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I have two of your much esteemed favours since I wrote you last. You will have had before this the circumstances of our taking possession of *Dorchester*. We hoped our enemies would meet us there, but, as the weather was, it could not be. If we are not able to draw them out of their fastnesses, I do not see what we can do to get rid of them. Our offensive efforts, I imagine, affect them but little. We have been frowned upon in the loss of several of our largest mortars, the fine one taken by *Manly*, among the rest. I have all along expected some remarkable interposition of Divine Providence in our favour, that our dependance on all human means might appear vain. We have now such works on *Dorchester Hills*, as will put the bravery and art of our enemies to a severe trial, if they take them from us. Perhaps an attempt will be made to draw them out *Chelsea* side. Since our fortifications are increased, the necessity is increased of subduing

or driving away the enemy, as it will require so great a number of men, and constant vigilance to maintain all the posts we now possess, which are all nearly alike important.

I heartily mourn the loss of that eminently learned and pious divine, Doctor *Williams*. You must be greatly affected at his death. No measure can be made of the friendship of so aged and valuable a man. I never knew what it was to sorrow, till my best earthly friend was taken from me. I devoutly wish that my improvement in goodness, love, and friendship to her parents and relations may bear some proportion to those qualities which shone in my lovely companion. That we may be prepared for the period of our continuance here, we must, for the enjoyment of our ascended *Saviour*, and in the highest degree, partake of the society of our departed ones.

I have not time to write to my dear son, but shall not neglect him long. If my life is spared, I will not fail to give you particulars of any occurrence worth communication. In mean time, I remain, with tenders of love and duty to you, mother, son, &c., yours most affectionately,

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

JOHN LANGDON TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Portsmouth, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have received advice of my having the repeated honour of being appointed one of the Delegates for this Colony to the Continental Congress.

Nothing can give me greater satisfaction than to have the approbation of your honourable House of having done my duty, as far as my poor abilities would admit of. I think myself under every tie of honour and gratitude to strain every nerve in my country's cause, at this important day, more especially when I receive such repeated honours from my country.

When I shall have finished the business in which I have the honour to be immediately employed by the Continent, or have it in such forwardness to leave, shall, when my duty calls me, attend in my place at the General Congress, where it will be my greatest pride to serve (in any way that may be in my power) this Colony in particular, and the Continent in general.

I lament that my abilities are not greater; all I can say is, shall employ such as I have, to the utmost, in the service of my country.

You will please, sirs, to accept my hearty thanks for the honour done me; should have done myself the pleasure of waiting on the honourable House in person, but my publick business, which calls for immediate attention, I hope will plead an excuse.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN LANGDON.

To the Honourable the Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

THOMAS CONTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper Marlborough, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I beg leave to enclose you some accounts from gentlemen whose wagons and carts were employed in bringing the records to this place. The reason the gentlemen give me for their accounts being so high, the wagons, &c., were detained two days waiting for the records. If you approve of the accounts, be pleased to order the amount to be paid Mr. *Richard Hall*.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS CONTEE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PHILIP THOMAS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Middle District of Frederick County, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By the return of the Committee of the Militia Companies in this District, you will observe that I was chosen Captain of a company, which I believe was one of the first raised in the Province, and placed in the Fourth Battalion; but my commission has never come to hand;

and, to save your Honours the trouble of making one out, it is necessary to inform you that I decline serving in the above capacity, which I am induced to do for these reasons, viz :

I had the honour to command one of the oldest companies in the Province, and was recommended by the Committee to the Convention, as a proper person to be appointed Colonel of the Fourth Battalion. They being the representatives of the people, and a respectable body of men, I was impressed with a grateful sense of the favour conferred on me ; the more so, as it was unsolicited. But their recommendation, for reasons which I am in some measure at a loss to suggest, did not meet with the approbation of the Convention ; and a Lieutenant of a younger company, in another battalion, who was not recommended by the Committee to any office, was appointed, whose experience was not conspicuous, and whose assiduity in promoting the good of the cause we are justly engaged in, did not exceed my own. The First Lieutenant of my company was promoted to the appointment of First Major in the same battalion, by which means, was I to accept of the commission, I should be under the command of one who was formerly an inferior officer in a younger company, and of another who was an officer under me.

These reasons, I hope, will appear satisfactory to your Honours, and justify my resignation, especially as I find it impracticable for me, with honour under these circumstances, to render my country that service which I was inclined to do. I would not be understood (as it is far from my design) to cast reflection on the conduct of the Convention, or that I suspect them of being partial in the above appointments. I rather am inclined to believe it has proceeded from their being deceived by persons who they may have depended upon for information. In this opinion I am the more confirmed, from the many resignations of commissions, and from the complaints of the people, on account of the appointment of Field-Officers in this District.

I am, gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

PHILIP THOMAS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

BENJAMIN RUMSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Joppa, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have received a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*, of the *Head-of-Elk*, in *Cecil* County, relative to the guns, in which he informs me that *Mr. Johnson* had acquainted him that I had some credentials or orders from the Council of Safety to him relative to the making of arms, and praying that, if I had, to despatch them forward by the first opportunity, as he had given the matter out ; that the workmen were dispersed, and must be collected again, which he was willing to do, out of a hearty wish to forward the service. I have wrote him, in return, that the Council had delayed to answer his letter until they should be ascertained of getting locks ; that the difficulty was in some measure removed, by the expectation of importing a quantity of them, and I did not doubt but the Council would answer his letter on their getting to *Annapolis* ; that it would be necessary he should have a pattern, as all the guns must be made of one bore, or caliber, and length ; but that, on inspection of my memorandums, I had it not in charge from the Council to make any agreement with him.

I have a letter also from my brother Colonel of the Second Battalion, in *Cecil*. Commissions for four companies in the battalion are, it seems, made out, the other four have none. This creates uneasiness ; and he cannot, although very desirous of it, review them. He says the people are much discontented at the right of election being taken away. There is a letter from *Mr. Gilpin* on that subject in one of the bundles. He writes, as well as I remember, that *Mr. Ramsay* had made out the commissions, and left them at *Mr. Pealse's*. *Mr. Duvall* promised to get them and send them up. It would answer good purposes, and avoid a good deal of confusion, to have the commissions in this battalion filled up. I enclose a commission resigned in Captain *Stuart's* Company, in the Eighth Battalion, with the name of a person endorsed that would be agreeable to the company to have for their Ensign, in the lieu of the Ensign resigned, and should be obliged to you to expedite his commission. There

are a good many vacancies in the Eighth Battalion. As soon as they can be collected together, a list will be laid before you, in order that they may be filled up ; indeed, did I know how to do it properly, I would do it now, as I do not know how soon we may be called out to action, your advice to the Committee of *Baltimore* County of the 5th instant being laid before me last night, with the Brigadier's order to hold ourselves in readiness. The men are undisciplined ; they, therefore more especially require to be full officered ; but, as we may want time to do that, I am determined to march with what we have, and have wrote circular letters to my Captains to hold themselves and companies in readiness to march on the first notice.

I wrote yesterday to *Mr. Garrett* about the bayonets, and shall communicate his answer as soon as received. In conversation with one of the officers of my battalion, he informs me *Mr. Purviance* has made a requisition of the guns which were in the hands of the Minute Company in this County ; that twenty-eight had been sent, the other two have been carried off by two of the Minute Company who have inlisted in the regular service, and stationed at *Baltimore* ; he could not recollect their names.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

BENJAMIN RUMSEY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

In Committee of Observation, for Worcester County, }  
Maryland, March 7, 1776. }

In pursuance of the resolves of the Convention, *Mr. Jesse Gray* made return of his company of Militia, consisting of eight non-commissioned officers and fifty privates ; by which return it appears that said *Jesse Gray* is duly elected as Captain, *Jesse Davis* as First Lieutenant, *James King* as Second Lieutenant, and *Elihu Hazzard* as Ensign, of said company.

Signed per order :

R. DENNIS, Clerk.

JENIFER AND HOOE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Port Tobacco, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Conway* arrived opposite the mouth of *Port Tobacco Creek* about two o'clock this morning, and it being calm, and an ebb tide, he came here for orders about eight o'clock. I sent him on board again immediately, to proceed up the Eastern branch of this river till his vessel was fast aground, and then to deliver the powder to the Committee of *Bladensburg*, if I am not there, without loss of time.

The letter from *Mr. Harrison* would have sent by express instantly, but Colonel *Weare* informs me he is pushing for *Annapolis*, and I concluded it would be as soon at hand by him.

*Mr. Harrison* writes me that *Mr. Wicoff*, of *Martinico*, has consigned some medicine to *Jenifer & Hooe* for sale. I have not received any directions from him about them, nor even an invoice. It seems his brothers at *Philadelphia* are to furnish directions about them ; and if I find they are such as the Province will want, I shall delay the sale till I advise you thereof. I imagine *Conway* will be at *Bladensburg* by this evening ; and some time to-morrow I shall be there to receive your orders respecting the further destination of the vessel, and the disposal of the powder.

There came with Captain *Conway* a *French* Captain and six sailors, by which means, after he clears our coast, going out, the *English* men-of-war cannot seize him, as he will show *French* colours, *French* papers, and a *French* crew. I scarcely had time to ask either of the Captains any questions, thinking it unsafe to let the vessel lie here a moment ; but if I find the *Frenchman* tolerably intelligent, I will bring him up from *Bladensburg* to *Annapolis*, as *Mr. Harrison* seems to think he may be a serviceable man, if encouraged. *Scott*, it seems, is seized ; but *Mr. Harrison* has hopes of getting the vessel and cargo again, under some little disadvantages. Captain *Conway* says there is a great many troops in *Martinico* ; the *Epigales* and tenders are watching every Island : he fell in with one, but gave her the slip in the night.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

JENIFER & HOOE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

[No. 32.]

Annapolis, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of a letter from two of our Delegates, (a copy of which we send you enclosed,) we have given Mr. *Alexander Ross* a permit to pass to your Board; and as his business is to be settled in your Colony, we leave the propriety of granting him a further passport to your determination.

We are, &amp;c.

To the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 32.]

Annapolis, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The man-of-war, of what particular force we know not, and her sloop or schooner tenders, are now, we are certainly informed, up as high as *South River*. We are not certain that they may put into this river; they have in tow a provision vessel they seized in the bay. If there be any vessels located in your river, we would have you fall on the best expedients you can to secure them. Apprise Captain *Nicholson*, or the commanding officer of the ship *Defence*, of the intelligence directly. You will acquaint us as soon as you can with any measures you may think necessary for your defence, that may be in our power, and we will forward them with all expedition.

We are, &amp;c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD.

[No. 33.]

Annapolis, March 7, 1776.

SIR: A ship-of-war and two tenders have just hove in sight. We request, therefore, that you will immediately repair to this city, and order Captain *Storm* to march up with his company as expeditiously as he can. The Captain will call at *Upper Marlborough* on his way hither, and receive such publick arms as may be collected there by the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County*.

We are, &amp;c.

To Colonel *William Smallwood*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 34.]

Annapolis, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We request you will immediately collect all the publick arms in your County, and deliver them to Captain *Stone*, or his order. The service of the publick requires the utmost expedition in this measure.

We are, &amp;c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 35.]

Annapolis, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The man-of-war with her tenders have passed by this harbour, and are standing up the bay, we presume for your town.

Yours, &amp;c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL THOMAS DORSEY.

[No. 36.]

Annapolis, March 7, 1776.

SIR: The man-of-war and tenders are gone past the mouth of the *Severn*, and are bound, as we believe, up the bay to *Baltimore Town*. You are therefore to march immediately to *Baltimore Town* with your battalion, and endeavour to repel any hostile attempts that may be made. Should any powder or lead be wanted, you may be supplied from Major *Guither's*.

We are, &amp;c.

To Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

## TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In my last directed to you, I pointed out the consequences of an Independency, so far as it respects the States of *Europe*. The reasons on which I founded our safety from foreign invasions, I think, will scarcely be denied, or if they should, will not be easily confuted.

I hear but little said on that head at present. Perhaps it ceases to be a scarecrow, and is therefore taken down; but as it will never do for the enemies of our liberties to give up the point, it is only to hang up a more terrific in its stead. Intestine confusions, continual wars with each other, Republicks, and Presbyterian Governments, compose the bugbear of the day, and the very name of them frightens people more than the whole force of *Great Britain*. My present design is to remove this dreadful chimera from your imaginations, and to show you that nothing but a reluctance in you to independency, can ever be the cause of any such evils, and I earnestly crave your attention to the subject, and entreat you to weigh my reasons impartially.

In the first place, then, it never was, nor can it ever be, the interest of any civil society, to exalt any set of religious tenets above all others, or to unite the Church and State. Most of the wars which deluged the world in blood for centuries together, arose from this false policy. The priesthood of any sect in religion, with sorrow I repeat it, can easily be made the tools of tyranny and arbitrary power. To crowned heads they are useful; but where no such exist, there establishments of the kind are truly a nuisance. We have no establishment in this Province, and consequently little distinction of sects, all men living in good neighbourhood with one another, however different in religious sentiments. The States-General, even in the days of fiery persecution, soon found the necessity of effectually excluding religion from interfering in State affairs; and in our days, when that edge is totally destroyed, and mankind have learned to think more liberally, none can suspect anything of the kind, but those who labour incessantly to deserve it. And yet they have been hitherto disappointed, and I hope ever shall. I know the present Continental Congress, or any other assembly of men of sentiment and education in *America*, would as soon agree to subject the United Colonies to the King of *Caffraria*, or to the See of *Rome*, as to any one sect of religion now existing in the world. Doubtless, every sect will be permitted to enjoy its complete privileges within itself. But for any one to be allied to the State is absurd to imagine. Depend on it, they who hold it up to terrify you, believe no such thing. They cannot, unless they have taken leave of their senses. In the next place, war is not, nor can it ever be, our element. Trade and agriculture are the true sources of wealth and happiness to a society. The majority of no nation ever gained anything by war, except when in defence of their privileges. And even in that case, the retaining them is the utmost they can expect. An ambitious monarch, who prefers self-exaltation to the blood of his subjects, may be for war, because, as the war is carried on at the expense of the people, and he alone reaps the rewards of victory, he has a chance to be a gainer thereby. His subjects cannot, for they must not only fight his battles, but pay all the expense of the war. I set it down, therefore, that the representatives of a free people, if free from the influence of royalty, can never be for war, except when the rights of the society are invaded. Besides, the Colonies are at present nearly on an equality with respect to warlike knowledge, and will be completely so before the present war is at an end. There will therefore be no temptation on that score, and all the regular troops, as long as such are needful, will be in the pay of the Continent, and can never be employed by one Colony against another. Disband them at the end of the war, and settle them on plantations, or assist them in setting up their trades, and let your strength consist in a well-regulated Militia, and you will have done with war forever.

For freemen to prefer the chance of war to peace, liberty, trade, and agriculture, is as unnatural as to prefer wounds, bruises, poverty, and death, to health, riches, and all the pleasures and enjoyments of life. To see a society of farmers, tradesmen, and merchants, quit their peaceful employments, and make war upon one another, would be a phenomenon which the world has not yet beheld, and I

will venture to say never will. *God* has placed us at the greatest distance possible from external oppressors, and he has placed our interest as far from internal ones.

Some men have an uncommon talent at making men forget what is before them, and calling off their attention from certainty to speculation; from truths supported by facts, to chimerical suppositions; and from what really exists, to what never can exist; and they can make many believe the one so firmly, that it is scarcely in the power of self-evidence to overcome their credulity. Hence it is that so many shudder at the thoughts of what shall happen to us after we are fairly let loose from *Great Britain*, and are frightened almost out of their senses on account of the divisions which will then disturb our internal repose.

I have heard it alleged by able politicians, that the reason which induced the Crown to give so many different Constitutions to the several Colonies was, that it might make a union of them impracticable. Be this as it may, it is certain that a union of our Legislatures in any opposition to the Crown, was impracticable. It was not, nor is it now, in our power to get any Governour on the Continent, except two, to give his assent to any bill for the purpose; and according to the Constitution of the Colonies, no act of our Assemblies can be deemed law without such assent. This shows the evil of a negative on the voice of the people. Now, though a constitutional union of the Colonies by their Legislatures was impracticable, and though the Ministry and their Tory friends exerted their utmost influence to prevent any kind of union, and to break it afterwards; yet it took place, and still continues, contrary to every expectation and endeavour of internal and external enemies. All Colony distinctions are now at an end; and cursed will he be who endeavours to revive them. Can any be so stupid as to believe that they who remain united without law, without authority, and without restraint, merely because they know it to be their interest, will break that union when it shall be established under a Continental Legislature, and supported by publick authority? The same interest and wisdom which joined us against such odds, will certainly keep us together when aided by constitution and law. The arts of peace ever form the true basis of human felicity; and while we remain free, that mutual intercourse which adds wealth to every social enjoyment, will be constantly preferred to the wild schemes of mad ambition, which purchase a few days' gratification to one, at the price of the lasting misery of thousands.

To imagine, therefore, that our remaining united until we had obliged *Great Britain* to acknowledge us an independent people, would be the cause of future wars among the Colonies, is as absurd and irrational as to imagine that harmony could produce discord. On the contrary, every cause of quarrel would forever subside. All the unlocated lands in *America* would be taken under the care of the Continental Legislature, and settled upon one general plan; which would prevent a thousand contentions, which must remain while they are in the gift of the Crown. Lands will then be equally open to all. *America* will be the country, and all of us as much one people as the inhabitants of any one Colony are at present. Let proper care be taken by the people at large, at the time of forming the Continental Constitution, to fix such an equal plan of representation on principles which will continue it so, as will make the general good the general interest, and to secure that motion to power and authority which is necessary to preserve it from corruption by a constant rotation, and war will be unknown in *America*.

I have shown in a former number, directed to the people of *North America*, the impossibility of a reunion with *Great Britain*, on the principles of the year 1763, if we mean to preserve our liberties. To be effectually secured from future mischiefs and machinations in case of a reunion, there must not be one Crown-Officer, either civil or military, left on the Continent, nor a *British* ship-of-war permitted to enter our harbours. From them our present distresses sprang, and by them they will be continued. And while any such is permitted to remain among us, we keep our enemy in our bosom, and the robber in our house. Be our doors ever so strongly bolted, it will add nothing to our security. Nothing but a division among the Colonies, when it shall be finally debated in Congress, whether we shall be independent or not, can be the cause of future wars to

*America*. This is the single point on which our future happiness or misery will finally turn.

It is easy talking of a reunion, and permanent security to our liberties; and publick orators may say it is very plain. I am no Member of Congress, no Committee-man, nor in the secrets of either; but I will throw out some hints to both, which it might not be amiss to consider. Our welfare will greatly depend on the weight they have in the minds of those who are intrusted with our publick affairs.

He betrays an uncommon degree of ignorance of human nature who thinks that a cordial reunion can take place between *Great Britain* and any one of the United Colonies. Slaves have been known to prefer servitude to freedom, but this has always happened where their masters used them exceedingly well. The moment ill usage and a disregard of their interest take place, the happiness of such a dependence and connection is gone forever. Our connection can no longer exist on former principles. These principles did not, nor could not protect us. They once existed, and what good did they do us? Did they save us from our present troubles? I say, therefore, if a reunion takes place, it must be on the principles of unlimited dominion on the one hand, and absolute submission on the other. They will sooner treat with you as independent States, than grant you all that is necessary to secure your privileges while you acknowledge subjection. But granting they should be willing to grant absolute security, (which they never will,) the Colonies which have suffered least may reunite on these terms; others, I am confident, neither can nor will, until they are deprived of that foresight which distinguishes them from the lamb which licks the hand of the butcher. To imagine what three of the Southern, and four of the Northern Colonies can ever reunite on any other principle than that of absolute conquest, is folly in the extreme.

Blood once shed puts a final period to all other accommodations; and the exciting a slave to cut the throat of his master produces a similar effect. A spirit once kindled by blood, can never be cooled but by the same, or a total extinction of its fire. And *God* is so far from desiring or expecting a friendly reunion and connection in such cases, that he has continually declared the contrary in every dispensation since the murder of *Abel*, by constantly repeating, "that he who sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." I therefore repeat it, that a reunion of most of the Colonies is now become impossible. Can any of the *New-England* Colonies ever be cordially united to *Great Britain*? Can they ever approach their sea-coasts without viewing with horror and indignation the ravages of her fleets and armies? Can *Virginia*, the *Carolinas*, or even *New-York*, ever be content with Governours appointed by the Crown? The day they can contentedly submit to such appointments, or such reunion, the spirit of freedom will forsake these Colonies. Freemen will never grow on such a soil. When this takes place, *Great Britain* may convert her *African* into an *American* Company of Slave-traders, and send her ships to carry her white negroes to the *West-Indies* to work her sugar plantations. I have a better opinion of them than to think them ripe for such a metamorphosis. I therefore conclude they will fight for independency, and they will obtain it. On this account, an attempt of any of the Colonies to be reunited to *Great Britain*, would be a very unwise and unhappy measure. A war twice fought always costs less blood and treasure than once effectually gone through. There are some who, knowing that a Republick well regulated is ever unfavourable to that ambition which aims to be aggrandized at the publick expense, will make strenuous opposition to independency; and they would willingly disunite the Colonies rather than join in asserting it. To such I would throw out some cautionary observations.

1st. A division of the Colonies will not prevent the independence of those which stand out.

2dly. The Provinces which submit will return to trade and agriculture, and consequently lose the use of arms, while they that stand out will be expert warriors.

3dly. The Continent will be divided into two distinct Empires or Republicks—a Northern and a Southern. For, assure yourselves, *Virginia* will never submit, and the *Carolinas* (if not *Maryland*) will join her.

4thly. While there is land to settle, and two Empires on the Continent, war will be the consequence.

5thly. When *Great Britain* is so far reduced as to declare them independent, who will protect the submitting Colonies from the resentment of incensed warriors, whom they deserted? Such Colonies will finally be divided between the two powers.

The man who traces these hints fairly, be he who he may, if he means not to sell his right to *America*, will be a strenuous advocate for independency, and a united Continental Legislature.

SALUS POPULI.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LIEUTENANT-COLONEL OGDEN.

Philadelphia, March 7, 1776.

SIR: The Congress, in consideration of your merit, and the services you have done your country, have thought proper to appoint you Lieutenant-Colonel in the first battalion of *Jersey Troops*. I do myself the honor to enclose your commission; and am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Ogden*, *New-Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL WINDS.

Philadelphia, March 7, 1776.

SIR: The promotion of my Lord *Stirling* to the rank of Brigadier-General in the Continental Army having occasioned a vacancy, the Congress, in consideration of your merit and attachment to the *American* cause, have appointed you to succeed him.

I do myself the honour to enclose your commission; and am, sir, your humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Colonel *William Winds*, *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, March 7, 1776.

SIR: Since my last I have had the honour to receive your several letters of the 10th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 21st, 23d, 26th, and 27th *February*, which were immediately communicated to Congress.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Congress highly approve the orders you have given to Colonel *Warner*. They have directed a quantity of steel to be purchased and forwarded to you by the Delegates of *New-Jersey*, and have ordered an account to be made out and sent to you of the money paid to the *Pennsylvania Troops* who have marched to *Canada*. Your other letters are under consideration; as soon as the Congress come to a determination thereon, I shall do myself the honour to transmit to you.

I am extremely sorry to find you recover health so slowly. I hope that your attention to publick affairs will not make you neglect the care necessary for perfecting your recovery. The Congress have the most anxious concern for you, knowing the important services you can render to your country at this critical conjuncture.

As there is reason to apprehend that our enemies intend to direct their operations in the ensuing campaign against the Middle and Southern Colonies, the Congress have thought proper, in order to prepare for their defence, to divide those Colonies into two departments: one to comprehend *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Delaware* Governments, and *Maryland*, under the command of a Major-General and two Brigadier-Generals; and the other, the Colonies to the Southward, under the command of a Major-General and four Brigadier-Generals. The Brigadier-Generals are *John Armstrong*, *William Thompson*, *Andrew Lewis*, *James Moore*, Esqs., the Honourable *William Earl of Stirling*, and *Robert Howe*, Esq. General *Armstrong* they have directed to repair to *South-Carolina*; General *Lewis* and General *Howe* to *Virginia*; General *Moore* to *North-Carolina*, and General *Thompson* and Lord *Stirling* to *New-York*. With regard to *Canada*, the Congress have superseded the orders formerly given to General *Lee*, and directed him to take the command in the Southern Department, and have promoted Brigadier-General *Thomas* to the rank of a Major-General, and ordered him to repair to the Province of *Canada*, and take the command of the Continental Forces there. But still they rely

greatly on your efforts for perfecting the work so conspicuously begun, and so well conducted under your orders last campaign.

The supplies of provisions, military stores, &c., for the Army in *Canada*, must be procured in these Colonies, and sent across the Lakes. On these supplies being regularly sent will depend, not only the success, but the existence of the Army in *Canada*. For this reason I am directed to inform you it is the desire of Congress you should, for the present, or until you receive further orders, fix your Headquarters at *Albany*; there, without being exposed to the fatigues of the camp, until your health is perfectly restored, you will be in a situation to direct the proper arrangements for supplying the Army in *Canada*, and to superintend the operations necessary for the defence of *New-York* and *Hudson's River* (the security of which is a matter of the last importance,) and also the affairs of the whole Middle Department. The Generals under you will receive and execute your orders, and in case of necessity you will be ready to bring down to their aid the whole force of the Colony. I would just observe that it is the desire of the Congress that the soldiers be employed in erecting and throwing up the necessary works for defence, both in *New-York* and on *Hudson's River*.

The Commissioners will set out this week; they will call on you on their way to *Canada*; and I expect they will be invested with full powers, not only to settle the affairs of that Province, but to adjust those matters that have given you uneasiness.

With sincere and hearty wishes for your health and prosperity, I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL HAND.

Philadelphia, March 7, 1776.

SIR: The promotion of Colonel *Thompson* to the rank of Brigadier-General in the Continental Army having occasioned a vacancy in the battalion of riflemen, in consideration of your merit and attachment to the *American* cause, the Congress have appointed you to succeed him.

I do myself the honour to enclose your commission; and am, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

Colonel *Edward Hand*, *Cambridge*.

JOSEPH REED TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 7, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I have now the pleasure of informing you that a vessel, long expected from *France* and *Holland*, arrived a few days ago with twenty-five tons of powder, three hundred stand of excellent arms, and fifteen hundred weight of saltpetre. We are hourly in expectation of further arrivals, but we must now soon expect some ships-of-war in our river, which, I fear, will cut off all further enterprises of the like nature.

I have been in doubt some time whether I ought to mention to you a continuance of one of your principal officers in a private trade, with which I remember you were much dissatisfied last fall; you can be at no loss to know who I mean. But the concern and uneasiness you then expressed induce me to think it my duty to mention it, that if it is carried on without your privacy you may take such measures to check it as may best answer the purpose, and least affect the gentleman concerned in his interest and reputation. It is no secret in this town that persons are constantly employed in purchasing up goods here which do not all go to the publick store, as the parties concerned have boasted of their great profits, amounting, in some cases, to two hundred per cent. Persons who come from the camp seem to be well acquainted with the mode in which it is carried on, and are not sparing of their remarks. I dare say, on a little inquiry, you will know whether some stores in *Cambridge* are not carried on under ostensible names, and from thence you will judge whether the reports we have here are well founded. This inquiry may be made without its appearing to be suggested by any one, as it is intended only for private use. And I should be very



happy if it should turn out to be a mistake or misrepresentation.

I was mistaken in my last with respect to *Wooster's* coming home. I understand he is to remain at *Montreal*, and *Arnold* to have command before *Quebeck*.

We have accounts from *Virginia* that *Clinton* was arrived at *Hampton*, but seemed to be waiting for his reinforcements. Nothing further new, therefore, from that quarter. We have not heard a syllable from our fleet for a considerable time, but expect intelligence every hour.

Upon the arrival of the Act of Parliament authorizing the ships-of-war to seize all *American* vessels, and condemn them as lawful prize, application was made to Congress by several persons for letters of marque and reprisal; but they could not feel bold enough; though many of the most timid, and those who have hankered so much after reconciliation, seeing so little of a spirit of that kind in *Great Britain*, have come off very much from these sentiments, the result of old prejudices and new fears.

I have taken a house in the country, to which I propose soon to send my family, and am preparing what is necessary for the summer; but an affair of great importance in the Assembly will detain me some time, though I hope not long. We wait impatiently to hear from you, in consequence of the last accounts, as if there was a probability of a movement from *Boston*. I expect your tents to be finished this week. The other matters will also be got ready with all possible expedition.

Adieu, my dear General. Should there be any action or enterprise, *God* grant it may be a glorious one to you, and a happy one for our country.

Yours, most obediently and affectionately,

JOSEPH REED.

ESSEX COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 13, 1776.]

Newark, March 7, 1776.

SIR: I am desired by the Committee of the County of *Essex*, to inform you that we are in great want of powder, and to beg that the honourable the Continental Congress would direct that we may be supplied. We look upon this County now to be the frontier of this Province; and in case of an invasion at *New-York*, we would gladly hold ourselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning to their relief; but at present it is impossible, some companies of our Militia not having any powder at all, and none anything like a sufficiency. There is a great and general uneasiness among the people on this account. They have cheerfully given their money agreeable to the ten thousand pound ordinance of our Provincial Congress, in hopes of getting powder for their defence, and now are much chagrined at the disappointment. We pray, therefore, the Congress would immediately take this matter into serious consideration, and grant such relief as they in their wisdom shall think best.

I am, sir, with due respect, your most obedient and humble servant,

WILLIAM BURNET, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK DELEGATES IN CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read March 11, 1776.]

In Provincial Congress, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The late Provincial Congress having received information, on the 3d of *August* last, that Captain *Patrick Sinclair* was appointed Lieutenant-Governour and Superintendent at *Michilimackinack*, being a person of great influence with the *Indians*, and that he was then in this city on his way to that post, and thinking that it was imprudent to permit any gentleman under the influence of the *British* Ministry to go into the interior part of the country to exercise those offices, who might prejudice the *Indians* against the United Colonies, ordered him to be taken into custody, and sent him on his parole to *Suffolk* County, on *Nassau Island*, where he has since continued to demean himself unexceptionably. He has lately applied by letter (a copy of which you have enclosed) to this Congress for leave to return to *Europe*. As we do not choose to take a step of this kind without the advice of your honourable body, we beg

you will lay the state of this gentleman before Congress, and let us have their directions thereon. We beg leave to suggest that Mr. *Sinclair* was not laid under restraint as an enemy to the country—no information was received of his entertaining sentiments unfriendly to the United Colonies, but to the contrary; and that he had invariably treated our *Indian* traders with the greatest humanity and politeness. For these reasons, and from the consideration that he was not looked upon as a prisoner of war, we wish the favour he asks may be granted.

We are, with esteem, gentlemen, your very humble servants. By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

Huntington, February 29, 1776.

SIR: It being the practice of all nations to allow the subjects of the respective States at variance to retire, I trouble the Congress with this application, for being permitted to go to *Europe*, in the first vessel from *New-York*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PATRICK SINCLAIR.

To the President of the Congress, *New-York*.

The foregoing is a true copy of the original, examined and compared by me, ROBERT BENSON, Secretary to *New-York* Provincial Congress.

RICHMOND COUNTY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Richmond County, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeably to your request of *February* 21st, we here send you the proceedings of the trials of *Richard Conner*, Esq., *Isaac Decker*, *Minah Burger*, and *Abraham Harris*, being returned from their confinement at *Elizabeth-town*. The Committee being this day assembled, proceeded to the trial of *Isaac Decker*, relative to a complaint against him for having carried provision on board the transport, and opposing choosing of Delegates; speaking against the Continental and Provincial Congresses, and their proceedings; and for having carried *Cortlandt Skinner* on board the man-of-war.

*Samuel Dehart*, one of the evidence mentioned in the accusation against said *Isaac Decker*, being examined on oath to each particular complaint, declared that the said *Isaac Decker* was not guilty of either of the above complaints, to his knowledge.

*Joshua Mercereau*, being the other evidence mentioned in the charge against *Isaac Decker*, did appear, but would not give his evidence when called for.

The Committee has, therefore, referred the matter till *Friday* the 15th *March*, for further examination.

N. B. Mr. *Isaac Decker* owns that he sent Mr. *Cortlandt Skinner* on board the ship *Duchess of Gordon* with his barge. And at the last election for Delegates, it appears, by the list of votes, that he voted for Deputies to be sent to represent this County in Provincial Congress, and has signed the General Association.

The Committee then proceeded to the trial of *Minah Burger*; and after having examined the evidence against said *Minah Burger*, the Committee took into consideration the charge and complaint alleged against him. On examination, it appeared to the Committee to be groundless and without foundation; and, therefore, discharged said *Minah Burger* from said complaint.

The Committee then proceeded to the trial of *Abraham Harris*, relative to a complaint against him for drinking damnation to Independency, and for having said he enlisted thirty men in *Egg-Harbour* for King and country.

*Seth Johnson*, one of the evidence to the above charge, being examined on oath, declared, that he was at the house of *Isaac Decker*, when *Abraham Harris* told him that he had enlisted thirty men at the forks of *Egg-Harbour* for King and country, by order of a gentleman in *New-York*; further the deponent says, the next day said *Harris* told him he was not in earnest; and further says not.

*David Crane*, the other evidence to the above charge, being examined on oath, declared, that he was at the house of *Isaac Decker*, and the deponent saw said *Abraham Harris* with a bowl in his hand, and drink damnation to all Independency; and heard said *Harris* say that he had enlisted

men at *Egg-Harbour* for King and country, and that they were not far off; and further says not.

N. B. Said *Harris* is taken by the Sheriff, and now confined in *Richmond Jail*, on account of a debt. The Committee knows not by what means to bring him to trial; would be glad of advice.

The Committee then proceeded to the trial of *Richard Conner*, Esq.; but no evidence appearing against him, it was referred till *Friday*, the 15th instant.

For more particulars relative to the foregoing trials, and others, reference to the *Journal of the Committee* may be had.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

CHRISTIAN JACOBSON, *Chairman*.

To the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *NEW-YORK*, in Congress convened.

The Memorial of *ABRAHAM LOTT*, Treasurer of the said Colony, humbly sheweth:

That by a law of the Legislature of this Colony, passed the 16th day of *February*, in the year 1771, one hundred and twenty thousand Pounds, in bills of credit, were ordered to be, and were accordingly emitted, and put out on loan; that the interest money arising therefrom should yearly be paid to the respective Loan-Officers, on the third *Tuesday* in *April*; and that one-tenth part of the principal sum should be paid in on the third *Tuesday* of *April*, in this present year 1776, and so on, one-tenth part annually, until the whole principal is paid off; which respective tenths are, by the said law, ordered to be annually sunk.

That the Memorialist has been informed by some of the Loan-Officers, they apprehend it will be impracticable, at this time, for the borrowers of the money to procure *New-York* currency to pay off the interest, and one-tenth of the principal sum borrowed, as none of that money now passes; and are totally at a loss how to act, whether to receive any money now current, or whether to insist on payment in the currency the law directs.

The Memorialist, therefore, in behalf of the Loan-Officers, as well as of himself, humbly requests the honourable Congress will be pleased to give it as their opinion, whether the Loan-Officers, and consequently himself, shall receive any money that now passes current in this Colony, or whether payment must be insisted on in the money required by the said law.

And the Memorialist, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

Treasury Office, *New-York*, March 7, 1776.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 21, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.]

Albany, March 7, 1776.

SIR: Since my last of yesterday, I have received a return of our force at *Quebeck*, from which I have extracted the enclosed. I am, also, honoured with two letters from General *Washington*, of the 25th and 27th ultimo. He entreats me to purchase arms in this quarter for his Army. It would give me great happiness if we could comply with his request; but with all the pains taken, we have not hitherto been able to procure a sufficiency for the troops that will pass through, and go from hence to *Canada*. Governour *Trumbull*, by whom I am also honoured with a letter of the 1st instant, says: "I expect they (Colonel *Byrell's* Regiment) will need the arms and accoutrements you gave encouragement to supply them with." I will continue to purchase whatever can be procured, even at the high price we are obliged to give; but begin to be very apprehensive that a sufficient number cannot be procured, nor can we get any from *New-York*.

The heavy cannon from *New-York* are at *Poughkeepsie*, and preparations were making for transporting them by land, which would occasion a vast and needless expense, as they could not be sent from this place, if they were now here, nor from *Fort George*, until the lakes open. One of the Committee who had them in charge called upon me this day for my advice; which was, to leave them on board of the vessels, and to come up the river as the ice should give

way. There is a prospect that the river will be navigable in a very few days.

Governour *Trumbull* has desired me to mention to Congress the necessity of appointing persons to liquidate the accounts of the taking of *Ticonderoga*, &c. It is really very necessary that it should be done. Perhaps the Committee of this city might be thought competent to it.

I should be happy if I could, with any propriety, render myself at *New-York* immediately; but until all is in a proper train for the Northern service, which cannot be until the lakes are open, I judge it would be prejudicial to the service for me to leave this, although I stand in great need of relaxation, as the frequent letting of blood, which is thought necessary for my disorder, weakens me much; but I am nevertheless much better than I have latterly been, and hope a change of air will perfectly restore me.

I have just received accounts from the posts above that the sleigh-men refused to carry the heaviest cannon I ordered from *Fort George*, &c.

The expense of ferriage, and the transportation by land from hence to *Fort George*, runs so amazingly high, that I propose to have the provisions carried partly by water; which will not only make some abatement in the expense of transportation, but lessen the charge we are at in maintaining the roads.

The bearer is Colonel *Dongan*; to his services, I have been informed, we are much indebted. His influence with the *Canadians*, and the assistance given by him during the siege of *St. John's*, have been frequently mentioned to me.

I am, sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

A Return of the Forces of the UNITED COLONIES in Camp before *QUEBECK*, fit for duty, FEBRUARY 18, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.							STAFF OFFICERS.				Non-commission'd.	Rank and File.	Total.	
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.				Surgeons' Mates.
Colonel McDougall's...	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	-	1	-	1	12	3	98	125
Colonel Van Schaick's.....	-	-	1	3	-	5	-	-	1	1	-	10	4	98	124
Colonel Clinton's.....	1	1	1	5	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	14	5	151	187
Colonel Holmes's .....	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	68	82
Colonel Arnold's Detachment,	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	10	3	95	114
Col. Livingston's Regiment of Canadians,	1	-	1	8	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	14	2	155	192
Major Brown's Detachment,	-	-	1	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	14	5	107	136
Total .....	2	1	4	25	-	46	-	-	2	1	2	81	24	772	960

A Return of the Officers, non-commissioned Officers, and Privates, of the above Corps, who are either on command, sick in Camp or Hospital, prisoners with the enemy, deserted, dead, or on furlough in some of the UNITED COLONIES.

REGIMENTS.	COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.							STAFF OFFICERS.			Non-commission'd.	Rank and File.		Total.		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Captain Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Surgeons' Mates.	Sergeants.		Drummers & Fifers.	
Colonel McDougall's..	1	1	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	5	2	75	90
Colonel Van Schaick's.	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	41	41	45
Colonel Clinton's.....	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	54	61
Colonel Holmes's .....	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	32	37
Colonel Arnold's Detachment,	-	-	-	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	64	77
Col. Livingston's Regiment of Canadians,	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	23	26
Major Brown's Detachment,	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	2	37	49
Total.....	2	2	1	12	-	8	-	1	-	2	-	-	19	12	326	385

ISAAC SEARS TO GENERAL LEE.

Jamaica, March 7, 1776.

SIR: It is a duty that I owe to my commander to acquaint him of my proceedings in executing the order he gave me. Yesterday afternoon I arrived at *Newtown*, and tendered the oath to four of the greater Tories, which they swallowed as hard as if it was a four-pound shot that they were trying to get down. On this day, at eleven o'clock, I came here, when I sent out scouting parties, and have been able to catch but five Tories, and they of the first rank, who swallowed the oath. The houses are so scattered, it is impossible to catch many without horses to ride after them; but I shall exert myself to catch the greatest part of the ringleaders, and believe I shall effect it, but not in less than five days from this time. I can assure your Honour that there are a set of villains in this County, and believe the better half of them are waiting for support, and intend to take up arms against us; and it is my opinion that nothing else will do but removing the ringleaders to a place of security.

From your most obedient, humble servant,

ISAAC SEARS.

To General Lee.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, March 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 18th ultimo came to my hands by post last night, and gives me much pleasure, as I am led to hope I shall see you in my family again. The terms upon which you come will be perfectly agreeable to me; and I should think you neither candid nor friendly if your communications on this subject had not been free, unreserved, and divested of that false modesty which too often prevents the elucidation of points important to be known. Mr. *Baylor* seeming to have an inclination to go into the Artillery, and Colonel *Knox* being desirous of it, I have appointed Mr. *Moylan* and Mr. *Palfrey* my Aids-de-camp; so that I shall, if you come, have a good many writers about me.

I think my countrymen made a capital mistake when they took *Henry* out of the Senate to place him in the field; and pity it is that he does not see this, and remove every difficulty by a voluntary resignation. I am of opinion that Colonel *Armstrong*, if he retains his health, spirits, and vigour, would be as fit a person as any they could send to *Virginia*, as he is senior officer to any now there, and I should think could give no offence; but to place Colonel *Thompson* there, in the first command, would throw everything into the utmost confusion; for it was by mere chance that he became a Colonel upon this expedition, and by greater chance that he became first Colonel in this Army. To take him, then, from another Colony, place him over the heads of several gentlemen under or with whom he has served in a subordinate character, would never answer any other purposes than that of introducing endless confusion. Such a thing surely cannot be in contemplation; and, knowing the mischiefs it would produce, surely Colonel *Thompson* would have more sense, and a greater regard for the cause he is engaged in, than to accept of it, unless some uncommon abilities or exertions had given him a superior claim. He must know that nothing more than being a Captain of Horse in the year 1759 (I think it was) did very extraordinarily give him the start he now has, when the rank was settled here. At the same time, he must know another fact, that several officers now in the *Virginia* service are much his superiors in point of rank, and will not, I am sure, serve under him. He stands first Colonel here, and may, I presume, put in a very good and proper claim to the first brigade that falls vacant; but I hope more regard will be paid to the service than to send him to *Virginia*.

The bringing of Colonel *Armstrong* into this Army as Major-General, however great his merit, would introduce much confusion. *Thomas*, if no more, would surely quit, and I believe him to be a good man. If *Thomas* supplies the place of *Lee*, there will be a vacancy for either *Armstrong* or *Thompson*; for I have heard of no other valiant son of *New-England* waiting promotion since the advancement of *Frye*, who has not done, and I doubt will not do, much service to the cause.

I am sorry to hear of your ill-fated fleet. We had it, I suppose because we wished it, that *Hopkins* had taken *Clinton* and his transports. How glorious would this have been! We have the proverb on our side, however, that "a bad beginning will end well." This applies to land and sea service. The account given of the business of the Commissioners from *England* seems to be of apiece with Lord *North's* conciliatory motion last year, built upon the same foundation; and, if true that they are to be divided among the Colonies to offer terms of pardon, it is as insulting as that motion, and only designed, after stopping all intercourse with us, to set us up to view in *Great Britain* as a people that will not hearken to any propositions of peace. Was there ever anything more absurd than to repeal the very acts which have introduced all this confusion and bloodshed, and at the same time enact a law to restrain all intercourse with the Colonies for opposing them? The drift and design are obvious; but is it possible that any sensible nation upon earth can be imposed upon by such a cobweb scheme, or gauze covering? But enough.

March 9th.—Colonel *Bull's* still waiting to see a little further into the event of things gives me an opportunity of adding, that, from a gentleman out of *Boston*, confirmed by a paper from the Selectmen there, we have undoubted information of General *Howe's* preparing with great precipitancy to embark his troops; for what place, we know not—*Halifax*; it is said. The Selectmen, being under dreadful apprehensions for the town, applied to General *Robertson* to apply to General *Howe*, who, through General *Robertson*, has informed them, that it is not his intention to destroy the town, unless his Majesty's Troops should be molested during their embarkation, or at their departure. This paper seems so much under covert, unauthenticated, and addressed to nobody, that I sent word to the Selectmen that I could take no notice of it; but I shall go on with my preparations as intended. The gentlemen above-mentioned, out of *Boston*, say, that they seem to be in great consternation there; that one of our shot from *Lamb's Dam* disabled six men in their beds; and that the Admiral, upon discovering our works next morning, informed the General that, unless we were dispossessed of them, he could not keep the King's ships in the harbour, and that three thousand men, commanded by Lord *Percy*, were actually embarked for that purpose. Of the issue of it you have been informed before. I am, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

[Read March 15, 1776.]

Cambridge, March 7, 1776.

SIR: On the 26th ultimo I had the honour of addressing you, and then mentioned that we were making preparations for taking possession of *Dorchester-Heights*. I now beg leave to inform you, that a Council of General Officers having determined a previous bombardment and cannonade expedient and proper, in order to harass the enemy, and divert their attention from that quarter, on *Saturday*, *Sunday*, and *Monday* nights last, we carried them on from our posts at *Cobble-Hill*, *Lechmere's Point*, and *Lamb's Dam*. Whether they did the enemy any considerable, and what injury, I have not yet heard, but have the pleasure to acquaint you that they greatly facilitated our schemes, and would have been attended with success equal to our most sanguine expectations, had it not been for the unlucky bursting of two thirteen and three ten-inch mortars, among which was the brass one taken in the ordnance brig. To what cause to attribute this misfortune, I know not; whether to any defect in them, or to the inexperience of the bombardiers.

But to return. On *Monday* evening, as soon as our firing commenced, a considerable detachment of our men, under the command of Brigadier-General *Thomas*, crossed the neck, and took possession of the two hills, without the least interruption or annoyance from the enemy; and, by their great activity and industry, before the morning advanced the works so far as to be secure against their shot. They are now going on with such expedition that, in a little time, I hope they will be complete, and enable our troops stationed there to make a vigorous and obstinate stand.

During the whole cannonade, which was incessant the last two nights, we were fortunate enough to lose but two men: one a Lieutenant, by a cannon ball's taking off his

thigh; the other a private, by the explosion of a shell, which also slightly wounded four or five more.

Our taking possession of *Dorchester-Heights* is only preparatory to taking post on *Nike-Hill*, and the point opposite the south end of *Boston*. It was absolutely necessary that they should be previously fortified, in order to cover and command them. As soon as the works on the former are finished and complete, measures will be immediately adopted for securing the latter, and making them as strong and defensible as we can. Their contiguity to the enemy will make them of much importance and of great service to us.

As mortars are essential and indispensably necessary for carrying on our operations, and for the prosecution of our plans, I have applied to two furnaces, to have some thirteen-inch ones cast with all expedition imaginable; and am encouraged to hope, from the accounts I have had, that they will be able to do it. When they are done, and a proper supply of powder obtained, I flatter myself, from the posts we have just taken and are about to take, that it will be in our power to force the Ministerial Troops to an attack, or to dispose of them in some way that will be of advantage to us. I think from these posts they will be so galled and annoyed, that they must either give us battle or quit their present possessions. I am resolved that nothing on my part shall be wanting to effect the one or the other.

It having been the general opinion that the enemy would attempt to dislodge our people from the hills, and force their works as soon as they were discovered, which probably might have brought on a general engagement, it was thought advisable that the honourable Council should be applied to, to order in the Militia from the neighbouring and adjacent towns. I wrote them on the subject, which they most readily complied with; and, in justice to the Militia, I cannot but inform you that they came in at the appointed time, and manifested the greatest alertness and determined resolution to have acted like men engaged in the cause of freedom.

When the enemy first discovered our works in the morning, they seemed to be in great confusion, and, from their movements, to have intended an attack. It is much to be wished that it had been made. The event, I think, must have been fortunate, and nothing less than success and victory on our side, as our officers and men appeared impatient for the appeal, and to have possessed the most animated sentiments and determined resolution.

On *Tuesday* evening, a considerable number of their troops embarked on board of their transports, and fell down to the Castle, where part of them landed before dark. One or two of the vessels got aground, and were fired at by our people with a field-piece, but without any damage. What was the design of this embarkation and landing, I have not been able to learn. It would seem as if they meant an attack; for it is most probable that, if they make one on our works at *Dorchester*, at this time, they will first go to the Castle, and come from thence. If such was their design, a violent storm that night, and which lasted till eight o'clock the next day, rendered the execution of it impracticable. It carried one or two of their vessels ashore, which have since got off.

In case the Ministerial Troops had made an attempt to dislodge our men from *Dorchester-Hills*, and the number detached upon the occasion had been so great as to have afforded a probability of a successful attack being made upon *Boston*, on a signal given from *Roxbury* for that purpose, agreeable to a settled and concerted plan, four thousand chosen men, who were held in readiness, were to have embarked at the mouth of *Cambridge River*, in two divisions: the first under the command of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*; the second under Brigadier-General *Greene*—the whole to have been commanded by Major-General *Putnam*. The first division was to land at the Powder-House, and gain possession of *Beacon-Hill* and *Mount Whoredom*; the second at *Barton's Point*, or a little south of it, and, after securing that post, to join the other division, and force the enemy's gates and works at the Neck, for letting in the *Roxbury* Troops. Three floating batteries were to have preceded and gone in front of the other boats, and kept up a heavy fire on that part of the town where our men were to land. How far our views would have succeeded, had an opportunity offered for attempting the execution, is impossible for me to say. Nothing less than experiment could de-

termine with precision. The plan was thought to be well digested, and, as far as I could judge, from the cheerfulness and alacrity which distinguished the officers and men who were to engage in the enterprise, I had reasons to hope for a favourable and happy issue.

The Militia, which were ordered in from the adjacent towns, brought with them three days' provision. They were only called upon to act under the idea of an attack being immediately made, and were all discharged this afternoon.

I beg leave to remind Congress, that three Major-Generals are essential and necessary for this Army; and that, by General *Lee's* being called from hence to the command in *Canada*, the left division is without one. I hope they will fill up the vacancy by the appointment of another. General *Thomas* is the first Brigadier, stands fair in point of reputation, and is esteemed a brave and good officer. If he is promoted, there will be a vacancy in the Brigadier-Generals, which it will be necessary to supply by the appointment of some other gentleman that shall be agreeable to Congress. But justice requires me to mention that *William Thompson, Esq.*, of the Rifle Regiment, is the first Colonel in this department, and, as far as I have had an opportunity of judging, is a good officer and a man of courage. What I have said of these two gentlemen, I conceived to be my duty, at the same time acknowledging that whatever promotions are made will be satisfactory to me.

*March 9.*—Yesterday evening a Captain *Irvine*, who escaped from *Boston* the night before, with six of his crew, came to Head-Quarters, and gave the following intelligence: That our bombardment and cannonade caused a good deal of surprise and alarm in town, as many of the soldiery said they never heard or thought we had mortars or shells; that several of the officers acknowledged they were well and properly directed; that they made much distress and confusion. That the cannon shot, for the greatest part, went through the houses; and he was told that one took off the legs and arms of six men lying in the barracks on the Neck. That a soldier, who came from the lines there on *Tuesday* morning, informed him that twenty men had been wounded the night before. It was reported that others were also hurt, and one of the light-horse torn to pieces by the explosion of a shell. This was afterwards contradicted. That early on *Tuesday* morning, Admiral *Shulldham*, discovering the works our people were throwing up on *Dorchester-Heights*, immediately sent an express to General *Howe*, to inform him, and that it was necessary they should be attacked and dislodged from thence, or he would be under the necessity of withdrawing the ships from the harbour which were under his command. That preparations were directly made for that purpose, as it was said; and from twelve to two o'clock, about three thousand men embarked on board the transports, which fell down to the Castle, with a design of landing on that part of *Dorchester* next to it, and attacking the works on the Heights at five o'clock next morning. That Lord *Percy* was appointed to command. That it was generally believed the attempt would have been made, had it not been for the violent storm which happened that night, as I have mentioned before. That he heard several of the privates and one or two sergeants say, as they were embarking, that it would be another *Bunker-Hill* affair.

He further informs, that the Army is preparing to leave *Boston*, and that they will do it in a day or two. That the transports, necessary for their embarkation, were getting ready with the utmost expedition. That there had been great movements and confusion among the troops the night and day preceding his coming out, in hurrying down their cannon, artillery, and other stores, to the wharves, with the utmost precipitation, and were putting them on board the ships in such haste that no account or memorandum was taken of them. That most of the cannon were removed from their works, and embarked and embarking. That he heard a woman say, which he took to be an officer's wife, that she had seen men go under the ground, at the lines on the Neck, without returning. That the ship he commanded was taken up, places fitted and fitting for officers to lodge, and several shot, shells, and cannon, already on board. That the Tories were to have the liberty of going where they please, if they can get seamen to man the vessels, of which there was a great scarcity; that on that account many vessels could not be carried away, and would be burnt. That many of the inhabitants apprehended the town

would be destroyed; and that it was generally thought their destination is *Halifax*.

The account given by Captain *Irvine*, as to the embarkation, and their being about to leave the town, I believe true. There are other circumstances corroborating; and it seems fully confirmed by a paper signed by four of the Selectmen of the town, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose you, which was brought out yesterday evening by a flag, and delivered to Colonel *Learned* by Major *Basset*, of the Tenth Regiment, who desired it might be delivered me as soon as possible. I advised with such of the General Officers upon the occasion as I could immediately assemble; and we determined it right (as it was not addressed to me or any one else, nor authenticated by the signature of General *Howe*, or any other act obliging him to a performance of the promise mentioned on his part) that I should give it no answer; at the same time that a letter should be returned, as going from Colonel *Learned*, signifying his having laid it before me, with the reasons assigned for not answering it. A copy of this is sent.

To-night I shall have a battery thrown up on *Nuke-Hill*, (*Dorchester-Point*), with a design of acting as circumstances may require, it being judged advisable to prosecute our plans of fortification as we intended before this information from the Selectmen came. It being agreed, on all hands, that there is no possibility of stopping them, in case they determine to go, I shall order look-outs to be kept upon all the headlands, to discover their movements and course, and moreover direct Commodore *Manly*, and his little squadron, to dog them, as well for the same purpose as for picking up any of their vessels that may chance to depart their convoy. From their loading with such precipitancy, it is presumable they will not be in the best condition for sea.

If the Ministerial Troops evacuate the town, and leave it standing, I have thoughts of taking measures for fortifying the entrance into the harbour, if it shall be thought proper, and the situation of affairs will admit of it.

Notwithstanding the report from *Boston* that *Halifax* is the place of their destination, I have no doubt but that they are going to the southward of this, and I apprehend to *New-York*. Many reasons lead to this opinion. It is in some measure corroborated by their sending an express-ship there, which, on *Wednesday* week, got on shore, and bilged at *Cape Cod*. The despatches, if written, were destroyed when she was boarded. She had a parcel of coal, and about four thousand cannon-shot, six carriage-guns, a swivel or two, and three barrels of powder.

I shall hold the Riflemen, and other parts of our troops, in readiness to march at a moment's warning, and govern my movements by the events that happen, or such orders as I may receive from Congress, which I beg may be ample, and forwarded with all possible expedition.

On the 6th instant, a ship bound from *London*, with stores for the Ministerial Army, consisting of coal, porter, and kroust, fell in with our armed vessels, (four of them in company,) and was carried into *Portsmouth*. She had had a long passage, and of course brought no papers of a late date. The only letters of importance or the least interesting that were found, I have enclosed.

I beg leave to mention to Congress that money is much wanted. The Militia from these Governments, engaged till the first of *April*, are then to be paid; and if we march from hence, the expense will be very considerable, must be defrayed, and cannot be accomplished without it. The necessity of making the earliest remittance, for these purposes, is too obvious for me to add more.

When I wrote that part of this letter which is antecedent to this date, I fully expected it would have gone before now by Colonel *Bull*, not deeming it of sufficient importance to send a special messenger; but he deferred his return from time to time, and never set off till to-day. These reasons I hope will excuse the delay, and be received as a proper apology for not transmitting it sooner.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

To His Excellency GENERAL WASHINGTON, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies:

In obedience to your Excellency's orders, we have con-

sidered the matters referred to us, and beg leave to recommend the following Signals to be given from *Roxbury*, in case of any movement of the enemy to distress our people at *Dorchester-Hill*.

Signal in case the enemy begin to embark: a flag on *Roxbury Meeting-House*. If they actually land at *Dorchester*, two flags, one over the other. In case the number of the enemy exceed two thousand men, a flag at the east, and another at the west end of that Meeting-House. In case a reinforcement in addition to the two thousand are seen embarking, a flag on the east, a flag on the west, and a flag in the middle of that Meeting-House. In case the enemy begin to retreat, three flags, one above the other. In case the enemy carry the works, the flags are to be struck.

We further beg leave to recommend to your Excellency, that should it appear from the signals at *Roxbury*, or in any other way, that an attack may be made upon *Boston* with good probability of success, we recommend that four thousand men embark at the mouth of *Cambridge River*—two thousand of them to be furnished from *Cambridge*, and two thousand from *Prospect* and *Winter Hills*; one thousand from each of those Hills. The two thousand from *Cambridge* to be commanded by Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, and the other two thousand by Brigadier-General *Greene*. The whole to be commanded by Major-General *Putnam*.

Signal for the embarkation: a pendant hoisted on *Prospect-Hill*.

The first division, under Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, to land at the Powder-House. The second division, under Brigadier-General *Greene*, to land at *Barton's Point*, or rather to the south of it. Those who land at the Powder-House, to gain possession of *Beacon-Hill* and *Mount-Whoredom*. Those who land at *Barton's Point*, to gain possession of *Copp's Hill*, and after securing that post, proceed to join the other division, and force the enemy's works and gates at the Neck, by which means the Troops from *Roxbury* may be let in to assist in the reduction of the town.

The two divisions to consist of eight Regiments of five hundred men each, the men to be chosen, the arms to be well examined, and the officers to be the best, most resolute, and experienced.

The three floating-batteries here to go in front of the other boats, and keep up a heavy fire on that part of the town where the landings are to be made.

ISRAEL PUTNAM,  
JOHN SULLIVAN,  
NATHANIEL GREENE,  
HORATIO GATES.

Boston, March 8, 1776.

As his Excellency General *Howe* is determined to leave the town with the troops under his command, a number of the respectable inhabitants being very anxious for its preservation and safety, have applied to General *Robertson* for this purpose, who, at their request, has communicated the same to his Excellency General *Howe*, who has assured him that he has no intention of destroying the town, unless the troops under his command are molested during their embarkation, or at their departure, by the armed force without, which declaration he gave General *Robertson* leave to communicate to the inhabitants. If such an opposition should take place, we have the greatest reason to expect the town will be exposed to entire destruction. As our fears are quieted with regard to General *Howe's* intentions, we beg we may have some assurances that so dreadful a calamity may not be brought on by any measures without. As a testimony of the truth of the above, we have signed our names to this paper, carried out by Messrs. *Thomas* and *Jonathan Amory*, and *Peter Johannot*; who have, at the earnest entreaties of the inhabitants, through the Lieutenant-Governour, solicited a flag of truce for this purpose.

JOHN SCOLLAY,  
TIMOTHY NEWELL,  
THOMAS MARSHALL,  
SAMUEL AUSTIN.

Roxbury, March 9, 1776.

SIR: Agreeably to a promise made to you at the lines yesterday, I waited upon his Excellency General *Washing-*



ton, and presented to him the paper (handed to me by you) from the Selectmen of *Boston*. The answer I received from him was to this effect: "That as it was an unauthenticated paper, without an address, and not obligatory upon General *Howe*, he would take no notice of it."

I am, with esteem and respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

EBENEZER LEARNED.

To Messrs. *Amorys* and *Johannot*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 27, 1776.

(Parole, *Hancock*.)

(Countersign, *Adams*.)

As the season is now fast approaching when every man must expect to be drawn into the field of action, it is highly necessary that he should prepare his mind, as well as everything necessary, for it. It is a noble cause we are engaged in—it is the cause of virtue and mankind. Every temporal advantage and comfort to us and our posterity depends upon the vigour of our exertions; in short, freedom or slavery must be the result of our conduct; there can, therefore, be no greater inducement to men to behave well. But it may not be amiss for the troops to know, that if any man in action shall presume to skulk, hide himself, or retreat from the enemy, without the orders of his commanding officer, he will be instantly shot down, as an example of cowardice—cowards having too frequently disconcerted the best formed troops by their dastardly behaviour.

Next to the favours of Divine Providence, nothing is more essentially necessary to give this Army the victory of all its enemies, than exactness of discipline, alertness when on duty; and cleanliness in their arms and persons. Unless the arms are kept clean, and in good firing order, it is impossible to vanquish the enemy; and cleanliness of the person gives health and soldierlike appearance. That no confusion may ensue when the troops are called to action, the General has ordered all the posts and guards of the lines and redoubts to be so fixed and regulated, as every officer and soldier may know his place and his duty; and to confirm the order and discipline, the General orders, that the officers and men who are to mount guard do parade every morning at eight o'clock, upon their regimental parades, where they are to be reviewed by the Adjutant in the presence of a Field-Officer, who is to see that their arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, are complete, and the men dressed in a soldierlike manner. The Adjutant is then to march them to the parade of the Brigade, and deliver them over to the Major of Brigade, who is very minutely to inspect the whole, and then march them to the grand parade, where the Brigadier, with the Field-Officers of the day, will attend, to see all the guards paraded and march to their several destinations. With the Brigadier will constantly mount his Major-of-Brigade, who is always to make up the guards upon the grand parade, and report all extraordinary-ries to his Brigadier-General. The Brigadier of the day will give his orders to the Field-Officers of the day, at what time he would have them to go the visiting and grand rounds, and half an hour before day, order all the guards to be under arms, and properly posted, visit the outposts, see that the guards are properly placed, and that everything is in good order for defence, in case of an attack. All officers commanding guards are to report to the Brigadier of the day, who is to report to the Commander-in-Chief. The guards to be made up on the grand parade are, *Lechmere-Point*, *Cobble-Hill*, *Ploughed-Hill*, *White-House*, main guard on *Prospect-Hill*, the South, North, and Middle Redoubts, *Lechmere's Point Bridge*, and the main guard for *Cambridge* and *Winter-Hill*. All other guards are to be sent from the Brigade parades, (the quarter-guards of the Regiments excepted,) who are paraded on their regimental parades.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 28, 1776.

(Parole, *Harrison*.)

(Countersign, *Lynch*.)

The commanding General at *Roxbury* will, as soon as possible, establish a detail of duty at that post, as similar to that in yesterday's orders as the circumstances of his command will admit; which, when fixed, is to be transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief for his inspection and approbation.

The Brigadiers-General to take especial care that all the Regiments belonging to their respective Brigades know their alarm posts, that they may instantly repair to them in case of alarm.

As the guards are most of them increased, the sentries are to be increased in proportion.

A communication must be made and kept up between post and post, that the rounds and patrols may pass conveniently in the night.

As the roads are so extremely dirty, and the ground so unsettled, his Excellency orders the guards, until further orders, to be paraded in the same manner, and upon the same parade, as they were this morning.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, February 29, 1776.

(Parole, *Franklin*.)

(Countersign, *Carroll*.)

The commanding officers of Brigades are to order all the spears in the several posts and redoubts to be examined, cleaned, and collected in the proper places, and make a return of the number fit for service in each Brigade, and where deposited.

Ensign *Andrew Brown*, of the Seventh Regiment of Foot, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Phinney* was President, for "insulting and challenging his commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel *Moulton*." The court were of opinion that the prisoner was not guilty of the whole of the charge, but only of insulting Colonel *Moulton*; therefore, adjudge him publickly to ask pardon of Lieutenant-Colonel *Moulton* for the affront.

The General approves the sentence, and orders the execution of it to be as soon as possible, and the prisoner then to be released from his arrest.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 1, 1776.

(Parole, *Arnold*.)

(Countersign, *Chace*.)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Neilson*.)

(Countersign, *Adams*.)

Upon any alarm, Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment is immediately to repair to *Lechmere's*, leaving one Captain, two Subalterns, two Sergeants, and fifty rank and file, in the work leading to the bridge.

Colonel *Bond's* Regiment is instantly to march to *Cobble-Hill*, and Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment to the North, Middle, and South Redoubts. This is to be considered as a standing order, until countermanded.

Generals *Heath's*, *Sullivan's*, *Greene's*, and *Frye's* Brigades are, in rotation, to march a Regiment an hour before day, every morning, into the works on *Lechmere's Point* and *Cobble-Hill*, five Companies of which to go to the former, and three to the latter; they are to remain in the works until sun-rise.

The Field-Officers for the guards at *Lechmere's Point*, *Cobble-Hill*, and *Ploughed-Hill*, are to consist of Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors, as those for the day are Colonels.

The commanding officers of Regiments who have neglected to see their men supplied with fascines, are immediately to order every non-commissioned officer and soldier to provide one good fascine, which is to be put under a sentry of the quarter-guard of the Regiment.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 3, 1776.

(Parole, . . . . .)

(Countersign, . . . . .)

No officer or soldier, under any pretence, is to be absent from his post, without leave in writing from his Brigadier-General, who is not to grant liberty of running backwards and forwards from hence to *Roxbury*, but in very especial cases.

As it is not unlikely but a contest may soon be brought on between the Ministerial Troops and this Army, the General flatters himself that every officer and soldier will endeavour to give such distinguished proofs of his conduct and good behaviour as becomes men fighting for everything that is dear and valuable to freemen, remembering at the same time what disgraceful punishment will attend a contrary behaviour. Every man's conduct will be marked, and rewarded or punished accordingly, and cowardice in a most exemplary manner. The Colonels, or commanding officers of Regiments, are to see that their several Regiments are

properly told off, and the supernumerary officers so posted as to keep the men to their duty. Particular care is to be taken, to prevent their firing at too great a distance, as one fire well aimed does more execution than a dozen at long-shot.

All wood-cutting parties, &c., are to join their respective Regiments until further orders. The Quartermaster-General may draw the carbines out of the Commissary's stores, and put them into the hands of the carpenters, or such others as he shall think will use them to the best advantage, taking care to return them when called for. All arms in store fit for use, may be delivered out to the Adjutant-General's order.

The Brigadiers are to see that the arms in their several Brigades are disposed of to the best advantage, placing them in the hands only of such men as are fittest for duty; and that the spears are used as occasion shall require, to supply the defect of arms.

As it has been suggested to the General that many of the town's people, &c., influenced by a zeal for the cause of their country, are inclined to throw aid in case the Army should be called to action, the General desires that they will (to prevent any kind of confusion or disorder) join different Companies in the several Regiments, as they shall choose, or form themselves into a distinct corps, under officers of their own choosing, and put themselves under the immediate command of some Brigadier, that they may not be considered or act as an independent Company.

Two Companies of Colonel Thompson's Rifle Regiment are to march to-morrow evening to Roxbury, with their blankets, arms, and three days' provisions ready dressed. The officer commanding the party will receive his orders from the Adjutant-General.

Colonel Hutchinson's and Colonel French's Regiments are to march to Roxbury by sunrise on Tuesday morning, with their blankets, arms, and three days' provisions ready dressed.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 4, 1776.

(Parole, Hooper.)

(Countersign, Allen.)

The flag on Prospect-Hill, and that at the Laboratory on Cambridge-Common, are ordered to be hoisted only upon a general alarm; of this the whole Army is to take particular notice, and immediately upon those colours being displayed, every officer and soldier must repair to his alarm post. This is to remain a standing order until the Commander-in-Chief shall please to direct otherwise.

The several Surgeons of the Hospitals at Cambridge, and every Regimental Surgeon in the left and centre divisions of the Army, are directed to meet at five o'clock this evening, at Brown's Tavern, in Cambridge, to take directions from the Director-General of the Hospital relative to the immediate disposition of their sick, and in what manner they and their Mates are to be posted.

The College to be forthwith appropriated to the reception of the Regimental sick, and such as may be wounded; that suitable barracks at Prospect-Hill, or any other part of the camp which the Director-General of the Hospital shall advise, be got in immediate readiness for the reception of at least one hundred wounded, in case of need; and such a number of men as he may think sufficient be ordered to assist in carrying wounded men to the Hospital. Hand-barrows and other proper means to be provided for their removal.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 5, 1776.

(Parole, Dorchester.)

(Countersign, Thomas.)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 6, 1776.

(Parole, Lechmere.)

(Countersign, Putnam.)

Stephen Moylan and William Palfrey, Esqs., are appointed Aids-de-camp to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. They are to be obeyed as such.

Thursday, the 7th instant, being set apart by the honourable the Legislature of this Province, as a day of fasting, prayer, and humiliation, "to implore the Lord and Giver of all victory to pardon our manifold sins and wickednesses, and that it would please him to bless the Continental arms with his divine favour and protection;" all officers and soldiers are strictly enjoined to pay all due reverence and

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attention on that day to the sacred duties due to the Lord of hosts for his mercies already received, and for those blessings which our holiness and uprightness of life can alone encourage us to hope through his mercy to obtain.

The Brigadiers-General Heath and Frye to send for their respective Colonels immediately, and with them appoint the officers and soldiers from each of their Brigades, to be selected for the command under the Brigadiers-General Sullivan and Greene; to direct that they be the best and most approved soldiers; that their arms, ammunition, and accoutrements are complete, and in proper order, and the whole to be ready to turn out upon the shortest notice. General Heath to report the names of the Colonels' and Field-Officers who are appointed for this service, to his Excellency as soon as possible.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 7, 1776.

(Parole, Chedworth.)

(Countersign, Gerry.)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 8, 1776.

(Parole, Henry.)

(Countersign, Lloyd.)

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel Phinney was President, to assemble to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, at Pomeroy's Tavern, in Cambridge.

His Excellency the General returns his thanks to the Militia of the surrounding districts for their spirited and alert march to Roxbury last Saturday and Sunday, and for the noble ardour they discovered in defence of the cause of liberty and their country.

Return of Powder, Cartridges, Flints, and Buckshot, in Magazines at WINTER-HILL and PROSPECT-HILL.

	Barrels of Powder.	Number of Musket Cartridges.	Pounds of Buck-shot.	Number of Flints.
Winter-Hill.....	175 $\frac{3}{4}$	76,128	1,000	None.
Prospect-Hill.....	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	49,836	950	2,000
Total.....	182	125,964	1,950	2,000

In Magazine at PROSPECT-HILL.

Paper cannon-cartridges, 24-pounders, 52 } Filled.  
 Paper cannon-cartridges, 3-pounders, 30 }  
 Port-fires, - - - - - 15  
 Canister shot, 9-pounders, - - - 26  
 Canister shot, 24-pounders, - - - 27  
 Flannel cannon-cartridges, 24-pounders, 18

Errors excepted.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, Commissary of Artillery.

Cambridge, March 1, 1776.

Return of Powder at WINTER-HILL, PROSPECT-HILL, and in Ordnance Store.

Magazine on Winter-Hill, - - - - - 127 $\frac{3}{4}$   
 Magazine on Prospect-Hill, - - - - - 6 $\frac{1}{4}$   
 In Store, - - - - - 40

Barrels, - - - 174

Errors excepted.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER, Commissary of Artillery.

Cambridge, March 4, 1776.

Report of the number of Shot and Shells fired into BOSTON, on the night of the 4th of MARCH, 1776.

Lamb's Dam: 5 13-inch shells; 6 10-inch shells—11.  
 42 24-pound shot; 38 18-pound shot—80.

Lechmere's Point: 32 24-pound shot; 14 18-pound shot—46. 2 10-inch shells.

Cobble-Hill: 18 18-pound shot.

Total, 144 shot; 13 shells.

HENRY KNOX, Colonel Regiment Artillery.

Report of the several Returns made by the different Regimental Surgeons, of their Instruments and Bandages, Lint, Rags, Medicines, &c., agreeable to the General Orders of FEBRUARY 25, 1776, to this day.

Surgeons' names.	Regiments.	Sets of Amputating Instruments.	Cases of Pocket Instruments.	Cases of Lancets.	Cases of Crooked Needles.	Bandages and Linnen.	Pounds of Lint.	Tourniquets.	Cases Knives.	Medicines.
John Homans, Surgeon.	Col. Sargent's...	1	1	2	2	40	1	24	1	But few Medicines.  3 pair of Forceps. A good supply.
Silas Holmes, Mate.....	Sixteenth.....	.	.	.	.	48	1	.	.	
James Freeland, Surgeon.	Col. Learned's...	.	1	.	.	10	1	.	.	
Asaph Fletcher, ".....	Col. Roberson's...	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	
William Rossater, Mate..	Col. Webb's.....	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	
William Eustis, Surgeon.	Col. Knox's.....	1	1	.	1	96	.	.	.	
Caleb G. Adams, ".....	Col. Poor's.....	1, bad	1	1	1	16	.	.	.	
David Townshend, ".....	Col. Whitcomb's...	.	1	.	1	30	1	.	1	
Eliphalet Downer, ".....	Col. Groaton's...	.	.	.	.	16	1	.	.	
Isaac Spafford, ".....	Col. Nixon's.....	1	1	.	1	6	.	.	.	
William Magaw, ".....	Col. Hand's.....	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	But few Medicines.
Elisha Story, ".....	Col. Little's.....	.	1	.	.	32, & 29 1/2 sheets	.	.	.	
Elisha Perkins, ".....	Col. Douglass's...	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	
John Spalding, ".....	.....	.	.	.	.	20	.	.	.	
Samuel Adams, ".....	Col. Phinney's...	.	1	.	1	8 y'ds old linen	.	.	.	
Lemuel Cushing, ".....	.....	.	1	.	.	80	1	.	.	
John Hart, ".....	Col. Prescott's...	.	1	.	1	30	.	.	.	
William Prentice, Mate..	Col. Ward's.....	.	.	.	.	100	3	.	.	
Joseph Adams, ".....	Col. Read's.....	.	.	.	.	30	1	.	.	
Thomas Welch, Surgeon.	Col. Hutchinson's	.	2	.	1	48	1	.	.	
Josiah Lord, ".....	Col. Smith's.....	.	2	.	.	24, & 64 sheets	.	.	.	
Joseph Joslyn, ".....	Col. Varnum's...	1	1	.	1	200	3	.	.	
John Pitcher.....	Col. Bond's.....	.	1	.	1	15	1	.	.	
Mr. Green.....	.....	.	1	.	.	18	.	.	.	
		6 sets.	21 cases.	2 cases.	12 cases.	839 bandages, and about 100 old sheets.	about 12 lbs. lint.	24 tourniquets.	2 cases.	

N. B. I have lost the Return of Colonel Hitchcock's Regiment. All the Instruments are private property. Some have made no return.  
JOHN MORGAN.

On the above, I would remark, that many of the Surgeons have paid no attention to the General Orders, by neglecting to bring in their Returns; that, in general, they are but miserably supplied with Instruments, Bandages, Lint, Rags, &c., and much worse with Medicines; some having none at all, or next to none.

A Return of the Surgeons and Mates of Brigadier-General SULLIVAN's Brigade, examined agreeable to Orders, &c.  
Isaac Spafford, Surgeon, of Colonel Nixon's, approved.  
Caleb G. Adams, Surgeon, of Colonel Poor's, approved, but means to quit his place.  
Mr. Green, of ———, Mr. Goss, of Stark's, both sick; therefore, not yet examined.  
Mr. Parker and Nathaniel Breed, Mates, approved.  
Nathaniel Burnap, Mate, not qualified.

One Mate declines examination; but his name is not come to hand.  
JOHN MORGAN.

I have not yet had leisure to make out a list of Instruments, Bandages, and Medicines, necessary for each Regiment, but shall at first leisure. I have given directions in what manner the Hospital Surgeons are to assist the Regimental Surgeons at Roxbury, and would beg a few minutes' conference with his Excellency General Washington on the same subject in respect to Cambridge.  
March 3, 1776.  
JOHN MORGAN.

General Return of the Army of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief; Head-Quarters at CAMBRIDGE, MARCH 2, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Since last Return.							
	Commissioned.					Staff.		Non-commissioned.																			
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieuts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.													
	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.														
1. Riflemen.....	1	1	1	8	8	10	11	1	1	1	1	39	11	591	80	25	48	6	750	-	-	-	-	1	1		
2. Colonel Reed's.....	1	1	1	4	6	5	6	1	1	1	1	23	14	331	70	5	11	1	407	3	1	233	-	3	1	2	
3. Colonel Learned's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	29	16	386	83	5	64	1	539	3	-	101	-	3	1	-	
4. Colonel Nixon's.....	1	1	1	2	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	20	11	315	62	13	55	2	447	2	1	193	-	1	1	4	
5. Colonel Stark's.....	1	1	1	5	5	2	6	1	1	1	1	23	11	312	42	8	13	4	379	5	5	261	-	1	1	-	
6. Colonel Whitcomb's.....	1	1	1	3	3	7	8	1	1	1	1	23	12	260	74	4	21	1	359	5	1	281	1	1	1	-	
7. Colonel Prescott's.....	1	1	1	4	7	7	5	1	1	1	1	20	14	313	54	15	16	4	402	5	1	238	8	1	1	1	
8. Colonel Poor's.....	1	1	1	5	7	7	3	1	1	1	1	23	16	354	106	3	46	3	512	-	-	128	-	1	1	1	
9. Colonel Varnum's.....	1	1	1	6	6	6	5	1	1	1	1	27	16	292	26	4	52	3	377	-	-	263	8	-	-	2	
10. Colonel Parsons's.....	1	1	1	5	6	5	7	1	1	1	1	28	16	426	47	1	35	1	509	-	-	131	12	-	-	-	
11. Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	6	3	4	6	1	1	1	1	30	13	295	40	1	10	2	348	-	2	292	24	-	-	1	
12. Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	5	5	4	5	1	1	1	1	27	11	354	47	9	65	1	476	-	5	164	14	-	-	-	
13. Colonel Reed's.....	1	1	1	8	5	6	6	1	1	1	1	28	16	399	76	8	60	1	537	4	-	103	-	-	-	2	
14. Colonel Glover's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	273	-	-	367	10	-	-	-	-	
15. Colonel Paterson's.....	1	1	1	3	4	6	7	1	1	1	1	30	16	288	80	22	23	1	413	2	-	227	4	1	-	14	
16. Colonel Sargent's.....	1	1	1	5	2	5	5	1	1	1	1	15	13	209	70	10	136	3	428	-	-	212	-	-	-	-	
17. Colonel Huntington's.....	1	1	1	8	5	6	7	1	1	1	1	30	16	356	93	-	49	1	498	1	-	142	3	1	-	-	
18. Colonel Phinney's.....	1	1	1	2	5	3	7	1	1	1	1	21	15	285	112	12	4	1	413	-	-	227	2	2	1	-	
19. Colonel Webb's.....	1	1	1	4	6	7	6	1	1	1	1	30	14	399	66	5	42	1	513	1	3	127	13	1	-	1	
20. Colonel Arnold's.....	1	1	1	6	4	6	5	1	1	1	1	32	13	325	57	17	42	3	444	-	3	196	4	1	-	-	
21. Colonel Ward's.....	1	1	1	6	6	6	6	1	1	1	1	30	14	396	68	4	15	2	485	2	2	155	3	-	-	1	
22. Colonel Wyllis's.....	1	1	1	7	7	6	5	1	1	1	1	27	15	336	84	5	68	2	495	1	1	145	4	-	-	-	
23. Colonel Bailey's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	32	16	427	48	13	62	1	550	-	-	90	2	1	-	-	
24. Colonel Groaton's.....	1	1	1	7	8	6	7	1	1	1	1	21	16	269	61	18	7	4	359	1	-	281	5	-	-	-	
25. Colonel Bond's.....	1	1	1	6	7	7	7	1	1	1	1	26	14	393	49	17	15	1	475	3	-	165	10	1	1	-	
26. Colonel Baldwin's.....	1	1	1	6	5	5	6	1	1	1	1	30	13	417	61	12	7	1	498	2	3	142	-	-	-	3	
27. Colonel Hutchinson's.....	1	1	1	7	5	8	8	1	1	1	1	30	13	452	73	40	59	-	624	-	1	16	-	1	-	1	
Total.....	21	34	19	152	154	162	178	17	26	27	23	25	694	365	9,170	1,723	276	1,298	43	12,510	40	29	4,860	120	18	650	
Total of Militia.....	10	9	10	83	82	75	76	5	10	10	10	9	319	143	4,970	675	91	276	6	6,018	3	14	487	-	7	10	4
Total.....	31	33	29	235	236	237	254	22	36	37	33	34	1013	508	14,140	2,398	367	1,574	49	18,528	43	43	5,367	120	25	1654	

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

General Return of the Regiments of Militia of the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in the service of the UNITED COLONIES; Head-Quarters at CAMBRIDGE, MARCH 3, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.						Wanting to complete.	Since last return.							
	Commissioned.						Staff.		Non-commissioned.																		
	Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
Colonel Waldron's.....	1	1	1	9	9	7	9	-	1	1	1	1	32	13	547	78	8	22	-	655	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Colonel French's.....	1	1	1	10	10	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	35	16	555	68	7	64	1	695	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Wolcott's.....	1	1	1	8	7	7	9	-	1	1	1	1	31	15	467	61	10	35	-	573	-	-	67	-	2	-	1
Colonel Wadsworth's.....	1	1	1	9	7	9	9	-	1	1	1	1	33	14	448	37	8	55	-	548	-	2	92	-	-	-	-
Colonel Whitney's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	9	-	1	1	1	1	26	16	503	101	3	7	3	617	-	-	23	-	1	-	1
Colonel L. Robinson's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	9	-	1	1	1	1	32	13	467	35	14	39	-	555	-	3	85	-	-	-	-
Colonel Cary's.....	1	1	1	11	11	9	9	-	1	1	1	1	40	20	654	62	22	11	-	749	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Colonel Smith's.....	1	1	1	7	7	5	7	-	1	1	1	1	25	9	463	49	1	3	1	517	3	3	123	-	-	5	-
Colonel J. Robinson's.....	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	-	1	1	1	1	28	11	429	55	13	1	1	499	-	3	67	-	-	4	1
Colonel Douglass's.....	1	-	1	7	8	8	6	1	1	1	1	1	37	16	437	129	5	39	-	610	-	3	30	-	1	-	-
Total.....	10	9	10	83	82	75	76	5	10	10	10	9	319	143	4,970	675	91	276	6	6,018	3	14	487	-	7	10	4

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq., MARCH 3, 1776.

	Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty	1	2	1	10	12	10	21	1	1	1	1	130	29	51	56	18	318	563
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	2	2	9	4	-	19	42
Sick, absent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	9	12
On command.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	13	18
On furlough.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	1	2	1	12	12	12	24	1	1	1	1	133	33	62	62	18	359	635

One Cadet, exclusive of the above.  
One deserted since last Return.  
HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

COLONEL MOREY TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.  
Orford, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am to inform you that many difficulties have arisen since I left you, about raising this regiment of Colonel *Bedel's*—too many to mention at present. I shall only say that many independent companies have inlisted, which has occasioned the long delay of the companies, both here and Colonel *Wait's* party. Some recruiting officers from Colonel *Warner's* party have inlisted a considerable number of fine men; they had the money to pay down forty shillings bounty, only for about three months' service, which was much easier than to get men for one year. I am also to inform you that Captain *Town*, who told you and Colonel *Bedel* that he had his men all ready, has wholly failed, and taken sixteen pounds, (that is, two months' advance pay to himself,) as the Honourable *Jonathan Blanchard* will inform, &c.

Great difficulty on account of the want of guns, of which I have been obliged to buy many; and more must be bought, or they will be obliged to go without, which I should think would by no means do, although there were some few guns there last fall. By what I can learn, they will be taken up before our men can get to *Canada*. There is a regiment of *Canadians* raising in *Canada*. I find with the money I can buy about one hundred very good guns, which will cost nigh a thousand dollars. I have likewise to inform you that I have purchased, by Colonel *Bedel's* order, about seventy pounds' worth of medicines for the regiment. I have likewise a bill of Doctor *Crane's* for medicine, that Doctor *Barker* had for Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment last year, about twenty pounds, to pay; all which I shall lay before you,

&c., as soon as may be. I am ordered to provide two horses and a sleigh to carry the medicines to *Canada*. I am further to inform you that it is impossible ever to march the company without some advance pay, clothing, &c. I wish, gentlemen, I was master of words sufficient to describe the wants of the men to fix themselves for a long and tedious march, and to leave a small matter for the support of their families, while absent. I fully expect I shall want about two thousand dollars more before the regiment can be completed, for guns, &c. Lieutenants *Grant* and *Thurbur* marched off last week with a party of forty-four men, belonging to Captains *Grant* and *Everett's* companies. About forty more march to-morrow, and about as many now. None yet from Captain *Osgood's* company. All this way to march next week. I shall be obliged to send down for more money before the whole can complete their march, unless you think to send me a sum of money by some safe hand. I can assure you that no man has yet waited one hour for any business on my part, and I am fully determined they shall not. I have been careful to keep everything on my part ready. Nothing shall be wanting that is in my power to provide. All the guns that were brought I have got appraised, and what guns I have purchased, by them that are good judges of guns, &c. Money answers all things: if that be wanting, the voyage must of consequence fail.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,  
ISRAEL MOREY.

To the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. Since I began the letter, Colonel *Bedel* came to *Orford*, and has wrote you on the affair, &c. Major *James Richardson*, or Colonel *William Simpson*, will wait upon you with this express, and wait your orders. You will please to take notice that the footing of Doctor *Crane's* bill for medicines last year is, - - - - £19 2s. 1d. This year, - - - - - 63 15 8 Doctor *Aubury's* bill for medicine, - - - - 8 10 0 A case of capital instruments will cost fifty dollars at *Hanover*, - - - - - 15 0 0 Doctor *Barker's* account, - - - - - 14 8 6 Sleigh and two horses, - - - - - 24 0 0 Cash taken by Captain *Town*, - - - - 16 0 0 One hundred guns will cost about, - - - 300 0 0 To be advanced to Colonel *Bedel*, - - - 300 0 0

£760 16 3

You will observe that I have not had any money advanced on account of the above... You will likewise remember that the Committee of Safety are empowered to do what is needful on account of forwarding this regiment. And further, be glad of your opinion of Doctor *Crane's* bill, &c., as I am not a judge of such affairs.  
I. M.

LACHLAN MCINTOSH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Savannah, in Georgia, March 8, 1776.

SIR: I did myself the honour to write to your Excellency the 16th ult., which, for want of conveyance, lies here still, as our Continental post is not well regulated this length yet. It is hardly worth troubling you with any report of our battalion, as I have heard from very few of our recruiting officers, and we have only between twenty and thirty men of them in town; but the transactions here since that time may deserve some notice. The men-of-war at *Tybee*, though still giving out they had no hostile intentions against this Colony, were encouraging our slaves to desert to them, pilfering our Sea-Islands for provisions, and our Governour broke his parole of honour, and went privately in the night with his family aboard the *Scarborough*, Captain *Barclay*, which gave us every reason to expect they meant to land at or near the town, destroy it, and carry off about twenty sail of shipping lying in the river, having, among other articles, near three thousand tierces of rice on board.

Between three and four hundred of our own Militia, and one hundred from *South-Carolina*, were all that could be got to defend an open, straggling, defenceless, and deserted town, with numberless avenues leading to it, and those men under no control or command whatsoever; and, to add to the anarchy and confusion we were in, our Council of Safety had not met for some time, having differed about the meaning of a resolve of the Continental Congress respecting the ships sailing the 1st of *March*. In this desperate state of affairs, I ventured to take the command of the Militia, lest the Colony should be tamely given up, though, I must acknowledge, with some reluctance; and, after examining very particularly, as I was unacquainted, around the town, I placed guards everywhere the enemy could land, and ambushes in the different roads leading to it, which made the duty very severe, and reduced our number in town greatly. In the mean time, the *Cherokee*, the two transports, the armed vessels and boats, came up the river within two and a half miles of town, near where we sunk a hulk in the channel of the river, and opposite to *Brewton's* plantation, where I placed a detachment of one hundred and fifty men, under command of Colonel *Bullock*, expecting they would attempt to land there. The enemy were parading with their boats for several days within gunshot of our sentinels, who, though they were ordered not to fire unless they were fired upon first, or they attempted to land, gave them several shot, but were not returned.

Our Council of Safety were got together, and resolved the shipping should not sail, and ordered they should be unriggered. The evening of the 2d of *March*, one of the transport ships, (the Schooner *Hinchinbrook*,) and Sloop *St. John*, of eight or ten guns each, with some boats, sailed in our sight up the *North River*, back of *Hutchinson's Island*, lying opposite to the Town of *Savannah*, but so far off that a little battery we had below the town, which played upon them, could do no damage to them. Expecting the enemy intended coming round *Hutchinson's Island*, and down the south side of it, to make their landing good at *Yamacraw*, (a village three or four hundred yards above the town,) I had three four-pounders carried there, a little battery erected in haste, and threw up intrenchments, and withdrew part of the guard at *Brewton's*, without weakening too much, or withdrawing any of our ambushes on that side, lest it might be a feint to deceive us. About the middle of the same night (as we were afterwards informed) the Commodore, *Barclay*, and Majors *Grant* and *Maitland*, with about three hundred men, as it was said, landed on the back of *Hutchinson's Island*, with some howitzers and field-pieces, and, with the assistance and contrivance of all our own seafaring people, and many from the town, crossed the Island and hid themselves aboard of our merchant ships, which were previously hauled close to the Island, a little above our battery at *Yamacraw*, for that purpose. Early on *Sunday*, the 3d, the two armed vessels, intending to cover the enemy's landing, had come round the Island, and, coming down on the south side, were attacked by parties of riflers ordered for that purpose, and kept smartly engaged on both sides most of the day, until they lost the tide and got aground; while two sailors, (*Americans*,) at the risk of their lives, stole ashore and informed me the enemy were hid on board our merchantmen, and had taken *Joseph Rice* prisoner, who was employed to unrigger them that morning. To

confirm this intelligence, Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts* were ordered to go only alongside the vessels, and, without arms, to demand our fellow-citizen, Mr. *Rice*; but, to our astonishment, they were also forced on board and kept, which convinced us our information was true; and immediately our little battery of three guns began to play upon them, which they returned, and was continued very smartly with ball, langrage, and small-arms, from both sides for several hours. Our men were inflamed, particularly at our own people who had treacherously joined the enemy against us, and were eager to board them; but we had neither boats, sailors, or arms, proper for the attempt, and the oars of the few boats we had were previously stolen away. The general cry then was, to set all the shipping on fire; in attempting of which, many of our people showed great resolution and bravery; but, unfortunately, the first ship set fire to, (valued at twenty thousand pounds sterling,) was so large that she grounded before she got up to the others. Afterwards a sloop was fired, which burned two others, while the rest were cutting away, amidst the shot of our rifles and langrage, and slipping higher up the river, out of our reach, with the last of the flood. In the mean time, many of the soldiers hastily landed on the Island, in great confusion, running in the marsh in a laughable manner, for fear of our rifles, though far past their reach, until they got aboard a tire of ships higher up the river, and out of the reach of our guns, near the armed vessels. In this manner ten sail of our vessels went along with the enemy round the upper end of the Island (a channel never known before) with sixteen hundred barrels of rice, with the utmost anxiety and fear.

After being foiled in their scheme upon the town, the Commodore and Majors eagerly and repeatedly solicited a cessation of hostilities, for which they promised immediately to repair to *Tybee*, and not molest us again; which was at length granted them with seeming difficulty, though the truth was, we had no means of annoying them by water. The rest of the shipping we hauled close to the wharves, confined some of their Captains for acting against us, with our Chief-Justice and some Counsellors, until they released our fellow-citizens, *Demeré*, *Roberts*, and *Rice*, and send them up from *Tybee*, where our enemies are all now gone. Whether they intend to try us again or not, I am not able to inform your Excellency. In this, I think, they rather lost, than gained any reputation, and have done us great honour, by being the second Province on the Continent which they attacked, and were shamefully foiled. We had, in all our different engagements, but two white men and one *Indian* wounded slightly. They must have many both killed and wounded, though they acknowledge but six. Several were seen to fall.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

LACHLAN MCINTOSH.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esquire, Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Continental Forces in *America*.

P. S. The ships-of-war have taken all the rice (sixteen hundred barrels) out of the merchantmen that so treacherously went down with them, and put it aboard their two transport ships, without paying a farthing for it. They claim one-eighth for "wresting them out of the hands of the Rebels," as the Commodore's certificate expresses it; but I doubt they will keep the other seven-eighths also.

L. McI.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, March 8, 1776.

Yesterday thirty-two Members of the Assembly met at the Capitol, pursuant to adjournment; which not being a sufficient number to proceed on business, and no Representative of the King appearing, they thought proper farther to adjourn to the first *Thursday* in *May* next, when that honourable body will meet, as well as the General Convention, for the discussion of sundry important matters tending to the safety and well-being of the Colony, and of *America* in general.

At this time the saltpetre works at *Warwick*, *Petersburgh*, and *Blandford*, produce full two hundred weight per day; and two other works now erecting on *James-River* will increase the quantity to upwards of three hundred and fifty



weight per day. A powder-mill is also erecting, which, when completed, will amply supply this Colony with that necessary article.

#### AMELIA COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee held for *Amelia County*, *March 8, 1776*: This Committee, taking into consideration the distressed situation of many of the Inhabitants of the lower Counties, who have been reduced to the real want of every necessary of life by the cruel hand of oppression, think it their indispensable duty to repeat their offers of friendship and assistance to as many of the friends to *American* liberty as may think proper to come and reside among us; and for ourselves, and for our constituents, we do assure all such that we will contribute everything in our power to make their residence agreeable.

*Resolved*, That these Proceedings be published in the *Virginia Gazette*.

JOHN BOOKER, JUN., *Clerk*.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, March 8, 1776.

In this enlightened age, whoever shall go about to impose shadows on mankind for substances, and names for things, must be something else than modest, and have other views than those of fairness and honesty. The present Ministry, notorious as they have rendered themselves for their attachment to those arbitrary principles in Government, in opposition to which our glorious ancestors fought, bled, and died, and by whose spirit and wisdom the liberty we enjoy has been rescued from former *British* tyrants; these Ministers, after repeatedly rejecting, with disdain, the most modest and pressing applications from every Assembly on the Continent for redress of intolerable grievances; after having vainly endeavoured, by force of arms, to enslave *North America*; expect now to effect, by fraud and division, what their acts and their arms have failed to accomplish. But let us, my countrymen, be on our guard against their delusive arts; let us continue to pursue that manly, sensible, and united conduct, which has hitherto baffled our insidious enemies, and which, persevered in, must finally accomplish the political salvation of *America*. The Ministry say they will not treat with the General Congress, because they are an illegal body. If that great luminary of law, Lord *Coke*, be right when he says, in the first part of his Institutes, "nothing that is contrary to reason is lawful," the converse of the proposition must also be true, that nothing can be unlawful that is reasonable. The appointment of a General Congress being founded on reason, cannot, therefore, be illegal; and this we shall find established, as well by the principles of just reasoning, as by the practice of our ancestors. It is agreed, by the best writers, that the end of Government is the security of property and personal liberty; that Kings and Governours being appointed by the people for these purposes, if they forfeit their trust by attempting the ruin both of property and publick liberty, the Government is at an end, and power reverts to the people who gave it. The illustrious *Locke*, and the glorious Revolution, incontestably established these principles; and the Government of *England* is now agreed to be founded on resistance to arbitrary sway. Let us apply this doctrine to *North America*, and we shall find that, for a series of twelve years, the property and liberty of every person here has been invaded by a variety of acts of Parliament, and proceedings of Government, for taxing us without our consent; for depriving us of trial by jury, in cases of both life and property; for transporting us to *England* to be tried for supposed offences committed here; for greatly extending the limits of one of the Provinces, and establishing an arbitrary Government therein; and, finally, by attempting to enforce these destructive measures by the sword, contrary to the plainest principles of the Constitution, of justice, of compact, and the usage of an hundred and sixty years, or the first settlement of *North America* by *Englishmen*; and in utter neglect and contempt of repeated modest petitions from every House of Assembly on this Continent. So atrocious an abuse of power, aiming at the ruin of more than three millions of people now existing, and the many more millions that are involved in future generations, justified the people of *North America*, upon the best established

maxims of the Constitution, in the adoption of such measures as were fitted to insure the publick safety, and secure the end of all Government. A Congress was therefore appointed, consisting of Delegates from the Representatives of the people in every Colony, that, by a union of their councils and strength, the common safety might be effectually obtained. Those who deny this proceeding to be legal, do plainly deny the legality of the Revolution, and that title by which the King of *England* now holds his crown; for when the people of *England* were abused by similar exertions of despotick power, they assembled, by their Representatives, in 1688, not in Parliament, but in Convention, (or Congress, if you will,) and determined to banish the tyrant *Stuart* from the throne, and place thereon our glorious deliverer, King *William*, in succession to whom the present King now sways the sceptre of that country.

Thus you see, my countrymen, the appointment of a Congress is founded in reason, self-preservation, and the practice of *England*; but the present Tory Ministry, and their secret directors, object to this proceeding, not only because it is agreeable to the purest principles of liberty and the Revolution—both which they detest—but because the Congress, by their wise, spirited councils and conduct, have effectually baffled the Cabinet scheme for enslaving *America*. When Lord *North* proposed his clumsy plan of accommodation last winter, he declared, in the House of Commons, his design to conquer by dividing us; and, after an open declaration of his purpose, the Governours were directed to propose it to the different Assemblies. But *America* disdained the vulgar artifice, and referred him to that body (the General Congress) in which the Councils of *America* were centred, and which had already conducted the general business to general satisfaction. It must be evident to every thinking man, that if thirteen different treaties are set up, hopes, rewards, terrors, and all the infinite machinery of undue influence, may, and will be practised in negotiation, to set the different Colonies at variance, and thus, by division, to conquer and ruin *America*. It is very remarkable, that the only two Colonies (*New-York* and *New-Jersey*) that caught at the Ministerial bait of separate Assembly application, after the rising of Congress in 1774, had their petitions most contemptuously rejected; thus deservedly meeting that fate which will constantly attend departure from a wise, firm, and united conduct. These instances, together with the present proceeding of Administration, prove incontestably that they mean to disunite us, and nothing else. The General Congress, in their declaration of last summer, most solemnly declare: "For the protection of our property, acquired solely by the honest industry of our forefathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors, and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before." If the Ministry mean peace, why do they not accept this offer, and recall their fleets and armies? Yet you find they are increasing both in every part of *North America*. More ships-of-war and soldiers come, and are coming! We must, therefore, give up every claim to policy or prudence, if we doubt a moment of their design to push the war against us, under the fallacious guise of a treaty. If they had the smallest pretensions to sincerity or decency, would they offer a brave and free people terms of accommodation at the points of bayonets? Would they, after cruelly injuring and abusing us beyond the example of former times, insultingly commission persons to receive our submissions and repentance for defending rights which *God*, reason, and compact had given us? Would they content themselves with repealing two or three acts only of those numerous statutes with which they have afflicted us, still retaining the principle with the acts for taxing us without our consent? No, my countrymen, believe me; and observe what the great patriot, Lord *Chatham*, thought, when he proposed to mark sincerity by a removal of fleets and armies from *North America*, and by the repeal of all the obnoxious acts. Until you see this done, there will be no sincerity in the proffered treaty. The design is evidently to divide, in the first place; and, in the second, to gain time for levying and transporting armies for our subjugation; whilst, under the delusive prospect of accommodation, their forces now here are suffered to remain unmolested, to be inured to the climate, and the timely, vigorous efforts

of *America* delayed and frustrated. When, therefore, they offer to treat with Assemblies separately, refer them to the General Congress; and, in the mean time, press the war with manly vigour and perseverance so long as hostile armies remain in your country; and hostile they must be if they remain at all. Common sense, common safety, honour, and the interest of the present and future generations, all loudly call on you thus to act; for if the Ministry are in earnest for restoring peace and doing justice, the united voice of *America*, in Congress, will most certainly and cordially embrace the offer.

SOMERS.

ALEXANDER WICKHAM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis Guard-House, March 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am confined (as I understand) by your order. Should be glad to know what charge against me, as I am ready to answer. I have business of some consequence to do at *Marlborough*; therefore, if convenient to you, would take my trial this afternoon. I apprehend that in all criminal cases the culprit is so far indulged as to have a copy of the charge against him, and his accusers face to face.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

ALEXANDER WICKHAM.

To the Honourable Members of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOHN A. THOMAS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Leonardtown, March 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On *Tuesday* last, in the afternoon, I received advice that three armed vessels were in, and near, the *Patuxent*; that one of them had taken a vessel laden with flour, bound to *Casco-Bay*. On the above notice (as soon as it was possible) we marched down to the mouth of the *Patuxent*; but before we could do anything we were obliged to borrow all the arms from one company of the Militia, and those but very indifferent—indeed, so bad that it would be cruel to set men to work with them. The company from whom I borrowed the arms are at this moment in the greatest want of them, as we have certain intelligence of a man-of-war (a large armed sloop) being at this time riding in *Potomack*. The Militia are, through this County, in a most defenceless state; and my company, if possible, in a much worse one. I have therefore sent Mr. *Steward* up to you requesting to have the arms allotted for us. If you have them not, Mr. *Steward* says he can purchase them. Besides the arms, we want more ammunition; and it is impossible to do anything without them. This County being so particularly circumstanced, I entreat you to allow Mr. *Steward* to look out for arms for us. Under the exigency of affairs I submit it, whether it would not be better to form my company into two, and make them sixty-eight non-commissioned officers and privates, with the proper commissioned officers. If you should approve of this arrangement, I would take the liberty to recommend to your notice two young gentlemen who have entered cadets into my company, and who will fill (in my opinion) very well the stations of Third Lieutenants. I have stationed half my company at the mouth of *Patuxent*, and half (as soon as quarters can be got) will be stationed at the mouth of *Potomack*; this will put it out of the power of Mr. *Ford* to provide for them. I have therefore contracted for a considerable quantity of pork and bread, which will serve the men on *Patuxent* a month or more; and Mr. *Neal* goes off directly to the mouth of *Potomack* to get provisions and quarters for the troops there. As the exigency of affairs would not permit me to consult you, I have, in every step that I have yet taken, consulted the principal gentlemen of the place, who have unanimously agreed to the steps that I have taken; but if they are judged by you to be improper, I beg to be immediately advised, and you may rely that every order from you shall be strictly complied with. I mentioned in my last the necessity of having a horse for expresses and any other uses; I now see the necessity more than ever. The hiring of horses is attended with great delay, and frequently not to be got; I therefore request that you will let me purchase one. I know the publick will be advantaged by it. I also mentioned to you the necessity of having two drummers and fifers. Indeed, little can be done

without them. I beg you will allow Mr. *Steward* to get them at any rate. If purchased, they are the servants of the publick, and their wages (if they live) will soon pay for them, though times are such that I hope you will not stand for trifles. Cartridge paper is indispensably necessary: I beg we may have some. Permit me to press you to consider the naked situation of the County, and to request that Mr. *Steward* may be allowed to look out for arms, &c. The money you ordered me is all expended, and the people not yet supplied, or near it, with clothes and blankets. I beg you will send me a sum of money immediately: the purchase of provisions, clothes, &c., exclusive of the money already received, will take at least between two and three hundred pounds. I hope I may not be stinted, for I have but little cash of my own; indeed, what I had has been expended in the service, and the publick is now considerably in my debt. The men are allowed rum and molasses, neither of which articles can be got here. I wish some method could be fallen upon to get us some. If you think proper to form two companies, I hope the gentlemen now in my company will not be overlooked; they well deserve your notice, and the two young gentlemen cadets; their names are *Robert Chesley* and *Henry Carbery*. For any particulars, Mr. *Steward* will wait on you, to give you any necessary information.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN A. THOMAS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CHARLES CARROLL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore Town, March 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On talking with the gentlemen of the Committee of Observation for this town, I find they will be much in want of provisions for the men now here, as the Commissary is not to be found. They have, I think, made a reasonable agreement to have the men supplied with victuals, ready dressed, at one shilling per head. At their desire I sent the enclosed letter to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*. My reason for sending it to him was his having had orders to hold his men in readiness from the Council; I supposed, therefore, they would be prepared to march. They have here about three thousand pounds of powder; if more should be wanting I shall give them an order for some on Captain *Gaither*, as I recollect he has the keeping of some belonging to the Province. There was an immediate want of a Surgeon for the ship *Defence*; neither the Surgeon we had thought of or his mate being here, I therefore directed Dr. *Wiesenthal* to appoint Mr. *Coulter*, or some other, and to get all the lint, bandage, &c., he could, for the payment of which he should have an order.

Brigadier *Buchanan* finds himself much distressed for want of Field-Officers. As there is an immediate necessity for them, he would be glad if blank commissions, ready signed, could be sent up for one battalion. Think of it, and if it can be done, we will pitch on proper persons here. They are in want of lead—about fifteen hundred pounds will do. They will be glad if you will despatch a cart with it to *Hammond's Ferry*. They would be glad you could spare the large rifles.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CHARLES CARROLL TO COLONEL THOMAS DORSEY.

Baltimore Town, March 8, 1776.

SIR: I left the Council of Safety yesterday in the afternoon, after the man-of-war and her tenders had passed the mouth of our river. If any place is in danger of an immediate attack, I think it will be the town of *Baltimore*; and, on talking with their Committee of Observation, I find they have men enough, but they are very badly armed; I think, therefore, it will be proper that you march your battalion, or all the companies of men in it that have serviceable arms, with all expedition to this town, unless you have express directions from the Council of Safety to go with your battalion to some other place. They will confirm this order of mine. I am, &c.

CHARLES CARROLL.

To Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CALVERT COUNTY  
COMMITTEE.

[No. 37.]

Annapolis, March 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We approve very highly your conduct, and the spirited behaviour of the Militia. The man-of-war and tenders are past this harbour, and, we apprehend, are bound to *Baltimore*; but as there is no determining precisely their destination, and as possibly they may return more speedily than we imagine, and attempt a landing in your County, we recommend it to you to keep up a constant guard to watch your coast. We thank you for your information relative to a place for the station of the troops for your County, and request you will immediately provide the houses at *Drum-Point*, or so many of them as may be necessary, for the said troops, as we have ordered their station there.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Calvert County*.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER I.

MY DEAR COUNTRYMEN: The wisdom of some nations has been greatly commended, because they never enacted any new law, nor suffered any innovation in their ancient Constitutions, without first proposing the matter to the people, and giving them a full opportunity to express their approbation or dislike. It is true, we have never come up to the perfection of this rule; yet in the former happy days of the Province, it was a good and salutary custom among us, freely to discuss and examine all publick affairs, in conversation as well as writing, when occasion required. And although since the commencement of our present troubles, this rule could not always be observed, yet every unnecessary deviation from it has but added to the affliction of many real friends of *America*.

Grievous as the least restraint upon the press must always be to a people entitled to freedom, it must be the more so, when it is not only unwarranted by those to whom they have committed the care of their liberties, but cannot be warranted by them, consistent with liberty itself. Nevertheless we readily submitted to it, while any colourable pretext could be offered for requiring such a submission. Nay, we have done more—we have too quietly yielded to a few who have been claiming one power after another, till at length, encouraged by their success, and prostituting the cry of publick necessity to cloak an ambition which needs as much to be checked in the lowest, as the highest, they have now the astonishing boldness to aim at a total destruction of our charter Constitution, and seizing into their own hands our whole domestick police, with Legislative as well as Executive authority.

To prepare the way for effecting this most ruinous design, the majesty of the people of *Pennsylvania* has been grievously wounded in the persons of their legal Representatives, by repeated attempts to intimidate them in the discharge of the great trust committed to them by the voice of their country, and the most scurrilous misrepresentation of patriotick exertions, which have not been exceeded by any other body upon the Continent.

Since the press is at length become so free that such publications are thought tolerable on one side, it cannot but be judged reasonable that it should be equally free on the other side also, especially where charges are to be answered and innocence defended. At all risks I am determined to make the experiment, and to offer one appeal to the remainder of our ancient virtue. Nor need any persons be alarmed; for an indecent or angry expression shall not dishonour my pen, nor yet a single sentiment, which is not calculated to cement all parties in the Province, upon safe and popular grounds, more firmly than ever, in executing the resolves of Congress, and maintaining *American* liberty. So far as our Committees confine themselves to the purposes of their appointment, which are merely executive; so far as they are exerting themselves to effect what is well expressed in the *Evening Post* of last *Thursday*, to have been their original design, viz: “a faithful execution of the Association entered into by the Continental Congress, relieving and assisting those who may suffer by the suspension of trade; promoting reconciliation upon constitutional principles between *Great Britain* and her Colonies; the encouraging the manufactory of such articles as are neces-

sary for our existence, clothing, defence; the preventing manufacturers or venders of goods and merchandise from selling the same at unusual or extravagant profit;” and holding up transgressors of every rank to publick censure, without fear or affection—so far, I say, they ought to have the thanks of their country, for generously bestowing their time and attention to its service, and ought to be supported by all good men. In this view they deserve the greatest commendation for their late vigorous endeavours to rescue their injured fellow-citizens from the avaricious gripe of engrossers and forestallers.

But if, instead of being confined to such purposes as these, any individuals of our Committees, who, I trust, will never amount to a majority, should, by the bait of power thrown out to them by designing men of this or any other Province, be led out of their line, to interfere in matters foreign to their appointment, I am persuaded, that when they seriously consider what may be offered on this head, they will perceive that such a conduct (as it never can be submitted to by the people of this Province) would give a more effectual stab to our domestick harmony, and to the publick cause, than all the efforts of all the disaffected persons in *America* can give.

In carrying on our great controversy with *England*, *Pennsylvania* has no need either to make the least sacrifice of its Constitution, nor yet to yield in zeal to the foremost of the Colonies. It has been our singular happiness from the beginning, that we have been able to grant, and have actually granted, as large sums for the common service as any of our neighbours, in proportion to our numbers; and that these grants have been made in a way to which the people were accustomed, and to which they have given their sanction, by re-electing the same men, since the contest with *England* had advanced into open war; thereby pledging themselves to submit to whatever mode may be adopted by future Assemblies for sinking the immense sums with which the Province is charged, as well as signifying the fullest approbation of the measures which have been concerted for our defence.

This great privilege which we enjoy, of giving our free unbiased voice annually in the choice of an Assembly, who, from that moment, by charter, become a constitutional body, vested with the authority of the people, and can meet when they please, and sit as long as they judge necessary—this privilege, I say, and the ease and quiet with which our publick business has been transacted during the present contest, have been the envy and admiration of our neighbours, who, enjoying no such perfection in their civil Constitutions, have been driven into the measure of Conventions, and forced to hazard the emission of money, and other acts of state, under disadvantages which need not be mentioned here, as we are yet happily free from them. Would any wise people, enjoying such a Constitution, ever think of destroying it with their own hands? Or does any other Colony, whose Assemblies can exercise their authority, ever think of committing the conduct of affairs to Conventions?

But suppose our Assembly really chargeable with any other culpable neglect of duty, with what face could those of our present Committee, who are so loud in their clamours against them, pretend to step into their seats? Were they chosen for that purpose? No! They were considered as chosen for the purposes already mentioned; and although they consist of a hundred members, they had not two hundred votes. Few people gave themselves any concern about the election, being well satisfied that any number of respectable citizens who would take the trouble of a Committee of Inspection, should be thankfully indulged with the office. But would this have been the case, had it been imagined that any among them would ever aspire at the powers vested in an Assembly, fairly and constitutionally elected, to represent two or three hundred thousand people? For, whatever may be pretended about the necessity of a Convention, it is certain, that if such a body were to meet, and could succeed in assuming the powers of Government, they must all at length be vested, for the sake of execution, in the hands of a few men, who consider themselves as leaders in the city of *Philadelphia*; and the Province in general have but little to say in the matter.

These are very serious and alarming considerations to many; and, therefore, after discussing a certain point of

equal importance in my second letter, I will proceed in the succeeding ones to inquire into the justice of such complaints as have been made against the Assembly. In some instances, probably, these complaints may appear to be well founded. Where they are so, I shall be ready to confess it; and as perfection is not to be expected in the first hasty essays of any publick bodies, providing for new and unprecedented cases, I doubt not they will readily make such amendments as may appear necessary to themselves, or be suggested by reasonable men. In some instances, I shall show that they deserve publick thanks, for refusing to comply with some requisitions formerly made; and that others are now made, which they cannot assent to, without a manifest violation of our Constitution; such as blending the military and civil power, and giving Field-Officers, who may hold their places for life, the power of determining appeals, and discharging assessments, which is now safely lodged in the constitutional way, with Commissioners chosen by the people.

CATO.

# INHABITANTS OF WESTMORELAND (PENNSYLVANIA) TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 12, 1776.—Ordered to lie on the table.]

Westmoreland, March 8, 1776.

SIR: The inhabitants of this town being sensible of the blessings of liberty, and desirous of taking a share in defence thereof, by risking their lives and fortunes in the service of the honourable Continental Congress; it seems they could think of no better way of testifying their attachment to the common cause than by meeting together this day, and making choice of us as their officers; desiring, at the same time, we should apply immediately to the honourable Continental Congress for commissions, that we may be in readiness to march if your Honours call for us, at the shortest notice. If your Honours please to honour us with commissions, as the people were pleased to choose us their officers, we will use our utmost skill and ability, in conjunction with the other troops in the Continental service, to subdue the enemies of *American* liberty. We have, therefore, despatched Mr. *William Stewart*, with copies of the instrument to which we have subscribed and bound ourselves by, with a list of the names of those who made choice of us, and by whom the honourable Congress will please to send such commissions, and instructions how to draw sustenance, money, clothes, and arms and ammunition for the men.

We are, sir, with due regard to truth, your Honours' obliged humble servants,

LAZARUS STEWART,  
TIMOTHY SMITH,  
DETHICK HEWIT,  
PHINEAS PEIRCE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

We certify that a company of men met together in *Kingston* District, in the Town of *Westmoreland*, on *Susquehanna* River, and in the Colony of *Connecticut*, and there chose Lieutenant *Lazarus Stewart* their Captain, Messrs. *Timothy Smith*, First Lieutenant, *Dethick Hewit*, Second Lieutenant, and *Phineas Peirce*, Ensign; and they have obliged themselves by an instrument in writing, to which they have signed their names, with the men who chose them officers, to march at the shortest notice, to any part that your Honours or honourable Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, to which they belong, may direct, to defend the liberties and privileges of *America*; and do think them suitable persons to officiate in that station in which they have been chosen, and do accordingly recommend them to your Honours.

Given under our hands, this 8th day of *March*, 1776.

NATHAN DENISON,  
JOHN JAMESON,  
WILLIAM STEWART.

To the Honourable Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

Westmoreland, March 6, 1776.

Whereas the inhabitants of this town have of late been invaded by a large number of Tories, which, by the blessing of *God*, we have repulsed, but, notwithstanding, are

threatened with another invasion; and as we are also a frontier town, and liable to be attacked by the *Indians*, if a war should commence between them and us, we do think that it is our duty to be in readiness at an hour's warning, if an invasion should happen, to engage our enemies, invaders, or intruders; and we, the undersigners, do freely and with cheerfulness engage in the common cause as soldiers in the defence of liberty, under the direction of the honourable Continental Congress, or Colony to which we belong; and do freely and of ourselves incline to go with *Timothy Smith* and Lieutenant *Lazarus Stewart*, as officers over us; and we will submit ourselves to be ruled, governed, and ordered by them as officers, when they shall receive commissions for that purpose, either from our Governour, or the honourable Continental Congress; and we receive such bounties and moneys, clothes, &c., as shall be allowed to us as soldiers.

Lazarus Stewart,	James York,	Elisha Saterly,
Timothy Smith,	Obediah Gore, Jr.,	William Kellogg, Jr.,
Dethick Hewit,	Oliver Hammon,	Isaiah Walker,
Phineas Peirce,	Josiah Kellogg,	Lebeus Hammon,
John Tubbs,	Caleb Atherton,	Benjamin Cole,
James Smith,	Isaiah Patee,	Elijah Brown,
Constant Matterson,	Nathan Cary,	Azer Curtis,
Elijah Matterson,	Peleg Cook,	Francis Hopkins, Jr.,
Hemar Swift,	Israel Inman,	Nathan Bradley,
Elijah Walker,	James Hopkins,	Daniel Lawrence,
Robert Dorrance,	Stephen Burrell,	Daniel Franklin,
Ezekiel Hambleton,	Richard Inman,	Thomas Haath,
Jed. Stephens, Jr.,	Ebenezer Heberd,	John Murphy,
Nathaniel Church,	Samuel Ensing,	Stephen Whiten,
Gideon Church,	Mason Fitchalden,	Thomas Park,
Constant Searls, Jr.,	Oliver Bennet,	Elisha Fish,
Samuel Tubbs,	William Welch,	Abraham Humerston,
Benjamin Jenkins,	Silas Gore,	William Davison,
Thomas Baldwin,	Asaph Whittlesey,	Esbon Hatch,
Rufus Baldwin,	David Durell,	Edward Lester,
William Jackways,	Asel Mash,	John Cary,
Thomas Hill,	Justice Gaylard, Jr.,	Tole Kelly.

# A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GHOST OF GENERAL MONTGOMERY AND A DELEGATE, IN A WOOD NEAR PHILADELPHIA.

DELEGATE. Welcome to this retreat, my good friend. If I mistake not, I see the ghost of the brave General *Montgomery*.

General MONTGOMERY. I am glad to see you. I still love liberty and *America*; and the contemplation of the future greatness of this Continent now forms a large share of my present happiness. I am sent here upon an important errand, to warn you against listening to terms of accommodation from the Court of *Britain*.

DELEGATE. I shall be happy in receiving instruction from you in the present trying exigency of our publick affairs; but suppose the terms you speak of should be just and honourable.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. How can you expect these, after the King has proclaimed you Rebels from the Throne, and after both Houses of Parliament have resolved to support him in carrying on a war against you? No; I see no offers from *Great Britain*, but of pardon. The very word is an insult upon our cause. To whom is pardon offered? To virtuous freemen. For what? For flying to arms in defence of the rights of humanity. And from whom do these offers come? From a Royal criminal. You have furnished me with a new reason for triumphing in my death; for I had rather have it said that I died by his vengeance, than that I lived by his mercy.

DELEGATE. But you think nothing of the destructiveness of war; how many cities must be reduced to ashes, and how many families must be ruined, and how many widows and orphans must be made, should the present war be continued any longer with *Great Britain*.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. I think of nothing but the destructive consequences of slavery. The calamities of war are transitory, and confined in their effects; but the calamities of slavery are extensive, and lasting in their operations. I love mankind as well as you, and I would never restrain a tear when my love of justice has obliged me to shed the blood of a fellow creature. It is my humanity that makes me urge you against a reconciliation with *Great Britain*; for if this takes place, nothing can prevent the *American* Colonies from being the seat of war, as often as the King of *Great Britain* renews his quarrels with any of his Colonies, or with any of the belligerent powers of *Europe*.

DELEGATE. I tremble at the doctrine you have advanced. I see you are for the independence of the Colonies on *Great Britain*.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. I am for permanent liberty, peace, and security to the *American Colonies*.

DELEGATE. These can only be maintained by placing the Colonies in the situation they were in in the year 1763.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. And is no satisfaction to be made to the Colonies for the blood and treasure they have expended in resisting the arms of *Great Britain*? Who can soften the prejudices of the King, the Parliament, and the nation, each of whom will be averse to maintain a peace with you in proportion to the advantage you have gained over them? Who shall make restitution to the widows, the mothers, and the children of the men who were slain by their arms? Can no hand wield the sceptre of Government in *America*, except that which has been stained with the blood of your countrymen? For my part, if I thought this Continent would ever acknowledge the sovereignty of the Crown of *Britain* again, I should forever lament the day in which I offered up my life for its salvation.

DELEGATE. You should distinguish between the King and his Ministers.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. I live in a world where all political superstition is done away. The King is the author of all the measures carried on against the *Americans*. The influence of bad Ministers is no better apology for these measures, than the influence of bad company is for a murderer, who expiates his crimes under a gallows. You all complain of the corruption of the Parliament, and of the venality of the nation; and yet you forget that the Crown is the source of them both. You shun the streams, and yet you are willing to sit down at the very fountain of corruption and venality.

DELEGATE. Our distance and charters will protect us from the influence of the Crown.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. Your distance will only render your danger more imminent, and your ruin more irretrievable. Charters are no restraints against the lusts of power. The only reason why you have escaped so long, is, because the treasure of the nation has been employed for these fifty years in buying up the virtue of *Britain* and *Ireland*. Hereafter, the seduction of the Representatives of the people of *America* will be the only aim of the Administration, should you continue to be connected with them.

DELEGATE. But I foresee many evils from the independence of the Colonies. Our trade will be ruined, from the want of a Navy to protect it. Each Colony will put in its claim for superiority, and we shall have domestick wars without end.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. As I know that Divine Providence intends this country to be the asylum of persecuted virtue from every quarter of the globe, so I think your trade will be the vehicle that will convey it to you. Heaven has furnished you with greater resources for a Navy than any nation in the world. Nothing but an ignorance of your strength could have led you to sacrifice your trade for the protection of a foreign navy. A freedom from the restraints of the acts of navigation, I foresee, will produce such immense additions to the wealth of this country, that posterity will wonder that ever you thought your present trade worth its protection. As to the supposed contentions between sister Colonies, they have no foundation in truth; but, supposing they have, will delaying the independence of the Colonies fifty years prevent them? No; the weakness of the Colonies, which at first produced their union, will always preserve it, till it shall be their interest to be separated. Had the Colony of *Massachusetts Bay* been possessed of the military resources which it will probably have fifty years hence, would she have held out the signal of distress to her sister Colonies, upon the news of the *Boston Port Bill*? No; she would have withstood all the power of *Britain*, and afterwards the neutral Colonies might have shared the fate of the Colony of *Canada*. Moreover, had the connection with *Great Britain* been continued fifty years longer, the progress of *British* laws, customs, and manners, (now totally corrupted,) would have been such, that the Colonies would have been prepared to welcome slavery; but had it been otherwise, they must have asserted their independence with arms. This is nearly done already. It will be cruel to bequeath another contest to your posterity.

DELEGATE. But I dread all innovations in Governments. They are very dangerous things.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. The Revolution which gave temporary stability to the liberties of *Britain*, was an innovation in Government, and yet no ill consequences have arisen from it. Innovations are dangerous only as they shake the prejudices of a people; but there are now, I believe, but few prejudices to be found in this country in favour of the old connection with *Great Britain*. I except those men only, who are under the influence of their passions and offices.

DELEGATE. But is it not most natural for us to wish for a connection with a people who speak the same language with us, and possess the same laws, religion, and forms of Government, with ourselves?

Gen. MONTGOMERY. The immortal *Montesquieu* says, that nations should form alliances with those nations only which are as unlike to themselves as possible in religion, laws, and manners, if they mean to preserve their own constitution. Your dependance upon the Crown is no advantage, but rather an injury to the people of *Britain*, as it increases the power and influence of the King. The people are benefited only by your trade, and this they may have after you are independent of the Crown. Should you be disposed to forgive the King and the nation for attempting to enslave you, they will never forgive you for having baffled them in the attempt.

DELEGATE. But we have many friends in both Houses of Parliament.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. You mean the Ministry have many enemies in Parliament which connect the cause of *America* with their clamours at the door of Administration. Lord *Chatham's* Conciliatory Bill would have ruined you more effectually than Lord *North's* motion. The Marquis of *Rockingham* was the author of the Declaratory Bill; Mr. *Wilkes* has added infamy to the weakness of your cause; and the Duke of *Grafton* and Lord *Littleton* have rendered the minority junto, if possible, more contemptible than ever.

DELEGATE. But if we become independent, we shall become a Commonwealth.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. I maintain that it is your interest to be independent of *Great Britain*; but I do not recommend any new form of Government to you. I should think it strange that a people who have virtue enough to defend themselves against the most powerful nation in the world, should want wisdom to contrive a perfect and free form of Government. You have been kept in subjection to the Crown of *Britain* by a miracle. Your liberties have hitherto been suspended by a thread. Your connection with *Great Britain* is unnatural and unnecessary. All the wheels of Government should move within itself. I would only beg leave to observe to you, that monarchy and aristocracy have in all ages been the vehicles of slavery.

DELEGATE. Our Governments will want force and authority, if we become independent of *Great Britain*.

Gen. MONTGOMERY. I beg leave to contradict that assertion. No Royal edicts, or acts of Assembly, have ever been more faithfully obeyed than the resolves of the Congress. I admire the virtue of the Colonies; and did not some of them still hang upon the haggard breasts of *Great Britain*, I should think the time now come in which they had virtue enough to be happy under any form of Government. Remember, that it is in a Commonwealth only that you can expect to find every man a patriot or a hero. *Aristides*, *Epaminondas*, *Pericles*, *Scipio*, *Camillus*, and a thousand illustrious *Grecian* and *Roman* heroes, would never have astonished the world with their names, had they lived under royal Governments.

DELEGATE. Will not a declaration of independence lessen the number of our friends, and increase the rage of our enemies, in *Britain*?

Gen. MONTGOMERY. Your friends (as you call them) are too few to divide, and too interested to help you; and as for your enemies, they have done their worst. They have called upon *Russians*, *Hanoverians*, *Hessians*, *Canadians*, *Savages*, and *Negroes*, to assist them in burning your towns, desolating your country, and in butchering your wives and children. You have nothing further to fear from them. Go, then, and awaken the Congress to a sense of their im-



portance; you have no time to lose. *France* waits for nothing but a declaration of your independence, to revenge the injuries they sustained from *Britain* in the last war. But I forbear to reason any further with you. The decree has finally gone forth: *Britain* and *America* are distinct empires. Your country teems with patriots, heroes, and legislators, who are impatient to burst forth into light and importance. Hereafter, your achievements shall no more swell the pages of *British* history. *God* did not excite the attention of all *Europe*—of the whole world—nay, of angels themselves, to the present controversy, for nothing. The inhabitants of Heaven long to see the ark finished, in which all the liberty and true religion of the world are to be deposited. The day in which the Colonies declare their independence, will be a jubilee to *Hampden*, *Sidney*, *Russell*, *Warren*, *Gardiner*, *Macpherson*, and the other heroes who have offered themselves as sacrifices upon the altar of liberty. It was no small mortification to me, when I fell upon the *Plains of Abraham*, to reflect that I did not expire, like the brave General *Wolfe*, in the arms of victory. But I now no longer envy him his glory. I would rather die in attempting to obtain permanent freedom for a handful of people, than survive a conquest which would serve only to extend the empire of despotism. A band of heroes now beckon to me: I can only add, that *America* is the theatre where human nature will soon receive its greatest military, civil, and literary honours.

Friday, March 8, 1776.

LORD STIRLING TO COLONEL WARD.

Head-Quarters, New-York, March 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I write this letter to you in the utmost confidence of secrecy, and therefore no man but yourself is to see it. It is absolutely necessary to prevent the present communication between the Ship *Phoenix*, which lays off the west end of *Long-Island*, below the *Narrows*, and the people of that part of *Long-Island*; but more especially to take or destroy a certain *Frank James*, a pilot, who now assists Captain *Parker*, commander of the *Phoenix*, in decoying and taking vessels of great importance to the cause we are engaged in. There are some other pilots serving him in the same way, whose names I am not informed of, but are well known to the bearer, Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck*, who, with three or four other guides, will attend you for the purpose hereinafter mentioned.

I must desire you will pick out of your regiment two of the most alert officers, and two parties of about twenty men each, to be supplied with twenty rounds of ammunition, and three days' provision, and order them to proceed with the guides, to the place they will show them, to conceal themselves as much as possible from the people of the country, and to take such stations as are most proper for effecting the purposes above-mentioned; and to take and secure or destroy those pilots, or any persons belonging to the man-of-war. It will be best that the two parties march from your quarters to-morrow evening, a little before moon-rising, so that they may arrive at their station before daylight; and it will be absolutely necessary that the officers of each party consult with, and put the utmost confidence in, the guides assigned them. When the parties have taken their stations, they, if possible, should prevent any boats from leaving the shore, without firing, or by any means alarming the men-of-war or the country; and the shortest way of effecting this will be, for single men about daylight to examine the shore, and with their hatchets to cut a hole or two in the bottom of all the small boats they find there, and to remove to some secret place their oars, paddles, or sails. You will see the necessity of this matter being conducted with conduct, secrecy, and alertness, and I doubt not you will choose your men accordingly.

I am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To Colonel Ward, Long-Island.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 11, 1776.]

New-York, March 8, 1776.

SIR: I now send you the two returns I mentioned to you

in my last; also, copies of three letters I wrote to the Convention of *New-Jersey*, at the request of General *Lee*; but as that Convention broke up last *Saturday*, before they could possibly have received either of the letters, and as they have now no Committee of Safety sitting, I have little hopes of any attention being paid to those letters, unless Congress would request Mr. *Tucker*, the President, to call a meeting of the Committee of Safety, and to keep sitting while the publick safety so necessarily requires it.

General *Lee* left this place yesterday evening, and I suppose will be at *Philadelphia* before this reaches you. The arduous task which has devolved on me, is almost too much for me, with the little assistance I have; yet the Congress may be assured I shall do everything in my power to carry on the service.

The two regiments here from *Connecticut* will not be prevailed upon to stay longer than the 25th instant. When they are gone, there will not be above five hundred men fit for service. Five thousand will be too few, I am afraid, properly to defend this place. The Third Battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops, I am told, is near complete. I shall direct Colonel *Dayton* to hold them in readiness to march to this place as soon as I know this is their destination.

March 9.—It was yesterday confidently reported that a large fleet was seen on the coast, coming into *Sandy-Hook*; but I have now reason to believe there is no truth in it.

I am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

New-York, March 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Every hour furnishes new reasons to convince us that all intercourse between the inhabitants of this Continent and the men-of-war of *Great Britain* should immediately cease. This has induced General *Lee* to direct me to inform you that he thinks it will be of great importance to the publick cause that all communication should be cut off between any part of the Province of *New-Jersey* and *Staten-Island*, on the one part, and the men-of-war which now are, or hereafter may be, within *Sandy-Hook*, or any ship or vessel that has any connection with them, on the other part; and, in order the better to effect this for the present, he thinks it will be highly necessary that about four hundred Minute-men from *New-Jersey* be stationed on *Staten-Island*, near the watering place; who, besides the above purposes, should keep a constant vigilant lookout towards the sea, and inform the General of every arrival of ships, or motion of the men-of-war that may happen. This part of the service would be much facilitated if a few light-horse were employed to bring the intelligence by the way of *Bergen Point* and *Paulus Hook*. This party on *Staten-Island* would also effectually guard the *Kills*, and also the interior country, which is now open to the insult of a single barge. One company would be useful at and near *Paulus Hook*; one or two at *Amboy*; and two or three, or four, in *Monmouth* County, to guard the coast from *Shrewsbury Inlet* to the mouth of *Raritan*, in which should be included a party of light-horse on the Highlands of *Never-sink*.

The objects all these parties should most particularly have in view, are, to prevent any intercourse of the kind between the ships-of-war and the shore; to prevent the former from receiving wood, water, provision, or any refreshment whatever; and to give the General intelligence of every motion of the enemy, or appearance of ships at sea. If vessels laden with provisions are indiscriminately permitted to leave *New-Jersey*, they will, by the extraordinary price given by the commanders of the men-of-war and Governour *Tryon*, be allured to give them every refreshment they can want; yet it may be necessary that this place be supplied with provision from *New-Jersey*. It will, therefore, be requisite that the Congress of *New-Jersey* do commit the management of this matter to vigilant men whom they can depend upon.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To Samuel Tucker, Esq., President of the Congress of *New-Jersey*, at *New-Brunswick*.

New-York, March 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: From intelligence which General Lee has received this evening from the eastward, it is highly probable that the whole or a very great part of the Ministerial Army at Boston are already embarked, and on their way to this place. I am, therefore, commanded by General Lee to inform you it is his opinion that the whole (or such part as is ready) of the Third Battalion raised in *New-Jersey* for the Continental service do, as soon as possible, by companies, as soon as they can be completed, armed and accoutred, march to this place on the first intimation. Care will be taken to have boats ready to bring them over from *Paulus Hook* to the *Hoboken* ferries.

The General also desires me to repeat to you, that it may be of the highest importance that the arrangement of guards on *Staten-Island*, and the several places mentioned in my letter to you of yesterday, should immediately take place.

I must take this opportunity of informing you that the first Battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops is now deficient of at least two hundred stand of arms, which I should before have urged stronger for had it not been that I knew the difficulties your Congress were under in equipping and despatching Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment to the northward. If we had been supplied with money for this purpose, we might, by purchase, have picked up in *New-Jersey* and in this place a sufficiency to complete them; but I never yet have had the command of a single dollar which has been allotted for that service. With money, we might still supply the regiment with many; and if Colonel *Lowrey*, who, I hope, is on his way to this place, does not supply money for this purpose, and for blankets, I hope the Congress of *New-Jersey* will pay attention to it. If Colonel *Lowrey* should fall in your way, I must beg the favour of you to let him know there is the highest necessity of his being here immediately.

Give me leave to add, that it is my opinion that it will, at this time, be highly necessary for the Congress of *New-Jersey* to continue sitting, or that they have a Committee of Safety to sit daily, until publick affairs are more certainly arranged, and that their deliberations and determinations never were more necessary than at this juncture.

I am your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the Congress of *New-Jersey*.

New-York, March 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The critical situation that this part of the Continent is in obliges us to think of every circumstance that can tend to secure us against the machinations of our enemies. I have no doubt the Congress of *New-Jersey* will see the necessity of sending four or five hundred men to *Staten-Island* immediately, and of stationing some men at *Amboy* and the other places mentioned in my letter to you of the 2d instant. Another step seems absolutely necessary, which is, to prevent the disaffected, or what we very properly distinguish by the name of Tories, from assisting our enemies in doing us mischief, either in joining with them or giving them intelligence. General Lee has thought it expedient that the enclosed test be offered to all suspected persons in this Province, and to remove all such as will not subscribe to it; and intends to have it immediately carried into execution. The Congress of this Province cannot carry this measure into execution on *Staten-Island* without marching a body of men through *New-Jersey*, and many other inconveniences. The commanding officer of the troops I have proposed should be sent to *Staten-Island* should, therefore, be instructed to carry this measure into execution, and to secure all the live stock of suspected persons in such manner as will secure it from falling into the hands of the enemy. The like should be proposed in every part of *New-Jersey* exposed to an intercourse with the shipping; and General Lee orders me to inform you that it is his strenuous desire that the Congress of *New-Jersey* will carry the measure immediately into execution.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the Congress of *New-Jersey*.

General Morning Report of the First Regiment of NEW JERSEY Troops, commanded by the Earl of STIRLING. NEW-YORK, MARCH 3, 1776.

COMPANIES.	PRESENT FIT FOR DUTY.			ON DUTY.			ON COMMAND.			ABSENT WITH LEAVE			ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.			DESERTED.			PRISONERS.			SICK.			TOTALS.			WANTING TO COMPLETE.		
	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.		
Joseph Morris, 1st.....	3	4	1	38	1	1	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	
Silas Howell, 2d.....	3	3	2	29	1	1	1	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
John Conway, 3d.....	3	3	3	25	1	1	1	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
John Polhemus, 4th.....	3	3	2	54	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Joseph Meeker, 5th.....	2	3	2	50	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Andrew McMyer, 6th.....	2	2	2	34	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Daniel Platt, 7th.....	3	3	2	27	1	1	1	21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Elias Longstreet, 8th.....	3	4	2	45	1	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Total.....	22	25	13	303	5	3	109	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	52	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	70	32	32	16	582	

RECAPITULATION—Present fit for duty: 22 Sergeants, 13 Drums, 327 Rank. On duty: 5 Sergeants, 112 Rank. Prisoners: 12 Rank. Sick: 2 Sergeants, 1 Drum, 72 Rank. On command: 1 Sergeant, 1 Rank. Absent with leave: 1 Sergeant, 37 Rank. Absent without leave 1 Drum, 1 Rank. Deserted: 1 Sergeant, 1 Drum, 52 Rank. Wanted to complete: 26 Rank.—Total: 32 Sergeants, 16 Drums and Fifes, 640 Rank and File. STIRLING, Colonel.



if they had him out of doors, which your complainant can prove by creditable evidence. Your complainant, therefore, begs your honourable House to take the above under consideration.

I am, with respect, your most obedient humble servant,  
HENDRICK GARRISON.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

THOMAS BELKNAP, JUN., TO GENERAL LEE.

New-Windsor, March 8, 1776.

PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The Convention of the County of *Ulster* was pleased to recommend me, the subscriber, to the Provincial Congress in *New-York*, to raise a company of Riflemen at *Wyoma* and the back Mountains, referring the matter to their better judgment, and if your Excellency wants such a company of men in the Continental Army, it is the petition of your humble servant, that his Excellency would please to make it known to the said Congress as soon as his Excellency shall think proper, there being now a considerable number of bright Riflemen waiting to know whether the honourable Congress will send a warrant to inlist them or not.

His Excellency's taking the aforesaid matter into his consideration will oblige his most obedient humble servant at command,

THOMAS BELKNAP, JUN.

To His Excellency General *Lee*, Chief Commander of the Army at *New-York*, or the next commanding Officer.

This is referred to the Congress as worthy their consideration, whether Mr. *Belknap* may not be employed in one of the *New-York* Regiments.

STIRLING.

March 13, 1776.

LORD STIRLING TO ABRAHAM YATES.

New-York, March 8, 1776.

SIR: I now send you copy of part of the orders which I propose delivering out this evening, in consequence of what passed between the Committee and myself this morning.

I am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To *Abraham Yates*, Esq.

COLONEL HASBROUCK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Kingston, March 8, 1776.

SIR: I have received the commissions for the Field-Officers of the Northern Regiment in *Ulster* County, which we hereby return again to the honourable Congress. The reasons we all give, you will find by another letter of the same date signed by us. The reasons are, first: We know of no Northern Regiment in *Ulster* County, by that name. Second, by the subaltern officers their commissions are of a prior date than ours, and say they are officers of a company of foot in the First Regiment; and some, of the first, second, &c., company of militia of foot in *Ulster* County, and under no command of any Colonel. If we should accept of the commissions sent us, we should be officers, and have no men to command. And even if the commissions which were sent us did say that we should command the First Regiment in *Ulster* County, we should still be the youngest regiment in *Ulster* County, by the date of our commissions; for the others are dated in *October* last, and ours the 20th of *February* last. If we are to be arranged according to the dates of the commissions, then, consequently, we are the youngest regiment. There can be no propriety, in that case, in any degree; because all the other regiments are descended from the first. The whole County was under the command of one set of Field-Officers until the year 1756, and it was then divided into two regiments. Our regiment was called the First Regiment, and the other the Second; and both regiments are now again divided into two regiments, and this regiment to be the last regiment in said County. I cannot see for what reason it is done: it must be best known to you, gentlemen. If we should accept of the commissions sent by you to us, if the commissions even mentioned the First Regiment in *Ulster* County, and having a junior date, as it has, every

subaltern officer and soldier we have under our command would be dissatisfied; because they will judge they are wronged in their ranks; for the First Regiment in *Ulster* County is of as old a standing as any in the Province, or near it. I am sorry that the regiment I have had the honour to command these twenty years, as Lieutenant-Colonel, is now so unsettled, and has not proper persons commissioned to command them, if their service should be required. But where the fault lies, let them answer for it. I know that Messrs. *Dumond* and *Tappan*, two of our late Delegates from *Ulster* County, have been very officious to procure or obtain commissions for several persons; and Messrs. *Wynkoop*, *Cantine*, and *Palmer*, for others, to serve their purposes. But this is not the time to be the occasion to breed discord amongst us—so brave a people as this part of the County of *Ulster* is esteemed, for to maintain, defend, and support *American* liberty. It is now the time to cultivate union and harmony among ourselves—to oppose and withstand the measures of a despotick tyrannical Ministry. I understand that *George Clinton*, Esq., is commissioned for Brigadier-General of the two brigades of *Ulster* and *Orange* Counties. How he comes to be promoted to so high a rank I must leave that with you, (I know he never was a corporal or sergeant in the Militia,) and how it was brought about to supersede so many brave officers in their ranks in the regiments. I very well know that he never was returned by a County Committee for a Brigadier. If our Delegates have done it, they must answer for it. I doubt very much if it had been left to a County Committee if he would have been returned for a Brigadier-General. And why is not the choice of a Brigadier-General to be made by the County Committee as well as the Field-Officers of the First Regiment in *Ulster* County? Doth it not appear strange that the neighbouring County of *Dutchess* hath appointed (as I am informed by one of the Delegates) Lieutenant-Colonel *Ten Broeck* for Brigadier-General for the brigade of said County, he being the oldest Lieutenant-Colonel of that County, and was promoted in his rank; and in *Ulster* County to pass by Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, and Captains, and put in *George Clinton*, Esq., who was, or hath never been, in the Militia, as is observed above?

I wrote to the honourable Congress the 6th of *October* last past, that I would accept of a commission if it was offered to me from the Congress at this critical juncture; that I was ready for defending *American* liberty; but that I would not be superseded in my rank. I wrote the same again the 15th *December* last past to the same purport by Mr. *Cantine*. Since *George Clinton*, Esq., hath the supreme command over the two brigades, and is to command me, if I accept of the commission, as well as all the other Colonels of the several regiments; so, consequently, I am superseded, and, therefore, I will accept of no commission to be commanded by any person who was heretofore of an inferior rank with me. And what gentleman of honour will accept of a commission from Congress if he is or may be superseded in his rank? He cannot expect promotion. If it enters but into the caprice of any of the Delegates of the County to promote a friend of his, of an inferior rank, above a Colonel, Major, or Captain, it may be done. If the honourable Congress judges it reasonable, for the reasons by me above given, will alter the date of the commissions you sent up to us, and, instead of Northern Regiment, call it the First Regiment. If you think proper send up commissions for those gentlemen recommended by the County Committee, and leave out my name if I must be commanded by Mr. *Clinton*, or any other superior of an inferior rank with me.

The gentlemen named by the County Committee, *Johannes Snyder*, Colonel, instead of my name, and *Jonathan Elmendorf*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Adrian Wynkoop*, First Major; . . . . ., Second Major; *Abraham A. Hasbrouck*, Adjutant; *John Van Dusen*, Quartermaster. Send up the commissions as speedily as possible, that the regiment may be under a proper command.

I am, gentlemen, with great esteem, your most humble servant to command,

J. HASBROUCK.

To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, held and convened at *New-York*, and all the Members thereof.

*To the President of the Honourable Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK, in Congress now convened at NEW-YORK :  
A Memorial of the present disorderly situation of the First Regiment of ULSTER County.*

GENTLEMEN: The First Regiment in *Ulster* County, as it has always been esteemed, has been for a long time kept in suspense by some misconduct or other, by whom, unknown to us, in appointing Field-Officers. We have seen some time last fall the commissions for the subaltern officers in the First Regiment in said County, bearing date in *October* last, and in some of the Captains' commissions, a blank left for a Colonel's name, others no blank left for a Colonel; one in particular, neither belongs to a regiment nor Colonel. These commissions were brought up by Mr. *Egbert Dumond* and *Tappan*, our late Delegates, and no commissions for Field-Officers of the Militia. Some time in *January* last, Mr. *Dirck Wynkoop*, Jun., and *Cantine*, two of our present Delegates, came home and brought commissions for Field-Officers of a Minute Regiment; but as yet no commissions for Field-Officers of the Militia. Here the cart was before the horse; for the Minute are to be raised out of the regiment of Militia, and no Militia formed for want of Field-Officers. Now lately commissions were sent up to the Chairman of the County Committee, for Field-Officers of a regiment called the Northern Regiment, in *Ulster* County. The said commissions directed to *A. Hasbrouck*, First Colonel; *Johannes Snyder*, Second Colonel; *Jonathan Elmendorf*, First Major; *Adrian Wynkoop*, Second Major, &c.; bearing dates the 20th day of *February*, 1776. How inconsistent! The subaltern commissions are of a prior date than the Field-Officers', even if they did belong to one and the same regiment. But another inconsistency: the subalterns, some belong to the First Regiment, others to nobody, and the Field-Officers are appointed for the Northern Regiment. Gentlemen, we are satisfied the arrangement for Field-Officers was returned in Congress some time last summer for the First Regiment in said County, and the very persons, (except Mr. *Adrian Wynkoop*, who the County Committee appointed to fill the vacancy of Colonel *Hardenburgh* declined,) were returned in Congress, who are now commissioned for the Northern Regiment. Gentlemen, for the truth hereof, we refer to the journals of your honourable House. Gentlemen, we appeal to your honourable Board; we presume there is a great error in the proceedings relative to the forming and completing the First Regiment in *Ulster* County. Whether it is owing to the Congress or our Delegates, we cannot determine. But we will affirm, that neither we nor the greater part of the subalterns, are the cause of it. We are ashamed that matters are carried on so irregularly, especially in these critical times, when necessity requires to have the Militia in readiness, and well disciplined.

Gentlemen, this is the state of the present situation of the First Regiment in said County. Now, if we should accept of these commissions, we have no regiment at all; for the Militia that was intended we should command, the Captains' commissions, as is said before, belong to the First Regiment in said County; and certainly there must be such, as the first in the County, and, in consequence, it would be a piece of ignorance in us to accept of a commission, and nobody to command. We presume the honourable Congress are advised by such as have not the present cause at heart, who would rather see disorder than good order and general union.

We are informed it is resolved by the Congress that officers should go in rank by succession. If that be the case, how is it possible that Colonel *Hasbrouck* should not be the First Colonel, in said County, and in the First Regiment, instead of Colonel of a Regiment never heard of, nor ever was? And if we should be dealt with agreeable to the resolve, and equal with our neighbouring County, without doubt Colonel *Hasbrouck* should be raised to a higher station; for he is the oldest Colonel, next to Colonel *Hardenburgh*, in the County of *Ulster*, and older than any in the adjacent County.

Gentlemen, we conceive if the commissions now sent up for Field-Officers for a Northern Regiment cannot be altered, and a prior or an even date given with commissions of the Field-Officers of the other regiments in our County, and the rank of the First Regiment in *Ulster* County; without that, what we in general claim our right, for all the other

regiments in the County are descended from us; we see no prospect of getting the Militia in our part of the County under order. So, gentlemen, we shall rest the matter with your superior wisdom. Do as you think proper, gentlemen. We enclose herewith the commissions to you, and expect you will rectify the errors. And remain your humble servants,

JONATHAN HASBROUCK,  
JOHANNES SNYDER,  
JONATHAN ELMENDORF,  
ADRIAN WYNKOOP.

Kingston, March 8, 1776.

COLONEL BEDEL TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Orford, March 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have mustered my men, but do not hear of Captain *Osgood's*. Part of three companies are marched, and the recruiting officers, with what money was advanced them, cannot well make out unless they can be provided with some on account. I have also been at a great expense on account of the *Indians*, who have been very sick; two of them are dead, and sent to *Dartmouth College* to be buried, and the rest marched off yesterday in good spirits. If you could advance me three hundred pounds, I believe it might be sufficient to help the officers, and the expense of the *Indians*, which runs high, and not yet paid; also, am obliged to purchase medicines, which are very dear; also, horses to carry the same, and baggage, which takes off money very fast. I shall proceed to *Quebeck* as fast as possibly I can send off my men. The proposal made by you to the *Indians*, in regard to making them a present, was forgot; if it could be sent should be glad. I shall be waiting the return of the express at *Orford*, where I shall march from; should be glad it might be directed for me there. You will also receive the opinion of Colonel *Morey* at this time, in regard to the advancement desired. Gentlemen, I am gratefully obliged to you for all former favours, and shall study to merit the continuance of them, all in my power.

I am, gentlemen, with the utmost regard and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

TIMOTHY BEDEL.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq.

P. S. There must also be purchased one hundred firelocks at the least, otherwise the men cannot go.

DEPOSITION OF PETER SIMON.

WILMINGTON DISTRICT, NORTH-CAROLINA:

*Peter Simon*, of *Rhode-Island*, maketh oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that he was on board of a vessel bound from *Dominica* to *Ocracock*, and taken off *Hatteras* by the Sloop *General Gage*, *George Stibbles* master, and brought into *Cape-Fear*, about the 25th of *February*. That Captain *Collet* was on board the said sloop when this deponent was taken, and was very communicative with him, showing his papers and instructions, and informing what route he was to take, &c. That the said *Collet* said he expected to find General *Clinton* here with fifteen or sixteen hundred men, and that the General was to be reinforced in *April* with nine thousand. After this junction they were to march to *Cross-Creek*, by way of *Waggamaw*, and there join General *McDonald*. That there was only a sufficient number of men for a garrison to be left at *Boston*, and that twenty-five thousand men were to be landed in the *Jerseys*, between *Philadelphia* and *New-York*, in flat-bottomed boats, and that if they could not possess *New-York*, they were to destroy it. That the said *Collet* declared, that he would kill man, woman, and child, reserving all the young ladies for his private pleasures. That the night before last this deponent, with several other persons, made their escape, and came up to *Wilmington*; and further saith not.

PETER SIMON.

Sworn to before me, the 9th of *March*, 1776.

WILLIAM PURVIANCE,  
JOHN COOKE, Secretary.

DEPOSITION OF WILLIAM RADDON.

NEW-HANOVER COUNTY:

*William Raddon*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, mariner,



maketh oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that he sailed from *Philadelphia*, the 11th of *February* last, as master of the Sloop *Joseph*, bound for *South-Carolina* or *Georgia*. That on the 13th following, he was taken by the Sloop *General Gage*, on board of which was Captain *Collet*, and brought into *Cape-Fear*. That Lieutenant *Pitcairn* informed this deponent, that every transport vessel that was to come from *England* was to bring one or more flat-bottomed boats. That this deponent has seen the deposition of *Peter Simon*, made this day, and was informed by Captain *Collet* of the several circumstances therein mentioned. That Lieutenant *Osborne*, of the *Raven* sloop-of-war, informed this deponent, that there were to be sixty sail of armed vessels, of different sizes, stationed on the coast, and twenty sail of twenty-gun ships and sloops-of-war were to be on the coast from *England* in *April*; and that bomb-ketches were to be brought out, to throw bombs into those places where ships-of-war could not go up, and were particularly intended against *Philadelphia*, because the Congress sits there; and that he made his escape with Mr. *Simon* and others.

WILLIAM RADDON.

Sworn to before me, the 5th of *March*, 1776.

WILLIAM PURVIANCE.

JOHN COOKE, *Secretary*.

*William Raddon*, within named, further deposeth and saith, that on or about the 27th of *February*, this deponent being then on board the *Falcon* sloop-of-war, Captain *Lindsey*, and Lieutenant *Wright*, who commands an armed sloop, declared that they had intended that night to go up to the town of *Brunswick*, with about an hundred sailors, to set the town on fire in front, station their men on the back of the town, and destroy man, woman, and child, that escaped from the flames; but the reason they did not put their design in execution was, that the sloop commanded by Lieutenant *Wright* got aground when she went out to examine what vessel the sloop *General Gage* was, and that afterwards *Lindsey* told *Wright* that the inhabitants had left the town, and therefore it was of no use to burn it.

WILLIAM RADDON.

Sworn to before me, the 5th of *March*, 1776.

JOHN COOKE, *Secretary*.

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The great length of the *Potomack River*, from its mouth to *Alexandria*, where men-of-war can go, and the probability of some attempts being made by the enemy in that quarter, make it prudent, in our opinion, to erect beacons or signals for communicating intelligence of their approach up the river, in a more speedy manner than can be done by land. We have, therefore, appointed Colonel *Mercer*, of the Third, and Colonel *Peachey*, of the Fifth Regiment, to examine the river, and to fix the different posts and mode of continuing these signals; but as we are aware that the course of the river will make it necessary that many of them should be set in your Province, we hope you will approve the measure, and name Commissioners on your part to co-operate with the above-named gentlemen in effecting it.

We hear of no more naval arrivals, and the former are quiet as to depredations on shore and up the river, confining themselves to seizures in the bay, when they have an opportunity. We have had no intelligence of General *Clinton* since he went out.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

For the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*:

EDMUND PENDLETON, *President*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

J. A. THOMAS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. Mary's County, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since my last, I have contracted for a number of gun-locks, which will be sent up by the post. In my last I mentioned my having stationed a part of my company

at the mouth of *Patuxent River*, and the rest will go to the lower part of the County, on *Potomack*, as soon as provision can be made for them, which is here extremely difficult to be done. If I may be allowed, I will immediately go to the *Eastern Shore*, and get a quantity of pork and hogslard. I suppose fifty barrels of pork would be sufficient for my company until the fall, provided I could get a seine for each division of the company, and every mess furnished with a frying-pan. My company being stationed in a fish country, a great saving to the publick might be made by furnishing the men with materials for catching and dressing them.

If you think proper that I should look out for provision, be pleased to inform me by return of Mr. *Steward*, and give me leave to draw on the Treasury for the purchase money.

I hope it is now in your power to furnish us with more ammunition, and the arms allotted for my company. When we get the arms, be pleased also to supply me with a quantity of cartridge-paper. The men are in great want of hats and breeches. Be pleased to forward them to me as soon as possible. This County being in so very defenceless a situation obliges me to press you for the supply of arms, and I hope will sufficiently plead my excuse for so repeatedly pressing you for them. If you should employ Mr. *Steward* in any way, so that his return here will be impeded, be pleased to fall upon some method of advising me as soon as possible; a letter sent by Colonel *Fitzhugh* will quickly come to hand.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

J. A. THOMAS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. I am in great want of rum for the men; if it be possible, send me some.

CAPTAIN HASLETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Caroline County, Choptank Bridge, March 9, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS, GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY: You will see by the enclosed that a vacancy has happened in my company, and for what reason. I would beg leave to request the favour of you to remove Mr. *Christopher Driver* from being Ensign to be First Lieutenant, and Mr. *Robert Postlewait* to be Ensign, for said company; all which I hope will turn out for good to the common cause.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM HASLETT.

To the Honourable the President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CHARLES CARROLL TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Mount Clare, March 9, 1776.

MY DEAR MAJOR: I wrote to the Council yesterday morning, which I hope they have received. Since that, yours of yesterday evening came to hand, at three o'clock this morning; I immediately despatched it to the Committee of *Baltimore Town*. Mr. *Purviance* tells me he wrote you an answer.

We got the *Ship Defence* into the river this morning; and she has retaken Mr. *Hudson's* ship, which now lies in the river a little below her, under no great apprehension I fancy, of the *Otter*.

We had intelligence this afternoon that *Squire* had run on ground on the *Bodkin-Point*; I hope it may be true. If it should prove so, we may perhaps add one more ship to our stock. We are getting a tender ready, that will mount eight or ten carriage-guns, three-pounders. She, with the *Defence*, will, I think, be a match for the *Otter* and her companions. I am positive *Nicholson* and his ship's company think so—a set of finer or more spirited fellows I really never saw. And if we can, as I hope we shall, get the tender ready by to-morrow morning, they will push for an engagement, and I really am not in much doubt of success.

I cannot conceive that the Council of Safety can be prejudiced in the opinions of the gentlemen of *Baltimore*, by any insinuations against their conduct by Mr. *Ruben*, or any other person. I have not heard them say a single word against the Government sending Mr. *Eddis* on board

the *Otter*, though I confess I wish some other person had been pitched upon; on the contrary, I believe they think the delay occasioned by that step was advantageous to them; I am sure I think it was very much so. I really find myself extremely fatigued with this constant hurry of business; indeed, I am almost ready to sink under it; however, I will push for *Annapolis*, if possible. The honest things are settled here.

I am, sincerely, dear Major, your affectionate, humble servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*

JOHN CHEW TO CAPTAIN RICHARD CHEW.

March 9, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: I am at my mother's now, moving her furniture. There is a man-of-war at the mouth of the river, and two tenders. I hope you will let me know by a line how the case is with you. My mother has sent a boy with six blankets.

From your affectionate brother, JOHN CHEW.  
To Captain *Richard Chew*.

SAMUEL BIRKHEAD TO CAPTAIN RICHARD CHEW.

March 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As we are informed by a man from Mr. *Stewart*, this morning, that the man-of-war is gone to *Baltimore*, your friends here desire that you will return as soon as possible, if you can get off. We never have stood in so much danger as at this time, for we expect the man-of-war and her tenders that are below, to be on us every minute, and nobody to stand by us. Mr. *Stewart* has got all his company along the swamp; so we see no reason why we should not have ours too; and we pray and beg that you will return with all speed.

By the request of all your neighbours, from your ready friend,

SAMUEL BIRKHEAD.

To Captain *Richard Chew*.

P. S. All the families on the bay are moving away. We expect to be cut off every hour. S. B.

*Return of the Thirty-First Battalion, under the command of Colonel JOHN WEEMS, now at LONDON Town, viz:*

Captain <i>Thomas Watkins's</i> Company, as per muster-roll,	77
Now present, 12 officers, 70 privates, guns 60.	
Captain <i>William Brogden's</i> Company, per muster-roll,	80
Now present, 12 officers, 49 privates, guns 41.	
Captain <i>Edward Tillard's</i> Company, per muster-roll,	73
Now present, 12 officers, 38 privates, guns 36.	
Captain <i>Abraham Simmons's</i> Company, per muster-roll,	65
Now present, 9 officers, 39 privates, guns 30.	
Captain <i>John Deale's</i> Company, per muster-roll, - -	65
Now present, 11 officers, 34 privates, guns 28.	
Captain <i>Richard Chew's</i> Company, per muster-roll, -	54
Now present, 12 officers, 26 privates, guns 30.	
Captain <i>Richard Weems's</i> Company, per muster-roll,	45
Now present, 8 officers, 28 privates, guns 21.	
Field Officers, - - - - -	4
Commissioned and non-commissioned Officers,	76
Privates present, - - - - -	284
Muskets, - - - - -	246

Signed per order:

SAMUEL HARRISON, Clerk.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

March 9, 1776.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 38.] Annapolis, March 9, 1776—10 o'clock.

GENTLEMEN: We received your letter just now, and are glad to hear the *Ship Defence* has got her guns, and that some of the powder and arms we expected had arrived at the head of *Elk*. We doubt not your doing everything for the best, in ordering them down. Our Commissary is not in town. We request you will appoint one *pro tempore*, and take care that nothing may be wanted in the provision way that may be thought necessary; and to put you in

cash, have sent you, by Captain *Hyde*, one thousand pounds, currency.

Our information, before your letter came to hand, was, that the ship anchored short of the mouth of *Patapsco*, but that the tenders went forward. We have some companies out to guard the shore on this side of *Patapsco*, and along the mouth of *Magoty River*. As yet we have received no intelligence this morning we can depend upon from that quarter. We doubt not your exerting yourselves, on this occasion, for the publick service and your own preservation. Mr. *Carroll* is on the spot, and will order powder and lead from Major *Gaither's*, should any be wanted. We yesterday ordered Colonel *Thomas Dorsey* to march with the *Elk-Ridge* Battalion, and are making all necessary dispositions to prevent their landing, in case they should return to *Annapolis*.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL CHAMBERLAINE.

[No. 39.]

Annapolis, March 9, 1776.

SIR: A ship-of-war and two tenders went past this harbour yesterday afternoon, on their way, we imagine, to *Baltimore Town*. We apprise you of this, that you may immediately order your battalion to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning. You will make the best preparation in your power; and as the communication may be cut off between the two shores, which may prevent our giving particular instructions, and as some efforts may be made to land among you, with a view of getting provisions, we desire you will order and direct them, as exigencies may require, and endeavour to repel any hostile attempts which may be made within your district. Mr. *Thomas Smythe* is now at *Chestertown*, and we request you will advise with him occasionally.

We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ALEXANDRIA COMMITTEE.

[No. 42.]

Annapolis, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A ship-of-war (which we take to be the *Liverpool*) and two tenders passed by the city up the bay yesterday afternoon, and came to anchor off the mouth of *Patapsco*, whence, we conclude, they are destined to *Baltimore Town*. They took a *New-England* schooner out of *Patuxent* on *Tuesday*, as they came up, and two or three other small vessels yesterday. We expect every moment to be informed from *Baltimore*, by express, of their movements, which we will communicate to you; but as, probably, they are gone there with a view to take what vessels they can meet with, and particularly our *Ship Defence*, and on their return may pay you a visit, we think proper to apprise you of their proceedings by this opportunity, that you may make the best preparation in your power for their reception, if they should venture up *Potomack*.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of *Alexandria*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

[No. 43.]

Annapolis, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At eight o'clock on *Tuesday* night our two Pilot-boats returned to this place with intelligence that a man-of-war and two tenders were pushing up the bay; that, in the mouth of *Patuxent River*, they made prize of a *New-England* vessel, and that we might hourly expect them off our harbour. We immediately despatched expresses to *Baltimore Town*, and other parts of the Province, with orders for the militia to hold themselves in readiness to march. The high wind all day on *Wednesday* prevented these armed vessels proceeding up the bay. Yesterday, half-past three, P. M., they hove in sight, and pushed fast up the bay, having taken several small vessels on their way. The ship, which we imagine to be the *Liverpool*, came to an anchor last night off the mouth of *Patapsco River*; the tenders kept under sail. Early this morning the ship weighed, and,

we presume, proceeded up *Patapsco* to take or destroy our Ship *Defence*, and a large ship loaded with wheat and flour, by permission of the Congress. Whether the Ship *Defence*, with a battery hastily thrown up, will be sufficient to defeat this hostile attempt, we cannot say; but we are confident if a landing is attempted, either at *Baltimore Town*, or this place, that the enemy will be defeated.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

P. S. Nine o'clock, P. M. We have this moment received certain intelligence that the man-of-war is the *Otter Sloop*, with two tenders, one of six carriage-guns, and the other with swivels only; that they have taken the ship loaded with wheat and flour, which unluckily happened to be aground at the mouth of *Patapsco*; and that they are proceeding up the river to take or destroy the Ship *Defence*. Fresh provisions also, we believe, is their object.

We are, &c.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES CARROLL,  
ESQUIRE.

[No. 45.]

Annapolis, March 9, 1776.

SIR: We enclose you an order for Captain *Stricker's* Company to march down to *Baltimore Town*, instead of coming to *Annapolis*, if you think it necessary. When the man-of-war leaves *Baltimore Town*, and comes down this way, you will be pleased to order them to *Annapolis*. Nothing new has happened since writing you last night. *Stricker* has already been ordered here; your express may be directed to meet him.

We are, &c.

To *Charles Carroll*, Esquire.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN GEORGE  
STRICKER.

[No. 46.]

Annapolis, March 9, 1776.

SIR: If you should receive instructions, either from *Charles Carroll*, Esq., or the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore County*, to march to *Baltimore Town*, you are, with the utmost expedition, to proceed to that place, we having empowered them to order you there, if they should think it necessary. As soon as the ship-of-war sails from thence, you are to proceed immediately to *Annapolis*. Such baggage as may be necessary for you at *Baltimore Town*, you will carry with you; but the residue, with the spare arms, you will order to proceed directly here, under a guard.

We are, &c.

To Captain *George Stricker*.

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Philadelphia, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Tibbett* has this moment arrived. The vessel he went out in is sold, and he is in an armed vessel. He has only about two thousand pounds of powder, about six tons of lead, duck, osnaburghs, &c. The vessel is on her way to the city. We shall send forward the effects, as well as the powder borrowed from our Province by *Virginia*, which is ordered, out of a very scanty stock, to be returned.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, Saturday Evening, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Immediately on receipt of a letter from Mr. *Purbiance*, by express, advising us of a man-of-war being in your bay, we applied to Congress for one ton of powder, which was readily granted. The Delegates of *Virginia* had sent off one ton in a wagon. This without solicitation they offered us, and we accepted, and have sent their order to the wagoner to proceed to *Baltimore*. We had an order for one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five pounds, due *Maryland* from Congress, and this day Captain *Tibbett* arrived from *Statia* with about one ton of pow-

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der for our Province. We have despatched the powder to *Christiana-Bridge*, as wagons are not to be had here, and have wrote to different gentlemen at the bridge and head of *Elk*, to assist in forwarding the powder to *Baltimore Town*.

We are, gentlemen, your very affectionate friends and servants,

THOMAS JOHNSON,  
R. ALEXANDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

Philadelphia, March 9, 1776.

It is the opinion of many people among us, that the Congress should not declare the Colonies independent of *Great Britain*, without a previous recess to consult their constituents about that important question. But the complicated and increasing business of the Congress will not admit of such a recess. Would it not be proper, therefore, for their constituents to declare their sentiments upon that head as soon as possible? This may be done by the various Committees and Conventions on the Continent. Their votes or resolves should determine the question in the Congress. It was in this manner the Continent first declared their determination to resist by force the power of the *British Parliament*. The first Congress was nothing but the echo of Committees and Conventions. In the present important question concerning independence, the Congress should, as in the former case, only echo back the sentiments of the people. This can only be done through the medium of Committees and Conventions. The sooner, therefore, they are convened for that purpose, the better.

A LOVER OF ORDER.

SAMUEL TUCKER TO LORD STIRLING.

Trenton, March 9, 1776.

MY LORD: Since writing the enclosed, I received your favour of the 5th current. I have also received a letter from our Delegates, returning your letters of the 1st and 3d current, requesting me to lay them before the Committee of Safety, notwithstanding they must know that our Provincial Congress sent a letter by one of their Members to the Continental Congress, offering to raise two battalions more, or one, if they thought it most proper. Their answer was the following resolve, which I copied in my memorandums:

"March 1.—Application being made by the Convention of *New-Jersey* for two more battalions and two companies of Artillery, to be raised in that Colony, and the same being referred to a Committee, on the reports of the said Committee, the Congress did not agree to the raising any more battalions in that Colony.

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

The above resolve was received and read in our Convention the 2d instant, and two companies of Artillerymen only ordered to be raised at the expense of this Colony. What Mr. *Livingston* and our other Delegates can expect by referring your requisition back, I cannot say. Neither can I with any propriety convene the Committee, (who have already advised the sending your letters to the Continental Congress, of which I advised them,) as the members live seventy miles apart. I should be happy to be serviceable to the publick in general, or your Lordship in particular.

The Congress passed a law to regulate the conduct of all persons that may be suspected; to be carried into effect by the several Committees.

I have the honour to be, with due respect, your assured friend and humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

P. S. If any employment should offer for Major *Phillips*, he will be useful to you. The enclosed is his writing.  
S. T.

JOHN HATHORN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Goshen Precinct, Orange County, March 9, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Whereas, some vacancies subsist in several companies of the Militia in the regiments of *Goshen*, *Florida*, and *Warwick*, whereof returns have been made to me by the members of the Committee who were appointed to preside at the election of persons to supply those vacancies in the respective companies; of which are the following:

In Captain *Thompson's* Company, in *Goshen* Regiment, returned to fill the place of *Coe Gale* and *Daniel Everett*, who are removed into the Minute Company, viz: *William Thompson*, Second Lieutenant, and *Phineas Case*, Ensign.

*John Hopper*, who was appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain *Dolson's* Company in *Florida* and *Warwick* Regiment, refuses to accept his commission. Returned in his place, *Matthew Dolson*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; and *John Tebons*, Ensign, in the room of *Matthew Dolson*, being advanced.

I also inform your Honour, that a mistake appears in the commission for the First Lieutenant of Captain *Dolson's* Company. The commission is come for *Henry Bartolf*, which should have been for *Peter Bartolf*, he being the person elected in the Company.

I pray that your Honour may issue the commissions agreeable to the above return.

I am your most obedient very humble servant,

JOHN HATHORN,

Chairman of the Committee of *Goshen Precinct*.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

N. B. Have added another return that has this moment come to hand, of the appointing *Martinus Decker* Second Lieutenant in Captain *Cartwright's* Company in *Goshen* Regiment, in the place of *Johannes Decker*, he being appointed Major.

J. H.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, March 9, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 1st instant. I wish the Paymaster-General had it in his power to comply with my intentions of sending money to your Colony; but he has very little left in chest. An equal scarcity prevails in *Canada*; but there its consequences are more to be dreaded. The *Canadians* will not by any means take our paper money, and General *Wooster* is greatly distressed for specie. I have, with much difficulty, and by giving my own security, procured and sent to him about five thousand three hundred dollars; but vastly more was already due for the necessary contingencies of the Army. Cannot your Colony, my good sir, assist us with some gold or silver? If but a little, it will still be of great service. I have begged Congress to appoint a Committee to liquidate the accounts occasioned by the taking of *Ticonderoga*. The people unjustly blame me that they have not got their money. On the 6th of *August*, when I had been but nineteen days at *Ticonderoga*, I pointed out to Congress the necessity of paying the people, and observed that "many were most truly necessitous." The river and roads above are almost impassable, which I fear will cause a considerable detention of the troops here. General *Washington*, I find, is in great distress for arms. I fear I shall not have half enough, after Colonel *Burrell's* Corps is supplied, to arm Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment. We have a variety of difficulties to surmount; but perseverance, I hope, will bear us through. And may Heaven grant, that when our posterity may relate to each other the pain of the struggle, they may feel and reflect on the blessings of the event.

I am, sir, with great esteem and regard, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, March 9, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am honoured with your letters of the 25th and 27th ultimo, which were delivered me on the 7th by Mr. *Bennett*. I feel in the most sensible manner the disagreeable situation you are in for want of arms. It adds to the pain this information gives me, that we are here in a similar situation, and unable to assist you. The *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Connecticut*, and *Massachusetts* Troops, arrive here more or less without arms, or what may be deemed next to none. I have people in every quarter picking up the few that are to be had, at a most immoderate price, and after all I shall not be able to procure above half a sufficiency for Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment, which

is raising to go into *Canada*. None are to be had at *New-York*; and how to arm the four regiments raising in this Colony, no mortal knows. Of a thousand stand the *New-York* Convention contracted for, six only have been delivered, and they do not expect more than thirty of the whole. I have sent to *Schenectady*, to Mr. *Duncan*; but I much doubt if he has any.

Twelve heavy cannon are on their way from *New-York*, and have got as far as *Poughkeepsie*, where they wait the opening of the river. But what will General *Lee* do with them in *Canada*, without either powder or ball for them. And I shall be in a similar situation at *New-York*, to which I am ordered by Congress, with the additional mortification of having men without arms.

I wish to be at *New-York* as soon as possible, if it was only on account of receiving better medical assistance. But what is to become of the Army in *Canada*, if I leave this before everything is put into such a train as that it may be properly supplied? They are now so short of provisions (although, if common care had been taken, there would have been a sufficiency to *June*) that I have been obliged to send between three hundred and four hundred barrels of pork in sleds, at the vast expense of seven and a half dollars per barrel.

Two Companies of Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment only have arrived here; one of them has gone on, and about half the *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* Troops, all greatly deficient of their full complements. The troops that served last campaign in *Canada* are chiefly coming away, so that we shall not by any means have that respectable army which was intended by Congress.

I enclose your Excellency a return of the troops which were with General *Arnold* on the 22d ultimo. This is the first return I have ever received from that quarter.

March 10.—My messenger is returned from *Schenectady*; but no arms are to be had there.

The ice still continues in *Hudson's River*, but is not passable with horses and carriages. By the time it will be navigable, and the waters which are out subsided, the ice in the lakes will be too weak to venture troops on; hence I fear that no more men can get into *Canada* until the beginning of *April*.

I have this moment received a letter from General *Wooster*, of the 1st instant. He says not a word relative to *Quebeck*; complains of want of specie, and, indeed, not without reason, as he is greatly distressed, the *Canadians* absolutely refusing to take our paper money. And I have, with much difficulty, been able to procure only about two thousand one hundred pounds here, on my own security, which I sent him on the 28th ultimo. But five times that sum, and more, was already due for the necessary contingencies of the Army.

I enclose you copies of some papers, which will show how Colonel *Allen* was used.

The difficulty of procuring specie is such, that I fear the most fatal consequences from the want of it in *Canada*. This induces me to venture a question: Would it be improper to ask General *Howe* for the subsistence of the prisoners in our possession? If he should consent that they might draw on his military chest for it; the bills might all go in favour of an agent of Congress, and hence, we should have a very considerable supply.

We have many difficulties, my dear General, to encounter; but I have the strongest presentiment that we shall struggle through, and rise superior to our enemies. May *God* bless and protect you.

I am, most sincerely and respectfully, your Excellency's most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Since writing the above, I am honoured with yours of the 1st ultimo, by *Lewis*, the *Caughnawaga Indian*, together with a letter from Colonel *Wade*, advising me that some part of his regiment had marched on the 24th *February*, and desiring that provisions might be sent to *Onion-River*. I am extremely apprehensive that I shall not be able to procure sleds to go there. I shall, however, immediately send an express to *Ticonderoga*, and if horses cannot be procured, I will order the soldiers that are there to draw it by hand.

P. S.

*Affidavits of WILLIAM BRADLEY, LEVI SOLOMONS, and JAMES MORRISON, concerning Colonel ALLEN's treatment.*

I, the subscriber, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that a gentleman known by the name of Colonel *Allen* was brought on board the *Gaspee* man-of-war, then lying before the Town of *Montreal*, some time in the month of *September*, 1775, and, pursuant to the orders of Captain *Ryall*, who then commanded said ship, I put a pair of irons on said *Allen's* legs, which he wore for seven or eight days, during which he was kept by the Boatswain's cabin. Afterwards, the irons were taken off his legs in the morning, and handcuffs were put on his hands, which was the practice for some considerable time. Then only one leg was ironed in the night, and handcuffs in the day. Further saith not.

WILLIAM BRADLEY,  
Midshipman on board the *Gaspee*.

Sworn before me, at Head-Quarters in *Montreal*, this 14th day of *February*, 1776.

DAVID WOOSTER, Brigadier-General.

The above is a true copy of the original Deposition.  
RICHARD VARICK,  
Secretary to Major-General *Schuyler*.

I, the subscriber, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that on or about the 24th of *September*, 1775, being on board the *Gaspee* man-of-war, I saw Colonel *Allen* with a pair of irons on his legs, and a sentry standing before him with a pistol in his hand.

Dated at *Montreal*, *February* 14, 1776.  
LEVI SOLOMONS.

Sworn before me, *Montreal*, *February* 14, 1776.  
DAVID WOOSTER, Brigadier-General.

I, the subscriber, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that some time in the month of *October*, 1775, being on board the *Gaspee* man-of-war, I saw Colonel *Allen* (as he was called) with a pair of handcuffs on his hands; and further saith not.

Dated at *Montreal*, this 14th of *February*, 1776.  
JAMES MORRISON.

Sworn before me, *Montreal*, *February* 14, 1776.  
DAVID WOOSTER, Brigadier-General.

The above are true copies of the original Depositions.  
RICHARD VARICK,  
Secretary to Major-General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO JOHN ADAMS AND GEORGE WYTHE.

Lebanon, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your letter of the 18th of *October* last, asking for an account of hostilities committed by the Ministerial Troops and Navy in this Colony, since the first of last *March*. I embrace the earliest time, after receiving the accounts, papers, and documents, officially authenticated, to enclose and furnish you with the materials requested.

I am, with great truth and regard, gentlemen, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.  
To the Hon. *John Adams* and *George Wythe*, Esquires.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO JOHN ADAMS AND GEORGE WYTHE.

Lebanon, March 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Two accounts of loss by hostilities committed by the Ministerial Navy, which came to hand since my last, are enclosed. I do most sincerely congratulate you on General *Washington's* success, and on the shameful retreat of our enemies from *Boston*, which demand our humble admiration and praise of the Supreme Director of all events, for his marvellous interposition for our help. Tyranny and

oppression have a natural tendency to move the Colonists to a separation from *Great Britain*. Nothing else could induce them to an event so distant from their thoughts or designs. Burning and destroying our towns, robbing our property, trampling on and profaning places dedicated to divine worship and service, and cruel treatment of the persons so unhappy as to fall into their hands, are injuries of the first magnitude. The prisoners in our custody meet generous entertainment. Is it not time the law of retaliation should take place? Every subtle art, as well as arms, are used against us. May *God* prevent their operations, and turn their counsels to foolishness; preserve and increase the union of his *American* people; grant them wisdom, and guide their publick councils.

I am, with great esteem and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Adams* and *George Wythe*, Esquires.

Invoice of Sundries shipped per Captain *HOWLAND*, on account and risk of *JEREMIAH CLEMENT*.

Six barrels coffee, viz:			
No. 1.	205	tr.	21
No. 2.	198		25
No. 3.	193		21
No. 4.	171		19
No. 5.	196		25
	963		111
	111		
	852	nett—at 11d.	- - - - £39 01 0
No. 6.	171	} 146	nett—at 8d. - - - 4 17 4
	25		
Six barrels, at 1s. 9d.	- - - - -		0 10 6
Cartage on board, at 1s.	- - - - -		0 01 0
One ton pig iron, - - - - -			12 00 0
Cartage, - - - - -			0 02 0
Paid <i>Robert Montgomery</i> , for one piece linen, (twenty-five yards,) at 6s. 7d.	- - - - -		8 04 7
Two and a half per cent. commissions on twenty pounds five shillings and seven pence, -			0 10 1½
			£65 06 6½

Dated New-York, 1st Month, 19th, 1776.

The above is a true copy: JACOB WATSON.

The above is a true invoice of goods shipped by *Jacob Watson*, on board the Schooner called the *James*, *John Howland* master, which goods were seized by Captains *Parker* and *Vandeput*, of his Majesty's Ships *Phoenix* and *Asia*, and are entirely lost by me, the subscriber, as appears by the invoice and letter received from said *Watson*.

JEREMIAH CLEMENT.

NEW-LONDON COUNTY, }  
NORWICH, March 9, 1776. } ss.

Personally appeared Mr. *Jeremiah Clement*, and gave solemn oath to the truth of the above certificate.

Coram HENRY HUNTINGTON, Justice of Peace.

This may certify, that I, the subscriber, was present in *New-York* when the within-mentioned Schooner *James*, commanded by Captain *John Howland*, was taken by the barges from the men-of-war *Phoenix* and *Asia*, and am knowing to the truth that the same was taken, and have already given oath to said capture.

LEVI HUNTINGTON.

Invoice of Iron purchased of Mr. *DANIEL PHENIX*, in *NEW-YORK*, by *WILLIAM HUBBARD*, viz:

January, 1776.—Ninety-four bars of Bloomery iron, is 31cwt. 2qr. 9lb.—at 25s.	- - - - £39 9 5½
Sixty-five bars of refined iron, is 19cwt. 2qr. 13lb.—at 27s.	- - - - 26 9 7½
Carting the same on board Captain <i>Howland</i> ,	00 5 0
New-York currency - - -	£66 4 1



I, the subscriber, certify and say, the above is a true account of the cost of one hundred and fifty-nine bars of iron, shipped by me on board the Schooner *James*, *John Howland* master, which iron was seized by the barges belonging to his Majesty's Ships *Asia* and *Phenix*, commanded by Captains *Parker* and *Vandeput*, and the amount of said iron is a total loss to me.

WILLIAM HUBBARD.

Norwich, March 9, 1776.

NEW-LONDON COUNTY, }  
NORWICH, March 9, 1776. } ss.

Personally appeared Captain *William Hubbard*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above certificate.  
Coram

CHRIST. LEFFINGWELL, Justice of Peace.

To the Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Governour of the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

Whereas I, the subscriber, was, by the General Assembly, holden at *New-Haven* in *December* last, appointed and directed to procure a just and well authenticated account of the hostilities committed by the Ministerial Troops or Navy, whereby any damage has been done to the property of any person or persons in the County of *Hartford*, in said Colony, since *March* last, together with the proper evidence of the facts related, the number of the vessels, either inward or outward bound, which have been seized by them since that period, and, as near as may be, their value, with their cargoes on board when taken, and to make return thereof to your Honour: I now beg leave to report that, in obedience to said appointment and direction, I have made diligent inquiry after the damages done by the hostilities of said Troops and Navy, to the property of any person or persons in said County; and, upon such inquiry, do find that a large brigantine, called the *Polly*, the property of Messieurs *Matthew Talcott*, Esq., of *Middletown*, and Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, of *Hartford*, both in said County, with a very valuable cargo, the property of said owners and sundry other persons in said County, was, on the 20th day of *September* last, taken in a hostile manner by his Majesty's ship the *Nautilus*, commanded by Captain *John Collins*, and carried into *Boston*, and there sold and disposed of to the use of the captors. That the mariners that were taken in said brigantine (except the master, *Giles Sage*, of said *Middletown*, and one of the seamen, *Eleazer Treadwell*, of *Haddam*, in said County, who found means to effect their escape) are yet detained in captivity, and have suffered very severe treatment, and that some of them have been compelled to fight against their country.

The value of said brigantine, with her furniture and appurtenances, as near as can be found, will appear from the annexed affidavit of Captain *George Starr*, of said *Middletown*, and said *Giles Sage*, the master, (who was taken prisoner in her,) and the particulars of her cargo. The persons to whom it belonged, and the value of each particular, will likewise appear from the annexed account, supported by the affidavit of said *Giles Sage* and *Eleazer Treadwell*; and the capture, with the subsequent proceedings of the captors, are stated and proved by the following depositions of *Giles Sage* and *Eleazer Treadwell* aforesaid.

I beg leave to add, that I do not find that any other damage hath been done by any acts of hostility to the property of any person or persons in said County, except in the capture and confiscation of said brigantine as aforesaid.

All which is humbly submitted by your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,

TITUS HOSMER.

An Account of the Brigantine POLLY, Vessel and Cargo, GILES SAGE Master, taken by his Majesty's Ship the NAUTILUS, commanded by Captain JOHN COLLINS, on the 20th of SEPTEMBER last, and carried into BOSTON, and converted to the use of the Ministerial Army and Navy there; in which is contained the value of said Brigantine, the particular articles of which her Cargo consisted, with the names of the persons to whom each article in particular did belong; as follows, to wit:

The property of MATTHEW TALCOTT, Esq., and Captain JEREMIAH WADSWORTH, Merchants:

The Brigantine *Polly*, one hundred and ten

tons burden, with appurtenances, valued at	£500	0	0
One bolt of osnaburghs, 109 yards, at 1s. per yard,	5	9	0
Two barrels of pork, at 60s. per barrel,	6	0	0
Two barrels of mess beef, at 60s. per barrel,	6	0	0
One bolt of canvass, No. 1.	4	0	0
One hogshead of sugar, B P. No. 1. containing	1565		
One hogshead of sugar, B P. No. 2. containing	1400		
	2965		
is 26cwt. 1qr. 25lb., at 55s.	72	16	5
One ream post paper, at 22s. per ream,	5	10	0
Twenty-nine puncheons Jamaica rum, No. 1 to 29—B P, containing 3129 gallons, at 4s.	625	16	0
Twelve bags of ginger, containing 820lbs. at 50s. per cwt.	20	0	0
One pocket of cotton-wool, containing 58 lbs., at 2s. 6d. per lb.	7	5	0
	£1252	16	05

The Property of RICHARD ALSOP, Esq.

Nine bolts of duck, No. 1. at 80s. per bolt,	£36	0	0
Seven do. do. No. 3. at 75s. per bolt,	26	5	0
Twenty bags of cotton-wool, containing 2,214lbs. at 2s. 6d. per lb.	276	15	0
Eight hogsheads best Muscovado sugar, containing 9,882lbs. weight, is 88cwt. 26lbs. at 60s.	264	13	10
Two puncheons Jamaica rum—B P. No. 38, 39, containing 227 gallons; at 4s.	45	8	0
	£649	1	10

The Property of TITUS HOSMER.

Two hogsheads of best Muscovado sugar, containing 21cwt. 14lb., at 60s. per cwt.	£63	15	0
One cask of Jamaica rum, containing forty-four gallons, at 4s.	8	16	0
Three dozen plates, French ware, at 12s. per dozen,	1	16	0
	£74	7	0

The Property of ELISHA BREWSTER.

Fifty pounds of indigo, at 12s. per lb.	£30	0	0
One piece of checked linen, twenty-seven yards, at 3s. per yard,	4	1	0
	£34	1	0

The Property of SAMUEL RUSSELL.

Two puncheons Jamaica rum—B P. No. 30, 31, containing 225 gallons, at 4s.	£45	0	0
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The Property of Messrs. WADSWORTH and BARNARD.

Two puncheons Jamaica rum, No. 36, 37, containing 226 gallons, at 4s. per gal.,	£45	4	0
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The Property of RETURN MEIGS.

One puncheon Jamaica rum—B P. No. 40, containing 106 gallons, at 4s.	£21	4	0
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The Property of STEPHEN RANNY.

Two puncheons Jamaica rum—B P. No. 32, 33, containing 226 gallons, at 4s.	£45	4	0
Two tierces best Muscovado sugar—3 R. No. 1, 2, containing 21cwt. 2qr. 15lbs., at 60s. per cwt.,	65	6	3
	£110	10	3

The Property of JEREMIAH WETMORE.

One puncheon Jamaica rum—B P. No. 41, containing 109 gallons, at 4s.	£21	16	0
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Three barrels of mess beef, at 60s. per barrel, - - - - -	£9 0 0
	£30 16 0

*The Property of Messrs. ALLEN and SAGE.*

One hundred and ninety-six pounds of indigo, at 12s. per pound, - - - - -	£117 12 0
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*The Property of ROGER BULKLY.*

Thirty-nine pounds of indigo, at 12s. per pound, - - - - -	£23 8 0
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*The Property of NATHAN SAGE.*

Three tierces best <i>Muscovado</i> sugar—N S.	
No. 1, 2, 3, containing 33cwt. 27lbs., at 60s. - - - - -	£100 9 1
One <i>Negro</i> man slave, - - - - -	50 0 0
Ninety-one pounds indigo, at 12s. per lb., - - - - -	54 0 0
	£204 9 1

*The Property of NATHANIEL ELLS.*

Two tierces best <i>Muscovado</i> sugar—N E.	
No. 1, 2, containing 22cwt. 3qr. 15lb., at 60s., - - - - -	£68 13 9

*The Property of BENJAMIN HENSHAW.*

Two tierces best <i>Muscovado</i> sugar—B H.	
No. 1, 2, containing 22cwt. 3qr. 4lb., at 60s., - - - - -	£68 7 2

*The Property of OZIAS WILLCOX.*

Two tierces best <i>Muscovado</i> sugar—O W.	
No. 1, 2, containing 21cwt. 3qr. 10lb., at 60s., - - - - -	£65 15 9

*The Property of JOSIAH LEE.*

Two barrels of limes, at 30s. per barrel, - - - - -	£3 0 0
Two puncheons <i>Jamaica</i> rum—I L. No. 1, 2, containing 240 gallons, at 4s. per gallon, - - - - -	48 0 0
	£51 0 0

*The Property of GILES SAGE.*

Three hundred and twenty-six pounds of indigo, at 12s. per pound, - - - - -	£195 12 0
One hogshead best <i>Muscovado</i> sugar, containing 13cwt. 1qr. 16lb., at 60s., - - - - -	40 4 0
Three puncheons <i>Jamaica</i> rum—B P. No. 34, 35—G S. No. 1 containing 395 gallons, at 4s. per gallon, - - - - -	79 0 0
Sixteen gallons <i>Jamaica</i> rum, in a cask with T. Hosmer's rum, at 8s. per gal., - - - - -	3 4 0
Eighty pounds of ginger, at 50s. per cwt., - - - - -	2 0 0
Two barrels of limes, at 30s. per barrel, - - - - -	3 0 0
One piece of fine <i>Irish</i> linen, - - - - -	6 0 0
One gun, at 51s., one spy-glass, at 30s., - - - - -	4 1 0
One pound of nutmegs, - - - - -	1 10 0
	£334 11 0

*The Property of SAMUEL DENNY.*

One puncheon <i>Jamaica</i> rum—S D. No. 1, containing 115 gallons, at 4s. per gallon, - - - - -	£23 0 0
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*The Property of JOHN HALL and JABEZ PERKINS.*

Four barrels of limes, at 30s. per barrel, - - - - -	£6 0 0
One case of razors, ( <i>John Hall's</i> ), - - - - -	1 5 0
	£7 5 0

*Wages from JUNE 20th to SEPTEMBER 20th, 1775, due to the Master and Seamen, lost by said capture, to wit:*

To <i>Giles Sage</i> , three months' wages, at 50s. per month, - - - - -	£7 10 0
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To <i>Josiah Lee</i> , three months' wages, at 50s. per month, - - - - -	7 10 0
To <i>Eleazer Treadwell</i> , three months' wages, at 50s. per month, - - - - -	7 10 0
To <i>Jabez Perkins</i> , three months' wages, at 50s. per month, - - - - -	7 10 0
To <i>John Pike</i> , two months' wages, at 50s. per month, - - - - -	5 0 0
To <i>John Hall</i> , three months' wages, at 35s. per month, - - - - -	5 5 0
To <i>Noadiah Bailey</i> , three months' wages, at 35s. per month, - - - - -	5 5 0
To <i>Jeremiah Fullerton</i> , three months' wages, at 45s. per month, - - - - -	6 15 0
	£52 5 0
Total loss on vessel and cargo, - - - - -	£3,034 19 2

## COLONY OF CONNECTICUT, HARTFORD COUNTY, ss.

Be it remembered, that on this 4th day of *March*, in the year of our *Lord* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, personally came and appeared before me, *Titus Hosmer*, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said County, Captains *George Starr* and *Giles Sage*, both of *Middletown*, in said County, and being duly sworn to declare the truth, upon their oaths depose and say: and first, the said *George Starr* saith, That in *May* last, at said *Middletown*, he carefully examined the Brigantine *Polly*, burden about one hundred and ten tons, then owned by Messrs. *Matthew Talcott*, Esq. and *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, with her appurtenances, being upon a treaty for the purchase of the same; and that he then judged her to be worth five hundred and fifty pounds, lawful money; and that he verily believes that, at the time she is said to have been taken (on the 20th of *September* last) by the *Nautilus* man-of-war, making proper allowance for her wear and tear on her voyage between said months of *May* and *September*, she was well worth five hundred pounds, lawful money; and further he saith not.

And the said *Giles Sage*, upon his oath, deposeth and saith: That, some time in the month of *May* last, he was appointed, by said *Talcott* and *Wadsworth*, master of their said Brigantine, the *Polly*; and on the 12th day of *June* last sailed in her from the port of *New-London*, with a cargo of horses, provisions, and lumber, shipped partly by said owners, and partly by sundry other persons, for *Kingston*, in the Island of *Jamaica*, in the *West-Indies*, where he arrived on the 6th day of *July* last; that he continued at *Kingston* from that time till the 20th day of *August* following, and in that time sold the cargo of said brigantine, and laid out the nett proceeds in the purchase of the produce of said Island, and other merchandise, and laded the same on board said brigantine, cleared her out at the Custom-house for *New-York*, and on said 20th day of *August* sailed from *Kingston* for *New-York*. The deponent further saith, that, on his passage from *Kingston* to *New-York*, on the 20th day of *September* last, being in soundings, and not far from land, about southwest from *Long-Island*, standing in for *New-York*, we fell in with his Majesty's Ship *Nautilus*, commanded by Captain *John Collins*, who immediately fired three guns at us to bring us to, and hoisted out her pinnace, and sent her with a number of armed men on board the brigantine, took said brigantine into his possession, and took this deponent and all his mariners, the mate excepted, out of said brigantine, and put a prize-master and seamen on board in their stead, and then stood away for *Newport, Rhode-Island*, with said brigantine in company.

This deponent also saith, that he judged said brigantine and her appurtenances, at the time she was taken as aforesaid, to be well worth five hundred pounds, lawful money; and that her cargo consisted of the several articles particularly enumerated and set down in the foregoing account on this sheet of paper; that the same were the property of the several persons therein mentioned, and that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, the same would have been worth the prices thereto set and affixed, amounting, in the whole, to twenty-five hundred and thirty-four pounds nineteen shillings and two pence, lawful money, had he been permitted to carry them into the port for which said brigantine was destined.

This deponent further says, that at *Newport* the mate, *Josiah Lee*, was, by order of Captain *Collins*, taken out of said brigantine, and confined in irons on board the *Nautilus*, and continued loaded with irons eleven weeks afterwards, and then was put on board his Majesty's ship the *Boyne*, and sent to *England*. The pretence for this severe usage was an information from a mariner put on board the brigantine, that two other of said mariners had solicited him to join with them to rescue said brigantine; and likewise told him that said *Lee* would join with them; which charge the accused seamen denied, and declared said *Lee* never did say anything to them upon the subject; and said *Lee* likewise denied that he had any knowledge of a design to rescue said brigantine, or that he had ever said anything upon the subject to any person whatsoever.

The deponent further says, that, after the arrival of said brigantine in the harbour of *Boston*, she was libelled before *Nathaniel Hatch*, Esquire, Deputy Judge of the Admiralty, and, after a long time, condemned; but for what cause this deponent is ignorant: it was, indeed, given out that some cotton-wool he had on board was not shipped agreeably to the provisions of the act of navigation; but of this the deponent was ignorant, he having cleared out said brigantine in *Jamaica* as he had usually done on former voyages, when no exception had been taken either in the *West-Indies*, or here in the Custom-houses on the Continent.

The deponent further says, that he continued and was detained in *Boston* till about the 10th day of *December* last, when, upon being informed by Captain *Collins* that he had orders from the Admiral to put him on board the *Preston*, then bound for *England*, as soon as the sales of the brigantine and her cargo were closed, he found means to make his escape to *Dorchester-Point*, and from thence returned home.

Finally, this deponent says, that the crew of said brigantine, when taken, consisted of *Josiah Lee*, mate; *Eleazer Treadwell*, *Jabez Perkins*, *John Pike*, *John Hall*, *Noadiah Bailey*, *Jeremiah Fullerton*, and this deponent; of which, said *Eleazer Treadwell* and this deponent have made their escape, and the rest are yet detained in captivity; and further this deponent saith not.

GEORGE STARR,  
GILES SAGE.

Sworn the day and year above written, before me,  
TITUS HOSMER, Justice of Peace.

#### COLONY OF CONNECTICUT, HARTFORD COUNTY, ss.

Be it remembered, that, upon this 2d day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, personally came and appeared before me, *Titus Hosmer*, Esquire, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said County, *Eleazer Treadwell*, of *Haddam*, in said County, mariner, who, being duly sworn, upon his oath deposeth and saith: That, on the 28th day of *May* last, he shipped himself as a mariner on board the Brig *Polly*, *Giles Sage* master, owned by Colonel *Matthew Talcott* and Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, upon a voyage from *Middletown*, in said County, to the Island of *Jamaica*, in the *West-Indies*, and from thence back again to *New-York* and *Middletown*, and soon after sailed in said brigantine from the port of *New-London*, and arrived at *Kingston*, in *Jamaica*; and, having lain there some time, he sailed again in said brigantine from *Kingston* for *New-York*; and that, in his passage to *New-York*, on or about the 20th day of *September* last, they fell in with his Majesty's ship the *Nautilus*, being near the land, which immediately fired three guns at us, and then sent her pinnace, with armed men, and took possession of said brigantine, and took the master and all the people that belonged to the brigantine, except the mate, and carried them on board the *Nautilus*, and put a prize-master and mariners on board said brigantine, and then stood away for *Newport*, in *Rhode-Island*, with said brigantine in company.

This deponent further saith, that the crew of said brigantine, at the time she was taken, consisted of the following persons, to wit: *Giles Sage*, master; *Josiah Lee*, mate; and *Jabez Perkins*, *John Pike*, *John Hall*, *Noadiah Bailey*, *Jeremiah Fullerton*, and this deponent, mariners.

This deponent also saith, that the cargo of said brigantine, at the time she was taken as aforesaid, as far as he

knows and can remember, consisted of the following articles, viz: a large quantity of *Jamaica* rum and sugar, beef, pork, osnaburghs, duck, writing-paper, ginger, cotton-wool, checked linen, a large quantity of indigo, a negro, a gun, a spy-glass, which this deponent knows to have been on board, but has not any means in his power to ascertain the quantity or quality of the same.

This deponent further says, that the mate, *Josiah Lee*, at *Newport*, in *Rhode-Island*, was brought on board the *Nautilus*, and confined there, and laid in irons, upon pretence that he had conspired with two of the seamen of the *Nautilus*, on board the brigantine, to rise and rescue the brigantine, and run away with her, although he steadily denied the charge, and the informer was not reputed a person of good character by the crew of the *Nautilus*, and it was not pretended that he made any attempt to rescue the brigantine, or had done any one thing tending that way; the loading him with irons, this deponent thought to be very severe treatment, as there was no danger from him on board the *Nautilus*; notwithstanding, his irons were kept upon him till this deponent made his escape in *October* last.

The deponent further says, that soon afterwards the *Nautilus* sailed with said brigantine from *Newport* for *Boston*; and on her passage, near *Beverly*, ran aground, and was there attacked by people from the shore, when the deponent, and the other seamen taken out of the said brigantine, were ordered to the guns on board the *Nautilus*, and compelled to fire them upon the town, and the people on shore.

This deponent further says, that he was detained on board the *Nautilus* till towards the end of *October*, when he had liberty to go on shore in *Boston*, when he took an opportunity in the evening to make his escape in a boat to *Dorchester-Point*, and from thence returned home, leaving the rest of the crew of said brigantine on board the *Nautilus*, and said brigantine in the harbour of *Boston*; and further this deponent saith not.

ELEAZER TREADWELL.

Sworn by said *Eleazer Treadwell* the day and year above written, before me,

TITUS HOSMER, Justice of Peace.

The following is an account of the loss sustained by two Ministerial Cruisers on the 6th day of *September*, 1775; (the one belonging to the *Rose*, *James Wallace* commander, the other to the *Glasgow*, *Howe* commander;) by *Lemuel Brooks's* Sloop *Neptune*, laden with Sugar and Salt, bound to *New-York*, belonging to *John Brooks*, of *Stamford*, in *Connecticut*, one-eighth part; *Josiah Hubble*, one-eighth part; *Jonathan Boothe*, one-eighth part; *Benjamin Brooks*, one-fourth part; *Lemuel Brooks*, three-eighths. As the honourable Continental Congress have advertised for said losses to be brought in to the Committee appointed for that purpose, the following is a true account, attested by the master, mate, and one of the mariners:

<i>Sloop NEPTUNE</i> , burden ninety-five tons, forty-four feet.		
Two years and six months old, full rigged,	£600	0 0
One thousand six hundred and forty-one bushels salt, at 2s. 6d.,	205	2 6
Forty-three thousand one hundred and eighty-two pounds sugar, as per invoice, at 45s.	971	11 9
Fourteen barrels limes, at 20s.	14	0 0
Three chests of clothes, bedding, quadrants, books, and cabin furniture, estimated	60	0 0
	£1,850	14 3

LEMUEL BROOKS,  
ELEAZER SCOTT,  
GEORGE RAYMOND.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, }  
NORWALK, December 13, A. D. 1775. } ss.

Then personally appeared *Lemuel Brooks*, master; *Eleazer Scott*, mate; and *George Raymond*, mariner; they and each of them made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing account.

Sworn before me,

JOSEPH PLATT, Justice of Peace.

Invoice of Sugars shipped at St. MARTINS, on board Sloop NEPTUNE, LEMUEL BROOKS Master, on proper risk of JOHN BROOKS, Esq. & Co., AUGUST, 1775.

Number.	Contents.	Tare.	Number.	Contents.	Tare.	Number.	Contents.	Tare.
1	220	22	33	255	25	65	835	83
2	285	28	34	305	30	66	930	93
3	345	34	35	275	27	67	245	24
4	910	91	36	285	28	68	250	25
5	1,000	100	37	240	24	69	260	26
6	975	97	38	265	26	70	265	26
7	1,090	109	39	295	29	71	240	24
8	995	99	40	255	25	72	255	25
9	250	25	41	252	25	73	205	20
10	265	26	42	254	25	74	245	24
11	330	33	43	880	88	75	1,005	100
12	240	24	44	993	99	76	1,045	104
13	260	26	45	310	31	77	225	22
14	250	25	46	275	27	78	305	30
15	1,485	148	47	240	24	79	280	28
16	1,530	153	48	245	24	80	945	94
17	1,600	160	49	230	23	81	225	22
19	910	91	50	1,190	119	82	305	30
20	995	99	51	1,280	128	83	280	28
21	1,040	104	52	540	54	84	255	25
22	920	92	53	290	29	85	240	24
23	1,000	100	54	995	99	86	245	24
24	900	90	56	237	23	87	290	29
25	975	97	57	1,035	103	88	280	28
26	1,000	100	58	945	94	89	260	26
27	250	25	59	585	58	90	285	28
28	240	24	60	245	24	91	240	24
29	245	24	61	955	95	92	265	26
30	190	19	62	950	95	93	275	27
31	280	28	63	884	88	94	940	94
32	260	26	64	940	94			

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, ss.

Their personally appeared Lemuel Brooks, master of the Sloop Neptune; Eleazer Scott, mate; and George Raymond, mariner; and made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing account, or invoice.

Sworn before me:

JOSEPH PLATT, Justice of Peace.

Norwalk, December 13, A. D. 1775.

PROVINCE OF NOVA-SCOTIA, HALIFAX, ss:

To all whom it may concern, by this public instrument of protest be it known and made manifest, That on the twentieth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, before me, James Brenton, Notary and Tabeilion Publick, by Royal authority, admitted and sworn, and now dwelling at Halifax aforesaid, personally came Lemuel Brooks, late master of the Sloop Neptune, of, and belonging to, Connecticut, and made this his protest, in manner and form following, viz:

That, some time in the month of May last, he sailed in said sloop from New-Haven, in the Colony of Connecticut, bound to St. Martins, where he arrived and took on board a lading of sugars and of salt, from Saltertudas; that on the sixth of August last he sailed in said sloop from St. Martins with said cargo, bound to New-York; that on the sixth of September, being off Montauk-Point, on Long-Island, which bore from north about four leagues distance, he was boarded by two sloops, or tenders, belonging to his Majesty's Ships Rose, James Wallis, Esq., commander, and Glasgow, Captain Howe, commander, who took out his mate, and all his hands, which they removed on board the tenders; and the next day carried the said sloop into Newport, Rhode-Island, where this protestor was ordered on board the Rose, and examined in regard to his cargo, of which he gave a full account. That this protestor requested leave of Captain Wallis that he might be permitted to go on shore, which was absolutely refused him, and he was, thereupon, ordered on board his own sloop, where he was detained a prisoner until the eleventh, following, when he was forcibly taken out and put on board a schooner which had been

seized, and was ordered to Boston; that, on the 12th of September, being in Boston Bay, in said schooner, the protestor was ordered and taken on board his Majesty's Sloop Hunter, Captain McKenzie, then bound to Halifax, where this protestor arrived on the twentieth instant, and was soon after his arrival allowed his liberty by said Captain McKenzie, and came on shore at Halifax, where the protestor now is; of all which the said Lemuel Brooks, the said protestor, hath desired me to make a publick act.

Wherefore, I, the said Notary, at the request aforesaid, have, and do hereby, solemnly protest against the said James Wallis and Howe, Captains of said Ships Rose and Glasgow, and all concerned in the seizing, taking, and detaining the said Sloop Neptune and her cargo, and for all unlawful restraint of the liberty of said protestor, and for all costs, damages, and expenses, that have or may accrue for and by reason thereof.

Thus done and protested at Halifax aforesaid, the day and year first above-mentioned, the said protestor making solemn oath to the truth of the premises.

J. BRENTON, Notary Publick.

LEMUEL BROOKS, [L. s.]

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, NORWALK, } ss:  
December 13, A. D. 1775. }

The above and foregoing is a true copy of the original Protest made by Lemuel Brooks, master of the Sloop Neptune, before James Brenton, Notary Publick.

Compared by me.

Test: JOSEPH PLATT, Justice of Peace.

Stonington, March, 1776.

SIR: Being appointed by the honourable General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut, holden at New-Haven, (by special order of your Honour,) on the 14th of December, 1775, to procure a just and well authenticated account of the hostilities committed by the Ministerial Troops or Navy, whereby any damage has been done to the property of any person or persons in this Colony since March last, together with the proper evidence of the facts related, the number and value of the vessels, whether inward or outward bound, which have been seized by them since that period, and, as near as may be, their value, with their cargoes on board when taken, and make return thereof to your Honour; beg leave to report, that Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, of New-London, merchant, has lost a vessel and cargo, outward bound, estimated at one thousand two hundred and fifty-seven pounds fifteen shillings and five pence; and that Messrs. William Coit, Jabez Perkins, Joseph Williams, and Levi Huntington, of Norwich, in a vessel bound from New-York to New-London, have lost goods to the value of three hundred and seventy-six pounds four shillings and six and three-fourths pence; and that the damage done the buildings and goods by the attack from Captain James Wallace, at Stonington, Long-Point, amounts to thirty-three pounds lawful money; to which, if I may add the expense of one thousand of the Minute and Militiamen which attended the alarm, two days each, at one shilling and four pence per day, and travel, one with another, at one shilling and four pence, and one shilling and six pence per day for board of each man, we shall find it to be three hundred and fifty-three pounds two shillings and six pence; which believe to be less than the real expense amounted to; exclusive of twelve pounds four shillings and six pence, allowed by the General Assembly to Jonathan Weaver, Jun., for his support and expenses for doctors while confined with the wounds he received from the enemy at said attack; together with account of damage sustained by Mr. Brown, of Fisher's Island, in the Province of New-York, which then amounted to seven hundred and five pounds thirteen shillings and one pence, lawful money; accounts of all which, with affidavits thereto, I enclose; and am, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

NATHANIEL MINOR.

To Governour Trumbull.

Account of Stock taken from Mr. BENJAMIN BROWN, of FISHER'S ISLAND, in the Province of NEW-YORK, by Captain JAMES WALLACE, of the Ship ROSE, and other

ships-of-war and transports under his command, on the 7th and 8th of AUGUST, A. D. 1775, viz:

1,100 sheep, at 6s. sterling per head,	-	-	£330	0	0
30 head of cattle at scale prices,	-	-	102	15	0
			£432	15	0

Reduced to lawful money is,

	-	-	£587	13	4
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AUGUST 19, 1775.—Expense of removing said BROWN's stock from FISHER's ISLAND, by advice of NEW-LONDON County Committee of Correspondence and Safety, viz:

Boating of 28 cows, at 3s. per head,	-	-	£4	4	0
Do. 8 two year-old cattle, at 2s. 6d.	-	-	1	0	0
Do. 30 yearling cattle, at 2s.	-	-	3	0	0
Do. 562 sheep, at 2d.	-	-	4	13	8
			£12	17	8

Account of expense and damage said BROWN sustained by keeping his stock on the main, and in not improving the Island, viz:

Keeping 28 cows from the 1st of November, 1775, (when they ceased to pay their keeping,) to the 31st of January, 1776, at 1s. 6d. per week, being 13 weeks each, is,	£27	6	0
To keeping 62 sheep from 19th of August, 1775, to January 31, 1776, being 23½ weeks each, at 1d. per week, the rest being sold at fetching off,	6	0	5
To keeping 28 yearling cattle 23½ weeks each, at 7d. per week,	18	15	8
To damage sustained by not improving the 28 cows on the Island, loss of feed, and what they suffered by being carried off, at 20s.,	28	0	0
To damage by loss of feed, and in not being permitted to keep 500 sheep on the Island, being the usual quantity for increase, &c., 1s. per head,	25	0	0
	£105	13	1

NEW-LONDON COUNTY, } ss.  
STONINGTON, January 31, 1776. }  
Personally appeared Mr. John Brown, of Fisher's Island, of lawful age, and (being duly sworn,) testifieth and saith: That he lived with his father, Mr. Benjamin Brown, the year past; and that, in the morning of the 7th of August last, Captain Wallace, of the Ship Rose, and some other ships-of-war and transports under his command, came to anchor at the west end of said Island; soon after which, Captain Wallace, with a number of armed men, came on shore, and applied to his father for a number of fat cattle and sheep; that Captain Wallace said, if he would let them have them at such price as this deponent and one Colonel Willard should agree for, all was well; but if that did not suit the deponent and his father, he, Wallace, said he would have them notwithstanding; and commanded them immediately to have said stock brought up and yarded; upon which this deponent, with others, (knowing themselves and the stock of said Island to be in the power of said Wallace,) went after the cattle and sheep, and brought them up and yarded them; that this deponent and Colonel Willard valued the eleven hundred sheep and thirty cattle at four hundred and thirty-two pounds fifteen shillings sterling; that the sheep were put on board the transports the 7th of August, and the cattle the day following; and that he expected Captain Wallace would pay his father for said stock, and that this deponent went on board the Spy transport with the account, to receive the money thereon; that when on board, the Captain of the Spy (H. Evans) gave him an order on his Excellency General Gage for the amount of said cattle and sheep; and that he received no other consideration whatever, and that no part of said order hath ever been paid. And this deponent further testifieth, that the within account of expense for removing the sheep, cows, &c., to the main, and the keeping them, is a true and just account, and that he thinks the damage his father sustained by the removing the stock from said Island (not being permitted to return them again) is as great as it is here estima-

ted at, and that his father's damage is daily increasing, both by the expense of keeping the stock and in his not being permitted to feed and improve the Island as usual.  
JOHN BROWN.  
Sworn before me,  
NATHANIEL MINOR, Justice of Peace.

Appraisal of damage done at STONINGTON, LONG-POINT, in CONNECTICUT, by Captain WALLACE, of the Ship ROSE, and Tenders under his command, on the 30th of AUGUST, A. D. 1775, is as follows, viz:

Mr. Joseph Denison, 2d, house, shop, and goods,	£3	4	0
Mr. James Rhodes, house,	3	17	0
Mr. John Denison, 4th, house and goods,	6	10	0
Mr. Isaac Sheffield, house and goods,	2	14	0
Mr. John Rathbun, house, shop, and goods,	1	10	0
Mr. John Brown, Jun., house, store, and goods,	3	12	0
Mr. Oliver Hillard, house and barn,	0	10	0
Mr. Gilbert Fanning, house,	1	4	0
Mr. John Denison, 5th, house and goods,	0	10	0
Mr. John Minor, house and goods,	0	12	0
The School-house,	0	6	0
Mr. Nathaniel Crandal, house and store,	1	4	0
Mr. Samuel Bebe, house,	0	3	0
Mr. Thomas Hiccox, house,	0	12	0
Major Oliver Smith, house, ware-house, shop, and goods,	3	14	0
Captain Thomas Robinson, house and store,	0	10	0
Mr. James Trip, goods,	2	8	0
	£33	0	0

NEW-LONDON COUNTY, } ss.  
STONINGTON, February 5, 1776. }  
Personally appeared Mr. Samuel Satterlee, house-carpenter and joiner, and made solemn oath, That, having carefully inspected the damage done the buildings and goods, at Long-Point, by Captain James Wallace, of the Ship Rose, and tenders under his command, on the 30th of August last, and having considered the same, find it agreeable to the above account.  
Sworn before me,  
NATHANIEL MINOR, Justice of Peace.

Invoice of Cargo and Expenses shipped on board the Sloop BLACK JOKE, JOHN MACKIBBIN Master, for JAMAICA, on account and risk of NATHANIEL SHAW, Jun., owner of said Vessel and Cargo, and consigned to said master.

Seven thousand two hundred pipe-staves, at 80s.	£28	16	0
Three thousand hoops, at 60s.	9	0	0
One hundred and thirteen packs shaken cask, at 4s.	22	12	0
Four thousand five hundred and twenty bunches onions, at 2½d.	47	1	8
Three barrels pork, at 60s.; seven barrels beef, at 45s.	24	15	0
Four tierces bread, at 40s.; fifty-five water casks, at 9s.	32	15	0
Fourteen shoats, weight 757 lbs., at 2d.	6	6	2
Five hundred bushels oats and rye,	45	0	0
Eight tons hay, at 60s.	24	0	0
Thirty-six horses, amounting to	432	0	0
Expense of loading, erecting awning, one month's pay in advance, &c., amounting to	97	0	4
	769	6	2
Commission on ditto, at 5 per cent.	38	9	3
The value of the Sloop,	450.	0	0
	£1,257	15	5

Errors excepted:  
NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

NEW-LONDON COUNTY, } ss.  
NEW-LONDON, January 1776. }  
Personally appeared Mr. Nathaniel Shaw, of New-London, merchant, and made solemn oath that the above sloop,



called the *Black Joke*, John Mackibben master, with cargo as above, sailed from *New-London* on the 29th of *August* last, bound for *Jamaica*, on the deponent's own account and risk; and that said sloop was afterwards taken in his sight, near *Fisher's Island*, by Captain *Wallace*, of the Ship *Rose*; and that this deponent hath since received a letter from his said master at *Boston*, advising him of said sloop and cargo's being carried in there, and sold at publick sale; and that said master was not permitted to have any part thereof.

Sworn before me,

NATHANIEL MINOR, *Justice of Peace*.

*Invoice of sundry articles of Merchandise, the property of WILLIAM COIT, JABEZ PERKINS, JOSEPH WILLIAMS, and LEVI HUNTINGTON, shipped by said LEVI HUNTINGTON, on board the Schooner JAMES, JOHN HOWLAND Master, in NEW-YORK, the 17th of JANUARY, 1776, to be transported to NEW-LONDON; which goods were seized by Captains PARKER and VANDEPUT, of his Majesty's Ships PHENIX and ASIA, then stationed at NEW-YORK; viz:*

Two pieces green plush, 34 yards, at 5s.	£8 10 0
One piece black do., 16½ yards, at 4s. 6d.	3 14 3
One piece marble do., 14 yards, at 5s. 4d.	3 14 8
One piece blue shalloon, - - - - -	3 15 0
Two dozen snuff-boxes, at 3s.	0 6 0
One double groce of double-gilt buttons, -	2 10 0
One do. do. hard metal buttons, at 16s.	1 12 0
Three bags basket buttons, at 5s.	0 15 0
Quarter of a pound Scotch thread, at 24s.	0 6 0
Two dozen plated knee buckles, at 18s.	1 16 0
One groce coat bindings, - - - - -	0 10 0
One piece ratteenet, - - - - -	5 15 0
One piece serge denim, 15 yards, at 7s.	5 5 0
One piece blue durant, - - - - -	3 15 0
Three pieces worsted stuff, at 72s.	10 16 0
One piece lawn, - - - - -	4 0 0
One piece broadcloth, 18 yards, at 15s.	13 10 0
One dozen women's blue worsted hose, -	2 14 0
Six dozen pewter tablespoons, at 3s. 6d.	1 1 0
A cask to pack in, - - - - -	0 4 0
Part of a cask of pewter, amounting to -	31 1 0½
Seven and a half yards kersey, at 8s.	2 18 0
Thirteen and a half yards Bath coating, 16s.	10 16 0
Thirteen and a half yards brown shalloon, at 2s. 6d.	1 13 9
Nineteen and a half yards broadcloth, at 14s.	13 13 0
One hundred and four yards osnaburghs, at 1s. 6d.	7 16 0
Twenty-five yards white flannel, at 3s. 10d.	4 15 10
A cask to pack in, - - - - -	0 4 0
Thirty-five and three-quarters yards broadcloth, at 8s. 6d.	15 3 10
Seven and three-quarters yards snuff-colored broadcloth, at 7s. 8d.	2 19 5
Twenty-nine and a half yards yellow flannel, at 3s. 3d.	4 15 10½
Thirty-one yards blue flannel, at 3s. 6d.	5 8 6
Three pieces cambrick, - - - - -	8 13 6
One piece Irish camlet, - - - - -	2 18 0
One piece silk do., 36 yards, at 4s.	7 4 0
A cask to pack in, - - - - -	0 4 0
Two pieces durant, - - - - -	7 13 0
Three pieces shalloon, at 65s.	9 15 0
Twenty-five pieces Irish camlet, at 52s.	5 4 0
One bag of buttons, - - - - -	0 18 0
Twenty-nine and one-quarter yards of ratteenet, at 4s.	5 17 0
One piece of black everlasting, 16 yards, at 3s. 9d.	3 0 0
One piece of spotted bandanas, - - - - -	2 16 0
Five bags of buttons, - - - - -	1 8 0
Three groce quality, at 16s.	2 8 0
One quarter groce narrow ditto, - - - - -	0 2 6
Two ounces Scotch thread, - - - - -	0 9 7½
One piece ribbon, - - - - -	0 6 0
One piece blue broadcloth, 15 yards, at 9s.	6 19 6
Two pieces brown broadcloth, 33¾ yards, at 11s.	18 11 3
A cask to pack in, - - - - -	0 4 0
One piece brown ratteenet, - - - - -	5 12 0

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

Half pound scarf twist, - - - - -	£1 8 0
One pound silk and hair, - - - - -	2 0 0
Two dozen tobacco boxes, at 15s.	1 10 0
Three pieces black ribbon, at 25s.	3 15 0
One double groce white metal buttons, -	0 12 0
Eight yards black catgut, at 3s.	1 4 0
One dozen black ribbed hose, - - - - -	5 0 0
Twenty pounds pepper, at 5s.	5 0 0
A bag for pepper, - - - - -	0 2 2
Two bladders (15 pounds) 2 ounce Scotch snuff, at 2s. 6d.	1 17 10
Four dozen brass handles, at 15s.	3 0 0
Two dozen escutcheons, at 7s. 6d.	0 15 0
A tierce of earthenware, - - - - -	0 1 8
Eight blue and white mugs, - - - - -	0 8 0
Two dozen brown mugs, at 10s.	1 0 0
One dozen pint mugs, - - - - -	0 5 0
One dozen blue and white mugs, - - - - -	0 6 0
Two dozen wine-glasses, at 6s.	0 12 0
Two dozen tumblers, at 7s.	0 14 0
Six pounds red sanders, at 1s. 6d.	0 9 0
One dozen court-plaster, - - - - -	0 10 0
Two pounds gunpowder, at 7s.	0 14 0
Half pound cloves, at 28s.	0 14 0
Twenty-eight pounds copperas, at 4d.	0 9 4
Eleven yards broadcloth, at 14s.	7 14 0
Four pounds colored thread, at 7s.	1 8 0
One pair flatirons, - - - - -	0 4 0
Two blue and white handkerchiefs, at 5s.	0 10 0
Eight dozen ivory combs, - - - - -	6 4 0
Two and a half bags of buttons, - - - - -	1 19 6
One pound and two ounces scarf twist, -	3 3 0
Four dozen brass handles, and two dozen escutcheons, - - - - -	3 0 0
One dozen chest locks, - - - - -	1 8 0
Two dozen till locks, - - - - -	0 14 0
One dozen marking irons, - - - - -	0 10 6
Five chopping knives, at 2s.	0 10 0
Two candlesticks, at 1s. 6d.	0 3 0
One dozen ink pots, - - - - -	0 3 0
One dozen penknives, - - - - -	0 12 0
One pound brass tacks, - - - - -	0 7 6
Half dozen inkpowder, - - - - -	0 4 6
Fifty pounds pewter, at 19d.	3 19 2
Seven pieces Dutch lace, - - - - -	2 6 9
One dozen chest hinges, - - - - -	0 13 0
Half dozen currycombs, - - - - -	0 7 6
One dozen cutto-knives, - - - - -	0 10 0
Two horse-whips, at 7s. 1d.	0 14 2
One muff and tippet, - - - - -	2 0 0
One dozen Kilmarnock caps, - - - - -	0 12 0
Two barrels Geneva, two ditto brandy, and one barrel anise-seed, as per bill, - - -	36 11 3
One barrel butter biscuits, and cask for ditto,	1 11 2

£376 4 6½

NEW-LONDON COUNTY, }  
NORWICH, March 7, 1776. } ss.

Personally appeared Mr. *Levi Huntington*, of *Norwich*, one of the owners of the goods in the foregoing Invoice, and gave solemn oath that the said Invoice is a just and true account of the goods taken from them, on board the Schooner *James*, in *January* last; and that they have lost the same.

Before,

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, *Justice of Peace*.

*Account of sundry losses sustained by SAMUEL MILLER, THOMAS MORRIS, and FRANCIS CODDINGTON, viz:*

Sloop <i>St. John</i> , Gilbert Harrison, taken by the <i>Scarborough</i> , valued by Captain <i>Berkley's</i> account; sterling, - - - - -	£3,000 0 0
Sloop <i>Betsey</i> , William Vaughan, master, threw overboard, when chased by the <i>Raven</i> , five hundred pounds powder, and sundry other goods, amounting to - - - - -	200 0 0
Sloop . . . . . taken in <i>St. Mary's</i> , having one hundred barrels of rice on board, and carried to <i>St. Augustine</i> , by Capt. <i>Grant</i> , worth -	550 0 0
Sloop <i>Neptune</i> , Captain <i>Morris</i> , taken by ditto,	

on this coast, worth, as per bill enclosed,	
£947 4s.; sloop valued at £356,	- - £1,303 4 0
Brigantine <i>Nancy, Job Pray</i> , burnt by order	
of Captain <i>Ellis</i> , of the Schooner <i>Hinchinbrook</i> ,	
having five thousand staves on	
board, total worth,	- - - - - 425 0 0
Brigantine <i>Savney</i> , Capt. <i>Woodhouse</i> , taken	
outward bound off <i>St. Croix</i> ,	- - - - - 875 0 0
Brigantine <i>Tartar</i> , Captain <i>Dean</i> , chartered,	
taking off <i>St. Croix</i> , having a cargo from	
<i>Georgia</i> , prime cost,	- - - - - 274 0 0
	<hr/>
	£6,627 4 0

Captain THOMAS MORRIS, Sloop NEPTUNE, bought of  
WILLIAM KELLY & Co.

Fifteen kegs gunpowder, containing 1,500	
pounds,	- - - - - £1,500 0 0
Two thousand two hundred and fifty pounds	
lead, at 15 p. p. lb.	- - - - - 256 2 0
Seventy-five stands small-arms, at 66,	- - - - - 825 0 0
Seven hogsheads molasses, containing 810	
gallons, at 15,	- - - - - 101 2 0
Eight empty hogsheads, for do., at 20,	- - - - - 26 5 2
Ten barrels sugar, containing 2,575 pounds,	
at 37 10,	- - - - - 162 4 0
Five barrels coffee, containing 1,028 pounds,	
at 10,	- - - - - 85 5 2
	<hr/>
	£3,157 2 4

Cape Nicola Mole, April 2, 1776.

I, *Samuel Perkins*, of *New-Haven*, in the County of *New-Haven*, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*, depose and say: That on the second day of *August* last I sailed from said *New-Haven* on board the Sloop *Polly*, (of which I was then master,) owned by *Michael Todd* and *John McCleave*, of said *New-Haven*, bound on a voyage to *Martinico*, in the *West-Indies*. The cargo on board of said sloop consisted of twenty-one oxen, three horses, twenty-six thousand three hundred and a half hoops and staves, two thousand bunches of onions, with a quantity of hay, corn, oats, poultry, provisions, and a number of small articles which I cannot now recollect; that on the third day of said *August*, being off southwest from *Block-Island*, I was fired upon by the *Kingfisher* sloop-of-war, commanded by Captain *Montagu*, and in a few minutes boarded by the *Kingfisher's* boat, loaded with armed men, who in a few minutes forced me and my crew into the boat, and carried us on board the *Kingfisher*. After they had taken possession of my sloop, they towed her into *Boston*, where we arrived the seventh of said *August*. The cattle and other articles on board were taken possession of, and sold by order of Admiral *Graves*. After they had stripped the sloop of her sails, anchor, and other rigging, they set her up at vendue, and I suppose sold her, as they absolutely refused delivering her up to me, alleging that I was on a voyage to get powder; which was, in fact, the case; my getting powder being made by the Governour of *Connecticut* the condition of his dispensing with the embargo on the exportation of cattle.

I, *Samuel Perkins*, further depose and say, that the account made out, and attested to under oath, by Messrs. *Todd* and *John McCleave*, on the 15th instant, before *Samuel Bishop*, Jun., Esq., is an account of the cargo which was taken as aforesaid by said *Kingfisher* sloop-of-war. And further this deponent saith not.

SAMUEL PERKINS.

New-Haven, December 27, 1775.

NEW-HAVEN, December 27, 1775:

Personally appeared *Samuel Perkins*, the above deponent, and made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition.

Before SAMUEL BISHOP, JUN., Justice of Peace.

An Account of Sloop POLLY's Cargo, SAMUEL PERKINS Master, and value of said Vessel, taken the 3d of AUGUST, 1775, on her passage to the WEST-INDIES for Powder, by permission of his Honour the Governour,

and carried to BOSTON by the KINGFISHER Sloop-of-War, JAMES MONTAGU Commander, owned by MICHAEL TODD and JOHN MCCLEAVE, of NEW-HAVEN.

Sloop valued at,	- - - - - £400 0 0
Twenty-one oxen,	- - - - - 129 18 0
Three horses,	- - - - - 43 10 0
Twenty-six thousand three hundred and	
two quarters hoops and staves, at 45s.	
per thousand,	- - - - - 59 5 9
Two thousand bunches onions,	- - - - - 29 3 4
With hay, corn, oats, provisions, &c.,	- - - - - 145 2 2
	<hr/>
	£806 19 3

NEW-HAVEN COUNTY,  
NEW-HAVEN, December 27, A. D. 1775, } ss.

Personally appeared Messrs. *Michael Todd* and *John McCleave*, and made solemn oath that they were owners of the aforesaid sloop, and that the same was taken in manner above-mentioned, and having the above cargo on board, being estimated by their best judgment in manner above said.

Before SAMUEL BISHOP, JUN., Justice of Peace.

Wellfleet, January 26, 1776.

SIR: Being informed that you are one of the Committee appointed by the honourable the Continental Congress to receive an estimate of all losses, seizures, &c., by the King's Troops or Navy, &c., we take this opportunity of informing you of our misfortune, and have enclosed you a well authenticated account thereof; and are, with the greatest respect, sir, your humble servants,

HEZEKIAH DOANE & Co.

To the Honourable *John Adams*, Esq.

I, *Elisha Doane*, Jun., Master of the Schooner *Hannah*, burden about ninety-five tons, belonging to *Hezekiah Doane, Esq., & Co.*, do testify and say, that, returning from a whaling voyage in said schooner off the back of *Cape-Cod*, on the seventh day of *September* last, was boarded and taken by the man-of-war the *Savage*, commanded by Captain *Bromage*, and carried into *Boston*, contrary to my inclination, and there detained until I had an opportunity of making my escape, and left my vessel there in the hands of the enemy, and have not seen or heard from her since; which schooner, with her appurtenances, (exclusive of whaling craft,) was worth at that time, according to the best of my judgment, four hundred pounds, lawful money.

ELISHA DOANE, JUN.

EASTHAM, January 26, 1776:

The above-named *Elisha Doane*, Jun, personally appeared before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of Peace in the County of *Barnstable*, and made oath to the above-written Deposition.

JOHN ATWOOD, Justice of Peace.

I, *Elisha Mays*, of lawful age, do testify and say, that, on the seventh day of *September* last, returning from a whaling voyage in Schooner *Hannah*, owned by *Hezekiah Doane, Esq.*, and commanded by *Elisha Doane, Jun.*, off *Cape-Cod*, discovering a man-of-war, myself, with several others, took the boat, and went on shore. After that, I saw the man-of-war's boat board said schooner, and saw said schooner stand away for *Boston*. And further saith not.

ELISHA MAYS.

EASTHAM, January 26, 1776:

The above-named *Elisha Mays* personally appeared before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of Peace for the County of *Barnstable*, and, after being duly cautioned, made oath to the above-written Deposition.

JOHN ATWOOD, Justice of Peace.

I, *Simon Newcomb*, of lawful age, do testify and say, that, as I was going from *Wellfleet* to *Salem* in a small schooner, burden about twenty-five tons, loaded with oysters, on the twenty-fifth day of *July* last, off *Race-Point*, we were boarded and taken by a boat from a man-of-war,

(the *Falkland*, commanded by Captain *Lindsey*.) and was carried into *Boston*, and there sold; and I myself detained on board a man-of-war for some time, and finally dismissed. And do further testify and say, that, according to the best of my judgment, said schooner, with her appurtenances, was worth at that time, (including her cargo,) fifty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, lawful money, and belonged to Mr. *Zoheth Smith* and others; and since I was taken, the man that was my partner is deceased. And further saith not.

SIMON NEWCOMB.

Eastham, January 26, 1776.

BARNSTABLE, ss.

The above-named *Simon Newcomb* personally appeared before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of Peace, and, after being duly cautioned, made oath to the above-written Deposition.

JOHN ATWOOD, Justice of Peace.

New-Haven, 8, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: The 22d *December* last I wrote you, informing you of the loss we sustained on *Noddle's Island*; since which, I have been down to *Boston*, and find the Island much more damaged than I could have conceived of. Besides the buildings, &c., I mentioned, (the amount was £1,520,) they destroyed, cut, and burnt, &c., underwritten, viz:

25 large locust trees.

220 feet planed and painted fence, and with large gates before the mansion-house, red cedar posts.

500 feet board fence round the cow-yard.

170 feet board fence round the garden, red cedar posts, almost new.

13 fruit trees in the garden.

100 or more spruce spars, poles for fences.

45 lengths post and rails fence, 5 rails each.

78 lengths 3-rails fence, underpinned with stone; wall good.

2 pumps entirely destroyed.

1 pump much damaged.

234 feet open board fence round the sheep-yard.

A bridge burnt, and a wharf, where the store was burnt, much burnt.

1 horse-stable, omitted in my last, worth about twenty pounds sterling; (Mr. *Williams* says thirty pounds sterling; but I believe twenty is enough.)

GENTLEMEN: You may, if you please, make an addition to the sum of £1,520 of £100 sterling, for above loss and damages. And whereas we expect to be paid for those damages done by the Provincial Troops on the Island, we should be glad that, if it is in your power at present, you would please to give us part to begin to rebuild with now. The troops have left *Boston*. The longer delayed, the greater the damage; and conclude with wishing you grace and wisdom, health and happiness, here and hereafter.

From your obedient, humble servant,

THOS. GREENOUGH.

To Messrs. *Deane*, *Adams*, and *Wythe*, Esquires.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 9, 1776.

SIR: The important post of *Dorchester-Hill*, which has long been the object of our particular attention, and which, for various weighty reasons, I had hitherto delayed taking possession of, I have the pleasure to inform you is now so well secured, that I flatter myself it will not be in the power of the enemy to dispossess us. A detachment of twenty-five hundred men, under the command of Brigadier-General *Thomas*, on *Monday* evening last began the works there, which they have carried on ever since, without the least molestation from the enemy. For two or three nights previous to this, I thought it necessary to draw off their attention from the grand object, and accordingly ordered a brisk cannonade and bombardment of the town, which, as I have been since informed, had the desired effect; for they had no suspicion of our real design till *Tuesday* morning, when they discovered our troops in possession of the hill.

A Captain of a transport, who made his escape from *Boston* the night before last, informs me that three thousand men, under the command of Lord *Percy*, were ordered to

dispossess us; but the weather being very tempestuous, or perhaps for some better reason, the expedition was laid aside. He also informs me that they were making every necessary preparation to evacuate the town. They have, indeed, been observed, for several days past, to be very busily employed in removing their cannon and ammunition; and yesterday, in the afternoon, the Captain's intelligence was confirmed by a flag of truce, sent out with a message from the Selectmen of the town, a copy of which I have the honour to enclose you. It seems very evident that they can no longer keep possession of the town, and are determined to take post or attack in some other quarter. Where that may be is at present altogether uncertain; but I thought it my duty to give you the earliest information of this important movement, that you might take proper measures for the security of your Colony. I have ordered their motions to be very narrowly watched; and if anything material should occur, you may rely on my giving you speedy notice.

I have also the pleasure to acquaint you that Captain *Manly* and others have taken another transport-ship, laden with coals, porter, &c., for the use of the Ministerial Troops at *Boston*. She brings papers to the 2d of *December*, but they afford no material news. An armed transport is also stranded on the beach of *Cape-Cod*. The most of her cargo (consisting principally of a few military stores) has been secured by the inhabitants; the master, two midshipmen, and a number of seamen, made prisoners. She was bound from *Boston* to *New-York*.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

[Letters of the same import with the above were sent to his Honour Governour *Cooke*, and to the President of the Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.]

COLONEL MOYLAN TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE AMERICAN FORCES STATIONED AT NEW-YORK.

Cambridge, March 9, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency General *Washington* to inform you that, in consequence of his determination to possess himself of the Heights at *Dorchester*, a cannonade and bombardment was begun on *Saturday* night last, on the town of *Boston*, continued on *Sunday* night, and on *Monday* night. A vast number of shot and shells were thrown into that town, under the cover of which the intended purpose was effected. On the enemy's perceiving, next morning, that we had taken post, they were all hurry and bustle, embarking their troops, as was expected, and wished to attack us; but the violent storm which came on that day prevented them, and disappointed us, who were prepared to give them a warm reception.

The possession of these Heights are preparatory to our forming a fort upon *Nuke-Hill*, which commands the south of *Boston*, and to which their shipping will be much exposed. This they seem to be well aware of, and are now making every preparation for moving off. Captain *Irwin* escaped from them the night before last, and assures us that this is their intention. It is corroborated by a message from the Selectmen in that town to his Excellency, a copy of which you have enclosed.

These informations will not prevent the General from proceeding in his advances to the town; so that, if they do not move off, he is determined to force them to a battle, by making that town so hot that they will have but little rest therein.

His Excellency has good reasons to imagine that *New-York* will be the place of their destination. He therefore desires that you will exert yourself to the utmost in preparing for their reception. He has ordered the armed vessels to be in readiness to attend their motions, and give him the earliest intelligence of the course they steer; by which intelligence his motions will be governed. If they steer west, you may expect a large reinforcement from this camp, and in all probability the main body will soon follow.

You will please to communicate this to the Provincial Congress in Convention, who, the Governour doubts not, will co-operate with you in using every endeavour to prevent their forming a lodgment before his Excellency can

come or send to your assistance. The fate of *America* depends upon this campaign, and the success of this campaign will a good deal depend upon your exerting yourselves with vigour upon this occasion. I am, &c.

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To the Commanding Officer of the *American* Forces at *New-York*.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, March 9, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency General *Washington* to inform you that, in consequence of his determination to possess himself of the Heights at *Dorchester*, a cannonade and bombardment was begun on *Saturday* night last on the town of *Boston*, continued on *Sunday* night and on *Monday* night. A vast number of shot and shells were thrown into that town, under the cover of which the intended purpose was effected. On the enemy's perceiving, next morning, that we had taken post, they were all hurry and bustle, embarking their troops, as was expected, and wished to attack us; but the violent storm which came on that day prevented them, and disappointed us, who were prepared to give them a warm reception.

The possession of these Heights are preparatory to our forming a fort upon *Nike-Hill*, which commands the south of *Boston*, and to which their shipping will be much exposed. This they seem to be well aware of, and are now making every preparation for moving off. Captain *Irwin*, of *Salem*, who escaped from town the night before last, assures us that this is their intention. It is corroborated by a message from the Selectmen in that town to his Excellency, a copy of which you have enclosed.

These informations will not prevent the General from proceeding in his advances to the town; so that, if they do not move off, he is determined to force them to a battle, by making that town so hot that they will have but little rest therein.

His Excellency has good reason to imagine that *New-York* will be the place of their destination; but lest that should not be the case, it behooves every place where a fleet can lie, to be upon their guard. The General therefore recommends the utmost vigilance may be observed by the good people of your Province; and if they should make an attempt to land therein, he doubts not that every opposition will be given thereto, and an express sent off immediately, that he may come or send to your assistance.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To the *New-Hampshire* Committee of Safety.

STATEMENT OF JOHN RODGERS, OF BOSTON.

After several fruitless attempts to leave the town, I became bound to General *Gage* (by liberating certain prisoners\*) not to leave it; in consequence of which I entered into trade. About the 1st of *January*, 1776, came a permit, at ten o'clock at night, ordering me to leave the town by ten o'clock the next day. The connections I was then in rendered it almost impossible to obey the summons.

I then petitioned General *Howe* to postpone the permit a few days, but met with nothing but insults from Major *Urquhart* and others, *Aid-de-Camps* to the General. I then concealed myself for two days, until the vessel sailed on which I was ordered on board. In which time the Provost broke open my house, and plundered it in part, leaving it open for the soldiers to complete what he began; telling the neighbours he had orders from Head-Quarters so to do.

On which I wrote a letter to the following purport:

"GENTLEMEN: I shall esteem it a great favour if you will permit me to have ten minutes' conversation with you. I flatter myself I shall set my conduct in a more favourable light than I think it appears in at present to you, if I may form a judgment from the treatment I received from the Provost.

"I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

"JOHN RODGERS.

"To Major *James Urquhart* and Captain *Balfour*."

\* Mr. *John Gill*, Printer; Mr. *William Starr*; and *Peter Edes*, son of Mr. *Edes*, Printer.

The answer was:

"We are surprised you keep yourself concealed. You may immediately go about and settle your accounts. No man shall hurt the hair of your head; nor has the Provost any order to trouble you."

On which I went out, but in less than four hours was insulted and committed to jail by order of Major *Urquhart*, as the Provost informed me; and in less than one hour after my confinement, my house was again broken open and plundered. After being confined seven days, was taken out by a file of soldiers, and put on board a vessel, not being allowed to go to my house for a second coat, waistcoat, or shirt.

Thus, my countrymen, every sub-villain acts his part, and procures his plunder on a smaller scale, as General *Gage* did on a larger: one violating his honour to a whole town, the other to an individual.

JOHN RODGERS.

MIDDLESEX, WATERTOWN, *March 9, 1776, ss.*

Personally appeared before me *John Rogers*, and made oath to the truth of the above Narrative by him subscribed.

HENRY GARDNER, *Justice of Peace*.

STATEMENT OF PETER EDES, OF BOSTON.

Watertown, March 13, 1776.

Mr. *Rogers* having published a narrative of the treatment he met with in *Boston* from General *Howe* and his banditti, he pleased also to insert an account of the humane procedure towards me by General *Gage* and his creatures, which will discover the principles those abandoned wretches who have commissions under the present Ministry, act upon.

On *Monday*, the 19th of *June* last, about nine o'clock, A. M., being in *Edes & Gill's* office, in *Boston*, three men belonging to the ships-of-war appeared round it; and having been previously informed of their pressing every person into the service who happened to fall in their way, I ran out of the shop by means of a back door, which conducted into the lane that led to my father's house. Thither I repaired; but the bloodhounds were immediately informed of my retreat, and speedily followed me, and the dwelling was almost instantaneously surrounded by sailors, and three officers. I soon was made a prisoner, and had the misfortune to find myself in the hands of the most unfeeling and worthless set of men; one of whom, upon first discovering me, cried out, "I have found the damned rebel." I supposed from this, that they thought they had found my father; at least, that they meant to scourge me for his political transgressions against them. The fellow had a cutlass drawn in his hand, and pulled me to the officers, one of whom was Captain *Lindsey*, of the *Liverpool* sloop-of-war, and who is son-in-law to Mr. *Ralph Inman*, late of *Cambridge*, now refugee in *Boston*. He asked me where Mr. *Edes* was. I answered, he was out of town. He replied (*God* bless his Christian soul) that I was a damned liar, and that I had better tell him. He repeated the question. I answered as before. He asked my name. I told him *Edes*. He asked if I was Mr. *Edes*, the Printer's son. I told him I was. Upon which, he ordered me with him, observing that he was commanded so to do. I said it was very well, and followed him, guarded by other villains; and determined, since I had got into the lion's paws, to humour every motion, lest I should be crushed in the contest. After we had got to *New-Boston*, he asked what my father had been writing to me. I replied nothing. He then asked what I had been writing to him. I answered nothing. He said I was right in saying so; but that he would be damned if he would believe me. We afterwards proceeded towards the Admiral's; and passing by my father's house, *Lindsey* discovered Mr. *Starr* with a firelock, upon which he ordered us to stop, for there was a trooper with a firelock. He was soon brought where I was, and both placed in the centre of a circle formed of six Jack-tars, whose long residence on board the ships-of-war had made them as hardened and inhuman as the *Algerine* galley-slaves, who were commanded like so many draught horses, to go on. Being a little animated, I said, Captain *Lindsey*, I should be much obliged to you, if you would carry me to the General's, and see whether he will release me, or to know what he will do with me. He retorted, with all the sea-bred supercilious-

ness of a little Neptune, "I was not to go where I pleased, but that I should go where he pleased to carry me; and, (for he thinks no more of sending a man pell-mell to hell with curses and damnings, almost every word he speaks, than I did of praying to *God* to be relieved from such wretches' hands,) damn me, if I asked him another question, he would knock me down, by *God*." He then sent us to the Admiral's, with an officer and a few sailors.

When we were before his bruteship, he asked me my name. I replied *Edes*. He said I looked like a dirty villain, and ordered his officer to carry us to the Provost, with orders for him to hang us immediately. But looking round, he saw a sailor with a firelock; upon which he asked the officer if it was found with us. Being informed that it was, he ordered the officer to carry us to General *Gage*, and he would know what to do with us. I then thought we were left to a fine judge, indeed. When we came before his Excellency, *Harry Rooke* (one of his Aids-de-Camp) asked me how many more firelocks I had in the house. I replied, five or six more, for aught I knew; for I was ignorant of that one being there. He told me, by way of cordial, that I would wish I had given it up. Another officer called a Sergeant of the Horse, and ordered him to draw his cutlass, and carry us back to the Admiral's, but observed to him, if we offered to run, (and made a sign, though not a wonder, by drawing his hand across his throat.) We set off, but soon an officer overtook us, and gave orders to stop. A Sergeant commanded us to lay on the ground about a quarter of an hour, when another officer came, and acquainted us that we must go to the General's, which we did, and tarried about half an hour; after which, they called a Corporal, gave him a billet, and ordered a file of men to take us to the Provost, where we remained till the 3d of *October*; and to fall into the hands of a more worthless, infamous fellow, do not wish my enemies.

The 17th, 18th, and 19th days of *June*, we were carried before a Court of Inquiry. The two first days, no questions were proposed to either of us. The third, Major *Urquhart*, (son-in-law to the late Secretary *Flucker*,) asked me when I was taken up, my crime, and by whose orders. After answering him, he ordered us back to jail; and during the time of our confinement there, three-quarters of it was in a close prison. The treatment to us, as well as those taken at *Bunker's Hill*, was of the most extreme kind. Cruelty and inhumanity is exercised to no prisoners-of-war in any *European* country, or by any people, but that of *Englishmen* to their brethren. The allowance of provisions from the execrable *Gage*, was bread and water for sixty days, and that dealt to us with the hand next to want; and we were deprived of candlelight seventeen nights. I have heard those prisoners mentioned ask for bread, and the Provost replied, (Heaven bless him, if it be agreeable to eternal purpose,) "damn them, let them eat the heads of the nails;" a speech which scarce ever escaped the lips of an unfeeling barbarian against the Christians. And at another time, a prisoner, who, from his wounds, and the mangled operations of the Surgeon who attended him, (but whether from ignorance or party rage, I cannot say,) just approaching the ascent to eternity, had a religious book lent him to peruse in that serious hour, at which time *Harry Rooke*, one of the Aids-de-diable, observed it, wrested it from him, and said "it was damned religion had ruined the country." Thus they expect no peace themselves in death, and they even prevent such of us as happen to fall into their hands, of it likewise. "But for all these things, wilt thou not judge them, O Lord!"

PETER EDES.

N. B. One excessive hot day, the Sergeant of the guard (having more humanity than the Provost) gave us the liberty of the yard. The Provost came home, and seeing us there, asked the Sergeant the reason of it. He told him we were suffering for want of air, and he had let us out. Upon which he replied, "Damn them, let them die and rot; you have no authority to let them out;" and he immediately confined him with a Corporal. Several officers came one day, and asked how many there were in the room. We told them. Upon which, one of them said, "I wish, instead of four, there were four hundred, and I had the hanging of them all." A proper officer for such bloodthirsty villains. At another time, *Ben Hallowell* (one of the infamous Commissioners) came into the room where I was,

and said (what the world is ready to say of him) I was a damned rascal, and ought to have been hanged long ago.

P. E.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NORTH-CAROLINA TO HIS FRIEND IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 10, 1776.

I have it in my power to give you a few lines by the express. Yesterday afternoon we received a letter from Colonel *Caswell*, giving an account, in a full manner, of a battle between his troops, Colonel *Lillington's*, (of *Cape-Fear*,) and the Highlanders and Regulators, about twenty miles above *Wilmington*, at *Moore's Creek Bridge*, which is between the *Northwest* and *Northeast* Rivers. The Insurgents had made many attempts to escape the vigilance of our troops, and get down to Governour *Martin*. Colonel *Caswell* was after them many days; at length they made an attempt to cross at this pass, about the break of day, on *Tuesday*, the 27th of last month.

Colonel *Caswell* had very wisely ordered the planks to be taken off the bridge, so that in passing it they met with many difficulties, and a very heavy firing came on. Our troops reserved their fire till within a small distance, which did great execution. Many passed the bridge. General *McLeod* and Captain *Campbell* were instantly shot dead. *McLeod* had nine bullets and twenty-four swan-shot through him and into his body. Twenty-eight more are killed and mortally wounded, and between twenty and thirty prisoners, amongst them his Excellency General *Donald McDonald*, who is on his way to us, and is expected here to-morrow. We had only two men wounded—one of them mortally. The Insurgents retreated with the greatest precipitation, leaving behind them some wagons, &c. They cut the horses out of the wagons, and mounted three upon a horse. Many of them fell into the creek, and were drowned. *Tom Rutherford* ran like a lusty fellow. He and *Felix Kennan*, of *Duplin County*, were in arms against us. They by this time are our prisoners, as is Lieutenant-Colonel *Cotton*, who ran the first fire. The battle lasted only three minutes. The Colonels *Caswell* and *Lillington* had under their command one thousand men. The Highlanders and Regulators sixteen hundred. The account is certain as to the number of the Insurgents; for Colonel *Caswell* had it from General *McDonald* himself. Colonel *Moore* sent off expresses to the main Army, consisting of between five and six hundred men, under the Colonels *Martin*, *Polk*, *Thackston*, and *Long*, in and about *Cross-Creek*, to secure the whole of the Highlanders and Regulators. Not a man of them has a probability of making his escape.

Governour *Martin* has threatened the destruction of *Wilmington*, if they do not supply him with provisions. The town has spiritedly refused to supply him with a single mouthful, notwithstanding the *Cruiser* and three armed vessels lay opposite it; and they have told the Governour he may do as he pleases, as they are determined to resist to the last.

They have a good battery there, and four hundred chosen men, under the command of a brave *Irishman*, (Colonel *William Purviance*,) who is determined to see it out with them. The women and children are sent out of town. The Tories are all secured in *Wilmington Jail*, to the number of twenty-five. Captain *Parry*, of the *Cruiser*, has meanly begged a few quarters of beef, which the town has refused him. And the vessels dare not begin the attack, though we daily expect to hear of an engagement, as they are starving.

It was humorous enough in the inhabitants of *Wilmington*, when the Governour haughtily demanded one thousand barrels of flour, after answering him fully on that head, that they went immediately into the insurrection. And what a hopeful situation he had reduced his friends to, that were surrounded by large, spirited, and powerful armies, who were determined to make short work with them.

The *Negroes* at *Cape-Fear* were never known to behave so well as they have lately.

Yesterday, two prisoners (a Midshipman and a common seaman) were sent out of this town to *Halifax*.

We have now in arms, to the southward of this town, nine thousand four hundred men. General *Clinton*, we ex-



pect to hear every moment is landed at *Cape-Fear*, with the troops under his command. As soon as we learned he had sailed from *Virginia*, sent off an express instantly to our commanding officer there, to be ready for him. The Governour of *South-Carolina* is at *Cape-Fear*. *Clinton*, *Martin*, and Lord *William Campbell*, are to settle the plan of operations as to the subjugating this Province, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*. To-morrow, we send off two gentlemen to *South-Carolina*. I do expect, the moment *Clinton* lands, this Province, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina*, will march an army of twenty thousand men against him. You never knew the like in your life as to true patriotism. Not a man of any influence is left in the back country, nor on *Cape-Fear*. All, to a man, turned out upon the first alarm, in defence of their country.

JOHN HARRISON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Fredericktown, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your order, we have sent by the bearer, *Lawrence Brengle*, all the muskets we have that is in order, being eighty-four; and also fifteen hundred gun-flints. Mr. *Brengle* will lay before you an account for wagonage; what we have will be paid.

I am, gentlemen, in behalf of the Committee, your most humble servant,

JOHN HARRISON, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CHARLES CARROLL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Baltimore Town, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of last night gave me no small satisfaction; but we have, since receiving it, heard that a large ship and some small vessels are discovered from *North-Point* working up the bay. Whatever they may turn out to be, we shall here propose to receive them, as there are a great number of men in town. Colonel *Dorsey* has been directed to march back his battalion to *Elk-River*, but will keep them together at *Elk-Ridge Landing* till he hears from you by express whether they are wanted at *Annapolis*. Pray despatch your orders to him directly. I understand from you that you are at *Annapolis* sufficiently prepared to oppose the landing of any men from the *Otter*, or her tenders.

The Committee of *Baltimore County* had likewise, before receiving your letter, directed their Light-Infantry Company to march to your assistance. It is now countermanded; but they will most readily send you, on notice, any assistance in their power. As no orders have been sent to Captain *Stricker* to come to this town, I suppose he will continue his march to *Annapolis*. I am sorry to acquaint you that there is some probability that the powder and arms we expected from *Philadelphia* are seized by one of the tenders. In the great hurry and confusion, in order to furnish some of the Militia, many of the cartridge-boxes were delivered out to them, which perhaps may not be got again. We must not mind these small losses. It is the general sentiment of the people here that Captain *Squire* should not be supplied with provisions; and I hope he will not be permitted to seize the *New-England* sloop.

I am, respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

JOSEPH BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Bladensburg, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, I had ordered my battalion to rendezvous about half-way between this and *Queen-Anne*. But as we yesterday evening and this morning received at this place fifty-one whole and one broken barrel and twenty kegs of gun-powder, and twelve muskets, I have altered the place of rendezvous to this town. As, by your orders, I am to hold myself in readiness to march at a moment's warning, I shall keep them, or such parts of them as can be tolerably armed, on duty till I receive your further orders thereon. I hope,

by the return of this messenger, I shall receive your orders, as well with respect to my conduct in keeping the whole or a part of the battalion on duty, as likewise with respect to the disposition of the powder, as it may not be altogether safe to keep the powder near the navigable waters. If there should not be an immediate call for it, I think *Snowden's Iron-Works* would be a proper place to lodge it, as it will be nearly convenient to *Annapolis*, *Baltimore*, and this place.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
JOSEPH BEALL.

To the Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN JAMES HINDMAN.

[No. 40.]

Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

SIR: Your request, with regard to Mr. *Frazer*, hath been complied with; he has got his commission made out. We have some linen and cloth, but, we doubt, not enough for the battalion and Independent companies; therefore get for yourself, if you can; if not, we will endeavour to supply you. Hats we will procure at *Baltimore Town*; blankets and guns you may get for yourself at reasonable prices. Our arms are very slow in coming from the northward, and few have been made. The man-of-war and her tenders are gone past this town towards *Baltimore*. You must be on your guard, and spirit up your company to attend their motions, in case they should attempt landing. We think you ought not to go to *Philadelphia* until this alarm is over.

We are, &c.

To Captain *James Hindman*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOSHUA BEALL.

[No. 41.]

Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

SIR: A man-of-war and two tenders passed this harbour yesterday afternoon, and we imagine are destined to *Baltimore*. But as it is altogether uncertain what their designs are, and as we wish to put the Province in the best state of defence our circumstances will admit of, we request you will immediately meet your battalion, and hold them in readiness to march at a moment's warning, upon the further orders of the Council.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Joshua Beall*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 48.]

Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your letter, recommending the Town of *Cambridge* as the most convenient and proper place for the Independent Company of your County to be stationed at; and, as we approve of that place, we have ordered Captain *Woolford* to station his company there.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN JOHN GUNBY.  
[No. 49.]

Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

SIR: We approve of your conduct in providing houses, bedding, fuel, and utensils for your company, and enclose an order on the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore*, in your favour, for one hundred and fifty pounds, to disburse the expenses you have incurred in these matters, and subsisting your recruits. If that is not sufficient, you shall be provided with a further sum.

We are not yet supplied with arms, and therefore cannot now furnish you; but will as soon as we are able. By the enclosed you will observe your company is to be stationed at *Princess Anne*, agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of Observation of your County, for which we thank them.

We are, &c.

To Captain *John Gunby*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES CARROLL.  
[No. 50.] Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Half-past three o'clock this afternoon the *Otter*, with her tenders, hove in sight. Half-past five a flag was sent with a letter to the Governour, a copy of which, with his answer, you have enclosed. We informed you last night that very little provision would fall to their share. This we confirm. We are well prepared to repel any attempt they may make to land. You will now have no occasion for *Stricker's* Company; therefore, if you have ordered him to *Baltimore* Town, countermand it. The President and Mr. *Tilghman* conferred with two officers that came on shore to attend the flag. They confessed one of their tenders was in great danger of being taken; but that Captain *Squire* bore away to prevent great effusion of blood: but we conceive that he will loiter about till he is reinforced. We perceive a small vessel making down the bay, and not unlikely with intelligence to the *Kingfisher*, who, the flag said, might be expected to relieve the *Otter*. Therefore you will be pleased to provide against the worst. We cannot sufficiently commend those brave sons of liberty who this day stood forth so gallantly in defence of their country. Be assured we shall afford them every assistance in our power; and are, yours, &c.

To *Charles Carroll*, Esq. and the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GOVERNOUR EDEN.  
[No. 51.] Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency will be pleased to inform Captain *Squire*, that the time has been when we should have thought it an honour, and would with pleasure have supplied any of his Majesty's ships with provision; and are still not destitute of a hope that a time may yet come when we may enjoy that satisfaction.

We have always considered Captain *Squire* as a man of humanity and a gentleman; and as such, cannot account for the burning of a vessel in full view of the people of this city, as if meant to add insult to misfortune already too severely felt by the people of this Province, who were always attached to his Majesty and his family, and who cannot be reproached for defending themselves against any invasion of their native and chartered rights. We are willing to believe, and shall be glad of being confirmed therein, that this step was not in consequence of any order from him.

We are much obliged to your Excellency for the pains you have taken to preserve the peace of this Province, and that you will still exert your endeavours for the restoration of those happy days that we enjoyed under a constitutional dependance on the mother country.

We are, &c.

To His Excellency *Robert Eden*, Esquire.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES CARROLL.  
[No. 52.] Annapolis, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are much hurried. The hostile fleet have sailed down the bay, and we are confident they will return in two or three days; therefore prepare for your defence. We ordered part of Colonel *Weems's* Battalion at twelve o'clock last night to guard *West-River*; and at twelve o'clock to-day, which was the time the *Otter* was weighing anchor, ordered the remainder of that battalion to hasten down along the bay side, towards the mouth of *Patuxent*, and to show themselves ready to oppose any attempt at landing; and if they should land without a flag, to fight it out to the last with them.

The one thousand pounds you mention shall be sent by the first opportunity. We have a great deal to say to you, and shall be glad to see you to-morrow, or next day. We are all worn to the stumps.

Yours, &c.

To *Charles Carroll*, Esq. and the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

LORD STIRLING TO COLONEL DAYTON.

New-York, March 10, 1776.

SIR: You are instantly to use your utmost endeavours

to put the Third Regiment of *New-Jersey* Troops in the Continental service into the best condition for marching you possibly can, and as well armed and accoutred as the time will admit of. There will be a necessity of their moving out of the Province of *New-Jersey* on *Tuesday* at farthest.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To Colonel *Dayton*, *Elizabethtown*.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, March 10, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: General *Lee* communicated to me your letter of the 29th *February*. Since the date of which, Congress have made a new arrangement of the commands in *America*, of which you will doubtless be informed before this reaches you. However, lest by any accident that should not be the case, I shall just recapitulate what our friend *Duane* writes me on the subject. General *Lee* is to command in the Southern Department, comprehending *Virginia*, the *Carolinas*, and *Georgia*. The Middle Department, (comprehending *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the Lower Counties, and *Maryland*.) is under the command of yourself, with *Thompson* and myself, Brigadier-Generals. The *New-England* Colonies compose the Eastern Department; and *Canada* the Northern. Who is to command in the latter was not yet determined. In consequence of this arrangement, General *Lee* set out from this place on *Thursday* evening for *Philadelphia*, and has left me in a situation not a little perplexing, especially to a young beginner, as I now may call myself, after twenty years retirement from the busy scenes of life. It will require at least eight thousand men to put this place and *Long-Island* in any posture of defence by the month of *May*. We have not above eighteen hundred; of these, about one thousand *Connecticut* Troops will leave us on the 25th of this month; of the remainder, three hundred are Minute-men, from *Dutchess* County, without arms; so that we shall then be reduced to about five hundred. I have indeed ordered Colonel *Dayton* to get the Third Battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops in readiness to march as soon as possible. But before I order him to march to this place, I must wait to know his destination from yourself or Congress. The battalions raising in this Province I know not the state of, but I believe they are backward in their recruiting, especially those in this quarter. Their Field-Officers are not yet appointed.

I most sincerely wish you were here, for when Brigadier-General *Thompson* arrives, he will be equally at a loss what to do until we have your particular orders. However, as I have General *Lee's* ideas about the fortifying this place, I shall pursue the plan as far as possible until I receive further orders.

A copy of your letter to General *Lee* is sent to the Convention of this Province, in order that they may co-operate with you in the preparations for the campaign in *Canada*. It is high time the General who is to command in that department was on his way to it.

By General *Lee's* directions I have engaged in *New-Jersey* two companies of carpenters, each consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, and twenty-five men, designed for *Canada*;\* but as I observe you have fifty ready to go at a

\*You are hereby authorized and empowered to raise and enlist a Company of Artificers in the service of the United Colonies, which company is to consist of twenty-five men, all of whom are to be good able house-carpenters, ship-carpenters, boat-builders, or wheel-wrights, whom you are to command as their Captain and foreman. They are to have the pay and allowance and are to be equipped as specified in the subjoined articles. They are to enter into pay from the day they arrive at *New-York*, and are marched and reviewed by order of the General, with an allowance of three days for arriving at that place.

You and they are to follow such orders or instructions as you shall receive from myself or the commanding General in the Province of *New-York* or in *Canada*.

Given under my hand and seal, this fourth day of *March*, 1776.

STIRLING.

To *Caleb Bruen*, Esquire.

Articles and conditions on which a Company of Artificers is to be raised in the service of the United Colonies by *CALEB BRUEN*, as Captain thereof.

The company is to consist of one Captain, who is to be paid at the rate of one dollar per day; one Lieutenant, at three-quarters of a dollar per day; and twenty-five good able house-carpenters, ship-carpenters, boat-builders, or wheel-wrights, at half a dollar per day. They are to

moment's warning I shall detain them at this place till further orders. They can, in the mean time, be very well employed at this place in building platforms and barriers.

March 11.—Last night three gentlemen landed here from on board a packet from *England*. The advice they bring over is, that seven regiments of Foot, amounting to about four thousand men, were ready to sail from *Cork* about the 6th of *January*, bound to the Southern Colonies; that *Great Britain* had engaged four thousand *Hanoverians* and six thousand *Hessians* for the *American* war, and were in treaty for ten thousand *Russians*; that the *French* Ambassador had declared to the *English* Ministry that while the quarrel between *Great Britain* and her Colonies was carried on with their own forces, the King, his master, would not meddle with it; but that if any foreign aid was introduced, he would no longer be an idle spectator. They then had not heard in *England* that the *French* had any troops in their *West-India* Islands. I think this looks well for us.

I have the honour to be your most humble servant,  
STIRLING.

To General *Schuyler*.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 15, 1776.]

New-York, Sunday Evening, 10 o'clock, March 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have just had with me three gentlemen who have landed here this evening from on board a packet boat, arrived at *Sandy-Hook* from *England* in nine weeks. Two of them you are doubtless acquainted with, Mr. *William Temple* and Mr. *Dennie*, of *Cambridge*; the other is a Mr. *Rickson*, who has letters to several Members of Congress, and other gentlemen at *Philadelphia*. They are to set out for *Philadelphia* to-morrow morning, and will give you the particulars of the news they are possessed of. What I can gather from them is, that seven regiments, consisting of about four thousand men, commanded by Lord *Cornwallis*, were to sail from *Cork* about the 10th of *January* for the Southern Provinces, to be joined and commanded by General *Clinton*; and that no other *British* Troops were destined to this Continent; that four thousand *Hanoverians* and six thousand *Hessians* were engaged to come out, and in treaty for ten thousand *Russians*; that the *French* Ambassador on this had declared that his Court did not want to interfere between *Great Britain* and the Colonies while she made use of her own force, but that if foreign troops were employed they could not be idle spectators. The gentlemen also say, that when they left *London* it was not known that any *French* Troops were embarked for, or arrived at, the *West-India* Islands. They say that the mail is an immensely large one, and, I suspect, well stored with materials preparatory to the arrival of the Commissioners, who are reduced in number to twenty, and were to embark about the middle of *January*. Their commissions and instructions were not to be completed till after the second meeting of Parliament. This mail I shall have my eye on, and endeavour to prevent any of its contents being dispersed without passing through my hands.

The Eastern post is arrived this evening, but has not brought a letter from any place farther eastward than *New-London*. Mysterious. But I dare say all right.

General *Lee* has doubtless informed the Congress of our situation here. Our whole number is about one thousand seven hundred effectives; of these, about one thousand (the *Connecticut* Troops) will leave us on the twenty-fifth of

find themselves in a sufficiency of carpenters, ship-wrights, and wheel-wrights' tools. They are also to provide themselves with a good firelock, bayonet, cartouch-box, and proper belts and blankets, and sufficient clothing, all at their own expense; and, when occasion requires it, are to act the part of soldiers in either attack or defence, as well as artificers. They are, while in the service, to receive the full allowance of provision and rum allowed to the other artificers in the Continental Army, and to be allowed necessary transportation for their baggage. They are to be at *New-York* as soon as possible, and to enter into pay from the time of being mustered and received there, with an allowance of three days for their arrival at that place. They are then to obey the general orders, either in the Provinces of *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, or *Canada*. When discharged they are to be allowed a reasonable time to reach their homes, which is to be fixed as at *Newark* in *New-Jersey*.

In witness whereof each man is to sign these articles, dated the fourth day of *March*, 1776.

CALEB BRUEN.

I do agree to raise another Company of Artificers of the same number, and on the like terms with the above,

JOSEPH LINSLEY.

this month; of the remainder, about three hundred are *New-York* Minute-men, without arms. It will, therefore, be highly necessary to order several regiments to this place as soon as possible. It will employ six thousand men for at least two months to complete the works necessary at this place, its environs, and *Long-Island*. The four regiments raising in this Province, I believe, are very backward in their recruiting. We scarce hear of them. No Field-Officers yet fixed. Nor have I heard of a single company mustered; and, consequently, none of them have joined the Army.

I am, sir, with the highest regard and esteem, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

BENJAMIN SMITH TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Edgartown, March 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have only time to inform your Honours that, on the seventh instant, I, with a detachment of my company, with some gentlemen of this town, in number all about forty, with a small vessel, employed for the purpose, engaged and took the Ship *Harriet*, *Weymsee Orrok*, master, storeship, from *London*, bound for *Boston*, laden with coal, porter, and potatoes; and have sent the mate, (the Captain being wounded in the engagement,) with fourteen mariners, by Lieutenant *Shaw*, and have directed him to deliver them to the honourable Council. I am endeavouring to secure the property, by getting the ship to the main; which, having perfected, shall give immediate attendance for further direction in the matter; and, in the interim, remain your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

BENJAMIN SMITH.

To the Honourable Gentlemen of the Council for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Watertown*.

BERIAH NORTON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Edgartown, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: These are to inform your Honours that, about five o'clock in the morning of the 6th of *March* instant, the Sloop *Francis*, *William Furniwill*, Prizemaster, was shipwrecked on the south side of the Island of *Marta's Vineyard*. Said sloop was taken by the Ship *Phoenix*, of the *British* Navy, about the 15th of *December* last, as said prizemaster says, and was the property of *William Lowther*, Esq., merchant in *New-York*, and bound for *Boston*, by the way of *Newport*. The sailors being taken into custody, and also the vessel and cargo, the Captain forthwith made information to me. I went to the wreck, and appointed Major *Dogget* to take an inventory of her cargo; which is as followeth: about fifty hogsheads of tobacco, one hundred and ninety barrels of turpentine, three and a half thousands of staves, twenty-four half hides, &c., and the men ordered under guard of the sea-coast men. The next morning there was information in town that there was a transport ship at anchor near *Nantucket-Shoals*. I was not in town myself till the afternoon, when I found there was about thirty-seven men gone off to engage the ship, with a small sloop. About twenty-three of our men were those of the sea-coast, under Captain *Benjamin Smith*, the rest were of the Militia. They engaged her, and, after a smart skirmish, the Captain of the ship being shot through the thigh, struck to our *Yankee* Sloop, and are brought into *Old-Town* harbour. The Captain is in a fair way of recovery. Her cargo is about one hundred chaldrons of coal, one hundred butts of porter, thirty hogsheads sourkrout, potatoes, and sundry other articles. The officers and seamen are ordered to Head-Quarters by the sea-coast Captain, under the care of Second Lieutenant *James Shaw*.

I shall not enlarge any further on this subject, as I expect to be at Court within fifteen days. I would just remind your Honours that the resolve for removing the restraint to our trade hath not been published, to my knowledge; and, as we have suffered by it already, I must humbly beg your Honours to have it published as soon as possible, several persons having been obliged to unload their vessels that were bound here, on that account. I have only to say that the two gentlemen, (the prizemaster abovesaid,

and Mr. *James Christie*, passenger on board the ship,) have behaved themselves with honour while in this town.

From your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

BERIAH NORTON.

To the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., President of the honourable Council at *Watertown*.

N. B. These certify your Honours that Captain *Richard Whetten*, a worthy gentleman, lately appointed Captain of the First Company of Militia in this regiment, had the command, in taking the ship, as master. *Benjamin Smith*, within named, as Captain. But I expect to be down soon.

Your humble servant,

BERIAH NORTON.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAMBRIDGE TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED MARCH 10, 1776.

We were last night disappointed in an attempt made to possess ourselves of *Nuke Hill*. We were too much elated with the advantages lately gained, and, I must think, imprudently laid out the ground in the open day, and in the face of the enemy. They took the alarm, and, as soon as it was dark, began a very heavy cannonade, which was kept up on both sides, without intermission, until sunrise. As the fire of the enemy was principally directed to the spot we intended to intrench upon, our people were obliged to be drawn off after losing three or four men.

As we are so near the town, every shot from our batteries must take effect. The tumbling I could distinctly hear amongst the houses; some of which this morning exhibit the dreadful havoc made by our last night's work. If the enemy remain much longer, I am of opinion we shall leave very little for Mr. *Howe* to reek his vengeance on in that devoted city.

There is less appearance this day of their embarkation than has been for some days past. Their sick and wounded, their heavy baggage, and chief part of their heavy artillery, are, by every account we get, already on board; so that I believe we shall soon draw near to you, as *New-York* will probably be their destination. If that should be the case, your gallant associates will have an opportunity of showing their spirit. We are likely to have a warm night of it. If anything material happens, and I am left in the land of the living, you shall soon hear it.

By His Excellency WILLIAM HOWE, Major-General, &c., &c., &c.

As linen and woollen goods are articles much wanted by the Rebels, and would aid and assist them in their rebellion, the Commander-in-Chief expects that all good subjects will use their utmost endeavours to have all such articles conveyed from this place. Any who have not opportunity to convey their goods under their own care, may deliver them on board the *Minerva*, at *Hubbard's Wharf*, to *Creon Brush*, Esq.,\* marked with their names; who will give a

\* The following draft of a Letter was found among the Papers of CREON BRUSH, who was taken in his flight from BOSTON to HALIFAX, and is published, that the good people of these Colonies may see the unwearied attempts of our implacable enemies to enslave them.

SIR: The movement of the troops from *Boston* to *Canada* is the only measure which assures success in the reduction of *America* to due obedience, which, I trust, sir, you will remember to have been an observation of mine to you in *February*, 1765. From the frontiers of that Province, the troops can, with great facility, possess the interior fertile country, which forms the great object of Rebel resources, and, by throwing the disaffected inhabitants in crowds upon an already exhausted and almost barren sea-coast, and keeping them confined there, they must be reduced by famine without a blow, provided a proper fleet is stationed on the coast of the *Atlantic*, to harass them on that quarter, and prevent foreign succours. The rivers, lakes, and streams connected with, and contiguous to, the *River St. Lawrence*, must be the channels through which this desirable object is to be accomplished—the *River Kennebeck*, whose source is near that of the *River Chaudiere*, emptying into the *St. Lawrence River* a few miles above *Quebeck*; the *Sago River*, which separates the Province of *New-Hampshire* from the Province of *Maine*; the *River Merrimack*, rising about latitude 43°; the *River Connecticut*, whose source is in about latitude 46°, near the *Lake De St. François*, in the *River St. Lawrence*; *Hudson's*, *Susquehanna*, *Delaware*, and *Ohio Rivers*, with the lakes forming those rivers and streams issuing into them. Far on the banks of these lakes, rivers, and streams, are the fertile lands; and the whole settlements in the interior parts are chiefly formed on them. You will be pleased, sir, to excuse the liberty I have already taken, and indulge me until I have before you the method I would pursue in taking possession of any capital river; which, if it furnishes a hint which may facilitate the operations on any

certificate of the delivery, and will oblige himself to return them to the owners, all unavoidable accidents excepted.

If, after this notice, any person secretes or keeps in his possession such articles, he will be treated as a favourer of Rebels.

Boston, March 10, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA, DATED MARCH 11, 1776.

The *Good Intent*, Captain *William Baker*, of twenty-three guns, and two hundred and forty men, fitted out at this place, fell in, on the 18th instant, about twenty leagues from hence, with six transports, and one of the King's sloop-of-war of fourteen guns; when, after a stout resistance, the sloop was obliged to sheer off. Four of the latter were taken by Captain *Baker*, and were brought in here this morning; they have on board provisions, clothing, ammunition, &c. The two other vessels, with the sloop, are supposed to be gone to *Boston*.

THOMAS DORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elk-Ridge Landing, March 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours of yesterday by express, and, agreeable to order, shall dismiss my battalion of Militia, who were in readiness at this place to march to any part of the Province that your Honours or the General should request.

It gives me the greatest satisfaction that my conduct, as well as the other gentlemen, officers, and Militia, under my command, meets with your approbation.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS DORSEY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

ELK-RIDGE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, March 11, 1776.

The Committee of Observation in the neighbourhood of *Elk-Ridge*, reflecting on the necessity of having the sum of about two hundred pounds lodged in their hands to defray the expenses of the *Elk-Ridge Battalion*, in case the exigencies of the Province shall, at any time, require their marching to a distance to repel a hostile invasion by the *British* forces, beg that you will send them the said sum of two hundred pounds by Mr. *Samuel Godman*, and the Committee of *Elk-Ridge* will be responsible for the same. The Committee have already advanced about fifty pounds for the support of the *Elk-Ridge Battalion*, after being called on to go to *Baltimore Town*.

Signed by order: THOMAS DORSEY, Chairman.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety, of *Maryland*.

JOSEPH GALLOWAY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

March 11, 1776, Seven o'clock, P. M.

GENTLEMEN: By the order of Colonel *Weems*, I am to inform you that the alarm given by Captain *Chew* is without the least foundation. The sloop-of-war and her tenders are at least fifteen miles below *Fishing-Creek*. Captain *Chew* discharged his company at twelve o'clock last night, after being

other, I should esteem myself very happy. The plan I would lay down relates only to the *River Connecticut*—an object of the greatest consequence, as it forms the granary of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*. And I request you may believe, that what I advance is not founded on mere speculative knowledge, founded on maps, but from the actual experience of many years traversing that river, from its mouth to latitude 45°, where I had an opportunity of thoroughly inspecting its falls. On supposition, therefore, that the body of Regulars on this expedition consists of one thousand five hundred men, the like number of *Canadians*, and one hundred *Indians*, with arms and ammunition, and six small field-pieces, the whole to proceed together from *Quebeck* to *Lake De St. François*, with about one hundred and fifty horses, or more, if possible, and birch canoes sufficient to carry such provisions and light baggage as may be necessary, the distance from the *Lake De St. François* to the source of *Connecticut River* may be about six days' march; and in this the whole difficulty consists. However, the *Canadians*, who are good axe-men, covered by an advanced party, and *Indian* guides, might cut out such fallen timber as may lay across the path, and fill up such gulleys with logs and earth as would otherwise obstruct the march of the artillery. Immediately on entering the settled townships on *Connecticut River*, a printed paper, to the purport or effect following, might be distributed. [Here the letter ends.]

very much tired with their march from *South-River*, and down again. They are now under arms a little below *Fishing-Creek*, and will continue so till they are gone below *Pattuxent*.

Captain *Makall's* Company are ten miles below, and the alarm is all through *Calvert* that they are on their way down. They weighed about twelve o'clock, and came to again about four in the afternoon, as the wind was directly ahead.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH GALLOWAY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 53.]

Annapolis, March 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received intelligence by our pilot-boats on *Tuesday* evening, that a ship-of-war and two tenders were under sail, on their way up the bay; and immediately issued our orders for their reception, which were observed with amazing expedition and punctuality. We are much indebted to the spirited, active, and good conduct of the regular officers and troops. The Militia moved with astonishing despatch; and as soon as the vessels hove in sight, our coast was lined with men. At *Baltimore*, the celerity of their movements exceeded description, and had very nearly proved more advantageous than they really have, for it was expected by the vessels, (the *Otter* of sixteen guns, a tender of six guns, and the other with swivels only,) that the ship *Defence* was altogether unprepared; which led them to conceive themselves in a state of security, which had like to have been attended with consequences very disagreeable to them.

The residue of our guns for the ship arrived only on *Wednesday* night, and on *Thursday* morning were mounted. On *Friday* night she was towed a little way down the river, and manned with a parcel of buckskin heroes, and other brave fellows. Several small vessels were crowded with men to assist in case of an engagement; which would have been dreadful, as we understand Captain *Nicholson* intended to grapple at once. She got under way very early in the morning, resolved to retake *Hudson's* ship, and engage the *Otter*, (which was four or five miles below,) if she proved to her relief. *Hudson's* vessel was guarded by the tenders. The morning was thick and hazy, and the *Defence* got nearer to them before she was discovered than was agreeable to them. They were much alarmed, (not having any idea our ship was in readiness to venture out,) and pushed off with the utmost expedition, leaving the ship and four or five small vessels, which had fallen into their hands. The tenders would probably have been taken, if the *Otter*, receiving a single gun, had not sent off men to double man their oars. The *Defence* stretched backward and forward below her prizes, and at length, seeing the *Otter* get under way, came to close by *Hudson's* vessel, and prepared for battle, expecting she was coming up to her; but, to the amazement of our brave countrymen, she bore away and anchored in the afternoon off *Annapolis*. *Nicholson* continued his station, thinking it imprudent to risk an action, as he had such a valuable prize under his care.

In the evening a flag was sent in. The gentlemen behaved very politely, and on some subjects were free and communicative. They know everything which is transacted here and to the northward. The flag brought a letter to the Governour, from Captain *Squire*, commander of the *Otter*, desiring provision for the sloop, and that a tender might be permitted, unmolested, to take a *New-England* sloop, loaded with bread and flour, which we had sent up the *Severn*. The Governour laid that letter before us. We refused a supply of provisions, and took no notice of that part of the letter which related to the *New-England* vessel, thinking it rather an insult; but ordered a guard of about fifty men to be immediately put over her.

We received two other flags in the morning—one of them for our answer, and the other with prisoners; who say they were treated with the greatest humanity and tenderness. The *Otter* and her tenders, with some prize vessels, sailed down the bay yesterday. But we expect they will return again soon, reinforced; as, from what we can collect, they are bent upon taking or destroying the *Defence*. Five thousand seven hundred and eighty-two pounds of powder is

arrived in the *Potomack*, and safely landed at *Bladensburg*. You shall have a full state of facts relative to our late interesting situation, by the next post. This we give you in a hurry.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH-AMERICA ON THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF GOVERNMENT.

I beg leave to lay before you such objects as, if properly attended to, will enable you to secure that to your offspring, for which you at present contend, and put it out of the power of any set of men, however cunning and ambitious, to rise into power and importance at your expense. The subject which I propose to discuss, however ill qualified, is of very great consequence to *America*; it being impossible to make the best of our present advantages, unless old prejudices are effectually removed.

I wish it to be examined with care, and received with impartiality; as truth is my object, and the happiness of mankind, without regard to sect, party, province, or district, the end of my labour.

Pure Monarchy is that form of Government which is framed for the exaltation of the Prince alone, and his interest and grandeur are of primary consideration; the people are only of consequence so far as their welfare is involved in his. The grand monarch is the only being known to the Constitution; who, like the Divinity, (pardon the comparison,) derives every power from himself; from whom the other members of the community derive every privilege they possess, and on whose will they depend for their continuance. Aristocracy divides all the privileges of the State among the grandees of the nation; and constituting them the sole legislators and executors, lodges all power in their hands. Oligarchy distributes the powers of Government into a few hands, who are generally the leaders of so many factions, which exist in the State. In all these forms the people are but of small, if of any consideration; and the farther they diverge from pure Monarchy, the more intolerable they become. Popular Government—sometimes termed Democracy, Republick, or Commonwealth—is the plan of civil society wherein the community at large takes the care of its own welfare, and manages its concerns by representatives elected by the people out of their own body.

Seeing the happiness of the people is the true end of Government; and it appearing by the definition, that the popular form is the only one which has this for its object; it may be worth inquiring into the causes which have prevented its success in the world. In this inquiry it would ill become us to sit down contented with the accounts given by Royal ambassadors, or men of ambition, who can never arrive to the height they aspire to in a Republick. With such men, it is impossible for a Commonwealth to confer happiness on its members. Were they honestly to investigate the subject, perhaps they would alter their opinions. The necessity of mutual defence first gave rise to social connections, which were, consequently, of the military kind. Thus very great distinctions between the members of the same community were incorporated into the very Constitution of the State, and formed an insuperable obstacle to a perfect Republick. Every nation which has hitherto attempted to set up a Republick, entered on the measure too late. They were the convulsed remains of some Government erected upon military principles; and finding it hard to content those with the simple rights of freemen who were once possessed of all power, they too easily gave way to claims of a superior nature, whereby they admitted an interest separate and distinct from, and inconsistent with, the general welfare of the people. This interest forever clashing with that of the community, produced continual confusions, until the people, wearied out with the struggle, gave up to the aristocratical party, or blindly following some popular leader, in confidence of his attachment to their interest, gave all power into his hands, which generally ended in tyranny.

The inexperience of mankind was another cause of the decay of popular Governments. Being unacquainted with legislative representation, established on the principles of a free, uninfluenced, and general election, they met in large, and, consequently, tumultuous assemblies. This gave ambi-



tious and designing men, to whom such a form of Government is always unfavourable, great opportunities of breeding disturbance, and creating factions, which generally terminate in its dissolution. Besides this manner of conducting publick affairs, not suiting extensive dominion, the privileges of the society were continually confined to the precincts of the capital; and as soon as their territories extended beyond these bounds, slavery took place; which, inducing the necessity of standing armies, laid a foundation for overturning itself. The feuds and animosities attendant on this mode of managing publick affairs, gave great opportunities to those whose ambitious designs were incompatible with the good of the society, to bring it into dislike and contempt. Far from trying to remedy any defects in the system, or to put an end to factions and disturbances, they used their utmost abilities and cunning to heighten the old, or excite new; until the minds of the people were so torn to pieces and worn out by feuds and confusions, that they were ready to submit to anything which could relieve them from their unhappy situation. Then artfully charging the troubles themselves had occasioned to the fault of the Constitution, they easily obtained such a change in its form as was more favourable to their designs.

Political writers, either mistaking the true causes of the uneasinesses which are found in ancient popular Governments, or willing to make court to Princes, have greatly contributed to bring the Republican forms of Government into discredit. This has been carried to such a length with many, that the mentioning a Democracy constantly excites in them the idea of anarchy; and few, except such as have emancipated themselves from the shackles of political bigotry and prejudice, can talk of it with patience, and hearken to anything offered in its defence.

One or all of the foregoing causes have, to one time or other, contributed to the destruction of Republicks; but of all others, the first has done most. Where two or more separate interests exist in a Government, there contention will remain until one becomes master. A nation must consist of all Kings, all nobles, or all simple freemen, to prevent such confusions, and preserve its privileges. Every attentive reader of history must perceive this. The history of the *Roman Commonwealth*, abating for its foreign wars, is little else but a relation of feuds, factions, and animosities, occasioned by the existence of a rank of nobles, whose interest was unconnected with the plebeians. They formed schemes, and adopted plans, to balance the powers, and reconcile the interests of these two ranks. But all to no purpose; tyranny at last destroyed them both. The irreconcilableness of these two interests did more to prevent the formation of a Republic in *Great Britain*, than all the ambition of a *Cromwell*; and, if I mistake not, *Ludlow*, in his Memoirs, charges its failure to this cause alone. Where no King is, that body must enjoy his power, or be annihilated: they must and will hang together. To a man of reflection, this will readily appear, and fully explain the reasons why a Parliament that dethroned a King, voted a House of Lords useless. They will be an everlasting plague to the society which has not a King; for they will always be aiming at kingly authority. And where there is a King, their dignity and consequence will flow from him, and they will be his tools, if he makes no attack on their peculiar privileges.

Two or more distinct interests can never exist in society, without finally destroying the liberties of the people. The best plans will fail in accomplishing this, until mankind shall have learned to do to others as they would be done unto. The whole wisdom of the *British* nation, at a time when its virtue and wisdom was at the highest, exerted its utmost efforts to form a perfect plan of political freedom, and to preserve and secure the rights of the three distinct classes, of King, Lords, and Commons; and it was thought they had effected it; but later experience has proved the contrary. The Crown of *Great Britain* is now as absolute in the legislature as the Crown of *France*, and were it not for the Habeas Corpus Act, and Trial by Jury, the consequences of offending it would be full as fatal.

Kings and nobles are artificial beings, for whose emolument civil society was never intended; and notwithstanding they have had the good fortune to escape general censure from the world, yet I will boldly affirm that nine-tenths of all the publick calamities which ever befell mankind, were brought on by their means. The protest which the Almighty

entered against Kings, when the *Jews* demanded one, shows in what estimation they are held by the Divinity. Point me out the King that does not verify the description, and I will begin to suspect the divinity of the Bible. Wicked Kings and Governours make up the history of the Old Testament, and the chief part of the labour of the Prophets was to keep them within bounds. It is thought to be vastly in favour of Kings, that we are commanded to pray for them; but if the nature or design of prayer were attended to, it would certainly make against them. If the wickedest of men stand most in need of prayers, it is no wonder that so many clergymen are continually sending up petitions for Kings; but it is certainly much against them that all these prayers do them so little good.

Mankind never suffered so much during the existence of a Republick as they have suffered in the short reigns of many Kings. A *Harry VIII.* did more mischief to his subjects than any Republick ever did to its members, notwithstanding they were so illy constituted. But the true principles of republicanism are at present so well understood, and the mode of conducting such a Government so simple and easy, and *America* so fit for its reception, that a dozen of wise heads and honest hearts might, in one day, form a plan for the *United Colonies* which would as much excel any one now existing, as the *British Constitution* does that of *Caffraria*.

When I seriously consider this, and take a survey of the state of civil Government throughout the world, the modes whereby they acquired their present forms, and the causes which gave rise to them, I cannot help cherishing a secret hope that *God* has destined *America* to form the last and best plan that can possibly exist; and that he will gradually carry those who have long been under the galling yoke of tyranny in every other quarter of the globe, into the bosom of perfect liberty and freedom in *America*. Were the great men of the present day, and all those who choose to interfere in publick affairs, only to set before them the Godlike pleasure of conferring the most lasting and complete state of happiness human nature is capable of, in a state of civil society, on millions yet unborn, and the eternal reward which must attend the doing so much good; I cannot help thinking but contracted views, partial interest, and party factions, would sink under, and yield to considerations of so greatly superior a nature.

Few opportunities have ever been offered to mankind of framing an entire Constitution of Government, upon equitable principles. All modern authors on this subject agree, that mankind are entitled to freedom by birth, and that they are independent of, and on a level with, each other when they enter into society. This being the case, it is evident that where great distinctions exist in a community before its Constitution is formed, its members do not enter on equally advantageous terms; and it will be difficult, if not impossible to frame an equitable plan. *Rome* had her *Patres*, and *Patres Conscripti*, before she attempted it; and the consequence was, an eternal clashing of interest, which kept their Constitution so fluctuating, that they never could be said to have anything permanent, but their hatred to Kings; and this was the only stable principle which preserved the Commonwealth as long as it lasted.

Whenever any rank in society is invested with more than an equal share of the privileges and powers of that society, it must be at the expense of the other ranks. Men, naturally on a level, ought to remain so by the constitution of the society, if they will secure the liberty and welfare of the community, and every civil and necessary distinction, as that of legislator and magistrate; and the other civil officers should be so settled as never to remain long in one family, otherwise it will end in the enslaving of that people. All natural distinctions—such as weak and strong, wise and foolish; and every accidental or adventitious one—such as learned or unlearned, rich and poor; may safely exist in the community, without interrupting its peace and felicity; but every family distinction which a society creates, will finally prove destructive to that society. Princes of the blood, Princes of the empire, and Peers of the realm, ever have been, are now, and ever will be, the convenient and necessary tools of Royal tyrants, scattered up and down the community, for the more ready accomplishing his will who created them. All political distinctions ought to be the gift of the free people at large, and continually to revert to them at the

end of the political year, to be renewed or otherwise, as they shall think proper.

Almost every civil Constitution now existing in the world is partly the spurious offspring of some former very defective one. Perhaps *America* is the only country in the world wholly free from all political impediments, at the very time they are under the necessity of framing a civil Constitution. Having no rank above that of freemen, she has but one interest to consult, and that interest, (blessed be *God* for it,) is the true and only interest of men as members of society.

SALUS POPULI.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 11, 1776.

SIR: Since my last, I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 9th of *February*. The Congress have not yet come to any resolutions on your former letters.

The design of this is only to desire you to send Captain *Morgan Connor*, of the Rifle Battalion, to *Philadelphia*, the Congress having occasion to employ him in the Southern Department.

The Congress having promoted *Edward Hand*, Esq., to be Colonel of the Rifle Battalion, in the room of Colonel *Thompson*, whom they advanced to the rank of Brigadier-General; and *James Chambers*, Esquire, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the same; I have forwarded their commissions accordingly.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, March 11, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform the Congress of my arrival, in consequence of their orders; and shall be happy if you will instruct me when, and in what manner I am to pay my respects to them, in order to receive their further commands.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, March 11, 1776.

SIR: The Congress have appointed three Commissioners to go to *Canada*, of which number I have the honour to be one. We purpose setting out one day this week. I take the liberty of mentioning this, as possibly a little previous notice may enable you more easily to make any preparation you shall judge necessary to facilitate and expedite our journey, which I am sure you will be kindly disposed to do for us.

A friend with us will make our company four, besides our servants. We shall either go in carriages directly to *Albany*, or by water, if the river is open, from *New-York*.

Hoping soon for the pleasure of seeing you, I now only add that I am, with the sincerest respect and esteem, sir, &c.,

B. FRANKLIN.

To General *Schuyler*.

P. S. The bearer, *M. La Jennesse*, has been considered by the Congress as a friend to the *American* cause, and he is recommended to your protection on his return to *Canada*.

B. F.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, March 11, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: General *Lee* left this place on *Thursday* evening last for *Philadelphia*, in his way for *Virginia*, where he is to command. This has thrown a heavy load on my shoulders, and very unexpectedly; but I am like soon to be relieved from it, as I hear Brigadier-General *Thompson* is to be here in a day or two.

The sudden departure of the post prevents my saying anything at present relative to the situation of this place;

and will only inform you that, last night, three gentlemen landed here from on board a packet, nine weeks out from *Falmouth*. They say that seven regiments of Foot, amounting to about four thousand men, were embarked and ready to sail from *Cork* about the 6th of *January*, bound to the Southern Colonies. That *Great Britain* had engaged four thousand *Hanoverians* and six thousand *Hessians*, for the *American* service, and were in treaty for ten thousand *Russians*. That the *French* Ambassador at *London* had declared to the *English* Ministry, that his master did not mean to meddle with the quarrel between *Great Britain* and her Colonies, while it was carried on with its own force; but that he could not be an idle spectator if any foreign aid was made use of. (It was not then known in *London*, that the *French* had any troops in the *West-India* Islands.) That it was not likely any more *British* Troops would be sent out, for they had them not to spare.

If these things should be true, I am in hopes we shall have an easy summer's work to secure the whole Continent. The Commissioners, whose number is reduced to twenty, were to embark about the middle of *January*. It was said that they were to endeavour to treat with the Assemblies of Colonies separately, if possible; and even to retail out corruption to single towns or families; but if this could not succeed, they were to swallow the bitter pill, and treat with Congress.

Adieu, my dear General; the post waits. But yet, present my best regards to Mrs. *Washington*, Mr. and Mrs. *Custis*, *Palfrey*, &c.; and am, with the highest esteem and regard, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To General *Washington*.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having been informed that Mr. *Curtenius* has applied to Congress for further proposals being made by both him and me, on a supposition that I had not attended to the tenor of the advertisement, I think it necessary to acquaint you what motives induced me to form that part of my offer which proposes that all expense of transportation be paid by the publick. I requested the favour of Mr. *Lott* to ask the Congress some questions that I thought absolutely necessary, which I delivered to him in writing. One of the questions was, "Where are the troops to be stationed?" The answer delivered to me, also in writing, was, "Wherever the General pleases." I could not, therefore, as a person possessed of the least degree of prudence, attempt to make any other proposals on that head than I did, at least within the bounds of moderation.

I am pretty well assured that Mr. *Curtenius* knew from Congress that the troops were to be stationed in *New-York*, *King's County*, and the *Highlands*. I therefore cannot but think that the Congress will readily consider my proposals the most reasonable, as the expense of transportation to those places cannot possibly exceed one half-penny per ration. I have the answers to the questions to Mr. *Lott* ready to produce to the Congress should they think proper to see them.

I thank the Congress for their kindness in appointing me Commissary of Provisions. When I engaged in that business, I understood that, while I remained in office, I was to transact all affairs in that department; and as I have lately understood that some other person has been employed to furnish what properly came within the line of my duty, and nothing left for me to transact but such business as, in all probability, many would refuse, I find it will answer no purpose to continue in that office. I therefore apprise the Congress that I do decline serving as Commissary. And lest the publick service should be impeded by my resignation, I will serve provision as usual, to supply the troops, this week, and shall be ready to deliver the provision, &c., to whoever the Congress shall please to appoint.

I have ordered my accounts to be made out, and am ready for an immediate settlement. I cannot conclude without declaring to Congress that the post I now resign was not at all solicited by me, and sincerely wish the appointment of a person who will give more satisfaction.

I am, with respect, your very humble servant,

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To the *New-York* Congress.

## GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Prospect-Hill, March 11, 1776.

SIR: Major *Cudworth*, lately discharged from Colonel *Whetcomb's* Regiment, has arrived, to join Colonel *Bond's*. He is agreeable to the Field-Officers, and satisfactory to the Captains and subalterns. The Major is a good, prudent officer, and left the former regiment only because there was not proper order and discipline maintained in it. I esteem him worthy the appointment; and if your Excellency's sentiments correspond with mine, should be glad he might receive an appointment to fill the vacancy in Colonel *Bond's* Regiment.

I am, with profound respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

NATHANIEL GREENE.

To General *Washington*.

## TALBOT COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Talbot County, March 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It appearing to this Committee that it was the intention of the last Convention that non-enrollers should, previous to the 1st of this month, be informed of the alternative given them; and the proceedings of that Convention not being come to their hands until the 3d instant, (on which day they, by advertisement, gave public notice of the rule,) they conceive it would be extremely rigorous, and contrary to the sense, though agreeable to the letter of the resolve of Convention, to proceed immediately to levy fines on and compel the delivery of the arms of such non-enrollers. They therefore pray your advice in the premises with all convenient speed.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order:

JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLAINE, *Chairman*.To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## JOHN McLURE AND JOHN E. HOWARD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Being appointed by the Committee of *Baltimore* County to procure wagons to bring the arms from *Philadelphia* to your city, we now send you eight boxes of arms, and ten reams of cartridge-paper. We have an order for a ton of lead, which please to return by them.

We are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your obliged and obedient servants,

JOHN McLURE,  
JOHN E. HOWARD.To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO TALBOT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 47.]

Annapolis, March 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: *Alexander Wickham* was apprehended and brought before us yesterday, in consequence of a letter from Mr. *Samuel Sharpe* to Messrs. *Wallace* and *Davidson*, setting forth that the said *Wickham* was a person inimical to the liberties of this country, and was suspected of being on his way to Lord *Dunmore*. As the trial of *Wickham* before our Board would, at this time, interfere with business of great importance to the Province, and as the witnesses on both sides reside on the *Eastern Shore*, we have thought proper to send him, under the custody of Lieutenant *Frazer*, to your Committee, in order that you may try and determine the truth of the offence laid to his charge. You will therefore proceed to make the proper inquiry into this matter, and conduct yourselves therein as you shall judge most conducive to the publick good.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of *Talbot* County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 54.]

Annapolis, March 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have impatiently expected information from your town of the arrival of the gunpowder and arms from *Philadelphia*; and having no regular intelligence from you, do not know they are safe, although we hear they are

arrived. We request, if they are, you will secure the powder in the best manner, and immediately send down the arms in wagons, with what cartouch-boxes, belts, and gunslings can be spared, under a guard to this city.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS HENRY AND KENT.

Annapolis, March 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your favour of the 28th *February*, communicating the agreeable information that our letter of the 14th had given much satisfaction to you and your respective companies, and also that you had arrived at your station, after a long and fatiguing march, in good health and spirits; and are sorry it is not in our power to make provision for those gentlemen who, at your request, attended you in the character of physicians; however, we assure you we will represent the matter to the next Convention, and do not doubt they will take it into consideration, and compensate them for their trouble, and the services they may render. We will supply you, by the first safe opportunity, with what money we apprehend may be sufficient to defray the expenses of your march up, and furnish you with the Continental Regulations relative to wages and rations, as soon as we can procure them.

The assurances you give us, that you will endeavour to render all the satisfaction you can to the inhabitants of *Northampton* County, are very agreeable, as we are fully confident you will act correspondently to your profession, which will redound much to the honour of your Province, and reflect deserved encomiums on yourselves.

We are, &c.

To Captains *Henry* and *Kent*.

Baltimore, March 12, 1776.

To the Publick in general, and the Ladies in particular.

Our repose, which we have hitherto enjoyed in a preference to our neighbouring Colonies, is at last disturbed; and we are now called forth to our defence. The alacrity with which our brave countrymen assemble, and the determination to fight visible in every countenance, demonstrate that, if the enemy should be hardy enough to encounter them, we have reason to expect some wounds. The necessity of taking all imaginable care of those who may happen to be wounded in the country's cause, urges us to address our humane Ladies, to lend us their kind assistance in furnishing us with linen rags and old sheeting, for bandages, &c., &c., to be delivered to either Dr. *Weisenthall*, Dr. *Boyd*, Dr. *Craddock*, or any member of the Committee.

It is recommended to all the Printers in this Province to publish the above.

## EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA TO A GENTLEMAN IN ENGLAND, DATED MARCH 12, 1776.

No doubt you feel anxious for your country, and will be pleased to hear how matters stand on this side of the water. I shall, therefore, begin to the northward, with *Quebeck*. The whole Province, except the city, submitted to the Continental Arms, under the brave General *Montgomery*, before the 1st of *December*; and, notwithstanding the severe climate, he marched with his men to join Colonel *Arnold* at *Quebeck*, before which he lay till near the last; when the time of many of his soldiers being expired, he resolved on an attack, in which he fell, as you will see by the papers. Since which, our people have kept up the blockade of the town with about five hundred men. The hardship those men have gone through is hardly credible, and too long for this letter. When the news of *Montgomery's* fall and defeat reached the other Colonies, it did not damp their spirits, but raised them. The Congress voted more regiments, which were immediately raised; and in two months from this defeat, two thousand new-raised troops joined General *Arnold* before *Quebeck*; and by the middle or latter end of *March*, that army will amount to five or six thousand men, when *Quebeck* will be again attempted. *Boston* is still in the hands of *Howe*; but we are in hourly expectation of hearing of their flight, as General *Washington* was to begin

to cannonade it last week. We have two thousand men before it, and plenty of stores, which have arrived here this winter, the want of which has hitherto prevented our doing anything. The frequent threats of Ministerialists, and the late arrival of *Clinton* at *New-York*, have put that Province in a warlike posture. The women, children, and most of their valuable effects, are removed into the country; the town possessed and fortified by batteries and breastworks, and five thousand men who are constantly at work; so that in a short time it will be very strong. There are also fifteen or twenty thousand men ready to go to their assistance on a very short notice; so that every hour after the first twenty-four of any alarm will produce hundreds of well-armed men.

*Rhode-Island* is pestered by *Wallace* and his ships, who hardly ever lands but he loses more or less of his men. He carries on the war in a very piratical manner. Every now and then he lands to steal sheep, &c., at which time, if he can, he burns houses, and murders the helpless, not daring to wait; and as soon as he sees any of our armed men coming, he flies.

*Pennsylvania* is still unattacked, but preparing for the worst. Our river is defended by *chevaux-de-frise* sunk in the channel, (on which no less than three vessels have been sunk by carelessness of pilots;) a very large and strong chain; a battery; a twenty-gun ship; a large floating-battery, to carry twenty eighteen-pounders; and thirteen row-galleys, with an eighteen-pounder in their bows, and fifty men properly provided for in each; three battalions of Regulars; and from thirty to forty thousand Militia.

Nothing has happened in *Virginia* since the entire destruction of *Norfolk*; but they are there, as well as in *North* and *South-Carolina*, preparing for the most vigorous defence, and, by the month of *April*, will have thirty or forty thousand men ready to take the field, all which will act jointly or separately, as exigencies may require. Amongst these are a great number of riflemen. But where are your resources? say you. Money we have sufficient. By our industry abroad, we have got safely landed in different parts of this Continent (notwithstanding the low arts of the Ministry, and all their men-of-war) upwards of one hundred tons of powder, one hundred and fifty tons of saltpetre, and a large quantity of small-arms, which will supply us for the first part of the campaign. For the other, we expect to be under no obligations to any State on earth for the stores, &c.

At *New-York* we have a foundry, who has already cast fourteen or fifteen excellent brass field-pieces. We have a foundry for iron ordnance, from twenty-four-pounders to swivels. As to iron shot, we have plenty, and, on a pinch, could supply the whole world; and as for small-arms, we are not at the least loss, except for the locks, in which branch there will soon be a great number of hands employed. The means made use of to introduce the manufacture of saltpetre have met with the desired success; so that the women make it in many parts of the country. From the various accounts, we shall, by midsummer, have thirty or forty tons, or more, of our own manufacture. In one manufactory, they make fifty hundred weight per week. At *Newbury*, in *New-England*, they make at least one hundred pounds per day; in short, it is now as easy to make saltpetre as it is to make soft-soap.\* As to brimstone and lead, the bowels of our country produce more than sufficient for a war of one thousand years.

In a short time we shall have at least thirty ships-of-war, from thirty-eight guns downwards, besides (if the Ministry carry on their piratical war) a great number of privateers. When you return, you will be surprised to see what the Mother of Invention has done for us. I really believe, if we are harassed for one year more, we shall not want anything from *Europe*.

The Ministry have often unjustly accused us of looking after independency; but what they pretend to "dread, their measures will, in a short time, bring forth." "*Common-Sense*," which I herewith send you, is read by all ranks; and, as many as read, so many become converted; though, perhaps, the "hour before were most violent against the least idea of independence." This summer's campaign will, I

make no doubt, set "us free from the shackles of education;" and the King of *Britain*, instead of being the idol of *Americans*, will be of little more importance here than to frighten little children.

You will see by the papers that our people have opened their batteries on *Boston*, "which is destined to the flames." I wish I could convey to you a small idea of the ardour which inflames our young men, who turn out with more alacrity, on the least alarm, than they would to a ball.

I am yours, &c.

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER II.

As I propose to take my subjects as they rise out of the times, I shall leave to my next letter the further defence of our Assembly, to give room for a matter of very great importance, agreeable to what was hinted in the conclusion of my first letter.

The account which we have already received of Commissioners being appointed in *England*, and ready to embark for *America*, in order to negotiate a settlement of the present unhappy differences, has engaged the attention, and exercised the speculations of many among us. The powers with which they are to be invested, the manner in which they are to be received, how they are to be treated with, or whether they are to be treated with at all, have been canvassed agreeably to the different views or judgments of individuals.

Among others, a writer under the name of *Cassandra*, in the *Pennsylvania Evening Post* of last *Saturday* week, has held forth sentiments which I conceive highly disgraceful to *America*, and pernicious to society in general. He pretends to have satisfied himself (but upon what grounds I know not) that the sole view of the Administration in this commission is, to amuse and deceive—to bribe and corrupt us. And because he supposes all of us so very corruptible, he proposes, by way of prevention, to seize the Commissioners upon their first setting foot on shore, and bring them immediately, under a strong guard, to the Congress. I have too good an opinion of the virtue and good sense of my countrymen, to think they will pay any other regard to this advice than to consider the author as an enthusiast or madman.

The contest in which we are engaged is founded on the most noble and virtuous principles which can animate the mind of man. We are contending, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, against an arbitrary Ministry for the rights of *Englishmen*. The eyes of all *Europe* are upon us, and every generous bosom in which the pulse of liberty yet beats, sympathises with us, and is interested in our success. Our cause, therefore, being the cause of virtue, it will be expected that all our steps should be guided by it, and that, where the stock is so fair, the fruit will be proportionably perfect. Let us not disappoint these sanguine expectations by the smallest deviation from those liberal and enlarged sentiments which should mark the conduct of freemen; and, when the faithful historick page shall record the events of this glorious struggle, may not a single line in the bright annals be stained by the recital of a disgraceful action, nor future *Americans* have cause to blush for the failings of their ancestors.

I trust that there is not such another barbarian among us as *Cassandra*. I am sure there are none such among our savage neighbours. To what is it that he would persuade us? To receive with contempt, and treat with insult, men commissioned to negotiate with us about matters of the highest concern to *America*, and at least professing peace—persons clothed with the character of Ambassadors, which has been uniformly esteemed sacred by every nation and in every age!

Can a precedent be produced in any country, or at any period, which could be proposed for our imitation, or give countenance to such a proceeding? Let this writer turn over the volumes which establish the principles of the Law of Nations. Let him search the history of every State, both ancient and modern, civilized and uncivilized. He will find none so fierce and rude as not to reverence the rights of Ambassadors, and consider any insult of their persons as the grossest outrage that could be committed. Nay, let him inquire among the numerous tribes of *Indians* that surround our frontiers for some example to countenance

\* For every old woman in *America* could make soft-soap formerly, and as easily now as the *Americans* can at present make saltpetre, find brimstone, or, in fact, stand up for the essential liberties of *England* and its once hallowed dominions.

him in his proposal. These untutored savages would startle at the question, and wonder that there could be a person so ignorant as not to know that publick messengers, with the calumet in their hands, are entitled to audience, respect, and hospitality. And shall *Americans*, glorying in their attachment to the rights of humanity, be the first to violate obligations which have been thus universally held sacred? No! Let us never give that advantage to those who have been striving to excite the indignation of mankind against us as faithless people, ferocious, barbarous, and uninfluenced by those humane sentiments and finer feelings which, in modern times, have, in some measure, softened the horrors of war. We know that such a charge is as malicious as it is groundless. Instances enough might be produced to refute it, since this contest was carried on by arms; and I trust no future ones will be found which might have a tendency to support it.

As we have long professed an ardent desire for peace, let us meet those who bring the terms, with that virtuous confidence which is inseparable from an upright conduct. Let us hear their proposals with patience, and consider them with candour; remembering how deeply the happiness of millions may be concerned in the issue. If what they offer be such as freemen ought to accept, my voice shall be for an immediate reconciliation, as I know of no object so worthy of a patriot as the healing our wounds, and the restoring of peace, if it has for its basis an effectual security for the liberties of *America*. If, on the contrary, the terms which may be offered should be such as we cannot accept, we have only to say so, and the negotiation will be at an end.

But this writer is greatly concerned for our virtue, lest we should be cajoled, deceived, and corrupted. I confess these fears appear to me so groundless, that I suspect their reality. Is it possible, in good earnest, to entertain so ill an opinion of those who have staked their lives and fortunes on this contest, as to believe that they will suffer themselves to be flattered out of their liberties, or induced to sell their birthright for a mess of pottage?

When I consider that this treaty is to be managed, on the part of *America*, by men delegated for their integrity and abilities by the voice of their country, I feel myself quite easy on that score. If the scheme of the Ministry be to try the arts of corruption where their arms cannot prevail, there are other and less suspicious ways of carrying it into execution than by Commissioners in the face of *America*, where they will have the eyes of all fixed upon them, and their conduct diligently watched and severely scrutinized.

Upon the whole, it appears that this writer is more an enemy to the business on which the Commissioners are to be sent, than really apprehensive for our virtue. He seems to have drank deep of the cup of Independence; to be inimical to whatever carries the appearance of peace; and too ready to sacrifice the happiness of a great Continent to his favourite plan. Among such writers, I pretend not to class myself; for I am bold to declare, and hope yet to make it evident to every honest man, that the true interest of *America* lies in reconciliation with *Great Britain* upon constitutional principles; and I can truly say, I wish it upon no other terms.

Why the many publications in favour of Independency (with which our presses have lately groaned) have passed hitherto unnoticed, I am not able to determine. But there are certainly times when publick affairs become so interesting, that every man becomes a debtor to the community for his opinions, either in speaking or writing. Perhaps it was thought best, where an appeal was pretended to be made to the common sense of this country, to leave the people for a while to the free exercise of that good understanding which they are known to possess. Those who made the appeal have little cause to triumph in its success. Of this they seem sensible; and, like true quacks, are constantly pestering us with their additional doses, till the stomachs of their patients begin wholly to revolt. If little notice has yet been taken of the publications concerning Independence, it is neither owing to the popularity of the doctrine, the unanswerable nature of the arguments, nor the fear of opposing them, as the vanity of the authors would suggest. I am confident that nine-tenths of the people of *Pennsylvania* yet abhor the doctrine.

If we look back to the origin of the present controversy, it will appear that some among us at least have been constantly enlarging their views, and stretching them beyond their first bounds, till at length they have wholly changed their ground. From the claim of Parliament to tax us, sprung the first resistance on our part. Before that unjust claim was set on foot, not an individual, not one of all the profound legislators with which this country abounds, ever held out the idea of Independence. We considered our connection with *Great Britain* as our chief happiness—we flourished, and grew rich and populous, to a degree not to be paralleled in history. Let us then act the part of skillful physicians, and wisely adapt the remedy to the evil.

Possibly some men may have harboured the idea of Independence from the beginning of this controversy. Indeed, it was strongly suspected there were individuals whose views tended that way; but as the scheme was not sufficiently ripened, it was reckoned slanderous, inimical to *America*, and what not, to intimate the least suspicion of this kind.

Nor have many weeks yet elapsed since the first open proposition for Independence was published to the world. By what men of consequence this scheme is supported, or whether by any, may possibly be the subject of future inquiry. Certainly it has no countenance from the Congress, to whose sentiments we look up with reverence. On the contrary, it is directly repugnant to every declaration of that respectable body. It would be needless to quote particular passages in proof of this, as they are to be met with in almost every page of their proceedings. I will refer to a few only, viz: their Resolves, *March 5, 1775*; their Declaration, *July 6*; their Address to the King, *July 8*; their Letter to the Lord Mayor of *London*; and more especially their Declaration for a Fast, *June 12*, in which, with the deepest marks of sincerity, they call upon all *America* to join with them in addressing the great Governour of the world, “humbly beseeching him to avert the desolating judgments with which we are threatened; to bless our rightful Sovereign,” &c.; “that *America* may soon behold a gracious interposition of Heaven for the redress of her many grievances, the restoration of her invaded rights, and reconciliation with the parent State, on terms constitutional and honourable to both.” Will any one be so hardy as to say, that either the appointment or observation of this solemn day was a mere mockery of Heaven and earth, or even that any *American* joined in it, who was not sincere? I trust not. But if multiplying authorities were of any use, I might add the sentiments of our own Representatives in Assembly, expressed in the Instructions to their Delegates; the sentiments of *Maryland* in similar Instructions; the Resolves of *New-Jersey* and *New-Hampshire*; nor shall the much injured Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* be left out of the catalogue, whose Provincial Congress, while yet bleeding with the wounds received at *Lexington*, thus addressed the inhabitants of *Great Britain*: “These are marks of Ministerial vengeance against this Colony, but they have not yet detached us from our Royal Sovereign,” &c., “trusting that, in a constitutional connection with the mother country, we shall soon be a free and happy people.” These were the sentiments of the Colony of the *Massachusetts*, signed by that great martyr to liberty, Doctor *Warren*, and soon after sealed with his blood.

The sentiments of sundry other Colonies might be shown to have corresponded with these; but this letter has already reached its full length. I shall take some future opportunity to examine the arguments which have been offered to induce a change of these sentiments; and, upon the whole, I doubt not to make it appear that Independence is not the cause in which *America* is now engaged, and is only the idol of those who wish to subvert all order among us, and rise on the ruins of their country.

CATO.

ALEXANDER McDONALD, AND OTHERS, TO JONATHAN SERGEANT.

Princeton, New-Jersey, March 12, 1776.

SIR: We take the liberty of addressing ourselves to you, as a gentleman to whom we are all, in some measure, known. We labour under some emharrassments, which we wish, through you, to have laid before the Congress; not doubting but they will take the same into consideration, and grant such relief as may remove our apprehensions; which



have been such of late as to make it absolutely necessary, in our opinion, to know what we have to depend upon.

We are all of us from the *West-India* Islands, where, and in *Great Britain*, the chief part of our properties are vested. We came here for various reasons; but without the least idea of taking, or being forced to take, any part in the present unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies.

It has been our constant wish and endeavours to avoid giving offence to any persons whatever; nevertheless, we have lately been summoned before the Township Committee, to sign the Association, or give our reasons for declining it. The latter we readily complied with, alleging that we conceived the Congress could not mean the Association to extend to persons in our circumstances; the greatest part of whose properties, lying in other countries, could receive no manner of protection from the Association; but, on the contrary, might be exposed to forfeiture, if we did sign it, or take any part in the matter. The Committee seemed satisfied, but said they had no power to excuse us; and therefore bound us over to appear before the County Committee, by whom we might, perhaps, be referred over to the Provincial Convention. We have no doubt but that either of those bodies would admit the reasonableness of our excuse; yet such attendance is not only troublesome and vexatious in itself, but it impresses the minds of the people with unfriendly ideas of our principles; insomuch, that a servant of one of us, being sent to buy some necessaries for the family, was refused what he wanted, because, said the person, "your master is a Tory." Now, as the minds of the people are getting daily more and more inflamed, it is not improbable that they may, in time, refuse to supply us with all the necessaries of life, or even deprive us of what we have, under the notion of our being enemies to the liberties of *America*.

We therefore pray the Congress would take our case into consideration, and publish such resolves as may express the line of conduct expected to be observed to, and from us, and all peaceable *West-Indians* now residing on the Continent of *America*. We should have saved the Congress and ourselves the trouble of this application, by following the example of many others, (our friends lately from the *West-Indies*;) by withdrawing ourselves from the Continent; but the connexions we have formed in this country has endeared it to us, and made us very unwilling to tear the tender partners of our hearts from their families and friends, unless forced to it by dire necessity—the denial of safety and protection.

Should the Congress deem it improper to comply with our wishes in this matter, we then request they will allow us a reasonable time to settle our affairs, hire a vessel to carry us off, and grant us a safe pass from their ships-of-war and privateers.

We are, sir, your most humble servants,

ALEXANDER McDONALD,  
GEORGE GILLESPIE,  
J. W. SANDERS.

To *Jonathan Sergeant*, Esquire, one of the Delegates in Continental Congress.

CAPTAIN MACPHERSON TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read March 13, 1776.]

Philadelphia, March 12, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: The regard I bear to the liberty of my country prompts me to wish for an employment, under your direction, in a department in which I have acquired some knowledge by experience—I mean the naval service.

I beg leave to observe, that the command of a fleet has always been promised me by Messrs. *Hopkins*, *Randolph*, and *J. Rutledge*. Indeed, without such a command, I could not possibly act in the way I proposed to those gentlemen; which way was approved of by them. Nor was it disapproved of, after the alteration I made, by any but Colonel *Gridley*, whom I do not think infallible.

I think my inventions may be of service to this country. The fewer that know them, the less probability of our enemies' knowing them. But if the honourable Congress choose that a greater number of gentlemen of their body should

have an opportunity of judging of them, I will discover the whole to as many as the honourable Congress is pleased to appoint; provided the gentlemen appointed come under the same obligation of secrecy that those gentleman already in the secret have done.

I beg leave to assure you, gentlemen, that a desire of revenging the death of my dear boy, who fell by the side of the gallant General *Montgomery*, has a less share in prompting me to this application to you, than a desire of defending and transmitting the liberties of this country unimpaired to posterity.

If your honourable body shall think fit to appoint me to the command of any part of the *American* Navy, when such an officer is thought necessary, my every nerve shall be exerted to an honourable and successful discharge of my office.

With real esteem, I am, honourable gentlemen, your most devoted, most obedient humble servant,

JOHN MACPHERSON.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

NEW-YORK CONGRESS TO JOHN HANCOCK.

[Read March 15, 1776.]

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 12, 1776.

SIR: As we are informed, from undoubted authority, that Captain *Parker*, of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, is now fitting out a *Bermuda* Brig, of eight or ten carriage-guns, and small schooner to carry four carriage-guns and forty men, and a brigantine of eight or ten carriage-guns, for the purpose of intercepting vessels between the Capes of *Delaware* and *Sandy-Hook*; and as we have already given orders for the immediate fitting out of an armed vessel for the protection of our trade, we think it necessary to acquaint you that such a one from *Philadelphia* will also be necessary, to be immediately ready to meet ours for this purpose; and that she be of such a draft of water as that she may run into *Barnegat* and *Egg-Harbour*. It is also necessary to be immediately informed by you what your Marine Committee regulations are respecting the wages, &c., of officers and men, that we may regulate ourselves accordingly.

We are, sir, your very humble servant,

By order: NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress.

SAMUEL GALE (OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW-YORK) TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Fairfield, March 12, 1776.

SIR: The receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, by Mr. *Sturges*, gave me a good deal of pleasure. I imagined that the paragraph in which you expressed your cheerful willingness to be bound to Mr. *Burr* for my faithfulness as a prisoner, would have led him to have given me a conditional enlargement. Mr. *Burr* took advice on it, but it did not produce the effect which I expected; so I still remain in the disagreeable apartment.

It gives me some satisfaction to find that your Congress had no hand in my being taken or brought off; and I cannot but thank them for their proceedings on my last letter. I conceive them still more entitled to my hearty thanks, when I reflect that they proceeded in my behalf, knowing, at the same time, that I was one of those who did not hold Congresses in very high esteem—a reflection, I must own, that makes me view them through a more favourable medium than heretofore.

But while I thus freely confess that I have not held any assemblies in high veneration, except such as were called by regular writ, I can, with equal truth, say, that whoever construes the disliked expressions in my letter to Colonel *Bellows*, to relate to others than those of the County of *Cumberland*, gives it a construction which was not thought of by me when I wrote it. I am not of opinion that you, or many of your body, hold their proceedings in a much better light than myself; nor can I suppose that any one can think me blameable in forbidding a delivery of the records to any but myself, or deputy.

The duty (mentioned in my letter) under which I should

be laid by such a delivery, was, as I took it, or else, as I mistook it, enjoined on me, in the most solemn manner, by oaths which the law required to be repeated, sworn to, and subscribed. However, I could not have exercised such duty without, at the same time, using all the means for averting every calamity that could thereby be produced; and even then, the exercise of it would (as I hinted in the letter) give me much pain—far more, I find, than my persecutors labour under, though they were not compelled thereby to by any duty.

For my own part, I do not recollect any order of Congress forbidding people's speaking or writing on any side or subject, nor any penalties being ordered to be inflicted therefor. It is true such may have been made without my knowing it, or they may have slipped my memory. Should that be the case, I would trouble you to inform me of the particulars of them.

Had I ever undertaken on the side of the Congress, and had betrayed my trust, I should have considered my present fate as merited. Or, on the other hand, if I had been employed in what is by some called "Tory Plots," my present fate might have been considered as a means of preventing their being effected. But neither of these is even pretended to be the case. The letter for which I am persecuted, was written to a gentlemen whom I knew to be of opposite sentiments to myself. Yet the openness and integrity of my own heart forbade me to suspect evil from the hands of one who had, only a few months before, expressed a regard for my person.

Had there been an order of the Congress for my being taken and brought off by the military, or had there been a previous declaration for a general use of the law martial, I should then have been somewhat, though far less, surprised at my present situation than I now am; but, as neither of these was the case, I must frankly acknowledge my entire inability to reconcile it with the principles of liberty, however easy the solution of such a problem may be to those who have acquired a profundity in politics.

I am pretty much of opinion that my imprisonment must be owing to some whose zeal carries them beyond the line, and prompts them to an enmity with the persons of men. Soft and generous treatment has often converted the erroneous; but the history of mankind will furnish few, if any, instances of good effects being wrought by persecution; and if I may judge of myself by the general nature of mankind in all ages, a continued persecution may be but too likely to excite a spirit of revenge in that breast in which it hath not hitherto found any harbour.

It is quite probable, as you observe in your letter, "that ill-treatment and abuse, unmerited in my office, might have tended to confirm me in my mode of thinking." I look on my present fate to be a continuation of the same "ill-treatment," and instigated by some of the same persons; and I am far from being the only one who suspects that some of them have yet more hidden designs in view. Should you discover anything of that kind, I make no doubt but you, and every other good man, would endeavour effectually to baffle it. But how it could be effected at this distance is not easy to see; and before it could be known at *New-York*, it might be past remedy; which is one reason for my wanting to be at *New-York* with as much expedition as may be.

You may, perhaps, imagine these apprehensions to be entirely groundless; but give me leave to assure you that I can fully convince you, (and will do it on oath, if you still doubt it,) from circumstances which are known by few, if any, in *New-York*, even of those who think with me on the matter, that there is sufficient reason for such apprehensions. However, whether I return to *New-York* or not, may the Almighty's will be done! I flatter myself that that nobleness of heart which characterizes the freeborn *Briton*, that spirit in which malice or revenge hath never reigned, added to a conscience serene and clear, will enable me to pass through the various mazes and labyrinths of persecution, torture, or death, with all the patience and resignation of a martyr. And should the apprehensions which I have mentioned grow into realities, I shall say, with *Balaam*, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

Permit me to request that you would remember my best

compliments to all my acquaintance, and to those of your members (whether known or unknown) who voted for an inquiry into my affair.

And give me leave to subscribe myself, with the best wishes of happiness to yourself, and all mankind, (my persecutors not excepted,) sir, your most obedient servant,  
S. GALE.

To Mr. McKesson.

P. S. I should be glad to hear from you shortly, as I shall otherwise sue out a *habeas corpus* from the Supreme Court of this Colony, to know by what legal authority I am detained here.  
S. G.

#### COLONEL LENT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Orangetown, March 12, 1776.

SIRS: Agreeable to your order, I have desired the officers under my command to hold their respective companies in readiness, at a moment's warning, and now enclose to you a return of the regiment under my command. The fourth man are in readiness, and are returned to the Major of Minute-men out of my regiment.

I am, with respect, sirs, your most obedient servant,

ABRAHAM LENT.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, or the Committee of Safety at *New-York*.

N. B. The reason of your finding only two companies of Militia in the return, is owing to one company turned out for Minute-men.  
A. L.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 25, 1776.]

Albany, March 12, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday, the Sub-Committee of this City and County delivered me two papers, of which the enclosed (Nos. 1 and 2) are copies. No. 3 is a copy of my letter to Sir John Johnson on the occasion. Should I find, on further inquiry, that the charges against him are supported, I propose despatching a messenger to the *Six Nations*, to advise them of his conduct, and of my intentions not to suffer him to remain in *Tryon* County. I could wish to have the opinion of Congress before I take this step with Sir John, and will defer it until then, if it can be done with safety to our cause.

We shall be able to procure a sufficiency of *Indian* goods in *Canada*, if the traders are not permitted to go from thence. The more I reflect on the consequences of permitting them to go, the more I am convinced they ought not. The *Indians* that will suffer most by the restraint, will be the more remote ones; and we may inform them that they owe their misfortune (as they really do) to our enemies; and they may probably second our operations, by attacking *Detroit*, or at least by coming down to that place in such numbers as to destroy great part of the provisions for the subsistence of the garrison, and that of *Niagara*.

By a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Wade, of the 29th ultimo, which I received on the 11th instant, I find that part of the *New-Hampshire* Regiment was marched on the 24th ultimo. Immediately on the receipt of Colonel Wade's letter, I despatched an express to *Ticonderoga*, with directions for forwarding provisions to *Onion-River*, where I am apprehensive the men will arrive, and suffer, before the provisions. I am sorry that I had not more early intelligence of their marching.

The fat cattle in the western parts of *Massachusetts* and *Connecticut* are all engaged for the Army at *Cambridge*; so that my intentions to supply the Army in *Canada* by the way of *Onion-River*, cannot be carried into execution.

The ice has not yet left *Hudson-River* at this place, but is now only passable with great danger. Carriages are so very difficult to be got (on account of the scarcity of forage and extreme deepness of the roads) to forward on the troops, that I fear the whole will not be able to cross the lakes on the ice.

I dare not yet purchase any working cattle to send to *Ticonderoga*, as the little hay I have been able to procure will not suffice to feed them until they can get grass. I

shall, therefore, as soon as the heavy cannon come up, and *Lake George* opens, send the working-oxen from my farm at *Saratoga*, with forage to convey the cannon and stores across the Carrying-place, and replace them out of those that must be bought for the spring and summer's work at *Ticonderoga*.

I should be glad to know what allowance Congress has made to the officers who are prisoners. I have advanced money to many of them, to enable them to pay for their quarters, as I did not choose any longer to discharge the bills that were brought in, they being so enormously high. When I get the directions of Congress, I shall ascertain what may be due from them to the publick, or from the publick to them.

I find that the gentlemen of the Pay-Table of the Colony of *Connecticut*, and I, have differently construed the resolutions of Congress of the 19th of *January* last. They pay four dollars as a bounty to a soldier, although he does not furnish himself with any kind of arms. I have allowed no bounty at all to such of *Colonel Van Schaick's* Regiment as came without arms, and have only advanced a month's pay to enable them to purchase clothing. Be so good as to transmit me the opinion of Congress on this matter as soon as possible.

I am, sir, with the sincerest esteem and respect, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., &c., &c.

DEPOSITION OF ASA CHADWICK.

Congress Town, March 6, 1776.

[No. 1.]

TRYON COUNTY, ss :

Personally appeared before me, *John Collins*, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said County, *Asa Chadwick*, of lawful age, sound in mind and memory, and, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of *Almighty God*, depose and saith: That on the 4th day of *March*, instant, he, the deponent, was at *Johnson-Hall*, at *Johnstown*, in company with *Sir John Johnson*, Baronet, who said he was sorry that he, the deponent, had such a bad neighbour. The deponent asked who. The said *Sir John* replied, Esquire *Collins*, who, I am informed, is raising a company in that settlement, which will be the worse for you all; for I have sent to the *Indians*, and have received for answer, that they, the said *Indians*, will be down within six weeks, and that they will fall on the back settlements, and will scalp a great many people, and you will see the blood running on the ground. And he, the said *Sir John*, said this would come to pass within six weeks, otherwise he, the deponent, might call him a liar. And the said *Sir John* further informed me that he had lately received letters from a gentleman in *Canada*, who informed him that the *Indians* are coming down in the spring from that country, to cut us off. Further saith not the deponent.

JOHN COLLINS, Justice.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

[No. 2.]

Albany Committee-Chamber, March 11, 1776.

An Affidavit was laid before this Board, of one *Asa Chadwick*, taken before *John Collins*, one of the Justices of the Peace of the County of *Tryon*, setting forth, among other things, the discourse *Sir John Johnson* had with the deponent, discovering thereby that he had invited the *Indians* to act hostilely against the friends of this country: Thereupon,

Resolved, That, as *Sir John* lives out of this County, and is at present under parole to General *Schuyler*, the said Affidavit be laid before the General, for him to act thereupon as he shall see convenient.

Extract from the Minutes.

MATTHEW VISCHER, Secretary.

[No. 3.]

Albany, March 12, 1776.

SIR: The Sub-Committee of this City and County have put into my hands two papers, of which the enclosed are copies.

The charges contained in the deposition of *Chadwick*

against you are not only of an extremely criminal nature, but, if true, such a conduct is utterly inconsistent with your written and verbal declarations, and a breach of the honorary engagements you lay under, than which nothing ought to be more sacred.

Unwilling, however, to be charged with an unbecoming precipitation in the measures that may be necessary for me to adopt on the occasion, I shall defer taking any until I can have an opportunity of a more minute inquiry; and that it may not labour under the odious epithet of an *ex parte* one, I must beg of you to be present when it is made, which will be on *Monday*, the 18th instant, at ten o'clock in the morning, at the house of the widow *Vernon*, in this city. In an affair in which your character as a gentleman and a man of honour is so nearly concerned, I cannot make the least doubt of your compliance with this request. Should you decline coming down, you may easily judge of the inference that will be drawn.

I am, &c.,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To *Sir John Johnson*, Baronet.

WINTHROP SARGENT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Gloucester, March 12, 1776.

SIR: This is to acquaint your Excellency that, last *Sunday*, Commodore *Manly*, with *Waters*, *Tucker*, and *Ayres*, took a ship from *London*, *James Watts* commander. The contents of her cargo you have enclosed, with two letters for General *Howe*. They had the misfortune, it being a very dark, thick night, to run ashore upon the rocks, about three miles from the harbour of *Gloucester*. She is bilged, and most of the cargo will be lost. Commodore *Manly* damaged his vessel very much; lost his bowsprit, but is refitted. I shall do all in my power to save what I can of the cargo. I should be glad to know what I shall do with the Captain and sailors, as they have no ship to keep on board.

I remain your Excellency's very humble servant,

WINTHROP SARGENT.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MESHECH WEARE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Exeter, March 12, 1776.

SIR: We are favoured with your Excellency's advices by Mr. *Moylan's* letter of the 9th instant, and acknowledge ourselves extremely obliged by this early intelligence of your spirited and interesting operations against the Town of *Boston*, to which we heartily wish the utmost success you can possibly expect. We do also gratefully acknowledge the goodness of your intentions, that, upon the first discovery and notice given, if any of the troops from *Boston*, on leaving the place, might appear on the coast to attempt a landing, you would come or send immediately to our assistance.

Our Assembly have very readily determined upon the most effectual measures in our power for the defence of the sea-coast, and, in particular, *Piscataqua* Harbour. But we must beg leave to remind your Excellency of a matter of the utmost consequence to us: our magazine of powder being very low, (not exceeding twelve barrels,) we are under the necessity of asking the return of the supply of powder made by this Colony last summer for the Continental service; and that you would please to order us the like quantity, or what can possibly be spared for our use. The supplies we have sent for to the *West-Indies*, &c., and been some time expecting, are not yet arrived.

In behalf of the Council and Assembly, I am, very respectfully, your Excellency's most humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE,

President of the Council, Colony of New-Hampshire.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

ADDRESS OF THE MAYOR, ETC., OF THE CITY OF CORK, IN IRELAND.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty:

We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Mayor, Sheriffs, Common Council, Merchants, Traders, and princi-

pal Inhabitants of the City of *Cork*, humbly approach your Royal presence, to declare our abhorrence of the unnatural rebellion now carrying on in *North America* by many of your Majesty's deluded subjects.

We were in hopes your Majesty's paternal admonitions, and the restraining laws made by your Majesty and your Parliament, would have brought these infatuated people to a sense of their duty without shedding of blood; but we are sorry to find that your Majesty's clemency hath made them more daring in their lawless attempts; and that, under the cloak of liberty, they have exercised every species of licentiousness; not only making offensive war against your Majesty, but plundering the property of your Majesty's peaceable subjects, who are resident amongst them, and driving them from their habitations.

As your Majesty, thus circumstanced, is obliged to make use of the power of your Empire to reduce, by force of arms, this dangerous rebellion, we, on our part, do most cheerfully engage, with our lives and fortunes, to stand by and support your Majesty's person and Government, as well against these insurgents, as against all other enemies whatsoever.

Given under the common seal of the said City of *Cork*, the thirteenth day of *March*, 1776.

COMMITTEE OF CHESTERTOWN (MARYLAND) TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chestertown, March 13, 1776.

SIR: It appears, from the best information that can be obtained, that a return of the ship-of-war, with reinforcements, may soon be expected, and their business being avowedly to get fresh provisions, they will probably make the attempt on the most defenceless Shore. On the last alarm, a very considerable spirit was manifested by every company in the County; but spirited as they are, their resistance must be very ineffectual without the proper means.

Most of the small number of good arms in the County are supplied to the Minute Company now under duty in *Virginia*; and, on an examination into the arms at present in the County, scarcely any company of Militia have above thirty guns of any kind, and most of these are unfit for any service. The two companies of this town cannot produce above twenty good arms. In this truly defenceless state of this County, and we believe of this Shore in general, the Committee for *Kent County* humbly submit it to the consideration of your Board, whether it will not be advisable for you to order the arms imported by Captain *Tippett* to this place, for the use of Captain *Veazey's* and the other Independent Companies on this Shore, and to order back our Minute Companies from *Virginia*. The Committee having delivered out, to the orders of the Convention and of your Board, most of the publick powder under their care, and the whole being but a very small quantity for the use of this Shore, think a supply of that article necessary. The Committee presume you will hardly think it advisable to trust the arms and ammunition on the water after the late alarm, and as they can conveniently have such part as you may think proper to order here brought by land without any trouble to your Board, they would only wish to have an order for the delivery in *Philadelphia*. The Committee beg leave further to represent to you as their opinion that, as the Brigadier-General for this district is very distant, and as no Field-Officers are yet appointed for the two battalions of this County, in case of an attack some temporary power ought to be vested to direct the operation of the several companies. They submit it to your wisdom to determine whether this temporary power might not be lodged by you in their body, who, you may depend, will exercise it for the good of the country in general to the utmost of their power and abilities. Captain *Veazey* has now got all his company collected here, and no provision has been made for them by the Commissary. The Committee think it their duty to mention this circumstance, that you may give the necessary orders therein. In the mean time the Committee will co-operate with Captain *Veazey*, and do everything in their power to supply the men with provisions.

Signed per order.

W. HALL, Clerk of Committee.

CAPTAIN FAUNTLEROY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

March 13, 1776.

Enclosed is a commission of Mr. *John Hynson*. He has resigned, as his removal out of the neighbourhood has made it inconvenient to attend as Ensign, and the company have elected *James Black*, Sen., in his room, as Ensign of the said company of Militia.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JOHN FAUNTLEROY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

If you do not choose to gratify the company in their choice, *Richard Koone*, son of *William*, Ensign, is, in the Captain's judgment and mine, a more suitable man for the place.

RICHARD MASON.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

March 4, 1776.

SIR: I must give up my commission, as I have moved out of the neighbourhood, and hope you will excuse me, as nothing but the inconvenience of attending obliges me to give up the commission. I send up the commission by your boy, and hope this will excuse me from attending, by you and the company; and I am extremely obliged to them all for their good will, and acknowledge myself indebted a handsome treat to the company, which shall be performed the first opportunity. So conclude your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HYNSON.

To Captain *John Fauntleroy*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Baltimore, March 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed to inform you that Messrs. *John Smith*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, Captains *Nicholson*, *Boucher*, and myself, have this day examined the state of the batteries already made and making at *Whetstone* and *Fell's Point*, and have reported the same to the Committee. They are induced to believe and hope that there is every rational prospect of securing the town of *Baltimore*, in case the *Otter* returns with any other frigate that can come up this river. And as the *Ship Defence* may be so stationed as to support the batteries and boom at *Whetstone*, it will be of the greatest importance, for the preservation of both the town and ship, that she should not be ordered out of this harbour. The attention of our workmen being entirely engaged since last week on the batteries at *Fell's Point*, the boom is, of consequence, less forward than it otherwise would have been. But to avoid every possible hazard of its being too late, it is agreed (with the advice of Captain *Nicholson*) to sink all the vessels now collected at *Whetstone-Point*; which will serve the purpose, until the boom, now executing, is completed. We have got the vessels all valued and ballasted, and persons are appointed to begin sinking them to-morrow.

The battery at *Whetstone* will be ready to mount several guns in a few days; even now it can be used on emergency. At *Fell's Point*, the breastworks, fit for nineteen or twenty cannon, will be nearly completed to-morrow. General *Buchanan* has ordered away the Militia of *Harford* this day. Our worthy friends of *York County* have raised a select company of riflemen, commanded by Mr. *Joseph Donaldson*, to be held in readiness to march to our assistance on any emergency. The Committee beg leave to submit to your consideration, whether, as you have no artillery at *Annapolis*, it would not be advisable to station Captain *Fulford's* company of Matrosses in this place; that gentleman's knowledge as a gunner may be of much service to us. Either one or two wagon loads of powder, sent us by our Delegates on the first alarm, are arrived in town this evening. We shall calculate on another visit from the vessels of war, and use every means in our power to be prepared for it.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., Chairman.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO HARFORD COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 56.]

Annapolis, March 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your favour of the 10th instant, and send you the four hundred pounds. We think it proper that an account of the disbursements should be rendered to the Council of Safety, and not to the next Convention, as you apprehend; and, therefore, request you will furnish us with it as soon as you can make it convenient.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Harford* County.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

[No. 57.]

Annapolis, March 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a narrative, which will fully inform you of the transactions of the *Otter* sloop-of-war, and her tenders, which have lately paid us a short visit.\* They are much chagrined, we believe, at their losing a large vessel belonging to Mr. *Hudson*, that was loaded with provision, by order of the Congress, and had been made a prize of but a day or two before, and at their disappointment in accomplishing their design of taking the Ship *Defence*, which, by all accounts, they made sure of effecting, and was their grand object. Just before they weighed anchor, a flag came on shore with some prisoners, who said they had been treated with great humanity; and, in return, it was thought proper to compliment the officer with two quarters of beef. As soon as they can get a reinforcement, which we imagine they are gone after, we expect to have another and more important visit, and are making the best preparations in our power. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

## RICHARD HENRY LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was in *Virginia* (from whence I am but just returned) when your favour of the 26th *December* came here; and now I have but a moment, before this gentleman goes off, to thank you for it, and to cover a letter from your

\* ANNAPOLIS, March 14.—The publick will expect some account of the alarm occasioned by the man-of-war and her tenders. The following is the most perfect we can give at present. On *Tuesday*, the 5th of *March*, about seven in the evening, we received information that a man-of-war and two tenders were coming up the bay, and had taken a *New-England* schooner lying at the mouth of *Patuxent*. The wind blew hard at S. W., and the general expectation was that they would be at this place in a few hours. The necessary dispositions were made to receive them in case they thought proper to land; and expresses were despatched to *Baltimore* Town, and other parts of the Province, to communicate the intelligence. Between twelve and one on *Tuesday* night the wind shifted, and came on a violent gale at N. W., and so continued all day on *Wednesday*; during which time we had not any certain information where the vessels were. On *Thursday*, there was a light breeze up the bay. About two o'clock the vessels hove in sight, and at half past three came opposite this city, with some prizes, and stood up the bay. Off the mouth of this harbour they burnt a shallop loaded with oats, and in the evening anchored near the mouth of *Patapsco*. On *Friday* night we received intelligence that the vessels were the *Otter* sloop-of-war and two tenders; and the general opinion was confirmed, that they were going to *Baltimore*, to take or destroy the Ship *Defence*. On *Saturday* we expected to hear of an engagement, and the rather, as at *Baltimore* the celerity of their movements exceeded expectation. The *Defence* being got ready on *Friday* night, was towed down the river, manned with a number of brave fellows, all of whom were *Americans* in their hearts, and most of them by birth: several small vessels attended, crowded with men to assist in case of an engagement, which, in all probability, would have been a bloody one. Captain *Nicholson* got under way early on *Saturday* morning, resolved to retake *Hudson's* ship, (a large vessel the *Otter* had made prize of, loaded with wheat and flour,) and to engage the *Otter*, if she moved to assist the tenders which guarded the prize. The morning was thick and hazy, and the *Defence* got nearer to them than was expected before they discovered her, bearing down upon them. Those on board the tenders appeared much alarmed, and pushed off with precipitation; and, on a signal given, more hands were sent by the *Otter* to assist in rowing them off; which was effected with difficulty. Three or four small prize vessels were abandoned, besides *Hudson's* ship. The *Defence* having manned the prize, and seeing the *Otter* get under way, clued up her courses and prepared for battle, expecting her to come up; but the *Otter* having lain about two hours, as if wanting Captain *Nicholson* to come down, at length bore away, and, in the afternoon, came to anchor off this port. Captain *Nicholson* continued his station some time; and, having performed this gallant action, returned with the prizes to *Baltimore*. On *Sunday* morning the *Otter* sloop and her tenders made sail, and went down the bay, having restored several prisoners taken in a vessel in the mouth of *Patapsco*. The Regulars, Militia, and the people in general, behaved with the greatest spirit and alacrity.

brother, with the proceedings and ordinances of our last Convention.

General *Clinton* had left *Virginia* before I did, and was gone to one (but which we do not know) of the *Carolinas*. General *Lee* is now here, on his way to the southward, where he is to take the direction of our and the *Carolina* Troops. I shall write you fully in a post or two. In the mean time, beg my compliments to your lady, and Mr. and Mrs. *Custis*.

I am, dear sir, your most affectionate friend,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

To General *Washington*.

## WILLIAM HOOPER TO SAMUEL JOHNSTON.

Philadelphia, March 13, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I had a sight of your last to Mr. *Hewes*. I am glad to find that you are in the land of the living. Life was never more called transitory than in the present uncertain state of things. He makes a very wild wager who bets upon existence for six months to come.

I am happy to hear that my family are well; would to God I was with them. The commotions in *Canada* are alarming. I wish the accounts we have of the success of the friends of Government against them, may be true. I hope you will not be lulled by their promises into a delusive security. The little regard they have had to their past promises, is a bad earnest for their future punctuality.

We are kept in most surprising ignorance of the present state of *North-Carolina*. When we leave the Province, our friends seem to consign us to oblivion; and give us the important trust of defending their liberties, without affording us such intelligence of their situation as is absolutely necessary to put it in our power to do it effectually. We anxiously wait the return of *Cheer*, the express.

Twenty Commissioners have sailed from *England*, to treat with Assemblies, Counties, Townships, in *America*—in the last instance, with the Continental Congress, when they have tried every other expedient unsuccessfully. *Amherst* and Lord *Howe* are of the number. The King would not, for a long time, consent to treat with the Congress, but was at last prevailed upon. They are to contend for much, and be content with little. Their creed is *Divide et impera*. Heaven grant that *America* may have virtue to resist their lures. I most earnestly wish peace and reconciliation upon terms honourable to *America*. Heaven forbid that I should submit to any other.

The enclosed will give you the state of the Army in and out of *Boston*. *Howe* is leaving it with his troops, and we suppose is bound to *New-York*. Pray make my best respects to your lady and family, and all my good friends near you. I am yours affectionately,

WILLIAM HOOPER.

To Samuel Johnston, Esq., *Edenton*, *North-Carolina*.

N. B. What I say of the Commissioners, I have only on report; take it for so much.

## JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO WILLIAM HOOPER.

Cambridge, March 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I mentioned to General *Washington* the letter mentioned in the memorandum you left with me. He bids me say, he sent it into *Boston* the next day after it came to his hand, and has never heard anything from it since.

You know an attack was intended by us on *Boston*, when you were here. Last *Saturday* night our people began a cannonade and bombardment on the town, from *Cobble-Hill*, *Lechmere's Point*, and *Lamb's Dam*. *Sunday* night it was continued by us, and warmly resented by the enemy. They sent us shot and shells, five to one. The first night we burst one thirteen-inch and two ten-inch iron mortars; and on *Sunday* night, with the third charge, the brass thirteen-inch likewise burst.

We have been extremely unlucky in this way. On *Monday* night our people went upon *Dorchester Neck*, on the second large height back of *Nook's Point*. They had a strong party, more than three hundred teams, to carry on all necessaries for their works. They marched on by seven o'clock in the evening; and when the march began, a signal was made, and the cannonade and bombardment were renewed with redoubled vigor. This proved a diversion to



the enemy from *Dorchester Hills*; and we imagine they never discovered our party there till eight o'clock in the morning, by which time they were well covered. We expected an attack yesterday, at twelve o'clock, and were prepared for it—our floating-batteries, boats, &c., all ready to carry four thousand men into the town, if they had made a vigorous sally against our *Dorchester* party; but we were disappointed.

Last night we had a most violent gale of wind at south, by which the enemy's ships have suffered much, (the particulars not known,) and this day the weather is fresh. It has not been in their power to attack us. By to-morrow, we shall be so well prepared for them at *Dorchester*, that they may come if they please. If they do not, we shall soon move forward upon *Nook's Point*; and then, if we can get powder, we shall endeavour to warm their den.

We have not had a deserter or prisoner, nor an inhabitant escaped from town, to give us any information from thence. I dare say we have done great mischief among them. I was on *Lechmere's Point* on *Saturday* night. The thirteen-inch mortar was directed at the *Province-House*, and the shells went very near it, I believe.

We have had two men killed: one on *Lechmere's Point*, by the bursting of a shell; the other at *Roxbury*, by a cannon-ball. No more killed. Colonel *Mason*, of the Train, slightly wounded by the bursting of a mortar; and a few others; none badly.

The Militia, and owners of teams in this neighbourhood, have behaved admirably on this occasion. A fine spirit prevails in general. I wish I could say the like spirit, and activity, and ability, were universal.

I am extremely sorry to hear of the danger of Mr. *Lynch*. I revere his character, and most sincerely wish his recovery.

Colonel *Dyer*\* writes me that he saw you, and that you were gone on rejoicing. I hope ere this you are safe in *Philadelphia*, which I shall be glad to be ascertained of from yourself.

I am, with respect and esteem, dear Sir, your most humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *William Hooper*, Esq., in Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

P. S. Colonel *Mifflin* is pretty well recovered, and sends his compliments, in which Mrs. *Mifflin* likewise joins him.

Philadelphia, March 13, 1776.

*Americans!* Remember the Stamp Act, by which immense sums were to be yearly extorted from you.

Remember the Declaratory Act, by which a power was assumed of binding you, in all cases whatsoever, without your consent.

Remember the broken promise of the Ministry,\* never again to attempt a tax on *America*.

Remember the Duty Act.

Remember the massacre of *Boston*, by *British* soldiers.

Remember the ruin of that once flourishing city, by their means.

Remember the massacre at *Lexington*.

Remember the burning of *Charlestown*.

Remember General *Gage's* infamous breach of faith with the people of *Boston*.

Remember the cannonading, bombarding, and burning of *Falmouth*.

Remember the shrieks and cries of the women and children.

Remember the cannonading of *Stonington* and *Bristol*.

Remember the burning of *Jamestown*, *Rhode-Island*.

Remember the frequent insults of *Newport*.

Remember the broken Charters.

Remember the cannonade of *Hampton*.

Remember the Act for screening and encouraging your murderers.

Remember the cannonade of *New-York*.

Remember the altering your established Jury Laws.

Remember the hiring foreign Troops against you.

Remember the rejecting of Lord *Chatham's*, Mr. *Hartley's*, and Mr. *Burke's* plans of conciliation.

Remember the rejecting all your numerous humble Petitions.

\* In Lord *Hillsborough's* Circular Letter.

Remember the contempt with which they spoke of you in both Houses.

Remember the cowardly endeavour to prevent foreign nations supplying you with arms and ammunition, when they themselves knew they intended coming to cut your throats.

Remember their hiring Savages to murder your farmers, with their families.

Remember the bribing Negro slaves to assassinate their masters.

Remember the burning of *Norfolk*.\*

Remember their obliging you to pay treble duties, when you came to trade with the countries you had helped them to conquer.†

Remember their depriving you of all trade in the fisheries you had, equally with them, spent your blood and treasure to acquire.

Remember their old restrictions on your woollen manufactures; your hat-making; your iron and steel forges and furnaces.

Remember their arbitrary Admiralty Courts.

Remember the inhuman treatment of the brave Colonel *Allen*, and the irons he was sent in to *England*.

Remember the long, habitual, base venality of *British* Parliaments.

Remember the corrupt, putrefied state of that nation, and the virtuous, sound, healthy state of your own young constitution.

Remember the tyranny of *Mezentius*, who bound living men face to face with dead ones, and the effect of it.‡

Remember the obduracy and unforgiving spirit of the tyrant, evident in the treatment of his own brothers.

Remember that an honourable death is preferable to an ignominious life; and never forget what you owe to yourselves, your families, and your posterity.

LORD STIRLING TO THE COMMITTEES OF ESSEX, ETC.,  
NEW-JERSEY.

New-York, March 13, 1776.

By intelligence received from General *Washington*, the King's Army at *Boston* is actually embarked, and there is the highest reason to believe that they are destined for this place. I must, therefore, request that the County of *Essex* will immediately assemble their Militia, and pick out three or four hundred of their best men, and send them here to assist in fortifying and defending this place.

Be pleased to forward the enclosed to the Committee of *Morris* County.

I am your most humble servant, STIRLING.  
(To Chairmen of the Committees of the Counties of *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Morris*, *Somerset*, *Sussex*, and *Hunterdon*.)

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 15, 1776.]

New-York, March 13, 1776.—Two o'clock, P. M.

DEAR SIR: The express, which will deliver this to you, a few minutes ago brought me despatches from General *Washington*, containing the very important intelligence which will be communicated to you. I have laid these letters before the Congress of this Province, and have requested them to appoint a Committee instantly to confer with me on the steps necessary to be taken for the defence of this city and *Long-Island*. I propose to employ all the inhabitants, and every person in town, immediately, in assisting at the works; to call in three or four hundred men from each of the Counties of this Province and *New-Jersey*; to order the Third Battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops, and six companies of the Second Battalion of *Pennsylvania*, to stop here till further orders, which will not much retard their march to *Canada*, as they can go from hence to *Albany* by water. I shall do everything else that I can think of for the safety of this place.

I am, sir, your most humble servant, STIRLING.

To the President of Congress.

\* This, and all the before-mentioned, were open, defenceless towns, which, by the laws of war, should always be spared.

† An Act of Parliament, 14 *George* 3d, laying a duty of three pence per gallon on all spirits imported into *Canada* from *Britain*; and nine pence if from any of the *North American* Colonies.

‡ The corruption of the one poisoned the other.

Return of all the Troops at New-York, under the command of Brigadier-General the Earl of STIRLING, March 13, 1776.

CORPS.	FROM WHENCE.	WHERE STATIONED	COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.					STAFF OFFICERS.				PRESENT FIT FOR DUTY.				ABSENT ON DUTY.				ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE.				SICK.				TOTAL.			
			Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.			
Earl of Stirling's Regiment.....	New-Jersey.....	New-York.....	1	1	1	8	16	8	-	1	1	1	25	26	15	407	1	-	-	17	3	1	28	67	2	2	16	589			
Colonel Waterbury's Regiment....	Connecticut.....	New-York.....	1	1	1	11	21	10	-	1	1	-	30	42	25	457	-	-	-	62	-	-	-	1	-	-	23	557			
Colonel Ward's Regiment.....	Connecticut.....	Long-Island....	1	1	1	8	17	10	-	1	1	-	45	40	24	489	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	519			
Captain Ledyard's Company.....	New-York.....	New-York.....	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	64	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	72				
Colonel Drake's Regiment.....	Minute-men...	Horn's Hook...	1	1	2	2	6	4	-	1	1	1	9	7	4	104	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	4	118			
Colonel Swartwout's Regiment..	New-York....	New-York.....	1	1	1	5	12	7	-	1	1	-	29	21	12	186	-	-	-	4	-	-	14	-	-	-	12	201			
Colonel Van Ness's Regiment....	New-York....	New-York.....	1	1	1	3	6	2	-	-	-	-	14	12	6	110	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	117			
Total.....			6	6	7	38	80	41	-	5	5	2	174	152	88	1,818	1	-	-	125	3	2	49	68	2	2	89	2,173			

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ALLEN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read March 15, 1776.]

New-York, March 13, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to acquaint you that, on my arrival here, I waited on Lord *Stirling*, to request his assistance in procuring sloops to convey the troops from *Dobbs's Ferry* to *Albany*. This business being effected, I was this day preparing to set off for *Albany*, when I received the following orders from Lord *Stirling*:

"New-York, March 13, 1776.

"SIR: You are hereby ordered to direct all the companies of the Second Battalion of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, of which you are Lieutenant-Colonel, which are not yet embarked for *Albany*, to proceed immediately to this city, where quarters shall be provided for them. You are to remain at this place till further orders.

"*STIRLING, Brigadier-General.*

"To Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen*, of the Second Regiment, *Pennsylvania*."

Agreeably to the above, I have despatched a messenger, with orders to the different companies, as they arrive at *Hackensack*, immediately to march to this place, where I shall anxiously expect to be honoured with your orders.

This unexpected delay, at so critical a season of the year, has given me much uneasiness; but my business is to obey orders, and not to judge of the propriety of them.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WM. ALLEN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

N. B. Your despatches for General *Schuyler* are to be forwarded to-morrow morning by Lord *Stirling*.

PETER T. CURTENIUS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeably to your request, we have made a second calculation, and will engage to furnish all the troops that shall be quartered in this city, *King's County*, and *Fort Constitution*, for one year, from the 1st day of *April* next, at eleven pence per ration per day, provided the Congress will furnish us, at their expense, with sufficient stores at each place, and advance us a sufficient sum to lay in a stock of provisions. The ration to consist of the following kinds and quantities of provisions, viz: One pound of beef, or three-quarters of a pound pork, or one pound of salt fish, per day per man; one pound of flour or bread, per day; three pints of pease or beans per week, or vegetables equivalent; one pint of milk per day, or at the rate of one-seventy-second part of a dollar, or an equivalent in beef, pork, or butter; one quart of spruce beer or cider, per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses per one hundred men per week; half a pint of rice, or one pint of *Indian* meal, per man per week; three pounds of candles, to one hundred men per week; twenty-four pounds of soft, or eight pounds of hard soap, for one hundred men per week.

As to wood and straw, it is impossible to reduce them into rations; therefore, will engage to furnish them the year round, at twenty shillings per cord, and straw at three pence per bunch, exclusive of the carting, provided it is at your risk, after we have delivered it to the Barrackmaster, whose receipt shall be our voucher. This will be a proper check on us, that we do not charge too much; and, also, a check on him, that he does not give credit for too little. If all the wood was to be delivered at the barracks, and there issued out, we could make a calculation; but, after it is there, it must be carted to the different houses in the town, where the soldiers are quartered, in loads, three-quarters, and half loads; therefore, it would be best that the Barrackmaster pay the cartage, and render you an account of it.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,  
CURTENIUS & ETTING.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read March 22, 1776.]

Cambridge, March 13, 1776.

SIR: In my letter of the 7th and 9th instant, which I had the honour of addressing you, I mentioned the intelligence I had received respecting the embarkation of the troops from *Boston*, and fully expected before this that the

town would have been entirely evacuated. Although I have been deceived, and was rather premature in the opinion I had then formed, I have little reason to doubt but the event will take place in a very short time, as other accounts which have come to hand since, the sailing of a great number of transports from the harbour to *Nantasket-Road*, and many circumstances corresponding therewith, seem to confirm and render it unquestionable. Whether the town will be destroyed, is a matter of much uncertainty; but it would seem, from the destruction they are making of sundry pieces of furniture, of many of their wagons, carts, &c., which they cannot take with them, as it is said, that it will not; for if they intended it, the whole might be involved in one general ruin. Holding it of the last importance in the present contest that we should secure *New-York*, and prevent the enemy from possessing it, and conjecturing they have views of that sort, and their embarkation to be for that purpose, I judged it necessary, under the situation of things here, to call a Council of General Officers, to consult of such measures as might be expedient to be taken at this interesting conjuncture of affairs: a copy of the proceedings I have the honour to enclose you.

Agreeable to the opinion of the council, I shall detach the Rifle Regiment to-morrow, under the command of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, with orders to repair to *New-York* with all possible expedition, and which will be succeeded the day after by the other five in one Brigade; they being all that it was thought advisable to send from hence till the enemy shall have quitted the town. Immediately upon their departure, I shall send forward Major-General *Putnam*, and follow myself with the remainder of the Army, as soon as I have it in my power, leaving here such a number of men as circumstances may seem to require. As the badness of the roads at this season will greatly retard the march of our men, I have, by advice of the General Officers, written to Governor *Trumbull* by this express to use his utmost exertions for throwing a reinforcement of two thousand men into *New-York*, from the western parts of *Connecticut*; and to the commanding officer there, to apply to the Provincial Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, for a thousand more, for the same purpose, to oppose the enemy, and prevent their getting possession, in case they arrive before the troops from hence can get there, of which there is a probability, unless they are impeded by contrary winds. This measure, though it may be attended with considerable expense, I flatter myself will meet with the approbation of Congress.

Past experience, and the lines in *Boston* and on *Boston Neck*, point out the propriety, and suggest the necessity, of keeping our enemies from gaining possession, and making a lodgment. Should their destination be further southward, or for *Halifax*, (as reported in *Boston*), for the purpose of going into *Canada*, the march of our troops to *New-York* will place them nearer the scene of action, and more convenient for affording succors.

We have not taken post on *Nuke-Hill* and fortified it, as mentioned that we should in my last. On hearing that the enemy were about to retreat and leave the town, it was thought imprudent and unadvisable to force them with too much precipitation, that we might gain a little time, and prepare for a march. To-morrow evening we shall take possession, unless they are gone.

As *New-York* is of such importance, prudence and policy require that every precaution that can be devised should be adopted to frustrate the designs which the enemy have of possessing it. To this end, I have ordered vessels to be provided, and held ready at *Norwich*, for the embarkation and transportation of our troops thither. This I have done with a view not only of greatly expediting their arrival, (as it will save several days marching,) but, also, that they may be fresh, and fit for intrenching and throwing up works of defence, as soon as they get there, if they do not meet the enemy to contend with; for neither of which would they be in a proper condition, after a long and fatiguing march in bad roads. If *Wallace*, with his ships, should be apprized of the measure, and attempt to prevent it by stopping up the harbour of *New-London*, they can but pursue their march by land.

You will please to observe that it is the opinion of the General Officers, if the enemy abandon the town, that it will be unnecessary to employ or keep any part of this Army

for its defence, and that I have mentioned, on that event's happening, I shall immediately repair to *New-York*, with the remainder of the Army not now detached, leaving only such a number of men here as circumstances may seem to require. What I partly allude to is, that (as it will take a considerable time for the removal of such a body of men, and the divisions must precede each other in such order as to allow intermediate time sufficient for them to be covered and provided for, and many things done previous to the march of the whole, for securing and forwarding such necessities as cannot be immediately carried, and others which it may be proper to keep here,) directions might be received from Congress respecting the same, and as many men ordered to remain for that and other purposes as they may judge proper. I could wish to have their commands upon the subject, and in time, as I may be under some degree of embarrassment as to their views.

Congress having been pleased to appoint Colonel *Thompson* a Brigadier-General, there is a vacancy for a Colonel in the regiment he commanded, to which I would beg leave to recommend the Lieutenant-Colonel, *Hand*. I shall also take the liberty of recommending Captain *Hugh Stevenson*, of the *Virginia* Riflemen, to succeed Colonel *Hand*, to be appointed in his place as Lieutenant-Colonel, (there being no Major to the regiment since the promotion of Major *Maggaw* to be Lieutenant-Colonel of one of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, and who is gone from hence.) He is, in my opinion, the fittest person in this Army for it, as well as the oldest Captain in the service, having distinguished himself at the head of a Rifle Company all the last war, and highly merited the approbation of his superior officers.

Colonel *Mifflin* informed me to day of his having received tent clothes from Mr. *Barrell*, of *Philadelphia*, to the amount of seven thousand five hundred pounds, *Pennsylvania* currency, and applied for a warrant for payment of it; but as our fund is low, and many necessary demands against it, which must be satisfied, and our calls for money are, and will be exceedingly great, I could not grant it, thinking it might be convenient for payment to be made in *Philadelphia*, by your order, on the Treasury there.

I have the honour to be, with much respect, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

At a Council of General Officers, held at General *Ward's* Quarters, *Roxbury*, March 13, 1776, Present:

His Excellency General *Washington*; Major-Generals *Ward* and *Putnam*; Brigadier-Generals *Thomas*, *Sullivan*, *Heath*, *Greene*, *Spencer*, and *Gates*.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief informed the Council that, from the appearance of the Ministerial Fleet and Army, the intelligence he had received from sundry persons who had escaped from *Boston*, and from frequent observations, he had reason to believe that the troops were about to evacuate the town; and that, in all probability, they were destined for *New-York*, and would attempt to possess themselves of that city; by which means they would command the navigation of *Hudson's River*, open a communication with *Canada*, and cut off all intercourse between the Southern and Northern Colonies.

His Excellency then demanded the opinion of Council, whether, under the present circumstances, (*i. e.* before the town was wholly evacuated,) it would be advisable to march any part of the Continental Army now before *Boston*, to *New-York*.

The Council were of opinion that it will be proper that five Regiments, with the Rifle Battalion, should be detached immediately to *New-York*. The Rifle Battalion to march to-morrow, and the others to follow as speedily as possible. That his Excellency be advised to write to the Governor of *Connecticut*, to desire he would immediately send two thousand of the Militia of his Government to *New-York*; and that one thousand be requested from the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, in order to reinforce the troops already stationed there, until the detachment from this Army shall arrive.

His Excellency likewise demanded the opinion of Council whether, if the Ministerial Troops should totally abandon the town of *Boston*, it would be necessary to continue any part of the Continental Army for its defence.

*Resolved*, That if the Ministerial Troops should totally abandon the town of *Boston*, it will be unnecessary to employ any part of this Army for the defence and security of the same, as the Militia of the Province will be adequate thereto.

The opinion of Council was also demanded by his Excellency, whether, if the Ministerial Troops should continue in the harbour of *Boston*, it would be advisable to fortify *Nuke-Hill*, in *Dorchester*.

*Resolved*, That if the Ministerial Troops should continue in this harbour to-morrow, it would be advisable to fortify *Nuke-Hill* the next night, at all events.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 9, 1776.

(Parole, *Morris*.)

(Countersign, *Allen*.)

The General earnestly expects every officer and soldier of this Army will show the utmost alertness, as well upon duty, as off duty; as, by that means, not only the utmost power, but the utmost artifice of the enemy will be defeated. The Regiments which have not drawn their clothing from the Quartermaster-General, are commanded to do it immediately.

The Regiment and Companies of Riflemen are to hold themselves in readiness to march at an hour's warning. The whole Army to prepare to be ready to march when commanded.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 10, 1776.

(Parole, *Tilghman*.)

(Countersign, *Mercer*.)

There was a mistake in the Orders of the 6th instant: General *Heath* being ordered for the command therein mentioned, instead of General *Greene*, who is appointed for that command.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Niagara*.)

(Countersign, *Thompson*.)

That there may not be the least pretext for delay, (as the General is determined to march the whole, or any part of this Army, the instant occasion shall require,) his Excellency desires that not a moment's time may be lost in preparing for the march. The Colonels will pay particular attention to the clothing of their men. To prevent any unnecessary preparations, the General informs the officers and soldiers, that it is his desire and expectation that they encumber themselves with as little baggage as possible, as, apart from the enormous expense to the Continent, teams cannot be procured for superfluous articles; it will be well if sufficient can be found to answer all requisite services. The nature of the service we are engaged in is such as requires Light Troops, ready at all times, and upon all occasions, for forced marches; the less baggage, therefore, officers and men are encumbered with, the better.

The recruiting service is to be continued; but the recruits, and all the men upon furlough, are to join their respective Regiments immediately.

The General being desirous of selecting a particular number of men as a Guard for himself and baggage, the Colonel, or commanding officer, of each of the established Regiments, (the Artillery and Riflemen excepted,) will furnish him with four, that the number wanted may be chosen out of them. His Excellency depends upon the Colonels for good men—such as they can recommend for their sobriety, honesty, and good behaviour. He wishes them to be from five feet eight inches high to five feet ten inches, handsomely and well made; and as there is nothing in his eyes more desirable than cleanliness in a soldier, he desires that particular attention may be made in the choice of such men as are neat and spruce. They are all to be at Head-Quarters to-morrow, precisely at twelve, at noon, when the number wanted will be fixed upon. The General neither wants men with uniforms or arms; nor does he desire any man to be sent to him that is not perfectly willing and desirous of being of this Guard. They should be drilled men.

The General desires that those Colonels who have not furnished the arrangement of their officers, will do it forthwith, under the inspection of the Brigadiers, who are to certify the same. He also requires the Brigadiers to see that the returns are made, that the commissions may issue.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 12, 1776.

(Parole, *Niagara*.)

(Countersign, *Thompson*.)

An abstract of the pay of the commissioned officers of each of the established Regiments, for *January*, to be delivered, as soon as possible, to the Adjutant-General, signed by the Colonel, or officer commanding each Regiment.

The Director-General and Surgeons of the Hospital to proceed in the examination of the Regimental Surgeons and Mates; who are required to attend for that purpose at such time and place as may be appointed, of which they will receive timely notice. When the examination is finished, report is to be made of the same, that commissions may be made out for those who are approved of as duly qualified.

The Colonels, in making out the pay abstracts for their officers for *January*, are to be careful to see that each officer is charged only from the day of his being appointed.

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Phinney* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Fairfax*.)

(Countersign, *Kent*.)

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock. All evidences and persons concerned, to attend the Court.

The Rifle Regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Hand*, and the three Rifle Companies under the command of Captain *Stephenson*, are to be ready to march to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock. A copy of their route, with their orders, will be delivered to Lieutenant-Colonel *Hand* and Captain *Stephenson* this afternoon.

As the Ministerial Troops in *Boston*, both from information and appearance, are preparing to evacuate that town, the General expressly orders that neither officer or soldier presume to go into *Boston*, without leave from the General-in-Chief at *Cambridge*, or the Commanding-General at *Roxbury*. As the enemy, with a malicious assiduity, have spread the infection of the small-pox through all parts of the town, nothing but the utmost caution on our part can prevent that fatal disease from spreading through the Army and country, to the infinite detriment of both. His Excellency expressly commands every officer to pay the exactest obedience to this order.

If, upon the retreat of the enemy, any person whatsoever is detected in pillaging, he may be assured the severest punishment will be his lot. The unhappy inhabitants of that distressed town have already suffered too heavily from the iron hand of oppression! Their countrymen, surely, will not be base enough to add to their misfortunes.

*After Orders*. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, orders that the Rifle Battalion, with *Stark's*, *Webb's*, *Patterson's*, *Greaton's*, and *Bond's* Regiments, be immediately relieved from duty, and hold themselves in readiness to march on *Friday* morning next, except the Rifle Battalion, which marches to-morrow.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COLONEL BEDEL.

March 13, 1776.

SIR: We received your letter, dated at *Orford*, the 8th instant; and, as the Court was sitting, took the contents under consideration; and are very sorry the inlisting and marching of the men are so much slower than we were made to expect. As to the expenses of the *Indians*, we are told General *Washington* undertook, and settled with you, about that matter. Any particular Colonies making any considerable present to them, we think needless, as the Continental Congress have appointed Commissioners to transact those affairs; and what is given by them, we must pay our proportion of. As your Regiment this year is raised for the Continental service, and immediately under their direction, we cannot think it necessary to carry anything with you for stores more than will last you to *Canada*, as we are well assured by the Continental Congress every requisite will be sent there to supply the Army; and are informed they are all gone forward some time. The wages are to be paid off there monthly, which we trust will supply the officers and soldiers' necessities. We expect you will march as soon as possible, to take care of the men gone forward; and

we wish you all the prosperity and success the noble cause you are engaged in can merit.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Bedel*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COPPER COIN.

In the House of Representatives of New-Hampshire, }  
March 13, 1776.

*Voted*, That a Committee be chosen, to join a Committee from the honourable Board, to confer upon the expediency of making Copper Coin, and make a report to this House.

*Voted*, That Captain *Pierce Long*, *Jonathan Lovell*, Esquire, and Deacon *Nathan Balden*, be the Committee for the above-mentioned purpose.

Sent up for concurrence.

P. WHITE, *Speaker*.

In Council, *eodem die*.—Read, and Mr. *Clagett* and Mr. *Giles* added on the part of the Board.

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

The Committee humbly report that they find it expedient to make Copper Coin for the benefit of small change. And as the Continental and other bills are so large, that *William Moulton* be empowered to make so many as may amount to one hundred pounds weight, subject, when made, to the inspection and direction of the General Assembly before circulation; also, we recommend that one hundred and eight of said Coppers be equal to one *Spanish* milled Dollar; that the said Copper Coin be of pure copper, and equal in weight to *English* half-pence, and bear such device thereon as the General Assembly may approve.

WYSEMAN CLAGETT, *Chairman*.

ROYAL HIGHLAND EMIGRANTS.

Edinburgh, March 14, 1776.

An officer of the regiment of Royal Highland Emigrants, who is just come from *Boston*, to carry over arms and clothing for that regiment, informs us that, before he left *Boston*, in the beginning of *February*, the number of men raised for that regiment exceeded eight hundred; besides which, there were recruiting officers in certain parts of *America*, inlisting men; so that there is little doubt of the regiment being now complete. Thus has this regiment been raised under every disadvantage, in an enemy's country, the seat of war, and attended with great trouble, risk, and expense to Colonel *Maclean* and the other officers.

The following, we hear, are the gentlemen (mostly from half-pay) who are to command the twenty companies of which the regiment consists: Lieutenant-Colonel, *Allan Maclean*; Majors, *John Smith*, *Donald Macdonald*; Captains, *William Dunbar*, *Alexander Macdonald*, *John Nairn*, *Norman Macleod*, *Colin Campbell*, *Allan Macdonald*, *Alexander Campbell*, *Duncan Campbell*, *Murdoch Maclean*, *Alexander Fraser*, *Malcolm Fraser*, ——— *Maclean*, *Ronald Mackinnon*, *Donald Macleod*, ——— *Grant*, *Allan Macdonald*, *Donald Macdonald*.

JOSEPH SIM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Prince George's County, March 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I find I was mistaken in my information to you respecting the *Nottingham* Company; indeed, the circumstances had escaped my memory. The choice of officers that had been made was well known to be disagreeable to the company in general, and many had declared if those gentlemen were promoted they would not continue in the company. It was therefore thought best to give the people a new election; which was the sole reason why there was no appointment in Convention. On the second meeting of the company for the purpose of choosing their officers, the gentlemen I mentioned to you, and which I was desired to do by them, were named; however, since receiving your letter enclosing Captain *Bowie's* commission, they have had, and lately, a full meeting of the company; and, in order to reconcile and satisfy all parties, they have agreed, and that with the consent of Messrs. *Dorsett* and *Hoye*, (and of which I am particularly requested to inform you,) that Mr. *Robert Bowie* be appointed First Lieutenant, Mr. *William N. Dorsett* Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *Tho-*

*mas Hoye* Ensign. This, I am well assured, will give general content. But if Mr. *Bowie* should not be appointed First Lieutenant to this company, I am satisfied they will be in the utmost confusion; and as it is entirely agreeable to Messrs. *Dorsett* and *Hoye*, who desire nothing more than their first appointments, I shall hope to receive their respective commissions by the return of this post.

I am, gentlemen, with great regard, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH SIM.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DANIEL BOWLEY.

[No. 58.]

Annapolis, March 14, 1776.

SIR: We have given the bearer hereof (Mr. *William Houston*) an order on Captain *Tibbett* for two thousand pounds powder and all the small-arms, with the accoutrements thereto belonging, that have been imported for this Province, in the Brig *Wild Duck*, which we desire you will have complied with; and any assistance Mr. *Houston* may want you will please to give him. In a few days you will have our full directions respecting the other goods imported for the Province in the said brig. In the mean time we would have you purchase, for account of the Province, all the private adventures of powder imported in the said vessel, at such price as our Delegates in Congress may advise, whom we desire you will consult thereon; and send the same to *Baltimore* Town, in the safest and most expeditious manner you can.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Daniel Bowley*, *Philadelphia*.

TIBERIUS TO CATO.

Philadelphia, March 14, 1776.

Cato, if the designs which you, in your first letter, have laid to the charge of Committees are conceived or adopted by them, they are indeed very dangerous bodies of men, and you have done nobly in exposing them. But, sir, you ought to go further, and support the charge by facts, otherwise the accusation will not gain much credit upon the word of an anonymous author. What are the facts upon which the following charges stand? viz:

That a few have been aiming to destroy our Charter Constitution, and seize the Executive, as well as Legislative authority of the Province. In what instance, and by whom, has an attempt been made to intimidate our legal Representatives, or their patriotick exertions been misrepresented, and treated scurrilously? Upon what ground do you rest your charge against Committees of design to step into the seats of the Assembly? And wherefore have you intimated that baits of power have been thrown out by the people of this or some other Province, to lead individuals out of the line of their duty?

For these things you are answerable to the publick; and if you have ground for the charge, speak out, and speak boldly—do not be affrighted; the danger of speaking truth is not so great as you seem to fear. Use yourself to it, and you will soon be convinced, by experience, that there is little risk in it—the danger lies wholly in the uttering of falsehoods.

As to the account you give of the election of the Committee, it is evident you are mistaken; for wickedness itself, with a single grain of common sense mixed with it, would not have misstated the fact where it is well known, as you have done. It could have answered no purpose. And, as you may have occasion to mention these things again, give me leave, sir, to remind you that, on the 18th of *June*, 1774, a Committee was appointed by the publick voice for the purpose of taking into consideration the general state of publick affairs, and sat, with the Committees of the Counties, in General Convention; where the whole state of our publick affairs, (so far as related to the present controversy,) was considered and determined upon. The Convention recommended the continuation of Committees throughout the Province; and authorized the Committee of *Philadelphia* to call another Convention when they should judge it necessary. In consequence of this recommendation, an election was advertised by the Committee first chosen, to



be held on the 12th of *November*. Hereupon, a question arose on the mode of election—whether it should be by publick voice, poll, or ballot. And it was determined at a publick meeting, called for that purpose, that it should be by ballot. Two tickets were, by the then two parties, made out, printed, and handed to the publick for their examination and amendment. At the day of election five hundred and seventeen voters, besides the voters from the District of *Southwark*, gave in their votes; and, upon counting them off, there appeared to be four hundred and ninety-nine for one ticket, with very few exceptions to any one name; and eighteen only for the other ticket—a majority so clear and so evident, that there could not be a doubt how the election would go; which rendered it unnecessary for the voters to turn out so generally as they otherwise would have done. As the conduct of the Committee then chosen had the approbation of all the friends to the present opposition to the wicked measures of *Great Britain*, at the two following elections few alterations were made, and the persons proposed were so generally approved, it would have been unnecessary to have voted at all, but for the formality and name of the thing. You are also greatly mistaken in the number of voters for the present Committee, and I would set you right herein, if it were at all material in the case. But if you know anything of our elections, you must know that the circumstance of having but a few voters is common in our elections, even for Assemblymen and Burgesses, where there is little or no change proposed, or where the new candidate has the voice of the people generally in his favour. You are undoubtedly right in your observation, that attempts of unjustly acquiring power should be equally restrained in the lowest as in the highest; and the observation points out the necessity there is for the middle class of men constantly to watch both these orders, and rigorously to exert themselves in the defence of liberty; for upon their conduct will for ever depend the liberty of mankind.

But if your other charges and insinuations are as unjust and groundless as the insinuations respecting the Committee, whatever declarations of regard to order, Government, Charter rights, and liberty, which you may make; and whether your complexion be black, brown, or fair, your conduct and sentiments will resemble a modern (more than an ancient) *Cato*, who will consent to live a slave rather than to die free.

TIBERIUS.

#### PLAIN HINTS.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

Nothing can be more surprising than the great chain of events which have taken place in the *American Colonies* within the small compass of a few years. Possibly no instances occur in the history of mankind in which the universal opinion has been more frequently opposed. It is no wonder, then, that we now find ourselves at a loss where to fix. That the King can do no wrong; that the interests of *Great Britain* and the Colonies were the same—reciprocal and inseparable; that she could not injure us without injuring herself, and therefore we were safe; that she was a tender parent, in whom we might confide implicitly; that she was the grand support of freedom and the Protestant religion; that the King was imposed upon by his Ministers; that a change in Administration would rectify evils complained of; that the abilities and weight of our friends in Parliament would prevent extremities; that our friends throughout the nation would return a better Parliament than the last; that the act declaring their right to tax us in all cases whatever would not be carried into execution, but remain a harmless letter; that the several repeals and seeming alterations in their plan of conduct proved a relinquishment of any evil intentions; that the power of *Britain* was such as we could not oppose through one single campaign; that our Provincial Troops could not face the regularity and discipline of *British* forces; that we have no resources to carry on a war; that jealousies and opposition of interests would ever prevent a junction of the Colonies;—these, and a thousand other opinions in succession, have taken full possession of us; and, after a little while, we have found ourselves obliged to relinquish them. They were the grafts which might be expected to grow from that attachment to,

and veneration for, the idea we had been taught to form of the wisdom, justice, and tenderness of *Britain*. It has also been supposed that we are so connected with, and dependant on, *Great Britain*, that repeated injuries, committed with an avowed intent to do them, and more; and that plundering, murder, executions, and conflagrations—in short, that all the havock of halters, fire, sword, and famine—cannot destroy the debt of gratitude and justice we owe to that State, or make it our interest to dissolve the connection.

Let us examine this matter. Possibly the facts on which this opinion is founded may bear the inquiry not much better than the facts referred to above.

It is said we are indebted to *Great Britain* for the settlements of the Colonies. The truth is, when they were discovered, it was the effect of accident, concurring with the disposition of the hardy adventurer. The settlement was made by persons who had no great reason to be obliged to King or Parliament—they were persecuted at home, and retired from mankind to a wilderness. There they suffered much, and risked all. If they obtained grants from the King, it could be only of security from further oppressions of his hand. More he could not grant. Even this was, for a while, refused. The land was inhabited by natives to whom God had given the property and dominion. Of these natives the property was bought by the settlers, who cleared the country, cultivated the soil, and grew and prospered in the arts and in Government, without any expense to the King or Parliament of *Britain*. It is said we are indebted to *Great Britain* for protection from our foes. It should be said, we have to charge *Britain* with all the foes and wars we ever had. In the infancy of the Colonies, they were thought of little value, not worth contending for. The very settling of them has been treated with neglect and contempt. Then they were in no danger. When their consequence afterwards became more apparent, (and, indeed, from their first origin to the present time, they have been so much advanced in population, wealth, and every advantage, as to be under no apprehensions from any of their neighbours; and had they, at any intermediate period, extended their trade generally to all parts of *Europe*, it is possible that the interest of every part in our commerce might have prevented any one power from oppressing or injuring us;) even *Britain* herself would have found it her interest to protect our peace and trade. But our forefathers were fond of the pageantry of a King, and attached to the country that gave them birth. They chose the King of *England* to be their supreme head, and flattered themselves that, though they were persecuted at home, yet, that he would leave to them peace, liberty, and safety, in the wilderness. Thus we have been involved in every *British* war. Even a dispute in *Hanover* was sufficient to deluge *America* in blood; and, till the year 1756, no war had any particular reference, in its principles, to *American* interests. Nor ought we to be charged with even that. However, the Parliament of *Britain* has done us the justice to acknowledge we then overdid our proportion, and they have refunded accordingly. In all instances, our coasts have, by them, been left unguarded, and our frontiers defenceless. When *France* and *Spain* scoured our shores because we were connected with *Britain*, we have been left without a single ship-of-war. When we trafficked with the *Indians* back for their land, or for peace, or repelled their incursions, it was at our own expense, though, in many cases, they were set on us by the foes of *Britain*. Shall any commercial advantages which we have enjoyed be urged as a ground of gratitude or retribution? Let the most zealous advocate for continual dependance on *Britain* point out a single instance of preference given by that Court to the *American* trade if he can; and while he hunts the rusty records in vain for any such, let him not turn over, unnoticed, the numberless acts passed to restrict our free commerce, to clog with impositions and duties, to discourage manufactures and employments for our poor, and to give advantages, at our cost, to the lordly *West-Indians*. In a few words, the Colonies have paid more to *Britain*, in a course of trade, (by giving a greater price for goods of inferior value, &c., than if they had gone to other *European* markets,) than any claims the *British* partisan can feign.

It is said that, under this connection and dependance, we have grown and thriven. That we have thriven ama-

zingly, is true. The present state of these Colonies is the admiration of all who have given attention to the progress of mankind, of arts and sciences. But was it because our trade was restricted? Was it because we have never, as men, had the full improvement of our lands and property in our power? Was it because, as societies or Governments, we had not the full and complete powers of legislation among ourselves? Let this account be fairly stated. Let us only make an experiment of an open trade for half the time we have shackled ourselves with confinement to, as it were, one port. Let us try what improvements we may be drawn into by a general correspondence with the whole world—with people who will require from us every different article our lands, our different climates, can produce; and from whom may be had directly, at first hand, every requisite for us. Let us have access to the lowest and best market for every commodity. Let this be the case but for half the time the Colonies have already existed, and the doubts, and struggles too, concerning independence, will be at an end. Let all those people who are now groaning under oppression and poverty in *Europe* know that *America* has become an asylum for the injured, and is capable of giving encouragement to the industrious and skilful in every art and business of life; and perhaps the most sanguine expectations would fall vastly short of the multitude of honest, active, and ingenious citizens who would, in a few years, flock into this country. *America* has been hitherto little known abroad. Even our brethren in *Britain* (whom we left but a few years ago, and with whom we have a constant intercourse) know but little of us and our situation. The other parts of *Europe* must have been inconceivably less acquainted with it. The case is now greatly altered. Our late transactions have attracted the attention even of the common people of most of the *European* States. The lovers of liberty abroad have their eyes turned towards us. Even to the head of the *Rhine*, it is said, they applaud our virtuous efforts, and wish us success. The fruits of our success they will wish, with us, to enjoy. A free and general intercourse will throw the doors of information and opportunity open. Possibly it might not totally depopulate the Old World, but, without doubt, it would multiply the millions now in this new one. Let it be granted we have grown under the connection and dependance contended for: are we, therefore, involved in a debt even of gratitude? Be it so. What obligations, then, is *Britain* under to us? Our connection with them has been acknowledged to be of the utmost consequence to their trade—to their well-being. This is the language of their best writers on commerce, and of almost every act of Parliament in which *America* is mentioned. Before they had Colonies, what was their fleet? How great was their dependance on other nations for the most necessary articles to carry on a war, even for their own defence, and for their manufactories? It has been said by themselves that one person in *America* supported four in *Britain*. Allow one in *Britain* to be supported by every person in *America*, and so striking an instance cannot be named in which we have received benefits from her. It is not necessary to depreciate the advantages derived from the connection; let it be only understood that they have been reciprocal, and, at least, equal on the part of *Britain*. This destroys the idea of any debt or any duty. As of inferiors, if a religious submission to this connection has rendered our growth and prosperity less flourishing than they would have been in a general connection, it can only be compared to the situation of a tree in a little earth between two rocks, which, though it looks fair, and grows to a certain size, yet, had it been able to spread its roots, and imbibe the nourishment of an extended soil, might soon become the largest tree in the forest.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONFER WITH  
GENERAL LEE.

[Brought in March 14, 1776.]

The command of the passage of the Sound must be ours. This, I imagine, is already effected by the works thrown up at *Horn's Hook*; but as a further security, batteries and a redoubt must be erected on the other side, either on *Montresor's Island*, or on the continent of *Long-Island*, as the Engineer and succeeding General shall determine. These additional works are not solely meant to shut up to the enemy

the passage through the Sound, but to secure a free, open, and easy communication to our own troops, between the continent of *New-York* and *Long-Island*. As the city of *New-York* is almost environed by navigable waters, it is undoubtedly very difficult to fortify it against a powerful sea armament; but still I am of opinion that, although troops cannot easily be prevented landing under the guns of their shipping, they may be prevented lodging themselves in it, or converting it into a great place of arms, as they have done *Boston*.

The *East-River*, I am almost persuaded, may be secured in such a manner that their ships will scarcely venture into it, or at least they cannot keep their stations when in. A battery for this purpose is planned, and in some forwardness, at the foot of the *Jews' Burying-Ground*. To protect this battery from the near approach of ships, (which, when close, are always supposed to be an overmatch for batteries level with the water, and in a low situation,) guns in barbet, placed on the heights of the *Jews' Burying-Ground*, when in correspondence with a battery I have ordered on an opposite commanding knoll in *Long-Island*, will certainly be sufficient. These two fires will likewise be crossed by a third, of a very considerable range, from a work in the front of our intrenched camp on *Long-Island*; which work is likewise answered by a battery sunk in a cellar on the opposite wharf. Such is our plan with respect to the *East-River*.

Having attentively examined the fort and great batteries under it, and considered whether they could be of any possible use to us, I am of opinion that, as ships of great burden can approach so near the latter, it will be dangerous, if not impracticable, to support them. The fort cannot, for the same reason, be defended. But although it is not possible, in our hands, to render it a fortification of offence against the enemy, it might, in their possession, be converted into a citadel, to keep the town in subjection. These considerations have induced me to throw down the North-east and North-west Bastions, with the communicating curtain; so that, being entirely open behind, and a commanding traverse thrown across the Broadway, with three guns mounted, it is impossible for the enemy to lodge themselves in and repair the fort.

The *North-River* is so extremely wide and deep that it is in vain to think of any means to prevent the men-of-war commanding the navigation of it; but it does not appear to me that they have it in their power to annoy dangerously the town, much less to destroy it. It is true an accidental shell may do great mischief; but the effects of their cannon are not, I think, much to be apprehended, for there is a most fortunate ridge or eminence, which not only serves as a screen of protection for the town, but on which any number of batteries may be erected, to keep the ships at a distance.

I must observe, once for all, that *New-York*, from its circumstances, can with difficulty be made a regular tenable fortification; but it may be made a most advantageous field of battle—so advantageous, indeed, that if our people behave with common spirit, and the commanders are men of discretion, it must cost the enemy many thousands of men to get possession of it. The streets must be traversed and barricaded, so as to prevent their coming on our flanks; and three redoubts thrown up on the three eminences: Judge *Jones's*, *Bayard's Hill*, and either *Lispennard's* or *Halderman's* house, on *Hudson's River*. But these measures are not to be confined to the town. The whole Island is to be redoubted in certain regular steps, if I may so express it, quite to *King's Bridge*. These redoubts, redans, or fliches, are easily thrown up, and are no expense.

The leading roads from *Hudson's River*, whence the enemy can alone approach, must be obstructed to artillery. *King's Bridge* must be strongly fortified, to preserve the communication free and open with *Connecticut*, on which Province you can alone depend for succors of men; for the breadth and depth of the *North-River* renders the communication with *Jersey* too precarious.

The possession and security of *Long-Island* is certainly of still greater importance than *New-York*. I have accordingly marked out a camp, fortified by a chain of redoubts, mutually supporting each other, and which, also corresponding with the batteries on the *New-York* side, will prevent the enemy's entering or remaining in the *East-River*. This

camp is intended to contain four or five thousand men. Upon the whole, for the defence of *Long-Island* and *New-York*, eight thousand, at least, regular troops, will be necessary.

With respect to the fort on *Hudson's River*, in the Highlands, I must refer the Congress to the report of Captain *Smith*, who was sent up to examine, and who is extremely capable to judge and advise.

I have now, in a military capacity, to the best of my recollection, mentioned every circumstance relative to the defence and security of *New-York* and *Long-Island*. But I think it my duty to observe that all these measures will be totally fruitless unless some precautions are taken with respect to the professed enemies of *American* liberty, nested in the very spots where they can do the greatest mischief—*Queen's County* and *Staten-Island*. The bonds they have given are too ridiculous to be mentioned. The Association they have signed they consider as forced upon them; and, consequently, null. When our troops are obliged to remain inactive from want of arms; when, from this deficiency, the *Canada* expedition is at a stand, and *New-York* and *Long-Island* left open to the invasions of the enemy, is it not a most dangerous neglect and omission, or rather unaccountable infatuation, to suffer considerable bodies of avowed foes to be possessed of arms for your destruction? What possible advantage can result from such a false delicacy? I would therefore humbly propose that the inhabitants of *Staten-Island* should, without loss of time, be disarmed, and their arms delivered to some regiment already raised, but unfurnished with muskets.

I do not imagine that the disarming the Tories will incapacitate them from acting against us, as they can easily be supplied by the ships. I should, therefore, think it prudent to secure their children as hostages. If a measure of this kind (hard as it may appear) is not adopted, the children's children of *America* may see the fatal omission.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONELS SHEA, MAGAW,  
IRVINE, AND DAYTON.

Philadelphia, March 14, 1776.

SIR: The state of *New-York* requiring an immediate reinforcement, I have it in command from Congress to direct you immediately to march your battalion to *New-York*, and put yourself under the commanding officer of the Continental Troops there. For expediting your march, you are to send forward one or two companies at a time, and let the rest follow at the distance of one day's march.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

(To Colonel *John Shea*, of the Third Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, *Philadelphia*; Colonel *Robert Magaw*, of the Fifth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, *Philadelphia*; Colonel *William Irvine*, of the Sixth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, *Carlisle*; Colonel *Elias Dayton*, of the Third Battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops, *Elizabethtown*.)

LEWIS OGDEN TO LORD STIRLING.

Newark, March 14, 1776.

MY LORD: On receipt of your letter last evening, the Committee of this town immediately gave orders for making a detachment of one hundred and fifty men from the Second Regiment of Militia, of this County, to be marched to *New-York*, for the service requested by you. We also sent a deputation from our Board to the Committee at *Elizabethtown*, to inform them what we had done, and request that they would furnish one hundred and fifty men; they have agreed to do it. Our men will be ready to march tomorrow, or next morning at the farthest. We have written by this conveyance, to the *New-York* Provincial Congress for information whether quarters, provisions, and pay, are provided; and as soon as we get their answer that such provision is ready, our men will march.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant.

By order of the Committee:

LEWIS OGDEN, *Chairman*.

To the Right Honourable *William* Earl of *Stirling*, Brigadier-General of the Continental Troops at *New-York*.

STEPHEN CRANE TO LORD STIRLING.

Elizabethtown, March 14, 1776.

MY LORD: Your Lordship's letter of yesterday is before us; in answer to which, we beg leave to observe, that this Committee have no right to send a detachment of our Militia out of the Province. Besides, had we this right, your Lordship knows the defenceless state of this Colony. The arming the two battalions in the Continental service hath drained us of our best arms; and in case a descent should be made on *New-York*, we should be liable to continual incursions of the enemy.

I am, my Lord, your most obedient humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

STEPHEN CRANE, *Chairman*.

To Lord *Stirling*.

COLONEL DAYTON TO LORD STIRLING.

Elizabethtown, March 14, 1776.

MY LORD: Your letter of the 10th instant I received yesterday, and shall continue to use my utmost endeavours to put my regiment into the best condition for marching as soon as possible. The companies of Captains *Bloomfield*, *Dickison*, and *Potter*, have passed muster; the other companies (at least some of them) I have, are nearly full. The scarcity of arms in this Province (a difficulty of which your Lordship is well aware) will much retard the equipping of this regiment. The Militia are now more than ever unwilling to part with their arms, and few of the soldiers, I fear, are supplied. Major *Barber* and myself, when at *Philadelphia*, informed the Congress, by a memorial, of this difficulty, and prayed for a small supply of arms, which at that time had arrived there; but did not succeed. I intend to make a second application, in which I hope to be successful.

I beg leave to assure your Lordship of every exertion in my power to equip the regiment in the most speedy manner, as also to congratulate your Lordship on your late promotion—a promotion which, I doubt not, gives universal satisfaction, but especially, my Lord, to your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

ELIAS DAYTON.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*, *New-York*.

DAVID MATTHEWS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I enclose you a letter from Mr. *Francis Dashwood*, Secretary to the Post-Office, directed to me, requesting that I would procure a permit for him, *John Antill*, and *Henry Bull*, to go on board the *Swallow* packet. If the Congress think proper to grant such a permit, and will be pleased to send it to me, I will deliver it to Mr. *Dashwood*.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

DAVID MATTHEWS.

To Colonel *Woodhull*.

General Post-Office, New-York, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I received the enclosed from Mr. *Foxcroft* yesterday evening, and request you will be pleased to procure us some means of getting on board, that the inhabitants may have their letters, which they otherwise cannot.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

FRANCIS DASHWOOD, *Secretary*.

To *David Matthews*, Mayor of the City of *New-York*.

N. B. Clerks belonging to the office: *John Antill*, Esq., and Mr. *Henry Bull*. F. D.

On board the *Swallow* Packet-Boat, March 13, 1776.

SIR: On receipt of this, I desire you will immediately come on board, with the Clerks of the Office, to assist in sorting and taking an account of the letters, in order for their immediate delivery.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN FOXCROFT.

To *Francis Dashwood*, Esq.

## LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: In consequence of a message I sent yesterday afternoon to the Convention of this Province, a Committee was appointed to confer with me on the necessary measures for the defence of this city, the result of which is contained in the enclosed papers. From every circumstance, it appears probable that General *Washington* will not have occasion for more powder than what he was possessed of when the express left him, and the six tons which passed through this place last week, and some small parcels arrived at Eastern ports. The quantity of powder at this place does not exceed three tons.

These considerations, and the probability of a visit from the enemy, have induced me to stop seven tons of powder which arrived here yesterday evening, under the care of *George Tudor*, on its way to *Cambridge*. This measure is the occasion of my sending this express, in order that, if I have done wrong, it may be rectified as soon as possible, and another provision of powder be made for this place. However, not much time will be lost by this measure; for the powder is in a most shameful condition—the casks, many of them, have their heads stove in, and the staves all racked asunder. One half of it would be lost before it could proceed fifty miles in its present state. I have ordered the whole of it to be put in good, dry, tight casks. I now also send a copy of the orders I have issued since I received General *Washington's* letter, which will best show the steps taken for the defence of this place. I intended this morning to have begun the fortifications on *Bayard's Hill* and at the Hospital; but the storm at present prevents our proceeding. As soon as the weather permits, those works, and barricading the streets, will employ us.

I am, most respectfully, your most obedient humble servant,

STIRLING.

*Regulations agreed to for the defence of the City of NEW-YORK, between Lord STIRLING, General of the Continental Troops, and a Committee of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK.*

Lord *Stirling* has already ordered Colonel *Dayton*, with the Third Regiment of *New-Jersey* Troops, and also six companies of the Second Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, immediately to proceed to this city. He has also written to the Chairman of the Committees of six Counties in *New-Jersey*, to send at least three hundred picked men, well accoutred, from each; and has informed the President of the *New-Jersey* Congress of the intelligence received from General *Washington*, concerning the embarkation of the Ministerial Troops at *Boston*, and requested him to give us all possible assistance, on the supposition that those troops are destined hither. He has also ordered all the artillery to be put in the best order possible.

THINGS TO BE DONE.—1st. That all the inhabitants capable of fatigue be immediately employed on the fortifications of this city, as well as all the Negro men in the City and County of *New-York*.

2dly. To this end, that the commanding officer of each corps draw out his respective corps, and parade on the common at nine o'clock to-morrow morning, without arms, but provided with as many intrenching tools as they are possessed of, and that they take care to have all the Negro men in their respective districts turned out, provided in the same manner.

3dly. Lord *Stirling* informs the Committee of the arrival of a quantity of powder in this city, and that another quantity of powder is soon expected, both directed by the Continental Congress for the service of the Army at *Cambridge*. It is agreed that the forwarding the said powder be deferred till further orders of the Continental Congress; and that an express be immediately despatched to them by Lord *Stirling* on the subject.

4thly. It is agreed that it be recommended to the Provincial Congress to issue an order to the General Committee of *New-York*, to make immediate report of all the provisions and iron in town, and to prevent the exportation of either of those articles from the City and County of *New-York*, till further orders.

5thly. The Provincial Congress immediately authorize Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Treat* to purchase all the neces-

sary Hospital medicines, and medicinal stores, and apparatus, in this city, which they shall think necessary, and make report of their doings without delay, and possess themselves of all the Hospital stores in the possession of Mr. Commissary *Curtenius*.

6thly. The Provincial Congress to issue immediate orders to the Committee of *King's* County, to order the inhabitants of that County to give assistance in fatigue to Colonel *Ward*, by turning out for the service at least one half of their male inhabitants, Negroes included, every day, to work at the fortifications in that County, and to take with them their spades, pick-axes, and hoes, and to begin work on *Friday* next.

7thly. That a guard of six of the Troop of Horse of the said County, under such persons as shall from time to time be appointed by the Provincial Congress, shall be constantly posted at some convenient height, near the west end of *Nassau-Island*, to reconnoitre the entrance of any enemy into *Sandy-Hook*, or appearing on the coast, and give immediate intelligence to the Congress, or commanding officer of the Continental Troops at this place, as occasion may require.

8thly. That the Provincial Congress issue an order to the Committee for *Cow-Neck* and *Great-Neck*, for a like number of horsemen from *Queen's* County, to keep a look-out at *Thomas Cornwall's*, at *Rockaway*, for the same purposes.

9thly. That orders issue to the Colonels of the regiments in *Orange*, on the South side of the mountains, to draft out of their regiments one hundred men, to be immediately sent to this city, armed and accoutred in the best manner possible.

10thly. That the like orders issue to the Colonels of *Westchester*, for two hundred men, for the like purposes.

11thly. That the like orders issue to the Colonels of *Dutchess*, for two hundred men, for the like purposes.

Head-Quarters, March 15, 1776.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Artillery Stores do direct cartridges to be filled, to complete ten rounds for all heavy cannon fit for service, and twenty rounds for the field artillery. That all the case-shot that can be got for the several sizes be collected, and a return thereof be made.

That Captain *Badlem* do direct as many of the cannon as possibly can be completed, to be furnished with every necessary service.

Mr. *Anthony Griffiths* is appointed to direct the Laboratory, and he is to employ as many of the most expert persons he can procure, as he thinks necessary to carry on that department.

Ordered, That all the boats be suffered to pass and repass as usual.

The Town-Major, to-morrow morning, is to remove the prisoners, *Vernon O. Craig*, at the lower Barracks, and *Gidney, Purley, Van Hazen*, and *White*, from the upper Barracks, to close confinement in the city Jail, and to place four sentries around the prison from the upper Barracks for their security.

The Brigade Major of the *New-England* Troops is to increase the guards at the upper Barracks in proportion, to answer the above purpose.

All orders from the Head-Quarters are, by the Town-Major, to be communicated to the Chief Engineer and commanding officer of Artillery. An orderly man from the Artillery is to attend each of them.

All Field-Officers are to attend the parade; and whatever party consists of two hundred men, are to be inspected and attended to by a Field-Officer; who is requested to see the men of his party are kept alert at their duty, and to execute the work designed, which will be communicated through the Chief Engineer.

New-York, March 13, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby ordered to direct all the companies of the Second Battalion of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, of which you are Lieutenant-Colonel, which are not yet embarked for *Albany*, to proceed immediately to this city, where quarters shall be provided for them. You are to remain at this place till further orders.

STIRLING, Brigadier-General.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen*, of the Second Regiment of *Pennsylvania* Troops.

## ORDERS.

The commanding officer of every corps of the troops in this city, by whatever denomination they are distinguished, are to parade to-morrow morning at nine o'clock, in the common, without fire-arms, but with all the shovels, spades, pick-axes, and hoes, they can provide themselves with. All the male Negroes in town are to parade at the same time and place.

It is intended to employ one-half of the inhabitants every other day, changing, at the works for the defence of this city; and the whole of the slaves every day, until this place is put in a proper posture of defence. The Town Major is immediately to disperse these orders.

Four cannon, of thirty-two-pounders, two of eighteen-pounders, and two of twelve-pounders, are, to-morrow morning as soon as possible, to be sent over to *Long-Island* for the defence of the works there, to be placed as the Chief Engineer (Colonel *Smith*) will direct.

Four cannon, of thirty-two-pounders, to be placed at the battery at *Coentie's Wharf*.

Four cannon, of twelve-pounders, to the battery near *Trinity-Church*.

Four cannon, of thirty-two pounders, at the battery at the ship-yards.

The two brass field-pieces at *Horn's Hook* are to be sent to this town.

The streets are to be barricaded.

*Bayard's Hill* is to be fortified.

The Hospital is also to be fortified. Both these in the manner concerted by the General with the Chief Engineer.

The Chief Engineer is to attend the parade to-morrow morning, and distribute the men for fatigue as he judges most proper for these purposes, without further order. They are to be distributed in the same manner every day.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds* is appointed Colonel of the First Regiment of the *New-Jersey* Troops in the Continental service, and is to be obeyed accordingly.

It is highly necessary for the preservation and safety of this city that the utmost good order be observed. The troops are positively to be in their quarters according to the former order at tattoo-beating. The inhabitants of this city are desired at night to preserve the utmost quietness and good order in their walks through the city, lest the guards should mistake any other behaviour for an alarm. The alarm-posts in this city are to be as follows: The four companies of the First Regiment of *New-Jersey*, in the lower Barracks, are to assemble under cover of the parapet in their front; the four companies of the same regiment, in quarters, are to assemble in *Dock-Street*, between the white Guard-house, near the Exchange, and the lower Barracks; Colonel *Waterbury's* are to parade in the common, in the front of the Artillery. All the other troops in town are to assemble in the front of *Trinity-Church*, and there to wait for further order. The Artillery are to parade within the works in the front of *Bridewell*. As it is found that a number of people who, out of curiosity, come to look at the works carrying on, it is very inconvenient, and impedes the service. It is hoped they will suspend their curiosity; and the sentries are to be ordered that none but commissioned officers, and others who have real business, be suffered to go within the lines of the works.

[Morning Orders.]

Head-Quarters, New-York, March, 14, 1776.

The badness of the weather induces the General to suspend all labour abroad for this day. If the weather is favourable, they are to turn out to-morrow morning. In the mean time the Militia officers are to give their different corps full notice thereof.

*Half-after ten o'clock*.—As there is an appearance of clear weather, the whole are to parade at one o'clock, and proceed to the works designed them.

As the Provincial Congress have directed the Committee of *King's County* to order the inhabitants of that County to give assistance in fatigue to Colonel *Ward*, by turning out for the service at least one-half of their white male inhabitants, and the whole of their male Negroes every day, to work at the fortifications on *Long-Island*, and to bring with them their spades, pick-axes, and hoes, and to begin

to work on *Friday* morning next; Colonel *Ward* is desired to take charge and direction of said inhabitants, and to employ them in the best manner he can in executing the works laid out and to be laid out by the Chief Engineer.

Ordered that two of the upper middle rooms of the *New Bridewell* be allotted for the Laboratory, under the direction of Mr. *Anthony Griffiths*; and that he receive the powder, from time to time, as he shall want it, for filling all the cartridges ordered from Mr. *Norwood*, the Provincial Commissary of the stores. Colonel *Smith's* orders for anything in his department as Chief Engineer, and Captain *Badlem's* orders in his department, as commanding officer of the Artillery, for necessities in each, are to be complied with by the Storekeepers and Commissaries in the Provincial as well as Continental service.

The carpenters in the Militia, not yet employed in the publick works, are directed to parade by themselves on the right of their respective regiments, that they may be distributed at the several barricades.

All the commissioned officers willing to take the direction of building a barricade, are desired to meet Colonel *Smith*, the Chief Engineer, at the *City-Hall* to-morrow morning, at seven o'clock, and he will mark out their work for them.

Mr. *Curtenius* is to furnish spikes, and to deliver them, and tools accordingly, to the direction of the Chief Engineer.

As *James Gilliland* is, by the Provincial Congress, promoted to a commission in the Artillery, *Hugh Walsh* is appointed to take care of the working tools in his room.

Mr. *Griffiths*, Director of the Laboratory, is, as soon as possible, to get one hundred thousand cartridges made up, and put in boxes of one thousand each, to be ready to deliver to the regiments as occasion may require.

Head-Quarters, March 15, 1776.

The guards and parties of fatigue are to-morrow the same as ordered for this day.

The Barrackmaster is to provide quarters for four companies, consisting of three hundred men, from *Essex County*, in *New-Jersey*, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Ward*, which are expected in this city to-morrow. The Quartermaster (Mr. *Samuel Hays*) is to apply to Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, the Continental Commissary of Provisions, for provisions for them.

Head-Quarters, March 16, 1776.

As Colonel *Drake's* Regiment of Minute-men consists of one hundred and eleven private men present, and yet have no less than four Field-Officers, two Captains, and thirteen other commissioned officers, and twenty-non commissioned officers, it is unreasonable to put the Continent to the enormous expense of maintaining so many officers for the use of so few men; it is therefore ordered that one Field-Officer, two Captains, four Lieutenants, two Ensigns, the Adjutant, and Quartermaster, eight Sergeants, eight Corporals, or two Drums or Fifes, and no other officer, do remain with that small part of the regiment; the other officers are to return to their County, in order to complete their corps. Colonel *Swartwout* and Lieutenant-Colonel *Humphreys* are to observe the same rule in proportion to their numbers, and they are all of them to send into Head-Quarters returns of their respective corps present.

For assembling the parties of fatigue the drums and fifes are to beat the Pioneer's March, and no other march whatever.

All the troops, as they arrive in town from the different parts of the Province, or from *New-Jersey* or *Pennsylvania*, are to be reviewed by Colonel *Sears*, and a return to be made of them agreeable to one delivered for that purpose; and, according to which, they are to receive provision from the Deputy Commissary-General of Provisions. The Town Major and Barrackmaster are to attend and see them furnished with necessities.

The commanding officer of every corps is requested to pay high attention to the cleanliness of their men, particularly in their quarters, which should be cleansed out at least twice a week; and are by no means to suffer heaps of filth to accumulate, especially in cellars, which, as the warm weather comes on, may be the cause of the most dreadful diseases.



Head-Quarters, March 16, 1776.

The guards and fatigue to-morrow the same as yesterday. Captain *Pearson's* Company, from *Newark*, is to take their part of service, both in guards and fatigue.

There is to be no conversation or communication suffered between the prisoners under guard in the city Jail, or in any other close confinement, and any person whatever, without leave from the commanding officers.

Head-Quarters, March 17, 1776.

Ordered, that a Captain, two subalterns, and fifty men be picked out of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, who are daily to attend at the Laboratory and on the Commissary of Stores at the *Bridewell*.

Colonel *Waterbury's* Regiment to supply a sergeant and ten men to attend Mr. Commissary *Hughes* to *Turtle-Bay*. Colonel *Smith's* servant is to attend.

Such corps in town as have good Armourers or Cutlers, are desired to let them work with such Master-Cutlers in town as will be recommended by the Provincial Committee of Safety. The regulation of this matter is particularly referred to Colonel *McDougall*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen* is desired to direct the companies of the Second Battalion of *Pennsylvanians* to proceed to *Albany*, according to the orders they formerly received from Congress. The guards and fatigue as usual.

New-York, March 17, 1776.

SIR: You have doubtless received all the intelligence which I have from General *Washington*, relative to the motions of the Ministerial Troops at *Boston*, and the situation of our troops which surround it. That General *Howe* intends to move this way with his Army, I think is highly probable. Many little manœuvres of Governour *Tryon* and the men-of-war near this place lately, seem to confirm it. I am taking every step in my power to be prepared for their reception, by fortifying every advantageous ground near this city and on *Long-Island*. But whatever may be the designs of General *Howe*, it appears from all intelligence received, that the Ministry are determined to make an effort to gain possession of this city; and I have therefore the orders of Congress, by all possible means to provide for the safety of it. I have also their direction to apply to the neighbouring Colonies for such part of their Militia or Provincial Troops as may be necessary, until the Continental Troops, destined for this service, do arrive here. The two regiments from *Connecticut* now here and at *Long-Island*, deserve the thanks of the publick for their good order, industry, and alertness; and I sincerely wish they could be prevailed on to stay while their services are necessary, as it would save time and pay to a prodigious amount, in the Continental service. But I understand many of them are farmers of property, who have families at home, and want to be there to mark out the work of their farms for the ensuing season. However, I will, with the Colonels *Waterbury* and *Ward*, endeavour to prevail with as many of them as possible to stay until they are relieved by others from your Colony, of which returns shall be sent to you as soon as possible. In the mean time I think it is highly necessary (and, I doubt not the least, your Excellency will carry it into execution) that recruits be raised to complete those two regiments to at least six hundred privates each; and that another regiment of the like strength be raised in your Colony if possible, on condition of serving the campaign, or as long as the service requires, and to be armed, accoutred, and clothed, as well as time will permit, and to march to this place as soon as possible.

I shall only add, that with the highest esteem and regard, I am your most obedient humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *Joseph Trumbull*, Esquire, Commander-in-Chief of the Province of *Connecticut*.

COLONEL WINDS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS

New-York, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday received yours of the 7th, enclosing a commission to me as Colonel of the First Battalion of *New-Jersey* Continental Forces. I beg you will return my thanks to your honourable House for the confidence they

have placed in me, and assure them, as far as my abilities will admit my services shall never be wanting.

I think it my duty to acquaint you, that although neither I nor the regiment have the least personal objection to Mr. *Ogden*, who, I am informed, is appointed my Lieutenant-Colonel; yet a universal uneasiness has taken place with every officer in the regiment at his appointment, as they look upon themselves as slighted and injured by it.

If I might make use of the freedom, I would ask it as a particular favour to myself and the regiment, that this young gentleman's merit might be rewarded in some other way; as I am fearful myself and my regiment will otherwise be less serviceable to the general cause than I could wish.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM WINDS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of the City and County of *Albany* to transmit you the enclosed resolves.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

MATTHEW VISCHER.

"Albany Committee-Chamber, March 1, 1776.

"Resolved, That Mr. *Thomas Williams*, Jun., be recommended to the honourable Provincial Congress for Quartermaster to the regiment to be raised in the Counties of *Albany*, *Tryon*, and *Charlotte*.

"Also, Resolved, That Mr. *Peter A. Fonda* be recommended for Adjutant to said regiment.

"Extracts from the Minutes:

"MATTHEW VISCHER, Secretary."

LORD STIRLING TO CAPTAIN WARNER.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby authorized and required to take the person of *James Boyd* into your custody and bring him to this place, and have him before the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, with the evidence you have against him.

STIRLING, Brigadier-General.

To Captain *John Warner*.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

SIR: Having received a deputation from *Walter Livingston*, Esquire, to act as Assistant Deputy Commissary of Stores and Provisions within certain limits, I think it necessary to acquaint the Congress thereof, and that I mean to act in that station until an order is produced from the Continental Congress to the contrary. All the troops in the Continental pay, be they from what place they may, fall within the limits of my appointment.

I remain, with much respect, your humble servant,

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON'S PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLYING THE ARMY IN THE COLONY OF NEW-YORK.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

The subscriber is willing to contract for the furnishing good and wholesome provisions, soap, and candles, agreeable to the rates allowed by the Continental Congress, at ten and a half pence per ration, and to give security for the performance of the contract; to furnish fire-wood at twenty shillings per cord, and straw at thirty shillings per hundred sheafs.

The provisions to be delivered in *New-York*. The expense of transportation, if it should so happen that the communication by water be cut off, to be borne by the publick. The Congress to advance the sum of £ . . . .

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

JACOB BAMPER TO JOHN McKESSON.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I am very sorry that I am so troublesome to you; but my inclination is so bent on going into the Army, that if you will be so kind as to recommend me to the gentlemen of the Congress for a Captain's or Lieutenant's commission, I will take it as a particular favour, and will do my best endeavours to serve in defence of my country. The reason of my troubling you is, because I know that a gentleman like you can do a great deal towards getting a commission for me. I dare to say that I can get a company in a little while; and remain your humble servant,

JACOB BAMPER.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, held for the Province of NEW-YORK:

The Petition of WILLIAM GANDELL, of the City of NEW-YORK, Mariner, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner was born in, and still is an inhabitant of the City of New-York, and has followed the sea, both as master and mate, out of this port for some time last past.

That your Petitioner is well affected to the cause of his country, and is out of employ on account of the distressed times; and seeing no probable way of getting into business again to maintain his wife and children until matters are accommodated; and your Petitioner understanding that there is a vacancy for a Lieutenant in one or more of the Artillery Companies raised in this City, as also Masters and Lieutenants in the vessels on the Lakes, and likewise in those that are building up the North-River, he offers himself as a proper person to fill up either of the said vacancies.

Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly prays that this honourable House will take his case into their most serious consideration, and grant him a commission in either of the above-mentioned vacancies, as they in their wisdom shall think most proper. And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE OFFICER COMMANDING AT NEW-YORK.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I have stronger reasons, since I last wrote you, to confirm me in my opinion that the Army under General Howe is on its departure. All their movements pronounce it; but, lest it should be a feint, I must continue on my guard, and not weaken my lines too much, until I have a certainty of their departure. It is given out that they are bound to Halifax; but I am of opinion that New-York is the place of their destination. It is the object worthy their attention; and it is the place that we must use every endeavour to keep from them; for, should they get that town and the command of the North River, they can stop the intercourse between the Northern and Southern Colonies, upon which depends the safety of America. My feelings upon this subject are so strong, that I would not wish to give the enemy a chance of succeeding at your place. I shall, therefore, despatch a regiment and some independent companies of riflemen this day; and to-morrow, or as soon as it conveniently can be done, five more regiments will set out from this camp. I cannot part with more while the enemy remains in sight; but I have written to Governour Trumbull to send you two thousand men as soon as he possibly can. If you can get one thousand from New-Jersey, with the Militia of the country called in, (if not repugnant to the Congress,) I think you can make a sufficient stand until I can, with the main body of this Army, join you, which you may depend upon will be as soon as possible after I can, with any degree of certainty, tell their route. The plan of defence formed by General Lee is, from what little I know of the place, a very judicious one. I hope, nay, I dare say, it is carrying into execution with spirit and industry. You may judge from the enemy keeping so long possession of the town of Boston, against an Army superior in numbers, and animated with the noble spirit of liberty—I say you may judge by that how much easier it is to keep an enemy from forming a lodgment in a place, than it will be to dispossess them when they get themselves fortified. As I have in my last told you that the fate of this

campaign (of course the fate of America) depends upon you and the Army under your command, should the enemy attempt your quarter, I will dwell no more thereon; though the vast importance of the subject would make an apology for repetitions needless.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Officer commanding the American Forces at New York.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LEE.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am indebted to you for your three several favours, which I should have acknowledged sooner, had not the great hurry and bustle we have been in for several days past prevented. You have doubtless heard, before this time, of our being in possession of *Dorchester Hill*, which important business was executed in one night, without any loss. The enemy were thrown into the utmost consternation when they perceived, the next morning, what had been effected the preceding night, and made preparations to dislodge us. Three thousand men, under the command of Lord Percy, were drafted for this service; but a very heavy storm of wind and rain frustrated their design—in my opinion the most fortunate circumstance for them, and unfortunate for us, that could have happened, as we had everything so well prepared for their reception, that I am confident we should have given a very good account of them.

I was just about to congratulate you on your appointment to the command in *Canada*, when I received the account that your destination was altered. As a *Virginian*, I must rejoice at the change; but as an *American*, I think you would have done more essential service to the common cause in *Canada*. For, besides the advantage of speaking and thinking in *French*, an officer who is acquainted with their manners and customs, and has travelled in their country, must certainly take the strongest hold of their affection and confidence.

You mention nothing of the guard that went with you from hence. Mr. *Palfrey* tells me you intend to take them with you. As it will create great confusion in the regimental accounts, and they can be of no great service to you, I must beg you will let them remain at *New-York*, where they will be soon joined by their respective regiments. I am much pleased with your plans for the defence and security of *New-York*. What you may leave unfinished, I shall order the commanding officer to complete as soon as possible. Lest the enemy should meet with favourable winds on their passage, and get there before our Army, I have written to Governour *Trumbull*, desiring him immediately to forward two thousand men, and have also requested one thousand from the *Jerseys*. This, with the force already there, I hope will be able to keep the Ministerial Army at bay until I can arrive with the main body. I most sincerely wish for your increase of health, and every blessing, and am, dear sir, your most affectionate friend and humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General Lee.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MESHECH WEARE.

Cambridge, March 14, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 12th instant I just now received, and beg leave to assure you that the approbation which your honourable Council are pleased to express of my conduct respecting the operations against the town of *Boston*, afford me the highest satisfaction.

I am exceedingly sorry that it is not in my power, at this time, to comply with your requisition for powder, and to make a return of what was generously lent for the Continental use. The low state of stock of that article will not allow me to spare the smallest quantity; but, hoping that I may get a further supply before long to enable me to do it, I shall be much obliged if you will favour me with an account of what you have furnished, that it may be replaced as soon as circumstances will admit of it.

I am, sir, with much respect, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Meshech Weare, President of the Council of New-Hampshire.

## GENERAL SULLIVAN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Winter-Hill, March 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I enclose you a list of the regiment under Colonel *Waldron*, with the arrangement of the officers, and desire you to forward the commissions as soon as possible. I have the satisfaction to inform you that Colonel *Waldron's* was the first complete regiment on the spot; and is by far the largest and best that came from either Colony. His Excellency consented to keep the nine companies, rather than break them. They are allowed, by all who do duty with them, to be excellent officers and soldiers—always willing to do their duty with the utmost cheerfulness. They are quiet, peaceable, and obedient; and though much fault was found with my proceedings in selecting the officers, I must now take the liberty of boasting of my judgment in the choice, and can call the whole brigade to witness in my favour.

I hope, gentlemen, the cruel and ungenerous reflections upon my conduct, thrown out by some persons among you, did not proceed from that envious disposition, which too often proves the destruction of an infant State struggling for freedom. I sincerely wish that those zealots, who thought I had taken too much upon myself, had exerted themselves to fill up the *Canada* Regiment with as many good men as I have got in this, and not have left us to lament the want of assistance to our distressed friends in *Canada*, and to view with concern a regiment not half completed, which ought to have marched three weeks ago. I am now ordered to march for *New-York* in a few days: those persons will then have no more fear of the destruction of their liberties from a person who has spent more money, undergone more fatigue, and oftener risked his life, than any other person in your Province; and all this to secure that freedom which those gentlemen would persuade the world I am endeavouring to destroy. Gentlemen, I wish your Colony all possible happiness, and would do everything in the power of man to secure its freedom, and even feel a disposition to serve those few inveterate foes of mine that yet remain among you, and convince them that no person would do more in the cause of freedom than your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

## CAPTAIN SALTER TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Fort Washington, March 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeably to your instructions, I have posted a guard on *Fort-Point*, at *New-Castle*, with orders frequently to go up to the top of the Light-house, and diligently to observe if any ships appear sailing towards this port; and, on discovery of the same, to make me acquainted, that I may transmit the information, without loss of time, to your Honours or the General.

I had, previous to your instructions, consulted with Captain *Eliphalet Daniels*, and agreed with each other the proper signals in case of the approach of the enemy; and on the same account each fort has erected a flag-staff, and proper signals to be given, which will alarm both town and country in case of any surprise; but shall, gentlemen, send you up the speediest despatch, should any enemy appear. Our signals for an alarm will first be by firing a four-pounder from Captain *Daniels's* fort towards the town, and then to be answered by me.

I am, with every degree of respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

TITUS SALTER.

## TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

Much has been said concerning the independence of the Colonies; and some people have been made to believe that such a state is not desirable, and that we should wish for no more liberty than we enjoyed in 1763. But let any man consider that, at that time, we were restrained from making nails and hats, and might, with equal justice, have been hindered from building houses, or making stockings; that we were cruelly and wantonly restricted in our trade—in some instances, as it were, merely to show that we were the slaves of *Britain*. Although the *English* cannot make wine, raise silk, grow olives, citrons, oranges, or lemons, yet

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we were forced to buy these articles of them only, and were not suffered to purchase them of the *French*, the *Spaniards*, or *Italians*; and although all *Europe*, to the northward of *Cape Finisterre*, had been starving for want of grain, and we had it in our power to supply their wants, yet we were not permitted to do it. Our tobacco trade was wholly engrossed by *English* merchants; they alone had the privilege of selling this invaluable article of our commerce to the *Dutch*, *French*, *Spaniards*, *Portuguese*, and to the different States up the *Mediterranean*. The King nominated all officers, civil and military; had the power of repealing all our laws, however necessary to our security and happiness; and the present King has wantonly and cruelly exerted that power in repealing an act of our Assembly, for obliging ships to perform quarantine; and another for preventing the further importation of slaves, by laying heavy duties on such as should be imported. The King, by his instructions to his Governours, could dissolve our assemblies at pleasure, without assigning any reason for so doing, as he has frequently done. He had a right to keep any number of troops or ships in our Colonies; which right he will never give up. He could build forts on our frontiers, and garrison them as he pleased. This was our situation in 1763; and yet some people are weak enough to wish to be left as we were then, as they express it. But, good God! were we not abject slaves? We wanted but the name. Indeed, we were treated with some small respect; and it was not till 1763 that we were openly insulted and treated as slaves. The *English* have certainly looked upon us as slaves, or they would have carried on the war in a manner more becoming the character of their nation. They seem to think—as the masters of slaves in the *West-Indies* do—that no method is unjustifiable by which they can suppress an insurrection; nor any punishment too severe to be inflicted on revolted slaves. Our masters in *Britain*, though they made us labour and toil for their emolument, yet did not attempt to take from us the little we had been permitted to earn for ourselves. In this respect, they were as indulgent to us as we are to our poor slaves; but this they evidently looked upon as an instance of their indulgence, moderation, and forbearance; for they have declared in both Houses of Parliament (and the Royal sanction has been given to the declaration) that they had, have, and of right ought to have, a power to make laws to bind us in all cases whatsoever; that is, that they are our Kings, Lords, and Masters. Well, then, may Lord *North* and General *Burgoyne* say, that they ask no more than that *America* should be in the situation she was in 1763. The truth is, the Ministry do not wish that we were more enslaved now than we were then; but they earnestly wish we would be as passive. Since this is the case, and we have not only been long oppressed, and, of late, grievously so, but have also been attacked by sea and land; our towns and private houses plundered and burnt; our property snatched from us; our countrymen dragged from their very beds to piratical boats, and hurried on board men-of-war; our negroes taken from our plantations, and many encouraged to leave their masters, and take up arms against them—several hundreds of whom are now in arms against us—and when we know that all of these have been invited to do so; when we know that an act of Parliament was passed to encourage the *Canadians* to attack us, and that a skilful and artful General was sent amongst them to lead them on upon us; and when we know what pains have been taken to prevail on the *Indians* to ravage our frontiers, (for no one is a stranger to General *Carleton's*, *Dunmore's*, and *Connolly's* plots.)—I say, since we know these things, who that is not a slave indeed—who that has any feelings, or the least spirit, is there amongst us that would hesitate a moment to declare he will no longer submit to such hard restrictions on his trade; that he will not suffer himself and his posterity to be so cruelly insulted and oppressed; and that he will be revenged of his inhuman plunderers and butchers? Who, when he finds it necessary to carry on the war we have entered into—a most just and holy war, and in which Heaven has peculiarly favoured us—who, I say, can hesitate a moment to make use of all the assistance he can procure to prosecute it with vigour? And can the war be carried on with any prospect of success without a trade, by which not only specie may be procured for the payment of the troops, and defraying all other ex-

penses, but for the sinking of a load of paper money, which, in time, without an exchange for specie, must become of no value? A trade is absolutely necessary to procure clothes, blankets, nails, and even arms and ammunition, and as necessary to enable the planter and farmer to pay off their proportion of the taxes which must, in a few years, be collected; as well as to enable them to pay their mutual debts, and maintain their families. Foreigners ought, therefore, to be immediately invited to trade with us; but this they cannot openly do without engaging in the war against *Britain*; and it is not worth their while to incur the expense which must attend a war, unless they can be certain that they shall always enjoy the benefit of the trade for which they enter into the war. If they were once assured of this, there is no doubt we should enjoy, not only the benefit of a free and full trade, but should engage in our quarrel powerful allies—allies who are not only able to revenge us of our enemies, but who would do it with pleasure, to gratify their own revenge. *England* deserves this at our hands: she who, by our assistance, was raised to the highest pitch of glory to which any nation ever arose, has spurned at us; has levied a cruel war against us, calling in to her assistance *Russians*, *Hanoverians*, *Canadians*, *Indians*, and Negro slaves. I say, she deserves that we should declare ourselves independent of her, and call in to our assistance the *French* and *Spaniards*; and if we do this, we shall soon be amply revenged on her for her ingratitude and cruelty, and shall completely humble her pride, and exalt ourselves to a state of eminence and glory, and become the envy and admiration of mankind.

If our trade should be opened to *France*, *Spain*, and the *Mediterranean*, we should not only find a better market for our tobacco and grain of all sorts than we have ever yet met with, but we should readily procure all the necessities we may want; and the trade would introduce numbers of useful manufacturers and various artists. But, as it has been observed above, this trade cannot be procured without declaring ourselves independent States; nor the war prosecuted effectually without a trade, or, indeed, without a maritime ally. What friend to his country, or even to his family, would scruple a moment to declare for independence? If a powerful fleet and army should suddenly invade our country, and get possession of the lower parts of it, wasting it with fire and sword, and should totally put a stop to our trade, and, at the same time, should supply their armies from hence with provisions of every sort, and enable them to make a complete conquest of some other Colony, we should then wish we had called in the assistance of the *French* and *Spanish* fleets; or if, whilst we are most dutifully whining after our mother country, *France* should choose not to wait any longer for offers from the Congress, but should agree with *England* to share the plunder of *America*, what should we say for ourselves? But, *God* be praised, *France* has waited with patience; and it is not yet too late to ask assistance of her; and she seems prepared to give it; and, if she does, *England* must desist from her cruel plan of enslaving the Colonies, and will think herself happy to come in for a share of their extensive trade. So shall peace and harmony be restored to these distracted countries, which will become great and flourishing in commerce, arts, and sciences, and will flourish as long as they enjoy freedom, and practise virtue.

AN AMERICAN.

March 15, 1776.

G. MASON AND JOHN DALTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fairfax County, Virginia, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Being employed, by the Committee of Safety for this Colony, to fit out three armed cruisers and two row-galleys, for the protection of *Potomack River*, we have, in consequence thereof, bought three sloops, the largest of which (called the *American Congress*) will mount fourteen carriage-guns, six and four-pounders, and be manned with about ninety men. We are now raising the company of Marines, which will be completed in a few days. She has most of her guns mounted. The shot are now casting at a furnace in the neighbourhood; and if we had powder, she would be very soon fit for action. We wrote to our Delegates at the Congress, to purchase for us, in *Philadel-*

*phia*, twenty barrels of powder, and forward it to us by land, to serve until we could get a larger supply; which they promised to do, so soon as it could be procured there; but none has yet come to hand, and we are very uneasy lest some of the enemy's cutters should come up this river, to destroy our vessels before they are in a posture of defence. As this equipment will be as beneficial to the inhabitants on the north side of the *Potomack* as to those on this side, we doubt not the disposition of your Board to promote it; and, under these circumstances, we take the liberty to apply to you for the loan of ten barrels of the powder lately imported for your Province in Captain *Conway's* vessel, now in the *Eastern Branch* of the *Potomack*, which shall be replaced out of the first powder we receive from the northward, or elsewhere. If ten barrels cannot be spared, even five or six barrels would be very serviceable, and might answer our purpose until the supply we expect from *Philadelphia* arrives.

We beg the favour of an immediate answer, and hope that the urgency and importance of the business will excuse the trouble we have taken the liberty to give you.

We are, with much respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

G. MASON,  
JOHN DALTON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

BENJAMIN MACKALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Calvert County, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I left the mouth of *Patuxent* on *Wednesday*, where I saw Captain *Thomas*, who requested me (as he had no materials then to write with) to inform the Council of Safety that he thought a *Virginia* Pilot-Boat, which was stopped by our guard some days ago, would be very useful either for conveying the troops from *Calvert* to *St. Mary's*, or taking any small tenders which might come in our river; that the owner was very desirous of selling her; and that he would take a reasonable price, sooner than return to *Virginia*, as he was apprehensive of being taken. If you should be of opinion that such a vessel will be of any advantage to the Province, hope you will inform me or Captain *Thomas* by the first opportunity.

The Committee of Observation of this County met on *Monday* last, in consequence of your last letter, and empowered me to appoint a number, not exceeding one hundred men, to watch our coast; and as the man-of-war and tenders then lay at anchor off the cliffs, I thought it necessary to station a guard of seventy-eight men, exclusive of officers, to prevent their landing. Those men continued under arms till *Wednesday*, when I discharged all but two Lieutenants and twenty-five privates, who are now stationed at *Drum Point*, there to remain until Captain *Beall's* Company of Regulars comes down. The man-of-war and tenders passed the mouth of *Patuxent* on *Tuesday* evening.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

BENJAMIN MACKALL, 4th.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JAMES MURRAY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cambridge, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: From the sudden alarm which the sloop-of-war and her tenders have this week occasioned, it was thought necessary to order the Militia of this County on duty, to guard the frontier on the bay shore, &c., which they cheerfully complied with; but previous thereto, were under the necessity of making application for arms and ammunition. We were in hopes that, when it came to the test, we should find many of them prepared with private property in ammunition; but in this we find we were deceived. There remained with us a barrel of powder and some ball, sent from *Newtown* last fall by the Council of Safety, which we have distributed, though it appears to be very indifferent, and not such as we think men ought to hazard their lives with. This has gone but a small way in supplying the companies.

The people grow exceedingly clamorous. We have been under a necessity of distributing what little we have of pri-

vate property; but the whole put together would scarce make three rounds apiece for the companies. To what lengths they may go, if not supplied, we cannot say; but fear when they find that, upon repeated applications, they are not supplied with the means of defence, they may despond, and tamely submit to such ravages as these barbarians may think proper to commit. From the late conduct of the men of our County, we have not the least doubt of their spirit and firmness, and are fully satisfied they will make a bold and resolute stand in defence of the liberties of their country, if properly furnished with arms and ammunition.

We are daily in expectation of another visit from the enemy, and have therefore thought it our indispensable duty to lay the weak and defenceless state of our County before you; not doubting but that, on your being thus truly informed of our situation, you will immediately order us such a supply of arms and ammunition as may be necessary for the defence of the County; as without it, we shall be under the dreadful necessity of submitting to such depredations as our enemies may think proper to commit.

It is currently reported and believed here, that the arms and ammunition for this Province are arrived at *Philadelphia*; and if this report is true, and we cannot, in our distressed situation, be more expeditiously supplied, we would undertake, by your directions, to send a wagon or two to *Philadelphia* for arms and ammunition, if you think proper to give an order for the delivery of them to us.

Captain *Woolford* has now upwards of eighty men of his company enlisted. They are a daily expense to the Province, and, in their present situation, of no real service, there being but one man of the whole that has a gun.

We beg leave to report to you, that Mr. *Thomas Ennalls*, nominated as the Supervisor of our Saltpetre Works, has refused to act. We have advertised for another, and as soon as the vacancy is filled, shall inform you.

We are, gentlemen, with regard and esteem, your obedient humble servants.

Signed by order of the Committee of Observation:

JAMES MURRAY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. We have given Captain *Woolford* an order on Captain *Robinson* for the Province arms, which he received from the Committee of Observation of *Kent* County; and we hope soon to be able to completely arm his and the other Independent Companies stationed on your Shore.

Upon the late alarm, some powder was given into the hands of the Militia on this side the bay; and we fear it will be difficult to collect the greatest part of it again, and that too much of what remains with the people will be lost to the publick. We recommend it to you, therefore, to deliver to the Captains on the water side as much as you may conceive will be sufficient, (taking their receipts,) with orders not to distribute it among their respective companies until there is a real necessity; and to keep the residue in some convenient part of your County, where, upon any emergency, the other companies may be readily supplied.

JONATHAN BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Prince George's County, March 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Permit me to trouble you with these lines, on the arrival of gunpowder in *Potomack*, for the publick use, and to inform you of the great desire and expectation of the people that a part of it will be allotted to the use of this County, (particularly the *Potomack* part of it,) where the people much wish to be provided, as well as may be, from the apprehension of an armed force soon proceeding up the river to *Alexandria*, which, you know, lies about opposite to the centre of this County, on the *Potomack* side. We have five companies on this river in the *Piscataway* District, and four or five in that of *Bladensburg*.

The wisdom of the Council of Safety will direct the quantity, and how to be ordered in the disposition; but I will take leave to submit, whether it may not be thought best to have it lodged under the direction of the Committee of Observation at *Bladensburg* and *Piscataway*, presuming it will not be thought proper to deliver it into the hands of the people, for obvious reasons. I think there are some of

the Captains on whose undoubted care dependance might be had; but I fear there are some others whose prudence on such occasions may be doubtful. This causes me to think of its being under the direction of the Committee of Observation in each neighbourhood where it is lodged, as the most proper method.

The people had begun to be somewhat dispirited, on account of want of arms and ammunition, especially the latter. There is an obvious change since the arrival of this powder, (the article most wanted,) from the expectation of their being furnished therewith. This being done, I make no doubt the inhabitants in these parts will prove as spirited as in any part of the Province.

They are on a sudden more active in getting their fire-arms in order, on this prospect of getting powder. We are busy casting bullets and buckshot, of which I believe we can make out fifteen or sixteen hundred pounds. We are also tolerably well off for gun-flints, the Committee having, last summer, purchased all the lead and flints they could lay their hands on. I am in hopes we can manage to have better than half of our people provided with fire-locks; but several of them can only be used for want of better. I wish we could be happy enough to be better furnished; but we must do the best we can. I know the gentlemen of the Council of Safety, and with a real pleasure can say I have a confidence in them, and that they will do the best in this, as well as every other part of their duty. I freely express these sentiments to the people. Your candour will not think there is any flattery in this declaration—there is really none. But I think it not at all improper to express myself freely, and shall do so more from your last letter. The information you there mention to have received from this County, I think must have a very slight foundation. Should the Council think it convenient to allot a pound of powder per man for the numbers in the several *Potomack* Companies, I believe it would have a great and good effect on the spirits of the people. As the companies on the *Patuxent* lie less exposed, there may not be thought so great an allowance necessary as on *Potomack*, where we must expect any attack on these parts most likely to be.

I would wish to be understood as to my sentiments of the powder being lodged under the direction of the Committees of *Piscataway* and *Bladensburg*, not to mean jointly; but that a part be lodged with each place, under the direction of those of the Committee of Observation in each neighbourhood, that no obstruction to the use, when required, may take place. But after taking the freedom to trouble you with so much, I submit the whole to the determination of the Council.

Please offer my best compliments to the worthy members of your able Council, and be assured (to you and them) I am, with real esteem, dear sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN BEALL.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

I hope to hear of your recovery from your late lameness. Several gentlemen, deserving attention in this County, have asked my mentioning them to the Council, as desirous of acting as officers in any other regular force that may be raised in this Province, either Continental or Provincial. The names follow, viz:

*Luke Marbury, John Addison, Hezekiah Wheeler, Thomas Dent, John Beanes, William Duwall, Walter Cox, John Burgess.* The three first are Captains in the Militia, and hope to have not a town commission. As above, &c.

M. GIST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having sundry accounts open against me for iron pots, ammunition-chests, making hunting-shirts, repairing houses for barracks, guard-house, &c., &c., the amount of which I cannot as yet ascertain, I have to request your order on the Treasurer for one hundred and fifty pounds, to discharge the above bills, which shall be accounted for by, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

M. GIST.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

N. B. The bearer, Lieutenant *Winder*, waits upon you for the order

M. G.



WILLIAM LUX TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER,  
Baltimore, March 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Captain *Nicholson* is very desirous of having twenty Riflemen among his Marines, and has sent to *Frederick*, where he is likely to succeed. Of course he will want the rifles. They will cost six pounds apiece. Please to consult your Council, and let me know immediately, as Captain *Brown* has an offer of ten very fine ones, and the others can be got at *Frederick*.

I congratulate you on the arrival of the brig *Wild Duck*. I suppose you will want our part of the cargo. Mr. *Bowley* is gone to *Philadelphia*. As soon as I hear from him, I will wait on you, unless you come to *Baltimore*, which I believe is safest.

I am, honourable sir, your obedient and faithful servant,  
WILLIAM LUX.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN NICHOLSON.  
[No. 59.] Annapolis, March 15, 1776.

SIR: The spirited and prudent conduct which you manifested in repelling the late hostile attack on the persons and properties of your fellow-citizens, and defeating the designs and attempts of our invaders, give us real satisfaction, and entitle you to our thanks. We, therefore, with pleasure return them to you, and desire you will also communicate them to the volunteers that accompanied you, and the officers and men under your command, as our acknowledgments are likewise due to their gallantry.

We are, &c.

To Captain *James Nicholson*, Commander of the Ship *Defence*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.  
[No. 60.] Annapolis, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have requested Mr. *Bowley* to purchase, on account of this Province, the private adventures of powder imported in the *Wild Duck*, Captain *Tibbett*, lately arrived in *Delaware*, at such price as you may advise. We therefore desire your assistance in that matter; and are, gentlemen,

Yours, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland* in Congress.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: From the intelligence lately received both from *Boston* and *England*, there is but too much reason to believe our implacable enemies are determined to bend their force against *New-York*, and endeavour to possess themselves of that important post.

The Congress have therefore thought proper to order Colonel *Dayton's* Battalion thither, and rely that you will exert your most strenuous endeavours in arming and forwarding them. But lest the enemy should come before our troops are prepared to receive them, or in case they should come with a superior force, the Congress have empowered the Continental commander to call in the aid of the Militia of that and the neighbouring Colonies, agreeable to the enclosed resolve; and I am directed to request you to hold your Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, as he may desire.

The alertness and zeal you have hitherto shown, render it unnecessary to use any arguments to enforce this request. I trust, by the blessing of *God*, our united and spirited exertions will baffle the designs of our enemies; and, notwithstanding all their attempts, secure and preserve the liberties of our country.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As it is now apparent that our enemies mean to prosecute this cruel and unjust war with unrelenting fury, and as every intelligence assures us that they mean to bend their force against your Colony, I would not do you the injustice to suppose there will be any occasion to use arguments to stimulate you to exert your most strenuous endeavours to expedite the raising and arming the battalions ordered to be raised in your Colony for its defence.

Enclosed I send you the commissions for the Field-Officers. If any of them are provided for in *Canada*, they are to continue there, and others will be elected in their room. Such of them as are in *Canada*, and unprovided for, have orders immediately to repair to their respective regiments. Lest our enemies should come upon you before the Continental Troops can be in readiness to receive them, or in case they should come with superior force, the Congress have thought proper to empower the Continental commander at *New-York* to call to his assistance the Militia of your Colony, and that of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey*, agreeable to the enclosed resolve. And I have it in command to request you to hold your Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such time, as he may desire.

The Congress have ordered five tons of powder for the use of the troops employed in your defence, which will be forwarded with the utmost expedition.

The Colonel of the Third Battalion is not appointed, for reasons that will be mentioned by your Delegates, to whose letter I beg leave to refer you.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable the Convention of *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LORD STIRLING.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

MY LORD: I had the honour of receiving your letters of the 12th and 13th, which were immediately laid before Congress.

Whatever may be the designs of General *Howe*, it appears, from all the intelligence received, more than probable that the Ministry will make an effort to gain possession of *New-York*. It is therefore the desire of Congress by all possible means to provide for the defence of that place. They have the satisfaction to find, by the report of a Committee appointed to confer with General *Lee* on that subject, that though the City of *New-York* cannot easily be made defensible against an attack by sea, yet it may be made an advantageous field of battle, and that, by works thrown up in proper places, the enemy may be prevented from gaining possession of it, and making it a place of arms. It is therefore the desire of Congress that you would exert the utmost diligence in erecting the works and perfecting the defences agreeable to the plan he left you.

By the enclosed resolves, you will perceive the Congress have voted eight thousand men for the defence of the Colony of *New-York*. Three battalions and a company of Riflemen from *Pennsylvania*, and one battalion from *New-Jersey*, are ordered to join you with all expedition. Colonel *Irvine's* Battalion and the Rifle Company are said to be completely armed. The rest are not so well provided as could be wished; but by the resolve for taking the arms out of the hands of the disaffected and non-Associators, it is hoped they may be soon supplied. As the tempest approaches, and threatens to burst upon them, I flatter myself the Convention of *New-York* will strain every nerve in speedily raising and arming the four battalions ordered to be raised there for the defence of their Colony.

Until these battalions can be got ready, the Congress approve your calling some Militia to your aid; and I am directed to request the Governour of *Connecticut*, and the Conventions of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*, to hold their Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, as may be desired by the commander of the forces at *New-York*. This large power, I have no doubt, will be exercised with the greatest discretion as the exigence of affairs may require. The Congress have a just sense of the im-

portance of defending *New-York*; but as they conceive this may be done by the means pointed out, they would not have the measures interrupted which are taken for accomplishing their views in *Canada*. I have it, therefore, in command, to direct you to order the troops destined for *Canada* to proceed on their march agreeably to their former orders.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Right Honourable Lord *Stirling*, at *New-York*.

The enclosed letter for Governour *Trumbull*, I beg the favour you will immediately forward to him by a fresh express, and return to me the man I send to you as soon as your despatches are ready.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

SIR: The intelligence received from sundry quarters puts it beyond a doubt that the Ministry have their eyes upon *New-York*, and mean by their troops to make a diversion there. Whether this will be done by General *Howe*, or by forces coming from *Britain*, is uncertain. But as that is a place of great importance, the Congress are anxious to devise means for its defence. For this purpose, they have ordered a number of battalions to be raised; but for want of the supplies expected from abroad, those that are raised are very deficient in arms. Measures, however, are taking to procure arms for them in another way. In the mean time, (lest an attack should be made before our forces are prepared to receive them, or in case the enemy should come with a superior force,) the Congress have thought it prudent to empower the Continental commander at *New-York* to call in the aid of the Militia from that and the neighbouring Colonies. And I have it in command, to request you, agreeably to the enclosed resolve, to hold your Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, as he may desire.

The importance of the service, and the distinguished zeal you, sir, and the good people of your Colony, have discovered in this glorious struggle, give the strongest assurance that you will comply with this request, and exert your utmost efforts to repel our hostile invaders, and prevent them from gaining possession of a post from which they may so much annoy these Colonies.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem, honourable sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*, at *Lebanon, Connecticut*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO LORD STIRLING.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

MY LORD: I had the honour of writing to you this morning. Since the express set off, I have received your letter of the 14th, which was immediately communicated to Congress. In consequence of which, I have it in command to direct you to send forward the powder destined for *Cambridge*, unless you have received express advice from General *Washington* that the enemy's fleet and army have quitted *Boston*, and sailed out of that harbour.

The five tons of powder which I mentioned in my letter of this morning, to be intended for the troops under your command, will be sent forward with all possible despatch.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Lord *Stirling*, at *New-York*.

JOSEPH REED TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: This morning your express arrived, with an account of the interesting events which have taken place since this month began. I beg leave to congratulate you on appearances so favourable to the interests of our country, and your own character; not that, in my opinion, it was the least clouded by your inactivity, as the causes

were well known; but it is certain that enterprise and success give a brilliance and lustre, which cannot be unacceptable to a good mind. We shall be very anxious for further accounts, as these have left you at a critical period of suspense, when we are led to expect some very important change may soon happen.

I shall be careful of your confidential account of your Council of War. I wish the event may prove me mistaken, but I am strongly possessed with an idea that some members of your Council never will concur in any measure which leads to danger; and I think you will make less and less use of them in that way every day you are with them.

*Thomas*, I presume you know, is made a Major-General, and ordered to *Canada*, where old *Wooster* was throwing everything into confusion, and a superior officer was necessary to keep the peace. I do not much like their thus taking away the men on whom you may most trust; but your camp is considered as a school, and I fear the service will require all their separated attention and ability. I wrote you before, that General *Lee* was ordered to *Virginia*, *Armstrong* to *South-Carolina*, and *Thompson* to *New-York*.

We have everything to fear from the southward: a cursed spirit of disaffection has appeared in the back parts of *North* and *South-Carolina*, which, if not subdued before the forces arrive from *England*, will prove a most formidable piece of business, especially when connected with the hosts of Negroes in the lower part of the country. Instead of painting their strength and power of resistance in ostentatious terms, as is the fashion of some folks, the gentlemen of that country acknowledge their weakness, and dread the consequences. I am really concerned for old *Armstrong*; I think the climate will destroy him.

You have had much reason to think the Congress neglect your camp in the article of ammunition; but I hope by the time this reaches you, ten tons of our last importation will be in your camp. The vessel brought but three hundred stand of arms, but they are the best yet imported.

If *Howe* should leave *Boston*, we expect he will make for *New-York*; and, at all events, we look upon that as one of the scenes of the summer business: in the former case, I find it supposed you will move southward. By General *Lee's* account, no dependance is to be put on their professions, and the late delegation from Congress came back with a very slender opinion of their conduct, which is timid and trimming to the greatest degree. I am glad you have informed me how the matter stood with the *Connecticut* men. I had no doubt but the step you took was founded upon necessity, which would justify the directing troops to be raised; but I found it gave an alarm to some folks, and I believe I hinted it in a former letter; but your state must, and, I doubt not, has given perfect satisfaction. I have thought it a duty I owe you to mention anything of this kind occurring, as your distance might otherwise prevent a suitable explanation.

Most of your camp equipage will be completed this week, or the beginning of next. I shall obey your commands with respect to the wagon and horses. There will be no difficulty about the money, should the Treasurer here have any scruples, as I shall advance it, and we can settle that when we meet. I had ordered the tables, and several other things which appeared to me to be necessary, though not in your order. I hope, when you see them, they will prove agreeable. I have consulted economy as much as I thought consistent with your rank and station. Most of our workmen are such strangers to these things that they are very slow and tedious. Two of the tents are finished, and the other just completed. I am never happier than when I am on your business, so that you may depend upon it that I shall spare no pains to have them done in the best manner, and forwarded with the greatest expedition.

The destruction of the mortars is very extraordinary; there certainly must be some want of skill in the management of them.

I suppose old *Putt* was to command the detachment intended for *Boston*, on the 5th instant, as I do not know any officer but himself who could have been depended on for so hazardous a service. Should *Howe* decamp, I cannot say I should much regret that day's passing over so quietly, as, if the troops had behaved well, there would have been a great loss; and, if ill, would have ruined your whole plan.

We have some accounts from *Virginia*, that Colonel *Henry* has resigned in disgust at not being made a General

Officer; but it rather gives satisfaction than otherwise, as his abilities seem better calculated for the Senate than the field. We have no very late accounts from thence. A man-of-war and some tenders lately went up to *Baltimore*, and gave them an alarm, which drove all their women, children, and valuable effects, out of town; but we have heard nothing since.

Poor *Frye*! Heaven and earth was moved to get him in—he was everything that was great and wonderful; now, I suppose we shall hear no more of him.

Not a syllable yet from our fleet—it is four weeks to-morrow since they left our Capes. Should they fall in with the twelve men-of-war conveying the transports to *Virginia*, it is all over with them; and we think there is very great danger of it. My next must certainly give some intelligence.

Now for our own news. The packet arrived last week at *New-York*, and in her came passenger Mr. *Robert Temple*, (owner of the late beautiful farm below our lines.) He came to town last night. The report is, that, in papers under his buttons, he has brought a letter from *Arthur Lee*, advising that the Commissioners were coming out instructed to settle the dispute; to get from us as much as they can; but, if peace cannot be had on their terms, to make it on ours. I mention it to you as a report; for to me it seems so inconsistent with all that we have seen and heard, that I do not believe a word of it. I shall get more certain intelligence soon of his business; and it shall make a part of my next letter. We every moment expect to hear of these gentry's arrival; they are, if possible, to treat with the Assemblies, but if that cannot be obtained, then with Congress. A little time will show what we are to expect from this new project. For my part, I can see nothing to be hoped from it, but it has laid fast hold of some here, and made its impression on the Congress. It is said the *Virginians* are so alarmed with the idea of independence, that they have sent Mr. *Braxton* on purpose to turn the vote of that Colony, if any question on that subject should come before Congress. To tell you the truth, my dear sir, I am infinitely more afraid of these Commissioners than their Generals and Armies. If their propositions are plausible, and behaviour artful, I am apprehensive they will divide us: there is so much suspicion in Congress, and so much party on this subject, that very little more fuel is required to kindle the flame. It is high time for the Colonies to begin a gradual change of Delegates; private pique, prejudice, and suspicion, will make its way into the breasts of even good men, sitting long in such a council as ours; and whenever that is the case, their deliberations will be disturbed, and the publick interest of course suffer.

We have made a very great change in the councils of this Province, and I hope a favourable one for the common cause, having introduced seventeen new members at once into the House of Assembly. The increase of representation is in those parts of the Province where the spirit of liberty most prevails, and, of consequence, our measures will partake of it.

We have had a vessel load of linens, on account of Congress, arrived within these few days past; but I do not hear a word of tents. What our Army is expected to do without them, I cannot conceive.

Lord *Stirling* has stopped some of our troops bound to *Canada*, as it is not possible to keep the *Connecticut* people beyond their own time. General *Lee*, with great difficulty, induced some of them to prolong their stay two weeks, which I believe was more than could be done with you.

Mr. *Deane*, of *Connecticut*, is gone to *Europe*; his errand may be guessed, though little is said about it. The *French* vessels begin to find their way to our ports, two or three having come in this spring; but their cargoes are chiefly *West-India* goods; a little, very little powder, merely as a cover.

Since writing the above, I have conversed with some gentlemen who have seen Mr. *Temple*. I find he only brings two letters, written by Doctor *Lee* to himself, and that his information of the powers of the Commissioners is not built on any certain authority, but rather his own conjectures. He says the Ministry are resolved on peace if to be had: they are willing to treat with Congress, but the King would not hear of it. The difficulty of recruiting is very great in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*—scarce a man more to be had on any terms. I send you a morning paper, containing the current news. My respectful compliments, with Mrs. *Reed's*, to Mrs. *Washington*; and am, dear sir, most sincerely and affectionately, yours.

JOSEPH REED.

JOHN SMITH\* TO THE CONGRESS.

March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am once more obliged to apply for an enlargement, on some terms, or an alleviation of this rigid confinement. An application before this from me, I am told, has not been laid before you. Mr. *Dewees* gave it to *John Hancock*, Esq., last month. I was hopeful that gentleman would have laid it before the Congress, and flatter myself he will still do me that favour. Painful as my present situation is, complaining is equally so; and as you must now be sufficiently acquainted with every circumstance of it, I would choose to avoid repetitions. An imprisonment like this cannot be intended merely as a confinement; it is much more—it is a punishment, by its long continuance, of the severest kind, and greatly aggravated by want of health, air, and exercise. If meant as such, I would be exceedingly glad to know the crime alleged for the cause of it, as punishing a person without informing him for what, is very inadequate to its intention. In this light I cannot but view it, being deprived of the small liberties allowed to all prisoners whatever, even common soldiers. Mr. *Cameron* and I are now the only persons suffering in this cruel manner. What should render us so particularly and personally obnoxious, I for my own part, am greatly at a loss to guess; but I am now hopeful that the gentlemen of the Congress will consider this distressing situation, and, for the present, grant me the same indulgence as the other prisoners have. On these terms I will engage in the mean time not to correspond, unless with the approbation of some of the Committee, or in such manner as may be prescribed to, gentlemen, your obedient and very humble servant,

J. SMITH.

To the Gentlemen of the Congress.

#### NEWARK (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, Newark, March 15, 1776.

The Committee, taking into consideration a Petition from a respectable number of inhabitants of this Township, and persuaded of the expediency of preventing undue advantages being taken by reason of the scarcity of sundry articles, in consequence of the present contest with *Great Britain*, have resolved to regulate the prices of *West-India* product, to be sold in this Township, as follows, to wit:

*West-India* Rum, 6s. 3d., *New-York* currency, per gallon, or smaller quantity.  
*Jamaica* Spirits, 7s. 9d. per ditto.  
 Molasses, - - 3s. 2d. per ditto.  
 Country Rum, - 4s. 0d. per ditto.  
 Coffee, - - - 1s. 3d. per lb. or smaller quantity.  
 Chocolate, - - 2s. 0d. per ditto.  
 Loaf-sugar, - 1s. 6d. per ditto, by the loaf.  
 Lump-sugar, - 1s. 4d. per ditto, by ditto.  
*Muscovado* do. 4s. 9d. per ditto.  
 Salt, - - - 5s. 0d. per bushel.  
 Pepper, - - 6s. 0d. per pound.

In adjusting which, the Committee, being of opinion that the prices here must, of necessity, be governed by those fixed at *New-York*, have considered the late restrictions by the Committee there, as a proper basis; and have allowed such additions thereto, for the retailers here, as are reasonable for their loss in gauging, waste, small drafts, &c., freight, cartage, and a compensation for buying and selling. And it is hereby recommended to all venders and retailers of the above articles, that they neither demand nor receive therefor any greater prices than are ascertained by the above regulations, during the continuance of the above-mentioned restrictions in *New-York*.

And it is Resolved, and hereby Declared, That, on proof being made to this Committee of any person having, after the publication hereof, contravened, or in anywise acted in defiance of the said recommendation, the delinquent shall be exposed by name to publick view, and as an enemy to

\* "Determined never to acknowledge or submit to the authority of the Congress, unless by compulsion, I was much at a loss in what manner, or for what purpose to address them; and I concluded only to request, that they would either render my confinement supportable, or order me to immediate execution, which I infinitely preferred to my present situation of being destroyed by inches. This I transmitted to them by the jailer, written with a pencil upon the back of a common playing card."  
 —J. F. D. SMITH.

his country. Not only all persons will be prohibited having any dealing or intercourse with him, but neither his person nor estate will receive protection from this Committee.

Published by order of the Committee:

LEWIS OGDEN, *Chairman.*  
ISAAC HEDDEN, *Secretary pro tem.*

ESSEX COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO LORD STIRLING.

Newark Committee-Chamber, March 15, 1776.

My LORD: With Captain *Josiah Pierson*, the bearer, comes the first company of the Militia of this County that is ready to march. We have divided the three hundred men agreed to be sent to your assistance into four companies. The other three companies, we expect, will march to-morrow, so as to be in *New-York* to-morrow evening. We have agreed to send only one Field-Officer with this detachment, who is Lieutenant-Colonel *Ward*. We hope you will not only be pleased with the appearance, but also with the conduct of this detachment.

Agreeably to the request of the *New-York* Provincial Congress, to send a Quartermaster, we have appointed Mr. *Samuel Hayes* to that post. He has been an Adjutant for some time past of the battalion in this town.

By order:

WILLIAM BURNET,  
*Chairman of the County Committee.*

To Lord *Stirling*.

My LORD: Since writing the above letter, and just as we were despatching it, we received a copy of a letter sent to your Lordship by the Chairman of the *Elizabethtown* Committee, and also a letter from their Clerk, from which we are afraid no men will come from *Elizabethtown*, which was to send one hundred and fifty—the half of the number proposed. However, we shall endeavour to prevail with them to furnish their quota, and hope we shall succeed.

LORD STIRLING TO COLONEL DAYTON.

New-York, March 15, 1776.

SIR: I wrote to you some days since to get your regiment in order for marching as soon as possible. You are now hereby required to march the regiment to this place by companies, as soon as you can arm and accoutre them, making the companies complete with arms and accoutrements, one out of the other, and then immediately to despatch them.

STIRLING.

To Colonel *Dayton*, commanding the Third Regiment of *New-Jersey* Troops in the Continental service at *Elizabethtown*.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, March 15, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: On *Wednesday* last I received Mr. *Moylan's* letter of the 9th, and immediately sent forward to *Philadelphia* the express who brought it. I communicated the intelligence to the Provincial Convention then sitting. We have ever since been taking every measure in our power to secure this place and *Long-Island*, in such a manner as will prevent the enemy from making any lodgment in either of them. The Convention has very cheerfully and spiritedly come into every measure I proposed to them, as you will see by the enclosed paper, which will best inform you of the steps we have taken. Three hundred and seventy half-barrels of powder arrived here yesterday from *Philadelphia* for your camp; but the casks are in such a shattered condition, that one half of it would be lost before it could proceed one hundred miles farther. I have therefore ordered the whole of it to be started into good strong tight casks, which will be done by *Monday* next, by which time I hope to have directions from Congress either to send it forward, or detain it in this place. You will, by the same enclosed paper, see the state of that article in this place.

*March 17.*—I have this evening received despatches from the Congress, by which I find they have resolved that eight thousand men be ordered for the defence of this Colony. But as I know the incomplete state most of the regiments ordered for this service are now in, I am sure that not one half of them will be here and fit for service these four or

five weeks. I have, therefore, been obliged to call in some Militia (perhaps two thousand may come) to act in the mean time as fatigue in carrying on the works. I mention this circumstance, that, in case the Ministerial Troops do actually leave *Boston*, it may not be supposed that the troops voted are or can be here in any probable time to oppose them. We have in the whole, here at present, but about two thousand men, exclusive of the Militia of the city, which may amount to about as many more. The latter have very cheerfully turned out on fatigue for the last three days, and we are all hands employed in fortifying such posts as were thought most proper by General *Lee* and myself, after several times viewing the whole ground on *Long-Island*, as well as on this.

I am, your most obedient humble servant,

STIRLING.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

FREDERICKSBURGH (WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK,) COMMITTEE.

Fredericksburgh Committee, March 15, 1776.

Whereas *Isaac Bates* hath been represented to this Committee as being unfriendly to our country; we have had him under examination, and find him guilty of said charge. We therefore refer him to the honourable County Committee for further examination.

Fredericksburgh, March 15, 1776.

*Isaac Bates*, upon being taken up as a deserter, by an advertisement from *Elijah Oakley*, Lieutenant under Captain *Comfort Ludinton*, of Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout's* Regiment of Minute-men, pleads and says, that said Lieutenant *Oakley* did release him.

In support of which plea he produced the evidences, whose depositions are as follows:

I, *Abraham Birdsall*, of lawful age, being sworn before the Chairman of the Committee, do testify and say: that on the 5th of this instant, *March*, being at the house of *Cornelius Fuller*, I heard *Elijah Oakley* say he would give any man two shillings who would set his name to such a paper. Whereupon *Isaac Bates* said he would set his name to it; and the said *Oakley* said he would give him four shillings if he would; and finally said, as he could not make change, he would give him a six-shilling bill, lawful money; and, as *Bates* took the pen, *Oakley* says, If you do write your name there, you shall go; and *Bates* says, I mean to go; and wrote on the bottom of the paper, as I supposed, his name; but I understood by others (for I cannot read writing) that he wrote, "*Elijah Oakley* may kiss my ———, *Isaac Bates*;" at which *Oakley* was mad, and swore he should go. Whereupon *Bates* says, "Why, you are not mad, are you? I was only in a joke." "Joke, or no joke," said *Oakley*, "you shall go." But afterwards I saw *Bates* give *Oakley* the bill again, and saw *Oakley* tear off a piece, which I suppose was what *Bates* had written; and I understood by *Oakley* that he had discharged him. Whereupon I said to *Bates*, "Since *Oakley* is so fair with you, you ought to treat him;" and he immediately called for a grog, and did treat him.

I, *John Chase*, of lawful age, being sworn before the Chairman of the Committee, do testify to the whole of the foregoing deposition; and further, that when *Oakley* took the bill, he said he would see if it was the same bill which he gave *Bates*, and went to the light and said, "Yes, it is the same bill which I gave you." "Now," said I to Mr. *Oakley*, "you and *Isaac* are clear, are you not?" "Yes," said Mr. *Oakley*, "we are clear; it was only a joke."

We do suspect the above-mentioned *Elijah Oakley* of being unfriendly to the country, from his conduct in inlisting *Isaac Bates*, who was known to be a professed Tory, and taking him out of our hands when we were about to deal with him, and then discharged him; but, at the same time, positively affirmed to us that he would make him go; and finally did advertise him, when he never kept out of his way.

By order of the Committee of *Fredericksburgh*.

DAVID SMITH, *Chairman.*

March 16, 1776.

## ISAAC NICOLL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Fort Constitution, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This garrison is greatly in want of many articles at present, especially sauce, beef, soap, candles, drink, and fuel; neither have we had any fresh provision for two months past; the want of which necessities discourage the men very much, as they work daily. We are also in want of pots, trammels, bowls, and dishes, for the Barracks, as there are none here but what the Commissioners claim, and say they must have to carry to *Pooploop's Kill*. There must be a sufficient quantity of those necessities provided and sent here shortly, or the garrison will be in a bad situation when the Commissioners call for theirs. I should not have troubled you with these matters, but have wrote to Mr. *Livingston*, according to your former directions, on this head, and received for answer that Mr. *Phelps* (appointed to provide for the fortress) would be here in a short time, and make the necessary provision; but he has not attended yet, neither do I know when he will.

Enclosed you have an account delivered to me by the Commissioners for powder, ball, and cartridge paper, by them delivered to Captain *Raymond* previous to my taking the command here; none of which he returned. You can deal with him for them as you think proper. Several of the Minute-men now in garrison are destitute of guns; neither are they able to procure them by reason of their scarcity. There are a number of good arms in the store, but the Commissioners are not willing to let them go without orders, as they were directed to keep them safe in their custody. I think it would be proper to let the men have arms and accoutrements, in order that they may be disciplined to the use of them, provided the commanding officer of any such deficient company will give his receipt for them, and engage to return them, when he is discharged from this garrison, as good as he received them.

It is absolutely necessary that a baker be fixed here upon some certain principle, made by the Commissary. While Captain *Raymond* commanded, he gave the flour to a baker, who returned an equal weight of bread; and allowed him soldier's pay, with all attendance that he required; which I think is too much, amounting, I suppose, to ten or twelve pounds per month. I have partly agreed with the same man (who is a good baker, and now out of town) for four pounds per month; but he requires to have his wood and people to attend upon him, and I do not know what to do about closing the bargain. I would be glad of some instructions in the premises, or that a baker may be otherwise appointed.

As there is no Commissary attending here, and as I think it absolutely necessary that one should attend, if none of those already appointed can be ordered here, I would recommend Captain *Thomas Moffit* to that office as a proper person. I expect to be able to make a return of the state of my regiment, having issued the necessary orders for that purpose.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress.

## LEVI PAWLING TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Marbletown, March 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 16th ultimo came safe to hand, and, with astonishment, we perused the contents; the more so, as we have been informed that, in cases similar to that of ours, you have been very careful that officers should not be superseded. Permit us, gentlemen, to ask whether the resolve, respecting the filling up of vacancies, cannot bear these three different constructions, viz: virtual, natural, and literal. If either of the two former, then we think we have committed no error in what we have done. If we have, we have done it with no ill design; for we assure you that we have nothing more at heart than the maintaining of peace and good order among us, and that the worthy and deserving should be promoted, and not superseded; the consequence of which is resentment, division, and discord, which we think ought to be prevented, if possible.

We, in obedience to the directions from your honourable body, called the company of the Southwest District together

on the 6th instant, and in a friendly manner advised them to promote the subalterns who had served under their late Captain. The company proceeded, and Mr. *John Hasbrouck* was chosen by a majority of votes. The subalterns thereupon withdrew, and deferred declaring their intention till the 9th instant, when they delivered at our table the enclosed address and declaration, containing a formal resignation, with the reason thereof; which, in compliance with their request, we have the honour of transmitting to your honourable Board. Upon which we called the company together again on the 12th instant, and acquainted them of the vacancies; when they proceeded and chose *Jacobus Roosa* First Lieutenant, *Jacobus Brown Hasbrouck* Second Lieutenant, and *Joseph Hasbrouck, Jun.*, Ensign; which we expect, together with the above elected Captain, your Honours with commission.

We beg leave to assure you that the Southwest District is in a most unhappy condition, and the only means we can think of at present to assuage the spirit of discord in said District is, to grant the prayers of those who have signed the enclosed petition.

In the mean time we remain, with due respect, your Honours' obedient humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

LEVI PAWLING, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*.

## COLONEL PORTER TO JAMES WARREN.

Hadley, March 15, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: When I last left you, I was in hopes that by this time I should have been able to write to you from *Quebeck*; but the backwardness of some towns to encourage their men to engage, and the zeal of individuals to hinder any from inlisting in the service, has hitherto prevented my march. I should do injustice to my country and to Colonel *Howe*, of *Belchertown*, if I did not give him the credit of being foremost in the latter class, and of being the instrument (with his son, whom he has constantly employed in the service) of hindering at least four towns from turning out a single man. One full company marched from *Northampton* on the 3d instant; another company (though not full) marched the day before yesterday; a third is to march on *Monday* next. The others, I expect, will follow within a week from that time, though I doubt whether they will be any of them quite full. One great difficulty in completing the regiment has been the want of fire-arms. Most of those who are now willing to engage have been in the service the summer past, and were obliged to leave their guns in the Army, and have not yet received their pay for them, and have not been able to purchase others for want of it.

The Committee that have been sent by the Court have purchased all the guns amongst us that are worth taking; so that those who have not yet inlisted must be obliged to go with guns which a man would not be willing to venture his life with, unless the General will consent to have the guns which have been purchased here sold to the soldiers. The expense of purchasing a gun, &c., (which almost every one has to do who inlists,) has made the soldiers insist upon some encouragement being given them by the towns; alleging that the four pounds they were to receive would hardly purchase the arms that they were obliged by the inlistment to furnish themselves with. Most of the towns where they have raised the men have given ten dollars per man for their quota; others have declined giving anything, and of consequence no men can be obtained.

To remedy these inconveniences, I have sent into other Counties. The same difficulties are there, and they do not view themselves under any obligations to exert themselves to remove them, because they are not particularly called upon by the Court. I have been unwilling to apply for leave to recruit from those now in the Army at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, because of the important movements that were daily expected, and have now been made, and to which I wish all possible success. I have sent over the line, into *New-York* Government, (where a number of *New-England* people have settled, who refuse going with the *York* officers, and have applied to me to join my regiment,) for a number to fill up the companies. What success I



shall have I know not. I intend to call upon them in a few days myself, to know what has been, or can be done.

In the recess of the Court I wrote to Colonel *Mifflin* for some more money to defray the expense of marching the regiment to *Canada*, supposing that I should march myself before I could have opportunity to apply to the General Court. The person I sent the letter by was not careful to deliver it in season, so as to have a return by the way that I expected, and I have not yet received my answer. I am obliged, therefore, to send the bearer of this with an application to the honourable Assembly for a further sum of money. I received, by order of Court, of the Treasurer one hundred pounds, to purchase axes, kettles, &c., and to defray the travelling expenses; which sum is far short of what will be necessary. I am also to pay the officers one month's advance wages, for which no provision has been made. As there is a sum of money now in the Treasury, (sent by the honourable Continental Congress to defray the expense of raising this regiment,) more than what has been paid out to me, I would request that the whole, or such part as the Court pleases, of the remainder might be sent to me for the above purpose; for which sum I will be accountable. The sum sent by the honourable Continental Congress (if I remember right) was £3,750.

I received, by order of <i>January</i> 21st, - - -	£1,398	8
By order of <i>January</i> 22, for which I left an order on Colonel <i>Mifflin</i> , - - - - -	100	0
Received of Major <i>Hawley</i> on your behalf, -	1,398	8
Received of Major <i>Hawley</i> to pay for blankets, -	312	16

£3,209 12

Received of Mr. <i>Mills</i> 194 blankets, the amount of which, according to the price on each, reckoning one which had no mark on it at 12s. - - - - -	111	9
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£3,321 1

So that there now remains in the Treasury, after the blankets are paid for, and that order of the £100 was taken back, and what received from you repaid, - - - - -	£428	19
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£3,750 0

I would also just mention, that no provision has been made for the payment of the travelling expenses before they arrive to the Continental stores, which the soldiers will expect to receive, either before they march or immediately upon their arrival at *Canada*. Whatever sum the Court shall order to be sent, the bearer, (*Elisha Dickinson*), who is an honest, careful man, will bring to me, for whose receipt I will be accountable. I purpose to set out on *Friday* next myself, and go forward with all expedition. I shall take it as a favour of you, sir, that you will despatch the bearer as quick as possible, as he will have little time enough to return in before I set out. I should have wrote to some others of the Court, also, if I could get time. All I can get is whilst others are asleep. It is now past two in the morning, and I have to write to the General and to Colonel *Mifflin* before the bearer calls upon me, which he is to do by daybreak. Major *Hawley* is to set out on *Monday* next to attend Court. He will be able to inform you of some extraordinary proceedings at *Berkshire*, &c., which I have not leisure to inform you of by this conveyance.

You will please, sir, to present my sincere respects to such of my worthy friends at *Watertown* as may inquire after me.

Your Honours, &c., &c.,

ELISHA PORTER.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., at *Watertown*.

WILLIAM ENNALLS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Dorchester County, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 2d of *February*, enclosing a resolve of the Continental Congress for collecting gold and silver in this Province, together with your appointment of Mr. *James Murray*, Mr. *Henry Steel*, and myself, to collect the same in this County, came to my hands, which I immediately communicated to those gentlemen. Since

which we have made applications to all the principal men of the County of whom we apprehended there was any chance of getting gold or silver; and I am sorry to inform you the scarcity of specie is such that we are only able to procure (including our own small stock) about five hundred and twenty pounds; which sum we can immediately get, if your Honours are pleased to send us an order on the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore* for so much paper money to pay in exchange for it; and will be pleased also to direct the same Treasurer to receive the gold and silver of us, as we apprehend there may be a considerable risk in sending it to the Treasurer of the *Western Shore* at this time. This account would have been sooner transmitted to you had not the late alarm of the sloop-of-war and tenders in a manner stopped the communication between this and *Annapolis*.

I am, with great regard, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM ENNALLS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND.

We hereby certify, that an enrolment of a company of Militia, bearing date the 30th of *November*, 1775, to which is annexed a certificate of the officers chosen for the same, bearing date the 16th of *December*, 1775, was lately returned to us. We further certify, that the said enrolment was agreeable to the resolves of the Convention held at *Annapolis* the 26th of *July* last; and that it appears the following gentlemen are elected commissioned officers, to wit: *Benjamin Keene*, Captain; *John Keene*, First Lieutenant; *Richard Tubman*, Second Lieutenant; *John Griffith*, Ensign. That the said company are called the *Buck Company*; and that there are to the same four Sergeants, four Corporals, and one Drummer, and fifty-seven Privates. We therefore pray, with the approbation of your Board, that commissions may issue thereon.

Signed per order of Committee of Observation:

JAMES MURRAY, *Chairman*.

Cambridge, Dorchester County, March 16, 1776.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF THE PROVINCE OF MARYLAND.

We hereby certify, that an enrolment of a company of Militia, bearing date the 11th day of *February*, 1776, with a certificate of officers for the same, was lately returned to us. We further certify, that the first enrolment was agreeable to the resolves of the Convention, held at *Annapolis* the 26th of *July* last; and that it appears the following gentlemen are elected officers, viz: *Timothy McNemara*, Captain; *John Steward McNemara*, First Lieutenant; *Charles Johnson*, Second Lieutenant; *John Carwan*, Ensign. That the said company are called *Friends to America*; and that there are to the same four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and sixty-eight Privates. We therefore pray, with the approbation of your Board, that commissions may issue thereon.

Signed per order of the Committee of Observation:

JAMES MURRAY, *Chairman*.

Cambridge, Dorchester County, March 16, 1776.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This Committee, on the first alarm of Captain *Squire's* being coming up to this town, met, and took into their serious consideration the unprepared state thereof to repel an attack; and, therefore, thought it necessary to throw up two breastworks at *Fell's Point*, as well to preserve the town as to cover the Ship *Defence*, which was then without the chief part of her guns. The account of the expense, as soon as it can be liquidated, will be laid before you; and, as the necessity was urgent, we hope you will readily support us. We also undertook to fit out a schooner, as a tender, and to support the operations of Captain *Nicholson*, and have proceeded some lengths in equipping

her; and we beg to know from you whether it is your intention that we shall proceed to finish and complete her for the service of the Province, or whether you would desist from prosecuting the matter any further. We judge the purchase of the vessel and her outfit may amount to two thousand pounds; and we are of opinion she will be very useful in scouring the coast from the incursions of the tenders, as she will mount ten guns, and carry seventy to one hundred men. She is in such forwardness as to sail immediately on getting her men. One of the breastworks (which was mostly calculated to cover the ship) mounts six guns, and the other ten, and they were particularly requested to be done by Captain *Nicholson*. Our fort at *Whetstone* is ready to mount eight guns, and we shall use every exertion to expedite it.

We are, with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

WILLIAM LUX,  
Deputy Chairman.  
THOMAS HARRISON,  
JOHN SMITH,  
WILLIAM BUCHANAN,  
JOHN BOYD,  
JOHN MERRYMAN, JUN.,  
JOHN STERETT.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

By the Committee of *Baltimore County*:

Mr. *Hercules Courtney*, as agent for Captain *William Stone*, has in his possession eleven cannon of the following sizes, according to the best information we can obtain, viz: Two of twelve pounds, six of nine pounds, and three of four pounds; all of which will be wanted for the defence of *Baltimore Town*, if they are found good. This Committee directed carriages to be made to suit these guns, and on the late alarm removed and mounted them at *Fell's Point*, where they now remain, ready to be proved by such person as the honourable Council of Safety may appoint.

WILLIAM LUX,  
Deputy Chairman.  
JOHN SMITH,  
JOHN BOYD,  
JOHN MERRYMAN, JUN.,  
JOHN MOALE,  
WILLIAM BUCHANAN,  
THOMAS HARRISON,  
JAMES CALHOUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.  
March 15, 1776.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Baltimore, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As the powder and the lead belonging to the publick was placed in different stores, and on the late alarm the mode of delivering it out was very troublesome and uncertain, besides being liable to much waste, this Committee thought it necessary to direct the whole to be removed into one house, for the greater ease of having a guard placed on it; and that it might be delivered properly, and an account kept regularly, they appointed Mr. *Gerard Hopkins* as a Commissary of Military Stores; and as such an officer must be appointed, we beg leave to solicit your confirmation of Mr. *Hopkins*, as he is capable and desirous to officiate. It became more necessary to make this appointment at the time, as the powder from *Philadelphia* was coming in, and several other matters for the service of *Militia* wanting, the whole of which can be executed by him.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

WILLIAM LUX,  
Deputy Chairman.  
WILLIAM BUCHANAN,  
JOHN BOYD,  
JOHN SMITH,  
THOMAS HARRISON,  
JOHN MERRYMAN, JUN.,  
JOHN STERETT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE BRIGADIERS-GENERAL, SEVERALLY.

[No. 61.]

Annapolis, March 16, 1776.

SIR: As our thanks are due to yourself and those generous men who, with alacrity and ardour, stepped forth on the late alarm, to the assistance and protection of their neighbours and fellow-citizens, we request you will accept of them, and present them likewise to those Battalions and Companies, of your District, that appeared on that occasion. We are, &c.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN CAMPBELL.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

SIR: It having been represented to Congress that Mrs. *Campbell* has arrived in this city, and so much indisposed as not to be able to pursue her design of visiting you at *Reading*, and being desirous of seeing you, I am directed by the Congress to inform you that you have their permission to repair to this city, and remain with Mrs. *Campbell* during the continuance of her illness, and until she is able to attend you on a journey to *Reading*.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Captain *Campbell*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO READING (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take the freedom to enclose a letter for Captain *John Nelson*, of the company of Riflemen, who was to call on you for seven hundred dollars, transmitted you some time ago. If he has not yet reached you, I beg you to keep the enclosed, and deliver it to him on his arrival with you. But if he has passed you, I am earnestly to desire you to take a fresh express, and send the letter with all expedition, that it may reach him as early as possible, it being of consequence.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Committee of Inspection of *Reading, Pennsylvania*.

P. S. The express I send to you is bound to *Carlisle*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN NELSON.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

SIR: Upon receipt of this, you are immediately to repair, with the company of Riflemen under your command, with all possible expedition to *New-York*, and put yourself under the orders of the officer commanding the Continental forces in that department.

By order of Congress: JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Captain *John Nelson*, of a Rifle Company, at *Reading*, or on his march.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I enclose you a resolution of Congress,\* which I am directed to forward to you, and, as I recollect, was ordered not to be made publick.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

\*IN CONGRESS, March 14, 1776: Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety, of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed, within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and shall refuse to associate, to defend by arms these United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and to apply the Arms taken from such persons, in each respective Colony, in the first place to the arming the Continental Troops raised in said Colony; in the next, to the arming such Troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence; and the residue to be applied to the arming the Associators. That the Arms, when taken, be appraised by indifferent persons; and such as are applied to the arming the Continental Troops be paid for by the Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety.

## ROBERT TREAT PAINE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress taking into consideration the urgent importance to the safety, freedom, and wealth of the United Colonies, that the manufacture of saltpetre and gunpowder should be established in all of them, in addition to their former resolves on that subject have passed those herewith enclosed, and appointed the Committee therein mentioned.

In pursuance of this trust, the Committee transmit you the resolves; and being deeply impressed with their importance to our common cause, think themselves in duty bound to urge upon you the immediate and vigorous execution of them.

The erecting publick works, as mentioned in the resolves, will be the first step to promote that useful business. If prosecuted with skill and diligence, it will answer the making saltpetre in large quantities, and will also afford the best method for suitable persons to learn the process, and from thence be sent abroad, to teach those who have not opportunity of learning from those publick works; for it is thought an object of the greatest concern that private families should be induced to make it. The inconsiderable expense attending the making it in families, where the method is once understood, and the quantity that each family may make, should remove all objections to their putting it in immediate practice.

When we consider the great consumption of saltpetre—used as medicine, in preserving meat, and in gunpowder, even in times of peace—it should seem a sufficient inducement to private families to learn and practise this art; but most of all when so large quantities are wanted for our necessary defence, and when it will in a great measure supply the want of salt, which the rage of our enemies may render scarce, it should not be reasonably supposed that any true *American* will neglect it.

As there can be no doubt but that every Colony may produce saltpetre enough, at least, for their own consumption, it is necessary that powder-mills be erected, and skilful persons provided to manufacture gunpowder, and proper regulations established for preventing their explosion.

It is supposed that sulphur may be found in many Colonies; and as it is necessary that it should be collected, trials may be made, at places supposed to contain it, at no great expense.

It must afford great pleasure to find that some Colonies have already, in a measure, anticipated the design of these resolves; from the good effects of which it is clearly evinced that we can never want the most abundant supply of ammunition, from our own manufacture, but through inattention and neglect.

We doubt not you will consider these proceedings as designed to promote the best welfare of the Colonies, and that you will, as soon as may be, and from time to time, inform the Congress of the state of these manufactures in your Colony; of the quantity of saltpetre already made; the preparation for and prospects of encouraging it; what quantity of gunpowder is already made, and the state of your powder-mills; and, also, what discoveries are made of sulphur mines, and the progress in working them.

We suppose you already have the most approved methods of making saltpetre among you; but the laying together suitable composts, either in fences or beds, in order to collect nitrous matter, seems necessary to be immediately attended to, as the earth from under old buildings may soon be exhausted.

We hope this effort of the Congress will have the desired effect; without which we have reason to fear it will, ere long, be said of us, that we are become slaves because we are not industrious enough to be free.

By order of said Committee, I subscribe myself, with great respect, your Honours' most humble servant,

ROBERT TREAT PAINE.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

The following gentlemen are appointed Field-Officers in the three Battalions which are to be raised for the defence of this Province, viz:

Musket Battalion: *John Cadwallader*, Esq., Colonel; *Caleb Perry*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Potts*, Esq., Major.

*Samuel Miles*, Esq., Colonel of the two Rifle Battalions; *John Piper*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the First, and *Ennion Williams*, Esq., Major; *Daniel Broadhead*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second, and *John Paton*, Esq., Major.

## RECANTATION OF JOHN WEBB.

Philadelphia, March 16, 1776.

Whereas I, the subscriber, have unadvisedly been guilty of tearing out and trampling upon the names of the Field-Officers of the Fourth Battalion of this County, signed to the Association, in contempt of the resolves of the Assembly and of this Committee; and as such conduct may set a bad example to others, unless speedily retracted, I do therefore, in this publick manner, acknowledge my fault, beg pardon of the Officers of the said Battalion for the insult shewn them, and promise, for the future, to support the Association as far as is in my power.

Witness my hand:

JOHN WEBB.

Published by order of the Committee:

COLLINSON READ, *Secretary*.

## MORRIS COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO LORD STIRLING.

Morristown, March 16, 1776.

MY LORD: When I left your Excellency last *Friday*, I did expect that the men you requested from the County of *Morris* would immediately be sent; but when I returned to *Morris* the men were ready, but the Colonels of the Regiments thought they had not authority to march the men out of the Province without orders from the General of the Militia. They had three hundred men ready to march, and do hold them in readiness to march, at an hour's warning, for two weeks, if necessity requires it, and they have authority so to do; and when I found the men were not likely to go to assist *New-York*, I immediately called the Committee to consult them, and they do not approve of sending men, for several reasons, which are—first, if men are wanted so much at *New-York*, why are so many of the soldiers strolling about the country (as they say) on furlough? and, secondly, why is not the Third Battalion of Provincial soldiers of this Province called, or as many Companies as are full? as all those are under pay, and ought to be in service, and the Militia left at home on their farms, where they are wanted; and, likewise, that, if the troops do come from *Boston*, they are more likely to come to *Amboy* than *New-York*. Be pleased to remember *Courtlandt Skinner's* letter.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most humble servant,

By order:

ALEXANDER CARMICHAEL,

*Chairman of the County Committee.*To the Right Honourable *William Earl of Stirling*.

## WILLIAM BURNET TO LORD STIRLING.

Newark, March 16, 1776.

MY LORD: I am not a little disappointed at the conduct of the *Elizabeth Township* Committee, as I understand they wrote you word they should not send any men to your assistance, when we had given you hopes we should send three hundred. The confusion is owing to your writing to the Township, and not the County Committee. The Township Committee of *Newark* received your letter, but were polite enough to ask my advice and assistance, as Chairman of the County Committee; and we unanimously agreed to send you one hundred and fifty men from this town, expecting the *Elizabeth Township* Committee would send at least one hundred and fifty men. We sent two of our members to *Elizabethtown* with this intelligence, and to agree upon the Field-Officers that should take the command. They agreed to raise one hundred and fifty men, and send them under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Ward*, of this town, and sent us word accordingly. In consequence of this, we proceeded to raise our portion of men, and gave orders that they should be ready to march yesterday, or to-day at farthest; but somehow, unaccountably, our Colonel

has deferred it until *Monday*, when there is no doubt he will come in. If this had been under the management of the County Committee, there would not have been a disappointment, as they preside over the whole. I hope you will find the men able and willing, and the officers capable of filling their several places. Colonel *Ward* I think a modest man, at least, and willing to do his duty as far as he knows, and to be taught what he is ignorant of.

I am, my Lord, in great haste, but with much esteem,  
your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant,

W. BURNET.

To the Right Honourable *William* Earl of *Stirling*.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, March 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since writing to you by express on *Thursday* last, I have not received any further intelligence from the eastward. The inhabitants of this city and *King's* County (on *Long-Island*) have very cheerfully turned out to work on the fortifications. Everything is going on as well as the badness of the weather will permit. Two companies of the Militia of *Newark*, in *New-Jersey*, are coming in this morning, and I hope they will soon be followed by others. I have not yet heard from Colonel *Dayton*, although I have written twice to him. The five companies of Colonel *Sinclair's* Regiment will be very little detained by coming to this place, as they will now be able to go by water all the way to *Albany*, and they must, at any rate, be too late to pass the lakes on the ice, and too early in the year to cross by water.

*March 17, ten o'clock, P. M.*—I have this evening received your letter of the 15th by express. One company of Colonel *Sinclair's* arrived this day at *Hoboken*, opposite to this city. They will embark to-morrow for *Albany*. The others will, as they arrive, embark at *Dobbs's* ferry for the same place. I have forwarded the packet for Governour *Trumbull*, with a letter to him, of which the enclosed is a copy.

The four regiments raising in this Colony are still very incomplete. It will, I fear, be some time before the battalions in the Continental service from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* do arrive, and have therefore called in some Militia from *New-Jersey* and this Province, to serve in the mean time. They will be dismissed as soon as the others arrive.

The Convention of this Province adjourned yesterday evening *sine die*. They have left a Committee of Safety to sit every day, with whom I have no doubt I shall go on with in the utmost confidence and harmony. I am to meet them to-morrow morning, in order to concert many measures left unfinished by the Convention. The inhabitants of this city have these two days turned out with great cheerfulness, and go on with the works very well at *Bayard's Hill*, the Hospital, and two new batteries fronting *Hudson's River*. All the other works on this Island go on briskly. The work first begun on *Long-Island*, opposite to this city, is almost completed, and the cannon carried over. The grand citadel there will be marked out to-morrow, and will be begun by the inhabitants of *King's* County and Colonel *Ward's* Regiment. It will be impossible to give you a detail of every particular, while I have so many things on hand. I shall, therefore, take the liberty of enclosing you copies of any consequential papers that may occur, and of the daily orders as they are issued; and shall, in my letter, remark such things of consequence only as are not contained in them.

I have received no further intelligence from General *Washington*; but, by accounts from that quarter on *Monday* last, it appears that the Ministerial Troops were proceeding in their embarkation. One letter says that five thousand of them were actually embarked; another account says that twenty-odd ships were sailed out of the harbour, perhaps with stores; for I cannot believe they will divide their real force in the presence of our Army. However, if they do not interrupt us in ten or twelve days more, I hope we shall be in a situation to prevent their making a lodgment, unless it be at the west end of *Long-Island*, near the Narrows, about which I am very anxious, but defer doing anything there until the other works are complete, and more troops

arrive. *Bergen Neck* may be so improved as to preserve the communication with *Jersey*, and all the country west of this place, in spite of them. The people of *New-Jersey* are very uneasy about the defenceless situation of *Elizabethtown* and *Amboy*. A descent may easily be made at the latter, and is worthy of attention. The former might be secured by a small work on *Bergen Neck*, near the *Kills*, and a small fort and proper battery at or near *Elizabethtown Point*. The powder designed for *Cambridge* will all be shifted by to-morrow evening, and ready to proceed by *Tuesday*, if that be the determination of the Congress.

By some prisoners taken into custody, there is great reason to believe that Governour *Tryon* has his emissaries in several parts of the Province, engaging men to serve both by land and water. One tells that he is engaged, with fifty others, under a certain *Vernon*, who was to fit out an armed sloop to cruise in the rivers. A sloop was actually purchased lately by *Vernon*, and we have her along the wharf. I have referred some others to the Committee of Safety to be examined; and, I doubt not, we shall find out and defeat their machinations.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

COLONEL McDOUGALL TO LORD STIRLING.

New-York, March 16, 1776.

MY LORD: Captain *Warner*, of the Militia, informs me that he knows where there are a number of muskets and pistols belonging to the Crown, secreted in the hands of some creatures of Government in the city, which he can secure if he had orders. I therefore judge it necessary to give you this intelligence, that you may take such measures for securing those arms as you shall judge proper. *Warner* says it must be done to-night, as there is danger of their being removed. You may trust him with the execution. My orderly will wait your directions.

I am, my Lord, your very humble servant,

ALEXANDER McDOUGALL.

To Lord *Stirling*.

MAYOR OF NEW-YORK TO HUGH GAINES.

New-York, March 16, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I send you a copy of a letter I received from Governour *Tryon*, enclosing an Address to the Inhabitants of this Colony, which address he has desired me to get published. I have, therefore, sent you a copy of the letter and address, in order for your inserting them in your *Gazette*, if you think proper.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

DAVID MATTHEWS.

Ship *Dutchess-of-Gordon*, North-River, March 16, 1776.

SIR: I desire you will lay before the gentlemen of the Corporation the enclosed exhortation to the inhabitants of this Colony, and that you will communicate the same to the publick, and also have it inserted in the several *Gazettes* published in the city of *New-York*.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM TRYON.

To *David Matthews*, Esq., Mayor of the City of *New-York*.

Ship *Dutchess-of-Gordon*, North-River, March 16, 1776.

To the Inhabitants of the Colony of *NEW-YORK*:

Notwithstanding prejudice, delusion, and faction, have hitherto among too many usurped the seat of reason and reflection, and every exhortation I have offered to the inhabitants of this Province (in whose affection I have been taught to be happy) has been reviled and treated with neglect; yet, as my wishes for their prosperity, and feelings for their calamities, cannot easily be suppressed, even towards the disobedient, I cannot but repeat my endeavours to recall those who have revolted from their allegiance to a sense of their duty, and to comfort those who have been the objects of oppression for their zealous attachment to our happy Constitution, and their steady obedience to the sovereignty of the *British* Empire.

It is in the clemency and authority of *Great Britain* only, under *God*, that we can look for happiness, peace, and protection; and I have it in command from the King to encourage, by every means in my power, the expectations in his Majesty's well-disposed subjects in this Government, of every assistance and protection that the state of *Great Britain* will enable his Majesty to afford them, and to cherish every appearance of a disposition on their part to withstand the tyranny and misrule which accompany the acts of those who have but too well hitherto succeeded in the total subversion of legal Government. Under such assurances, therefore, I exhort all the friends to good order and our justly admired Constitution, still to preserve that constancy of mind, which is inherent in breasts of virtuous and loyal citizens; and I trust a very few months will relieve them from their present oppressed, injured, and insulted condition.

*England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales*, have united to place their whole strength, power, and confidence in his Majesty's hands. The numerous addresses from all parts of the King's dominions in *Europe* speak the loyalty and zeal with which his subjects there engage to support his Majesty in asserting and maintaining the just sovereignty of the *British* Empire over all its members.

The *British* State moves not by sudden and violent sallies, nor wantonly oppresses—she has lenity for her basis, and is distinguished for moderation and forbearance; but when her just indignation is roused, the experience of other nations can testify her weight and force. It cannot be sufficiently lamented, that the conduct of this country has called for so severe a rod: may a timely and dutiful submission avert its stroke.

I have the satisfaction to inform you that a door is still open to such honest but deluded people as will avail themselves of the justice and benevolence which the supreme legislature has held out to them of being restored to the King's grace and peace; and that proper steps have been taken for passing a commission for that purpose, under the great seal of *Great Britain*, in conformity to a provision in a late act of Parliament; the Commissioners thereby to be appointed, having also power to inquire into the state and condition of the Colonies, for effecting a restoration of the publick tranquillity.

WILLIAM TRYON.

CHRISTIAN JACOBSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Richmond County, March 15, 1776.

MR. PRESIDENT. SIR: In consequence of a late resolve of the Provincial Congress, we have this day met, in order to nominate persons qualified to act as Field-Officers in our Militia Companies, viz: Captain *Abraham Jones*, First Colonel; Captain *Cornelius Van Wagener*, Second Colonel; *Cornelius Curson*, First Major; *Jacob Mercereau*, Second Major; *Harmanus Garrison*, Quartermaster; *Nicholas Stilwell*, Adjutant.

The above persons we return to you for approbation and commissions. We have divided our County into four districts, and hope to return to you in a short time the names of the Captains and Subalterns, &c.

We are, gentlemen, respectfully, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

CHRISTIAN JACOBSON, *Chairman*.

To the President and Members of the Provincial Congress in *New-York*.

JECAMIAH ALLEN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: At the request of Colonel *Drake*, I beg leave to acquaint you I have now eighty-two guns unspiked, and within three weeks from this date doubt not but I shall be able to complete the whole. Though, gentlemen, I beg to observe, the assistance I expected to have from the *Bartley* guards I could not obtain, they declaring their agreement with Mr. *Bartley* was, to guard the guns from seven o'clock in the evening to six in the morning, for which they received ten shillings per week per man, and to find themselves. The guards consist of six men. Being thus disappointed, I was obliged to give one of his guards thirty-six shillings per week, and others at that rate, occasionally to

assist in the fires, which are generally composed of two or three cords of wood, in which the guns are to be raised, and tended both night and day, in order to soften the spikes.

My brother, who left the cannon last *Thursday*, informed me the assistance of guards was asked, in moving the guns, from Mr. *Williams*; and also denied, and countenanced by Mr. *Bartley*.

Therefore, gentlemen, beg leave to offer my service once more to guard the guns, (which I am willing to do at one half of what Mr. *Bartley* gets,) while I am unspiking the cannon, and as much longer as you shall think fit. As there is a number of cannon not spiked, but loaded and stopped with stones and other rubbish, at the same time mean to employ such men for guards as will clear the guns, and fit them for service; conscious, under such circumstance, the business will not want assistance, nor unworthy men receive your favour.

From your obedient and humble servant,

JECAMIAH ALLEN.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress for the City and County of *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO LORD STIRLING.

Albany, March 16, 1776.

MY DEAR LORD: *Hudson's River* is now clear of ice, and the lakes are become impassable for the passage of troops; I am, therefore, under the necessity of detaining them here until the lakes can be passed by water. *Batteaus* and everything are prepared to convey the troops and stores.

Be so good as to let me have a return of the troops under your command, that I may be enabled properly to dispose of the regiment raising in this quarter.

Eight tons of powder arrived yesterday from *Philadelphia*. The cannon and shot from *New-York* are not yet come up. The moment the troops, cannon, and powder, are embarked at *Lake George*, I propose joining you. My health is much re-established, and I have great hopes that I shall not soon experience a relapse. Mr. *Hamer* has my leave to call on you at *New-York*, in his way with his wife to *New-Jersey*.

My dear Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*, Brigadier-General, &c.

ALBANY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, March 16, 1776.

Resolved, That no person or persons be permitted to move into, or settle within this City and County, unless he or they bring a certificate from the Committee of the County, Town, Manor, City, or District, where such person or persons respectively resided, that he or they had, prior to the date of this resolve, signed the Association recommended by Congress, or a similar one adopted by the Committee where he or they resided, and had, in all things, behaved in a manner becoming friends to *American* freedom.

A true copy from the Minutes:

MATTHEW VISSCHER, *Secretary*.

COLONEL J. VARNUM TO MAJOR HARRISON.

Prospect-Hill, March 16, 1776.

SIR: I send you, by my clerk, the Continental Articles, signed by a number of my officers. Captain *Lane* has not signed. The reason, he received encouragement from his Excellency but a very few days before he went recruiting. He is gone a very considerable distance eastward, and is not returned. *Reed* was sent recruiting some time since, and is sick in the country. *Atkinson* is the person whom Captain *Lane* recommended to his Excellency for an Ensign. *Atkinson* says *Lane* told him he was to be a Second Lieutenant. How that is I know not; but Captain *Lane* had no authority for such assurance; neither was there at that time a vacancy among the Second Lieutenants. So *Atkinson* refuses to sign the articles.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

J. VARNUM.

To Major *Harrison*.



## NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Die Luna, A. M., February 12, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to the adjournment of the 22d of December last.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Ray, Mr. Helme, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Brasher, Mr. Sands, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Scott, Mr. Cortlandt.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Rensselaer, Mr. Oothoudt.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wickham, Mr. Treadwell.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Mr. Livingston, Colonel Graham.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Vanderbilt.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. Herring, Mr. Allison.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Mr. Dewitt.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Wills.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Paulding, Colonel G. Drake, Mr. Ward, Dr. Graham.

Mr. William Wills, from Tryon County, produced a Certificate from the Committee of said County, dated the 25th of November last, whereby it appears that Mr. Isaac Paris, having, for sufficient reasons, resigned his seat as Deputy for said County, Mr. William Wills, of Harpersfield, was duly elected to represent said County in the room of said Isaac Paris.

Ordered, That Mr. Wills take his seat.

Messrs. Matthew Rhea, Andries Lefever, and Andries Dewitt, Deputies for Ulster County; William Allison, for Orange County; Henry Oothoudt, for Albany County; Colonel Petrus Ten Broeck and Morris Graham, for Dutchess County, not having appeared in Congress before, the Credentials of those Counties were respectively read.

Ordered, That those gentlemen take their seats.

P. M., February 12, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel McDougall, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Scott, Mr. Sands, Mr. Van Cortlandt, Mr. Ray, Captain Rutgers.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Rensselaer, Mr. Oothoudt.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wickham, Mr. L'Hommedieu.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel P. Ten Broeck, Mr. G. Livingston, Major R. G. Livingston, Colonel Graham.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Mr. Dewitt.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Paulding, Colonel G. Drake, Mr. Ward, Dr. Graham, Colonel Joseph Drake.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. Herring, Mr. Allison.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Vanderbilt.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Wills.

A Letter from the Honourable John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, dated the 12th January, received by the Committee of Safety, and before entered on their Minutes, 24th day of January last, was read.

Resolves of Continental Congress of the 8th January last, as formerly received and entered by the Committee of Safety, were read.

A Letter from the Honourable John Hancock, President, of the 20th of January last, entered on the Minutes of the Committee of Safety on the 24th day of January last past, was read.

The sundry Resolutions of the Continental Congress of the 8th, 9th, and 10th of January last, relating to the raising of Troops for Continental service, were also read.

The Letters of the Committee of Safety of the 11th and 17th of January last, to General Schuyler, were read.

The Letter of General Schuyler to the Committee of Safety of the 25th January, was read.

A Letter from Gen. Schuyler, dated the 6th February, instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, February 6, 1776.

"SIR: The Continental Congress having ordered one regiment to be raised in this Province to go into Canada, I requested of that respectable body to know if the companies

that I ordered to be raised for garrisoning Crown-Point, Ticonderoga, Fort George, &c., were to be considered as part of them. You will probably receive directions on this head; and that no delay may be made in the arrangement of the officers to the regiment, I do myself the honour to enclose you the names of such as I gave recruiting orders to. If Major Gansevoort should be provided for, or Colonel Yates promoted, and if Captain Curtis had the majority given him, I believe it would tend to fill up the regiment with much expedition, as he has great influence in the part of the country where he resides, which is about Canaan.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To the President of the New-York Congress."

A Return, or List of persons who have had Warrants from General Schuyler, and therein enclosed, was also read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"A Return of the Names of persons to whom Inlisting Orders have been delivered by Major-General PHILIP SCHUYLER.

1775. Nov. 16, To Captain Eleazer Curtis, an old Captain in Colonel Hinman's Regiment, now with his Company at Fort George.

" 16, To Captain Daniel Mills.

" 27, To Captain Joseph McCracken.

" 30, To Captain Elias Hasbrouck.

" 30, To Captain Andrew Billings.

First Lieutenants.

1775. Nov. 27, To Lieutenant Martin.

" 27, To Lieutenant Barnes.

" 28, To Lieutenant Anthony Welfh.

1776. Jan'y 8, To Mr. Ebenezer Hill.

" 27, To Lieutenant Charles Graham.

Second Lieutenants.

1775. Nov. 24, To Sergeant Cook.

Dec. 2, To Mr. Van Veghten.

1776. Jan'y 8, To Mr. James Clark.

" 8, To Mr. William Moulton.

Ensigns.

1776. Jan'y 8, To Mr. Luther Bissell."

A Letter from Elihu Marvin, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Orange County, dated Oxford, February 9, 1776, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Oxford, February 9, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In consequence of your letter of the 26th ultimo, I convened our County Committee on Tuesday, the 6th instant, and laid the matter before them relative to the raising of men for the defence of this Colony. The same being taken into consideration, the Committee are unanimously of opinion that there can be three companies raised in this County, viz. two on the north, and one on the south side of the Mountains; and have nominated the following persons for officers to raise the two companies on the north side, to wit: In Goshen Regiment, Daniel Denton, Captain; Balhazer Dehart, First Lieutenant; George H. Jackson, Second Lieutenant, and Samuel Carpenter, Ensign. In Cornwall Regiment, Seth Marvin, Captain; James Little, First Lieutenant; Nathan Strong, Second Lieutenant, and Stephen Halsey, Ensign. But, at the same time, the Committee think it will be out of their power to arm any considerable part of the men they raise, on account of the quantity they furnished last year, none of which have been returned, and must therefore leave that matter with the Congress. They are also of opinion that it would be of bad consequence to nominate more than one set of officers to each company, and have therefore declined it.

The Ensign of Captain Raymond's Company having moved out of this County, the company have regularly elected Vincent Helme to that office, for whom a commission is requested to be made out, and sent up as soon as possible.

If the Congress could furnish each recruiting Captain with the terms upon which men are to enlist, with regard to time, pay, and clothing, the Committee are of opinion that it would tend to facilitate the raising the companies now to be filled. I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

"ELIHU MARVIN, Chairman.

"To Pierre Van Cortlandt, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety now sitting in New-York, or, in his absence, to the Chairman pro tempore."

Mr. *Scott* then moved, and was seconded, in the words following, to wit:

MR. PRESIDENT: I move that a Committee be appointed immediately, to take into consideration those matters which the Continental Congress have recommended for execution to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, in relation to the ensuing campaign; and that, to this end, they have power to send for all the papers which have reference to that subject, whether in the hands of this Congress or the Committee of Safety; and that the said Committee to be appointed for the purpose aforesaid, do make report upon each respective branch of the subject to be committed to their consideration, with all possible speed.

The same being unanimously agreed to,

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, and Mr. *Gansevoort*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they make report with all convenient speed.

A Member suggested that the time in which *Robert Boyd* was to have completed his contract for Arms is nearly expired, that he has as yet delivered a very few Musket-barrels, &c., agreeable to his contract.

Ordered, That a Letter be written to the said *Robert Boyd*, directing him to send down all the Gun-barrels he has made, and desiring him to inform the Congress when he can complete his contract.

*Watkeys*, the Gunsmith, was sent for, and charged to finish the Gun-barrels now in his custody. He says he can finish them in seven days. He is charged to finish them in ten days, at all events.

A draft of a Letter to *Robert Boyd*, on the subject of Arms, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 12, 1776.

SIR: It is now a considerable time since we have had any intelligence from you respecting the completing the contract made with you by the last Congress. The season is near when we shall want all the arms that can be procured. We therefore desire that you advise us, without delay, how many barrels, and bayonets, and steel ramrods, you have made, and to send down steel ramrods for the barrels sent down last autumn. And as the time in which the arms were to be made is now expired, we wish to be advised whether you mean to go on in making arms upon the strength of that contract; and if you do, to inform us what number you can complete before the 1st day of April.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Mr. *Robert Boyd*, New-Windsor.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, and *John Van Cortlandt*, Esq., be a Committee to wait on Major-General *Lee*, and inform him that the Provincial Congress is now formed; that if he has anything relative to the publick service or safety to propose, they are ready to take the same into consideration; and that they are ready to give him any necessary aid in the publick service.

A Petition of *John Willett*, and fourteen other persons, inhabitants of *Queen's County*, now prisoners under a guard in the City of *New-York*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, convened in the City of *New-York*, the Petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of *QUEEN'S County*, on *NASSAU-ISLAND*, humbly sheweth:

"That your Petitioners have been obliged to attend the honourable the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, in obedience to an order from that body, as verbally delivered by Colonel *Heard*. That they have been at great expense in their journey to and from *Philadelphia*, and are now confined in this city at their own expense, and denied the pleasure of visiting their families. That when they left their several homes to attend the honourable the Continental Congress, they were admitted to go and return to this Congress on parole of honour. That they are ready and willing to pledge their honours to observe such orders as this honourable body shall direct, respecting their appearance, provided they are admitted to go at large; or, if bail should be required, they are ready and willing to give such reasonable security as to this honourable body shall seem meet,

for their appearance whenever required. The Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that this honourable body will give them such relief in the premises as to them shall seem meet. And the Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

"John Willett,	Daniel Kissam,	John Polhemus,
"Benj. Whitehead,	John Shoals,	Charles Hicks,
"Thomas Smith,	Samuel Hallett,	Samuel Martin,
"William Weynman,	Gilbert Van Wyck,	David Brooks,
"Nathaniel Moore,	John Townsend,	Joseph French.

"*New-York*, February 12, 1776."

After reading the said Petition and prayer thereof, Mr. *Scott* moved, and was seconded, that the prayer thereof be granted.

Debates arose upon the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative by a great majority.

Mr. *Vanderbilt* requested a permit to complete the lading of the Brig *Defiance*, *John Waldron*, master. Thereupon an order was made in the words following, to wit:

Mr. *John Vanderbilt* is hereby permitted to complete the lading of the Brigantine *Defiance*, whereof *John Waldron* is master.

Die Martis, A. M., February 13, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Ray*, Colonel *Brasher*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Scott*.

FOR *ALBANY*.—Colonel *Rensselaer*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommiedieu*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR *DUTCHESS*.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Major *Livingston*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Rhea*.

FOR *ORANGE*.—Mr. *Herring*, Mr. *Allison*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Dr. *Graham*, Mr. *Ward*.

FOR *TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wills*.

FOR *KING'S*.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

A certified extract of the Proceedings of the Committee of *Ulster County*, dated *New-Paltz*, January 19, 1776, and signed by *J. Bruyn*, Chairman, whereby the said Committee do recommend for Field-Officers in the Northern Regiment of said County, Mr. *Abraham Hasbrouck*, for Colonel; *Johannes Snyder*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonathan Elmendorf* and *Adrian Wynkoop*, Majors; *Abraham A. Hasbrouck*, Adjutant, and *John Van Quesen*, Jun., for Quartermaster, was read and filed.

Ordered, That Commissions be issued for the above Officers immediately.

A Letter from *Severyn T. Bruyn*, dated *Ulster County*, *Bruynswick*, February 15, 1776, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Ulster County*, *Bruynswick*, February 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I herewith return to your Honours a commission which was handed to me, to be Adjutant of the Regiment of Minute-men of the southern part of the County of *Ulster*, of which *Thomas Palmer*, Esq., is the Colonel, whereof I must acquaint your Honours I cannot, in justice to myself, accept, as I was informed some time last fall I was recommended to your House (by two of the Deputies of this County then in Congress) to be First Major of a Regiment of Minute-men, of which *George Clinton*, Esq. was to be Colonel; which was resolved on, and entered in your Minutes; which proceedings were communicated to me, and I accepted, to serve my country in that capacity; which was made publick at sundry meetings of officers, and particularly at a meeting of the Field-Officers of this County for the choosing or nominating a Brigadier-General, where I was desired to meet, and accordingly did, and gave my vote as a Major. And now, to be tossed out, and put into a lower commission, I cannot accept thereof, without degrading myself to the lowest degree. However, I still can serve the country as a private, and not be dependant for my living on a commission.

"I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

"SEVERYN T. BRUYN.

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of *New-York*."

*Ordered*, That the Letter from *S. T. Bruyn* be referred to the Members of *Ulster* County, and that they make report with all convenient speed.

A Letter from the Committee of *Marbletown*, dated *January 29*, signed by *Levi Pawling*, Chairman, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Marbletown, January 29, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We, the Committee of the township of *Marbletown*, are under the disagreeable necessity of troubling your honourable body; though, as it is the first of the kind, we expect to be excused.

"The matter we have to lay before your honourable Board is, that, in compliance to a resolve passed by the honourable Provincial Congress the 22d of *August* last, there was an election for choosing of officers in the company of the southwest district of said town, and the following persons were chosen by a very great majority, viz: *Cornelius E. Wynkoop*, Captain; *Charles W. Brodhead*, First Lieutenant; *Moses M. Cantine*, Second Lieutenant; and *Jacob Chambers* Ensign; which your honourable Board has been pleased to commission. These gentlemen officiated each in their respective ranks with great satisfaction, as far as we know, until it pleased your honourable body to promote Captain *Wynkoop* to be a Major in Colonel *Dewitt's* Regiment of Minute-men; after which, there was a day appointed, agreeably to said resolve, for filling up the vacancy by the company's choice, when *John Hasbrouck*, a person not belonging to the company, nor even to the regiment, set up, or intended to set up, for Captain of said company; which caused a great deal of confusion.

"We therefore pray that we may be informed, as soon as possible, whether it is the opinion of your honourable body that a Captain should be chosen, or that the First Lieutenant should be promoted, and the other subalterns rise in rank, and then an Ensign to be chosen; which we think is the most natural construction to be laid on the resisted resolve. And if a procedure of that kind cannot take place, your Honours may be assured that Mr. *Brodhead* will resign, and then a new election must ensue, and in course more troubles of that kind ensue. But, at the same time, we are willing to comply with such directions as we may receive from your honourable body.

"We are, gentlemen, your Honours' very humble servants.

"By order of the Committee:

"LEVI PAWLING, Chairman.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress in *New-York*."

The Petition of *John Hasbrouck* and others, dated at *Marbletown*, *January 30*, 1776, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the Letter from the Committee of *Marbletown*, as also the Petition of *John Hasbrouck* and others, be referred to the Members of *Orange* and *Dutchess*, and that they make report with all convenient speed.

Colonel *McDougall*, from the Committee appointed to wait on General *Lee*, reported, that they had waited on General *Lee*, and delivered him the Congress's message of yesterday, and that the General was pleased to answer, that he thanked the Congress for their politeness, and would avail himself of the tender of their services as circumstances shall make it necessary.

As the following gentlemen (being among the number of Deputies chosen to represent the City and County of *New-York*; in this Congress) have not taken their seats, to wit: *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, *Benjamin Kissam*, *John Morton*, *Gabriel W. Ludlow*, *Isaac Sears*, *Cornelius Clopper*, and *Theodorus Van Wyck*.

And as it is necessary for the publick service that the representation of the City and County of *New-York* be complete, it is therefore

*Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York* be directed to cause, by election of the inhabitants entitled to vote, a Return to be made of seven Deputies, to serve in this Congress with the other Deputies of the said City and County, in the room of the above-mentioned persons, who have not taken their seats, and that the said Return be made on or before the 20th instant.

*Ordered*, further, That such Members who have taken

their seats in Congress be requested to give their attendance.

Mr. Mayor of the City of *New-York* attending, was requested to come into Congress. He informed the Congress that the passage to his Excellency Governour *Tryon's* Ship is impeded by sentinels; that his Majesty's Council, and some of the Magistrates of this City, may have occasion to wait on his Excellency. Therefore,

*Ordered*, That the Hon. *Cadwallader Colden*, Esq., Lieutenant-Governour, and the Hon. *Daniel Horsmanden*, *Oliver De Lancey*, *Charles Ward*, *Apthorpe*, *William Smith*, *Hugh Wallace*, *William Axtell*, and *John Harris Cruger*, Esquires, of his Majesty's Council for this Colony; the Worshipful *Whitehead Hicks*, Esq., Mayor of the City of *New-York*, and *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., Deputy Secretary and Deputy Clerk of the Council, or any of his stated Clerks, who may by his order attend the Council of this Colony, and each and every of them, be permitted to go on board of his Excellency's Ship, until the further order or direction of this Congress or the Committee of Safety, and that a copy hereof, delivered to the officer of the Port-Guard, be a sufficient pass for each and every of the aforesaid publick officers, without any other pass or copy hereof in the custody of either of those gentlemen; and

*Ordered*, That the copy hereof delivered to the officer of the Port-Guard, be delivered over to each successive officer of the Port-Guard.

A Letter from *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., Deputy Secretary of this Colony, was again read. He therein mentions his inclination to have it in his power to use any recreation, on his engagement not to quit the Records. And Mr. *John McKesson* informed Congress that his Majesty's Council is to sit to-morrow, and that the attendance of *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., as Clerk of the Council, may be necessary: Therefore,

*Ordered*, That *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., the Deputy Secretary of this Colony, be permitted to come to the City of *New-York*, or to depart from the house of *Nicholas Bayard*, Esq., at any time he shall think proper, on his leaving one of his stated Clerks there, during his absence, on every such occasion.

On request of Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Rensselaer* and Major *R. G. Livingston* are added to the Committee appointed yesterday, to take into consideration the matters which the Continental Congress have recommended for execution to this Congress or the Committee of Safety.

Colonel *Joseph Drake* applied for some blank Commissions for Officers of Militia in *Westchester* County.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries send to the Committee of *Westchester* County, by Colonel *Joseph Drake*, such blank Commissions, signed by the President of this Congress, as they have here in the Congress Chamber.

Thereupon, three blank Commissions (which are all the Secretaries had here) were delivered to Colonel *Joseph Drake*, to be delivered to the Chairman of the Committee of *Westchester* County, to be filled up.

A Letter from *Isaac Thompson*, Chairman of the Committee of *Islip*, in *Suffolk* County, bearing date the 9th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Islip, in Suffolk County, February 9, A. D. 1776.

"SIR: There never has been a Militia Company formed in this Precinct; but they that bore arms in the east part of this Precinct have been in the *Smithtown* Company, and those of the west part of this Precinct have been under a *Huntington* Captain; which has been disagreeable to the greatest part of the people of this Precinct, and it has been the cause of uneasiness amongst us. We informed Colonel *Potter* of what we were going to do, before we proceeded to form a company. The Colonel said the company would not be so large as he should choose; but if it would unite the people, and if they did proceed to choose their officers, &c., that he would order the names of those of the east part of this Precinct to be taken out of the list at *Smithtown*.

"The way thus being laid open, the people of this Precinct assembled together, and in our presence proceeded to the choice of their officers. They unanimously chose *Benajah Strong* for their Captain, *Jeremiah Terry* for their First Lieutenant, *Samuel Oakley* for their Second Lieutenant, and *Annen Mobrey* for their Ensign.

"The above-named persons have signed the Association. We desire that commissions may be granted to the above-named persons, as we believe it will tend very much to unite the people in this Precinct.

"Signed by order of the Committee of *Islip* :

"ISAAC THOMPSON, *Chairman*.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

"P. S. There are about thirty-six or thirty-seven that would belong to this company. I. T."

The Congress took the same into consideration; and thereupon

*Ordered*, That the Inhabitants of *Islip* be formed into a Militia Company, agreeable to their request, and that Commissions issue to the following gentlemen, to wit: *Benajah Strong*, Captain; *Jeremiah Terry*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Oakley*, Second Lieutenant; and *Annen Mobrey*, Ensign, agreeably to the election of the Company, and the Return of the Committee.

A Letter from the Committee of *Tryon* County, bearing date the 11th of *January* last, and requesting the loan of five hundred Pounds for their County, payable to Mr. *John Moore*, one of their Deputies, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Tryon* County Committee-Chamber, January 11, 1776.

"HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: We took into mature consideration the defraying of our Committee expenses for several services of scouting parties, guards, and other necessary duties, performed upon orders of our Board since the 27th *August*, 1774, to this day; and as it is to be feared that if in case we should levy such wanting money in a tax from our constituents, our Association would be hurt or entirely broken; therefore it is resolved by our Board, that such sum of money as is wanted for that purpose might be drawn out of the Provincial Treasury in *New-York*, and the same charged to this Board until a future time. In order of which we apply to you, with the humble request for your kind assistance in granting such reasonable desire; and relying thereon, we do hereby appoint and authorize our Delegate, Mr. *John Moore*, to receive out of the fund above-mentioned the sum of five hundred pounds, to the use of defraying such necessary payments already due on account and charge of our Board, as aforesaid.

"Your favourable compliance will in particular oblige, who are esteemfully, honourable gentlemen, your obedient humble servants.

"By order of the Committee:

"ISAAC PARIS, *Chairman*.

"Attest:

"JOHN EISENLORD, *Clerk*.

"To the Honourable the Congress of *New-York*."

The Congress took the same into consideration; and, after some time spent therein,

*Ordered*, That the same be deferred for further consideration on the arrival of the Accounts of the *Tryon* County Committee, which are speedily expected.

A Letter from *David Pye*, Esq., Chairman of a Committee on the south side of the Mountains, in *Orange* County, recommending sundry gentlemen for officers in the Troops to be raised in this Colony, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In County Committee, south side of the Mountains, 2  
in the County of *Orange*, February 10, 1776. }

"In pursuance of a resolution of the Continental Congress, and a recommendation of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, now before us, we do recommend the under-named persons for officers for two companies, to be raised in this part of the said County, upon probability that they will be completed, viz:

"*Amos Hutchings*, Captain; *Pattan Jackson*, First Lieutenant; *Robert Wood*, Second Lieutenant; *George Johnson*, Ensign; nominated for officers for one company, for the Continental service.

"*Arie King*, Captain; *William Sicher*, First Lieutenant; *John D. Coe*, Second Lieutenant; *Peter Oblenus*, Ensign; nominated for officers for one company, for the Continental service.

"GENTLEMEN: The above nominations, if accepted by the Congress, the persons concerned request to know when they must commence, and what clothing is to be allowed,

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and what will be allowed for sufficient arms which may amount to one-third the number of men.

"We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

"Per order: DAVID PYE, *Deputy Chairman*.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

"P. S. The bearer hereof, *Amos Hutchings*, will wait your answer hereunto. Pray use the utmost despatch."

A Letter from *John W. Watkins*, offering his services to his country, and requesting a Commission, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the two last mentioned Letters be referred to the Committee appointed to take into consideration the matters recommended from Continental Congress to be carried into execution.

Mr. *Isaac Marschalk*, from the gentlemen requested by the Committee of Safety, delivered in a List of empty or uninhabited Houses in this City.

Die Martis, 3 ho. P. M., February 13, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Ray*, Mr. *Sands*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Beekman*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Rensselaer*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Dewitt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Dr. *Graham*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *Lewis Graham*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Allison*, Mr. *Herring*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wills*.

Mr. *Scott* informed the Congress that Dr. *Middleton* informed him that Governour *Tryon* is indisposed, and that it is necessary that Dr. *Middleton*, as his physician, should go on board.

Thereupon, a Permit was given to Dr. *Middleton*, in the words following, to wit:

To the Officer of the Port-Guard:

Dr. *Middleton* is hereby permitted to go on board of his Excellency's Ship the *Dutchess of Gordon*.

By order.

Dr. *John Williams*, of *Charlotte* County, appeared in Congress, and produced his Credentials; which were read and filed, and are in the words and figures following, to wit:

"At a general meeting, held in *White Creek*, January 25, 1776, it was unanimously agreed, that Dr. *John Williams* and Mr. *Alexander Campbell* should represent the County of *Charlotte* in Provincial Congress till the second Tuesday in May next.

"By order of this meeting:

"ALEXANDER WEBSTER, *Clerk*."

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, bearing date the 8th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Dutchess* County Committee, February 8, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In compliance with a letter from the Committee of Safety, of the 26th ultimo, this Committee proceeded to deliberate on every part of your directions respecting the four regiments to be raised, and in Continental pay, for the defence of this Colony, and are of opinion that, notwithstanding here are now in this County six recruiting officers in the service of the Continent, viz: Captains *Billings*, *Rosekrans*, and *Graham*, and Lieutenants *Burten* and *Doty*, and Ensign *Johnson*, we shall be able to complete three companies. Accordingly we have, with the utmost caution and circumspection, recommended the following gentlemen in the different Precincts as proper officers for this most essential service, viz:

"*William Barker*, Captain; *John Lloyd*, First Lieute-

nant; *Nathaniel Meade*, Second Lieutenant; *John Punder-son*, Ensign.

"*Abraham Swartwout*, Captain; *John Durling*, First Lieutenant; *Eli Pearson*, Second Lieutenant; *George Brooks*, Ensign.

"*Nathan Pearce*, Jun., Captain; *Joshua Barnum*, First Lieutenant; *Josiah Crosby*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Ostrander*, Ensign.

"At the same time we could wish to have complied more particularly with the tepour of your directions respecting the advice of our Deputies, which we would most readily have done had we had the opportunity of procuring their attendance.

"The latter part of your respectable favour directs us to nominate two gentlemen for each office, that you may have an opportunity of choosing the one you shall think best qualified. In this particular instance, we beg leave to observe that the inconveniences to us appear insurmountable, and therefore have thought proper to desist from the mode.

"We remain your very humble servants.

"By order of the Committee:

"*EGBERT BENSON*, Chairman.

"To the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*."

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the Committee to whom the other Letters recommending Officers are referred.

Colonel *McDougall* and Colonel *Brasher*, who, by order of the Congress, had gone to wait on General *Lee*, to request a change in the mode of his order to the Officer of the Port-Guard, returned, and reported that General *Lee* had given a new order to the Officer of the Port-Guard with respect to persons permitted to go on board his Excellency's Ship the *Dutchess of Gordon*.

The said Order being read, was in the words following, to wit:

"*New-York*, February 13, 1776.

"SIR: You will give orders to the Sentinels posted on the wharves to permit all persons who have leave or liberty from the Provincial Congress, or the Committee of Safety, to pass on board the ship where Mr. *Tryon* resides.

"*CHARLES LEE*, Major-General.

"To the Commanding Officer of the Port-Guard."

Ordered, That Major-General *Lee*'s said Order, and a certified copy of the Permit or Order of this Congress of this morning, that his Majesty's Council of this Colony, the Mayor of this City, and the Deputy Secretaries of the Colony, be permitted to go on board his Excellency's Ship, be delivered to the Officer of the Port-Guard by one of the Secretaries.

Some Accounts for billeting a part of Major-General *Lee*'s Guards were produced and read. Thereupon,

Ordered, That all Accounts contracted by Major-General *Lee* for the Continental service, be audited for payment by Colonel *McDougall*; and, being so audited, that they be paid by Colonel *Peter T. Curtenius*, until a proper person is appointed for that purpose by the Continental Congress.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., February 14, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Sands*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Helme*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Rhea*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Herring*, Mr. *Allison*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *L. Graham*, Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Dr. *Graham*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wills*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

The Congress, considering that the Writs for electing Representatives in this Colony are returnable this day, and

that the General Assembly may have occasion to meet in the Chamber,

Ordered, That Messrs. *Roosevelt* and *Abraham Yates* request of the Mayor of this City the use of the Common-Council Room for the Congress.

Messrs. *Murray*, *Sansom & Co.*, sent in a request by Mr. *Robert Murray*, for leave to send Provisions, and certain other articles in their request mentioned, on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*.

The Congress consented that part of the said Provisions be sent on board, together with the other articles. Thereupon,

Ordered, That Messrs. *Murray*, *Sansom & Co.*, be permitted to put on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, five barrels Pork, five barrels Beef, one box Candles, one coil of three-inch Rope, some Blocks, one bolt of Canvass No. 1, and two cords of Firewood, for the use of said Ship and her crew.

A Letter from *Abraham Godwin*, dated yesterday, offering his service to his country as a Captain, and alleging that he had enlisted the best part of his Company, was read and filed.

Ordered, That it be referred with the other Letters on that subject.

The Petition of *John De Wint*, of *Orange Town*, in the County of *Orange*,\* praying leave to export Provisions to the Island of *St. Thomas*, in the *Danish West-Indies*, was read and filed.

Ordered, That the said Petition be rejected.

A Petition of *Guert Spt. De Wint*, Esquire, was read. He thereby requests leave to export a large quantity of Provisions and Lumber for the use of his Estate in the Island of *St. Thomas*, in the *Danish West-Indies*; likewise leave to export his Household Furniture, Horses and Carriages, and his family, and a generous supply of all the good things of this country, for the use of himself and family at sea.

Ordered, That that part of the Petition of *Guert Spt. De Wint*, Esq., which relates to removal of his Family, Horses, Carriages, and Household Furniture, and a necessary supply of Provisions only for their use at sea, be referred to the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*; and that all the other parts of the said Petition be rejected.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, submitting to the Congress the case of *Jean Baptiste De Gas*, and the establishment of a Company of Artificers, &c., was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*New-York*, February 14, 1776.

"SIR: Enclosed I take the liberty of sending the case of *Jean Baptiste De Gas*, a *Canadian*, submitting to the consideration of the Provincial Congress whether it would not be proper to furnish him with a necessary sum of money to enable him to proceed to Mr. *Hancock*, to whom he has been recommended.

"Sir, as, in all probability, a considerable body of troops will be stationed in this city and its environs during the present contest, I would take the liberty to propose to the Congress the establishment of a Corps of Artificers. Such an establishment is not only necessary for the different military works, but I apprehend it will answer very materially in point of economy.

"There is another circumstance I must beg leave to

\* To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*, now assembled at *New-York*:

The humble Petition of *JOHN DE WINT*, of *ORANGE Town*, and County of *ORANGE*, sheweth:

That your Petitioner has long resided in this Province, and has now a large and numerous family about him. That your Petitioner has a Plantation in the Island of *St. Thomas*, in the *Danish West-Indies*, which has been the entire support of himself and numerous family, who cannot subsist without the income of said estate. And whereas, through the prohibition of exporting lumber, his said estate must sink this year's crop, now standing on the fields; your Petitioner therefore prays your indulgence or permission to ship, for the sole use of said estate, ten thousand staves and five thousand hoops.

That your Petitioner has on said Plantation one hundred and sixty Negroes, whose support entirely depends on provisions from *America*, and, by that means, the support of himself and numerous family depend on the same. Your Petitioner therefore prays your indulgence to ship, for the use of said Negroes, fifty casks of white flour, fifty casks of rye flour, twenty-five tierces of bread, and ten barrels of pork. And your Petitioner shall forever pray.

JOHN DE WINT.

February 14, 1776.



mention: it is, sir, to appoint some person as Commissary, to receive, take care of, and be responsible for the various sorts of military stores now in our hands.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York."

"New-York, February 13, 1776.

"General *Wooster* employed *Jean Baptiste De Gas* the 4th of *January*, as conductor and interpreter of the prisoners who were sent from *Montreal* to *Albany*. In consequence, he conducted them to *Albany*. General *Wooster* advanced him no money; but he received from Lieutenant *Cook*, at *Ticonderoga*, twenty-two shillings, *New-York* money; that this is the only money he has received; that as General *Montgomery* had promised to recommend him to the Congress for a commission in a regiment of *Canadians* to be raised for the Continental service, and as General *Wooster* assured him he had written in his favour to Mr. *Hancock*, he thought both his interest and his duty obliged him to proceed to *Philadelphia*, in order to make application, in person, to the gentlemen of the Congress for their favour and protection; but at *Poughkeepsie* he fell sick, where, having no money, he was obliged to sell part of his clothes to pay his Doctor, and the expenses of his living."

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to *Jean Baptiste De Gas*, (recommended by General *Lee*), who appears to have been employed by General *Wooster* as Conductor and Interpreter to the Prisoners from *Montreal* to *Albany*, and for which he has not been fully satisfied, the sum of twenty Dollars, to assist him on his journey from this City to *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* and Mr. *Sands* be a Committee to take into consideration that part of Major-General *Lee's* Letter to this Congress relative to the establishment of a Corps of Artificers, and the appointment of a Commissary to receive, take care of, and be responsible for the various sorts of Military Stores now in the General's hands; and that they report with all convenient speed.

A Letter from Messrs. *William Bedlow* and *Jonathan Lawrence*, Commissioners in the Highlands, bearing date the 12th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort Constitution, February 12, 1776.

"SIR: As we have now weather to finish the Battery recommended in a letter from the Committee of Safety of 23d *January* last, we were desirous of setting about it, by employing the Minute-men in garrison here. Colonel *Nicoll* informs us the men seem unwilling, unless allowed some small compensation. We have agreed to allow them one shilling per day when at work. If it is not with your approbation, shall desist from giving them anything.

"We beg leave to remark, on the order of the Committee in the above-mentioned letter, that, to make the breastwork of said Battery twenty feet thick, we must make the stone-work of the wall equal to support such a breastwork; which will be as expensive, and take as much time as has already accrued on it. If it be agreeable, we can make the breastwork with three pieces of timber thick, twelve by twelve on the outer face, and two the inside, taking in the whole width of the crown of the wall, except six inches for the sleepers of the platform to rest on, and to fill the space between the timber with earth, well rammed down. Your answer from the Committee of Safety will oblige, sir, your humble servants,

"WILLIAM BEDLOW.

"JONATHAN LAWRENCE.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, Commanding Officer at the Fortifications in the Highlands, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort Constitution, February 12, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Commissioners for carrying on the works at this garrison have applied to me to order out workmen—parties out of the men under my command here—for that purpose. I am heartily disposed to comply with their request, being assured it will promote the publick ser-

vice, and be a great saving. Yet I fear, unless the men have some little extra allowance, they will rather enter upon their duty with reluctance; and am the more induced to think so, as the soldiers who have been employed by the Commissioners have had an allowance of one shilling per day each. I shall be glad, therefore, to be informed whether the men are to expect such, or any allowance, being, at any rate, determined to exert myself in forwarding the business by every means in my power. Enclosed you have a return of the Minute-men now stationed here.\*

"And am, gentlemen, with profound respect, your most obedient servant,

"ISAAC NICOLL.

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of New-York."

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *L'Hommedieu* be a Committee to take the said Letters, and the subject-matter thereof, into consideration, and to prepare answers thereto, and to report thereon with all convenient speed.

*Joseph Ooten Bogert* informed the Congress that the Sentinels of the Port-Guard have prevented him from supplying to His Excellency the Governour, and the people on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, the ordinary supplies of fresh Provisions.

Thereupon Ordered, That *Joseph O. Bogert*, butcher, be permitted to supply the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon* with a sufficient quantity of fresh Provisions; and that the said *Joseph O. Bogert* do furnish Captain *William Mercier* with an account, from day to day, of the quantity of Provisions so supplied by him; and that a certified copy of this Order be given to the said *Joseph O. Bogert*.

The Congress was informed that the Barrackmaster is in want of Beds, or crocus or canvass to make Beds, for the Troops hourly expected; and that materials fit for that purpose are not to be purchased.

Therefore Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to the Barrackmaster as many of the coarsest Sheets as he shall apply for, to cover straw Beds for the Troops expected; and that Mr. *Curtenius* take the Barrackmaster's receipt for the same.

*John Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Mr. *Roosevelt*, and Captain *Rutgers*, are appointed a Committee to examine the Lists of empty Houses in this city, made by sundry citizens at the request of the Committee of Safety, and returned to this Congress, and to ascertain such as they may think most proper for the use of the Troops.

Die Mercurii, 3 ho. P. M., February 14, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Cortlandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Herring*, Mr. *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Rhea*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *L. Graham*, Dr. *Graham*, Colonel *G. Drake*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wills*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

\* To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of New-York.—A Return of the Troops now on present duty at Fort Constitution.

Captain *Samuel Raymond*, Lieutenant *David Reynolds*, Lieutenant *Richard Langdon*, Deputy Quartermaster *John Hifferman*, Ensign *Vincent Helms*, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, fifty-eight Privates.

Captain *Peter Hill*, Lieutenant *James Latta*, Lieutenant *Nathaniel Milligan*, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, fifty-five Privates.

Captain . . . . ., Lieutenant *James Butler*, Lieutenant *William Barker*, Ensign *William Carpenter*, two Sergeants, three Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, thirty-two Privates.

I hereby certify the above to be a true Return of the Troops now on present duty. Given under my hand, at Fort Constitution, February 13, 1776.

ISAAC NICOLL.

The Congress were informed by a Member that, amongst other Stores lately removed and put into the care of Colonel *Peter Curtenius*, there is a chest of excellent Lint for wounds, which ought to be carefully preserved, on account of the difficulty of obtaining that article; and that some Linen for bandages is also necessary.

Therefore *Ordered*, That Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Treat* be requested to take the charge and care of all the said Lint, and so much of the Medicines and Sheets now in the possession of Colonel *Curtenius* as they may think necessary for dressing of wounds, to be preserved for the use of such Hospital and Troops as shall hereafter be directed by the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

And *Ordered*, That Colonel *P. T. Curtenius* deliver the said Lint, Medicines, and Sheets, to those gentlemen when it may be convenient for them to receive the same.

A Letter from the Congress of *New-Jersey*, dated at *New-Brunswick*, on the 12th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Provincial Congress, Brunswick, February 12, 1776.

"*SIR*: This Congress, sincerely desirous of rendering every possible assistance to promote the common cause of *America*, have most cheerfully complied with the request of your Committee of Safety, as signified to us by your letter of the 10th instant; and Colonel *Heard*, with a detachment of seven hundred men under his command, is now under orders to march immediately to *Staten-Island*, to secure it from depredators.

"It will always be a pleasure to this Congress to co-operate with your Colony in any measures which concern the common interest; and we hope, as soon as this particular service is completed, that Colonel *Heard* will have permission to return with the troops under his command.

"I am, your most obedient humble servant,

"By order: SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

"To the Honourable *Pierre Van Cortlandt*."

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, dated 11th *February*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, February 11, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Agreeably to your instructions, we have represented to Congress the case of the inhabitants of *Richmond* County. As our Convention might be embarrassed, while it seemed doubtful to you whether they ought, without the intervention of Congress, to decide on the propriety of admitting the Deputies elected for that County, it became our duty to press for a speedy decision on this subject. It was readily agreed that the Convention ought to be the sole judges of their own Members; and on this principle the resolution, which we have the honour to enclose, was grounded. We have obtained a warrant on the Continental Treasury for twelve thousand dollars, to strengthen your hands in raising, within our Colony, the four battalions intended for its immediate protection and defence. The first opportunity which presents itself to you, or us, shall be embraced to forward the money.

"The great difficulties with which our Convention was, on a similar occasion, pressed the last year, will, we hope, be avoided by this expedient, and for which we were the more solicitous, from our ignorance whether the state of our Provincial finances would admit of your performing this essential service to advantage without such aid.

"Some time since we were favoured with an order of our Convention authorizing us to draw on the Provincial Treasurer for the allowance they were pleased to provide for their Delegates. To such of us as have continued here since the last recess of Congress, it would be convenient, and prevent the risk and difficulty of double-carriage, should we be directed to deduct out of the money which will pass through our hands, agreeably to the above-mentioned warrant, our respective balances. In that case, the residue shall be accompanied by our receipt to the Provincial Treasurer as his voucher.

"We expect soon to have the honour of writing to you again on other subjects of your despatches, on some of which we think it probable you may have consulted the Deputies of Congress, who arrived this day from your city.

"We are, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

"JAMES DUANE,  
"JOHN ALSOP,  
"WILLIAM FLOYD,  
"FRANCIS LEWIS.

"To the Honourable the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

The case of *Richmond* County, and Resolve of Continental Congress thereon, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, February 8, 1776.

"The Inhabitants of *Richmond* County, in the Colony of *New-York*, having refused to send Deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, and otherwise manifested their enmity and opposition to the system and measures adopted for preserving the liberties of *America*; and, as a just punishment for their inimical conduct, the Inhabitants of that Colony, having been prohibited by the Convention from all intercourse and dealings with the Inhabitants of the said County; and this Congress being informed by the Committee of Safety of that Colony that the Freeholders of the said County did afterwards, without any opposition, elect Deputies to represent them in Provincial Convention, but, as the proceedings against them had been submitted to the consideration of Congress, it was apprehended Deputies could not be received until the sense of Congress thereupon should be communicated:

"*Resolved*, That it be referred to the said Provincial Convention, to take such measures respecting the admission of the Deputies and revoking the interdict on the Inhabitants of the said County, as they shall judge most expedient: provided, that the said Deputies, and major part of the Inhabitants of said County, shall subscribe the Association entered into by that Colony.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries transmit a copy of the Resolve of Continental Congress on the case of *Richmond* County to the Deputies lately elected by the people of that County.

Resolves of Continental Congress of the 5th instant, relating to Batteamen and the Regiment for the service of *Canada*, enclosed in a Letter from the Delegates of this Colony, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, February 5, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Resolution of Congress of the 8th of last month, for sending sundry Shipwrights from the cities of *New-York* and *Philadelphia* to build Batteaus at *Ticonderoga*, be superseded; and that General *Schuyler* be desired to employ any such Artificers as he shall think proper in that business.

"That General *Schuyler* be desired to issue warrants for completing the Regiment directed to be raised in *New-York* for the service of *Canada*; and that it be recommended to the Convention of that Colony to appoint such officers thereof as General *Schuyler* hath nominated.

"That General *Schuyler* be desired to employ such Batteamen as are in or near *Albany*, instead of those it was recommended to the Convention of *New-York* to procure.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries transmit a copy thereof to Major-General *Schuyler* with all possible despatch.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Lispenard* be permitted to supply, and put on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, Beer for the use of said Ship.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, respecting a report of a Fleet at the *Hook*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"February 14, two o'clock P. M., 1776.

"*SIR*: I would humbly propose to the Congress not to lose a single instant in despatching a whale-boat to the *Hook*, to reconnoitre the fleet, whether they are friends or enemies; for should they be the latter, and intend a visit to this place, we should make an awkward figure, unless we are prepared for their reception.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*."

A copy of an Answer, which had been immediately returned to the General by the President and Colonel *McDougall*, informing that proper care has already been taken on that subject, was read and approved of by the Congress.

Die Jovis, A. M., February 15, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beckman*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Col. *Brasher*, Mr. *T. Smith*, Mr. *Scott*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr.  *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Rensselaer*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *G. Drake*, Colonel *L. Graham*, Doctor *Graham*, *Stephen Ward*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wills*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Doctor *Williams*.

A draft of a Letter to several persons in *Queen's County*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following:

"SIR: By an order of the Continental Congress, Colonel *Heard* has apprehended the following persons, to wit: *Joseph French*, Esq., *William Weyman*, *Daniel Kissam*, Esq., *Samuel Clowes*, Esq., *John Townsend*, *John Polhemus*, *John Shoals*, *Charles Hicks*, *Thomas Smith*, Esq., Captain *B. Whitehead*, *Nathaniel Moore*, *John Willet*, *Gabriel G. Ludlow*, *George Weeks*, *Samuel Hallet*, *Gilbert Van Wyck*, *Samuel Martin*, and *David Brooks*, inhabitants of your County, who are now in our custody. They were considered by the Congress as inimical to the liberties of *America*, and were ordered to be continued in our custody until an inquiry should be made by this Convention into their conduct, and a report thereof made to the Congress. Wherefore, we desire you would immediately collect what evidence you can against those persons, respecting their denying or refusing to obey the directions of the Continental or this Congress; what part they have taken in procuring powder from the *Asia* man-of-war, and distributing the same; their taking up arms against the country; or any other act they may have done inimical to the liberties of the United Colonies; and transmit the same to us in writing, together with the names of the principal witnesses to prove the same, with all possible speed."

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing Letter be engrossed, and transmitted to such of the Inhabitants of *Queen's County* as are most likely to execute the service required therein.

Mr. *Moore* moved in the words following, to wit:

MR. PRESIDENT: I move for the loan of four hundred Pounds, out of the Treasury of this Congress, to defray accounts charged against the Committee of *Tryon County* for expresses, services of Minute-men on alarms, and other necessary expenses; the sum so lent to be secured by the bond of *Isaac Paris*, Esq., *William Wills*, and myself, to *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, and charged to the account of *Tryon County*.

Whereupon, it was Resolved and Ordered, First: That the Treasurer of this Congress pay to Messrs. *Isaac Paris*, *William Wills*, and *John Moore*, the sum of four hundred Pounds, *New-York* money, and that he take their joint and several obligations for the same, in his own name, payable on demand.

Second. Resolved, That the Obligors do, with all convenient speed, produce to this Congress an account of the Moneys expended by the Committee of *Tryon County*, with the proper vouchers; and that they shall have credit on the said obligation for such expenditures as shall hereafter be adjudged by this Congress to be a proper charge against this Colony.

And it is further Resolved, That the said Obligors apply to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* for the payment of

such expenditures as have been made by the Committee in their department, and pay the same to the Treasurer of this Congress, in discharge of the said obligation, with all convenient speed.

Colonel *Brasher* brought into Congress a request from *Hugh* and *Alexander Wallace*, Esqs., requesting a permit to put on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon* one and a half pipe of Wine, for the use of his Excellency Governour *Tryon*.

Thereupon, Ordered, That a permission be made out for those gentlemen, or their agent, to put the said Wine on board for his Excellency's use; and that one of the Secretaries do attest the same.

A Letter from *Thomas Palmer*, Esq., enclosing an Agreement, and the names of a number of men who have agreed to enlist under Mr. *William Martin*, as their Captain, in the Troops to be raised for the defence of this Colony; as, also, an extract of the Proceedings of the Committee of *New-Marlborough*, approving of, and recommending the said *William Martin*, as a Captain in the said Troops to be raised; was read.

Ordered, That the said Letter, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Committee appointed to take into consideration the Resolutions of the Continental Congress relative to the raising the Troops for the defence of this Colony.

A Letter, signed by Captain *Samuel Jones* and several others, dated at *Goshen*, February 9, 1776, was read; and they thereby request that this Congress will favour the County of *Orange* with part of the Field-Officers for the Troops intended to be raised in this Colony; and they recommend Mr. *Israel Wells* as one of the Majors.

Ordered, That the foregoing Letter be referred to the Committee appointed to consider of the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, relative to the raising the Troops for the defence of this Colony.

Whereas a large body of Troops are daily expected from the neighbouring Counties and Colonies, for the defence of this City against the Ministerial Army and Navy, in which case it will be necessary (as the Barracks are already filled with those already arrived) to provide proper Houses for their reception:

It is, therefore, Resolved and Ordered, That the General Committee for the City and County of *New-York* be requested forthwith to cause a Return to be made to them of all the empty Houses in this city; and that they, or a Sub-Committee of their body, select a sufficient number of the said Houses for the accommodation of the Troops that shall from time to time arrive; that, in the choice of the said Houses, such be taken as may be least liable to be injured by the Troops; that the said Committee, or their Sub-Committee, be careful to take a survey of the condition of the said Houses at the time they shall be taken possession of, and at the time such Houses shall be left by the said Troops; to the end that proper satisfaction may be made to the proprietors for any injury the said Houses may receive by reason of quartering Troops therein.

And it is further Ordered, That the Barrackmaster for the time being be subject to, and under the direction of the said Committee, or their Sub-Committee; and that the Chairman of the said Committee be requested to cause the said General Committee to be convened immediately, that this Order may be executed.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the foregoing Order be sent to the Chairman of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*.

Whereas a number of the Troops commanded to this City by Major-General *Lee*, are arrived from *Westchester County*; and there is not any Barrack room, or proper lodgment for them, wherein to put them under cover; and whereas others of the said Troops commanded to this City from *Westchester* and *Dutchess* Counties, are hourly expected, and Lodgings must also be provided for the whole of those Troops; and whereas, from the necessity of the case, the Congress must direct those Troops already arrived, and such as shall arrive, to be put into the empty Houses in this City:

Therefore, Ordered, That *John Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt*, Captain *Rutgers*, and Colonel *McDougall*, be a Committee to place all the before-mentioned Troops under cover; that the said Committee, or any one or

more of them, be fully authorized to open and enter into any uninhabited Houses in this City, which they shall think proper for that purpose; that they, or either of them, be empowered, where necessary, to take any goods or effects out of any such House or Houses as they may think proper to have used for placing Soldiers, and have the same safely stored; that the said Committee be authorized to take to their assistance any Freeholders or Inhabitants of the said City they shall think proper; and that the Barrackmaster of the City of *New-York* for the time being, subject to the directions of the Committee before named, be, and hereby is, authorized to place Troops in all such Houses as the said Committee, or any one or more of them shall direct.

Die Jovis, P. M., February 15, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *T. Smith*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, Colonel *P. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Dewitt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wills*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Mr. *Everson*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Doctor *Graham*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *L. Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Doctor *Williams*.

A Letter from Colonel *Curtenius* was read and filed. He therein mentions, that the Quartermaster of Colonel *Drake's* Regiment, had applied to him for Provisions; that he had none in store; that his other engagements in the publick business will not admit of his attending to that matter; and requesting the Congress to appoint a person *pro tem.*, until a Deputy Commissary arrives here.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis Graham*, of Colonel *Drake's* Regiment, now in Congress, offered to procure Provisions for the said Regiment, until the Quartermaster can provide for them:

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis Graham* be enabled, and he is hereby empowered and requested, to purchase Provisions for Colonel *Drake's* Regiment for the present, and to direct the Quartermaster to take care of and distribute the same, agreeably to Continental allowance; and that he bring in an account for the same.

The Committee appointed to consider of the Resolves of Congress relating to the ensuing Campaign, delivered in their Report in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee beg leave to report the following Resolves:

1st. That, for the more expeditiously completing the enlistment of the four Battalions to be raised for the defence of this Colony, it is necessary that a proportionable number of men be allotted to each County.

2d. That a sufficient number of officers be appointed in each County to command the men to be raised in the same.

3d. That, in the appointment of such officers, those who have served their much injured country in the last campaign ought to have the preference.

4th. That, when there are not a sufficient number of old officers who choose to serve in any one County, the deficiency ought to be made up out of those who are recommended by the respective County Committees.

5th. That a letter be written to the several County Committees, enclosing the third and fourth of these resolves, together with blank warrants for the officers to be appointed in each respective County.

6th. That two gentlemen be held up by this body, to the Continental Congress, to fill each place as Field-Officers in the four Battalions to be raised in this Colony, and that such Field-Officers as have not been in actual service, be chosen from the several Counties where the men are raised, in as equal proportions as may be.

7th. That the Colonel of each Regiment appoint the Adjutant and Quartermaster.

8th. That the Chaplains, Surgeons, and Surgeons' Mates, be appointed by this Congress.

All which is humbly submitted.

The said Report being read, was ordered to be read a second time; and, being again read, paragraph by paragraph,

The Congress agrees with their Committee in their said Report.

Mr. *Covenhoven* dissents.

A Letter from *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Claremont, February 3, 1776.

"SIR: I had the honour of your letter, with your polite condolence on the death of my father, and am extremely obliged by your favourable mention of him. As his life was a continued endeavour to deserve the good opinion of his country, so the most grateful offering to his memory is the commendation of free and good men.

"The sentiments you are pleased to express of me, require my most grateful acknowledgments, and will, I hope, animate me to merit your approbation—a reward adequate to the worthiest actions.

"My brother *John* has finished the powder-mill, and will be obliged to you for procuring him the necessary materials, to render it as useful as I wish it to be.

"I am, sir, yours and the Committee's most obedient servant,

"ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

Mr. *L'Homedieu*, from the Committee appointed to draw an answer to the Letter of the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands, accordingly reported a draft, which was read.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the said Draft be postponed till to-morrow, and that, in the mean time, Mr. *Thomas Grenell* be requested to attend this Congress to-morrow, to give information relating to the breadth of the foundation of the parapet of the Battery now erecting, and such other information as may be necessary.

A Petition of nine Soldiers of Captain *Johnson's* Company,\* praying that their Under Clothes might not be deducted out of their Pay, and they be allowed their expenses returning from *Albany*, was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be deferred until Colonel *McDougall* shall receive an answer to a Letter he wrote to General *Schuyler* on that subject.

Colonel *McDougall*, from the Committee appointed yesterday to report on Major-General *Lee's* Letter, relating to the appointment of a Commissary for the Continental Artillery Stores, and the appointment of a Company of Artificers, delivered in their Report; which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

The Committee appointed to consider of, and report on, the subjects recommended to Congress by General *Lee's* Letter of the 14th instant, do report:

That a Commissary is necessary to take the charge of the Continental Stores in this city and the neighbourhood; and that they recommend Mr. *Hugh Hughes* for that office; and that a letter should be written to the Continental Congress informing them of this appointment, and requesting them to determine what pay he shall have.

\*To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK. The humble Petition of us, returned from the Northward, under the command of Captain JOHNSON, sheweth:

That your Petitioners having been a campaign, in this inclement season, as long as they were required, to the Northward, and were willing to continue or re-enter in the service; but understand now, since our return to this city, not only that the said Captain *Johnson* intends making a large deduction of our wages (which we presume dearly earned) for our clothing, (which we conceived to be given as a bounty,) but also of stopping our pay from the 27th of January, then in *Albany*; since which we have been at great cost and time to come down, and are now on expenses, though not properly discharged. Wherefore your Petitioners pray this honourable Board to take their case into consideration, and give directions to said Captain *Johnson* for the payment of our arrears, without deduction, and for our subsistence and pay till discharged; which will give resolution and activity to your Petitioners to persevere in the defence of the liberties of *America*, until the same be permanently established. And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

Theady Leady,  
John Wiley,  
Mick Kelly,

Thomas Riely,  
James Magaw,  
John Ricks,

James Ryon,  
Paul Swigar,  
Alexander O'Dear.

That a Company of Artificers is also necessary to be immediately imbodyed, because the works to be erected will require the assistance of Carpenters and Blacksmiths without delay; and unless this company is imbodyed, the General will be obliged to employ a number of tradesmen, at daily wages, which will incur a greater expense to the publick than would be created by the company above-mentioned. That they are of opinion that the company should consist of about sixty men, officers included; that one Captain and two assistants will be necessary. That the Captain of this company should be a Carpenter, and have the pay of a Captain of a marching Regiment; that one of the assistants should be a Blacksmith, the other a Carpenter; that the assistants should have a Lieutenant's pay in the marching Regiments; that they are informed the privates of the Companies of Artificers at the camp near *Cambridge* have ten dollars per month, and that the privates of this company should have the same pay. That, from the information they have received from the officers of the train with the General, the Captain of Artificers has three rations, the assistants two, and the privates one. That they recommend Mr. *Anthony Post* as a fit person to be the Captain of the Company of Artificers.

All which is humbly submitted to the Congress.

The said Report being read, was ordered to be read a second time; and, being again read, paragraph by paragraph, and amended, was agreed to.

Mr. *Scott* informed the Congress that *David Matthews*, Esq., is appointed Mayor of this City, and that it is necessary that several Magistrates be present before the Governor, to see him qualified. Thereupon a Pass was given to Mr. *Matthews* in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That *David Matthews*, Esq., one of the Magistrates, as also all the other Magistrates of this City, be, and they are hereby, permitted to go on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon* on publick business with his Excellency Governour *Tryon*.

A Petition of *John Willett*, and fourteen other persons,\* praying to be relieved from their present confinement, was read.

Debates arose thereon. Thereupon the question was put, whether the same should be taken into consideration immediately, and carried by a majority; but, being late, the same is deferred till to-morrow.

Die Veneris, A. M. February 16, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beckman*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Major *Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*.

Mr. *Everson*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Cooper*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Dr. *Graham*, Mr. *Ward*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

\* To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of New-York, convened in the City of New-York.

Whereas your Petitioners, on the 12th instant, presented a Petition to this honourable body, praying to be admitted to return to their respective families, upon parole of honour, but have been so unhappy as not to have heard anything relative to that matter, as yet, and are still in close confinement, to the great prejudice of themselves and families; they therefore humbly entreat this honourable body to take their case into consideration, and grant them such relief as to this honourable House may seem meet. And your Petitioners will ever pray.

John Willett,	Daniel Kissam,	John Polhemus,
Benjamin Whitehead,	John Shoals,	Charles Hicks,
Thomas Smith,	Samuel Hallett,	Samuel Martin,
William Wayman,	Gilbert Van Wyck,	David Brooks,
Nathaniel Moore,	John Townsend,	Joseph French.

CITY OF NEW-YORK, February 15, 1776.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that he understood that the floors were laid in the Hospital lately erected in this City; that the Troops already arrived, and those expected to arrive, would stand in need of Quarters.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Colonel *Swartwout* be authorized to demand the Keys of the Hospital lately erected in the City, and open the same; that he examine the rooms and apartments, and if he thinks them proper for quartering Troops in, that he be authorized to make use of the same for his Regiment of Minute-men.

A Letter from *Andries Onderdonck*, Chairman of the Committee of *Haverstraw* Precinct, dated *January 30, 1776*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Committee, *Haverstraw* Precinct, *January 30, 1776*.

"GENTLEMEN: Enclosed is a list of the names of the Field-Officers nominated for the Battalion in this precinct, and the return of the Captains and officers chosen by the respective companies, except one Lieutenant and the officers of one company, which is not yet settled, the late Captain being advanced. You will be pleased to send blank commissions for those that may be chosen.

"It is now a long time since the nomination and choice, and have long expected the commissions by return of *Thomas Outwater*, Chairman of the Joint Committees of this precinct and *Orangetown*, and have not known, many days, that no returns had been made on our account.

"We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

"ANDRIES ONDERDONCK, Deputy Chairman.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

A List of the Field and other Officers of the Militia in *Haverstraw* Precinct was also read and filed.

Ordered, That Commissions be made out for the Field and other Officers of the Militia in the Precinct of *Haverstraw*.

Mr. *Rapalye*, clerk to *Henry White*, Esq., delivered in an account of fresh Provisions supplied to his Majesty's Ships for some time past, and requested permission to supply his Majesty's Ships as usual:

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Henry White*, Esq., by his agent, be permitted to supply his Majesty's Ship *Asia* with twelve hundred weight, and the *Phoenix* with seven hundred weight, of fresh Provisions, and vegetables equivalent.

It being represented to Congress that the Troops daily arriving in this City are without any person, appointed as a Commissary, to provide them with Provisions; and Mr. *Curtenius*, by a letter yesterday, has informed the Congress that his other employments for the publick will not admit of his undertaking that business; and Mr. *Abraham Livingston* being recommended as a proper person for that purpose,

Ordered, That Mr. *Abraham Livingston* be, and he is hereby, appointed Commissary, to supply the Troops from *Westchester* and *Dutchess* Counties, now arrived and daily coming into this City, until further order, or the arrival of a Deputy from *Walter Livingston*, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Van Zandt*, *Roosevelt*, and *Herring*, be a Committee to settle with *John Holt* for his services in Printing, and to ascertain the sum due to him.

A Petition of *Henry Remsen*, *John Broome*, and thirteen other persons, was read. They thereby set forth the great loss one or more members of a Committee sustained in the year 177, for preserving the then Non-Importation Agreement, and pray relief. The accounts of the costs and damages suffered, and the state and pleadings of the court, both in a court of law and before the Governor and Assembly of *Rhode-Island*, were also delivered in.

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, and Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, be a Committee to take and examine the said Petition and Papers, with power to send for persons and papers, and to report thereon with all convenient speed.

A draft of a Letter to the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your letter of the 12th instant, we are to inform you that we cannot allow the Minute-men extra wages while on working parties, as the example would greatly impede the publick service. There



are many Minute Regiments now in this city, who are employed in working parties, without any expectation of wages other than the Continental pay; for should we admit extra wages in one instance, it would be expected in every case. As to the breastwork of the Battery, it is agreeable to us you make the same as you propose, concluding it will answer the purpose, and be attended with much less expense than the former method we recommended.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Messrs. *Bedlow* and *Lawrence*, Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Petition of *Elizabeth Atherton* was read. She there by prays for the discharge of her husband, *John Atherton*, the Pilot.

Ordered, That the facts on which the said *John Atherton* stands committed, as far forth as they appear on the Minutes of the Committee of Safety, be, with the Petition, handed to the Committee of the City of *New-York*, that they may try and determine on the case of said *Atherton*.

Ordered, That the Committee of the City of *New-York* be requested to meet every other day for the despatch of business, and to attend with vigilance to the publick business.

Ordered, That Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Wickham*, Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Petrus Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Rhea*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*, and Dr. *Williams*, be a Committee to settle the quota or number of men and officers, under the rank of Field-Officers, to be raised in the different Counties in this Colony, to constitute the four Regiments ordered to be raised therein for the Continental service and defence of this Colony, and that the said Committee report with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Herring*, from the Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from the Committee of *Marbletown*, and the application of the Company of Militia there, delivered in their Report, and the draft of a Letter to the Committee; which were respectively read and approved of, and are in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee report: That it is their opinion that the Committee of the Township of *Marbletown*, in *Ulster* County, have put a wrong construction upon the resolution of Congress alluded to in their letter, and that, in consequence thereof, they have erred in refusing the company of the Southwest District of said town an opportunity of filling up, by an election, the vacancy occasioned by the promotion of their late Captain. That all the Committee of said Township can properly do towards the promotion of the subaltern officers of said company is, to advise the company to do it by an election; but in case the company elect any other person, it is the duty of the Committee to return his name, in order to his being commissioned; provided he shall have signed the Association, and belong to the Beat or District of said company.

Your Committee further report: That they conceive it necessary that an answer be immediately given to the Committee of said township upon their letter; and for that purpose propose the following Letter:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 29th ultimo is come to hand. In answer to the request therein made, we inform you that the words of the resolution you allude to will not admit of the construction you are inclined to put thereon. You are, with all convenient speed, to call the company of the Southwest District of your township together, and give them an opportunity to choose a new Captain. At the same time you are not only at liberty, but we think it your duty, to advise the company, in a friendly manner, to promote the subaltern officers, or such of them as you shall think to merit it; but if they will not be advised, you are to suffer them to elect any other; but you are not to return the name of any one to be commissioned for that company, unless he belongs to the Beat or District of said company, and has signed the Association.

All which is humbly submitted.

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Letter from General *Lee*, bearing date this day, on the subject of shutting up the Port, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 16, 1776.

"SIR: I have received intelligence that Mr. *Tryon* has been guilty of most grossly abusing the indulgence shown to him; that he has inveigled some of the gunsmiths on board his ship; and that he is endeavouring to seduce as many as he can, with the view, undoubtedly, of distressing us in the article of arms. I could wish (as it has been thought proper to furnish this gentleman with provisions and other necessities of life) that he should be obliged to give some security that he will not intrigue, cabal, or machinate mischief of any kind to the Continent or Province. This business of the gunsmiths is the reason that I have, *pro tempore*, interdicted all communication with the Governour's ship—a measure which I hope will be approved by the Congress.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To the Honourable the Congress of *New-York*."

Colonel *Livingston* informed the Congress that the present Militia Laws of this Congress are materially defective; particularly that the officers are not enabled to fine their men for disobedience or non-appearance, if they are summoned, as a regiment, more than twice a year.

Ordered, That General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Livingston*, and Colonel *Morris Graham*, be a Committee to revise the Militia Laws, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

Ordered, That *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, send to this Congress a particular account of the Provisions he has supplied to the Ship *Asia*, and other of his Majesty's Ships in this Port, since the order for that purpose first made by the late Provincial Congress of this Colony.

Mr. *Herring* obtained leave of absence, the County of *Orange* now having three other Deputies attending this Congress.

Dr. *William Dusenberry* delivered in a Petition, requesting to be appointed Surgeon to a Regiment.

Die Veneris, 3 ho. P. M., February 16, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *Philip R. Livingston*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Rensselaer*, Colonel *Nicoll*, General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Colonel *Morris Graham*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Everson*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Paulding*, Mr. *Ward*, Dr. *Graham*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Rensselaer* and Colonel *Gilbert Drake* be added to the Committee, appointed this morning, to revise the Militia Laws, and report thereon; and that Mr. *Ward* supply the place of Mr. *Drake*, in the Committee to proportion the officers and men to be raised in each County.

A Letter from Colonel *Samuel Drake*, of the *Westchester* Regiment of Minute-men, on service in the City of *New-York*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 16, 1776.

"SIR: I have been informed that Colonel *Waterbury* has in charge a number of guns, taken from the Tories in *West-*

chester County; and as many of the men in my regiment, from the suddenness of the call and their poverty, are destitute of arms, I beg you will be pleased to give orders that my men be supplied with such of those arms as are fit for service.

"From, sir, your most obedient servant,

"SAMUEL DRAKE,

Colonel of Minute Regiment in Westchester County.

"To Colonel Nathaniel Woodhull, President of the Provincial Congress."

Ordered, That Dr. Graham and Mr. Ward be a Committee to inquire how many Arms Colonel Waterbury has taken; where and by whose orders; to whom each particular Fire-lock belongs, and where they now are; and to report thereon to this Congress.

A Letter from . . . . ., Chairman of a Committee in Westchester County, relating to Captain James Varian, of one of the Companies of Minute-men, in Colonel Drake's Regiment, was read.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Captain James Varian, with the men under his command, continue on duty, and receive Continental pay equal with the other officers and men in the regiment to which he belongs, until the dispute of his election be settled, or the further order of this Congress.

A Letter from Joseph French, Esq., was read. He avers that he can say, with a clear conscience, that he has not transgressed against the Association since he signed it, and prays to be released from confinement.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Joseph French, Esq., be permitted to come to the Provincial Congress, now sitting in the Assembly-Chamber, in the City-Hall of the City of New-York, and without any guard.

To the Officer of the Guard, having the care of sundry Inhabitants of Queen's County, sent here prisoners, under the care of Colonel Heard.

Joseph French, Esq., came into Congress, and there voluntarily gave his promise to attend on the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety when thereunto requested; and he signed an engagement to that purpose, which is filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 16, 1776.

"I, Joseph French, Esq., of Queen's County, in custody of this Congress by order of the Continental Congress, do give my word of honour that I will appear before the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony, when I shall be thereunto summoned."

Joseph French, Esq., having given this Congress satisfactory assurance that he will appear before this Congress or the Committee of Safety, when thereunto required,

Ordered, That he be permitted to go at large.

Thereupon, a Passport was given to Mr. French, in the words following, to wit:

Joseph French, Esq., having given this Congress satisfactory assurance that he will appear before this Congress or the Committee of Safety, when thereunto required,

Ordered, That he be permitted to go at large.

The Congress took into consideration the Petition of John Willett and others, Inhabitants of Queen's County, now under guard in this City.

Thereupon, on motion made, Resolved, That the said John Willett, Benjamin Whitehead, Thomas Smith, William Weyman, Nathaniel Moore, Daniel Kissam, John Shoals, Samuel Hallett, Gilbert Van Wyck, John Townsend, John Polhemus, Charles Hicks, Samuel Martin, and David Brooks, be released from their confinement, upon their giving sufficient security for their appearance, when required, before this or any future Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony; and also, that they will in the mean time deport themselves peaceably, and make no opposition to the measures of this or the Continental Congress, nor instigate others thereunto; and on their paying all expenses occasioned by their confinement.

Thereupon, a draft of an Obligation, to be given with security by the said John Willett, and the other prisoners above-mentioned, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

Know all men by these presents: That we, . . . . ., of Queen's County, on Nassau-Island, in the Province of

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New-York, are held of and firmly bound unto . . . . . in the sum of five hundred Pounds, lawful money of New-York; for the payment whereof we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals; dated this . . day of . . . . ., in the year of our Lord 1776.

The condition of this Obligation is such, that if the above bounden . . . . . shall well and truly appear before this present or any future Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony, within six days after he shall have been summoned, or within six days after a notification for that purpose shall have been left at his last place of abode, and then and there abide by and observe all such orders and directions as shall be then and there enjoined him; and in the mean time, if he shall behave himself peaceably, and make no opposition to the measures of the Continental Congress of the United Colonies, or of the Provincial Congress of this Colony of New-York, nor instigate others so to do, then this obligation to be void; but on failure of any or either of the above conditions, to be and remain in full force.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of . . . . .

Ordered, That the said Draft be delivered to the said John Willett and others; that they be informed they may prepare copies thereof; and that when they have given such Bonds, respectively, with security, they will be permitted to go at large.

Ordered, That one of the Secretaries be authorized to go down to the said John Willett, and the other persons under guard with him, and receive from them their respective Bonds, duly executed with sufficient securities; and that, on their delivering such Bonds with sufficient securities, and discharging the pay and expenses of the guard, the said Secretary do give them certificates of their being permitted to go at large; and that they be thereupon permitted to go at large.

Die Sabbati, A. M., February 17, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Sands, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Beckman, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Van Zandt.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. A. Yates, General Ten Broeck, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, Colonel P. R. Livingston.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. L'Hommedieu, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Wickham.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. G. Livingston, Colonel M. Graham, Colonel P. Ten Broeck.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Lefever, Mr. Dewitt, Mr. Wisner, Mr. Rhea.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Ward, Colonel G. Drake, Dr. Graham, Mr. Paulding.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Hay, Colonel Allison, Mr. Cooper.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. Williams.

Mr. Ward, from the Committee appointed to inquire of Colonel Waterbury respecting the Arms he has seized, reported, that Colonel Waterbury informed them that he disarmed several persons in Westchester County who are inimical to the measures pursued by the Colonies; that he disarmed those persons by order of Major-General Lee.

The said Committee delivered in an account of said Arms in the words following, to wit:

An Inventory of Guns and other warlike implements taken from the Tories in Westchester: Thirty Guns, two pair Holsters, nine Cutlasses, and three Pistols.

Mr. Ward further informed that they had not learned from what particular persons, by name, any of the said Arms were seized or taken; and that Colonel Waterbury is ready to deliver them as he shall be directed, on getting a receipt for them.

Mr. Hobart and Mr. Beckman reported that they, according to order, had waited upon Major-General Lee, to know the source of his information that Governour Tryon was procuring Gunsmiths from this City on board of his ship; that General Lee having given them the particulars of his information, they had pursued the inquiry to every person of whom any information could reasonably be expected, and found that it arose from the circumstance of two journey-men Gunsmiths having some time ago left the City—the

one in the last Packet for *England*, the other now said to be in some part of the *Jerseys*.

Colonel *Livingston*, from the Committee appointed to revise the Militia Laws of this Congress, delivered in their Report, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit :

Your Committee having taken under their consideration the Rules and Orders for Regulating the Militia of this Colony, published by this Congress the 22d *August*, 1775, and the Appendix thereto, published the 20th *December*, 1775, beg leave to report :

That the following clause be added under the third Resolve, viz., after the word "Officers,"—"But in case any Company, when met, should refuse to elect Officers, agreeable to the above Resolution, that then, and in that case, the Field-Officers of the Regiment or Regiments in that District or Precinct, together with the Committee of said District or Precinct, are hereby directed to recommend such persons for Officers for such Companies so refusing to elect as they, or the majority of them, shall think capable."

That the words, "or recommended," be added in the above Resolve, after the word "chosen."

That the second clause of the Appendix be added to the sixth Resolve of the Rules and Orders.

That after the sixth clause in the Rules and Orders, the seventh of the Appendix be added at the word "and."

That after the seventh clause in the Rules and Orders, the fifth in the Appendix be added.

That after the ninth clause in the Rules and Orders, the eighth in the Appendix be added.

That the following be added to the tenth in the Rules and Orders, after the words "forfeit the sum of forty Shillings,"—"to be levied on the goods and chattels of the offender, by warrant from the Captain, directed to a Sergeant of his Company; and for want of the goods and chattels, to take the body of the offender, and him keep in safe custody until such fine, together with the charges, be paid, or for the space of one calendar month."

That the ninth clause of the Appendix be incorporated into the twelfth of the Rules and Orders.

That the additional clause, at number eight, in the Rules and Orders, be left out, and the following substituted in the room of it, viz :

"The moneys arising by the fines in any Company to be applied by the Captains (who are to keep regular accounts of the same, and annually to render said accounts, signed by them, unto the Commanding Officer, after paying for drum, colours, and fife) towards purchasing Arms, Ammunition, and Accoutrements for such persons in such Company as are unable to furnish themselves; and the moneys arising by the fines of the Field-Officers, to be equally divided between the several Companies for the above-mentioned use."

In addition to the exceptions in the thirteenth clause of the Rules and Orders, viz :

"All Commissioned Officers that have served in the Continental service, Members of the General Assembly, a Founder and three hands to each Furnace, and two men to each Forge, and the people called Quakers, upon their producing a certificate from the Meeting."

That the tenth clause of the Appendix be incorporated into the fourteenth of the Rules and Orders.

That the twenty-first clause of the Rules and Orders, at the word "against," the words "disaffected persons" be put in.

That in the eleventh clause of the Appendix, after the word "Officer," the words, "of Minute-men or Militia," be added.

That the following new clauses be added, to wit :

"That the Committee in every District, or Precinct, are hereby empowered to call in to their aid, when they shall think it necessary, any Company or Companies of Minute-men or Militia, in their respective Districts, or Precincts, who shall obey the order of their Chairman as fully and as effectually as if the same came from the Commanding Officer, subject to such penalties for neglect, or refusal of obeying their orders, as are provided for refusal and neglect of obeying the orders of such Commanding Officer."

"That the Field-Officers and Committees in each District and Precinct have power, and are hereby requested to call

out the Regiment or Regiments in such District or Precinct, as often as they shall see fit for the good of the service, and all persons refusing to attend, being duly warned, or, attending, shall refuse to obey the orders of the Commanding Officer and Chairman, shall, for each offence, forfeit the sum of twenty Shillings, to be levied and recovered as is directed in the tenth clause of the Rules and Orders."

That then the fourth clause of the Appendix be added. |

All which is humbly submitted to the consideration of the Board by your Committee.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration on *Tuesday* next; and, in the mean time, that the same lay on the table for the perusal of the Members.

Colonel *Lasher* being sent for, attended. He was requested to make out an account of the pay and subsistence of the several guards, who have been on duty, guarding the Prisoners from *Queen's* County, and was requested to attend and receive the money from the Prisoners before they are discharged.

The Congress finding their more urgent business frequently interrupted and their time consumed in applications of a Military nature, which might more easily be despatched by a Committee for that purpose, and, at the same time, less impede other publick business: therefore,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Yates*, and Mr. *Hobart*, be a Committee of War, to whom the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Troops in this City may apply for such advice, direction, or assistance as he may, from time to time, have occasion for from this Congress; and that they, with all convenient speed, take effectual measures, in concert with Major-General *Lee*, to prevent persons having the permission of this Congress or the Committee of Safety to go on board any ship in this harbour, from being obstructed by the Port-Guard.

*Ordered*, That General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, and Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, be a Committee to prepare a draft of Instructions for the said Committee of War; and that they report with all convenient speed.

Messrs. *William Wilcox*, *Nicholas Fish*, Captain *John Roosevelt*, and Lieutenant *Dixon*, of the First Battalion, waited on Congress, as by authority from the said Battalion, to offer to the Congress their service, to be taken into pay as Minute-men in this City. Those gentlemen asked sundry questions of the Congress; to all which they received answers, and withdrew.

Congress was informed, by a Member, that *Micajah Fuller*, First Lieutenant, and *Deliverance Brown*, Third Lieutenant, in Captain *Steenrod's* Company, in Colonel *Drake's* Regiment, have had the misfortune to lose their Commissions, and request the favour of new Commissions.

*Ordered*, That new Commissions be made for those gentlemen.

A draft of an answer to the Letter received from Colonel *Heard* yesterday, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit :

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 17, 1776.

SIR: The Congress hereby acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant; and, in answer thereto, inform you that, as the danger which was suspected of depredations being made on *Staten-Island* is now removed, they sincerely thank you for the services you have, with so much alacrity, devoted to your country, and therefore dismiss you from that duty.

Please to send us, by the first convenient opportunity, such information as you have had respecting any person or persons who have supplied the barges with live-stock, and of the threats you intimate as thrown out by others.

We are, most respectfully, &c.

To Colonel *Heard*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted by Captain *Barron*, of Colonel *Heard's* Regiment.

On motion of Mr. *Hobart*,

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed yesterday to settle the quota of Men and Officers to be raised in the respective Counties of this Colony, to complete the four Battalions to be raised in this Colony, be dissolved, and a new Committee for that purpose be appointed. And,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Wickham*, Colonel *Hay*, Mr. *Paulling*, Mr. *Rhea*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Moore*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Dr. *Williams*, and Mr. *Vanderbilt*, be a Committee to settle and report the quota, or number of Men and Officers, under the rank of Field-Officers, to be raised in the different Counties in this Colony, to constitute the four Regiments ordered to be raised therein for the Continental service and defence of this Colony; and that they report with all possible despatch.

A Return from *Elihu Marvin*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Orange County*, bearing date at *Oxford* on the 15th instant, returning the names of proper persons for Officers in that County, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In County Committee, Oxford, February 15, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: When this Committee made report to your honourable Board of the number of men they conceived this County would be able to raise for the defence of the Colony, agreeable to the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress for that purpose provided, it was a received opinion amongst them that the men were to be inlisted for not more than one year certain; and a Continental Member then present favoured the opinion. But Mr. *Seth Marvin*, whom they nominated and returned for Captain of one of the companies, informs that there was no certain period of inlistment, but that they were to continue in the service during the pleasure of Congress, and, therefore, declined taking his permit until he had taken the further advice of this Committee. The Committee would, therefore, beg leave to inform your honourable Board that they think it very unlikely that they will be able to raise the number of men they proposed, upon such principles; and if they can, they are very sure that none but the lower class of mankind will inlist, and these they conceive not to be the men to be depended upon; whereas, on the other hand, if men were to be inlisted for one year only, they are very certain that there would be many volunteers out of good families—men, that might be depended on, and would fight upon principle, if they were brought to a trial.

"The Committee also conceive that a certain period is necessary to inlist men upon; and if it was two or three years, that it would be better than during the pleasure of Congress. They would be glad, therefore, some certain time might be fixed on; but if that cannot be done, the officers are willing now to take the permits and make trial, but fear the consequence.

"Mr. *Nathan Strong*, one of the officers nominated under Mr. *Seth Marvin*, will receive the permits for that company.

"I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant.

"By order of the Committee:

"ELIHU MARVIN, *Chairman*.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

*Ordered*, That it be referred to the Committee appointed to settle the quota of Men and Officers to be raised in the different Counties in this Colony.

Die Solis, 10 ho. A. M., February 18, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Yates*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Gen. *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Captain *Wickham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Doctor *Graham*, Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Doctor *Williams*.

Colonel *Hay*, from the Committee appointed to apportion the different quotas of Men and Officers under the rank of Field-Officers, to be raised in the different Counties of this Colony, to form the four Regiments ordered to be raised in this Colony, delivered in their Report; which was

read; and the same being read a second time, and filed, is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee, appointed to levy the quotas of men to be raised in the different Counties of this Colony for the service of the United Colonies, report, that it is their opinion that the number of men that can be raised in each County is as follows: *New-York*, eight companies; *Albany*, five companies; *Tryon*, two companies; *Charlotte*, one company; *Dutchess*, four companies; *Westchester*, two companies; *Suffolk*, three companies; *Queen's*, one company; *King's* and *Richmond*, one company; *Orange*, two companies; *Ulster*, three companies—thirty-two companies.

All which is humbly submitted by your Committee.

A. HAWKES HAY, *Chairman*.

The Congress agreed with their Committee in their said Report.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that General *Lee* has information that the Regiment from *Philadelphia* was to march on *Friday* last; that they may be expected this evening or to-morrow; that they will be posted on *Nassau-Island*, from the *Wallaboght* to *Gewanus*; that quarters must be immediately provided for them in that part of *Nassau-Island*, and a Commissary provided to furnish them with Provisions, if they are not already provided with a Commissary and a military chest. The Congress are therefore of opinion, that the Deputies of *King's County* ought immediately to attend the Congress, and fix on proper persons, well acquainted with the inhabitants where the Troops are to be posted.

A draft of a Letter to the Deputies of *King's County* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A matter is now under the consideration of the Congress of the utmost importance to your County in particular, as well as to the Colony in general. You are therefore earnestly requested to attend the Congress immediately, as the business will admit of no delay. If any inconvenience should happen to your constituents by your neglect, they will know to whose account to charge it. We expect your attendance at three o'clock this afternoon.

By order of Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Letter from Mr. *Joseph Hallett* to Colonel *McDougall* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Newark, February 16, 1776.

"DEAR SIR: I did not receive your favour of the 9th instant until yesterday. I have applied to Mr. *Ogden*, one of the owners of the furnace in this town. He tells me if he can be supplied with coal from the ship at *Elizabethtown*, he will engage to deliver two tons a week, until he has supplied you with any quantity, not less than ten tons, at forty pounds per ton, if coal is to be had at four pounds per chaldron. If the coal should cost five pounds, then he must have forty-one pounds per ton. This is a very extraordinary price for grape-shot, but I fear you will not be able to get them for less money before the blast furnaces begin to work, which, I am told, will not be until *May*. I think it would serve the general cause, if the coal in the ship at *Elizabethtown* should be sold only to such persons as are employed in making anchors, cannon, shot, or such other articles for the publick use, as cannot be made with charcoal. The nail-makers, I am informed, are endeavouring to purchase the coal. If they get it the publick will suffer, and will not be able to cast your cannon or shot. In order to prevent this, I should think the Congress of *New-York* should write to the Congress of this Province, showing the necessity of putting the coal into such hands as would best serve the general cause. You may depend I shall not be absent from the city of *New-York* any longer than the situation of my family makes it absolutely necessary.

"I am, sir, your very humble servant,

"JOSEPH HALLETT.

"To Colonel *Alexander McDougall*, *New-York*."

The Congress, considering the great necessity of having Grape-Shot, and being informed by a Member that there is

only a trifling parcel in the Colony; and that although the price mentioned is at least double what the same article is offered to be delivered for in *April* next, yet it would be imprudent to wait that delay:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Joseph Hallett* be, and he is hereby empowered to contract with Mr. *Ogden*, on behalf of this Congress, for such quantity of Grape-Shot as Major-General *Lee*, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army at *New-York* for the time being, shall direct.

The Congress were informed by a Member, that as the Ships-of-War are removed out of the *East-River*, Major-General *Lee* thinks this is a favourable time and opportunity to stop the Channel of the *East-River*, between the City and *Nutten-Island*, so as not to admit line-of-battle Ships, if it is practicable; which, if it can be done, may save at least the east part of the City; that General *Lee* desires the advice of this Congress in the premises:

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That the Committee of War attend on General *Lee*, and confer with him on the practicability of stopping the Channel in the *East-River*; and that the said Committee of War report thereon to this Congress at four o'clock this afternoon.

The Members present were charged from the Chair to keep secret the subject-matter of the last order, and every argument, matter, and thing mentioned, relating to stopping up the Channel; and the several Members engaged on their honours respectively to keep the same secret.

A Letter from Colonel *Swartwout* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 18, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Whereas Captain *Billings*, from *Poughkeepsie*, has marched, with what men he had enlisted for the Continental service, without any orders, I conceive; at his arrival in town made application to me to join my regiment, as he was entirely destitute where to go, I admitted him, for the present, to join till I could have your sentiments thereon. It is essential to know immediately, as I must make a return to the General of my regiment, and of the effective arms, and have them completed to twenty rounds per man.

"I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

"JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, Colonel.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress."

Thereupon a draft of an Answer to Colonel *Swartwout* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 18, 1776.

SIR: Your letter was read, and immediately taken into consideration. The Congress are of opinion that Captain *Billings*, with his company, cannot be permitted to join your regiment of Minute-men; but that he ought immediately to return, and wait the orders of General *Schuyler*.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Colonel *Swartwout*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that a ton of Gunpowder is arrived from *Philadelphia*, and stored in one of the Magazines, in part payment for the several quantities of Gunpowder advanced and lent by this Colony at sundry times to the Continental service.

Die Solis, P. M., February 18, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *L'Honmedieu*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Col. *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Doctor *Graham*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Doctor *Williams*.

The Members from *King's* County were informed of the message from General *Lee*, of this day, that one Regiment is on their march from *Philadelphia*, and may be expected immediately; and that the said Regiment is to be posted on *Nassau-Island* from *Wallboght* to *Gewamus*. The Members of *King's* have leave of absence to call together the Committee of *Brooklyn*, and facilitate the procuring Lodgments for those Troops, in such manner as may be least inconvenient to the inhabitants.

And *Ordered*, That the said Committee of *Brooklyn* Township do immediately assemble and provide Lodgments or Quarters for the said Regiment without delay, which they will do in such manner as to be least inconvenient to the inhabitants of *Brooklyn* Township.

And *Ordered*, further, That the said Committee inform this Congress to-morrow morning of the particular places of the Quarters or Lodgments they shall have provided for those Troops.

Mr. *Van Zandt* requested a Permit to finish lading the Ship *Rosamond*. Thereupon a Certificate was given to him in the words following, to wit:

Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* was formerly ordered by this Congress to lade a vessel with wheat, &c. He is hereby permitted to lade the Ship *Rosamond* accordingly, with wheat and flour, &c.

To be shown to Messrs. *Robert Ray* and *Evert Bancker*, and to be delivered to Captain *William Mercier*.

Mr. *Hobart*, according to order, reported a draft of a Letter to the County Committee, in each respective County in this Colony where Troops are to be raised; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 18, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having determined that your County shall have the opportunity of raising . . . . . companies in the four regiments to be raised by order of the Continental Congress for the defence of this Colony, have resolved that blank warrants for the officers of the same shall be sent to your Committee. You will observe by the enclosed resolves, that you are restrained in the appointments to give the preference to such persons as have served their country in the last campaign; but it is not by any means the design of Congress, that men who have misbehaved themselves should be any further employed. It is expected that the people will readily enlist in these regiments, as they are raised for the express purpose of defending this Colony; and unless we raise them from among ourselves, in all probability they will be sent from other Colonies, which will be to our everlasting disgrace. We have great confidence in your zeal for the common cause, and trust that you will exert yourselves that these levies be completed with all possible despatch.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

P. S. It is expected that each man furnish himself with a good gun and bayonet, tomahawk, knapsack, or haversack, and two bills; but those who are not able to furnish themselves with these arms and accoutrements, will be supplied at the publick expense; for the payment of which, small stoppages will be made out of their monthly pay, till the whole are paid for; then they are to remain the property of the men.

*Ordered*, That sundry copies be engrossed, and signed by the President; and one of these Letters directed to the County Committee, in each County where Troops are to be raised; and the said Letters be transmitted, together with blank Warrants and Instructions for raising the men.

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee of War, who were directed this morning to confer with General *Lee*, verbally reported in substance: That, in obedience to the order of Congress, they had conferred with the General, and examined the Plans of the City and Harbour with him and his Engineer, and some other officers; that the General informed them that he has given orders to take a survey of the vessels now in port; that this evening the depth and breadth of the channel at the most proper places are to be sounded and taken; that General *Lee* thinks it of great importance to obstruct the navigation of the *East-River* against line-of-battle Ships, and seems to have it much at heart; that General *Lee*, on being asked how the west side of the town could be protected, allowed that a ship might come to the



west of the City, and annoy the City, but seemed to think Fortifications might be erected in the City which would greatly protect that side of it; that General *Lee* is of opinion that, if the *Asia* should depart the Harbour and Bay, the most proper place to obstruct the navigation is farther down, or between the banks; that Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, said that the Fortifications to be erected near *Hellgate* will command the *East-River* down to, or below, *Blackwell's Island*.

Mr. *Hobart* reported further, that, on the whole, nothing certain as to the practicability of obstructing the navigation of the *East-River* was yet determined on.

Mr. *Hobart* further informed Congress, that they had some conversation with General *Lee* on the subject of preventing persons having permissions from this Congress or the Committee of Safety to go on board of any Ship in this Harbour, from being obstructed by the Port-Guard; and that they had intimated to the General that perhaps it might be proper to place a proper person near the sentries, to give information and directions concerning such persons as may have such permissions as above-mentioned.

The Congress then went into the consideration of that matter.

And thereupon *Agreed unanimously*, That it is impracticable, at present, totally to cut off all communication of the Inhabitants of this Colony with the Ships-of-War now in this Port, and with the Ship on which His Excellency Governor *Tryon* resides.

And whereas, though it is, in the opinion of this Congress, impracticable, at present, totally to cut off all communication of the Inhabitants of this Colony with the Ships-of-War now in this Port, and the Ship on board of which His Excellency Governor *Tryon* resides, yet it appears necessary to confine such communications to certain particular objects, to the end that the publick service may not be injured by a free and unlimited intercourse between them and this Colony.

It is therefore *Ordered*, That all communication between the said Ships-of-War and all the Inhabitants be, and is hereby, prohibited, except upon special permits, to be obtained from this Congress, or the Committee of Safety; and, also, except for supplying them (the said Ships-of-War, respectively) with necessary Provisions, from time to time, for the use and consumption of their respective crews only, under the following restrictions and regulations, to wit: That no Provisions shall be supplied for their use and consumption by any other persons than their respective agent-victuallers in this City, upon permits to be obtained by them, respectively, from time to time, for the purpose, from this Congress, or the Committee of Safety; which Provisions shall not, in any case, be put on board any Boat, for such supply as aforesaid, at any other place than the Ferry stairs, near the Exchange in this City, and that in the presence of a Port-Master, to be appointed by this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, who shall carefully inspect the same, and compare the Provisions with the permit, and keep an exact and particular account of the same, to be reported by him to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, from time to time, when called for.

*Ordered further*, That *Elias Nixen* be, and he is hereby, appointed Port-Master for and during the pleasure of this Congress, with an allowance at, and after the rate of, eighteen and one-third Dollars per month, for so long a time as he shall continue in the said service.

*Ordered further*, That all communication between the said Inhabitants and the said Ship of His Excellency the Governor be, and is hereby, prohibited, except with respect to his Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Members of his Majesty's Council, the Surveyor-General, the Deputy Secretary of this Colony and his necessary Clerks, and such other persons as shall, from time to time, have particular Permits for the purpose from this Congress, or the Committee of Safety; and except, also, such intercourse as may be necessary for supplying the Governor with the necessary Provisions for himself and his family; which supplies shall, from time to time, be sent from the said Ferry stairs, and no other place, and that in the presence, and under the inspection, of the said Port-Master, who shall keep exact and particular accounts of the same, to be reported as aforesaid; and except, also, that the brewers supply the said three Ships with Beer as usual till further order of this Congress, or the Committee of Safety.

Colonel *McDougall* informed Congress that *Theophilus Hardenbrook* is possessed of Beds and Coins for the Cannon in this City, which were made and procured by the Government of this Colony; that the said *Theophilus Hardenbrook* has refused to deliver the said Beds and Coins to General *Lee*, or his order, for the use of the Continental Army now here.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Theophilus Hardenbrook* deliver to General *Lee*, or his order, all the Beds and Coins for Cannon, and all other implements or necessities for Cannon, belonging to this Colony, and now in his custody or care; and that he give information to General *Lee*, or such other person as he shall order or appoint, of any Beds, Coins, Implements, or other necessities for Cannon, belonging to this Colony, not in his custody, as he knows of, or can give information.

And *Ordered further*, That *Theophilus Hardenbrook* deliver up the said Beds and Coins, and other implements or necessities, and give such information as above-mentioned, upon oath if required.

Die Lunæ, A. M., February 19, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Beckman*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Colonel *Humphreys*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Dewitt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Dr. *Graham*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

The Members for *King's* County represented that the Committee of *King's* County have waited on General *Lee*; that he informed them that four hundred Men, properly placed in *King's* County, will answer his purposes at present; that the said Committee are of opinion that they may have great difficulty in finding empty Houses, or proper places, for so many Troops, in any other way than by billeting some of them in families, which they are ready to do if they have the order of this Congress for the purpose.

Therefore *Ordered*, That the Committee of the Township of *Brooklyn* be authorized, and are hereby authorized, to provide proper Lodgments or Quarters for such Continental Troops, or any other Troops in Continental pay, as General *Lee* shall order or think necessary to place there; and if the said Committee cannot otherwise conveniently provide proper Lodgments or Quarters for such Troops, that they be, and are hereby, authorized to billet such Troops in families, in such manner as they shall think proper.

Mr. *Covenhoven* informed the Congress that a person on board of the Ship *Asia* is indebted to *John Carpenter*; that the said *John Carpenter* requests a permission to go on board the said Ship to obtain a Bill of Sale for a Slave, or some other security for his said debt.

Mr. *Covenhoven* therefore moved that a Permit be given to the said *John Carpenter*, or his son, (*John Carpenter, Jun.*) to go on board of the said Ship *Asia*, to obtain security for his said debt.

Debates arose on the said motion; and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

2 King's.  
2 Orange.  
3 Albany.  
2 Charlotte.  
2 Ulster.—Mr. *Rhea* dissenting.

11 votes.

For the Negative.

2 Dutchess.  
2 Suffolk.  
2 Tryon.

6 votes.

*New-York* and *Westchester*, having some Members out on duty, had not a quorum present in Congress.

Therefore *Ordered*, That Mr. *John Carpenter*, or his

son, (*John Carpenter, Jun.*) be permitted to go on board of His Majesty's Ship *Asia*, to obtain a Bill of Sale for a Slave, or other security, from a person on board who is indebted to him.

Mr. *McKesson* informed the Congress that Mr. *Samuel Landon* has, at sundry times, attended at the door, to request a permission to go on board of the Ship *Asia*, to recover a Servant of his who is gone on board.

Ordered, That Mr. *Samuel Landon* be permitted to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Asia*, in order to recover his Servant, who is said to be gone on board of that Ship.

A Letter from *Benjamin Franklin*, on behalf of the Committee of *Philadelphia*, dated the 13th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, February 13, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The bearer, *John Grace*, has the care of a ton of Gunpowder, sent by the Congress to the Committee of Safety at *New-York*. If he should need any advice or assistance on the way; you will be so good, on his application, to afford it to him.

"I am, gentlemen, in behalf of the Committee here, with much respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

"To the Gentlemen of the Committees of *Trenton*, *Brunswick*, and *New-York*."

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that the said ton of Gunpowder is safely lodged in the Powder-House at *New-York*.

A Letter from *Adrian Bancker* and *Richard Lawrence*, Esquires, the Deputies elected for *Richmond County*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Richmond County, February 17, 1776.

"SIR: Yesterday evening we were favoured with yours, dated the 14th instant, enclosing the resolves of the Continental Congress relative to the County of *Richmond*, whereby it is stipulated that the Deputies, and major part of the inhabitants, shall first subscribe to the Association entered into by the Colony, before a representation of this County can be accepted in the Provincial Congress. Wherefore we take this early opportunity to inform you that the Association has been subscribed by us, and about seven-eighths of the inhabitants, long since; which we shall be ready to lay before the Congress when called on.

"Colonel *Heard's* coming on the Island with a large body of men, to call the people to account for their inimical conduct towards the resolves of Congress, at this time, when many of them are coming into the measures, and the general cause gaining ground daily, we fear will be rather a hurt than otherwise.

"We are of opinion that it will be for the good of the common cause to stop the proceedings of the *Jersey* forces, in order to quiet the minds of the people. We would not be understood to dictate measures to that respectable body, (the Congress,) to whose better judgment we willingly submit.

"We are, with respect, sir, your most humble servants,  
Signed per order.

"ADRIAN BANCKER,  
"RICHARD LAWRENCE.

"To *Robert Benson, Esq.*, Secretary, *New-York*:

"SIR: Please to lay the above before the Congress the first convenient opportunity."

A draft of an Answer from the Secretaries (by order of Congress) to *Adrian Bancker* and *Richard Lawrence*, Esquires, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 17th instant was this day received and read in Congress. We are directed to request your immediate attendance, and that you bring with you such proofs of a majority of the inhabitants of your County having subscribed the General Association as will enable you to take your seats, pursuant to the resolution of the Continental Congress.

It was apprehended that General *Clinton*, on his departure, would attempt a landing on *Staten-Island*, for the purpose of making depredations, and carrying off the stock for

the use of the Ministerial Army and Navy. To prevent any attempt of this kind, our Congress requested of the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey* to send Colonel *Heard*, with his regiment, on the Island; and, lest he might not get there in time, the like request was afterwards sent to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*. The inhabitants of *Richmond County* may rest assured that those troops from *New-Jersey* were intended for no other purpose whatever; and on *Saturday* last orders were sent for their dismission.

We are, gentlemen, most respectfully, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Messrs. *Bancker* and *Lawrence*, Deputies for *Richmond County*.

Ordered, That the Secretaries subscribe and despatch the same.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that General *Washington* had, by Letters, requested a quantity of Shells and Shot, and desired they might be forwarded; that he had procured Captain *Proby* to take those stores, at a time when the weather was bad, and some risk in the conveyance; that thirty-five Pounds is due to *Jacob Proby* for that service.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq.*, as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to *Jacob Proby* the sum of thirty-five Pounds for transporting sundry Ordnance Stores from *Turtle-Bay* to *New-London*, by order of General *Washington*, and that Mr. *Livingston* take Captain *Proby's* receipt for the same.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that Major-General *Lee* had ordered Captain *Silleck*, in an armed vessel, of *Connecticut*, down here with Provisions; that the said vessel is without Gunpowder, and that General *Lee* requests that a hundred weight of Gunpowder may be delivered to Captain *Silleck*, for the use of said vessel.

Thereupon an order was given for his use in the words following, to wit:

At the request of Major-General *Lee*, communicated by Colonel *McDougall*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Norwood*, Commissary of Stores for this Colony, deliver to Captain *Silleck* one hundred weight of Gunpowder, for the use of an armed Tender (belonging to the Colony of *Connecticut*) under his command.

A Return from the Committee of *Haverstraw*, signed by *John Coleman*, their Clerk, certifying that, at a meeting of the Company of Militia, at *Kakaüt*, in the presence, and under the inspection of, *Jacob Cole* and *Jonah Halsted, Esqs.*, and *Jacob Deronde* and *Thomas Halsted*, of the Committee, the following Officers were elected, to wit: *Reynard Quackenboss*, Captain; *Garret Eckerson*, First Lieutenant; *Jacob Teneyck*, Second Lieutenant, and *Roger Osborn*, Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen accordingly.

A Letter and Embargo, from the Committees of *Southampton*, *Easthampton*, and *Shelter-Island*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"The Committees of *Southampton*, *Easthampton*, and *Shelter-Island*, convened at *Sag-Harbour*, the 8th instant, humbly beg leave to address the honourable the Provincial Congress with the following Memorial:

"GENTLEMEN: In the strongest confidence of your benevolent purpose of raising and stationing an armed force, with sufficient ammunition, which, with our Minute-men and Militia, may, at all events, with Heaven's blessing, deliver and defend us from *British* attacks and Ministerial vengeance: we have, in our low capacity, but in high spirits, presumed, to the utmost of our power, to embargo; strictly prohibiting the sale and exportation of all provisions, on any pretence whatever, until the 1st day of *March* ensuing, or until we have the sense of the Provincial Congress thereon.

"Now, gentlemen, if your honourable House can condescend to our politicks, and think with us, that it will best promote our great, our common cause, to retain the provisions which are now amongst us, rather than to permit them to be sold and exported, and, consequently, our Army supported with provisions purchased, and, perhaps, with great difficulty imported, (when, as is menaced,) our unnatural

enemies shall invest us by land and sea;—we say, if you can adopt our sentiments, by all that is dear to true, zealous sons of liberty, we beg you will not compel us to flee before our enemy, but detach to our defence such ample number of troops, sufficient, in conjunction with our own, to answer this important purpose, and in your wisdom continue, and confirm the above-mentioned embargo.

“By order of the Committee:

“MALTBY GELSTON, *Chairman*.

“P. S. The desire of this part of the County is, that some method be fallen upon to establish a post from *New-York* to the east end of this Island, that we may be favoured with the earliest intelligence.”

*Ordered*, That Mr. *L'Hommedieu* call on Mr. *Hazard*, the Postmaster, and endeavour to ascertain what Revenue will arise from a Post-rider on *Nassau-Island*, and what will be the expense to the publick of such Post-rider.

3d ho. P. M. Die Lunæ, February 19, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Scott*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Dewitt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Dr. *Graham*, Mr. *Paulling*, Major *Lockwood*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Colonel *Hay* having received advice that one of his children is so indisposed that his life is despaired of, obtained, on that account, leave of absence.

The Petition of *William Cock* and *Thomas Cock*, of *Oyster-Bay*, in *Queen's County*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“To the Honourable Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK.  
The Petition of WILLIAM and THOMAS COCK, of OYSTER-BAY, in QUEEN'S County, humbly sheweth:

“That we, your Petitioners, are inhabitants of said County, and that at the last election of Deputies for the Provincial Congress, we opposed the election of Deputies for said County; since which we are convinced of our error, and think it was absolutely necessary that there should be a representation of said County in the Provincial Congress; and that your Petitioners did not oppose the choice of said Deputies from any desire or inclination of injuring this country, but was owing entirely to error of judgment; and that your Petitioners are ready to obey all orders and recommendations of the Continental and the Provincial Congress. Your Petitioners, therefore, desire that your honourable body will take our case into consideration, and grant us such relief in the present case as to you shall seem meet.

“WILLIAM COCK.

“THOMAS COCK.

“New-York, February 19, 1776.”

On hearing the said Petition read, and upon due consideration thereof, and considering that any former Resolves of this Congress against the Delinquents of *Queen's County* were only intended to convince them of their error, and bring them to a just sense of their duty to the publick:

*Ordered*, That the said Petitioners be restored to the state and condition in which they were before the passing of these Resolves, during their respective good behaviours.

*Ordered*, That the Petitioners have their Petition and this Order published in the Newspapers.

A Return of Field-Officers for the First Regiment in *Charlotte County*, signed by their Clerk, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“At a general meeting of the County Committee of *Charlotte*, January 25, 1776: It was unanimously agreed that Dr. *John Williams* be recommended to the Provincial Congress in *New-York* for Colonel of the First Batta-

lion of Militia for this County; Mr. *Alexander Campbell*, of *Argyle Township*, for Lieutenant-Colonel; Messrs. *Timothy Bewell*, of *Fort Miller*, and *Alexander Webster*, of *Black-Creek*, for Majors; Mr. *Jonathan Baker*, of *Black-Creek*, for Adjutant, and Mr. *Samuel Fuller*, of *Skenesborough*, Quartermaster.

“A true copy from the Minutes:

“ALEXANDER WEBSTER, *Clerk*.

“Precinct of *Granville*: *Joseph Ingles*, Captain; *Gideon Squire*, First Lieutenant; . . . . . Second Lieutenant.

“*Black-Creek* Precinct: *John Hamilton*, Captain; *George McKnight*, First Lieutenant; *James Wilson*, Second Lieutenant.

“Blank Commissions for a Captain in *Argyle Township*.”

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen agreeably to the Return.

*Ordered*, That the nomination and recommendation to the Continental Congress of gentlemen proper to be Field-Officers of the four Battalions to be raised in this Colony, be taken into consideration on *Thursday* next.

A Certificate of *John Child* and *Peter Tappen*, two of the Committee of *Poughkeepsie*, was read and filed.

They thereby certify, that *John Tappen* was duly elected Ensign in Captain *John Schenck's* associated Company of Militia of Foot, of *Poughkeepsie* Precinct, in *Dutchess County*, in the place of *Matthew Van Keuren*, who has resigned.

*Ordered*, That a Commission issue for *John Tappen* accordingly.

Mr. *Sands* informed Congress that, in their recess, four other members of the Committee of Safety and himself had advised and directed a boatman, from *Queen's County*, to sell three-fourth parts of the wood in his boat; that quantity being the property of Whigs, and to carry back the other fourth part, as being the property of a Tory. That *Christopher Duyckinck* had taken Mr. *Sands's* watch and detained it, on pretence that he had a right to have seized the said one-fourth part of the said wood, which he alleges was of the value of forty shillings and six pence.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck* immediately attend the Provincial Congress, now sitting in the Assembly Chamber in the City-Hall of the City of *New-York*.

Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck* attended. He agreed with Mr. *Sands* in all the material facts stated to the Congress, and endeavoured to justify his conduct on the fourth and fifth Resolves of this Congress against the Delinquents in *Queen's County*. After some considerable time spent in this business, Mr. *Duyckinck* alleged that he was not fully prepared to answer the subject, as the message of the House was unexpected.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the further consideration of this matter be postponed till *Friday* next, at eleven o'clock, and that Mr. *Duyckinck* attend again at that time.

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M. February 20, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, (who immediately departed on business.)

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Thomas*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, only.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, of this day, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“New-York, February 20, 1776.

“SIR: I am just informed that the *Asia* and *Phenix* have seized several provision vessels from the *Jerseys*. I must submit it to the Congress whether the compact is not to be considered as broken, and whether it is not our duty to withhold all further supplies. For my own part, the measure of suffering ourselves to be plundered, and at the same time feeding our plunderers, appears a degree of lowness of spirit which reflects dishonour, and must encourage the enemy still to take greater liberties.

“I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

“CHARLES LEE.

“To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress.”

A draft of an Answer to Major-General *Lee* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 20, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of this morning has been considered by Congress, and they are of opinion that it is totally impossible to prevent the *Asia* and *Phenix* from supplying themselves with provisions. They have received information that the seizing of the vessels from the *Jerseys* is occasioned by the supplies from the Agents in town being stopped, and are apprehensive, if it be continued, that the town will be reduced to the utmost distress.

While the navigation of *Hudson’s River* is obstructed by the ice, our principal dependance for corn, provision, fuel, and hay, is from *Connecticut* and the *Jerseys*. An embargo prevents the supplies from the one, and if we provoke the Captains of the ships-of-war, by way of retaliation, to prevent them from the other, the inhabitants will not only be destitute, but our Commissary will be incapacitated from procuring the necessary supplies for the Army now in town.

You will please to consider that the ships-of-war have it in their power to seize all the provisions that they may find afloat, by which means they will have an opportunity of supplying the enemy at *Boston*.

By order:

To Major-General *Lee*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Another Letter from Major-General *Lee* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“New-York, February 19, 1776.

“SIR: As it is established in camp to allow all fatigue-men a gill of rum each, I take the liberty to recommend to the Congress to make the same allowance.

“I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

“CHARLES LEE.

“To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress.”

The consideration thereof is postponed till the afternoon.

Mr. *John Murray* solicited a Permit to go on board of the *Dutchess of Gordon* to settle some accounts.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Murray* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, on board of which Governour *Tryon* resides.

To Mr. *Elias Nixon*, Port-Master.

Die Martis, 3 ho. P. M., February 20, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *L’Hommedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *G. Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *L. Graham*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Allison*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Major-General *Lee*, by his Letter of the 19th, received and read this morning, informed Congress that it is esta-

blished in Camp to allow all Fatigue-men a gill of Rum each; and recommended to the Congress to make the same allowance.

The Congress took the same into consideration.

Thereupon, Ordered, That the respective Commissaries of Provisions appointed by this Congress, issue one gill of Rum per day for each man on fatigue, to the respective Quartermasters of such Troops now in this City as are not otherwise provided for.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, bearing date this same day, requesting the loan of Money, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“New-York, February 20, 1776.

“SIR: When I arrived in this town with my regiment, I expected to have found a Continental Commissary of Provisions here, who would have furnished them provisions and fire-wood, and other necessaries. But as no such officer is here, I ordered my Quartermaster to provide provisions agreeably to the rations allowed by Congress. This he has hitherto done with his own money; but as that is already exhausted, I am under the necessity of asking the favour of the Congress of this Province to advance him, as a loan, as much money as will be necessary for this purpose, till another provision be made by the Continental Congress, to whom I have written to regulate this matter as soon as possible.

“I am, sir, your most humble servant,

“STIRLING.

“To the President of the Congress of the Province of *New-York*.”

A Letter from Colonel *Swartwout*, dated this day, enclosing Returns of such Companies of his Regiment as are present on duty, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“New-York, February 20, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: By the within enclosed returns, you will see that those Captains in town of my regiment have small companies, but at the same time nigh a full set of officers. I expect the following Captains in hourly, to wit: Captain *Woodford*, from *Pawling’s* Precinct; Captain *Laudinton*, from . . . . . Precinct; Captain *Clearch*, from *Beekman’s* Precinct; Captain *Durling*, from *Rombout* Precinct. Should it be the same case with the last-mentioned companies to have so few men, and officers complete, it will be necessary for your honourable Board to fall on some plan, either by sending to the several Colonels of Militia of our County to draft a sufficient number of men to fill the within mentioned companies, or by reducing the officers to a proper number. If you should judge the latter to be best, probably it would suit many of the officers to return to their families, as it answers no good purpose to have so many officers and so few men, but, on the contrary, creates great cost, as it is natural to expect where troops are kept there will be disorders attending them. As we have no Doctor for said regiment, I should be glad that Dr. *Tappen* might be appointed for that purpose, as we have an over plenty of officers. I have no other view in writing the foregoing, than to acquaint you with the state of the regiment.

“I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

“JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, Colonel.

“To the Honourable Provincial Congress at *New-York*.”

The Returns of three Companies of Colonel *Swartwout’s* Regiment, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

*Jacobus Swartwout*, Colonel; . . . . . Lieutenant-Colonel; . . . . . Major.

	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Segeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Deserted.	Clerk.
Captain <i>Schenck</i> , . . . .	1	2	-	2	-	2	34	-	-
Captain <i>Barnum</i> , . . . .	1	2	1	3	2	1	27	-	1
Captain <i>Weeks</i> , . . . .	1	2	1	4	2	1	18	10	-
Total . . . . .	3	6	2	9	4	4	79	10	1

*Ordered*, That the said Letters and Returns be referred to and committed to the Committee of War.\*

A draft of an Answer to Lord *Stirling* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 20, 1776.

MY LORD: It gives this Congress pain to be obliged to declare their inability to supply your Quartermaster with the loan of money for subsisting the troops under your command until the Continental Congress shall regulate that matter. The Continental drafts on our Treasury for large advancements properly within our department, exhausts it as fast as its supplies come in, and we find ourselves under an absolute necessity of looking narrowly into the application of our issues, lest our Treasury should be deficient to answer the proper calls on it. We doubt not that the Continental Congress will, at your request, make speedy provision for the subsistence of your battalion.

Permit us to hint, that we think a provision in the interim will more properly be made by the *New-Jersey* Congress, now sitting so near this city; and to assure you that we are, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servants.

By order of Congress.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Letter from General *Washington* of the 10th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Cambridge, February 10, 1776.

"SIR: Being in the greatest want of arms at this alarming and important crisis, for the Army under my command, and without the most distant prospect or hope of getting more from these Governments than what I already have, I beg leave to solicit the favours of your Committee of Safety in this instance, and earnestly request that they will use their exertions to get and send to me, in the most expeditious manner, all that they can possibly procure. I imagine that there are several belonging to the Colony, and have been informed of many Tories being disarmed, and, therefore, expect that it will be in their power to obtain a considerable supply. Whatever quantity is sent me, I will take on the Continental account, and make payment for, with the expenses incident to their transportation.

"This application being founded in necessity, and arising from the exigency of our affairs, I make no doubt will meet your most ready and early attention, and that nothing will be wanting on your part to give me the most speedy relief.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire.

"P. S. I wish to have only such arms as are good and serviceable, and shall be glad to have bayonets with them.

"G. W."

A draft of an Answer to General *Washington* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 20, 1776.

SIR: The Congress have just now received your letter of the 10th instant, directed to the Chairman of our Committee of Safety. They are extremely sorry they have it not in their power to supply you with the articles you mention, as the Army raised here last summer has entirely drained them of the arms belonging to the Colony, which have never been returned; and the more, as they are, by order of Congress; now levying five new regiments—one for the defence of *Canada*, and four for defending this Colony, and preventing depredations on *Long-Island*, which they suppose will chiefly be destitute, and obliged to be supplied by them; and with respect to the arms taken from

\* A List of the Men in one of the Companies of Colonel *Swartwout's* Regiment.—James Varian, Samuel Crawford, Isaac Oakly, Joseph Tod, Oliver Killick, James Sanderson, William Thomson, John Drake, Micah Townson, Daniel Horton, Gideon Arden, Ezekiel Dayton, John Baker, Jedediah Owens, John McDonald, Seth Winchell, Andrew Fack, David Johnson, Gilbert Horton, James Brundige, Matthew Carryheart, Philip Heustis, James Farrel, Robert Graham, Stephen Shelly, James Vincet, Robert Hutchings, Benjamin Boyer, Jacob Morril, Valentine Rider, Samuel Townsend, Jonathan Allabee, William Brown, Jun., James Hops, Charles Roe, Abraham Morris, John Moreland, Uriah Travis, John Roe, Jesse Burrel.

the Tories in this Colony, they inform you are neither in their possession or at their disposal. Hence, you will perceive that they cannot give you any relief, which they would most cheerfully do were it in their power.

We are, sir, your most humble servants. By order.

To General *Washington*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

*Peter T. Curtenius* delivered in an Inventory of the Hospital and other Stores taken out of the lower Barracks, by order of this Congress, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Inventory of sundry Stores, taken out of the lower Barracks by order of the Provincial Congress, viz:

"Six thousand seven hundred and thirty-six Osnaburgh Sheets, new; 300 Osnaburgh Sheets, old; 140 white Sheets, new; 20 white Sheets, old; 92 check Sheets, new; 1 empty Medicine Chest; 1 chest with Lint; 3 boxes with Tow; 370 Pillow-cases, Osnaburghs, new; 120 bolster-cases, Osnaburgh, new; 725 wooden Bowls; 556 wooden Trenchers; 1,700 wooden Spoons; 1 large copper Kettle; 22 earthen Chamber-pots; 160 old moth-eaten Blankets—most of them fit for nothing but making cartridges for the field-pieces; 4 Camp Colours; 125 boxes Candles, delivered me by Mr. *Norwood*—they weigh, upon an average, about forty-five pounds each, which is six thousand six hundred and twenty-five pounds.

"Taken this 19th of February, 1776.

"PETER T. CURTENIUS, Commissary."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* preserve those Stores, or such of them as are now in his custody, with particular care, for the use of an Hospital; and that he do not part with, or deliver out, any of those Stores, by any order whatever, unless by an order of the Committee of Safety of this Colony, and that only for the use of an Hospital, or by the order of the Provincial Congress of this Colony.

The Members from the City and County of *Albany* informed the Congress that sundry mistakes were made, through haste, by the County Committee and Field-Officers, in arranging the Regiments of Militia in that County, where by many Companies were very inconveniently placed under Field-Officers at a distance from them; and, in other instances, Companies out of one vicinity placed in different Regiments. That a more convenient arrangement of the Militia of that County is now made; but, to carry it into execution, it will be necessary to have some of the commissions altered, and new commissions issued in other instances: of all which alterations, amendments, and arrangements they have now produced a complete form, or list.

*Ordered*, That all the amendments and alterations be made, and such new Commissions issued as will be necessary to complete the arrangement of the Militia of the County of *Albany*.

A Letter from *William Smith*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Suffolk* County, dated the 24th of *January* last, and which was received by the Committee of Safety, was read. They thereby recommend as Field-Officers for their Regiment of Minute-men, to wit: *Josiah Smith*, Colonel; *John Hulbert*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Isaac Reeve*, First Major; *Jonathan Baker*, Second Major; *Isaac Overton*, Adjutant; and *Ebenezer Dayton*, Quartermaster.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue to those gentlemen accordingly.

A Return from *Lewis McDonald*, *James Raymond*, *Peter Flemming*, and *Marcus Mosenell*, Committee-men of *Harrison's* Precinct, in *Westchester* County, with a Certificate of *William Miller*, Deputy Chairman, were read. They return the Officers elected in a Company of Minute-men in Colonel *Drake's* Regiment, to wit: *Hezekiah Gray*, Captain; *Cornelius Clark*, First Lieutenant; *James Miller*, Second Lieutenant; and *Isaac Titus*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions be immediately issued for those gentlemen. And they were issued accordingly.

On motion of Lieutenant-Colonel *Graham*,

*Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to *Samuel Drake*, Esq., Colonel of the Regiment of Minute-men from *Westchester* County, now in Continental service



by order of Major-General *Lee*, the sum of one hundred Pounds, on account of the pay of his Regiment.

A Letter from Major *Robert Rogers* was read and filed. He thereby prays that this Congress will be pleased to give him a permission to go on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, on private business with Governour *Tryon*.

A Letter of the 9th instant, from *Zephaniah Platt*, Chairman of the Committee of *Poughkeepsie*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Poughkeepsie, February 9, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a letter to Congress, in answer to one from the Committee of Safety of the 26th ultimo, informing that four regiments are to be raised for the defence of the Colony, and desiring to know what number of men can be speedily raised and armed in the County. For the reasons mentioned in our letter, you will observe that we have resolved that only three companies can be completed; however, we conceive that if it was stipulated that these troops are to remain within the Colony, we would furnish a greater number of men, as many would, in such case, enter into the service who would otherwise be deterred through fear of being sent upon distant disagreeable service. For this reason we would wish you would, if you conveniently can, acquaint us with the particular destination of those regiments, and how far we may venture to engage with officers and men that they shall not be obliged to march out of the Colony.

"We are directed to inform you that the Committee recommend Mr. *Robert Freeman* for the commission of Second Major in Colonel *Sutherland's* Regiment, vacant by the resignation of Mr. *Cantolin*. You will please to procure and transmit us his commission as soon as possible.

"We remain your very humble servants,

"By order of the Committee of Correspondence:

"*ZEPHANIAH PLATT*, Chairman.

Ordered, That a Commission be issued to Mr. *Robert Freeman*, as Second Major, and transmitted with all convenient speed.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., February 21, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *J. Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Yates*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Rhea*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Dr. *Williams*.

The Committee of the City of *New-York*, in pursuance of the order of this Congress of the 13th instant, returned, that they had caused an election to be held at the City-Hall on the 20th instant, for seven Deputies to serve in this Provincial Congress, with the other Deputies of this City and County of *New-York*. That thereupon Messrs. *Adrian Rutgers*, *Abraham P. Lott*, *Isaac Stoutenburgh*, *Evert Bancker*, *Thomas Randall*, *Samuel Prince*, and *William Denning*, were duly elected.

Ordered, That the said Return be filed, and that those gentlemen be requested to take their seats immediately.

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee of War, to whom was committed the Letter from Colonel *Swartwout*, and the Returns of his Regiment made yesterday, delivered in their Report, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

The Committee of War having taken into consideration Colonel *Swartwout's* Letter of the 20th instant, with the Returns of the several Companies of his Regiment now on duty in this City, and finding that there is by much too great a proportion of officers for the men already here, and that it will probably be the same case with the companies now on their march to join the regiment, are of opinion that Colonel *Swartwout* be directed to appoint a proper number

of officers to the several companies, according to the Regulations for the Militia, and that he order the supernumerary officers to return, with all possible despatch, to the County, in order to complete their companies.

Secondly. That where any officer of a Minute Company shall be unable, or refuse, to engage in this service, he be directed to supply their place by officers of the same rank from the Militia.

Thirdly. That the men be enlisted to continue in the service till the 1st day of *May* next, unless sooner discharged.

Mr. *Thomas Smith* moved, and was seconded, for the following amendment, to wit:

That the third Resolve be obliterated.

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

2 Westchester.

4 New-York.

2 Charlotte.

2 Suffolk.

3 Albany.

13 votes.

For the Negative.

2 Dutchess.—Mr. *G. Livingston*.

2 Tryon. [ston dissenting.]

2 Ulster.—Mr. *Dewitt* dis-

senting.

6 votes.

Resolved, therefore, That the said third direction in the said Report be obliterated.

The first and second directions in the said Report being read a second time, the Congress agrees with their Committee thereon.

Mr. *Van Zandt* suggested to the Congress that it is absolutely necessary that *Andrew Elliott*, Esq., Collector of this Colony, have permission to go on board of his Excellency's Ship, as occasion may require, in order to let the trading vessels of this Colony be despatched, the Governour having refused to sign any papers from the Custom-house unless the Collector is present.

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Andrew Elliott*, Esq., Collector of the Port of *New-York*, be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board of his Excellency Governour *Tryon's* Ship at any time at his pleasure, until the further pleasure of this Congress, or of the Committee of Safety.

Colonel *Peter T. Curtenius* requested to know to whom he shall deliver the last-made Intrenching Tools.

Ordered, That Mr. *P. T. Curtenius* inquire if Mr. *Hugh Hughes* has obtained a commission as a Continental Commissary of Artillery Stores; and if he has such Continental commission, that then he deliver the said Intrenching Tools to Mr. *Hughes*; otherwise, that he deliver them to Mr. *Richard Norwood*.

It being suggested to the Congress that his Excellency Governour *Tryon* is indisposed, and that Dr. *Middleton* is his physician,

Ordered, That Doctor *Middleton* be permitted to go on board of the Ship in which his Excellency resides, at any time, until the further order of this Congress, or of the Committee of Safety.

Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, who was lately appointed a Commissary for a considerable number of Troops, coming into this City, attended, and was admitted into Congress. He informed the Congress that he has purchased and contracted for Provisions to the amount of twenty-one hundred Pounds.

Therefore, Ordered, That *P. V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to *Abraham Livingston*, Esq., as Commissary for sundry Continental Troops now in this city, the sum of twenty-one hundred Pounds, on account, and take a receipt for the same.

Mr. *L'Hommedieu* reported that *William Richie* had contracted with *Beriah Norton*, a Colonel and Commissary of some Provincial Troops stationed at *Marlin's Vineyard*, to furnish forty barrels of Pork and forty barrels of Beef, with some other articles. That he has obtained a permit from the sub-Committee of the City of *New-York*, to purchase those articles and charter a vessel. That he has bought the Provisions in *Westchester* County, and, by reason of a resolve and order of the Committee of Safety, of the 10th instant, prohibiting exportation from thence out of the Colony, he cannot get the Provisions from thence.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Richie* be permitted by the

Committee of *Westchester* County to transport the said forty barrels of Pork and forty barrels of beef, and no more, out of *Westchester* County, the resolution of the Committee of Safety of this Colony on the 10th instant to the contrary notwithstanding.

Adjourned.

Die Mercurii, P. M., February 21, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Bancker*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*, Mr. *Rhea*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *G. Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Humphreys*, Mr. *Schenck*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, relating to persons taken from *Staten-Island* and confined there, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Complaint has been made to us that *Isaac Decker*, *Abraham Harris*, and *Minne Burger*, inhabitants of *Richmond* County, are confined in jail under the direction of your Committee, in the Borough of *Elizabeth*, and that *Richard Conner*, Esq., is bound under a penalty to appear before your Committee. We know not by whose directions they were apprehended. By the regulations of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, all persons charged with any conduct inimical to the United Colonies, or transgressing any resolves, rules, or regulations of the Continental or Provincial Congress, are, in the first instance, to be tried by the County Committee of the County in which such delinquents reside. We, therefore, earnestly request that the several persons above named, with all charges and proofs you have or may know of against them respectively, may be returned to the County Committee of *Richmond* County, to be put upon their trial.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*.

Ordered, That the same be engrossed, and transmitted.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Richmond* County on the same subject, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have, by a letter of this date, requested the Committee of *Elizabethtown* to return to the County Committee of your County, *Richard Conner*, Esq., *Isaac Decker*, *Abraham Harris*, and *Minne Burger*, inhabitants of your County, to be respectively put upon their trials, and return to you any charges and proofs against them that they have or may know of against them, or either of them, with respect to any conduct inimical to the United Colonies, or the having transgressed any resolves, rules, or regulations, of the Continental or Provincial Congress, or either of them.

We request you to put those persons on their trials, and if they, or either of them, should be found to have transgressed in any manner, we doubt not you will do strict and impartial justice, and make report to this Congress of your proceedings in the premises.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order.

To the Chairman of the Committee of *Richmond* County.

Ordered, That the same be engrossed, and transmitted.

A Letter from General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, dated *February 15, 1776*, on the subject of the *Canada* Regiment to be raised, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, February 15, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to acknowledge your favour of the 31st ultimo, which was delivered me on the 12th by Messrs. *Jadwin & Giles*, together with twelve thousand five hundred dollars, for which I have given them a receipt.

"If I do not misapprehend the resolution of Congress for levying troops for the *Canada* service, the raising of Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment is recommended to you, as well as the providing them with the necessaries to enable them to take the field. I have neither arms, blankets, or clothing. These ought to be immediately procured.

"I enclose you a copy of my letter to the General Committee of this County, which sits to-day. By that you will see what I propose to do. The nomination of such officers as may be wanted, I must leave to that body, which, as it is composed of gentlemen from every part of the County, is more able to judge of those who are likely to raise the men than I can be.

"My nephew, *Peter Schuyler*, a young gentleman of about thirty years of age, wishes to be employed in some of the regiments to be raised in this Colony, as a Field-Officer. I should be happy, provided he can be recommended, without injuring others that may have a better claim, or giving umbrage.

"I am, gentlemen, with much respect and esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A copy of a Letter from General *Schuyler* on the same subject to the Committee of *Albany*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, February 14, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: On the 12th instant I was honoured with a letter from the Committee of Safety of this Colony, dated the 31st ultimo; extracts of which I enclose you, together with copies of sundry resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress.

"You will perceive by the resolutions of Congress, that the raising of Colonel *Van Schaick's* regiment was a service intended for the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety. But since they have sent me the money, and that the delay which must necessarily be occasioned by refusing my intervention, may be very prejudicial to the service at this advanced season, I will readily, with your assistance, undertake the business, provided you judge it practicable to complete the regiment in this quarter. If not, I would only issue warrants to such officers as served in that corps last campaign, and are willing to re-engage, which, together with such other officers (of which I enclose a list) to whom warrants were issued for raising troops, without designing them particularly for any regiment, (and three of which have already enlisted near three companies,) will, I apprehend, nearly complete the number of officers; a list of which I would transmit to the Colony Congress, that they may be sufficiently informed to appoint the remainder.

"Colonel *Van Schaick* has my orders to inform himself which of his officers on this side of *Canada* will re-engage. Those in *Canada* will be provided for there.

"I am, gentlemen, with respect and esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To the Committee of the City and County of *Albany*."

A Letter from Colonel *Curtenius* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"February 21, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Halsted*, Quartermaster of the *Jersey* Regiment, has applied to me for three hundred and forty-four wooden bowls, twelve pair of sheets for the Hospital, and three hundred and forty-four wooden spoons; also, a few old blankets for the sick. I should be glad to have a written order to deliver them.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"P. T. CURTENIUS.

"To the Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to the Quartermaster of the *Jersey* Regiment twenty-four Bowls, twenty-four wooden Spoons, twelve pair of Sheets, and a few old Blankets, for the sole and only use of the sick in the Hospital; and that he take a receipt for the same for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Sands*, and Captain *Denning*, be a Committee to examine and state all the accounts, disbursements, and payments made by the Treasurer of this Congress; that they make particular distinction between Continental and Provincial charges; that they be authorized to call to their assistance Mr. *Gerard Bancker* and Colonel *Curtenius* when necessary, and to employ at the expense of this Congress, one or more such Clerks as they shall think necessary; and that they report their proceedings with all possible despatch.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Evert Bancker* be Auditor of Accounts, in the stead of Mr. *John Ray*.

Mr. *Zachariah Sickles* having a parcel of Bags at *Nutten-Island*, it is suggested that he cannot go there for them without a pass from this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Zachariah Sickles* be permitted to go over to *Nutten-Island* in any boat that he may think proper.

Colonel *Palmer* attending as a Member from *Ulster*, whereby that County will have a quorum without Mr. *Dewitt*,

*Ordered*, That he have leave of absence.

A Return signed by *Thomas Thomas* and *William Miller*, of *Westchester* County, was read and filed. They thereby certify, that at a meeting of the Troop of *Westchester* County, held at the house of *Wilsey Dusenbury*, in *Harrison* Precinct, the following gentlemen were elected officers, to wit: *Samuel Tredwell*, Captain; *Thaddeus Avery*, Lieutenant, chosen unanimously; and that *Abraham Hatfield* was chosen Cornet, and *Uytendall Allaire* Quartermaster, each chosen by a majority.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen.

A Return signed by *Abraham P. Lott* and *Peter T. Curtenius*, two of the Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, dated the 1st of *February*, 1776, of three officers being duly elected for a Company in Beat No. —, in the City of *New-York*, to wit: *Isaac Johnson*, First Lieutenant; *John Lyner*, Second Lieutenant; and *George Quedon*, Ensign:

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue to those gentlemen. And they were issued accordingly.

A Return of Officers of a Company of Minute-men at *Saratoga*, in the County of *Albany*, signed by *Ebenezer Marvin*, Chairman of the Committee, and dated the 12th instant, was read and filed. They thereby return the following persons for officers of the said Company, viz: *Alexander Baldwin*, Captain; *Samuel Bacon*, First Lieutenant; *Walter Hewitt*, Second Lieutenant; and *Elias Palmer*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue to those gentlemen.

Colonel *McDougall's* motion of yesterday, for the emission of the further sum of fifty-five thousand Pounds, Provincial currency, for the exigencies of this Colony, and to be sunk at different periods, and which, by consent, without being entered, was postponed to this day, was resumed.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, *Thomas Smith*, Esq., and Colonel *Lott*, be a Committee to report a plan for the emission of fifty-five thousand Pounds.

Die Jovis, A. M., February 22, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Smith*, Captain *Rutgers*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Sands*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Herring*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Major *Livingston*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Thomas*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*.

The Order of the Day, for recommending to the Continental Congress Field-Officers for the four Battalions to be raised in this Colony, being read, the same was postponed till the afternoon.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are now to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 11th instant, covering the resolution of Congress relative to the inhabitants of *Richmond* County; and notifying us of your having obtained a warrant in our favour, on the Continental Treasurer, for twelve thousand dollars, which will in some measure enable us to raise the four battalions intended for the immediate protection and defence of this Colony.

It is agreeable to us that you deduct, out of the money made payable by that warrant, what may be due to you as Delegates, agreeable to the resolution of this Congress; and we beg you to transmit the residue, with a state of your respective accounts and receipts, to our Treasurer, as his voucher.

We are, gentlemen, with esteem, your most obedient servants.

By order.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

*John Hastier*, Mate of the Ship *Sally*, whereof Captain *Bagley* was late Master, has requested permission to go on board of the said Ship *Sally*, to obtain his Clothing, Bedding, and other necessaries from on board, as she is to proceed to *Boston*.

*Ordered*, That the said *John Hastier* be permitted to go on board of the Ship *Sally*, for the purposes aforesaid.

A Memorial of Captain *Daniel Griffin*, Captain *John Johnson*, and thirteen other Officers, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK, now sitting in this City.

"The Memorial of several of the Officers in the service of the United Colonies, by appointment of this Colony, for the duty of the year 1775, in the Northern Army, sheweth:

"That your Memorialists having been called upon early in the present contest, have willingly obeyed the summons, cheerfully entered upon any command or duty assigned them, in full expectation of being on the same footing with the other Continental Troops raised for the general defence; and whereas, by good authority, we are informed that the allowance given the Eastern Army for officers' subsistence, is much more than that received by your Memorialists; they humbly request that the Commissaries may be ordered to pay us the difference of rations, having some of us received but one ration, and others no provisions since we entered the service; whereas the Captains in the Eastern Army have, from the 1st of *July* last, received three, and the subalterns two; whereby discontents are arising, to the prejudice of that service where harmony is essential for executing the purpose intended.

"That your Memorialists being informed an additional number of troops are to be raised in this Colony for the Continental service, beg leave to remind this honourable House of the services rendered the publick by them, and other officers in the late year, hoping that the appointments may be such as will not supersede any officer who served with approbation and merit the late campaign, not doubting but this House will pay a proper attention in the same. We

mean not to dictate; but, from a tender concern for the character and honour of our absent brethren, we are constrained to offer our sentiments thereon, lest, for want of information, an unintended wound may be given to that delicacy which inspires the breasts of soldiers, and, in a great measure, urges them to noble deeds, and carries them through the fatigues and dangers of the field; and we must add, that a soldier without a due sense of honour, will not only be very unhappy in the corps he may serve in, but surely cannot be entrusted with the defence of the honour or interests of the publick.

"Your Memorialists, relying on the candour of this House, beg leave to sign in behalf of our absent brethren; praying, as our duty is, for the preservation of our invaluable rights and privileges, and for those who have direction of publick business for that end.

"DANIEL GRIFFIN,	JACOBUS WYNKOOP,
"JOHN JOHNSON,	NATHANIEL WOODWARD,
"JOHN HULBERT,	BENJAMIN LEDYARD,
"JOHN GRENELL,	ELIAS HASBROUCK,
"ANDREW BILLINGS,	JACOBUS ROSEKRANS,
	<i>Captains.</i>
"BENJAMIN MARVIN,	JAMES M. HUGHES,
"WILLIAM BROWNE,	ABRAHAM RIKER,
"THOMAS LEFOY,	<i>Lieutenants.</i>

"New-York, February 21, 1776."

The Congress are of opinion that the first part of the Memorial would be a proper subject of application to Major-General Schuyler and Walter Livingston, Esq., but not to this Congress; and that the latter part of the Memorial is already answered by a Resolve of this Congress of the 15th instant.

*Anthony Post*, Captain of a Company of Artificers, delivered an estimate of the Tools necessary for each Carpenter in his Company; and alleges that it will save publick money to direct the Carpenters to furnish their own Tools, and to increase their Wages from ten to thirteen Dollars per month:

*Ordered*, That Mr. Prince, Mr. Rhea, and Mr. Palmer, or any two of them, be a Committee to consider of, and report thereon, with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *John Hancock*, dated *Philadelphia*, 20th of *February*, 1776; also, Resolutions of the Continental Congress of *February* 15th and 17th, 1776, were received and read, and are as follow:

"Philadelphia, February 20, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to enclose you several resolutions of Congress, by which you will perceive their determination as to the works on *Martelaer's Rock*, that no addition be made, but that those already effected there be supported and garrisoned. You will please to order the execution of the works recommended by Congress in the enclosed resolves, to which beg leave to refer you.

"The Congress have directed General *Lee* to repair to *Canada*, to conduct the military operations in that quarter; and as battering-cannon are much wanted there, they have ordered him to request you to supply him with some suitable pieces and mortars, if possible, with shells, balls, &c. I make no doubt but your zeal will readily lead you to afford the General your aid in these instances, and also in assisting to forward every necessary with all despatch. I must refer you to the resolutions, and have only time to request your particular attention to them.

"I am, with esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"To the Honourable Convention, *New-York*.

"P. S. General *Schuyler* is to repair to *New-York*, and take the command; I shall send the commission by next opportunity."

The Resolves of the Continental Congress of the 15th instant, were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, February 15, 1776.

"Resolved, That no further Works be erected on *Martelaer's Rock*, but, that those already erected there, be supported and garrisoned.

"That a Fascine Battery, to mount heavy Cannon, not exceeding eighteen in number, to be thrown up on the *Gra-*

*vel Hill*, eastward of *Martelaer's Rock*, marked in the draft LL, so as to command the *West Point*, the reach down the River from the *West Point*, and part of the reach up the River; and that a convenient road be opened from this Battery to the Barracks on *Martelaer's Rock*.

"That a Redoubt of Earth and Fascines be built on the eminence on the east side of the River, opposite to the *West Point* marked in the draft A, to mount thirty Guns.

"That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to forward the Battery at *Poopen's Kill*; and that the said Battery be made of earth and fascines, and to mount a number of Guns, not exceeding forty.

"That such of the Continental Troops as are or may be stationed at the aforesaid places, be employed in erecting these Works and Batteries, under the direction of the Engineer."

"February 17, 1776.

"That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to supply General *Lee* with a quantity of suitable Cannon, not exceeding twelve, and one or more Mortars, if to be had, with Balls, Shells, and other necessaries, for the siege or assault of *Quebeck*; and that they assist him in forwarding the same with all possible expedition.

"That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York*, that such of the Officers who served faithfully in *Canada* the last campaign, as are willing to continue there, be preferred, in the new levies of the Colony of *New-York*, to others.

"Resolved, That the sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the support of the Troops employed in the defence of that Colony, the said Convention or Committee of Safety to be accountable for the expenditure thereof; and that an Order be drawn on the Treasurers for the above sum, in favour of the Delegates of that Colony, who are directed to forward the same.

"That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to contract with proper persons for supplying the said Troops with the Rations allowed by Congress, and with Fuel and other necessaries, on the most reasonable terms in their power.

"Extract from the Minutes;

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

"By order of Congress:

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*."

Resolve of the Continental Congress, of the 15th of *February*, instant, was also read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to prosecute the discovery of the Lead-Mines at *New-Canaan*; and that a copy of a Report of *Joseph Hopkins* to the General Assembly of *Connecticut*, respecting this Mine, be sent to them.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

*Ordered* to be transmitted:

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*."

The copy of the Report of *Joseph Hopkins*, referred to in the above Resolve, and enclosed by President *Hancock*, is as follows:

"To the Honourable the General Assembly convened at NEW-HAVEN, on the 14th DECEMBER, 1775:

"Whereas Captain *Samuel Forbes* and the subscriber were appointed by your Honours, at your session in *October* last, a Committee to examine and explore a Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan*, in the Province of *New-York*, and to report, &c.

"I, the said subscriber, ask leave to report: That on the 7th of *November* last, on my journey to said *New-Canaan*, I expected said Captain *Forbes* to join me; but he being ill, and unable to assist in said business, advised me to proceed; with which advice I complied, and repaired to *New-Canaan*, where I found the said Mine, the vein of ore in which appears to be about fifty or sixty rods in length, lying north and south, in a ledge of rocks or lime-stone, mixed with white flint; at the south end of which the ground falls about twenty-six feet, below which the water can be drawn off by

a level; which vein I found had been opened about one rod in length and three or four feet deep; where I employed a skilful miner to blast the rock, but found no continued adherent vein, but found the ore in bodies in different shapes, about three or four inches in diameter, lying about three or four feet distant. The said miner also opened the vein in several places where it had not before been tried; and it appeared to be in the same manner. I also smelted eight ounces of said ore, and found, when it was well refined, it weighed five ounces, and was very malleable and good. All which is submitted by your Honours' most obedient and very humble servant,

"JOSEPH HOPKINS.

"N. B. The Mine aforesaid lies in a tract of land called the *King's* District, where the fee has never been granted or patented to any person, and the inhabitants claim to hold by possession only; and I employed the miner aforementioned, with others, to labour in said Mine seven days; about half of which time was spent in opening the vein, and by the other half of the labour was raised one hundred weight of the ore. Yours, as above,

JOSEPH HOPKINS.

"A true copy :

CHARLES THOMSON."

The Congress took into consideration the said Resolves of Congress of the 15th instant; and Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that Major-General *Lee*, in pursuance of the Resolution of Congress for supplying large Ordnance for the service in *Canada*, requests the following Ordnance, to wit: Two 24-pounders, six 18-pounders, four 32-pounders; and that these Cannon may be forwarded to *Canada* with all possible expedition:

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Nicoll*, Colonel *Palmer*, and Mr. *G. Livingston*, be a Committee to forward those Cannon, in such manner as they shall think most expeditious; that the said Committee, or such of them as shall proceed with those Cannon, be recommended, and are hereby recommended to the assistance of every Committee in this Colony for any assistance they may want; and the several Committees within this Colony are hereby requested and directed to furnish to those gentlemen, or either of them, who may proceed with those Cannon, Teams of Horses and Oxen, Carts, Wheels, and Carriages, and every other aid they may require.

And the better to enable the gentlemen named above as a Committee to carry the matters above-mentioned into execution:

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *Francis Nicoll* and Colonel *Thomas Palmer* the sum of six hundred Pounds, on account, for that service.

And on reading that part of the Resolutions of the Continental Congress of the 15th instant, respecting the Fortifications built, and to be built in the Highlands:

*Resolved and Ordered*, That *Thomas Palmer*, Esq., be, and he is hereby appointed an additional Commissioner to superintend the building of the said Fortifications; that he be furnished with a copy of the said Resolutions, and apply to General *Lee* for an Engineer to assist in that business; and that he immediately repair with the said Engineer to the Highlands. And it is earnestly recommended to the Committee to use their utmost endeavours to carry the Resolutions of the Continental Congress into immediate execution.

The President, from the chair, enjoined secrecy on all the Members upon their honour, not to mention the sending any Cannon or Stores to the Northward.

On reading the Resolutions for making Contracts for supplying the Troops with the Rations allowed by Congress, and Fuel, and other necessities, on the most reasonable terms:

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lott* and Major *Stoutenburgh* be a Committee for that purpose.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that Major-General *Lee* had found it necessary to retain a number of Cartmen by the day, to attend every morning, and go to work in one or more companies, as they should be directed; and that they were retained at ten Shillings per day for each Cartman, with his Horse and Cart, the Cartmen maintaining themselves and their Horses; whereby a considerable expense in cartage will be saved. That General *Lee* con-

ceives it would tend to forward business with much more despatch, and to have more labour done in a given time, if an industrious, watchful, and active Overseer or Wagonmaster was appointed to call the roll of those Cartmen at proper hours, to see that they attend in due season, work faithfully, and cart proper loads; and that General *Lee* requests that a proper person may be appointed to that office by this Congress.

And Mr. *John Targer* being thought a proper person for this business:

*Agreed and Ordered*, That he be appointed, and he is hereby appointed, Overseer and Wagonmaster, for the purposes above-mentioned, of all such Cartmen as are or shall be so employed by Major-General *Lee*, or the commanding Officer of the Continental Troops in this City for the time being; and that such Cartmen be under his direction; and that Mr. *Targer* return the names and conduct of any such as do not work faithfully and do their duty.

And *Resolved*, That Mr. *John Targer* shall have a Lieutenant's pay while continued in this service.

P. M. Die Jovis, February 22, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Banker*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Strong*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *L'Homedieu*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Rhea*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Lefever*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Herring*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Major *Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Paulling*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*.

A Return made by Colonel *Samuel Drake* and Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis Graham*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Horne's Hook, February 22, 1776.

"SIR: Mr. *Storm*, who was appointed First Major in our Regiment, has resigned, and we beg leave to recommend Mr. *Samuel Lyon*, who is now Second Major, to be First Major; and Mr. *Ebenezer Slason*, the Captain of the First Company, to be Second Major.

"If the Congress should think proper to grant the commissions, we beg they may be issued as speedily as is convenient.

"We are, sir, your very humble servants,

"SAMUEL DRAKE, Colonel.

"LEWIS GRAHAM, Lieutenant-Colonel.

"To Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

*Ordered*, That a Commission issue for *Samuel Lyon*, Esq., as First Major, and *Ebenezer Slason* as Second Major, in Colonel *Samuel Drake's* Regiment.

Messrs. *Prince* and *Ray*, from the Committee appointed this morning to report on the Proposal of *Anthony Post*, Captain of a Company of Artificers, delivered in their Report; which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee appointed to consider and report on the Proposal made by the Captain of Artificers, with respect to the furnishing the Company with Tools, report, that they are of opinion that the list of Tools exhibited by Mr. *Post* is sufficient for two men at least; that it is their opinion that it will be a saving to the publick to allow the sum of ten shillings per month for the use of their own Tools.

SAMUEL PRINCE,

MATTHEW RHEA.

The Congress agrees with their Committee in their said Report.

And *Ordered*, That the said Report stand confirmed.

The Order of the Day being again read, the Congress proceeded thereon. After some time spent, and some pro-



gress therein, General *Ten Broeck* moved, and was seconded, that as this Congress is not properly informed what promotions have taken place in *Canada*, without which we may greatly err and do injustice to, or neglect gentlemen of character and merit who have served during the last campaign, that the further consideration thereof be postponed for the present, and that a Letter be written to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, and another Letter to General *Schuyler*, requesting to know what gentlemen are provided for.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at the Continental Congress was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This Congress, earnestly solicitous to do the strictest justice to those worthy gentlemen who so readily turned out in the service of their country the last campaign, and being entirely uncertain what promotions have been made by the Continental Congress, or any acting under their orders, among the officers who served in the troops raised by this Colony, take the liberty to enclose to you the rank-roll of our four regiments, requesting that you, by the first post, will inform us what promotions have been made, that we may be in a capacity to nominate to the Congress two gentlemen for each Field-Officer of the four battalions ordered to be raised by this Colony. You will easily perceive that, unless we are furnished with such account, we may neglect some gentlemen whose services may be of the utmost importance to their country.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest esteem, your very humble servants. By order.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

A draft of a Letter to Major-General *Schuyler* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 22, 1776.

SIR: We are ordered by the Continental Congress to provide for the officers who served in *Canada* the last campaign; and understanding that some of those officers have been provided for by that honourable body, we should take it as a favour that you would inform us who those persons are, that we may be enabled to make a proper arrangement of the officers to command the regiments we are to raise.

We are sorry to inform you, in answer to your letter of the 15th instant, that we are unable to supply Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment with any arms, blankets, or clothing, having by no means a sufficiency for the equipment of those troops we are to raise. We highly approve of your application to the Committee of *Albany* for the nomination of officers for Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment; at the same time shall give you every assistance in our power. We concluded that there was a large number of arms lodged at *Albany*, as but few of our soldiers have brought back their arms, many of which belonged to this city; and we expected to have them to put into the hands of the troops to be raised in this Colony, and should be glad to know what is become of those arms.

As soon as we can procure the necessary information of the officers provided for in *Canada*, we shall nominate the Field-Officers for the regiments we raise, when the nomination of the young gentleman you mention will be taken under consideration.

We are, sir, with the greatest esteem, your very humble servants. By order.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

Ordered, That copies of those Letters, respectively, be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Return of the Officers of Captain *Smith's* Company, in Colonel *Van Ness's* Regiment, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"These are to certify that the following persons were duly elected officers in a Minute Company in *Charlotte* Precinct, *Dutchess* County, in Colonel *Van Ness's* Regiment, viz: *Melancton Smith*, Captain; *Isaac Bloom*, First Lieutenant; *William Mead*, Second Lieutenant; and *William Tremper*, Ensign.

"JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, }  
"PETER TAPPEN, } Committee-  
"REUBEN HOPKINS, } men.

"February 22, 1776."

Ordered, That Commissions issue for *Melancton Smith*, as Captain; *Isaac Bloom*, First Lieutenant; *William Mead*, Second Lieutenant; and *William Tremper*, Ensign.

The Barrackmaster of this City, attending at the door, was admitted. He informed the Congress that he has not any covers for Straw Beds, having delivered out Straw Beds to all Troops indiscriminately, as they have arrived.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, purchase immediately as much Crocus, or any other coarse Cloth fit for covering Straw Beds, as will make five hundred Beds; and that he have the same made, or deliver the Cloth to the Barrackmaster, to have them made; and that the Barrackmaster deliver out those Beds to the Troops of this Colony only.

And Ordered, That the Barrackmaster take receipts for those Beds, and all other Barrack stores delivered out by him; and that he bring in to this Congress an account of all the Barrack stores or utensils which he has purchased, and of all stores which he has delivered out.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 22, 1776.

"SIR: As the carpenters must be constantly employed in various works for the publick service, I take the liberty to desire the Congress will furnish, or order to be furnished, about three thousand feet of boards, to construct a shed, which may enable them to work in all kinds of weather. A considerable quantity of oak timber is likewise requisite for platforms and other works,—five hundred loads will not be an over quantity. The regiments here from *Connecticut* can turn out many carpenters, who consent to work upon much more reasonable terms than the artificers of the city. It would, I imagine, be worth while to provide, if possible, a sufficient number of tools. When the present work is done, these tools cannot be considered as an idle purchase; they will always be useful.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Congress."

Ordered, That General *Lee* be informed that he may direct his Engineer to furnish a bill of Scantling, of the Boards and Timber mentioned in his said Letter, and that this Congress will direct the same to be procured; and that the Committee of War wait on General *Lee*, and confer with him on the other part of his Letter, and report thereon to this Congress to-morrow.

Mr. *Hobart* informed the Congress that there are several Soldiers, of the different corps, now here, who ought to be put into an Hospital.

Ordered, That Dr. *Treat* be requested to take the trouble to procure some proper place in the suburbs for their reception, and inform this Congress, or some of the Members thereof.

Colonel *Humphreys* informed the Congress that the Minute-men of his Regiment in particular, and the greater part of those of the other *Dutchess* and *Westchester* Regiments, enlisted in full confidence, that their pay would be fifty-three shillings and four pence per month—the Continental pay of last year; that though many of them were lately enlisted, yet they knew not of the change of the Continental pay at the time of their enlistment; that they have, since the publication of the present Continental establishment, been very uneasy; and that if their pay is reduced to forty shillings per month, many of them will return from the service.

Ordered, That *Thomas Smith* draw a Letter on that subject, stating their case to the Delegates of this Congress, and requesting them to procure the pay of last year's establishment for those Troops.

A Letter from Colonel *Samuel Drake*, requesting that Dr. *Benjamin Miller* might be examined, and, if found properly qualified, be appointed Surgeon to his Regiment, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Horne's Hook, February 20, 1776.

"SIR: Dr. *Benjamin Miller*, at my request, has marched and is now with my regiment as Surgeon. He has already taken care of some that are sick. Would be much obliged to the honourable Congress to have him examined; and, if found properly qualified, appointed Surgeon of my regi-

ment. As Dr. *Miller* is acquainted with a considerable part of the men under my command, I suppose he would be more agreeable to the soldiers than most others.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"SAMUEL DRAKE, Colonel.

"To Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

Ordered, That the said *Benjamin Miller* be examined by Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Treat*, and obtain from them such certificate of his qualifications as Surgeon to a Regiment, as those gentlemen may on such examination find that he merits.

Mr. *Robert Benson*, one of the Secretaries, informed the Congress that, by order of the Committee of Safety, he had attended the removing the Records from the Secretary's Office, and had been obliged to employ ten Cartmen for that purpose, who charged him four Shillings each for that service.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to Mr. *Robert Benson* forty Shillings, to pay the said Cartmen.

Die Veneris, A. M., February 23, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Smith*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *A. Rutgers*, Mr. *Scott*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Strong*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Captain *Wickham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Herring*.

*William Lowther*, Esq., informed part of this Congress that he has been informed that his Sloop and Cargo, in custody of Captain *Parker*, will probably be sent to *Boston*; and that if he could be permitted to go down to the *Phoenix*, it might be of use to his interest.

Ordered, That *William Lowther*, Esq., be permitted to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, and his own Vessel, now under the command of Captain *Parker*.

To Mr. *Elias Nixen*, Port-Master.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lispenard's* Servant be permitted to go on board of the Governour's Ship; with five bags of Buckwheat.

To Mr. *Elias Nixen*, Port-Master.

Ordered, That *Robert McIntosh*, Master of the Schooner *Sally*, be permitted to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Asia*.

To Mr. *Elias Nixen*, Port-Master.

Ordered, That *William Kempe* have permission to go on board of Governour *Tryon's* Ship; to *Cortlandt Skinner*, Esq., with a Letter, and a draft of a Charter for *Newark Academy*.

To Mr. *Elias Nixen*, Port-Master.

Colonel *McDougall* recommended Mr. *Alexander Hamilton* for Captain of a Company of Artillery; Mr. *James Moore* for Captain-Lieutenant; and ——— *Johnson* (who was in service last year, and who was lately appointed by the Committee of Safety) for First Lieutenant.

Ordered, That the appointment of those Officers be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

A Certificate of the election of the Officers of a Minute Company in *Easthampton* was read. It thereby appears, and is certified, that *Ezekiel Mulford* was chosen Captain, *John Miller*, First Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Hand*, Second Lieutenant, of the Company of Minute-men in *Easthampton*; in *Suffolk County*, in the Regiment whereof *Josiah Smith*, Esq., is Colonel.

Ordered, That Commissions issue to those gentlemen.

And they were immediately issued accordingly.

A Letter from Colonel *Peter T. Curtenius*, Commissary of this Congress, dated yesterday, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 22, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have taken the liberty to enclose an estimate of what articles are wanting to complete the four battalions which are now raising for the defence of this Province. If your Honours think proper to employ me in the purchase of them, should esteem it a favour to receive your orders early, that I may have it in my power to get them made in time.

"I have let the Barrackmaster have, since his appointment, five hundred and seventy-four pounds, to purchase wood and other necessities; and he tells me he will want two or three hundred pounds more in a few days. Must I let him have it before he renders me an account? Your orders how I must act, and how often in the year he must render an account, will be agreeable to, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"PETER T. CURTENIUS.

"To the New-York Provincial Congress."

As short Accounts are most easily examined, and prevent trouble,

Ordered, That the Barrackmaster deliver in his Accounts, that they may be settled and examined before more money is advanced; and that for the future the Barrackmaster deliver in his Accounts weekly.

The Estimate enclosed in the Letter of Colonel *Curtenius*, of sundries wanted for four Battalions, to be raised in the Province of *New-York*, was read.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be referred to the Committee of War.

Ordered, That Mr. *Norwood*, the Military Provincial Commissary, wait on Colonel *Waterbury*, and receive from him the Arms lately taken from sundry disaffected persons in *Westchester County*; that Mr. *Norwood* have all those Arms particularly examined and described, and have them appraised by two persons who are proper judges of their value, and a duplicate of such appraisement and description returned to this Congress with all convenient speed.

The Congress were informed that *Cornelius Atherton* has a part of the Arms he contracted for with Colonel *McDougall* and Mr. *Curtenius*, on behalf of this Congress, ready to be proved, and that he cannot prove them for want of Gunpowder.

Ordered, That Colonel . . . . . deliver or cause to be delivered to *Cornelius Atherton*, or for his use, one quarter-cask of Gunpowder, for the proving of the said Muskets; the said *Cornelius Atherton* to discount the price of said Gunpowder out of the price of the said Arms.

*Ezra L'Hommedieu*, Esq., having occasion for the sum of three hundred and seventy Pounds, to apply to publick uses, at his risk, which have been mentioned to Congress,

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, Esq., the sum of three hundred and seventy Pounds, and take his note or obligation, payable within six weeks, for the same.

Die Veneris, 5 ho. P. M., February 23, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Colonel *Nicoll*, (on business,) General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr.

*L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Wickham*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Strong*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on business.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Colonel *Ten Broeck*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Major *William Williams*.

A Letter from *William Leary*, Town-Major, on the subject of his great duty and small means, was read and filed, and is the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 23, 1776.

"SIR: As I have a long time acted as Town-Major, I now must take the liberty, and beg you will inform the Congress, that it is out of my power to support myself in that character without some compensation for it. I have quitted all business for the office, and now support myself on my means, which, God knows, is very little. I must beg you will excuse this freedom which I have taken with you.

"I remain a well wisher to the present cause; and am your very humble servant,

"WILLIAM LEARY, Town-Major.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress."

As the Town-Major is an officer of this City, and the City Members are absent in a Committee, fixing on proper persons to recommend for Officers in the battalion to be raised in this City,

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be deferred for the present, and resumed when the Members for *New-York* are present.

A Return of the Officers of a Company of Minute-men, in *Southampton*, in *Suffolk* County, and signed by *Thomas Cooper* and *S. Halsey*, the Chairman, and another member of the Committee, was read and filed. They return that the following gentlemen were unanimously chosen in their presence, agreeably to the Rules of Congress, to wit: *Zephaniah Rogers*, Captain; *Nathaniel Howell*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *Matthew Sayer*, Second Lieutenant.

Another Return of Officers of another Company of Minute-men, in *Southampton*, signed by *Maltby Gelston*, Chairman, was read and filed. The Officers thereby returned, are, *David Pierson*, Captain; *John Foster*, Jun., First Lieutenant; *Abraham Rose*, Second Lieutenant, and *Edward Topping*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for the above-named gentlemen.

And they were issued accordingly.

Die Sabbati 10 ho. A. M., February 24, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Captain *Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Rutgers*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *L'Hommedieu*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Herring*, Mr. *Clowes*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Thomas*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Major *W. Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *J. Williams*.

*Samuel Franklin* informed Congress that the Ship *Sally* is to be sent to *Boston* in a few days, and requests permission from this Congress to send *John Hastier* in the said ship to *Boston*, in order to make application to the Admiral for her discharge, and, in the interim, to take care of the said ship. Mr. *Franklin* further requests that the said *John Hastier* may be permitted to take with him for his subsistence, one barrel of salt provisions, one cask of bread, one barrel of flour, one quarter of fresh beef, a few gallons of rum or spirits, and a few pounds of chocolate; and that he, Mr. *Franklin*, be permitted to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix* to speak with Captain *Parker* relative to the said Ship *Sally*.

*Ordered*, That *John Hastier* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board of the Ship *Sally*, belonging to *Samuel Franklin*, and lately seized by Captain *Parker*; and further, that the said *John Hastier* be permitted to go passenger in the said Ship to *Boston*, and take with him, for his subsistence, the following stores, to wit: One barrel of

salt Provisions, one cask of Bread, one barrel of Flour, one quarter of fresh Beef, a few gallons of Rum, and a few pounds of Chocolate; and,

*Ordered*, That *Samuel Franklin* be permitted to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, to speak with Captain *Parker* relative to the said Ship.

The Deputies for the City and County of *New-York* delivered in a List or Arrangement of Officers for the Regiment to be raised in *New-York*; which was read and approved of.

A Letter from *David Pye*, Esq., Deputy Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County, to the Congress, and two Letters from *E. W. Kiers*—one to *Jesse Woodhull*, Esq., and the other to *Thomas Smith*, Esq.—were read.

They thereby state their difficulties arising from the following matter, to wit: That their County Committee had recommended officers for two companies, to be raised on the south side of the Mountains, in *Orange* County; that each of those officers had been at expense in preparing for the service, and engaging men for a company; that only one company being allotted by Congress to be raised in that part of the County, each set of officers claimed the preference, and that, to rid themselves of jealousies, and creating divisions, they had returned the warrants, and submitted to Congress to determine and fill up the warrants.

Congress determined that the said warrants be filled up in manner following, to wit: For *Amos Hutchins*, Captain.

An Account of *Bernard Romans*, for money claimed by him as due to him from this Congress, was read.

A Resolve of Continental Congress was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Congress, February 13, 1776.

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention of *New-York* to pay Mr. *B. Romans* up to the 9th day of this month.

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

The consideration thereof is deferred until *B. Romans* is called in, and interrogated as to the reasons of his so long absence from the Fortifications at different times.

The Congress was informed by a Member that his Excellency the Governour has sent to the Mayor to request his attendance.

*Ordered*, That his Worship the Mayor be permitted to go on board his Excellency Governour *Tryon's* Ship.

Mr. *L'Hommedieu* requested that this Congress would come to a determination as to the propriety of the embargo laid on Provisions by the Committees of some Towns in *Suffolk* County; and Mr. *L'Hommedieu* proposed and moved for an order in the words following, which was read, to wit:

The Congress approving of the Committees of *Southampton*, *Easthampton*, and *Shelter-Island*, having laid an embargo on Provisions in those Towns till the 1st of *March*,

*Ordered*, That it be recommended to the Committee of *Suffolk* County, at their next meeting, to continue said Embargo in those Towns, and in the several Towns in *Suffolk* County, in such manner as they shall direct, until the further order of this Congress; and that their proceedings be transmitted to this Congress with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Palmer* be considered as present, while he is attending with the Cannon, (to the forwarding whereof he is appointed with Colonel *Nicoll*), and no longer.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Nicoll* be considered as present until he may arrive at *Albany*, and not after that time, until he arrives here and takes his seat.

The Congress took into consideration the Resolves and recommendation of the honourable the Continental Congress to prosecute the discovery of the Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan*, in this Colony. They sent for *John McDonald*, the Miner, as a proper person to pursue such discovery; and he has undertaken and engaged in that service on the following terms and conditions, to wit: To proceed to *New-Canaan* with all possible despatch, and there examine into and prosecute the discovery of the said Lead-Mine; to receive for his pay and subsistence twenty dollars per month while in that service, he to bear his own expense, and to be furnished with necessary tools, &c., and for that purpose to have a letter to the Committee of *King's* District, requesting them to furnish him with tools.

The said *John McDonald* having occasion for a small supply of cash to defray his expenses on his intended journey:

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to *John McDonald*, the Miner, (who, in obedience to a certified copy of a recommendation of the Continental Congress to this Provincial Congress, dated the 15th instant, is sent to prosecute the discovery of the Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan*,) the sum of twelve Dollars, on account, and take his receipt for the same.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *King's* District, in the County of *Albany*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress have appointed *John McDonald* to explore the Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan*. He is to apply to you for any assistance he may want to procure, (tools and other necessaries for the purpose,) which they desire you will furnish. He is allowed twenty dollars per month for his pay and subsistence. You will please to inform us what time he is employed in the service.

We are, gentlemen, your very obedient servants.

By order.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *King's* District, *Albany* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and transmitted by the said *John McDonald*; and that a certified copy of the Report of *J. Hopkins* to the Continental Congress, and of their Resolve thereon, be delivered by the Secretaries to the said *John McDonald*.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., February 26, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Beckman*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Col. *Hay*, Mr. *Herring*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Mr. *Hobart* reported that Dr. *Treat* had informed him that he has taken every measure to find some proper place for an Hospital; that he cannot discover any place that can be obtained other than the two following, to wit: Mr. *Delancey's* House, in the Out Ward, and three Houses in and near *Maiden-Lane*, near Mr. *Walton's* Brewery.

The Congress are of opinion, unanimously, that the place mentioned in *Maiden-Lane* is very improper, and will, by no means, answer the purpose; and that, from every inquiry they have been able to make, or information received, Mr. *Delancey's* House, in the *Bowery*, is the most proper. But as the Congress would choose to have the use of the said House with the consent of, and by agreement with, *John Delancey*, the agent of the owner,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Denning* and Mr. *Abraham Yates* be a Committee to apply to *John Delancey* for the use of the said House, and make report thereon with all convenient speed.

It was suggested to Congress that there may be great danger in using the present Hospital stores until they are carefully washed and cleansed; and as no Superintendent of an Hospital is yet appointed,

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Treat* be requested, for the present, to procure such proper persons as he may think fit to trust, and give the necessary directions for washing such stores as he may think necessary.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that some

works will be necessary to be erected on some ground on the bank southwest of *Trinity-Church*. That three small Houses there (one of them tenanted) will necessarily be taken down; that it will be necessary to have this matter kept secret, otherwise the erection of the work may be frustrated; and submitted to the Congress whether three Members of this Congress, who are judges of buildings, should not be directed to view and estimate the value of those three Houses.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Roosevelt*, Captain *Rutgers*, and Mr. *Beckman*, be a Committee to view and examine the said three Houses, and ascertain their value respectively, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

And the Members were strictly charged from the Chair to keep this matter with the greatest secrecy.

A Return from Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout* for Officers for a Company of Militia in *Rombout* Precinct, was read and filed. It thereby appears that the following Officers were chosen, agreeable to the Rules of Congress, to wit: *Evert Wynkoop Swart*, Captain; *Robert Brett*, First Lieutenant; *Isaac Van Wyck*, Second Lieutenant; and *Abraham Shultz*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen.

Colonel *Swartwout* also enclosed a List of Officers chosen by their several Companies in his Regiment of Minute-men, agreeable to the Resolution of Congress, for whom he requested Commissions as soon as possible, to wit: For *John Dorton*, Captain; *Henry Wykoff*, First Lieutenant; *Robert Hill*, Second Lieutenant; and *Thomas Ostrander*, Ensign.

In another Company: *James Weeks*, Captain; *Hugh Connor*, First Lieutenant; *James Cooper*, Second Lieutenant; and *Theodorus Brett*, Ensign.

In another Company: *Comfort Luddington*, Captain; *Elijah Oakley*, First Lieutenant; *John Bready*, Second Lieutenant; and *Asa Berry*, Ensign.

All which Returns were dated this day.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for all those gentlemen, agreeable to their respective Ranks returned.

Colonel *Hay* produced a Return of Officers for a Company of Minute-men in the southern part of *Orange* County, signed by *Johannes Is. Blauvelt*, Chairman; whereby it appears that, on the 16th *December*, the following named gentlemen were elected Officers of that Company, to wit: *Benjamin Coe*, Captain; *Abraham Onderdonck*, First Lieutenant; *Paulus M. Vandervoort*, Second Lieutenant; and *Daniel Coe*, Jun., Ensign; and that they were chosen without opposition, in the presence of *John Smith* and *Rymier Quackenboss*, two of the Committee, as Inspectors.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen.

*John Voorhies*, of *Brunswick*, who attended the Congress at their request, to be examined, says: That, on *Friday* morning, the 23d instant, he was coming to *New-York* with his Sloop *Brunswick*, loaded with Bread and Flour, and five firkins of Butter; that he was brought to by Captain *Vandeput*, in the Ship *Asia*, who demanded of him what his cargo consisted of; that Captain *Vandeput* ordered the hatches of the Sloop to be opened, and took out forty-two tierces of Bread, five firkins of Butter, and thirty barrels of Flour; for the payment whereof, he gave this examinant an order on *Abraham Lott*, Esq., and then put fourteen or fifteen men on board the Sloop, and brought her alongside of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*; that he was there ordered by Governour *Tryon* to get his tackles ready; that Governour *Tryon* directed all the Flour to be taken out of the Sloop and put on board of the *Dutchess*; that one hundred and forty-nine barrels were taken out of the Sloop by Governour *Tryon's* order and put on board of the *Dutchess*; that two barrels of the finest Flour were set by for the Ship's use, and the rest stowed in the hold; that Governour *Tryon* asked for his Account; that he (this examinant) asked nineteen shillings per hundred for his Flour, as he had been informed that was the market price; that Governour *Tryon* would pay him only eighteen shillings per hundred, and offered to pay him that price, or permit him to go to *New-York* and get a certificate that the price was higher; that Governour *Tryon* paid him for only one hundred and forty-seven barrels of Flour, though he kept an account of the weights and numbers, and is very confident that one

hundred and forty-nine barrels were put on board. That Captain *Vandeput's* Barge stopped the Vessel of *Thompson* from *Brunswick*; that they detained him some time, and then sent him back again; that Captain *Vandeput* told him, seemingly in a low voice, and when he was alone, that he might inform his countrymen that, if they sent up Provisions fit for shipping, he would stop it; but that he would not stop loose or unpacked Provisions, such as Butter, Eggs, or Pork in quarters, for the use of the City; but that he could not let anything pass which was in barrels; that he (the examinant) saw a considerable quantity of Beef and Mutton, in quarters and pieces, hanging between decks in the Ship *Asia*.

A Letter from Colonel *Swartwout* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, February 26, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Be pleased to let me have six hundred and twenty-four pounds for the use of my regiment, in order to enable them to provide themselves with blankets and other necessaries.

"JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, Colonel.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress, New-York."

The Congress was informed by two of the *Dutchess* County Members that Colonel *Swartwout* had told them that four hundred Pounds will be sufficient for the present.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout*, of *Dutchess* County, the sum of four hundred Pounds, on account of the pay of his Regiment; and that the Treasurer take his receipt for the same, on account.

A Letter from *Robert Ogden*, Chairman of the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, dated the 22d instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Elizabethtown, February 22, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I this moment received yours, dated 'In Congress, February 21, 1776,' and signed by the President. Had there been a necessity, I would immediately have convened the Committee, to consider the request of your letter. The persons mentioned now in durance in this town were confined by Colonel *Heard*, not at our instance, and without our knowledge. It is said Colonel *Heard* received his authority for so doing from yours, or the Continental Congress. Our Committee are also ignorant of the crimes of which these persons are accused, and for which imprisoned. Being convinced of the strict propriety of your regulations respecting delinquents, this Committee have not been, nor will they be, guilty of the least violation of them; and therefore conclude with assuring the honourable Convention that we mean not to concern ourselves with these men, or their conduct.

"I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your very humble servant,

"ROBERT OGDEN, Chairman.

"To the Honourable the Congress of New-York."

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be deferred till one or more Members from *Richmond* County arrive.

Mr. *Adrian Bancker* produced a Certificate, dated the 30th of *January* last, and signed by *Christian Jacobson*, *George Barnes*, *John Poillon*, *David Latourette*, *Henry Pertine*, *Moses Depuy*, and *Peter Mersereau*, of the Committee of *Richmond* County, whereby it appears that, at a Convention of the Freeholders of said County, for the purpose of choosing Deputies to represent said County in Provincial Congress, *Adrian Bancker* and *Richard Lawrence* were, by a majority of votes, duly elected to represent said County, and to serve to the second *Tuesday* in *May* next, with full powers to them, or any one of them, to represent said County in Congress, or in the Committee of Safety.

The Committee of War, to whom was referred the Estimate of *Peter T. Curtenius* of the 23d instant, delivered in their Report of the Articles necessary to be provided by the Commissary for the Troops to be raised in this Colony, viz: 2,432 Frocks for Privates; 128 Frocks for Sergeants; 128 Frocks for Corporals; 32 Frocks for Drummers; 32 Frocks for Fifers—2,752 Frocks to be purchased, if to be had at the price limited by Congress; 2,752 Felt Hats; 2,752 pairs of Yarn Stockings; 2,752 pairs of Shoes; 2,752 Blankets, if to be had; 156 Blankets for Officers; 2,752 Canteens,

(wooden ones preferable to tin, if the disproportion of prices is not too great;) 156 Canteens for Officers; 458 Camp Kettles, (two-thirds of this number ought to be Iron Pots;) 1,566 Cartouch Boxes, (1,122 being bought by Mr. *Smith*;) 1,566 Gun Slings; 2,008 Knapsacks; 2,752 Tomahawks; 32 Drums and Slings; 32 Drum Cases; 32 Fifes; 700 Bill-Hooks, in addition to the 300 in store, will probably be sufficient; 12 Field-Officers' Tents, to have walls, booths, and flies complete; 32 Square or Horsemen's Tents, for Captains; 32 ditto for 64 Lieutenants; 16 ditto for 32 Ensigns; 4 Adjutants' Tents; 4 Quartermasters' Tents; 4 Chaplains' Tents; 4 Surgeons' Tents; 108 Tent Bags; 108 Valices; 458 Soldiers' Tents, allowing 6 men to each Tent; 2,688 Muskets complete. The Officers' Tents ought all to have flies.

The foregoing Report, being read and considered, was unanimously agreed to.

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare a copy of all of the articles in the said Report mentioned as necessary to be provided, and deliver the same to Colonel *Curtenius*, the Commissary, who is directed to cause those articles to be provided with all possible despatch.

Colonel *William Williams*, one of the Deputies from *Cumberland* County, delivered in a List, Certificate, and Return of the Militia Officers of the First Regiment of *Cumberland* County, from the rank of Major downward. The said Return is dated the 6th *February*, 1776, and signed by *Benjamin Carpenter*, Chairman of the County Committee, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Committee of Safety for the County of Cumberland, }  
"Guilford, February 6, 1776."

"In compliance to your order to us directed, dated *January* the 4th, and good instructions for order and peace, together with the regulations of the Militia, and by order of this Committee, we here send you the list of all the officers that are returned at this time; and they are as follows, to wit:

"At a legal meeting, the town of *Guilford* chose Mr. *Stephen Shepardson* Captain, *David Stowel* First Lieutenant, *Timothy Root* Second Lieutenant, and *Dillington Johnson* Ensign.

"At a legal meeting, the town of *Brattleborough* chose *John Sergeant* Captain, *Oliver Cook* First Lieutenant, *Timothy Church* Second Lieutenant, and *John Alexander* Ensign.

"At a legal meeting, the town of *Putney* chose *Abijah Moores* Captain, *Daniel Jewet* First Lieutenant, *Ephraim Clay* Second Lieutenant, and *Ephraim Pierce* Ensign.

"At a legal meeting, the town of *Fulham* chose *Jonathan Knight* Captain, *Josiah Boyden* First Lieutenant, *Daniel Kartheen* Second Lieutenant, and *Shepherd Gates*, Ensign.

"At a legal meeting, the town of *Westminster* chose *John Avrell* Captain, *Jabez Deny* First Lieutenant, *Azariah Wright* Second Lieutenant, and *William Crook*, Ensign.

"At a legal meeting, the town of *Halifax* chose *David Rich* Captain, *Benjamin Henry* First Lieutenant, *Robert Patterson* Second Lieutenant, and *Edward Harris* Ensign.

"And is signed:

"BENJAMIN CARPENTER, Chairman.

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, and the delegated powers thereof."

The said Committee mention that the rest of the Towns have not made returns to them, and request that Major *William Williams* may be entrusted with blank Commissions to fill up for officers in the scattered Towns in the wilderness.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen, according to said Return.

A Memorial of *Joseph Crane*, bearing date the 24th instant, setting forth his services in the last campaign, and praying the care of an Artillery Company, was read and filed.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be postponed until the appointment of Artillery Officers is resumed.

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., February 26, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.  
For NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*,



Mr. Sands, Mr. Denning, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Roosevelt, Colonel Lott, Mr. Smith.  
 FOR ALBANY.—General Ten Broeck, Mr. Abraham Yates, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll (on service.)  
 FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Gelston.  
 FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Mr. G. Livingston, Major R. G. Livingston.  
 FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)  
 FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Colonel Hay, Mr. Herring, Mr. Clowes.  
 FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Ward, Dr. Graham.  
 FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.  
 FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel William Williams.  
 FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.  
 FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Adrian Bancker.  
 FOR KING'S.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Leffertse.

The Congress were informed that General Lee is anxious to have a Store-house, or Magazine, for Military Stores, and that the service must soon suffer if the Bridewell, or some other proper Magazine, is not obtained.

Ordered, That Colonel McDougall employ proper workmen, procure necessary materials, and have proper floors and shutters for the windows made, and that building fitted for a Magazine, or Store-house.

Mr. Pettit, the Doorkeeper, informed the Congress that, in obedience to their order, he had summoned Christopher Duyckinck; that the said Christopher Duyckinck called witnesses, and desired him to tell the Congress that he denied the authority of this Congress; that he would not attend until Mr. Sands was expelled the House; that Mr. Sands was an usurper and a coward, and that he would not attend until he was brought by a file of musketeers.

Mr. Hobart moved, and was seconded, that a Letter be wrote to General Lee, requesting him to take Christopher Duyckinck into custody.

By consent, the same was postponed till to-morrow morning.

Mr. Smith, in pursuance of an Order of last Thursday morning, brought in a draft of a Letter relating to the Pay of the Minute-men, which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

GENTLEMEN: The Continental Congress formerly directed us to raise Minute Companies in this Colony, and established their pay, when called into actual service, to be the same with the pay of the Continental Troops. At the time we were ordered to form these Companies, the pay of a private was fifty-three shillings and four pence per month, and the men were raised on assurance that they were to receive this pay; and although some of the privates have been inlisted since the 19th of January, when the new establishment was formed which reduced the pay to forty shillings per month, yet the officers, not knowing of this reduction, inlisted their privates on assurance that they were to receive the pay of the old establishment. These Companies are now called into actual service, and are in this city. They express great uneasiness at being reduced to the pay of forty shillings per month, when they were promised fifty-three shillings and four pence. We are apprehensive that the service will suffer by this uneasiness; and as it is not in our power to remove the difficulty, we should be glad to take the sense of the Continental Congress, and beg you would transmit it to us as soon as possible. It may be proper to inform you that the officers are content with the pay provided by the first establishment though less than the last establishment.

We are, sirs, your very humble servants.

By order.

To the New-York Delegates in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., February 27, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel Lott, Mr. Denning, Mr. Sands, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Prince, Mr. Van Cortlandt, Cap-

tain Rutgers, Mr. Rutgers, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Smith, Mr. Roosevelt, Colonel McDougall.

FOR ALBANY.—General Ten Broeck, Mr. A. Yates, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, (on service.)

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Ward, Colonel Joseph Drake, Dr. Graham.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Gelston.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Major R. G. Livingston, Mr. Schenck.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. Herring, Colonel Hay, Colonel Allison, Mr. Clowes.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Leffertse.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. A. Bancker.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.

A Letter from Joseph Robinson, of Jamaica, in Queen's County, dated February 21, 1776, was read and filed. He declines mentioning the names of persons to be evidences against the persons of their County who were apprehended by order of the Continental Congress, and have given in securities. Informs that almost every person in that County can be a witness, and that he will attend on summons.

A Letter from James Duane, Esq., one of the Delegates of this Colony at Congress, dated the 25th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, February 25, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have this moment received your favour of the 22d instant. The post did not get in till near seven o'clock in the evening, and will be despatched back so soon that I can have no opportunity, in the interim, of conferring with my brethren, and one of the subjects is too important to admit of delay; I therefore beg leave to give you my sentiments upon it. If anything further occurs on a consultation, it will be transmitted the next conveyance.

"General Schuyler some time since proposed to Congress that our Second, or Albany, Battalion should be recruited for the service of Canada, and recommended the former Field-Officers. Of this, Congress approved, and twelve thousand five hundred pounds were forwarded to you for the despatch of that business. The General, in a subsequent letter, informed Congress that the money was sent to him, and seems to be uneasy that the care of raising the battalion should be superadded to the other burdens of his command. He mentions his intentions of applying to the Committee of Albany for assistance on that occasion; but what progress has since been made we do not learn.

"The Congress have also declared their intention of promoting Captain Henry Livingston, (who came express from General Montgomery with the news of the surrender of Montreal,) when an opportunity should offer; but nothing has yet been done in his favour.

"A resolution has since passed for raising four battalions in New-York for its immediate protection and defence, of which you have received a copy. It was followed by another, that, in the appointment of these officers, such as behaved well during the last campaign should be provided for; a copy of which has likewise been forwarded for your direction.

"As New-York was thought to be in a critical state, and no recommendation had appeared from our Committee of Safety of the officers for the four battalions, it occasioned much surprise and uneasiness, and the only apology I was able to make, viz., the expectation of a meeting of the Convention, and the utility of their advice, (which, indeed, depended on my own conjecture,) did not prove satisfactory. It was said that, while everything was done for New-York at the publick expense that could be wished or asked, they neglected their own defence, &c. This produced a resolution that an inquiry should be made into your progress with respect to those battalions. These circumstances, (if my memory has not failed,) are all that have happened on this subject, and which will suffice to convince you that there is no obstruction in the way of your nominating the Field-Officers, agreeable to the recommendation of Congress. You will doubtless see the propriety of despatch, both on account of your security and your reputation—both of which no man can have more sincerely at heart than myself.

"Apprehensive that you might be distressed to maintain the Army now in our capital, from the lowness of your finances, we thought it advisable to obtain a warrant in your favour for thirty-five thousand dollars; which Mr. *Lewis* received, and will deliver you.

"I should do great injustice to Congress, if I did not assure you that they are disposed to do everything which can be reasonably required for your protection.

"I have the honour to be, with the greatest regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"JAMES DUANE.

"To the Honourable the Convention of *New-York*."

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, dated this day, requesting Money, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*New-York*, February 27, 1776.

"SIR: As we have here no Continental Paymaster, I am under the necessity of addressing myself to the Provincial Congress to assist me in this article. I have a considerable party to be subsisted, and are now to be furnished with necessaries; two thousand dollars at least are requisite. You will much oblige me, therefore, sir, in endeavouring to procure this sum. If you could make it twenty-five hundred dollars, it would be more convenient to, sir, your most obedient,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*."

The Congress agreed to give Major-General *Lee* an order on the Treasurer for twenty-five hundred Dollars. And an order for that purpose was drawn and approved of, in the words following, to wit:

Major-General *Lee*, by his Letter of this day, having requested of this Congress to advance him the sum of twenty-five hundred Dollars for the subsistence of his party:

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Major-General *Lee* twenty-five hundred Dollars, on Continental account.

A draft of a Letter to Major-General *Lee* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: Your letter of this morning was received and read. The requisition therein contained was immediately taken into consideration, and the Congress, ever ready to do all in their power to promote the publick service, agreed to advance you twenty-five hundred dollars. An order on our Treasurer for that sum, I have the honour to enclose you.

We are, most respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Major-General *Lee*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Ritzema*, by request, attended the Congress. Being asked what has been done by Congress relative to the two Regiments ordered to be formed out of the Troops in *Canada*, Mr. *Ritzema* says, that there are about nine hundred men in *Canada*; that they are the remnants of all corps which have been there, and cannot usefully be formed into one or two Regiments; that the Congress have superseded their former order to form two battalions out of those Troops; that Mr. *Walker* has informed him that General *Wooster* had attempted to carry the order into execution, and has failed; that he looks upon the officers in *Canada* as unprovided for, and that they look upon themselves so; that a Committee of the Continental Congress told him that the officers were to be provided for in the new levies in their respective Colonies from whence they proceeded in the service; that on the 15th November, General *Montgomery* new-arranged the Army, and Mr. *Ritzema* read a copy of the General's declaration to the Troops, and the terms of new enlistments; that the General by parole appointed the Field-Officers. That there remains in the whole about fifteen hundred stand of arms—about five hundred belonged to this Colony; that about one hundred and fifty he left in three boxes in his rooms in *Montreal*; that the *New-England* Troops carried off with them about fifteen hundred muskets, taken at *St. John's*; and that Colonel *Warner's* party carried off all their arms. Lieutenant-Colonel *Ritzema* then gave a particular account of all the officers from this Colony now in *Canada*.

Mr. *Sands* informed Congress that Mr. *John Murray* had a Sloop, with Pig-Mettle, seized by Captain *Vandeput*, and

requests permission to go on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon* and the Ship *Asia*, to endeavour to regain his property.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Murray* be permitted to go on board of the *Dutchess of Gordon* and his Majesty's Ship *Asia*.

To Mr. *Elias Nixen*, Port-Master.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* requests a permit to ship Flaxseed and Lumber on board of the Ship *Polly*, Captain *Thomas Kennedy* Master, to be exported to *Cork*, in *Ireland*, in returns for stores imported.

Ordered, That Mr. *Low* be permitted to load Flaxseed and Lumber on board of the Ship *Polly*, Captain *Thomas Kennedy* Master, to the amount of eight hundred and ninety-six Pounds nine Pence.

Die Luna, 4 ho. P. M., February 27, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President, (say *Ten Broeck*.)

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Beekman*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Clowes*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Dewitt*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on duty.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Doctor *Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

Mr. *Roosevelt*, from the Committee appointed to report a plan for the emission of fifty-five thousand Pounds, in Provincial Paper Bills of different denominations, of Dollars and Shillings, delivered in the Report of the said Committee; which was read, and ordered to remain for further consideration.

*Jabez Fredericks* and *Jacob Andrews*, inhabitants of *Massachusetts-Bay*, being at the door, sent in Certificates of Colonel *Howe* and Colonel *P. Henry*, that they have been taken prisoners by Lord *Dunmore* and escaped, and recommending them for assistance to return to their places of abode. They also sent in a Pass from Major-General *Lee*; and requested assistance.

Ordered, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to *Jabez Fredericks* and *Jacob Andrews*, inhabitants of *Massachusetts-Bay*, who have been taken prisoners by Lord *Dunmore*, and made their escape, the sum of forty Shillings, to assist them on their journey to their respective places of abode.

Captain *Rutgers* informed the Congress that *Christopher Duyckinck* is at the door, and desires admittance.

Ordered, That he be admitted.

*Christopher Duyckinck* admitted, says, that with reluctance he disobeyed the summons of this Congress yesterday evening; and repeated a long account of the controversy between Mr. *Sands* and himself. *Christopher Duyckinck* was desired to withdraw.

The Congress took the case of the insult offered to this Congress into consideration, and came to a determination in the words following, to wit:

This Congress is of opinion that *Christopher Duyckinck* is guilty of a contempt of this Congress, in the message he sent by their Doorkeeper, for which he ought to ask the pardon of this Congress, and receive a reprimand from the Chair. And although this Congress would not interfere in the trial of private property, or in demanding satisfaction for a private injury, yet they are of opinion that the said *Christopher Duyckinck* has acted very wrong in taking and detaining from Mr. *Sands* his watch; and do recommend it to him to return the same to him without delay.

*Christopher Duyckinck* being called in, the first part of the opinion of Congress was read to him; and he asked pardon of the Congress for the contempt of which he was guilty.

The second part of the opinion and recommendation were then read to the said *Christopher Duyckinck*; whereupon he requested a copy of the entry. A copy whereof was certified and delivered to him.

The Congress then proceeded to consider of, and determine on proper persons to be recommended to the Continental Congress for Field-Officers of the four Regiments now raising in this Colony, agreeable to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress; and after some time spent, and progress made therein, the further consideration thereof is postponed till to-morrow.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., February 28, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Prince*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *A. Rutgers*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service,) General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Clowes*, Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Doctor *Graham*, Lieutenant-Colonel *L. Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

A Letter from *James Lent*, Chairman of the *Orangetown* Committee, was read and filed. He thereby returns *Abraham David Blauvelt*, Second Major of the *Orangetown* Regiment of Militia; and requesting a blank Commission for an Ensign to be chosen in *Johannes Jacobus Blauvelt's* Company.

Ordered, That the Commission issue for the said *Abraham David Blauvelt* as Major; and that the blank Commission for an Ensign be sent.

Colonel *Joseph Drake* informed Congress that *Stephen Sneden*, who was chosen Captain of a Company of Militia in *East-Chester* District, had refused to accept the Commission, by which means new Commissions were necessary for the whole Company; and requested that blank Commissions may be sent for that purpose. The Congress agrees to his request.

And Ordered, That blank Commissions be delivered to Colonel *Drake* for that Company.

A Letter from *Robert Hempstead*, Chairman of the Committee at *Southold*, in *Suffolk* County, dated the 23d instant, was read and filed. They thereby return certain persons elected officers; but the Return being not properly formal:

Ordered, That four blank Commissions for the purpose be enclosed to the Chairman.

A Reference from the Committee of the City of *New-York* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Committee-Chamber, New-York, February 27, 1776.

“The sub-Committee, appointed by the General Committee to make inquiry what quantity of salt remained in this city, reported that there are twenty thousand seven hundred bushels for sale.

“Ordered, That the propriety of retaining a sufficient quantity in this City and Province for the use of its inhabitants, be immediately referred to the consideration of the Provincial Congress.

“By order of the Committee:

“*JOHN BROOME, Deputy Chairman.*”

Ordered, That the said Reference be reserved for further consideration.

Ordered, That Mr. *White*, by his agent, be permitted to supply his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix* with eight hundred and fifty pounds of fresh Beef, and some Turnips; and his Majesty's Ship *Asia* with thirteen hundred pounds of fresh Beef, and Greens, and some Candles; also, one barrel of corned Beef for his Excellency Governour *Tryon*.

The Members for *King's* County informed the Congress that the Inhabitants of *Brooklyn* are desirous to know whether they shall have any recompense for the trouble of having Soldiers placed in their Houses.

The Congress is of opinion that some allowance ought to be made to those Inhabitants.

And Ordered, That the Members from *King's* County be a Committee to inquire into the circumstances of the quartering those Troops; the trouble to the Inhabitants; and what rewards will be adequate and sufficient; and report with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Yates* and Mr. *Denning*, the Committee appointed to apply to, and treat with, *John Delancey* for the use of the House of *James Delancey* for an Hospital, informed the Congress that Mr. *John Delancey* is attending at the door, and requests to be heard. Mr. *John Delancey* was admitted and heard. He was informed that Congress intended to make compensation for the House he occupies, if necessity cause it to be taken for an Hospital; that he shall have the earliest information when that necessity is known; and that, if another House suitable for that purpose can be obtained, that House will probably be spared.

Mr. *Delancey* withdrew.

Ordered, That Mr. *Yates* and Mr. *Denning* be a Committee to inquire for, and examine and procure, one or more proper House or Houses for an Hospital, and to treat with the Owners or Inhabitants thereof, and agree for the same.

The Congress then proceeded to make further progress in nominating proper persons to be recommended to the Continental Congress as Field-Officers for the Regiments raising in this Colony; and finished their arrangement thereof; which will be inserted in the Minutes of this afternoon; and General *Ten Broeck* and Mr. *Thomas Smith* are appointed a Committee to prepare and report a draft of a Letter to the Continental Congress, and another to the Delegates of this Colony, to accompany the same.

4 ho. P. M., Die Mercurii, February 28, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Smith*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on duty.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *L. Graham*, Dr. *Graham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

The Officers proposed for Artillery Companies in this Colony having, by direction from this Congress, been desired to attend and be examined by Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, Colonel *McDougall* delivered in a Certificate, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“February 26, 1776.

“Agreeable to desire of Colonel *McDougall*, we have examined Mr. *James Moore*, and think him fit for a Captain-Lieutenant of Artillery.

“*WILLIAM SMITH, Chief Engineer.*

“*S. BADLAM, Captain of Artillery.*”

The said Certificate being satisfactory to this Congress:

Ordered, That Mr. *James Moore* be appointed, and he

is hereby appointed, Captain-Lieutenant of a Company of Artillery in this Colony.

Colonel *Samuel Drake*, of the Minute Regiment from the County of *Westchester*, attending at the door, was admitted. He informed the Congress that four months, the time for which many of his men had enlisted, was fully expired, and that they demanded their pay; that, if he is enabled to pay them, many of them may probably enlist anew. As Colonel *Drake* has not a Muster-Roll of his Regiment with him, the Congress agreed to advance him three hundred Pounds, on account.

Thereupon Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *Samuel Drake* the sum of three hundred Pounds, on account of the pay of his Regiment of Minutemen, and take Colonel *Drake's* receipt for the same.

Colonel *Lott* informed the Congress that, by order of the Committee of Safety, he had purchased a large quantity of Bread; that the Bakers of whom he purchased desire that it may be removed; and that he is in advance for the purchase of said Bread; and requested some money on account.

Ordered, That Colonel *Lott* procure a Store, and have the said Bread stored therein; and the Congress approves of the Stores of Mr. *V. Ranst*, on *Cowfoot-Hill*, for that purpose.

And Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Colonel *A. Lott* the sum of five hundred Pounds, on account, in part of the price of the Bread purchased by order of the Committee of Safety, and take a receipt for the same.

Mr. *Smith*, according to order, reported a draft of a Letter to the Continental Congress, to cover the list of gentlemen recommended for Field-Officers of the four Battalions raising in this Colony; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 28, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of Congress, we have now the honour to transmit a list of gentlemen nominated by us as Field-Officers for the four battalions ordered to be raised for the defence of this Colony.

In this nomination we have endeavoured to pay due attention to the merits of those officers who served in the last campaign, and are willing to continue in the service. To these we have added a number of gentlemen who now tender their services to their country. As soon as the Field-Officers are fixed by Congress, we beg their commissions may be forwarded. The other officers are appointed, and are recruiting in different parts of this Colony.

It may not be improper to mention that some of the Captains and subalterns who served in our regiments last year are now in *Canada*. Those gentlemen we have not been able to provide for in the four battalions now raising, as we were uncertain when they would return, or whether they were not provided for in the *Canada* Regiments. We were apprehensive, if we provided for them in our battalions, it might impede the raising the troops, and thereby injure the service. In justice to those gentlemen, we thought it our duty to mention this, and to enclose a list of their names; and doubt not but that their services will be duly considered by Congress, and that proper provision will be made for them, if they are not already provided for.

We have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servants. By order.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

The gentlemen nominated out of which to elect Field-Officers for the four Regiments to be raised for the defence of this Colony, are those that follow, viz:

For Colonels.—*Alexander McDougall*, *James Clinton*, *Rudolphus Ritzema*, *Peter Yates*, *Cornelius D. Wynkoop*, *Philip Cortlandt*, *John Lasher*, *Seth Warner*.

For Lieutenant-Colonels.—*Herman Zedtwitz*, *Peter Gansvoort*, Jun., *Barnabas Tuihill*, *Henry G. Livingston*, *Peter P. Schuyler*, *John Hathorn*, *Egbert Dumont*, *Gouverneur Morris*.

For Majors.—*Frederick Van Weisenfels*, *John Fisher*, *Daniel Griffin*, *Henry B. Livingston*, *Marinus Willett*, *Cornelius Van Dyck*, *John Nicolson*, *Joseph Benedict*.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony, on

the subject of the appointment of Officers, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have, by this conveyance, transmitted to Congress a list of the Field-Officers nominated by us for the four battalions intended to be raised in this Colony; and in order to show that we have paid a proper attention to those gentlemen who served in the last campaign, we have enclosed a state of the former regiments raised in this Colony, that you may produce it in case it should be called for by the Continental Congress.

We are, with esteem, gentlemen, yours, &c., &c.

By order.

To the New-York Delegates in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That copies of the said two Letters be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.\*

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, dated the 21st instant, requesting Arms, Clothing, Blankets, Pitch, Turpentine, and Oakum, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, February 21, 1776.

"SIR: Mr. *McKesson's* letter, by your order, enclosing the resolutions of Congress of the 5th instant, I yesterday received.

\*A Letter was also written to Mr. *Duane*, one of the Delegates, in answer to the fifth paragraph of his Letter to the Provincial Congress, dated February 25:—

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, New-York, February 28, 1776.

SIR: Should anything that follows enable you to answer any matters objected to the care or conduct of the present Representatives of this Colony, it will apologise for my giving the trouble of this narrative.

On the 15th of January, the resolutions of Congress, that the troops in *Canada* should be formed into a regiment, and to raise a regiment for the service in *Canada*, with the gentlemen of *Albany* for Field-Officers, came to hand. On the next day a copy was forwarded to General *Schuyler*. Some time after, the Committee of Safety were informed that General *Schuyler* had a prior copy of that resolve, and had issued warrants. Sundry resolutions of Congress, passed at different times, from the 8th to the 20th of January, inclusive, among which is the direction for raising four regiments, came to hand on the 23d, in the evening; and copies were that night prepared, and next morning despatched to General *Schuyler*. The Committee of Safety, few in number, could not fix on proper persons for officers in each County, nor determine the numbers the respective Counties would probably raise, and was uncertain. To wait the meeting of the Convention, would cause great delay. Therefore, as fast as they could be prepared, letters were despatched to the County Committees, directing them, with the advice of the County Deputies, where it could be obtained, to recommend proper officers, and report the number of men who could be raised for the service in their respective Counties; and on the 27th the terms of pay, &c., instructions for enlisting, and warrants for the officers, were printed and ready.

On the 31st of January the twelve thousand five hundred dollars passed into the Colony Treasury. The Committee, having had the information above-mentioned as to General *Schuyler's* warrants, and for many reasons, (exclusive of economy,) being of opinion that the regiment would be most easily raised in the northern parts of the Colony, on the 6th of February despatched the money for that regiment to General *Schuyler*. On the 12th of February, a letter was received from the General, dated on the 6th, mentioning the companies he had ordered to be raised for garrisoning *Crown-Point*, *Ticonderoga*, *Fort George*, &c., and that the Committee would probably receive instructions from Congress that they should form part of that regiment; and soon after, the resolve of Congress of the 5th February, directing the General to complete the appointments in that regiment, came to hand. From this state of facts, sir, you will see that only three weeks elapsed from the first notice received by the Committee about Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment until it was taken out of their hands. They would willingly undertake any duty to relieve General *Schuyler*; but, few in number, at a great distance, in the midst of winter, without any member from *Albany*, or the northern parts of the Colony, (in which alone a regiment for those gentlemen could be raised,) they had nothing in their power.

The season of the year, the distance, and the assembling County Committees, required time for answers. On the 15th of February, the Convention being assembled, amongst other things, resolved that a sufficient number of officers should be appointed in each County to command the men to be raised in the same; and that, in the appointment of such officers, those who served their much-injured country in the last campaign ought to have the preference.

The Convention considered the returns of those which had made returns; apportioned the four regiments; and issued warrants to the officers, or despatched them, with the said resolves, to the County Committees. On the 22d instant was received the resolution of Congress of the 15th, that such of the officers who served faithfully in *Canada* the last campaign as are willing to continue there, be preferred in the new levies of the Colony of *New-York* to others.

The resolution for forming two regiments of the troops in *Canada* (however difficult to be executed) remained in full force, and not superseded: and this occasioned the letter of the 22d from the Provincial Congress, to know who of them were provided for before they appointed Field-Officers.

Colonel *McDougall* on the spot in a constant tour of duty, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt*, in *Westchester*, ready when required, allowed the more time to determine. I expect the officers will, in some places, recruit fast; and, should a few of them fail, some gentlemen have offered full companies, for whom there are at present no vacancy.

"Measures are taken to complete Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment, and I hope, with the assistance which the Committee of this City and County affords me, that it will be speedily accomplished. But I am distressed in the highest degree for arms, clothing, blankets, and every other necessary. I must therefore entreat that those things may be sent up the soonest possible, together with one hundred barrels of pitch, ten of turpentine, and two tons of oakum. I wish these things to be put on board of a vessel, and sent up as soon as possible. I suppose the river will soon be open.

"Captain *Horton*, of the Fourth Regiment, is willing to continue in the service; so is Captain *Henry B. Livingston*. I wish the latter could be promoted, out of respect to his family as well as his own merit.

"I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To the President of the *New-York* Congress."

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* purchase immediately, viz.: One hundred barrels of Pitch, ten barrels of Turpentine, and two tons of Oakum, and have them put on board of the first Sloop for *Albany*, directed to *Walter Livingston*, Esq., or his Deputy.

A Letter from *Robert Boyd*, dated at *New-Windsor*, the 23d instant, was read and filed. He therein informs that he has got the best Gunsmith Shop in the Colonies; that he finds it difficult to get workmen; that he will deliver Arms for the publick money he received; and that he is inclined to think he shall not proceed further on his old contract.

A Petition of *Azor Betts* was read and filed. A Certificate, or endorsement thereon, signed by *William Ellsworth*, Chairman of the Committee of *Kingston*, was also read and filed. The said *Azor Betts* begs leave to return to a sense of his duty to his country, and requests forgiveness and protection. The said certificate mentions that he had offered to sign a recantation, and make oath for his future good behaviour.

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., February 29, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *J. Van Cortlandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Dr. *Graham*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *W. Williams*.

A Return of Officers to fill up several vacancies occasioned by promotions in the *Florida* and *Warwick* Regiments, subscribed by *John Hathorn*, Chairman, dated at *Goshen*, the 28th instant, was read and filed.

They thereby return for Officers in the late Captain *Henry Wisner's* Company: *Abraham Dolson* for Captain; *Henry Bartolf*, First Lieutenant; *John Hopper*, Second Lieutenant; and *Matthias Dolson*, Ensign.

In Captain *Nathaniel Elmore's* Company: *John Sayre*, First Lieutenant; *John Kennedy*, Second Lieutenant.

And in the late Captain *Charles Beardsley's* Company: *John Minthorn*, Captain; *Nathaniel Ketchum*, First Lieutenant; *George Vance*, Second Lieutenant; and *John Benedict*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen.

Colonel *John Williams* applied for blank Commissions for three Companies of Minute-men in *Charlotte* County, to be transmitted to the County Committee of *Charlotte* County.

*Ordered*, That the Commissions for three Companies, signed and attested, and otherwise blank, be delivered to

Colonel *John Williams*, to be transmitted to the said County Committee.

*Francis Lewis*, Esq., from the Continental Congress, came into Congress, and informed them that a quantity of Gunpowder at *Brunswick* is to be forwarded to General *Washington*. That he had given order to have it forwarded to *Paulus-Hook*.

Mr. *King*, who came with the Powder, came into Congress. Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *King* informed that there was great difficulty in obtaining Wagons, and that Mr. *Dennis* was of opinion that it might be safely sent by water to *Brown's Ferry*.

This Congress is of opinion that Mr. *King* should return and get the Powder forwarded, and that this Congress should not give any order about the Powder in *Jersey*, until it arrives at *Paulus-Hook*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Van Cortlandt* and Mr. *Prince* be a Committee to procure Wagons to carry the said Powder forward.

The Members were charged from the Chair to keep this matter about the Gunpowder secret.

Die Jovis, 4 ho. P. M., February 29, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Dr. *Graham*, Colonel *Drake*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

*Niles Christian* left *England* the 2d or 3d of *November*, eleven weeks ago; was chief Mate of the Ship *Harriet*, sailed this day for *Boston*; that no other vessel sailed with them; no Troops left *England* when he sailed. That some transports were gone to *Ireland*, and sixty or seventy transports were at *Deptford*, to go to *Ireland*. That they had eighty hogs on board, (thirty are now alive,) one hundred and forty bushels of potatoes, one hundred and four chaldrons of coal, and a quantity of porter and a parcel of onions. That the Troops from *Ireland* are to go to *Boston*. That General *Gage* was arrived, and was blamed for leaving *Boston*. That the people of *London* are in general in favour of *America*. That in *Ireland* they have pressed recruits; that he did not hear of any recruiting in *England*. Trade dull; the *American* ships laid up. Did not hear of any Commissioners coming over. That he was bred at *Charlestown, Massachusetts*. That the Pilots frequently came on shore for fowls. That their ship has not received any supply of provisions or flour, except a few fowls. That the Captain's order was not to any particular port, but to any place where the Army is.

The said *Niles Christian* requested a pass to go to *Cambridge*.

Thereupon, a Passport was given to him in the words following:

The bearer hereof, *Niles Christian*, late Mate of the transport Ship *Harriet*, who has escaped from the said ship, and whose former stated place of residence was at *Charlestown, Massachusetts-Bay*, is hereby permitted to pass to *Cambridge*, in *Massachusetts-Bay*.

*Joseph Booth*, attending at the door, sent in a Certificate, dated 26th instant, from the Committee of Correspondence for *Newtown*, in *Fairfield* County, certified by *Caleb Baldwin*, Clerk of the said Committee, which was read. It is thereby certified that *Joseph Booth*, the bearer, had lately served his country as a faithful friend and soldier in the Northern Army, under the command of General *Schuyler*. That he had suffered by the stoppage of his cattle at *Bedford*, on



the way to *New-York* market; that he is the owner of the said cattle, and that the said Committee take pleasure in recommending him as a friend to his country.

The Congress took the same into consideration, and came to the following determination, to wit:

Whereas a large supply of fresh Provisions will be required for the Continental Army in and near the City of *New-York*:

*Resolved and Ordered*, That no obstruction whatsoever be given to any person or persons in passing and repassing through any of the Counties in this Colony with fat Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, or any kind of Provisions, for the purpose of supplying the Inhabitants of the said City of *New-York*, or the Continental Army in and near the said City, unless such person or persons shall have been adjudged to be, or held up as inimical to this country.

A Certificate was also given to the said *Joseph Booth*, in the words following, to wit:

*Ordered*, That the bearer hereof, *Joseph Booth*, be permitted to pass with his drove of Cattle to the City of *New-York*.

*George Cook* sent into Congress a Certificate, or Receipt, which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Received, *New-York*, February 28, 1776, of Mr. *George Cook*, fifty Pouches and fifty Bayonet Belts; to the best of my judgment, in good order.

"RICHARD NORWOOD,  
"Commissary of Colony Stores."

*Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to *George Cook* the sum of thirty-five Pounds, for the said Pouches and Bayonet Belts.

The consideration of the Report of the Committee on the subject of a further emission of Paper Money, was postponed until to-morrow morning.

The case of the Prisoners confined in the Guard-House for being concerned or instrumental in spiking up the Cannon near *King's Bridge*, with the evidence against them, is appointed to be heard and taken into consideration to-morrow afternoon.

Die Mercurii, A. M., March 1, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Roosevelt*, Colonel *Lott*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Denning*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Col. *P. Ten Broeck*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Dr. *Graham*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, came to Congress, and was admitted. He reported that, by order of General *Lee*, he had been up to the Highlands, and surveyed the ground at *Pooplopen's Kill*. That the ground is staked out. That he will send a draft of the fortification intended to be erected to the Commissioners, as soon as possible. That he thinks the fort may be built at an easy expense, as wood and fascines are handy; as to embrasures, and the number of cannon requisite, he would send up a draft for that purpose. That a fort is laid out about five hundred yards to the eastward of *Fort Constitution*, on a commanding situation, commanding the passage up and down the river, and scours the *West-Point*. Between that and the line which is now laid out at *Constitution Fort*, is a very commanding height, on which ought to be placed a Redoubt, to prevent the works

being enfiladed. To the southward, at the distance of about seventeen hundred yards, is laid out a fort on a very commanding height, which will command the northern and western passage, of which drafts will be sent up. These forts are recommended to be built of sods and fascines, which nature has plentifully supplied at *Pooplopen's Kill*. At *Fort Constitution* is a salt-marsh meadow, which will supply sods necessary to build forts at that spot. That these works may be erected without Masons or Carpenters, the platforms excepted.

The Town-Major at the door, was admitted. He informed Congress that *Rynier Van Hoosen* was taken, and is in custody.

*Ordered*, That he be reported to General *Lee*.

The Report of the Committee for the emission of fifty-five thousand Pounds, according to the Order of the Day, was taken into consideration, and read and amended. And, being again read, paragraph by paragraph, and many amendments made and unanimously agreed to, it was ordered to be taken into further consideration to-morrow.

The Congress are informed that Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, would with pleasure, if commanded, tarry on duty in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *Hobart* be a Committee to wait on General *Lee*, and to request that Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, may be ordered to remain on duty for some time in this Colony.

A Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, made the 28th day of *February*, repealing their late embargo on Provisions from that Colony to this City, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Provincial Congress, February 28, 1776.

"Whereas the late Resolution of this Congress, prohibiting the export of Provisions and Produce from this Colony to *New-York*, was founded on information that the Ships-of-War in *New-York* made captures of vessels so laden; and whereas the Congress are fully satisfied that the reason of making said prohibition no longer subsists:

"It is therefore *Resolved unanimously*, That the Resolution of this Congress, made the 21st day of this instant, *February*, prohibiting the export of Provisions and Produce from this Colony to the City of *New-York*, be, and is hereby repealed.

"A true copy from the Minutes:

"WILLIAM PATERSON, Secretary.

"Copy from the original: H. REMSEN."

A Letter from Colonel *Henry Remsen*, dated at *Newark*, 29th *February*, informing of part of the Continental Powder intended for *Cambridge* being arrived at *Newark*, was read.

The Committee of this Congress appointed to prepare Wagons here to carry it to *Cambridge*, reported that Wagons stand ready to receive it as fast as it arrives here.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Remsen's* Letter be committed to Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, one of the Members of this Congress. That he be authorized, and is hereby authorized, to take such methods, and give such directions for the forwarding thereof to this City, as he shall think proper or most safe, and without any further information to be given to this Congress, until he has the same safe in this City.

A Letter from Colonel *Curtenius*, on the subject of a demand of the Hospital stores in his custody, and sundry other matters, were read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"February 24, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your orders, I desired Mr. *Hughes* to show me by what authority he demanded the stores taken out of the lower Barracks; upon which he showed me a recommendation in his favour from the Congress of this Province to the Continental Congress; which I thought was not a sufficient authority for me to deliver up the stores. Since which he has been at my house, and told me that, if I would not deliver them to him, the General would send a file of soldiers to take them. I should be glad to know how to act, the General being impatient to have an answer.

"Enclosed are three accounts for rations due to Captains *Hulbert*, *Griffin*, *Grenell*, and their officers, amounting to

one hundred and seventy-nine pounds and seven shillings; which sum they demand of me. Please to let me know whether I must pay them. The rations are rather charged under than over the mark. Lieutenant *Marvin* also delivered me a Doctor's bill, amounting to thirty-two shillings, which was for medicines administered to him while he lay at the east end of *Long-Island*, where there was no Regimental Surgeon. I have purchased three thousand bushels of salt, out of the Ship *Lady Gage*, to go up to *Albany*. Should be glad to have the advice of Congress how to get it out of the *Kills*.

"Please return the accounts by the Secretary.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"PETER T. CURTENIUS."

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to Major-General *Lee* was prepared by one of the Secretaries, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, February 24, 1776.

SIR: We are informed by a letter from Colonel *Curtenius*, our Commissary, that Mr. *Hughes* has demanded of him (by your command, as he says) certain Hospital stores in his custody by our order, for the use of a General Hospital.

We beg leave to inform you, sir, that those stores were taken into the care and direction of the Congress of this Colony the last summer, by order of the honourable the Continental Congress. Since that time they have been under continual guard by our directions, and that of one company at least every night, and the keys thereof in the custody of our Commissary.

Necessity obliged us, though with reluctance, lately to apply some part of those stores to cover straw beds for the troops. With pleasure we lately ordered out a small part of them for the use of a few indisposed troops.

Should those stores be applied to any other use than that to which they have been devoted, give us leave to say, that it is scarcely in the power of the Continent to supply an Hospital.

To you, sir, we need not mention the consequences. Add to this, sir, we look upon ourselves responsible for them to the Continental Congress, and that by their own order in the premises; and under this apprehension we have hitherto acted.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Major-General *Lee*.

Mr. *William Williams*, one of the Deputies from *Cumberland* County, delivered in a Letter or Return of Field-Officers, recommended by the County Committee of *Cumberland* County, dated the 1st day of *February* last, signed *Benjamin Carpenter*, Chairman; which was read and filed.\*

Thereupon, Ordered, That Commissions issue to the

\*CUMBERLAND COUNTY, WESTMINSTER, February 1, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We have, with peculiar pleasure, received the letter from the Chairman of the honourable Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*, recommending peace, harmony, and unanimity through the County, in nominating the Field-Officers for the Lower Regiment in said County. At a pretty full meeting of the Committee of Safety for this County, after mature consultation and deliberation upon the matter, we have (with submission to the honourable Congress) nominated sundry gentlemen to be commissioned as Field-Officers in the Lower Regiment. And that Major *Hunt's* character should not be lessened in the view of the honourable Congress, we must inform you that the said *Hunt* entirely refuses to accept a commission in the lower department.

We hope the dissensions and animosities which have heretofore been so prevalent in the County will, in a great measure, for the future, subside.

With grateful acknowledgments, we return you our most sincere thanks for the favourable notice you have hitherto expressed towards us, and should be extremely glad for the like future favours. Our nomination for Field-Officers for the Lower Regiment is as follows: Major *William Williams*, First Colonel; *Benjamin Carpenter*, Esq., Second Colonel; *Oliver Lovel*, Esq., First Major; *Abijah Lovejoy*, Second Major; *Samuel Minor*, Jun., Adjutant; *Samuel Fletcher*, Quartermaster.

Honoured sir, by forwarding commissions to the above gentlemen as speedily as possible, we think it will give pretty general satisfaction to the County. And, wishing the Colony of *New-York* all imaginable peace, harmony, and concord, we subscribe ourselves, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servants, &c.

By order of the County Committee:

BENJAMIN CARPENTER, Chairman.

To the Honourable President of the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*. To be communicated to said Congress.

gentlemen recommended by the County Committee for Officers of the lower Regiment of *Cumberland* County, as follows, to wit: To *William Williams*, Esq., as Colonel; to *Benjamin Carpenter*, Esq., as Lieutenant-Colonel; to *Oliver Lovel*, Esq., as First Major; to *Abijah Lovejoy*, Esq., as Second Major; to *Samuel Minor*, Jun., Gentleman, as Adjutant, and to *Samuel Fletcher*, Gentleman, as Quartermaster of said Regiment.

A Letter from the Committee of *Cumberland* County, signed by *Benjamin Carpenter*, their Chairman, dated the 2d day of *February* last, delivered to the President by Major *William Williams*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Cumberland County, Westminster, February 2, 1776.

"SIR: As this is an infant County, (though heartily disposed in the cause of *American* liberty,) we are at present unable to furnish our Delegate with the cash which, perhaps, may be absolutely necessary to supply his present necessities. The County is about raising a tax, which is already voted by the County Committee, and we are determined to raise said tax as quick as we possibly can; therefore should be exceeding glad, under our present necessities, that our Delegate (Major *William Williams*) might receive out of the Provincial Treasury the sum of forty pounds, *New-York* currency.

"We hope soon to be able to remit said sum of forty pounds to the honourable Provincial Congress, at *New-York*. The Congress complying with our request will much oblige your most obedient servants, &c.

"By order of the Committee of Safety for *Cumberland* County:

"BENJAMIN CARPENTER, Chairman.

"To the Honourable the President of the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*."

The Congress took the said Letter into consideration; and thereupon,

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., the Treasurer of this Congress, advance on loan to Major *William Williams*, on the credit of *Cumberland* County Committee in general, and of *Benjamin Carpenter* (the Chairman of the said Committee) in particular, and Major *William Williams* therein named, the sum of forty Pounds, to be repaid in such manner as this or some future Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety shall direct; and that in the mean time, until such payment be made or discounted by some order of Congress or Committee of Safety, the said *Benjamin Carpenter* and *William Williams* jointly, and each of them separately, be considered as indebted to the said *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., his executors or administrators, in the sum of forty Pounds, *New-York* money, for so much money lent, to be repaid on demand; and in default of such payment or discount by order of Congress or of Committee of Safety, to be recovered by the said *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, his executors or administrators, by suit at law or otherwise, with all costs and disbursements.

And Ordered further, That the said original Letter be made a part of the draft of the Minutes of this Congress; and that the Secretaries deliver certified copies of the said Letter and this entry, to be filed with the said Treasurer as his voucher for the said sum of forty Pounds.

A Return of the Officers of a Company of Minute-men, in *Beekman* Precinct, dated 23d *February* last, and signed by *James Vandenburg* and *Ebenezer Cary*, two of the Committee, was read and filed. They thereby return the following gentlemen as duly and unanimously elected by the Company, to wit: *William Clark*, Captain; *Benjamin Noxon*, First Lieutenant; *Martin Cornell*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Cary*, Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen accordingly.

4to ho. P. M., March 1, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Dr. *Graham*, Colonel *Drake*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

The Memorial of Dr. *Benjamin Curtis*,\* requesting to be appointed Surgeon to a Regiment, was read and filed; and the Certificate of Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Bard*, therein recited, was also read and highly approved of.

Ordered, That the said *Benjamin Curtis* be, and he is hereby, appointed a Surgeon for one of the Regiments now raising in this Colony; and that in the mean time he take the care of such indisposed Troops of any of the said four Regiments as are or may be in the City of *New-York*, until further order, or until he shall be appointed to attend or take the care of one Regiment in particular.

A Return of Officers of the Militia Company in Colonel *Drake's* Regiment, whereof *Ebenezer Slason* (now promoted to be a Major) was late Captain, dated this day, and subscribed by *Samuel Drake* and *Lewis Graham*, was read and filed.

The following Officers are thereby returned: *Henry Slason* is thereby returned for Captain, *Ebenezer Schofield* to be First Lieutenant, *Daniel Waterbury* to be Second Lieutenant, and *David Purdy* to be Ensign.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen accordingly.

Mr. *Leffertse* informed the Congress that the Militia of *King's* County have elected their officers; that to-morrow will be a time of general meeting of the officers; and that, if Commissions could be delivered to him, the Committee of *King's* County could, to-morrow, fill up Commissions for such officers as are willing to accept, and bring in the returns without delay.

Thereupon, Ordered, That twenty-eight Commissions for seven Companies be given to Judge *Leffertse*.

A Letter from *William Bedlow*, *Jonathan Lawrence*, and *Thomas Palmer*, at the Fortifications in the Highlands, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Fort Constitution, February 29, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: We have received the order of the Continental Congress by Messrs. *Palmer* and *Livingston*, accompanied with Colonel *Smith* the Engineer, who has planned the fortifications agreeable to the said order, and much to our satisfaction; and you may be assured that nothing shall be wanting on our part to prosecute the same. But in order to give the troops stationed here (and who are expected to perform the labourers' work) better spirits, we beg leave you would enable us to give them such further allowance of provisions to each labourer as we may see necessary, their present allowance being really too small for labouring men.

\*To the Honourable the Representatives of the Colony of *New-York*, in Provincial Convention assembled.  
The Memorial and Petition of *BENJAMIN CURTIS*, of the City of *New-York*, humbly sheweth:

That your Memorialist has studied physick and surgery in a regular way; and that, having an inclination to serve his country in the capacity of a Surgeon in the Army, he has submitted to an examination by Doctors *Jones* and *Bard*, from whom he has received a certificate in the following words:

“This is to certify that we, the subscribers, have carefully and strictly examined Mr. *Benjamin Curtis*, respecting his knowledge in physick and surgery, and that we find him well acquainted with the principles of his profession, and very properly qualified to act as Surgeon of a Regiment.

“In testimony of which, we have with pleasure given him this certificate. Dated in *New-York*, the 29th day of *February*, 1776.”

That having such testimonials of his ability in his profession, he flatters himself he shall be favoured with the attention of the Convention; and therefore your Petitioner prays that he may be appointed Surgeon to a Regiment. And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

BENJAMIN CURTIS.

*New-York*, March 1, 1776.

“We would also beg leave to represent to you, that, as the works now laid out are extensive and at seven miles distance from each other, four Commissioners (two at *Pooplopen's Kill* and two at this post) will be necessary, they acting jointly at all the works. And if your honourable House should be of the same sentiment, that we may have one more added to our present number, we would presume to recommend Mr. *Gilbert Livingston* as a gentleman from whose abilities the publick service would be benefited up here.

“We are, gentlemen, with respect, your humble servants,

“*WILLIAM BEDLOW*,

“*JONATHAN LAWRENCE*,

“*THOMAS PALMER*.

“To the Honourable Provincial Congress for *New-York*.”

Messrs. *Scott* and *Hobart* returned from Major-General *Lee*, and reported that he consents that Captain *Smith*, the Engineer, shall remain in this Colony for some time; that General *Lee* has not an immediate occasion for the wagons mentioned this morning; and that he thanks Congress for the offer of cash to furnish necessaries, and will call on them if he shall have occasion.

The Congress then took into consideration the Resolutions of the Continental Congress of the 15th of *February*, relating to the Fortifications in the Highlands, and the Letter from the Commissioners of the 29th *February* last; and, after a considerable time spent therein, the Congress came to the following determination, to wit:

Ordered, That the Commissioners for building the Fortifications in the Highlands be, and they are hereby, authorized to employ Vessels for quartering the Troops to build the Fort at *Pooplopen's Kill*, until Barracks are built; and, also, that they be authorized to call in as many of the Minute-men of Colonel *Palmer's* Regiment as can be employed there; and in case they cannot get a sufficient number of Minute-men, to order as many of the Continental Troops, raised in the Counties of *Orange*, *Ulster*, *Westchester*, and *Dutchess*, to that post, as will be necessary to expedite the said works.

Ordered, further, That such Continental Troops as may be called and employed at the said works, be continued there until the further order of the Continental or this Congress, the Committee of Safety, or the commanding Officer of the Continental Troops in this Department.

And on considering the Letter from the said Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands:

Resolved and Ordered, That *Gilbert Livingston*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed an additional Commissioner to superintend the building of the said Fortifications in the Highlands.

Mr. *Hobart* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Yates*, that a Committee be appointed to draw and report a Plan of an Election for a new Provincial Congress.

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Yates*, be a Committee for that purpose.

*Elias Nixen*, the Port-Master, at the door, was admitted. He informed the Congress that the Officer of the Port-Guard had seized and taken two servants of Governour *Tryon*, who came ashore in a boat, with a quantity of linen to be washed. That he had informed the Officer of the Guard that it was not contrary to the directions of this Congress for persons to come on shore from Governour *Tryon's* Ship; that the Officer persisting that it was agreeable to his orders from the General, he prevailed on him to send up to the General. The Officer said the General ordered that they should not be discharged; and that the said two servants were sent to the Guard-House, and in custody.

The Port-Master further informs that his office is become useless; that the Guards have fired at several boats this day; that the General told him last night that no Provisions should go to the Governour until the occasion of his having stopped a large quantity of Flour was cleared up, and that he has seen the Governour's two servants put into the Guard-House.

A. M. Die Sabbati, March 2, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Evert*

Banker, Mr. Prince, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. William Denning, Mr. A. Rutgers, Mr. Scott, (twelve o'clock,) Mr. Cortlandt, Major Stoutenburgh, Colonel Lott.

FOR ALBANY.—General Ten Broeck, Colonel Nicoll, (on service,) Mr. A. Yates, Mr. Gansevoort.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Gelston, Mr. Hobart.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Hay, Colonel Allison.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Major Schenck, Mr. G. Livingston.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Ward, Doctor Graham, Colonel Cortlandt.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Vanderbilt, Mr. Leffertse.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Banker.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel William Williams.

A Memorial of *Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price*, setting forth the particular hardships of their case, was read and filed. They therein set forth that, having been held up to their country for their conduct in a breach of a Resolution of the Continental Congress, they have been for a long time excluded from all business; that they are sincerely penitent for their offence; that they are willing in this distressed season of the year to give fifty pounds for the use of the poor, and pray to be restored to their former standing.

A Memorial of sundry respectable Merchants, and other inhabitants, on behalf of the said *Robinson* and *Price*, was also read and filed.

Ordered, That the said Memorials be referred to Colonel Lott, Mr. Gansevoort, and Mr. *Adrian Rutgers*, as a Committee to report thereon, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Two Orders from General *Lee* to the Barrackmaster, for ten Beds, for the use of some sick Soldiers in Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, and for twenty Iron Kettles, for *Ward's* Regiment, were read and filed.\*

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Mr. *Garret Roorback*, the Barrackmaster, ten Covers for Straw Beds for the use of some sick Soldiers in *Ward's* Regiment, and at the special request of Major-General *Lee*.

Ordered, further, That the Barrackmaster furnish to Colonel *Ward*, or the Quartermaster of his Regiment, twenty Iron Pots or Kettles, and take a receipt from Colonel *Ward*, or his Quartermaster, for the same, as delivered by order of Major-General *Lee*, on Continental account.

The Members of *King's* County, who were appointed a Committee for that purpose, delivered in their Report; which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee to inspect with regard to Billeting of Troops in *King's* County, do report: That the inhabitants of *King's* County cannot keep officers at less than seven shillings per week for a room, and the following necessities, allowing two officers to a room; and privates at one shilling and four pence: The officers and men to be supplied with the following articles, to wit: cribs, bed-cases, bolsters, pots, trammels, tongs and shovels, andirons, axes, candlesticks, benches, buckets, firewood, candles, straw, house-room.

\*HEAD-QUARTERS, February 29, 1776.—SIR: You are to supply Colonel *Ward's* Regiment with a dozen beds and twenty kettles.

CHARLES LEE, Major-General.

To the Commissary of Stores, or the Barrackmaster.

HEAD-QUARTERS, March 1, 1776.—SIR: You will much oblige me in furnishing the regiment of *Ward* with ten beds, which are absolutely necessary for the sick. To say the truth, it is scandalous that so many applications should be made in vain for such a trifle as ten beds. I must, therefore, once more desire that they may be furnished without delay.

I am, sir, yours,

CHARLES LEE, Major-General.

To Mr. *Roorback*, Barrackmaster.

NEW-YORK, March 1, 1776.—SIR: As my appointment to the office of Barrackmaster extends only to the City and County of *New-York*, I have it not in my power to comply with your Excellency's requisition in regard to the supply of troops in another County, unless a special order be obtained for that purpose from the Congress.

I am, respectfully, your Excellency's most humble servant,

GARRET ROORBACK, Barrackmaster.

To His Excellency Major-General *Lee*.

The Congress are of opinion that the allowance reported is moderate and reasonable, and agrees with their Committee in their said Report.

An Order from Mr. *Jonathan Lawrence*, one of the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort Constitution, February 28, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Please to pay unto Mr. *John Vanderbilt*, or order, fifty pounds, it being part of my pay as Commissioner of Fortifications, and for which his receipt will be acknowledged by, gentlemen, your humble servant,

"JONATHAN LAWRENCE.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*."

Ordered, That *Peter Van B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to Mr. *John Vanderbilt*, or his order, the sum of fifty Pounds, on account of the pay due to Mr. *Jonathan Lawrence*, as one of the Commissioners employed in erecting the Fortifications in the Highlands, and take his receipt for the same.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that Captain *James Smith* has the care and charge of the Sloop or Vessel which Captain *Rutgers* and himself were directed by this Congress to purchase and arm; that Captain *Smith* has had sundry disbursements in that matter; and also that Wages are due to the Men and Mariners employed in and about the said Sloop; that Captain *Smith* has occasion for about fifty Pounds on account.

Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Captain *James Smith* the sum of fifty Pounds, on account of Wages for the Seamen, Mariners, and Marines, belonging to the Sloop *Schuyler*, now under his command, and the expenses and disbursements of the said *James Smith*, for and on account of the said armed Sloop and her arms and appurtenances.

A Letter from the Committee of *Richmond* County was read and filed. They inform that *Isaac Decker* and *Mimie Burger* are returned to *Richmond* County, from the Jail of the Borough of *Elizabeth*; and that, on the 28th February, the day of the date of the postscript of the said Letter, they had received from Colonel *Thomas* the charges against the said *Decker*, *Burger*, and *Richard Conner*.

Information having been given to this Congress, by several Members, that the Sentries placed near the wharves frequently fired at Boats and Sloops, with the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Colonies, as they are going out and coming into the docks and slips, whereby the persons on board are in danger of losing their lives. That the masters of some of those very Boats or Sloops had obtained passes before they attempted to go out.

Information was also given to this Congress yesterday evening, and by some Members this day, that all communication with, and the supplies of necessary provision to, the Ships-of-War and Governour *Tryon's* Ship in the harbour or in the bays near this City, is interdicted; and Mr. *Roosevelt* informed the Congress that Colonel *Waterbury* has lately declared that the other United Colonies ought to crush this Colony of *New-York*; and that Mr. *Isaac Sears* had spoken of this Congress and the General Committee of the City of *New-York* in the most harsh, disrespectful, and abusive terms, many of which were mentioned by Mr. *Roosevelt*:

On motion by Mr. *Gansevoort*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Gansevoort* be a Committee to wait on Major-General *Lee*, without delay, and request of him the reason of his interdicting the communication between this City and the Ships-of-War and Governour *Tryon's* Ship, in or near the harbour of this City, contrary to the Resolves of this Congress; and also, to request the occasion of the firing, by the Soldiery of this City, on the inhabitants of this Colony that are coming to, and going out of the City.

And Ordered, That Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *Lott*, and Mr. *Roosevelt*, be a Committee to inquire into, and take examinations, on oath, relative to the Soldiers' firing on the inhabitants in boats; and also as to the declarations of Colonel *Waterbury* and Mr. *Isaac Sears*, inimical to this Colony and its inhabitants.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., March 2, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Hallett* (a very short time.)FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Major *Schenck*, Colonel *Humphreys*.FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Van Cortlandt* only.FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.N. B. *King's* and *Cumberland* are entirely absent.

Colonel *Humphreys* informed the Congress that many of the Minute-men of his Regiment are in want of shoes, and other small necessities; and he requests a sum of money on account for his Regiment. Colonel *Humphreys* was informed that many of his men are not properly accoutred, according to the resolutions of Congress, and that some of them are not even armed; that a sum of money shall be advanced to him, on condition that the said money, or so much thereof as may be necessary for that purpose, shall be laid out to equip his men with arms and accoutrements.

Ordered, therefore, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Colonel *Humphreys* the sum of three hundred Pounds, on account of the pay of his Regiment now employed at *New-York* in the Continental service, and take Colonel *Humphreys's* receipt for the same; and this money is advanced to Colonel *Humphreys* expressly on the condition above-mentioned.

The Committee who attended on Major-General *Lee*, returned, and made a Parole Report; and they were requested to deliver their Report in writing at the next meeting of Congress.

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., March 3, 1776.

Many Members met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*.FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck* only.FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Van Cortlandt*.FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

For want of a sufficient number of Members to form a Congress, according to the standing custom, (which is to have a majority of Counties represented,) no business could be done; and the Members agreed to meet again at six o'clock.

Die Solis, 6 ho. P. M., March 3, 1776.

Many of the Members met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Smith*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Prince*.FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*.FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

For want of a sufficient number of Members, no business can be done; and, therefore, adjourned to ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

Die Lunæ, A. M., March 4, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Prince*.FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *L. Graham*.FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

A Letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis Graham*, dated yesterday, was read and filed. He thereby informs that the Quartermaster of Colonel *Drake's* Regiment declines serving any longer, and recommending Mr. *James Cock* as a proper person.

The Congress are of opinion that the Colonels of the different Regiments of Minute-men should appoint their own Quartermasters, and give them warrants accordingly; and that this method should be recommended to Colonel *Drake*, as occasion may require it; and order that Mr. *Benson*, by letter, inform Lieutenant-Colonel *Lewis Graham* of the opinion of this Congress.

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, dated the 21st February, on behalf of Mr. *Paine*, informing that he seems active and lively, and had been some time employed during some part of last campaign in the Artillery service; and that, if there is a vacancy, it might do well to employ him, was read and filed.

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler* of the 27th February was read and filed. He therein says that Captain *Willett*, during the last campaign, has acted with remarkable attention and propriety, and that he is, therefore, entitled to the attention of his country.

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, also bearing date the 27th February, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, February 27, 1776.

"SIR: Last evening I had the honour to receive your letter of the 22d instant. I wish it was in my power to inform you what officers from this Colony are provided for in *Canada*. I have never been able to get a return from thence since the order of Congress for raising two battalions there; but as one of these battalions, I suppose, will be officered by the officers from this Colony, you may make a probable guess of who will not be employed there from the enclosed list, on which they stand in the order of their rank in the Army. I have also enclosed a list of such officers as served last campaign, and are now part of Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment. Captains *Billings* and *Hasbrouck*, and Lieutenant *Whelp* had warrants for raising men; but as I have never heard from them since they left this, I took no notice of them in the arrangement of this regiment. I am extremely sorry that you cannot supply it with arms; I shall not know how to furnish them.

"The arms of the *New-York* Troops were ordered to be returned into the publick stores. Such as were so, have since been issued to other troops; but many were lost and carried off by deserters. I shall, at a more leisure hour, send you an account of what were received at *Ticonderoga* and *Fort George*. I do not suppose an account was kept of those that were delivered in *Canada*.

"You will please to order up six hundred fathoms of tarred rope, for painters for batteaus, &c., and two fishing-nets, and rope for four.

"I shall probably send into *Canada* some companies of Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment before I can hear from you. Those officers I will give commissions to, as I have



some blank ones by me. I wish you to send up the blank commissions for the remainder, as I do not know which of the officers nominated will accept.

"I am, sir, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER."

"To Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq., President, &c.

"P. S. I have added Lieutenant-Colonel Yates and Major Gansevoort to the enclosed list, as they are at least equally entitled to a chance of preferment with any of the other Field-Officers, although they are reappointed to Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment."

The List of Officers therein enclosed was also read and filed, and is in the following figures and words, to wit:

"A List of Officers of the four Regiments raised in NEW-YORK in 1775, (now in CANADA,) as they rank FEBRUARY 28, 1776:

"Field-Officers.

"Colonel James Clinton,	Major Herman Zedtwitz,
"Lieut. Col. P. Yates, at Albany,	Major Peter Gansevoort, Jun.,
"Lieut. Col. John Nicholson,	Major Lewis Dubois.

"Captains.

"Captain F. V. Weisenfels,	Captain Jacobus S. Bruyn,
"Captain John Visscher,	Captain Elisha Benedict,
"Captain Barent J. Ten Eyck,	Captain John Graham,
"Captain William Goforth,	Captain Robert Johnson,
"Captain Gershom Mott,	Captain David Palmer.

"First Lieutenants.

"First Lieut. Benjamin Evans,	First Lieut. Benjamin Pelton,
"First Lieut. William Gilleylen,	First Lieut. Thomas Dewitt,
"First Lieut. Samuel Sacket,	First Lieut. Jonathan Pearey,
"First Lieut. Derick Hansen,	First Lieut. William McCune,
"First Lieut. E. Van Bunschoten,	First Lieut. Digby Odium,
"First Lieut. Aaron Austin,	First Lieut. C. J. Jansen,
"First Lieut. Samuel T. Pell,	First Lieut. Matthias Clark,
"First Lieut. John Copp,	First Lieut. Philip D. Revier.

"Second Lieutenants.

"Second Lieut. Richard Platt,	Second Lieut. Albert Pawling,
"Second Lieut. Joseph Fitch,	Second Lieut. G. Van Waggenen,
"Second Lieut. James Gregg,	Second Lieut. Alexander Brink,
"Second Lieut. John G. Lansing,	Second Lieut. N. Van Rensselaer,
"Second Lieut. R. S. McDougall,	Second Lieut. William Martin,
"Second Lieut. John Houston,	Second Lieut. Wm. Matthewman,
"Second Lieut. Isaac Van Wert,	Second Lieut. Isaac Hubbell,
"Second Lieut. Daniel Gano,	Second Lieut. James Dow,
"Second Lieut. Roswell Beebee,	Second Lieut. George Nicholson,
"Second Lieut. Timothy Hughes,	now Town-Major at Montreal."

"A List of the Officers of the four NEW-YORK Battalions, raised in 1775, who have accepted Commissions in Colonel VAN SCHAICK'S Regiment, viz:

"Captain Daniel Mills,	First Lieut. Moses Martin,
"Captain Joseph McCracken,	Second Lieut. Guy Young,
"First Lieut. Andrew Fink,	Second Lieut. John Barnes."
"First Lieut. Charles Graham,	

On having read General Schuyler's Letter,

Ordered, That Peter T. Curtenius, as Commissary, purchase, on Continental account, six hundred fathoms of Tarr'd Rope, for Painters for Batteaus, &c., and two good Fishing-Nets, and Ropes for four Fishing-Nets, pursuant to a request of Major-General Schuyler, by his Letter to this Congress of the 27th ultimo, and that he forward the same to Albany by the first conveyance, pursuant to the General's request.

A draft of an Answer to General Schuyler's several Letters above-mentioned, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 21st and 27th ultimo, with a list of such officers as have served in the last campaign. We fear, from a want of proper information, and the necessity we are under of immediately completing the four regiments ordered to be raised for the defence of this Colony, some gentlemen now absent may be neglected, whose merits ought to be considered. In our confused state, we shall endeavour to do justice to individuals, as far as is consistent with the public service. In this arrangement, Mr. Paine's merit will be considered.

In the appointment of the Captains to our four battalions, we have, through mistake, omitted Captain Wynkoop, whose services, during the last summer, justly merit the attention of the publick. We could wish, sir, it was in your power

to provide for him on the lake, as we are informed he is well qualified for service in that department; but if it should not be in your power to provide for him, we beg to have the earliest notice, that we may appoint him to the first vacancy.

We have ordered six hundred fathoms of tarred rope, two fishing nets, and ropes for four, to be sent to Mr. Commissary Livingston, at Albany, to whom we have also ordered the quantity of pitch and tar you formerly wrote for to be sent. You will receive by this conveyance blank commissions for Colonel Van Schaick's Regiment.

We are, sir, with esteem, your obedient humble servants.

By order of Congress.

To Major General Schuyler.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted by Monsieur De Gas, together with sixty blank Continental Commissions.

And the same were all transmitted accordingly.

A Letter from Colonel James Holmes to Captain Jacobus Wynkoop, dated at Ticonderoga, on the 7th day of December last, was read and filed.

Pursuant to a Resolution of the Provincial Congress of the 3d of November last, he therein directs Captain Wynkoop to make an immediate stoppage in the pay of Thomas Hampton, James Davenport, and Henry May, late deserters from Captain Wynkoop's Company, in Colonel Holmes's Regiment, to reimburse the sum of thirteen Pounds eight Shillings and seven Pence, expended and paid by the Provincial Congress for apprehending the said deserters.

Captain Wynkoop, at the door, informs a Member that he has stopped the said sum out of the pay of the said deserters, and has the money ready to pay to this Congress, or their order.

Ordered, That Captain Jacobus Wynkoop pay to Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., Treasurer of this Congress, the sum of thirteen Pounds eight Shillings and seven Pence, now in his hands, stopped out of the pay of Thomas Hampton, James Davenport, and Henry May, three deserters from his Company, in the Regiment late Colonel Holmes's, to replace the money advanced and paid out of the said Treasury for the apprehending and sending back of the said deserters to their Regiment; and that Captain Wynkoop, on behalf of Colonel Holmes, take a receipt of the Deputy Treasurer for that sum.

Francis Lewis, Esq., having informed this Congress that he has brought from Philadelphia the separate sums for which the Delegates of this Colony had obtained warrants from the Continental Congress, and requested the direction of this Congress as to the said money:

Thereupon, Ordered, That Francis Lewis, Esq., pay to Peter V. B. Livingston, Esq., Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, the sum of twelve thousand Dollars, and the further sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars, amounting together to the sum of forty-seven thousand Dollars, obtained on two warrants from the Continental Congress. That Mr. Lewis deliver such receipts, or audited accounts, as he may have taken for any part of that money to the said Treasurer as cash, and that he take the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer's receipt for the same.

Mr. Hobart, from the Committee appointed on Saturday last to call on General Lee to know the reason of the firing by the Troops on persons coming to or going out of this City, and the reason of the interruptions given to the persons having Passports from this Congress, delivered in their Report, in the words following, to wit:

"The purport of the Conversation between General LEE and the Committee.

"General Lee says that he inhibited the communication with the ships-of-war and the Dutchess of Gordon, because he was informed that Governour Tryon had seized a quantity of flour coming to this market, which he considered as a breach of the compact, which, though not perhaps expressly made, yet was undoubtedly implied, that while we continued to supply them with provisions, they would not obstruct any coming to this market. That he wished the Congress would write to Governour Tryon, and demand an explanation of his conduct. That if they should prefer the mode, he would write himself. That if, upon settling the matter, the Congress should incline to continue the daily

supplies of provisions, he would give the necessary orders to the port guard, provided that no person from the shore should be allowed to go on board the said ships, nor any person to come on shore from the same, as he could not permit a personal communication to be any longer kept up. And as to the firing on the boats, he assured the Committee that it was entirely owing to a misconstruction of his general orders. That if Congress, or any individual, would draw up a set of instructions for the direction of the port guard that shall effectually prevent such inconvenience for the future, he would readily sign it."

A part of a Letter from Mr. *William Bedlow*, one of the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands, to Mr. *John Berrien*, was read.

Mr. *Bedlow* thereby informs that they are in want of cash to pay wages and discharge some of the debts of last year, and to purchase necessaries; and requesting the sum of five hundred Pounds, to be expended for the use of the said Fortifications on Continental account.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., the Treasurer of this Congress, deliver to Mr. *John Berrien*, as Commissary to the Commissioners for erecting Fortifications in the Highlands, and one of the said Commissioners, the sum of five hundred Pounds, on Continental account, towards the expense of erecting the said Fortifications, and that the Treasurer take Mr. *Berrien's* receipt for the same.

*Nicholas Bayard*, Esq., this morning attending, was admitted. He informed the Congress that a Grenadier Company of Colonel *Lasher's* Regiment had been the guard of the Records of this Colony since they have been at his house; that he has been informed it is to be changed, and their place supplied by another Company; that the said Grenadier Company have behaved so prudently, that it would oblige him to have them continued.

The Congress took the same into consideration, and

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *Lott*, and Mr. *Roosevelt*, be a Committee to speak to Colonel *Lasher*, and with him determine on what guard will be proper and necessary for a guard to the said Records at Mr. *Bayard's*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that it was necessary to have arms for the men of the different Companies now inlisting in this City, that they may have arms if called to service, and that they may become inured to the use of arms.

*Ordered*, That *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of this Colony's Stores, deliver to Colonel *McDougall*, or his order, such Arms and Accoutrements from time to time, in store, as he shall direct for the Troops, and take the receipts of such Captains to whom such Arms and Accoutrements are or shall be delivered.

Mr. *Prince*, one of the Members appointed to forward the Continental Powder to *Cambridge*, informed this Congress that the wagoners here employed in the Continental service, going to *Cambridge* with the Continental Powder, said they could not proceed without some money to defray their expenses. That he had advanced to the three wagoners who went off with loaded wagons this morning twenty Pounds on account, in part of their pay; that the other three wagoners who are to set off this afternoon, expect to receive the like sum in advance.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq. advance to Mr. *Samuel Prince* the sum of forty Pounds on account, in part of the hire of the wagoners carrying Continental Gunpowder to *Cambridge*, and that the Treasurer take Mr. *Prince's* receipt for the same, and charge it to Continental account.

The Congress were informed by Colonel *McDougall* that General *Lee* has received Letters from General *Washington* and General *Greene*, in substance giving information that General *Howe* is removing their spare and heavy cannon and howitzers from *Bunker's Hill* on board of transports; that the transports are drawn up to the wharves; and that the officers' baggage are taken on board of the transports; and that it is probable that the Ministerial Troops will soon leave *Boston*. Colonel *McDougall* is requested to obtain extracts in writing from Major-General *Lee*, of such parts of the said Letters as may be necessary to be con-

sidered by Congress; and that Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, be a Committee to take such extracts into consideration, and report thereon to this Congress what they shall think necessary to be done, and that they report with all convenient speed.

Die Luns, 3 ho. P. M., March 4, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Prince*, Captain *Denning*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Yates*, Colonel *Nicoll*; (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Mr. *G. Livingston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

The Report of the Committee to consider of and report a plan for a further emission of Paper Currency, was taken into further consideration, and read; and, being again read paragraph by paragraph, was in many instances altered and amended, and, those amendments agreed to, it was ordered to remain for further consideration until to-morrow morning.

Mr. *Yates* reported that Captain *Denning* and himself, with the assistance of Dr. *Treat*, had viewed the house on *Freshwater-Hill*, where *John Fowler* lately dwelt, with two barns adjoining; that Dr. *Treat* highly approved of the said house and barns for an Hospital; that they had contracted for the said house and barns, &c., for the rent of seventy Pounds from the 1st day of *May* next; the said rent to be paid quarterly to the present tenants, or their order.

This Congress hereby approves of and ratifies the said contract, and assumes the same as the contract of this Congress.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee*, bearing date this day, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"March 4, 1776.

"SIR: The letters I received last night from the Commander-in-Chief and General *Greene*, were unfortunately thrown into the fire. But, according to my best recollection, the reasons given by the Generals for surmising, or rather concluding that it was the intention of the enemy to evacuate *Boston*, were these: That they had withdrawn their mortars and heavy cannon from *Bunker's Hill* and *Charlestown*; that their transports were hauled into the wharves; that some people who had left the town lately, declared that the officers' baggage was sent on board; in short, it is from every circumstance concluded, by those who are before the place, and those who have lately left the place, that they are soon to abandon *Boston*, and that, consequently, they will attempt to establish themselves here.

"May I, sir, take the liberty to express my uneasiness on a subject which is more properly a matter of consideration for the Congress—the liberation of the notorious enemies to liberty and their country, on giving bonds for their good behaviour, appears to me, in our present situation, extremely ill imagined. It is so far from a security, that it is rather adding virus to their malignancy. The first body of troops that arrives will cancel those bonds. Some vigorous, decisive mode must now be adopted, of discovering on whom you may depend, on whom not. The crisis will admit of no procrastination. I cannot, therefore, help wishing, for the common safety and the honour of this Province in particular, that some test may be immediately offered, that we may be enabled to distinguish our friends from our foes.

The latter must not, and cannot, be suffered to remain within your walls, to co-operate with those without, in working your destruction.

"I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To Colonel *Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress."

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee appointed to consider of the intelligence received from Major-General *Lee* by his Letters above-mentioned, delivered in their Report, which was read; and the same being read a second time, paragraph by paragraph, and amended, was approved of, and unanimously agreed to, in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee beg leave to report the following Resolves:

1st. That a Magazine of Provisions and Military Stores be established in the County of *Westchester*.

2d. That the Deputies of *Westchester* County purchase and deposite in different Stores in that County twelve hundred barrels of good salted Pork, wherever it is to be bought, and that the said salted Pork be repacked and pickled by a sworn packer of *New-York*; and that the Deputies of *Albany* County purchase eighteen hundred and fifty bushels of good Peas, and send them to the Deputies of *Westchester* County, to be by them stored in the same manner.

3d. That a Letter be written to the proprietors of the Powder-Mills in this Colony, requesting them to use all possible diligence in manufacturing that article, and to inform the Congress what quantity they have now on hand, what stock of materials they have by them, and what quantity they can supply weekly.

4th. That Circular Letters be written to the several Colonels of the Minute-men and Militia in this Colony, from the County of *Albany* to the southward, ordering them to hold their respective Regiments in readiness to march with their Arms, Accoutrements, Blankets, and five days' Provision, on the first notice of an invasion.

5th. That Colonel *Lasher* and Colonel *Heyer*, and the Colonels of the different Regiments of Militia in the City and County of *New-York*, be ordered to examine into the state of their respective Regiments, with respect to the number of Men, Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition, and report thereon forthwith.

6th. That a Letter be written to the Committees of *Southampton* and *Easthampton*, in *Suffolk* County, requesting them to station men at the most convenient places in that County, to give the earliest notice of the arrival of a Fleet upon the coast; and that upon the first appearance of a Fleet, they despatch an express immediately to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety of this Colony, with an account of the number and size of the Ships, and the course they steer.

7th. That the Light-House at *Sandy-Hook* be dismantled, the Lantern rendered useless, and all the Oil and Lamps taken and carried to some place of safety at a proper distance.

8th. That—(postponed.)

9th. That a Letter be written to the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, transmitting them a copy of the Extracts of Letters to General *Lee*, and requesting them to order their Minute-men and Militia to hold themselves in readiness to march on the first notice of an invasion.

Resolved, That the Congress does agree with their Committee in the said Report.

But as some of the Resolves therein reported are very important,

Ordered, That the said Report be reassumed and read to-morrow morning when the House is full; and a charge of secrecy as to the Light-House was given from the Chair.

A draft of a Circular Letter to the several Colonels of the Minute-men and Militia of this Colony, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: This accompanies the resolve of Congress, requesting you to hold your regiment in readiness to march at a moment's warning. We are apprehensive that the Ministerial Army in *Boston* may attempt to land in this Colony in a short time. Your zeal for the publick cause,

we trust, will stimulate you and the officers under your command to use all possible diligence to comply with this resolution. We have only to add, that no time should be lost in executing this order, and that you forthwith return to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, the present state of your regiment, as to number of men, arms, accoutrements, and ammunition; and that, if the Minute Regiments do not compose one-fourth part of the Militia of your County, you are hereby ordered to cause the Minute Regiments to be completed agreeable to the rules and orders of this Congress of the 20th *December* last.

We are, sir, with esteem, your very humble servants.

By order:

NATHANIEL WOODHULL, *President*.

Ordered, That the Secretaries get one hundred copies of the said Letter neatly printed, with a copy of the fourth Resolution, above reported, which was unanimously agreed to, printed at the foot of each Letter, and to have them ready by to-morrow morning at the meeting of this Congress.

A draft of a Letter to the owners of the two Powder-Mills in this Colony, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: The Provincial Congress requests that you will immediately inform them what quantity of Gunpowder you have on hand, what stock of materials you are furnished with, and how much powder you can manufacture per week.

I am, sir, your humble servant.

By order.

Ordered, That one copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and directed and sent to *Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esq., and another copy thereof directed to *John R. Livingston*, Esq., owners of the Powder-Mills in this Colony.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Easthampton* and to the Committee of *Southampton*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 4, 1776.

SIR: This covers a resolution of Congress directing the Committees of *East* and *Southampton* to station suitable persons on the most proper places for observing the approach of a fleet.

From some intelligence we have received there is reason to expect that the *British Army* are about to leave *Boston*; and as it is probable that they may attempt to take possession of this Colony, we therefore entreat you to use all possible despatch to carry this resolve into execution.

We are your humble servants.

By order of Congress.

To *John Chatfield*, Esq., *Easthampton*; to *Thomas Cooper*, Esq., *Southampton*.

Ordered, That two copies thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and transmitted—one to *John Chatfield*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Easthampton*, and the other to *Thomas Cooper*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Southampton*—and that a certified copy of the sixth Resolve, reported by the Committee on the news received by General *Lee*, be enclosed in each of said Letters.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that the Colony Artillery Company are much in want of clothing; that *Peter T. Curtenius* has coarse blue cloth fit for the purpose of making coats for the company; that he is willing to spare the cloth for that purpose, if this Congress gives an order to him for that purpose, that he may charge it in his accounts; and that the price of the said clothing may be retained out of the pay of the men, respectively, who shall receive the same.

Ordered, That *Peter T. Curtenius* deliver to Captain-Lieutenant *James Moore* a sufficient quantity of the said Coarse Blue Cloth to make a Coat for each of his men;

And Ordered, That Captain-Lieutenant *James Moore*, or the Paymaster of the said Company for the time being, take care to deduct the expense of the said Coats furnished to each of the said men out of his Pay.

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., March 5, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Smith, Mr. Randall, Mr. Rutgers, Mr. E. Bancker, Mr. Prince, Colonel Lott, Major Stoutenburgh, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Beekman, Captain Denning, Mr. Hallett, Mr. Scott, Colonel McDougall.

FOR ALBANY.—General Ten Broeck, Mr. Yates, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Gelston, Mr. Hobart.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Polhemus.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel M. Graham, Colonel Ten Broeck, Mr. G. Livingston.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel G. Drake, Major Lockwood, Colonel Van Cortlandt.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Adrian Bancker.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Hay, Colonel Allison.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel William Williams.

A Letter from Colonel Gilbert Budd, directed to Mr. McKesson, one of the Secretaries, was read. He therein requests permission for the bearer to go on board of the Ship *Asia*, to obtain a boat which has been privately taken from him, and is supposed to be at the said ship. As Major-General Lee has cut off all communication with said ship, and through his conduct and orders the passports of this Congress are of no avail, the Congress refused to give permission.

A Letter from Captain William Barker, of *Amenia* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, was read and filed. He therein states his difficulties about raising a Company in the Continental service, and in understanding the Continental terms of enlistment.

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the Members from *Dutchess* County to give an answer to Captain Barker.

The Congress took into consideration the application made by Mr. Gilbert Livingston, one of the Members, yesterday, on behalf of Lieutenant Lee, with respect to some Minute-men, now in Colonel Swartwout's Regiment, which he claims to have enlisted for the Continental service before they enlisted in Captain Clark's Company of Minute-men.

A Letter received from Colonel Swartwout yesterday was read and filed. He therein alleges that those Minute-men were enlisted in Captain Clark's Company before Mr. Lee had any warrant, and that, therefore, his regiment has the preference to their service; but that he is cheerfully willing that they enter into the Continental service when his regiment is discharged.

Thereupon, Ordered, That the Recruiting Officers for the Continental service, who are employed in that business by virtue of warrants from this Congress, be allowed to enlist men from any of the Regiments of Minute-men in this Colony; but, however, under the following restrictions with respect to the Minute Regiments now in actual service in this City and its environs: That no man shall be allowed to leave the Minute service till the time of their enlistment as Minute-men is expired, or they are discharged from the present service, or until the commanding Officer of the Continental service at this post shall think it necessary for the publick service that they should join their respective Regiments into which they shall have enlisted.

The Report of the Committee on General Lee's Letter, relative to the Ministerial Army preparing to leave *Boston*, as entered on the Minutes of yesterday afternoon, was again read. The Congress approves thereof, and again agrees with their Committee therein, and confirms the same.

Ordered, That the Committee who brought in the said Report on General Lee's Letter, and Mr. Randall, be a Committee to carry the seventh of said Resolutions of that Committee into execution.

A charge was given from the Chair to keep the matter of the seventh Resolve secret.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the plan

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for a further emission of Bills to the amount of fifty-five thousand Pounds; and the same being read by paragraphs, amended and agreed to, is in the words following, to wit:

Whereas it is probable that a further emission of Bills of Credit of this Colony, not exceeding fifty-five thousand Pounds, will soon be necessary to discharge the debts incurred by this Colony, and to defray the expenses which may arise in making provision for the further safety and defence thereof; it is their opinion that an emission to the above-mentioned amount be prepared for signing, upon the following plan, to wit: That one hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred Dollars be struck, amounting to the said sum of fifty-five thousand Pounds, *New-York* currency, to be sunk in manner following, to wit:

\$45,833 $\frac{1}{3}$ , being  $\frac{1}{3}$  thereof, on or before 1st March, 1779,  
45,833 $\frac{1}{3}$ , being  $\frac{1}{3}$  thereof, on or before 1st March, 1780,  
45,833 $\frac{1}{3}$ , being  $\frac{1}{3}$  thereof, on or before 1st March, 1781.

\$137,500.

Resolved, That Bills of Credit, to the said amount of one hundred and thirty-seven thousand and five hundred Dollars, be immediately printed, of the following denominations, to wit:

2,350 Bills of 10 Dollars, is	- -	\$23,500
2,350 Bills of 5 Dollars, is	- -	11,750
2,350 Bills of 3 Dollars, is	- -	7,050
2,350 Bills of 2 Dollars, is	- -	4,700
30,000 Bills of 1 Dollar, is	- -	30,000
30,000 Bills of $\frac{2}{3}$ Dollar, is	- -	20,000
30,000 Bills of $\frac{1}{2}$ Dollar, is	- -	15,000
30,000 Bills of $\frac{1}{3}$ Dollar, is	- -	10,000
30,000 Bills of $\frac{1}{4}$ Dollar, is	- -	7,500
30,000 Bills of $\frac{1}{6}$ Dollar, is	- -	5,000
24,000 Bills of $\frac{1}{8}$ Dollar, is	- -	3,000

\$137,500

On the face of each of said Bills shall be impressed the Arms of the City of *New-York*, together with such other device as the Committee appointed for that purpose shall direct. And the said Bills shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this Colony for *Spanish* milled Dollars, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, on the 5th day of *March*, 1776."

Excepting those of the denomination of two-thirds of a Dollar, which shall be in the form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this Colony for five Shillings and four Pence, being equal to two-thirds of a *Spanish* milled Dollar, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, on the 5th day of *March*, 1776."

And also, excepting those of one-third of a Dollar, which shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this Colony for two Shillings and eight Pence, being equal to one-third of a *Spanish* milled Dollar, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, on the 5th day of *March*, 1776."

Also, excepting those of one-fourth of a Dollar, which shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this Colony for two Shillings, being equal to one-fourth of a *Spanish* milled Dollar, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, on the 5th day of *March*, 1776."

Also, excepting those of the denomination of one-sixth of a Dollar, which shall be in form following:

"This Bill shall pass current in all payments in this Colony for one Shilling and four Pence, being equal to one-sixth of a *Spanish* milled Dollar, or the value thereof in gold or silver, according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, on the 5th day of *March*, 1776."

Also, excepting those of one-eighth of a Dollar, which shall be in form following:

"This bill shall pass current in all payments in this Colony for one Shilling, being equal to one-eighth of a *Spanish* milled Dollar, or the value thereof in gold or silver,

according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, on the 5th day of *March*, 1776."

Which Bills, under the value of two Dollars, amounting to thirty-six thousand two hundred Pounds, shall be numbered by . . . . . and signed by any two of them, (the said signers,) respectively; to be delivered by them to *Mr. Isaac Roosevelt*, to be by him delivered to the Treasurer of this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, as soon as finished.

And all the Bills of a higher denomination than one Dollar, being the further sum of eighteen thousand eight hundred Pounds, be delivered unsigned into this Congress, to remain subject to the future disposal of this Congress, or of the Committee of Safety, if they shall be authorized by this Congress to dispose thereof.

Colonel *McDougall* dissents to the above clause.

*Resolved, secondly*, That the said Signers, or any two of them, are hereby directed and requested, upon the delivery of the said Bills to them by the Printer of the same, to cause to be administered to him by the President of this Congress, or the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, the following Oath:

"I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that from the time the letters were set and fit to be put in the press for printing the Bills of Credit now by me delivered to you, until the Bills were printed, and the letters afterwards distributed into the boxes, I went at no time out of the room in which the said letters were, without locking them up, so that they could not be come at without violence or a false key, or other art unknown to me; and therefore, to the best of my knowledge, no copies were printed off but in my presence; and that all the blotters and other papers whatsoever, impressed by the said letters whilst set for printing the said Bills, to the best of my knowledge, are here delivered to you, together with the stamps; and in all things relating to this affair I have demeaned myself honestly and faithfully, to the best of my knowledge and understanding, so help me *God*."

*Resolved, thirdly*, That such person as *Mr. Isaac Roosevelt* shall agree with, shall engage so many Stamps for the said Bills, with such Devices, and so many Stamps for the Arms of the City of *New-York*, as he shall direct; which Engraver shall take the following Oath, to wit:

"I, A. B., do solemnly swear, that I have not engraved more plates than I delivered to *Mr. Isaac Roosevelt*, as directed by the Provincial Congress of *New-York*, of the like kind or in imitation of the same; neither have I kept a copy or copies, draft or drafts of the said plates; neither will I engrave more of the like kind without the order of the Provincial Congress, or the House of Assembly of the Colony of *New-York*; and shall deliver them to the said *Mr. Isaac Roosevelt*, who shall deliver them unto *Samuel Lowdon*, Printer, or such other Printer as shall be directed by this Congress or the Committee of Safety, and take his receipt for the same."

And when the said *Samuel Lowdon*, or such other Printer as shall be employed, has completed and finished the printing the quantity and sorts of bills hereby directed to be struck, he shall redeliver the said stamps to the said *Mr. Isaac Roosevelt*, which shall be sealed with the several seals of the said *Isaac Roosevelt*, and the President of the Provincial Congress, or the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of this Colony, and deposited in the office of the Secretary of this Congress, until the further order of this or some future Congress of this Colony. The receipt of the said *Isaac Roosevelt* to the said *Samuel Lowdon*, or such other Printer, shall be a sufficient voucher for such delivery.

*Resolved*, That this Congress unanimously agrees with their Committee in their said Report, and confirms the same.

Die Martis, 4 ho. P. M., March 5, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Scott*, *Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. Hallett*, *Mr. Smith*, Colonel *Lott*, *Mr. Randall*, *Mr. Roosevelt*, *Mr. Beckman*, *Mr. Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, *Mr. A. Yates*, *Mr. Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Hobart*, *Mr. Gelston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*.

FOR ULSTER.—*Mr. Rhea*, *Mr. Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Col. *Ten Broeck*, Col. *M. Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—*Mr. Covenhoven*, *Mr. Polhemus*.

FOR RICHMOND.—*Mr. A. Bancker*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—*Mr. Moore*.

*Mr. Smith*, from the Committee appointed to confer with Colonel *Lasher* on the mode best to be pursued for continuing the Guard to the Publick Records of this Colony, reported, that Colonel *Lasher* be ordered to provide a Guard of forty-eight men out of his Battalion, to protect the Records of this Colony; that that Guard be relieved from time to time by detachments from his Battalion or Regiment, so as to give the different Companies in the Battalion their proper proportion of duty; and that twelve men of such detachment be the proper Guard for twenty-four hours.

*Resolved*, That this Congress does agree with their said Committee in the foregoing Report.

The Congress took into consideration the state of the Militia in *Queen's County*, and determined that it would be requisite to have the friends to the liberties of their country there, and particularly those Companies already formed, properly regimented:

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Mr. Hobart* draw and report a draft of a Letter to Colonel *Blackwell*, and such other persons in that County as may be thought necessary.

Colonel *David Mulford*, of the Second Regiment in *Suffolk County*, pursuant to the Regulations of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, returned to Brigadier-General *Woodhull* a statement of his Regiment; which was read and filed. He thereby returns his Regiment to consist of nine Companies, and the following number of Officers and men, to wit: One Colonel; one Lieutenant-Colonel; two Majors, to wit: First and Second Majors; nine Captains; eighteen Lieutenants; nine Ensigns; one Adjutant; one Quartermaster; one Sergeant-Major; one Drum-Major; thirty-six Sergeants; nine Drummers; nine Fifers, and six hundred and seventy Privates. And in the said Return all the Officers, down to the Sergeants, (Lieutenants and Ensigns excepted,) are particularly named.

An application from the Committee of *King's County*, signed by *Englebert Lott*, *pro tem*. Clerk, was read and filed. They thereby set forth that they had agreed to allow their Deputies six Shillings per day, each, for every day of their attendance; and request that they may be paid out of the Provincial Treasury, and charged as money advanced to the Committee of *King's County*, which they will hereafter satisfy.

Debates arose thereon, and the said application was deferred for the present.

Colonel *Peter Ten Broeck*, from the Committee of War, according to order, reported a draft of Instructions for the Barrackmaster; which was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

#### *Instructions for the Barrackmaster.*

The Committee appointed to consider of, and draft a set of Instructions for the Barrackmaster, reported the following, viz:

That the Field-Officers of each corps in this Colony be supplied with one room. The Captains, with the Subalterns of each Company, together with the Quartermaster and Adjutant, to be entitled to a room between each two.

The Officers' rooms of the said corps to be furnished each with one pair-andirons, one pair tongs, one table, two chairs, and one candlestick.

For every room for Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the said corps, each room to contain twenty men, ten cribs, ten bed-cases, and ten bolsters, to be filled with straw every three months, two iron pots, two trammels, one pair tongs, one wood axe, one iron candlestick, one table, two benches, and one bucket.

And with fire-wood, as follows, viz:

For every room for Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, from the 1st day of *October* to the 1st of



*April*, three-eighths of a cord of wood per week for each room so occupied as aforesaid; and for five weeks preceding the 1st *October*, and five weeks after the 1st *April*, three-sixteenths of a cord of wood per week; and for the remaining sixteen weeks, one-eighth of a cord per week.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* supply the Barrackmaster with cases for Straw Beds for the Companies of Militia as they arrive in this City, to be employed in the service; and that the Barrackmaster supply the said Militia with Barrack necessaries.

This Report being again read, paragraph by paragraph, the Congress agrees with their Committee in the said Report.

A Letter, with two long postscripts thereto, from *Samuel Gale*, Esq., Clerk of *Cumberland* County, dated at *Fairfield*, 29th *February*, directed to Mr. *John McKesson*, one of the Secretaries, and sent by Mr. *Sturges*, the Deputy Sheriff and Jailer, to be laid before this Congress, and the bearer to wait for an answer, was read. The Congress were informed by one of the Secretaries, and by what is therein set forth, that the said *Samuel Gale* was lately seized in this City at his own house in the night, and conveyed to a Guard-House at the upper Barracks, where the Troops from *Connecticut* are quartered; that from thence he was soon after conveyed to *Fairfield* Jail, in *Connecticut*, where he is now in close confinement in a common Jail, and in very uncomfortable circumstances. The Congress being further informed, by different persons, that this was without any trial or adjudication of any Congress or Committee, or other judges whatever, conceive that it is a wanton act of military power, inconsistent with that liberty for which the Colonists are contending, and highly culpable in those who procured and those who ordered said *Samuel Gale* to be seized and carried away.

*Thomas Smith*, Esq., delivered in the Affidavit of *Joseph Cheesman*, as to some inimical expressions of Colonel *Waterbury* against this City, which is in the words following, to wit:

"City of *NEW-YORK*, ss.

"*Joseph Cheesman*, of the City of *New-York*, Shopkeeper, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that this day being on board of a boat in *Peck's Slip*, he heard Colonel *Waterbury* say, that he had for some time thought that things would not go well, unless the City of *New-York* was crushed down, and that it must be done by their people before things would go well; and further this deponent saith not.

"JOSEPH CHEESMAN.

"Sworn this 2d of *March*, 1776, before me,

"ABRAHAM BRASHER, *Justice of Peace*."

Mr. *Smith* also delivered in the Affidavit of *John Somerindyck*, stating the violent acts of some of the soldiers, and the impudent conduct of some officers therein mentioned; and, also, the Affidavits of *Isaac Bell*, *Josiah Le Conte*, *Elias Nixen*, and *John Jones*, setting forth different instances of the Troops stationed in this City firing at the boats, and the people on board, in coming to and going from the wharves and markets in this City; which were read and filed.

Mr. *Smith* further informed the Congress, that Mr. *John Richards* had told him that a number of shot were discharged, about eleven or twelve o'clock this morning, at a *New-Jersey* sloop or boat, when departing homeward from this City.

*Ordered*, That *Abraham Yates* and *Thomas Smith*, Esquires, be a Committee to make inquiry as to the reasons of the treatment of *Samuel Gale*, Esq., and to prepare a draft of a Letter to Major-General *Lee* on that subject; and, also, on the subject of the Troops firing on the people in boats, passing and repassing to, and from the wharves and markets in this City.

A Letter from Mr. *John Foster* to Mr. *John McKesson*,\*

\* *SOUTHAMPTON*, *February* 28, 1776.—SIR: I have engaged tow-cloth near to the amount of the sum I received for that purpose, but have been obliged to give him from two shillings and two pence to two shillings and three pence per yard, as it could not be bought under; and shall forward the same as soon as I can get it together, which will be by the next boat I expect. I should be obliged to you to let me know the sense of the Congress, whether they would have me purchase any more at that price or not. If there be any prospect of trade to any part, I must beg you will give me the earliest intelligence you can, which will be esteemed a particular favour done.

Your humble servant,

JOHN FOSTER.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

one of the Secretaries, dated *Southampton*, on the 28th day of *February*, was read. He thereby informs that he could not purchase Tow-Cloth at less than two shillings and two pence and two shillings and three pence per yard; that he had purchased at that rate to the amount of the money advanced to him by the Committee of Safety; and requesting to know whether he should go on to purchase more at the same rates.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McKesson* write to Mr. *Foster*, and inform him that he will please to continue to purchase for this Congress Tow-Cloth at the prices mentioned in his Letter, and to forward the same by safe conveyances to Mr. *Curtenius*.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., March 6, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Randell*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR *ALBANY*.—Mr. *A. Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service,) General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR *ORANGE*.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR *DUTCHESS*.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Morris Graham*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR *RICHMOND*.—Mr. *A. Bancker*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Thomas*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

FOR *KING'S*.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR *TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR *CUMBERLAND*.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR *CHARLOTTE*.—Colonel *John Williams*.

A Member, in behalf of *Abraham Livingston*, asked leave to take up the floor in the Powder-House, for the purpose of taking out the earth to make Saltpetre.

*Agreed*, That Mr. *Livingston* have leave when all the Powder is out.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* attended, and informed the Committee that a Vessel was arrived with about fifteen hundred pounds of Gunpowder, consigned to him for sale.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hallett* and Mr. *Randall* be a Committee to agree with Mr. *Low* about the price of said Powder, and purchase the same in behalf of this Congress.

A Petition of *John Pell*, praying leave to export some Salt to *New-Jersey*. Rejected unanimously.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* furnish a suitable number of wooden Bowls and Spoons to the four Regiments raising in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Livingston* and Mr. *Berrien* call on the Engineer, and get his directions relative to the Cannon ordered to *Canada*.

A draft of a Letter to General *Lee* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, March 6, 1776.

SIR: We have now under consideration the case of Mr. *Samuel Gale*, who was lately apprehended in this city by a military guard, and conveyed to *Fairfield*, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, where he now is in close confinement. We are wholly ignorant of the nature of the charge brought against him, or the cause of his commitment, and should be glad to be informed thereof, that proper steps may be taken either for his discharge or punishment.

It may not be improper to remind you, sir, that the right of apprehending, trying, and punishing citizens who violate the resolutions of Congress, or act inimical to the liberties of *America*, is, by the Continental Congress, delegated to the Provincial Conventions in the respective Colonies. This right we think it our duty to insist upon as essential to the security of our constituents. We hold ourselves ready to co-operate with you in every measure that may be thought necessary to promote the common cause of the Continent, and to frustrate the arbitrary designs of a wicked Ministry; at the same time it becomes us, as faithful guardians of the

people, to protect the liberty and property of our constituents as much as possible in our present unhappy situation. We are sensible of the many difficulties you have to struggle with while commanding an undisciplined soldiery; but we flatter ourselves their irregularities will be checked upon proper information. This consideration, sir, induces us to inform you that the Port-Guards continue to fire upon the boats coming to and going from this city, for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants with provisions and other necessities. If this practice is continued, we are apprehensive it will greatly distress the inhabitants, render it impossible to provide for the troops, and prevent our Commissary from supplying the magazine we are now establishing for the Continental Army. We therefore entreat you, sir, to give such orders to the Port-Guards as will prevent such inconveniences for the future.

We are, with esteem, your obedient servants.

By order.

To Major-General Lee.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

Mr. *Hallett* and Mr. *Randall* reported that Mr. *Low* demanded thirty Pounds per hundred weight for his Powder, with permission to export produce at the rate of forty Pounds for each hundred weight.

The Congress directed Mr. *Hallett* and Mr. *Randall* to purchase the Gunpowder as cheap as they can agree; but if Mr. *Low* should insist on thirty Pounds for the purchase money, that he be allowed to export produce only to the same amount.

A Letter from General *Lee* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, March 5, 1776.

"SIR: It is absolutely necessary that Colonel *Ward* should be supplied with the necessary brush for fascines, wood for pickets, and other timber, to complete the works I have directed on *Long-Island*. It is my wish these materials should be supplied in the most easy way to the inhabitants, and that the utmost justice be done them. It is impossible for me to attend to the regulation of this matter, and therefore must desire the Congress of *New-York* will take proper measures to conduct this matter, which I doubt not will forward the service.

"CHARLES LEE, Major-General.

"To the President of the Congress of *New-York*."

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Committee of *King's* County was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: General *Lee* having informed us that Colonel *Ward* will want wood and timber to enable him to carry on the fortifications now erecting in your County, we recommend to you to assist in furnishing him with these articles; for which the proprietors of the lands from whence those articles may be taken may rest assured they will receive the like satisfaction as will be allowed to the proprietors of lands in the City and County of *New-York*, who have furnished those articles for the fortifications erecting in and near this City. The known zeal of the inhabitants of *King's* County, to promote the publick cause, we doubt not will stimulate them to promote this necessary work.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *King's* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted immediately.

The Congress then proceeded to hear the examinations of the persons concerned in spiking the Cannon beyond *King's* Bridge, and which were taken in the Committee of Safety, fully read.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Waterbury* be requested to send down *William Lownsberry* and the other persons confined in the upper Barracks, for making Spikes and spiking up the Cannon beyond *King's* Bridge, in *Westchester* County, to this Congress, at the City-Hall, at five o'clock this afternoon, under a proper guard.

The Congress adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P. M., March 6, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Gansevoort*, Mr. *Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Thomas*, Colonel *Cortlandt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Graham*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Mr. *Benson* (one of the Secretaries) informed Congress that he had waited on General *Lee* with the regulations for supplying the Ships-of-War and the Governour's Ship with Provisions; that General *Lee* was pleased to give, for answer: "That he was to resign the command here to Lord *Stirling* this night; but that if he were to continue, he would not consent to supply them with any Provisions, as they were at open war with us; that he hoped Lord *Stirling* would be of the same opinion; that his instructions from the Continental Congress were, to use every means in his power for the defence of the City."

A draft of a Letter to *Edward W. Kiers* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, the glorious 6th March, 1776.

We are informed by Colonel *Hay* that you have in your possession a quantity of gunpowder, which you refuse to sell to such of the inhabitants of your place that would wantonly sport it away. We highly approve of your conduct; but, as we now are in expectation that the Ministerial Troops at *Boston* will soon abandon that town, and attempt to land in this city, we request that you will sell to Colonel *Hay's* Regiment one-half pound of powder to every man when they are ready to march, and return to the Colonel the names of such persons as you have supplied.

We are, sir, yours, &c.

To *Edward William Kiers*, Esq., Merchant, *Haverstraw*, *Orange* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

*William Lownsberry*, and the other Prisoners, pursuant to the order of this morning, were respectively brought to the bar, and examined. The examinations are as follows, to wit:

*William Lownsberry* says: That the first mover, or movers, of spiking the Cannon, were *Joshua Gidney* and *Burrell*; that they had seventy or eighty spikes made, and went down, and found so many Cannon, that it was not worth while; that he had no conversation with any person on ship-board on that subject; that he does not know who spiked up the large parcel of Guns. Asked what business he had to the house of a gentleman of fortune in his County the day before the Cannon was spiked; answered, that he went to Colonel *Phillips's* the day before, to know whether he would set up again as a Representative; that he set off from home with an intention to spike the Guns; or disarm them; that the following persons were with him, viz: *Joshua Gidney*, *William Haines*, *Josiah Burrell*, *Thomas Haines*, and *James Haines*, Jun.; that they took sledges to knock the arms off; that his reason for disabling the Cannon was, that, as the *New-England* people had done several acts which he thought harsh, he wanted to prevent the Guns being used on any Fortifications that might be built near *King's* Bridge, as they would then be between two fires; that he never was promised any reward for that business; that he engaged only with *Joshua Gidney*; that *Joshua Gidney* engaged the other persons; that he was in bed when the other persons escaped;

that *Burrell* spoke to him two days before about spiking the Guns, and that he told him he did not think any person would make the spikes; that one of the company took one sledge out of *Benjamin Flandereau's* shop; that another was got when they were at *John Gidney's*; that the company had greatcoats and caps on, except himself, who had not a cap on.

*Isaac Gidney* says: That *Lownsberry* came to him and asked him to make one hundred and odd hatchel teeth, out of old files; that he told him that files were very unhandy to work; that *Lownsberry* brought him small steel, and he made him one hundred and four large hatchel teeth, as *Mr. Lownsberry* ordered him, and, by his orders, hardened them; that *Joshua Gidney* took them from his shop; that *Joshua Gidney* lives within forty rods of him, and *Lownsberry* one half mile out of the country road; that he never made any other hatchel teeth so large; that they were not filed; that, when asked why they were made so large, they told him it was no matter; that he heard of no agreement between *Lownsberry* and *Gidney*; that he made about sixty hatchel teeth for *Burrell*, the week before, of a smaller size than *Lownsberry's*; that *Burrell* does not raise any flax.

*Joseph Purdy*: That he did not know, when he made the teeth, what use they were for; that *Gidney* told him they were for hatchel teeth; that he does not know how many he made; that he assisted one spell in the evening, and one spell in the afternoon; that some time after the Guns were spiked, he asked *Gidney* if those teeth were not for spiking the Guns, and he said, no; that he thought them short for hatchel teeth; that he asked for whom he was making them, and that *Purdy* did not inform him; that what he assisted to make were made out of small bars of steel; that he does not know who spiked any of the Cannon, except what he has heard since he has been in confinement; that one *Duyckinck* came into the guard-house, and told *Haines* he had spiked up the Cannon; that *Thomas Haines*, or *Joshua Gidney*, told him that *James Haines*, Jun., spiked up all the Cannon.

*Cornelius McCartney* says: He lives in *Phillips's Manor*, in *Yonkers Township*; that he usually keeps school; that he does not know who spiked up the Cannon at *Valentine's*; that on *Wednesday* night, the 17th of *January*, he was at *Joseph Oakley's*, and kept a night school there; that he had some difference at a raffle, and his scholars took his part, and some of the company, out of spite, informed against him, that he had been concerned in spiking the Cannon; but that it was not true; that the dispute he had with those people was about Whig and Tory; that he was the person called a Tory. On naming the families for whom he taught school,

*Cornelius McCartney* was discharged.

Ordered, That *William Lownsberry* and the other Prisoners be remanded to their place of confinement, and kept, respectively, in the same state of confinement as they were heretofore kept, until further order.

Colonel *McDougall's* motion, for authorizing the County and District Committees to purchase Blankets for the Troops to be raised in this Colony, was taken into consideration. It being thought expedient that the purchasing Arms should be added to the Resolution:

Ordered, That the same be committed to *Mr. Hobart*, and that he report a draft of a Resolution (authorizing the Committees to purchase Arms as well as Blankets) with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *Stephen Ward*, Esq., was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"March 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I hereby acquaint you that I have taken an account from Captain *Varian* what the expense of guarding the guns at *Valentine's* and *Williams's* will be this week, viz: One Captain, one Lieutenant, two Sergeants, one Corporal, and fourteen Privates: six of the above men board at ten shillings per week; and the others draw provisions from the Commissary, with a guard-room and fire-wood, at three pounds per week, besides items—making, in the whole, about twenty-six pounds; and last week it was considerably more. And as *Mr. David Barclay* (who waits on you with this letter) is willing to undertake to guard them with six men beside himself, for half that expense, I take the liberty to recommend him as a faithful man; and should you think

that guard sufficient, and he appointed to that service, Captain *Varian* might be sent to the Fortification now erecting at *Hell-gate*. All which I submit to your superior judgment; and remain, gentlemen, your assured friend and humble servant,

"STEPHEN WARD.

"P. S. If *Mr. Barclay* should be appointed to guard the guns, he expects the fifty which are at *Williams's* to be moved to the others near *Valentine's*. *Mr. Williams* will move them at two shillings each."

Ordered, That Colonel *Joseph Drake* and *Mr. Thomas* be a Committee to take the foregoing Letter of *Mr. Ward* into consideration, and report thereon with all speed.

Colonel *Drake* and *Mr. Thomas* delivered in their Report; which, being read, is in the words following, to wit:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from *Stephen Ward* concerning the expenses of guarding the cannon at *Valentine's*, do report—

1st. That it is unnecessary to continue the expensive guard which hath been stationed to guard those cannon for the time past.

2d. That when the said cannon are all collected together at *Valentine's*, then seven men would be sufficient to guard said cannon.

3d. That we think *David Barclay*, who was recommended by *Mr. Ward*, is a suitable person to have the care of said guard, and that thirteen pounds per week is not too much for the whole expense.

Resolved and Ordered, That *David Barclay* be, and he is hereby, appointed to have the care and charge of the said Guard, and that he be allowed thirteen Pounds per week for the whole expense attending said Guard.

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Major *William Malcom*, is going (by order of this Congress) to execute a commission of very great importance to the publick service. The secrecy with which it is necessary this business should be conducted renders it altogether improper for him to carry the requisite assistance from hence. He will, therefore, call upon you for such assistance as he may want, which we beg you will afford him.

And we are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order.

To the Committee of Inspection and Observation in *New-Jersey*.

"New-York, March 6, 1776.

"SIR: The Provincial Congress of this Colony having appointed us a Committee to concert measures for carrying into execution their resolves of the 5th instant, for the dismantling the Light-House at *Sandy-Hook*; we, reposing especial trust and confidence in your abilities and zeal in the common cause, have made choice of you for the execution of that important enterprise. We enclose you a certified copy of the resolve for the purpose, and desire you will conform as nearly as may be to the strict letter thereof. You will please to call upon the Committee of *Middletown*, or such other place in *New-Jersey* as you shall judge most proper, for the assistance you shall think necessary.

"Upon your arrival at *Sandy-Hook*, you will endeavour to take the glass out of the lantern, and save it if possible; but if you find this impracticable, you will break all the glass. You will also endeavour to pump the oil out of the cisterns into casks, and bring it off; but if you should be obstructed by the enemy, or not be able to procure casks, you will pump it out on the ground. In short, you will use your best discretion to render the Light-House entirely useless.

"We are, sir, your humble servants,

"PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT,

"ABRAHAM P. LOTT,

"JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

"To Major *Malcom*."

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., March 7, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Beekman*, *Mr. Evert Bancker*, *Mr. Rutgers*, *Mr. Sands*, *Mr. Randall*, Colonel *Lott*, *Mr. Van Zandt*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service,) Mr. *Abraham Yates*.  
 FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.  
 FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)  
 FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Morris Graham*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.  
 FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.  
 FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Thomas*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*.  
 FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.  
 FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.  
 FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.  
 FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.  
 FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Colonel *John Williams* moved, and was seconded by Colonel *William Williams*, in the words following, viz:

"I move that one hundred weight of Gunpowder and three hundred weight of Lead be sent to *Charlotte County*, to be given in charge of the County Committee, and to be distributed to the Minute-men or Militia, when a case of emergency shall require it."

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be deferred for the present.

Mr. *Van Zandt*, seconded by Mr. *Sands*, moved in the words following, viz:

"I move that a Letter be wrote to the Continental Congress, giving them a true account of the situation of this City and Colony, occasioned by the stoppage of Provisions to the Ships-of-War by order of General *Lee*."

The same being considered and unanimously agreed to,  
 Ordered, That Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, and Mr. *Gansevoort*, be a Committee to prepare and report a draft of such Letter with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* informed the Congress that the money he has already received towards lading the Ship *Rosamond* on Provincial account, is insufficient for the purpose; and that he wants the sum of one hundred and sixty-seven Pounds nineteen Shillings to complete the lading of the said Ship.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* the sum of one hundred and sixty-seven Pounds nineteen Shillings, to complete the lading of the Ship *Rosamond*, *Wright Southgate* Master; and that the said Treasurer take Mr. *Van Zandt's* receipt for the same.

*Samuel Benson* (a person employed to bring Salt from *Staten-Island*) being at the door, was admitted. He says that *Thomas Vernon*, the Hatter, has threatened that he will take his ears off, and that he will do it for him in four or five days.

Ordered, That *Samuel Benson* apply for redress to the Committee of the City.

A Letter from Major-General *Lee* was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, March 6, 1776.

"SIR: I have just received an uncertified paper, the purport of which seems to imply that the men-of-war and Governour *Tryon* are to be supplied as formerly with provisions. Subsequently to this order of the Provincial Congress, the Continental Congress had instructed me to put the city in the best state of defence possible. I am so unfortunate as not to be able to discover how furnishing the enemy with the necessaries of life can contribute to this end. It certainly must open the means of their receiving every sort of intelligence which ought to be withheld from them; for I cannot myself conceive that the oath of the Port-Master should bind his boat's crew. It is true they are to be restrained from going on board; but I defy human cunning to prevent, when they are once alongside, the conveyance of a letter. I must entreat, sir, that the Congress will not suppose that I am aiming at an authority superior to theirs in thus giving my opinion, and raising objections to anything they have resolved. I respect them as the true representatives of the people and proper legislature of the Province; but, sir, the information I have received from *Cambridge*, and the orders I have received from the Continental

Congress, will justify me in most humbly entreating the Congress not to enjoin me to assent, so much against my conscience, to any intercourse of any kind with Mr. *Tryon*, who must be considered as a most dangerous enemy.

"There is one thing further I would submit to the wisdom of the Congress: Whether it will be prudent to suffer a single man, in our present circumstances, to remain in the city, who will not enter into an engagement to take up arms in defence of the common rights? I took the liberty to address a letter to you, hinting a measure somewhat related to this scheme, but was not honoured with an answer.

"I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress at *New-York*.

"P. S. I have this instant received your favour relating to Mr. *Gale*, who was apprehended and conveyed into *Connecticut*. I agree, sir, entirely with you, that the apprehension, trial, and punishment of citizens, is not my province, but of the Provincial Congress. But, irregular as it was, I had the assurance of many respectable men that he was a most dangerous man, and ought not to be suffered to remain on *Long-Island*, where an enemy is perhaps more dangerous than in any other spot of *America*. However, their assurances and my opinion form no excuse; and I heartily repent that I did not refer him to you, his proper judges.

"I must now inform you, sir, that, in consequence of the last instructions from the Continental Congress, to put this city and its environs in a state of defence, I have ordered Colonel *Ward*, as a previous measure, to secure the whole body of professed Tories in *Long-Island*. When the enemy is at our door, forms must be dispensed with. My duty to you, to the Continental Congress, and to my own conscience, have dictated the necessity of the measure. If I have done wrong, (and I confess the irregularity,) I must submit myself to the shame of being reputed foolish, rash, and precipitate. I must undergo the censure of the publick; but I shall have the consciousness in my own breast, that the most pure motives of serving the publick cause, uncontaminated by pique or resentment to individuals, have urged me to the step.

"There is now a ruffian under guard, one *John Gregg*, who attempted to murder the sentinels on their posts the other night. I beg to know your pleasure on the subject. As to the affair of the sentries firing on the boats, I never heard till this moment that they had repeated a misdemeanour so contrary to the orders they had received. I can only say that I am very sorry that my orders have been so little respected, and that if I can find out the culprits, they shall be severely punished.

"I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and humble servant,

C. L."

Colonel *McDougall*, who brought in the Letter from Major-General *Lee*, informed the Congress that he had some conversation with Lord *Stirling*, on the subject of keeping up a uniformity and preventing any interfering in the orders given by this Congress and the Commander of the Troops stationed here; and that his Lordship was ready and desirous, as soon as Major-General *Lee* was departed, to confer frequently with a Committee of this Congress for that purpose.

Ordered, That Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Hobart*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, and General *Ten Broeck* be a Committee to confer with Lord *Stirling* on the subject of a communication between the Ships and the shore, the firing of the Sentries on the Boats passing and repassing, and the subject of apprehending and sending into confinement in this and another Colony, sundry Inhabitants of this City and Colony, without the knowledge of, or application to any Committee or this Congress.

The Congress took into further consideration the scarcity of Salt in this Colony, and the frequent exportations thereof into the neighbouring Colonies, and came to the following determination, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 7, 1776.

This Congress, taking into consideration the inconveniences that may arise to the inhabitants of this Colony from the want of a sufficient supply of Salt, and being informed that this necessary article is daily exported in great quanti-

ties from this Colony to the neighbouring Colonies, which, if not prevented, may prove very prejudicial to this Colony, have, therefore, thought it highly expedient for the present to prohibit, and they do hereby prohibit, the exportation of Salt from this Colony to any port or place out of the same, until the further order of this Congress or the Committee of Safety. And it is

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Captain *William Mercier* be empowered to take the most effectual and necessary steps to prevent the exportation of Salt out of the City and County of *New-York*, contrary to the above prohibition; and that a copy of this prohibition be sent to the different County Committees in this Colony, who are hereby required to carry the same into execution within their respective Counties; and that if any person shall violate this prohibition, having been previously acquainted therewith, the name of such offender shall be transmitted forthwith to this Congress or the Committee of Safety, that proper steps may be taken with such offender.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries prepare a certified copy of this entry, and deliver the same to Captain *William Mercier*; and the Members from the different Counties, now at Congress, make copies thereof for their respective County Committees.

A Return of Militia Officers from *Cornwall* Precinct, in *Orange* County, bearing date the 2d day of *March* instant, and signed by *Thomas Moffat*, Clerk of *Cornwall* Precinct Committee, was read and filed.

The following Officers are thereby returned duly elected, viz:

"*John McManus*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Lamereaux*, Ensign, in Captain *Francis Smith's* Company of Militia.

"*Gilbert Weeks*, Ensign in Captain *Christopher Van Duerson's* Company of Militia.

"*William Bradley*, Ensign in Captain *Thomas Moffat's* Minute-men."

The said Return being agreeable to the Rules and Regulations of this Congress,

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen according to the said Return.

Die Jovis, 4 ho., P. M., March 7, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Captain *Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Moses Graham*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

The Congress was informed by Captain *Rutgers*, one of the Members, and by Mr. *Benson*, one of the Secretaries, that Captain *John Johnson*, as they are well informed, had caned *Alexander Lesslie*, even in the Assembly and Congress Chamber, and had then sent him a prisoner to the Barracks, where he is now confined.

*Ordered*, That the Doorkeeper order Captain *Johnson* to attend here immediately.

Captain *Johnson* says: That Colonel *Ritzema* informed him that three Counties in *Virginia* had joined Lord *Dunmore*, and said *Alexander Lesslie* was his author. That he told Colonel *Ritzema* he would cane the man who said so, unless he named the author. That he saw *Lesslie*, who said *Samuel Burling* was his author. That *Burling* being

out of town, he met *Lesslie* again, and spoke to him again on the subject. That *Lesslie* said it was no secret; that it was mentioned several times in his shop yesterday afternoon; and that he refused to name the persons who had mentioned it. That, therefore, he beat him with a cane. That *Lesslie* then abused him, and that he came here to complain, and met *Lesslie* here, who again had some words with him; and that he again caned him here in this room, and sent him to the Guard-House.

Mr. *John Van Cortlandt* moved, and was seconded by Colonel *William Williams*, that the warrant to raise a Company of the Troops of this Colony in Continental service, lately given to *John Johnson*, be taken from him, and that, as far forth as in the power of this Congress, he be dismissed the Continental service, and all employments under this Congress.

The previous question being about to be moved on Mr. *Van Cortlandt's* motion, he agreed to let it remain undetermined for the present.

Mr. *Gansevoort* moved, and was seconded, in the words following:

I move that Mr. *Lesslie* be immediately liberated, and ordered to appear before this Congress.

The same being agreed to by a very great majority of the Members, without debate, the following Order was agreed to and issued, and sent by the Doorkeeper, viz:

*Ordered*, That the Officer of the Guard having *Alexander Lesslie*, the Peruke-maker, in custody, do immediately liberate the said *Alexander Lesslie*; and the said *Alexander Lesslie* is hereby ordered immediately to appear before the Provincial Congress, now sitting in the Assembly Chamber, in the City-Hall.

This Congress being informed that *Thomas Vernon* is inimical to the liberties of *America*, and ought not to be permitted to go at large; and being informed by some of the Members of the Committee of Safety, and by one of the Secretaries, that the said *Thomas Vernon* was some weeks ago committed to the Guard-House, by order of the Committee of Safety, and has not since been discharged by any order of this Congress or the Committee of Safety, from whence it is most probable that he must have escaped from confinement,

*Ordered*, That the said *Thomas Vernon* be immediately apprehended and committed to custody in the Guard-House, and there confined until the further order of this Congress or the Committee of Safety; and that Colonel *McDougall* cause this order to be duly executed.

*Garret Roorback*, the Barrackmaster, attending at the door, was called in. He delivered in his Accounts, and informed the Congress that a considerable balance was due to him, and that he wanted money to procure Wood and other necessities.

*Ordered*, That his Accounts be delivered to the Auditors.

*Alexander Lesslie* being brought in, heard, and examined, says: That this morning, opposite Mrs. *Curtenius's* door, Captain *Johnson* came to him and asked who was his author for the report he had spread? That he answered, *Samuel Burling*; and Captain *Johnson* left him. That in the afternoon, in the *Broadway*, Captain *Johnson* asked him if he had found out the author of the report concerning Lord *Dunmore's* landing, which had been told to him by a person in the afternoon preceding. That he answered no; that it was a stranger, whom he did not know, who was shaved in his shop. Upon which, Captain *Johnson* answered, "You damned rascal, you and *Samuel Burling* deserve to be caned; and had I him here, I would cane him immediately; and if you, you scoundrel, do not get along about your business, I will cane you;" and, at that instant, drove a cane in his face, and then struck several blows with the cane at his head, which he received on his arms by defending his head. That he (the examinant) then went to pick up a paving-stone to knock him down with it, in his own defence; that, before he could get the stone up, *Johnson* closed in with him, on which he took *Johnson's* stick from him; that immediately thereon, *Johnson* drew his hanger; on which he made a blow at *Johnson* with the stick, and missed him, and lost the stick out of his hand, and *Johnson* then pursued him with his hanger, and he fled from him; and finding an axe in the street, he took it up to defend himself with; and Colonel *Ritzema* came up and spoke to *Johnson*.



That soon after, returning from *Hall's Tavern* to his own house, he saw *Johnson*, and several officers with him, coming out of his (this examinant's) house; upon which he ran immediately to this Chamber, to lay his case before this Congress, and found the Congress was not yet assembled. That *Johnson* pursued him to this Chamber, and into the Chamber, and beat him with his stick until this examinant took the stick from him. That *Johnson* then beat him with his fists, and struck him many blows on his arms, attempting to strike him on the head, and also struck him a blow in the eye, and bit his hand. That *Johnson* then ordered two other officers to take hold of him (this examinant) and carry him to the Guard-House; that one of them seized him by the collar, and forced him out of the room, and that they forcibly took him to the Guard-House. That *William A. Forbes* was one of the officers, and went to the Guard-House with him. That the other officer told this examinant that Captain *Johnson* was his superior officer, and that he was obliged to obey him. That they took him to the upper Barrack Guard-room.

The examinant further says, that, yesterday morning, *Samuel Burling* came into his shop, and mentioned, as a report or news, that Lord *Dunmore* had landed in *Virginia* with some troops, and that a number of *Virginians* had joined him. That he (the examinant) soon after went to dress Colonel *Ritzema*; and, being by him asked what news, mentioned what *Samuel Burling* related. That this is the matter for which Captain *Johnson* called on him for his author.

*Sampson Dyckman* says he was talking to Captain *Johnson*; that *Johnson* called to *Lesslie*, and asked if he had found that man; that *Lesslie* said no, but he could find him; and he gave substantially the same account which *Alexander Lesslie* has given. And he further says, that when *Johnson* was beating him in the Assembly Chamber, he took *Johnson* off, and separated them. That Captain *Johnson* desired him to take *Lesslie* to the Guard-House, and that he refused.

*Alexander Lesslie* and *Sampson Dyckman* ordered to withdraw.

The Congress then went into the consideration of the conduct of Captain *John Johnson*; and the whole examinations of the parties, and the above memorandum of the evidence of *Sampson Dyckman*, were severally read.

Mr. *Van Cortlandt* then moved his motion for dismissing Captain *Johnson* from service, as before entered on the Minutes of this afternoon, he now read and taken into consideration.

And the same being again read, is in the words following: "I move that the warrant to raise a Company of the Troops of this Colony in Continental service, lately given to *John Johnson*, be taken from him, and that, as far forth as in the power of this Congress, he be dismissed the Continental service, and all employments under this Congress."

Debates arose thereon; and after some time spent therein, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.	For the Affirmative.
2 Westchester.	3 Albany.—Mr. Gansevoort dissenting.
2 Dutchess.	4 New-York.—Colonel McDougall, Col. Lott, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Prince dissenting.
2 Suffolk.	2 King's.
2 Ulster.	2 Cumberland.
2 Orange.	
2 Charlotte.	
2 Tryon.	
2 Richmond.	
16 votes.	11 votes.

Ordered, therefore, That the said motion be rejected.

Mr. *Gansevoort* then moved, and was seconded, in the words following, to wit:

"I move that Captain *John Johnson* be ordered to the bar of this Congress; and that he make proper concessions for the insult offered to this Congress, by usurping a power which is vested in this Congress; that he be charged to behave himself peaceably towards *Alexander Lesslie*, whom he has grossly injured; that he receive a severe reprimand from the Chair; and that he be told if he should be guilty of the like behaviour in future, this Congress will cause him to be displaced."

The same being read a second time and agreed to,

Resolved, That Captain *John Johnson* be ordered to the

bar of this Congress; and that he make proper concessions for the insult offered to this Congress, by usurping a power which is vested in this Congress; that he be charged to behave himself peaceably toward *Alexander Lesslie*, whom he has grossly injured; that he receive a severe reprimand from the Chair; and that he be told if he should be guilty of the like behaviour in future, that this Congress will cause him to be displaced.

Mr. *Hobart*, according to order, reported a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, requesting permission for *Patrick Sinclair* to go to *Britain*; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The late Provincial Congress having received information, on the 3d of *August* last, that Captain *Patrick Sinclair* was appointed Lieutenant-Governour and Superintendent at *Missilimacana*, being a person of great influence with the *Indians*, and that he was then in this city on his way to that post, and thinking it would be imprudent to permit any gentleman under the influence of the *British* Ministry to go into the interior of the country to exercise those offices who might prejudice the *Indians* against the United Colonies, ordered him to be taken into custody, and sent him, on his parole, to *Suffolk* County, on *Nassau-Island*, where he has since continued to demean himself very unexceptionably. He has lately applied, by letter, (a copy of which you have enclosed,) to this Congress for leave to return to *Europe*. As we do not choose to take a step of this kind without the advice of your honourable body, we beg you will lay the state of this gentleman's case before Congress, and let us have their directions thereon. We beg leave to suggest that Mr. *Sinclair* was not laid under restraint as an enemy to the country. No information was received of his entertaining sentiments unfriendly to the United Colonies, but to the contrary; and that he had invariably treated our *Indian* traders with the greatest humanity and politeness. For these reasons, and from the consideration that he was not looked upon as a prisoner of war, we wish the favour he asks may be granted.

And are, your humble servants. By order.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Mr. *Hobart*, according to order, also reported a draft of a Letter to Colonel *Blackwell*, and sundry other gentlemen, of *Queen's* County, on the subject of forming the friends to liberty in their County into a Militia, and of choosing and appointing Committees; which was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress being of opinion that it is absolutely necessary that the inhabitants of your County, who have signed the Association, and are friendly to the liberties of their country, should be formed into military companies and regimented, and be in a capacity of defending themselves if attacked; and, being informed that they have appointed a County Committee and likewise that Committees are chosen in several Districts in your County, request that they carry the resolves of Congress for regulating the Militia into execution, and recommend suitable men for the Field-Officers.

The very great importance of the rights for which we are contending, added to the consideration of the present critical situation of our publick affairs, and the great probability that the enemy will endeavour to get possession of this Colony in the course of the spring, renders it totally unnecessary for us to urge any arguments with you on the subject. We doubt not you will exert yourselves to have these matters settled with all possible despatch in your County.

We remain your humble servants. By order.

To Colonel *Blackwell*.

Die Veneris, A. M. March 8, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Prince*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *M. Graham*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, (on service,) Major *Schenck*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Randall* and Colonel *Ten Broeck* be added to the Committee to confer with Lord *Stirling* on the subject of a communication with the Ships-of-War, &c.; and that Mr. *Hobart* and Mr. *Gansevoort* be excused from attending the said Committee.

A Letter from Captain *Joseph Smith*, setting forth his distress, and offering his service to his country, particularly in any Marine Department, if there is or should be a vacancy, was read and filed. \*

*Ordered*, That the said Letter remain on file, to be taken up if an opportunity should offer in which his service will be useful.

Captain *Johnson*, according to the Order of yesterday evening, attending at the door, the door was opened, and he came to the bar of the House. The Resolve of yesterday evening was read to him. He was reprimanded from the Chair for his conduct, and informed of the line of his duty; charged to behave himself peaceably towards *Alexander Leslie*, whom he had grossly injured; and informed that, if he should be guilty of the like behaviour in future, Congress will cause him to be displaced. Captain *John Johnson* engaged to demean himself prudently, and withdrew.

The Congress then proceeded to hear the Minutes and Proceedings of the present Committee of Safety, from the beginning, on the 3d of *January* last. On reading the Petition of *George Coffin*, mentioned in the Minutes of the Committee of Safety on the 4th day of *January*, and by the Minutes of the said Committee recommended to this Congress—the said Petition was read and heard. The Congress taking his case into consideration—

[The following memorandum is in pencil mark:]

"The rough notes say *George Coffin* to be pardoned on publishing his Petition and Pardon."

On reading the Resolutions of the Committee of Safety on the 6th day of *January*, relating to the fortifying of some Inlets in *Suffolk County*,

*Ordered*, That any further prosecution of that measure be left wholly with the Committee of Safety.

On reading the Letter from the Delegates of this Colony

\* HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I am out of employment, and ruin stares me in the face. If any place in your gift is vacant, or likely soon to be, should be glad to serve my country in any capacity I am capable of. I have for many years sailed out of this place, as master and owner of a vessel, in which way I had acquired something handsome, of all which I was deprived in one unfortunate moment by having my vessel and cargo seized; which circumstance is well known to several of the City Members. This sudden transition from a state of comfortable subsistence to a state of wretchedness, was almost more than I could bear. I have ever since struggled hard, but cannot get ahead.

I am well acquainted in the *West-Indies*—*Dutch*, *French*, and some of the *Spanish* ports; likewise in many ports in *Europe*. If this honourable House should at any time think proper to send me for powder or warlike stores, I am willing to risk my life in the service; or if any person is wanting on the lakes, or to superintend the building of vessels, should be glad to serve in that capacity. I would not by this be understood, however, to dictate to the honourable House; I only mention this because I am better acquainted in the maritime way than in any other. For my character, please to inquire of Captain *Randall*, Captain *Long*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, or Mr. *Curtenius*; who, I do not doubt, will give you full satisfaction.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servant,  
JOSEPH SMITH.

P. S. My home at present is at Mr. *Benjamin Hannings*, in *Piscataway*, *New-Jersey*, to which place I have retired with my family (coming home very sick last fall from *Carolina*.) because it is not so expensive as in town, and was the reason of not applying sooner. I shall return in a day or two. If any occasion for me, please to let Mr. *Curtenius* know your commands.

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on the subject of the inroads from *Connecticut*, ordered on the 11th day of *January*, instant:

*Ordered*, That a Letter be wrote to the Delegates of this Colony, informing them, the Governour and Representatives of the Colony of *Connecticut* have not yet given any answer to the Letter from this Provincial Congress on that subject, nor returned nor made any restitution for the types or property taken away from *James Rivington*.

On reading the Order of the Committee of Safety of the 11th *January*, for the distribution of Gunpowder gratis in half pounds; the Congress, on being informed that it principally remains to be carried into execution, if proper, is of opinion that it is not proper, and orders that it be not carried into execution for the present, unless in case of invasion.

The Committee who went to confer with Lord *Stirling*, on the sundry matters given to them in charge, as appears by the entry thereof in the Minutes of yesterday, reported: That they had conferred with Lord *Stirling*; that he had given the following information to them, which he had received this morning, to wit: That a Brigantine came into the *Hook* yesterday evening, and came to an anchor under the stern of the *Phenix*, and that the people on board gave three cheers; that four sail of large Vessels are in the *Hook*, and a Snow in the offing; that by another person advice was received from *Nassau-Island*, that six or seven topsail Vessels are in the *Hook*.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Captain *Rutgers* and Captain *Randall* be a Committee to despatch a proper person to the *Narrows* by land, and another person in a Whale-Boat to the *Hook*, to make discoveries, and return and report to this Committee with all possible despatch.

The said Committee reported as to the matters given them in charge, that they had settled a plan with Lord *Stirling* for supplying the Ships-of-War and Governour *Tryon's* Ship with Provisions, (subject to the approbation and confirmation of this Congress,) in the words following, to wit:

In order to prevent any obstructions to the supply of Provisions, and other necessities, being furnished to the Ships-of-War and the Governour's Ship, pursuant to a former order of this Congress,

*It is Resolved and Ordered*, That whenever Provisions or Supplies are to be furnished to either of the said Ships, the Port-Master appointed by this Congress shall go with the said Provisions or Supplies, and see the same delivered on board the said Ships; that he take with him only such persons as are necessary to navigate the Boat or Boats carrying such Provisions and Supplies, or such person or persons as shall have the special permission of the Congress or Committee of Safety, countersigned by the General; and that the said Port-Master, and all the navigators of the said Boat, or Boats, be under oath that he, or they, will not disclose any matters whatsoever on board of the said Ships, relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this Colony; that he, the said Port-Master, will not suffer any of the men that he carries with him in the said Boat, or Boats, to go on board either of the said Ships, and that he will not carry, or suffer to be carried, any Letter or Papers to, or from, the said Ships, but such as he shall be first satisfied contain no intelligence of a publick nature. That this supply is to take place, and be continued, on condition that there be no obstruction given to any Boats or Vessels bringing Provisions, Provender, or Firewood to this City.

The Congress agreed with their Committee in this part of their Report, and confirms the same.

The said Committee further reported: That as to the firing of the Sentinels on the Boats coming to and departing from this City, they had, in conjunction with Lord *Stirling*, settled and agreed on such orders with him, to be issued to the Troops by Lord *Stirling*, as will prevent that inconvenience for the future; and that Lord *Stirling* will, towards evening, transmit to this Congress a copy of such orders, and requested a copy of the Regulations for supplying Provisions to the Ships by them above reported, if the same should be agreed to and confirmed by this Congress.

*Ordered*, That one of the Secretaries prepare and certify a copy of the said Plan or Regulations agreed on for supplying the Ships-of-War and Governour *Tryon's* Ship with Provisions, and transmit the same to Lord *Stirling*.

And *Ordered*, That another copy be prepared for the Port-Master, and that he attend here at five o'clock to receive Instructions.

The said Committee further reported: That as to the other matter given to them in charge, to wit: "the apprehending and sending into confinement in this and a neighbouring Colony, sundry inhabitants of this City and Colony, without the knowledge of, or application to, this Congress," and the reasons thereof, that Lord *Stirling* had assured them that the like should not happen in time to come; that he informed them that *John Gregg* was apprehended, and is now confined in the Guard-House at the Barracks, for having, in the night time, attacked the sentinels on duty at their posts; and that he submits his trial and punishment to the Congress. That Governour *Tryon's* two servants and his linen will be sent to his ship by the first provision-boat; that the seamen who lately came from the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, and were apprehended, desire that they may not return on board; and that the sole occasion of the apprehending *Samuel Gale*, and sending him to confinement, arose from copies of some letter, or letters, which were in the custody of a certain Colonel *William Williams*, a Member of this Congress; that he knows of no other evidence against him, and submits his case entirely to this Congress. That his Lordship assured them that, for the future, any persons apprehended shall not be sent out of the Colony; but their cases respectively (if any be apprehended) shall be referred to this Congress. That he further declared that it was not his wish or desire to interfere with the civil Government or police of the City or Colony, but, on the contrary, to harmonize with and aid the civil Government.

The said Committee then informed the Congress that Lord *Stirling* had requested them to inform this Congress that the present Prison or Jail of this City will, in a short time, be within some military lines; that it will be inconvenient to have the Jailer and Prisoners within the lines; that he will be under a necessity of applying the Jail to other uses; and, therefore, requests the Congress to take into their consideration what may be necessary to be directed as to the Jailer and the Prisoners.

A Memorial of *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, was read and filed. He therein sets forth that one-tenth part of the emission of the Bills of Credit, issued by a law of this Colony in 1771, with the interest thereof, will soon be due; that money of that emission cannot be obtained to discharge those debts, agreeable to that law, and praying advice in the premises; and whether the Loan-Officers may receive any money now current in the Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Hobart*, and General *Ten Broeck*, be a Committee to take with them and consider the said Memorial, and report thereon to this Congress with all convenient speed.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., March 8, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Sands*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Prince*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Colonel *M. Graham*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Captain *Rutgers* and Mr. *Randall* informed the Congress that, from various informations which they have obtained, (the particulars whereof they mentioned,) they have good

reason to believe that the report of a number of topsail Vessels being at *Sandy-Hook* is false. But they have, notwithstanding, despatched Captain *McIlroy* to the *Narrows* to make discovery, and that this Congress may expect his information this evening.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that Major-General *Lee*, before his departure, received a Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, informing of the state of the Troops gone forward to *Canada*, and of many other things relative to the present or ensuing campaign in that Department; that General *Lee* had left him a copy of that Letter to be laid before this Congress for their information; which he then delivered to the Chair.

Thereupon the same was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, February 29, 1776.

"DEAR GENERAL: Congress having ordered that I should repair to *New-York*, to take the command there as soon as my health would permit, I have taken the liberty to represent to them that if that obstacle was immediately removed, I should not be able to leave this until the batteaus, now building at *Fort George*, were finished, and everything got into such a train as that your Army in *Canada* may not suffer for want of provisions; which it certainly will if I quit this, and you immediately go into *Canada*, where your presence is much, very much indeed, wanted.

"At a moderate calculation the provisions which we took, what was carried in, and what has since been brought, there was sufficient to the month of *June*; and yet they are now so nearly expended that I have been obliged to send four hundred barrels of pork, in sleds, at the enormous expense of three pounds per barrel.

"I have sent to *Canada* one eighteen, and a number of twelve-pounders, with what suitable shot were left at the upper posts.

"I need not observe to you, that you will stand in need of a number of carpenters and shipwrights. I only mention it to advise you that I have fifty or more that can go off at a moment's warning. The *Canadians* are very indifferent workmen, and, besides, will not take our paper money; so that, everything considered, I conclude it will be best to take them from hence.

"Besides the pork above-mentioned, I have ordered one hundred and fifty head of the largest and best stall-fed cattle to be purchased, which I hope to get into *Canada* whilst the Lakes are still passable on the ice. I have so arranged matters that they will carry their own fodder, and I hope two hundred barrels of pork besides.

"I do not know if the cannon ordered from *New-York* have travelling carriages. I have written on the subject to the Committee to whom the conveyance of them is entrusted. If they have not, I think I could complete them here in ten days, as I have employed a person to look out for the proper timber, and to speak to all the wheelwrights in this place and its vicinity to be ready when called upon.

"The Regiments to be raised for the *Canada* service, in the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, are not yet marched from thence. Four Companies of the *Pennsylvanians* are gone on the 5th. The only one left here will march tomorrow. Three *Jersey* Companies are also marched, and about one thousand from this Colony and the *Massachusetts-Bay*, which I ordered to be raised immediately after our repulse at *Quebeck*. As the *Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* Companies are very incomplete, I have ordered all the men that were raised by my immediate order to be engaged for the campaign, and to remain in *Canada*. I imagined that necessity would justify this step, and I have advised Congress thereof, and pointed out the reasons which induced me to it.

"Three companies of Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment are nearly complete. One of them is at *Fort George*, and the other at *Ticonderoga*, from whence they will move as soon as I can get a few men out of those others to be raised in this Colony, to take charge of those posts. All the troops that have hitherto come up have been only half armed, and I am greatly distressed to furnish them; none of them had moccasins, and great numbers wanted shoes, mittens, caps, stockings, &c.

"I hope the *New-York* Convention will forward the naval stores I wrote for without delay, as none are to be had in *Canada*, and you will stand in great need of them.

"General *Wooster* has pressed me in the most earnest manner for a supply of hard cash. With difficulty, and by giving my own security, I have been able to collect about twenty-one hundred pounds, which is gone on to him. It will be well to bring up with you whatever you can procure at *New-York*, as you will be greatly distressed in *Canada* without it.

"Eight tons of powder are ordered up, and I do not believe with what is in *Canada* that the whole will exceed twelve. I had written to Congress for fifteen. You are a much better judge than I can pretend to be whether you will have a sufficiency.

"Adieu, my dear General, and believe me, with the most respectful sentiments of esteem, your most obedient and most humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To the Honourable Major-General *Lee*."

General *Ten Broeck* and Major *Schenck*, to whom were referred the Letters of Attorney from the soldiers now in *Canada*, and the applications of their wives thereon for money to be advanced to them, in part of the wages of their respective husbands, delivered in their Report, in the words and figures following, to wit:

Your Committee for considering the application of several soldiers' wives, whose husbands are now in the Continental service in the Northern Department, do report: That the sum of forty-one Pounds and one Shilling be put into the hands of *Peter T. Curtenius*, to be advanced to the several persons hereunder named, in the manner following; and that *Peter Curtenius* be desired to pay the several sums annexed to their names, and take vouchers, and transmit an account of the same to General *Schuyler* as soon as possible:

Unto <i>Sarah Halloway</i> , the sum of - - - -	£1	4	0
<i>Elizabeth Treglith</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Mary Linck</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Jane Quackenbush</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Letty Allen</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Hannah Grant</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Dotia McMullen</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Elizabeth Parker</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Sarah Wright</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Elizabeth Kip</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Mary Neam</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Mary Bamow</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Mary Miller</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Elizabeth Pool</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	0
<i>John Kidder</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Elizabeth Van Der Feeld</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0
<i>Anna Mary Worth</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Sarah Hesse</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Catharine Ashfield</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Henry Lower</i> , the sum of - - - -	2	13	4
<i>Catharine McIntosh</i> , the sum of - - - -	1	4	0

£39 17 0

*Catharine Taylor*, the sum of - - - - 1 4 0

£41 1 0

Which is humbly submitted by

ABRAHAM TEN BROECK,  
HENRY SCHENCK.

The foregoing Report was read and agreed to.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay into the hands of *Peter T. Curtenius* the sum of forty-one Pounds one Shilling and four Pence; that Mr. *Curtenius* dispose of the said money in advancing to the distressed wives and friends of sundry soldiers now in *Canada*, in the service of the United Colonies, agreeable to the List delivered him; and that Mr. *Curtenius* transmit to General *Schuyler* an account of the same, to the end that the same may be stopped out of the pay of those soldiers to whose wives or friends such moneys have been advanced.

The Congress then proceeded to hear the residue of the Minutes and Proceedings of the Committee of Safety, beginning where they had ceased hearing them, in the former part of this day, to the proceedings of the morning of the 12th day of *January* last.

The Congress having proceeded to hear the Minutes of the acts and proceedings of the Committee of Safety as

far as those of the morning of the 24th day of *January* last, on reading the disposition therein mentioned to have been made of the sum of one thousand Pounds, left at the disposition of the Committee of Safety for the support of the poor, the Congress were informed that the sum of three hundred and thirty Pounds and three Pence of the said one thousand Pounds which had been put into the hands of *John Ramsay*, had been since drawn from him by drafts or order of the Committee, and expended in wood, cheap provisions, and other necessities distributed to the poor; that, with the remaining six hundred and sixty-nine Pounds nineteen Shillings and nine Pence, the said *John Ramsay* employs many poor in spinning, weaving, and dressing flax and manufacturing linen cloth, (a sample whereof was produced,) in such manner as to support several hundreds of poor; but that he is unable to render the Institution as extensively useful as he could wish for want of a larger capital.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to Mr. *John Ramsay* the further sum of one thousand three hundred and thirty Pounds and three Pence, for the purpose of enabling him to employ the industrious poor in this City in spinning and manufactures; and that the said Treasurer take Mr. *Ramsay's* receipt for that sum; the said *John Ramsay* to be accountable for the same to this Congress or the Committee of Safety when thereunto required, and to have the like commissions on this as on the former sum which he has employed in the same way.

On reading the Memorandum of the sureties taken of *Lawrence Hartwick* on the 24th of *January*, in the afternoon, for his appearance when called for, and his good behaviour, the Congress was informed by a Member that the said *Lawrence Hartwick* is long since gone on board of one of the ships-of-war.

*Ordered*, That his Sureties be called on to produce him; and if they do not produce him, that they be brought before this Congress.

*Christopher Duyckinck*, who was sent to apprehend some Pilots, late of this City, and now in the service of the Ministerial Navy, being at the door, was admitted. He says those Pilots came on shore, but with a boat with armed men for their protection; that they came on shore frequently in that manner; that they have been three times on shore since he went to endeavour to apprehend them; that without the assistance of twenty-five or thirty men with muskets, he thinks it is not probable they will be apprehended; that he thinks that number, with three or four days' provision, and properly armed and lodged, may effect the taking of them. That a Brigantine, having on board rum, sugar, and salt, was taken yesterday evening; that *Francis James*, the Pilot, went out in the vessel that seized and took her, and was active therein; that the *Phenix* has a number of boats about her.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* give such directions as he may think necessary for apprehending the said Pilots, and that that matter be committed solely to him, and *Duyckinck* take his directions.

Captain *McIlroy*, who was sent out at noon by Captain *Rutgers* and Captain *Randall*, returned; he was brought near the Chair. He says there is not any topsail vessel below but a Brigantine, which belonged to one *Barns*, of *Elizabethtown*, and which is seized by the *Phenix*; that four Sloop-rigged vessels (one of them very small) lie near the *Phenix*; that a person informed him that he had seen five sail off the *Hook*, and that two of them were Brigantines.

A Message was brought to Congress that *Nicholas Low* is ready to deliver the Gunpowder purchased of him.

*Ordered*, That *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, be directed to receive and take the charge of some Gunpowder, which will be delivered to him by Mr. *Nicholas Low*; that he take a particular account of the quantity, and that he mark it in such manner as that it may be distinguished from the other Powder stored in the Magazine.

Congress were informed that some person in this City has now some Muskets, and other fire-arms, preserved for, and which did formerly belong to, the Ministerial Army; that any person directed by Congress to take them for the use

of the troops may be informed where they are. It was the opinion and direction of Congress that Colonel *McDougall* go immediately and take proper measures to have them secured.

The Congress then proceeded to hear the whole residue of the Minutes of the Committee of Safety, to the 12th day of *February* last, inclusive.

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., March 9, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Van Zandt*, Captain *Rugers*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Randall*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Morris Graham*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Mr. *Thomas*, Major *Lockwood*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

A Letter from Messrs. *Curtenius* and *Elting*, relative to their contracting to supply the Continental Troops in this Colony with Provisions, was read.\*

*Ordered*, That it remain on file until the Congress take up the consideration of that matter.

A Letter from Colonel *Curtenius*, relative to a vast mass of chain of Iron which General *Lee* directed him to have made to be sent to the Northward, was read. He thereby informs that considerable parts of it are made, and requests directions whether he shall have the same completed.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Curtenius* apply to Lord *Stirling*, (General *Lee's* successor in command,) and that he take Lord *Stirling's* directions as to that matter.

The Petition of *Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchants, was read and filed. They thereby testify their contrition for their conduct of vending goods at a very advanced price, in violation of the Resolution of Continental Congress; and their determination strictly to conform to the regulations of Congress, and not offend their countrymen in future; and pray to be restored.

Congress came to a determination in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 9, 1776.

*Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price*, of this city, Merchants, having been duly convicted by the General Committee of Association for the City and County of *New-York*, of having violated a Resolution of the Continental Congress by vending goods at an exorbitant and extortionate profit; and the said *Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price*, by their petition, having declared their contrition for their offence, and their intention, for the future, to conform to the resolutions of the Continental and this Congress, and their desire to make their peace with their countrymen, and to have an opportunity of proving themselves sincere friends to the liberties of *America*:

*Resolved*, That the said *Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price* have fully satisfied this Congress of their contrition for

\* GENTLEMEN: We understand that Mr. *Livingston's* and our proposals for furnishing the troops of this place were this day laid before you; and that the mode Mr. *Livingston* proposes differs widely from what we apprehended you intended it should be done. We suppose, from this, that Mr. *Livingston* may offer another proposal; which, if it should be granted, we beg the same indulgence. Beside, if it can consistently be granted, we beg to cancel our former proposal, and furnish you with another by any time to-morrow, or *Monday* next, as you think proper.

As the providing of wood, candles, &c., is the business of the Barrack-master, we should rather not engage in it.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

PETER CURTENIUS.  
PETER ELTING.

March 8, 1776.

P. S. Please to observe, that the Barrackmaster is paid by the day for purchasing wood, straw, &c. It would give nothing to the publick.

their said offence, and of their intention, for the future, to act agreeable to the Resolutions of the Continental and this Congress.

And *Resolved*, That they be restored to the favourable opinion of their countrymen; and it is hereby recommended that they be no longer considered or treated as enemies to the liberties of *America*.

*Ordered*, That one of the Secretaries deliver a certified copy thereof to the said *Robert Robinson* and *Michael Price*, at their request, that they (according to their desire) may be enabled to publish the same in the newspapers.

Colonel *McDougall* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Gansevoort*, that this Congress would resolve to lend Money, without interest, to proper persons for a limited time, to encourage them to build Powder-Mills in this Colony. After some time spent therein, the Congress unanimously agreed to the following Resolution, viz:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will lend to any person or persons who shall be recommended to this Congress or Committee of Safety by the General Committee of the Counties of *Albany*, *Westchester*, *Suffolk*, *Dutchess*, *Tryon*, *Orange*, or *Ulster*, the sum of one thousand Pounds, for two years, without interest, upon giving security to *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, and the survivor or survivors of them, for the repayment of the same to them, for the use of this or any future Congress of this Colony: provided the person or persons who shall so apply do engage, by contract with this Congress or the Committee of Safety, to erect, within three months from the time of the said loan, a Powder-Mill of the best quality, in such place within the Colony as the General Committee of the County wherein the same is to be erected shall approve of: provided, always, that no more be erected in each of the aforementioned Counties than is hereinafter mentioned, viz: the County of *Albany* two, and each of the other Counties above-named one: and provided, also, that the above application be made by the first day of *May* next.

And *Resolved*, That *John R. Livingston*, Esq., be the person appointed, and is hereby appointed, to erect the Powder-Mills in *Dutchess* County, agreeable to the above Resolution.

*Ordered*, That some of the Members from the Counties of *Albany*, *Suffolk*, *Westchester*, *Dutchess*, *Tryon*, *Orange*, and *Ulster*, prepare a copy of the foregoing Resolution for encouraging the erecting of Powder-Mills for their respective County Committees; and that the Secretaries examine the said copies; and that the Members of those respective Counties forward a copy to each of their County Committees respectively.

On motion of Mr. *Sands*, *Resolved and Ordered*, That the Armed Schooner *Schuyler*, whereof *James Smith* is Commander, lately fitted out by order of this Congress, be ordered to cruise on the Southern Shore, between *Egg-Harbour* and *Sandy-Hook*, to protect all Vessels coming into this Port; and that the Sloop *Bishop*, belonging to the Provincial Congress of this Colony, now in *Egg-Harbour*, or supposed to be there, be fitted out for the like purpose; and that Mr. *Sands* and Mr. *Randall* be a Committee to fit out, and completely arm, the said Sloop *Bishop*, and to appoint a Captain and Officers for the said Sloop.

Mr. *Van Zandt* informed the Congress that the Ship *Rosamond*, whereof *Wright Southgate* is Master, is laded and ready to proceed to sea on Provincial account; and requested a permit for the said Master to apply to the Captains of the Ships-of-War for their permission to pass them and proceed to sea; and, also, a permission from this Congress for the said Ship to sail. Whereupon, the two following Orders were separately made and agreed to, in the words following, to wit:

*Ordered*, That *Wright Southgate*, Master of the Ship *Rosamond*, be immediately permitted, and he is hereby permitted, to go down to his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix* and his Majesty's Ship *Asia*, in a boat, with such men as may be necessary to go down with the said boat.

And *Ordered*, That the Ship *Rosamond*, *Wright Southgate* Master, with her Cargo and Lading, be permitted to go to sea.

The Congress resumed the matter of fixing and establish-



ing a Magazine of Provisions in *Westchester* County; and, after some time spent therein, Congress were of opinion the Resolution agreed on the . . . day of . . . for that purpose, is imperfect, inadequate to the end, and that the method thereby proposed will create unnecessary expense.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, and Mr. *Thomas*, be a Committee to reconsider the method of establishing a Magazine of Provisions, and to report thereon.

The Committee last above-mentioned, who had withdrawn for the purpose, speedily returned, and reported the following Resolution, which was unanimously agreed to, viz:

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Deputies of *Westchester* County purchase, and deposite in different Stores in that County, twelve hundred barrels of good salted Pork, wherever it is to be bought; and that the Deputies of *Albany* County purchase eighteen hundred and fifty bushels of good Peas, and send them to the Deputies of *Westchester* County, to be by them stored in the same manner.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Richmond* County, on the subject of regulating and arranging their Militia, and occasioned by Mr. *Bancker's* late motion for a supply of Gunpowder, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your Deputy (Mr. *Bancker*) has applied to this Congress to spare, out of their present small stock, a little powder, to be sent to some prudent person or persons in your County, for the defence of the friends to liberty and their country there. The objection to the measure is, that the Militia of your County is not formed agreeable to the regulations of the Continental and this Provincial Congress.

We therefore request you, gentlemen, to have your County divided into beats or districts, and take proper measures that the Militia of your County be formed as soon as possible, agreeable to the regulations above-mentioned; and the names of the Captains and Subalterns returned to this Congress without delay, that their commissions may be issued.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Richmond* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., March 9, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Prince*, Captain *Dening*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Randall*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *William Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*, Colonel *M. Graham*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, (on service.)

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

The Committee appointed to consider of, and report on, the Memorial of *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer of this Colony, appointed by the General Assembly thereof, delivered in their Report, which was read; and the same being again read by paragraphs, and amended, was resolved on, and unanimously agreed to in the words following, to wit:

1st. *Resolved and Ordered*, That *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer, and the Loan Officers of this Colony, shall receive in payment of the principal and interest that shall, from time to time, become due on the moneys put out on loan by virtue of an Act of the Governour, Council, and

General Assembly of the Colony of *New-York*, passed the 16th of *February*, 1771, entitled "An act for emitting the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit," to be put out on loan, and to appropriate the interest arising thereon to the payment of the debts of this Colony, and to such publick exigencies as the circumstances of this Colony may, from time to time, render necessary, as well the Bills of Credit heretofore issued by virtue of any law of this Colony, as those issued by order of the Congress of the United Colonies and of the Provincial Congress of this Colony.

2dly. And whereas, by virtue of the aforesaid Act, the one-tenth part of the said sum will become due, and is to be paid unto the respective Loan Officers on the third *Tuesday* of *April* next; and whereas, by reason of the unhappy war brought on us by the iniquitous attempts by the *British* Parliament to reduce these Colonies to a state of slavery, it may be inconvenient for the good people of this Colony, who have the said moneys on loan, to pay the said one-tenth part of the same, according to the directions of the said Act:

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the payment of the said one-tenth part of the principal be, and it is hereby, suspended, until the third *Tuesday* of *April*, which will be in the year of our Lord 1777; upon which day the annual payments of the one-tenth part of the said principal sum of one hundred and twenty thousand Pounds shall commence, and continue from year to year, until the whole shall be paid, anything in the said Act to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And whereas doubts may arise in the minds of the Loan Officers about the disposition of such principal moneys as may happen to be paid in:

It is hereby *Ordered*, That they put the same out on loan; and that, in doing thereof, they conform, in all respects, to the directions of the said Act.

3dly. And whereas the publick exigencies of the Colony are so great as to require that all the publick revenues of the same should be appropriated to defray its expenses; and whereas the General Assembly of the Colony have, by a prorogation made on the day appointed for their meeting, been prevented from proceeding to the despatch of the ordinary business thereof; it therefore becomes necessary for the Representatives of the people in Provincial Congress to attend to the proper application of the publick moneys now in the hands of the said *Abraham Lott*, Esq.:

*Resolved and Ordered, therefore*, That the said *Abraham Lott* be directed, and he is hereby directed, within thirty days from this day, to lay before this Congress or the Committee of Safety, on oath, an account of all the moneys that now are, and shall then be, in his hands as Treasurer of this Colony; particularly stating to what funds they belong; and whether any and what funds are appropriated to any, and what, uses; and every other matter which shall be necessary to constitute a complete state of the Treasury of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Elias Nixen*, the Port-Master, be, and he is permitted, to convey on board of the Ships *Asia* and *Phoenix*, and Governour's Ship, the following articles, viz:

[A Requisition of *Hugh & Alexander Wallace*, to send three boxes of Candles for the Governour, is the only one found.]

A Letter from *Hendrick Garrison*, of *Richmond* County, dated the 8th instant, was read and filed. He therein complains that, while attending before the Committee of said County as a witness, pursuant to summons, and while under examination, the said Committee permitted the defendants, *Cornelius Martino*, *Richard Conner*, and *John Burbank*, to insult and abuse said *Garrison*, and asking the advice and protection of Congress, he considering his situation unsafe as respects either his person or property.

A Letter from *John Hall*.

A Letter from *Malcom Morrison*, First Major to Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout's* Regiment of Minute-men, in *Dutchess* County, resigning said appointment, and recommending Major *Henry Ludenton* to be promoted to supply the vacancy, was read and filed.

The Commission of said *Malcom Morrison*, enclosed in said Letter, was filed.

A Letter from *John Thomas Palmer*.

A Letter from *William Ellsworth*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety and Observation of the Town of *Kingston*, setting forth that they, on the 29th day of *February* last, had written to General *Schuyler*, informing him of the inclination of Captain *Elias Hasbrouck* to be continued in service, and recommending said *Hasbrouck* for Captain, *Moses Yeomans* for Second Lieutenant, and *Petrus W. Meyer* for Ensign, in one of the four Regiments to be raised, was read and filed.

A Letter from General *Schuyler* to *William Ellsworth*, Chairman of the *Kingston* Committee, in answer to theirs of the 29th ultimo, respecting Captain *Elias Haasbrook*, and enclosed in before-mentioned Letter, was also read and filed.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., March 11, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Denning*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Col. *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Thomas*, Colonel *Lewis Graham*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Leffertse*, Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

General *Ten Broeck* informed Congress that *Elizabeth Dougherty* was neglected to be added to the list of soldiers' wives whose husbands are now in *Canada* in the Continental service, and who had money advanced them on account of their husbands' pay.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* pay to the said *Elizabeth Dougherty* the sum of five Pounds three Shillings and four Pence, on account of her husband's pay, and transmit an account of the same to General *Schuyler* immediately.

Mr. *John Vanderbilt*, a Member of this Congress, having occasion to go into the Colonies of *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, on publick business,

*Ordered*, That he be permitted to go into those Colonies, and that it be, and it is hereby, recommended to all persons, to let him pass unmolested.

A Member informed the Congress that a very large Mail, with Letters for many of the inhabitants, which came by the Packets, is on board of his Majesty's Ship *Asia*; and that his worship the Mayor, who attended for the purpose, had informed him that Mr. *Foxcroft* could not safely go on board of the said Ship *Asia* and bring the said Mail on shore, without the permission of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That *John Foxcroft*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, permitted to go to the Ship *Asia*, in company with the Port-Master, to receive the Mail lately arrived from *England* in the Packet, and to bring the same to his office in this City, in order to deliver out the Letters.

From the Doorkeeper of the Council at the door, the Congress was informed by one of the Secretaries, through the President, that his Majesty's Council are summoned to meet this day on board of his Excellency's Ship, and requests such directions as will enable them to go on board of the Governour's Ship without molestation.

Debates arose on the said request; and the question being put, whether any such permit shall be given? It was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

3 Albany.

2 Orange.

2 King's.

4 New-York.—Mr. *Scott* dissenting.

For the Negative.

2 Suffolk.

2 Cumberland.

2 Dutchess.

2 Westchester.

2 Tryon.  
2 Charlotte.

15 votes.

2 Ulster.

10 votes.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the honourable Members of his Majesty's Council, and *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esq., the Deputy Secretary of this Colony, or any one of his stated Clerks, be permitted to go on board of his Excellency Governour *Tryon's* Ship, without interruption.

In order to give despatch to the payment of Moneys that are payable by this Congress, and to prevent the time of the Congress from being so often consumed on matters of account, the following Resolution was unanimously agreed to:

A. M., March 11.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Van Zandt*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Brasher*, and Mr. *Sands*, be a Committee to compose a Pay-Table for the purpose of auditing all the accounts against the Treasury of this Congress; that they, or any three of them, do endorse every account they shall pass; and that such endorsement be a sufficient voucher to the Treasurer for the payment of such account. That the said Committee do enter in a Book or Books, to be by them kept for the purpose, a regular account of all the accounts by them passed. That they be empowered to hire and employ one able and sufficient clerk, and a room for the purpose; and that this Congress will make provision for the payment thereof. That they be directed to make a separation in the Treasurer's Accounts, between those that are of a Continental nature, and those that are merely Provincial, and keep them in a proper state to be transmitted to the Continental Congress when thereunto directed by this Congress, or the Committee of Safety. That they lay before this Congress, or Committee of Safety, a state of the accounts of this Colony, from time to time, as they shall be thereunto required. That the said Committee be allowed a reasonable compensation for their services.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Brasher*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Scott*, and Colonel *John Williams*, be a Committee to consider of the powers of the Committee of Safety, and report to this Congress what alterations therein, or additional powers thereto, may be necessary; and that they report thereon with all convenient speed.

The Committee of *King's* County having this day met, they recommended the following gentlemen to be appointed the Field and Staff-Officers of their Regiment of Militia, viz: *Rutger Van Brunt*, Colonel; *Nicholas Covenhoven*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Johannes Titus*, First Major; *John Vanderbilt*, Second Major; *George Carpenter*, Adjutant; and *Nicholas Covenhoven*, Quartermaster.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen in the offices to which they were respectively elected, and that they be delivered to *John Leffertse*, Esq., agreeable to his request.

Sundry matters were proposed to Congress as useful and necessary to be done at and beyond *Sandy-Hook*, for the protection of trade. The Congress were unanimously of opinion that those matters will be most properly and beneficially managed by a Marine Committee appointed out of this Congress.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, and Mr. *Hallett*, be, and they are hereby, appointed a Marine Committee, with full powers to take such measures, and give such directions, and employ such persons for the protection or advantage of trade, as they may think proper, useful, or necessary. That they apply to this Congress when they may be in doubt, or want advice or directions. That they be empowered to keep such matters secret as they think necessary, until they are executed. And that the said Marine Committee have the charge, care, and direction of fitting out the Sloop *Bishop*, according to the order made on the . . . instant. That they be also authorized to give directions as to all imports already arrived, or that may arrive in any of the Colonies on the account of this Colony; and that any three or more of them be a quorum for the purposes aforesaid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of a draft of sundry Resolves for an election of Deputies for a Provincial Congress. The same were read; and being read again by paragraphs, debates arose on that part of the draft which proposes that Associators only shall have a vote. After some

time spent therein, and debates thereon, the question was put, whether non-Associators shall be permitted to vote? And it was carried in the affirmative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	For the Negative.
3 Albany.	2 Suffolk.
2 Dutchess.	—
4 New-York.	2 votes.
2 King's.	
2 Orange.	
2 Ulster.	
2 Tryon.	
2 Cumberland.	
2 Westchester.	
2 Charlotte.	
—	
23 votes.	

That part of the Resolves which proposed the election by ballot being then read, debates arose thereon. After some time spent therein, it is agreed, that, as the non-Associators are allowed to vote, that the election be not made by ballot.

Those two material points being settled,

Ordered, That Mr. Smith and Mr. Gansevoort take with them the said plan for an Election; and that they make amendments, or prepare a new draft of a plan, and resolves for that purpose, and report the same this afternoon.

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., March 11, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Evert Bancker, Captain Rutgers, Mr. Randall, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Van Zandt, Colonel Lott, Mr. Thomas Smith, Mr. Scott.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Abraham Yates, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, (on service,) General Ten Broeck.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Gelston.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Major Schenck.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Colonel Lewis Graham, Mr. Thomas.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Adrian Bancker, Mr. Lawrence.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Colonel Hay.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Polhemus, Mr. Leffertse.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel William Williams.

A Certificate, signed by the President, and attested by both Secretaries, was given to Mr. Van Zandt for the Ship *Rosamond*, in the words following, to wit:

It is hereby certified, that the Ship *Rosamond*, whereof Captain Wright Southgate is Master, has been laded by order of the Provincial Congress of this Colony on their account, and is now proceeding to sea on her voyage on the account and at the risk of this Colony of New-York.

Mr. Van Zandt produced a Letter from ——— Snell, Master of the Sloop *Hampden*, informing that he is arrived at Philadelphia, and specifying his cargo brought on account of this Colony.

Ordered, That the Marine Committee give directions and take the management of that Vessel and Cargo.

A Letter from Malcom Morrison, Esq., and a Petition of Archibald Campbell, of Pauling's Precinct, in Dutchess County, complaining of great irregularities and outrages against the said Archibald Campbell, by some persons from Connecticut, were severally read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

—New-York, March 11, 1776.

"SIR: I make free to inform you that a number of people from Connecticut came to the house of Mr. Archibald Campbell, in my neighbourhood, on the 28th ultimo, to dispossess him of his farm by force. Upon hearing of which, I went there, and found about one dozen persons, some of whom were armed, carrying his furniture into the street. I expostulated with them on their doings, and told them if they did not desist, I must call the posse to suppress them. They, thinking themselves not sufficiently strong to proceed, left off. I then asked them what caused them to act in the manner they had done. They told me they were deter-

mined to repossess all the people who had been turned off their places some years past, as the lands belonged to Connecticut. I did not think it prudent to call aid to secure them, but advised them to return, as the mode they took to settle any controversy that might be pending, was unjustifiable; upon which they went off, but said they would return with greater force. A number of others have been warned to remove from their farms.

"I believe it would be advisable to lay the affair before our Provincial Congress, and, if possible, have the matter stopped, as I am apprehensive, if something is not done to prevent them, we shall have a second *Prendergast* affair in our County.

"I am, with deference, sir, your most humble servant,

"MALCOM MORRISON.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress now sitting in the City of New-York."

"The Petition of ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, of PAULING'S Precinct, in the County of DUTCHESS, and Province of NEW-YORK, Gentleman, humbly sheweth:

"That on the 28th day of February now last past, a body of men, in number about thirteen, from the Colony of Connecticut, in a hostile and riotous manner, with arms and clubs, did proceed to the dwelling-house and farm of your Petitioner, lying in Pauling's Precinct aforesaid, and did then and there unjustly, and without any colour of equity, take away part of his household goods and furniture, leaving them in the street, or road, by which means they were much exposed, with intention to dispossess your Petitioner of his right and property.

"That they proceeded in the same riotous and illegal manner to dispossess others living in the said Pauling's Precinct of their goods and lands, without having any legal authority for that purpose.

"That upon the interposition of the Magistrates they dispersed, and were returning home, but threw out many menaces and threatenings that they would soon be back again with a number sufficient to put their wicked designs in execution; by means whereof, as well your Petitioner as many other well-disposed and peaceable persons living in said Pauling's Precinct are kept in continual fears and alarms, and are very uneasy, lest they should be deprived of their possessions and goods. And that, unless the honourable Congress make use of some means to discourage and prevent such mischievous doings, that part of the Province will be kept in great confusion.

"Your Petitioner, therefore, humbly prays, as well for himself as in behalf of others, inhabitants of said Pauling's Precinct, that the honourable Provincial Congress will take the matter under their mature consideration, and devise, order, and direct such ways and means as to them in their great wisdom shall seem most fit and convenient, in order for the effectual suppression and discouragement of such illegal proceedings.

"And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

"ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.

"Fredericksburgh, February 29, 1776."

Ordered, That the said Letter and Petition be referred to the Members of this Congress from Dutchess County, to write to the Committee of their County or the Committee of Pauling's District, for particular information on the matters mentioned in the said Letter and Petition, and requesting such Committee to transmit Affidavits or other proof of such facts as shall be proved to them, to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety; and that the said Members from Dutchess County procure such further information in the premises as they may conveniently obtain, and make report thereof to this Congress, or Committee of Safety, with all convenient speed.

The Congress were informed that William Douglass, Andrew Van Tuyl, and Isaac Simonson, had made Affidavit as to the loss of the Pilot-Boat *Hampden*, in the manner formerly directed for the other owners.

The said Affidavit being read and filed, is in the words following, to wit:

\* \* \* \* \*

Ordered, That William Douglass, Andrew Van Tuyl, and Isaac Simonson, be paid for one quarter part of the Pilot-Boat called the *Hampden*, the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds; and for one-quarter part of the wages or hire

of the said Boat and her Mariners, the sum of twenty-two Pounds ten Shillings, on their executing a proper conveyance for one quarter part of the said Boat, and delivering over the papers relating to the said Boat to Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt*; and entering into covenants to Mr. *Van Zandt*, that if any moneys shall be allowed for the said Boat, or for the service or detention of the said Boat while employed in his Majesty's service, that they will pay one quarter part thereof to Mr. *Van Zandt*; and also a covenant, that if it shall hereafter appear that the said Boat was taken by collusion, or any deceit of the master or owners, or either of them, that then they will repay the said moneys to the said Mr. *Van Zandt*. \*

And Ordered, That a copy hereof be a sufficient warrant to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, to pay the said moneys.

Mr. *Smith* informed the Congress that — *Barnard*, of *Elizabethtown*, is in this city; that he came this day from on board of the Ship *Phoenix*; that he says Captain *Parker* informed him that he was about fitting out his Schooner *Tender* with carriage-guns and other necessaries, to make her a vessel of force, to be stationed and cruise off *Egg-Harbour*.

The Congress are of opinion that the said Schooner may be very detrimental to the trade of this Colony and the neighbouring Colonies, and at this critical juncture in particular, as ammunition, arms, and other necessary stores, may thereby be seized and prevented from being landed.

Therefore, Ordered, That the Marine Committee of this Congress take the examination of Mr. *Barnard* into consideration, and ascertain what may be necessary to be done by this Congress, and report thereon with all possible speed.

Mr. *Smith Ramadge*, at the door, at the request of a Member was admitted.

He informed the Congress that he has a vessel nearly

\* This Indenture, made the ninth day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, between *William Douglass*, *Andrew Van Tuyl*, of the city of *New-York*, and *Isaac Simonson*, of the said city, Pilot, of the one part, and *Jacobus Van Zandt*, of the said city, Merchant, of the other part.

Whereas the Pilot-Boat named the *Hampden*, whereof the said parties of the first part owned a quarter part, was lately employed by order of the said *Jacobus Van Zandt* and others to proceed to the eastward of *Sandy-Hook*, for such legal purposes as the master of the said Pilot-Boat was directed to perform or do; and on the return of the said Pilot-Boat towards the city of *New-York*, she was seized by the commander of his Majesty's Ship *Nautilus*, and detained as a tender: and whereas they (the said *William Douglass*, *Andrew Van Tuyl*, and *Isaac Simonson*) have been paid for one quarter part of the said Pilot-Boat named the *Hampden*, the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, lawful money of *New-York*; and for one quarter part of the hire and wages of the said Pilot-Boat, and the mariners employed on board of her while she was employed in the service aforesaid, the further sum of twenty-two pounds ten shillings, lawful money aforesaid:

Now, therefore, this Indenture witnesseth: That for and in consideration of the said sum of one hundred and seventy-two pounds ten shillings, to them (the said *William Douglass*, *Andrew Van Tuyl*, and *Isaac Simonson*) in hand paid, they have sold, assigned, and delivered to the said *Jacobus Van Zandt* their quarter part of the said Pilot-Boat named the *Hampden*, with all her appurtenances; and they do hereby sell, assign, and deliver the same to the said *Jacobus Van Zandt*, his executors, administrators, and assigns. And for and in consideration of the said sum of one hundred and seventy-two pounds ten shillings above-mentioned, they, the said *William Douglass*, *Andrew Van Tuyl*, and *Isaac Simonson*, for themselves, their heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, do covenant, grant, and agree, to and with the said *Jacobus Van Zandt*, his executors, administrators, and assigns, in manner following, that is to say: That if any sum of money, wages, hire, or other reward, shall be paid, allowed, received, or recovered for the said Pilot-Boat named the *Hampden*, or for the use of the said Pilot-Boat while employed as a tender, or while employed in his Majesty's service, or while she is detained from her owners, that they, the said *William Douglass*, *Andrew Van Tuyl*, and *Isaac Simonson*, or one of them, will pay one quarter part thereof to the said *Jacobus Van Zandt*, his executors, administrators, or assigns.

And, also, that if it shall hereafter appear that the said Pilot-Boat, named the *Hampden*, was taken on account of any information given with respect to her by the master or owners of the said Boat, or either of them, or by collusion, or by any deceit of the said master or owners, or either of them, that then and in such case they, the said *William Douglass*, *Andrew Van Tuyl*, and *Isaac Simonson*, or one of them, will well and truly repay to the said *Jacobus Van Zandt*, his executors, administrators, or assigns, the said sum of one hundred and seventy-two pounds ten shillings, without any delay, deduction, or abatement whatsoever.

In witness whereof, the said parties to these presents have to these presents interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year in this Indenture first written.

WILLIAM DOUGLASS,  
ANDREW VAN TUYL,  
ISAAC SIMONSON.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us:  
JOHN LOVE,  
ISAAC BRINCKERHOFF.

laden with flaxseed, intended for *Ireland*, by permission of the Continental Congress; that she will soon be ready to go to sea; that she lies at a heavy expense; that if she does not sail by next *Friday*, he must pay eight pounds per day demurrage; that, by information received this day, Captain *Parker* will not suffer any vessels to pass him to sea; and that he is of opinion that the vessel he is lading is proceeding on such a voyage as that he can obtain permission for her to sail, if he can be permitted to go down to Captain *Parker*.

Mr. *Ramadge* withdrew.

The Congress unanimously agree that he have leave to go down to Captain *Parker* with the Port-Master, if he is willing to be on oath not to discover any matters that will be prejudicial to the City and Colony.

Mr. *Ramadge* called in; thinks it proper that he should be sworn. Thereupon, an Oath was administered to him in the words following, to wit:

You swear that you will not, directly or indirectly, give any intelligence concerning the preparations that are making for the defence of this City and Colony, to any person on board of the ships-of-war in the harbour; nor will you carry on board any letter or paper until you have first read the contents, and find that it does not contain any intelligence concerning the same. So help you *God*.

Mr. *Smith Ramadge* being sworn in Congress, a Certificate or Passport was given to him in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That Mr. *Smith Ramadge* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, and to return, in company with the Port-Master, he having been sworn that he will not communicate on board the said ship any intelligence relative to the preparations making for the defence of this Colony, or carry any Letters or Papers relative thereto.

A Return of Captain *Westfall*, and the other Officers of his Company, to wit: the First Company of the First Regiment in *Dutchess County*, was read and filed.

"*Peter Westfall*, Captain; *Wilhelmus Smith*, First Lieutenant; *Christopher Snyder*, Second Lieutenant; *Abraham Welch*, Ensign."

Ordered, That Commissions issue to the gentlemen thereby returned as elected.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of a Plan for the election of Deputies to form a Provincial Congress, to meet when the present Provincial Congress will expire. The same was read; and being again read, paragraph by paragraph, amended, corrected, and approved.

Ordered, That a fair copy thereof be engrossed by the Secretaries; and that the said Plan be again read and taken into further consideration to-morrow morning.

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., March 12, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beckman*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *L. Graham*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*, Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Mr. *Gansevoort* moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Yates*, in the words following, to wit:

"I move that the money arising from the duty of Excise in the respective Counties of *Albany* and *Tryon*, within this Colony, in virtue of an Act of the Governour, the Council,

and the General Assembly of this Colony, entitled 'An Act to lay a duty of Excise on strong Liquors in this Colony, and to appropriate the money arising therefrom'—may be appropriated by the County Committees of the said several Counties, towards defraying the contingent charges of the said Committees, if the said Committees respectively shall think proper; and that a full power be given to the said Committees, respectively, to nominate and appoint Commissioners of Excise in their respective City and Counties, with full power to such Commissioners to exercise the said office, and receive the like rewards as is allowed to the Commissioners appointed by the said Act; and that the said Commissioners, before they enter upon the execution of the powers and authorities vested in them, shall respectively enter into bonds to the Chairman of the said Committee, in the several sums affixed by the said Act to the respective Counties, and in the same condition."

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in the manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.	For the Negative.
3 Albany.—General <i>Ten Broeck</i>	2 Suffolk.
2 Tryon. dissenting.	4 New-York.
—	2 Orange.
5 votes.	2 Ulster.
	2 Cumberland.
	2 Richmond.
	2 King's.
	2 Charlotte.
	2 Westchester.
	—
	20 votes.

Ordered, therefore, That the said motion be rejected.

Mr. Hobart then moved, and was seconded by Colonel Allison, in the words following, to wit:

"I move that this Congress do resolve that the Treasurer of this Congress be directed to advance, out of any Moneys that shall be in his hands, to the several County Committees of the Counties of *New-York, Albany, Ulster, Orange, Dutchess, Westchester, Richmond, King's, and Suffolk*, or their order, any sum that may be necessary to defray the incidental charges of their respective Counties, provided the same does not exceed the sum of five hundred Pounds; and that the same shall be laid on each respective County, with the first Moneys that shall be raised by a Colony Tax, for the purpose of sinking the Bills of Credit emitted by the Continental and the Provincial Congress."

Debates arose on the said motion, and, after some time spent therein,

Ordered, That the same be committed to Mr. Smith, to frame such Resolve thereon as he may think will be most agreeable to a majority of the Deputies of this Congress.

A Member informed the Congress that Mr. Foxcroft is under apprehensions that the Order of this Congress, made yesterday, permitting him to go to the Ship *Asia*, for the Mail, from *England*, and to bring the same on shore, may be considered as obligatory on him to bring the same on shore; and that he may, in the said Mail, receive instructions from his superior in office to the contrary.

Thereupon, Resolved, That the Order of this Congress, of yesterday, for permitting John Foxcroft, Esq., to go to his Majesty's Ship *Asia* for the Mail from *England*, was by no means intended to be obligatory on that gentlemen to do any act contrary to his instructions, or to oblige him to bring the said Mail on shore, but only to operate as a permission to him to go on board, and return with the said Mail if he should think proper.

Mr. Randall informed the Congress that a parcel of Soldiers were some time since quartered in the house where Mr. Lambertus Deronde, one of the Ministers of the Dutch Church, had for some years resided; that at the time the said Soldiers were quartered there, Mr. Deronde had a number of long *Holland* pipes, some wine, a parcel of Dutch Sermons of his own composition, and sundry other articles in the said house, which were used or destroyed by said Soldiers.

Ordered, That Mr. Randall, Mr. Anthony Rutgers, and Mr. Hobart, be a Committee to inquire by whose default Mr. Deronde has suffered such loss, and to what sum his said losses amount in the whole; and that they report with all convenient speed.

Mr. Randall, from the Marine Committee, reported that the

said Committee are of opinion, on the information received from Mr. Bernard, of *Elizabethtown*, and from other circumstances known to them, that a Letter should be immediately written to the honourable Continental Congress, requesting that they order an Armed Vessel fitted out, to join one from this port, for the protection of trade, to cruise between the Capes of *Delaware* and *Sandy-Hook*; and they had prepared a draft of a Letter for that purpose.

Thereupon, the draft of a Letter reported by the Marine Committee was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 12, 1776.

SIR: As we are informed, from undoubted authority, that Captain Parker, of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, is now fitting out a small schooner, (*Bermuda* brigantine,) of eight or ten carriage-guns, and forty men, for the purpose of intercepting vessels between the Capes of *Delaware* and *Sandy-Hook*; and as we have already given orders for the immediate fitting out an armed vessel for the protection of our trade that way; we think it necessary to acquaint you that such an one from *Philadelphia* will also be necessary, to be immediately ready to meet ours for this purpose; and that she be of such a draft of water as that she may run into *Barnegat* and *Egg-Harbour*. It is also necessary to be immediately informed by you what your Marine Committee regulations are, respecting the wages, &c., of officers and men, that we may regulate ourselves accordingly.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Mr. Thomas Buchanan, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, being at the door, was admitted at the request of a Member, who had previously mentioned his business. Mr. Buchanan requested permission to go to the Ship *Phoenix* to apply to Captain Parker for permission for a Brigantine belonging entirely to Merchants in *Glasgow*, and bound there, to go to sea. Mr. Thomas Buchanan having first heard the form of an oath, as entered in the Minutes on the 11th instant, read, was duly sworn, in the words therein contained.

Ordered, That Mr. Thomas Buchanan be, and he is hereby permitted, to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, (in company with the Port-Master,) he having been first duly sworn that he will not communicate on board any of the Ships-of-War in this Harbour any intelligence relative to the preparations making for the defence of this City or Colony, nor carry any Letters or Papers on board relative thereto.

Daniel Whitehead Kissam, one of the Committee of *Great-Neck* and *Cow-Neck*, being at the door, was admitted. He in substance informed that Mr. Isaac Sears, with a number of men armed, had been in *Queen's* County, imposing a very solemn Test on sundry of the inhabitants, and amongst others on Captain Mott, who had signed the Association, made a public submission, and had been restored; that this measure had created great uneasiness in the County.

Mr. Kissam also delivered the following Letter from the said Committee, which was read, and is in the following words, to wit:

\* \* \* \* \*

The said Letter being read,

Ordered, That the Secretaries bring to the Chamber, in the afternoon, a printed copy of the late Resolutions of the Continental Congress, relating to Tories, or persons disaffected; and Mr. Kissam was requested to attend again at six o'clock, in the evening.

Mr. Hobart, from the Committee appointed to report a Resolution for the procuring of Blankets and Arms, delivered in their Report; which was read, amended, resolved on, and unanimously agreed to, in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 12, 1776.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committees of the several Counties, Cities, Manors, Towns, Precincts, and Districts within this Colony, to purchase, for the use of the Continental Troops now raising for the defence of the Colony, good and sufficient Blankets, at the most reasonable prices, not exceeding two Dollars for each, and to deliver the same to the commanding Officer of any Company of



said Troops who shall apply for them, whose certificate of such delivery shall be a sufficient voucher. And it is further recommended to the said Committees, to purchase good Muskets or Fire-locks, of as large bores as possible, for the use aforesaid, and to deliver them as before directed. And the Committee are hereby desired, with all convenient speed, to send, with proper vouchers, their accounts to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, in order for payment.

A true copy from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries get one hundred copies thereof printed, by ten of the clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Martis, 3 ho. P. M., March 12, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel McDougall, Mr. Scott, Mr. Randall, Captain Rutgers, Colonel Brasher, Colonel Lott, Mr. E. Bancker, Mr. Beekman, Mr. Smith.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Yates, General Ten Broeck, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Gelston.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Adrian Bancker, Mr. Lawrence.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel Gilbert Drake, Mr. Thomas, Colonel L. Graham.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Major Schenck.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Polhemus.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Colonel Hay.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel William Williams.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Graham informed the Congress that Colonel Drake's men, and the other Troops stationed at Horne's Hook, near Hell-gate, lodge in an uncomfortable manner for want of Cribbs for their Beds; and that it is necessary that a Carpenter be sent there to make Cribbs for their Beds.

*Ordered*, That Colonel L. Graham procure a Carpenter to go to Horne's Hook to make Cribbs for the men—one of the company of Artificers, if he can be spared; and, if not, any other proper Carpenter.

Mr. Hobart informed the Congress, that Major Malcom, who was sent to dismantle the Light-House, was returned, and had executed that matter effectually, with the assistance of Colonel George Taylor, and some of his men; that Major Malcom found it impossible to take out and save the Glass, as well for want of tools as by reason of the time necessary for that purpose, and was therefore obliged to break it; that Major Malcom had delivered the Lamps and Oil, two Tackle-Falls and Blocks, removed from the Light-House, to Colonel George Taylor, and taken a receipt for the same; which was read and filed.

"Middletown, March 8, 1776.

"Received from William Malcom, eight copper lamps, two tackle-falls and blocks, and three casks and a part of a cask of oil—being articles brought from the Light-House on Sandy-Hook—and which I will deliver to him, or to the order of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York, when called for.

"GEORGE TAYLOR, *Colonel*."

Daniel Whitehead Kissam, one of the Committee of Cow-Neck and Great-Neck, in Queen's County, being examined in Congress, says: That on Saturday last, at the house of Richard Smith, in Herricks, he met Captain Jacob Mott; that the said Mott informed him that he had been apprehended by order of Colonel Sears, and had been sworn; that this examinant there saw a copy of the oath which was administered to the said Jacob Mott, and others; that this examinant asked the said Jacob Mott why he did not produce to Colonel Sears his restoration or clearance from the Congress; that the said Jacob Mott said he had offered to show it to Mr. Sears, but that he would not look at it. That the examinant has been informed by James Cornell, Francis Davenport, and Jonas Valentine, severally, that they had been sworn; that Mr. Sears had with him, as he was informed, a number of armed soldiers; and that the said

soldiers brought up the people to be sworn. That the Committee of Cow-Neck and Great-Neck are much dissatisfied at this proceeding, and think there is no safety; that the people of Hempstead, and at the South-side, whom he has conversed with, are distressed; and that he is of opinion that such proceedings tend to convert Whigs to be Tories.

Mr. Kissam withdrew.

Mr. Randall thereupon moved, and was seconded by Mr. Yates, that Mr. Sears be requested to attend this Congress, and inform by whose order he undertook and transacted the said matters in Queen's County.

Debates arose on the said motion, and a considerable time was spent therein. The further consideration thereof is postponed till to-morrow morning.

The Congress then proceeded to read the Proposals for entering into Contracts for the maintenance of the Continental Troops in this Colony; and also a Letter on that subject from Curtenius and Elting, and another Letter relative thereto from Abraham Livingston.

After having heard the whole read, and some time spent therein, the further consideration thereof is postponed for the present.

The Congress then adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., March 13, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Randall, Mr. Beekman, Colonel Lott, Mr. Van Zandt, Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. E. Bancker, Mr. Rutgers, Captain Rutgers, Colonel McDougall, Mr. Smith, Mr. Scott.

FOR ALBANY.—General Ten Broeck, Mr. Abraham Yates, Mr. Gansevoort, Colonel Nicoll, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Hobart, Mr. Gelston.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel Ten Broeck, Mr. Schenck, Mr. G. Livingston, (on service.)

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Rhea, Mr. Lefever, Colonel Palmer, (on service.)

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Polhemus.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Paulding, Colonel G. Drake, Colonel L. Graham, Mr. Thomas.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Adrian Bancker.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Colonel Hay.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel John Williams.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel William Williams.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

Colonel McDougall delivered in an Account Current of sundry sums of money by him advanced to Messengers, Expresses, for Sloop-hire, and to Printers, for services on the publick account, and for the use of the Colony; which was read and filed. The Receipts and Vouchers attending the said Account, and therein referred to, were read. By said Account Current and Vouchers, it appears that a balance of one hundred and eleven Pounds six Shillings and one Penny half-Penny is due thereon to Colonel McDougall.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esquire, as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to Colonel McDougall one hundred and eleven Pounds six Shillings and one Penny half-Penny, in full, for the balance of that Account, and take his receipt for the same.

A draft of a Resolution for the loan of Moneys to the County Committee of each respective County, was read. Being again read, paragraph by paragraph, Mr. Smith moved, and was seconded by Captain Rutgers, that the words "and making such allowances to the Deputies in Provincial Congress as the respective County Committees shall judge proper," be obliterated.

Debates arose on the said motion, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the negative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Negative.

Every County present, except  
New-York.—23 votes.

For the Affirmative.

New-York, 4 votes, Colonel McDougall and Mr. A. Rutgers dissenting.

Therefore, the same being resolved on and agreed, was ordered to be entered in the Minutes, in the words following, to wit:

March 13, 1776.

Whereas the several County Committees in this Colony may have occasion to borrow Money to enable them to defray the contingent charges they are, or may be put to, in support of the cause of the United Colonies against the iniquitous attempts of the *British* Ministry and Parliament to enslave this Continent; and whereas the imposition of Taxes on the inhabitants of this Colony, to enable the County Committees to pay the said contingent charges, may be very inconvenient at this time; this Congress, from an earnest desire to encourage the friends to liberty in supporting the common cause, do resolve to advance, on loan, out of the Colony Treasury, to each County Committee a sum of money not exceeding the sums following, for the purpose of paying the charges aforesaid, and of making such allowances to the Deputies in Provincial Congress as the respective County Committees shall judge proper; that is to say: To the City and County of *New-York*, the sum of twelve hundred Pounds; to the City and County of *Albany*, the sum of eight hundred Pounds; to the County of *Suffolk*, the sum of four hundred and sixty Pounds; to the County of *Richmond*, the sum of one hundred and twenty-nine Pounds; to *King's* County, the sum of two hundred Pounds; to the County of *Ulster*, the sum of three hundred and sixty Pounds; to the County of *Orange*, the sum of two hundred Pounds; to the County of *Westchester*, the sum of four hundred and thirty Pounds; to the County of *Tryon*, the sum of four hundred Pounds; to the County of *Cumberland*, the sum of one hundred Pounds; to the County of *Charlotte*, the sum of one hundred Pounds; to the County of *Dutchess*, the sum of four hundred and twenty Pounds. And it is understood that the sums of money which several of the Counties have already received out of the Treasury for their particular purposes, shall be deducted by the Treasurer out of the respective sums allowed to such County in the foregoing resolutions, and that the security given for such sums be delivered up. And it is

*Resolved and Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., Treasurer of this Congress, shall and do pay to the Chairman of each respective County Committee in this Colony, such sum or sums of money as the said Committees shall, from time to time, apply for, to discharge the contingent charges aforesaid of each respective County, provided the sum or sums of money, so applied for, shall not, in the whole, amount to more than the sum hereinbefore allotted to each respective County; and that an order of each respective County Committee, signed by the Chairman, and attested by the Clerk of the said Committee, with a receipt from the person in whose favour such order shall be drawn, shall be to the said Treasurer a sufficient voucher for the amount of the said order.

*And it is further Resolved*, That each respective County in this Colony shall stand charged, and be accountable to the Treasurer of this Congress, for such sum and sums of money as the said Treasurer shall advance to each respective County Committee, pursuant to the foregoing resolutions; and that the same shall be raised and repaid into the Treasury of this Congress by Tax or Assessment on the inhabitants of each respective County, when thereunto required by this or any future Congress of this Colony.

The Congress then proceeded to consider of a Plan for constituting a Committee of Safety during their next intended adjournment, and to settle the powers of the said Committee. A part of the draft of the said Plan was read; and that part of the said Plan which forms the Constitution of the said Committee, and the first fifteen powers given to the said Committee, were read, paragraph by paragraph, and agreed to, except by Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Hobart*, and Mr. *Moore*, who dissent to, and disapprove of the Constitution or method of forming the said Committee, and request that their dissent may be entered.

Messrs. *Scott*, *Hobart*, and *McDougall*, informed the President that they had received a message from a gentleman, requesting to see them on some matters of publick importance. They thereupon, with leave, withdrew, to return without delay.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Yates*, and Mr. *Hobart*, be a Committee to consider what Manufactures may be necessary for the convenience and defence of this Colony, and to report thereon with all convenient speed.

Messrs. *Scott*, *Hobart*, and *McDougall*, returned and reported that it was Lord *Stirling* who had sent the message, upon which they had obtained leave to go out of the Congress. That Lord *Stirling*, as Commander of the forces here, had received a Letter, by order of General *Washington*, from *Stephen Moylan*, his Aid-de-Camp, informing that the Ministerial Army are embarking from *Boston*, and that his Excellency has good reason to imagine that *New-York* will be the place of their destination. That the said Letter was also accompanied with a copy of an application of the Selectmen of the town. That Lord *Stirling* had, by them, sent those papers to this Congress, and requested that they might be returned to him. The said Letter was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Cambridge, March 9, 1776.

“SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform you that, in consequence of his determination to possess himself of the Height at *Dorchester*, a cannonade and bombardment was begun on *Saturday* night last on the town of *Boston*, continued on *Sunday* night, and on *Monday* night. A vast number of shot and shells were thrown into the town, under the cover of which the intended purpose was effected. On the enemy perceiving next morning that we had taken post, they were all hurry and bustle embarking their troops (as was expected and wished for) to attack us; but the violent storm which came on that day prevented them, and disappointed us, who were prepared to give them a warm reception. The possession of these Heights are preparatory to our forming a fort upon *Nook's Hill*, which commands the south of *Boston*, and to which their shipping will be much exposed. This they seem to be well aware of, and are now making every preparation for moving off. Captain *Erwin*, escaped from town the night before last, assures us that this is their intention. It is corroborated by a message from the Selectmen of that town to his Excellency, a copy of which you have enclosed.

“These informations will not prevent the General from proceeding in his advances to the town; so that, if they do not move off, he is determined to force them to a battle, or make that town so hot that they will have but little rest therein.

“His Excellency has good reason to imagine that *New-York* will be the place of their destination. He therefore desires that you will exert yourself to the utmost in preparing for their reception. He has ordered the armed schooners to be in readiness to attend their motions, and give the earliest intelligence of the course they steer; by which intelligence his motions will be governed. If they steer west, you may expect a large reinforcement from his Army, and, in all probability, the main body will soon follow. You will please to communicate this to the Provincial Congress or Convention, who, the General doubts not, will co-operate with you in using every endeavour to prevent their forming a lodgment before his Excellency can come or send to your assistance. The fate of *America* depends upon this campaign; and the success of this campaign will a good deal depend upon your exerting yourselves with vigour upon this occasion.

“I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

“STEPHEN MOYLAN, *Aid-de-Camp*.

“To the Commanding Officer of the *American* Forces at *New-York*.”

“Boston, March 8, 1776.

“As his Excellency General *Howe* is determined to leave the town with the troops under his command, a number of the respectable inhabitants, being anxious for its preservation and safety, have applied to General *Robertson* for this purpose, who, at their request, has communicated the same to his Excellency General *Howe*, who has assured him that he has no intention of destroying the town, unless the troops under his command are molested during their embarkation or at their departure, by the armed force without; which declaration he gave General *Robertson* leave to communicate to the inhabitants. If such an opposition should take place, we have the greatest reason to expect the town will be exposed to entire destruction. As our fears are quieted with regard to General *Howe's* intentions, we beg we may have some assurances that so dreadful a calamity may not be brought on by any measures without.

"As a testimony of the truth of the above, we have signed our names to this paper, carried out by Messrs. *Thomas* and *Jonathan Amory* and *Peter Johannot*, who have, at the earnest entreaties of the inhabitants, through the Lieutenant-Governour, solicited a flag of truce for this purpose.

"JOHN SCOLLAY,  
"TIMOTHY NEWELL,  
"THOMAS MARSHALL,  
"SAMUEL AUSTIN."

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries keep copies of the Letter of *Stephen Moylan*, and of the Application of the Selectmen of *Boston*; and that they return the original Letter, and the copy received from Lord *Stirling*, with all possible despatch.

Mr. *Scott* informed the Congress that Lord *Stirling* requests that a Committee of this Congress may be appointed to confer with him on sundry matters relative to the defence of this City and Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Randall*, Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Hobart*, be a Committee of this Congress to confer with Lord *Stirling*; and that they report the result of such conference with all convenient speed.

The Congress conceiving that the intelligence received from *Cambridge* renders it necessary to have a Magazine of Provisions immediately laid in store,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gilbert Drake* immediately repair to *Westchester* County, and purchase twelve hundred barrels of the best Pork, and have the same safely stored, agreeable to the resolve of this Congress of the 9th day of *March* instant. That he take with him from *New-York* a sworn Inspector and repacker of Pork, to inspect and repack the same; and that he purchase and store, at the cheapest rate in his power, Flour sufficient for the use of five thousand Men for a month.

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P. M., March 13, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Capt. *Denning*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Beckman*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service,) General *Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *L. Graham*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Polhemus*, Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*, Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, dated the 6th day of *March* instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, March 6, 1776.

"SIR: I take the liberty to remind you of the necessity of forwarding, without the least delay, the naval stores which I did myself the honour to request of you in my former letters.

"A heavy rain has fallen within these two days and broke up *Hudson's River* as far down as *Half-Moon*. A few warm days, I hope, will clear the river of ice in all its extent.

"Please to order up ten sets of pump-boxes. I fear it will be impossible to find clothing at this place for Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment. I wish, therefore, that what can be procured may be sent up the soonest possible.

"I am, sir, with esteem and respect, your most obedient humble servant,

"PHILIP SCHUYLER.

"To Colonel *Woodhull*, President, &c."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary, pro-

cure ten sets of Pump-Boxes, and forward the same to General *Schuyler* with all possible despatch.

*Francis Lewis*, Esq., a Delegate for this Colony in Continental Congress, informed this Congress that the subject of commissioning private Ships-of-War and Letters of Marque was in contemplation in Congress; and that the Delegates for this Colony requested the sense of this Congress relative thereto. Congress took the same into consideration, and agreed that it is the opinion of this Congress that such a measure is very right and proper; and Mr. *Lewis* was informed of the same, and requested to inform the other Delegates of their opinion in this particular.

A Letter from Captain *Daniel Denton*, relative to his Company raised for the Continental service, and now ready for duty, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, March 13, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Having received a warrant from your honourable House for the purpose of inlisting a company of men in *Orange* County, to act in one of the four battalions raising within this Province, for the service of the United Colonies, I beg leave to inform you that I have my company complete as to number, and that I have inlisted a number of genteel young fellows out of reputable families, who would choose to clothe themselves entirely; receive the value of some things proposed to be given them—such as hats, shoes, stockings, &c., in cash; and beg your indulgence in that respect.

"Some of the men would willingly find their own guns, if they are not already provided; but the most of them are without that article.

"I am now in town, waiting the direction of Congress.

"I am, respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"DANIEL DENTON.

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of *New-York*."

*Ordered*, That Captain *Denton* be informed that such men in his Company as will provide themselves with any articles promised to be furnished to the Troops by Congress at publick expense, shall be allowed for the same the prices fixed by the Continental Congress; and that Captain *Denton* be requested to inform his men that, by the terms of inlistment, they are to provide their own Arms and Accoutrements.

A Letter from *Robert Livingston*, Esq., offering to the publick the use of his Furnace and hands, to cast Cannon for the defence of the country, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Manor Livingston, March 2, 1776.

"SIR: I did myself the honour to answer your letter of the 25th of *January* on the 5th of *February*, and sent it by my cousin, (*Gilbert Livingston*), who promised me to deliver it; advising that my furnace would be ready to begin her blast early in *April*, and that the Committee should be very welcome to have the use of her, with all my stock and hands, to cast guns, or any other implements of war, provided they could procure proper and skilful men who understood the casting and moulding of them, for that I had none about my works. Since which I have received no answer. I am now to inform you that the time draws near that we must cut the hearth and put it in; which, possibly, may not suit the casting of great guns, as we shall do it in such a manner as to suit our business. I wish to have your answer before the 15th current, that I may know how to conduct myself.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"ROBERT LIVINGSTON.

"To Mr. *Joseph Hallett*."

The Congress took the said Letter into consideration; and, considering that Cannon are already making in another Colony for the Continental Ships-of-War, and that it is not probable any other Cannon will be cast in this Colony than the few additional Cannon that may be wanted for its own defence, and that they have not proper Artificers now remaining in the Colony for that business, are of opinion that it will not be proper to accept of Mr. *Livingston's* generous offer, as it may do him a very great injury.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Brasher* prepare and report a draft of an Answer to Mr. *Livingston's* said Letter.

A draft of an Answer to the Letter of *Robert Livingston*, Esq., was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit :

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 13, 1776.

SIR : This day your letter of the 2d instant came to hand. After returning you our thanks for the offer you have made us of your furnace, for the purpose of casting artillery, we beg leave to inform you that we conceive the season of the year is too far advanced to admit of our sending up a proper person to determine whether your furnace is so constructed and situated as to answer the end we had in view. The Committee of Safety have informed us that, in your first letter in answer to ours, you had some doubts on that head. When the Committee of Safety wrote to you, it was from an apprehension that heavy artillery might be wanted ; since which you have doubtless been informed of the manner in which a supply has been obtained. To alter your works only for the purpose of procuring a few pieces of cannon, if it were practicable, would not be worth while to desire it on our part, would be injurious to you, and inconsistent with the high sense we entertain of your attachment to the rights of your country.

We are, sir, with great esteem, your most humble servants.

By order.

To *Robert Livingston*, Esq.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A long Letter from Colonel *Abraham Hasbrouck*, at *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, alleging that he is superseded in his rank as an Officer in the Militia, was read and filed.

Another very long Letter from said Colonel *Abraham Hasbrouck*, *Johannes Snyder*, and the other gentlemen lately appointed to be Field and Staff-Officers of the Northern Regiment in *Ulster* County, and covering all the Field and Staff-Officers of that Regiment, was also read and filed.

The gentlemen who wrote the last above-mentioned Letter, amongst many other childish reasons therein contained for returning their Commissions, have assigned the two following as the principal ; first, as they are called Officers of the Northern Regiment of *Ulster* County ; and, secondly, that their Commissions bear test on the date posterior to the date of many of the inferior Officers of their Regiment.

The said Letters and Commissions having been received by the post :

Ordered, That *Mr. McKesson* pay the postage, (fifteen Shillings and ten Pence.)

The Congress then proceeded further to consider of, and determine, the powers of the Committee of Safety, and, beginning with the sixteenth power, as hereinafter contained, the whole residue of the powers of the said Committee were read through, amended, and approved of.

Thereupon, Ordered, That the same remain, and be taken into further consideration the first convenient opportunity.

The Committee appointed this morning, at the request of *Lord Stirling*, to confer with him on matters relative to the protection and security of this City and Colony, returned.

The said Committee delivered in a Report containing—1st, An Account of several measures already taken by his Lordship as Commanding Officer of the Continental Forces in this City, for the security and defence thereof ; secondly, A draft of sundry Resolutions proposed by the said Committee as necessary to be entered into and carried into execution by this Congress, for the safety and defence of this City and Colony.

The second part of the said Report was read, and, being again read by paragraphs, and sundry amendments therein made, the same was ordered to remain for further consideration.

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., March 14, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Sands*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*, *Mr. Rutgers*, Captain *Denning*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—*Mr. Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, *Mr. Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, *Mr. Gelston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR RICHMOND.—*Mr. Adrian Bancker*.

FOR ULSTER.—*Mr. Rhea*, *Mr. Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*.

FOR KING'S.—*Mr. Polhemus*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Covenhoven*, Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Lewis Graham*, *Mr. Paulding*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—*Mr. Moore*.

The Bond of *John R. Livingston*, Esq., and his securities, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit :

“Know all men by these presents, that we, *John R. Livingston*, of *Rhinebeck* Precinct, *Dutchess* County, and *Patrick Dennis* and *John Dawson*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchants, are held and firmly bound unto *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, and the survivor or survivors of them, in the sum of two thousand Pounds, current money of *New-York*, to be paid to the said *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, or the survivor or survivors of them. Sealed with our Seals. Dated the fourteenth day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

“Whereas the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, pursuant to a resolution of the said Congress, have lent to the above bounden *John R. Livingston* the sum of one thousand Pounds, for two years from the date hereof, without interest, as an encouragement to him to erect a Powder-Mill in such place in *Dutchess* County as the General Committee of the said County shall approve of: Now, therefore, the condition of the above obligation is such, that, if the above bounden *John R. Livingston* does, within three months from the date hereof, erect a Powder-Mill of the best quality in such place in *Dutchess* County as the General Committee of the said County shall approve of, and, also, if the said *John R. Livingston* does well and truly repay the said sum of one thousand Pounds so lent as aforesaid unto the above-named *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *John Thomas*, Jun., *Petrus Ten Broeck*, *John Herring*, and *Jacobus Bruyn*, or the survivor or survivors of them, within two years from the date hereof, then the above obligation to be void ; but, on failure or non-performance of any or either of the above conditions, to be and remain in full force.

“*JOHN R. LIVINGSTON*,

“*PATRICK DENNIS*,

“*JOHN DAWSON*.

“Sealed and delivered in the presence of—

“*ABRAHAM LOTT*,

“*THOMAS JONES*.”

*John R. Livingston*, Esq., having given bond, with securities, to *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esquires, and the other gentlemen named in the Order of this Congress of the 9th instant, and contracted to build a Powder-Mill within three months, agreeable to the said Resolution :

Therefore, Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to *John R. Livingston*, Esq., the sum of one thousand Pounds, and take his receipt for the same.

The Congress agreed that Colonel *Drake* permit four Men in his Regiment, inlisted with Captain-Lieutenant *James Moore*, in his Artillery Company, to go into that service.

A Certificate of *Stephen Badlam*, Captain of Artillery, was read and filed. He thereby certifies that he has examined *Alexander Hamilton*, and judges him qualified to command a Company of Artillery.

Ordered, That the said *Alexander Hamilton* be, and he is hereby, appointed Captain of the Provincial Company of Artillery of this Colony.

The Congress, considering that it will be necessary to have some gentleman appointed steadily to pay the Pro-

vincial Artillery Company of this Colony, were of opinion that Colonel *McDougall* would be proper for that service. Colonel *McDougall*, present, agreed to undertake that service.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* pay the Artillery Company of this Colony as their pay shall become due, until further order of this Provincial Congress, or their Committee of Safety.

The Petition of *David Shaddell*, setting forth his poverty, and the injury he received on the 18th ultimo, in removing the Cannon from the Battery, and praying for some relief and assistance, was read.

*Ordered*, That Doctor *John Charlton*, for the present, take charge of, and attend the cure of *David Shaddell's* hand and arm; and that he report to this Congress the circumstances of the said *David Shaddell*.

The Congress were informed by a Member that the workmen employed in unspiking the Cannon on the Green, in this City, are so negligent in their business that it is necessary to set a Guard over them to keep them at work.

Therefore, *Ordered*, That Lord *Stirling* be authorized, and he is hereby authorized, to command as many Blacksmiths, or other fit persons who are acquainted with drilling Cannon, as he may think proper, to open the Cannon in this City, and place a Guard over them, to keep them at work until the said Cannon are unspiked, except for such time as shall be necessary for their proper refreshment.

A draft of a Letter to the County Committee of *Ulster* County, to attend six blank Commissions, to be by the said Committee filled up for the Field or Staff-Officers for the First or Northern Regiment of the same County, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have now under consideration the subject of two letters received from Colonel *Hasbrouck*, respecting the Regiment of Militia in your County, which he was commissioned to command. There appears to be a great dissatisfaction among the Field-Officers; and the Colonel declines serving, by reason of your altering the name of his Regiment, and our appointing *George Clinton*, Esq., Brigadier-General of the Militia of *Ulster* and *Orange* Counties. You cannot be ignorant of the multiplicity of business before us, and the impropriety of an application to us upon that subject, as we have, by a letter, dated the 22d of *December* last, referred the settlement of that matter entirely to you. The reason of this step must be obvious to you when you reflect that it is impossible for us to judge of the qualification of any person in your County. We beg you will accommodate this difference; and, that you may not be under the necessity of applying to Congress on the subject, we enclose you six blank commissions, which you will please to fill up for such persons as you conceive best qualified; being previously assured that the person you appoint will serve, and that his political sentiments are friendly to *American* liberty.

We are, yours, respectfully.

By order.

To *Jacobus Bruyn*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Ulster* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, and that six Commissions be signed by the President, and countersigned by one of the Secretaries, and enclosed therein.

A copy of the examination of ——— *Craig* was brought into the Congress by Mr. *Robert Benson*, who, by order, had called on Lord *Stirling* and taken a copy from the original, which was taken by his Lordship. The said copy of the examination was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*Craig*, lately a soldier in the First Regiment of *Yorkers*, declares that he was employed by one *Vernon*, a hatter of this City, to rig out a Sloop the said *Vernon* had lately purchased by order of Governour *Tryon*, to be employed by the Governour as a tender or cutter, and occasionally to cruise in the *North* and *East-Rivers*; that the said *Vernon* was to be supplied by the said Governour with swivels for the said Sloop; that the said *Craig* went on board (with the said *Vernon*) of the *Dutchess of Gordon*, and there conversed with the Governour and the Attorneys General *Kempe* and *Skinner*, who urged him to be active in pro-

curing as many men as possible, not only for the said Sloop, but for the *Asia*, and other men-of-war soon expected here; that above fifty or sixty soldiers now in town in the Continental service were engaged by the said *Vernon* for the service of the Ministry."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Hay* and Colonel *Morris Graham* be a Committee to go to *Thomas Vernon* and take his Examination, and report the same with all convenient speed.

A Letter or Memorial from *Jacob Bampor* was read and filed. He thereby requests a Captain or Lieutenant's commission in the Continental service.

*Ordered*, That the Member of *King's* County, who brought in the said Letter, inform Mr. *Bampor* that there is not any vacancy.

Die Jovis, 4 ho. P. M., March 14, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *E. Bancker*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on duty.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Ten Broeck*, Major *Schenck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*, Colonel *Lewis Graham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

The several Proposals for victualling the Continental Troops in this Colony were read, and referred to Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Paulling*, and Mr. *Sands*, as a Committee to report thereon with all possible speed.

The Committee above-mentioned, reported that the Proposal of Mr. *Abraham Livingston* for contracting for the Continental Troops in this Colony, is the lowest and most advantageous: Therefore, it is

*Resolved and Agreed*, That his Proposals be accepted, and that a Letter be written to the Continental Congress, informing that honourable body of the terms on which the said Troops can be supplied with Rations.

*Ordered*, That *Hamilton Young* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board of his Majesty's Ship *Asia*, or the Packet, in company with the Port-Master, to receive his Letters, he having been first duly sworn that he will not communicate on board of the Ships-of-War, or any of the other Ships in the harbour, any intelligence concerning the preparations making for the defence of this City and Colony, or carry any Letters or Papers relative thereto, or giving any intelligence concerning the same. Mr. *Sands* and Mr. *Hallett* are appointed a Committee to view such Letters as Mr. *Young* brings on shore before they be delivered.

It was represented to Congress that Captain *Daniel Denton*, of *Orange* County, has his Company full, and ready for service; that Lord *Stirling* has ordered him with his Company to *New-York*; and that he is in necessity for some money to pay the wages due his men, that they may furnish themselves with some necessaries.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Captain *Daniel Denton* the sum of sixty Pounds on account, in part of the pay of his Company, and take Captain *Denton's* receipt for the same; Captain *Denton* to be accountable for that sum paid him on account for his Company.

A permit was given to the Port-Master to carry on board of the Ships *Phenix*, (packet,) *Asia*, and *Dutchess of Gordon*, a great number of articles, mentioned in a memorandum delivered in by the Port-Master and filed. He was also permitted to carry on board for the use of the Ship *Asia*, certain quantities of Provisions and other articles, specified in a list or memorandum of *Abraham Lott*, Con-



tractor, and endorsed on the back of the Port-Master's memorandum, Rum excepted.

A Letter from *Abraham Livingston*, Esq., was read and filed. He thereby informs that he has received a deputation from *Walter Livingston*, Esq., in the Department of Commissary-General, to furnish all Continental Troops in this part of the Colony with Provisions, and that he will continue to act in that appointment until further order, or some contract made for supplying the said Troops.

A Letter from the Committee of *Essex County*, in *New-Jersey*, on the subjects of the Pay and Provisions, &c., of their Militia ordered into this Colony by Lord *Stirling*, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Newark, March 14, 1776.

"SIR: The Earl of *Stirling* last night requested of the County of *Essex* the assistance of three or four hundred men, to march to *New-York* as soon as possible. We think proper to inform you of it, and, also, that we have agreed to comply with the request, provided it be agreeable to the Provincial Congress of *New-York*. You will therefore be kind enough to let us know by the bearer the sense of the Congress about it. We have given orders for the men to be raised immediately, and they will be ready to march tomorrow, or next day at farthest. The Congress is desired, also, to inform us how the men are to be provided for, and by whom to be paid, and when quarters and provisions will be ready for them. Three hundred men are ordered to be raised in this County.

"I am, sir, your most humble servant,

"WILLIAM BURNET, *Chairman*.

"To the President of Congress, *New-York*."

A draft of a Letter in answer to the Committee of *Essex County*, in *New-Jersey*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I have communicated to Congress your favour of this day, and am directed to inform you that they approve of the requisition made by the Earl of *Stirling*. The Congress have a grateful sense of the readiness your people manifest to comply with his request. Quarters will be provided for your Troops, but we wish them to bring a Quartermaster with them. An Assistant to the Deputy Commissary-General will furnish them with provisions. Who shall pay the troops is a question to be determined by the Continental Congress. When our aid shall become necessary to our neighbours, we shall cheerfully give it, and put this question on the same issue.

And are, sir, your very humble servants.

To *William Burnett*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee for the Town of *Newark*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted by the bearer from *Newark*, in waiting.

The Congress then proceeded to take into further consideration the Report of the Committee who conferred with Lord *Stirling* on the 13th instant, on the measures necessary to be taken for the defence of this City and Colony. The said Report being read, and again read by paragraphs, and those parts of it that remained to be carried into execution corrected, amended, resolved on, and unanimously agreed to, is in the words following, to wit:

*Regulations agreed to for the Defence of the City of NEW-YORK, between Lord STIRLING, General of the Continental Army, and a Committee of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK.*

Lord *Stirling* has already ordered Colonel *Dayton*, with the Third Regiment of the *New-Jersey* Troops, and also six Companies of the Second Battalion of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, immediately to proceed to this City. He also wrote to the Chairmen of the Committees of six Counties in *New-Jersey*, to send at least three hundred picked men, well accoutred, from each. And has informed the President of the *New-Jersey* Congress of the intelligence received from General *Washington*, concerning the embarkation of the Ministerial Troops at *Boston*, and requested him to give us all possible assistance, on the supposition that those Troops are destined hither. He has also ordered all the Artillery to be put in the best order possible.

Lord *Stirling* informs the Committee of the arrival of a quantity of Powder in this City, and that another quantity is soon expected, both directed by the Continental Congress for the service of the Army at *Cambridge*. It is agreed that the forwarding of the said Powder be deferred till further order of the Continental Congress, and that an express be immediately despatched to them by Lord *Stirling* on the subject.

1st. *Resolved and Ordered*, That all the male inhabitants, capable of fatigue, be immediately employed on the Fortifications of this City, and as well all the Negro men in the City and County of *New-York*, in the manner hereinafter-mentioned, to wit: That the commanding officers of each corps draw out one-third of his respective corps, and also one-third part of all the male inhabitants capable of fatigue within the districts or beats of the Militia, whereof he is the commanding officer, to parade in the Common, at nine o'clock, to-morrow morning, without arms, but provided with as many intrenching tools as they are possessed of; and that they take care to have one-third of all the Negro men in their respective districts turned out, provided in the same manner; that they continue to have the third part of their respective corps, and one-third part of all the male inhabitants capable of fatigue, and also one-third part of all Negro men within their respective beats turned out every day, and so on from day to day, to work on the said Fortifications until further order; that the commanding officer of each respective corps for the time being on any fatigue or day of labour may receive an able-bodied hired man in the place of any other person, or any servant or slave in the place of his master, when it is not the proper tour of labour or duty of such hired man, servant, or slave.

2dly. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the General Committee of *New-York* to make immediate report of all the Provisions and Bar-Iron in Town; to prevent the exportation of either of those articles from the City and County of *New-York* till further order of this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, except such Provisions as the sub-Committee of the City of *New-York* have, or may have, given permits for before the receipt of this Resolve, which the said sub-Committee are at liberty to permit to be exported, but from the City of *New-York* only, and agreeable to the permits they have already given, if they think proper.

3dly. *Resolved*, That Dr. *John Jones* and Dr. *Treat* are hereby authorized to purchase all the Hospital Medicines and Stores and apparatus in this City which they shall think necessary in the premises, and that they make report of their doings to this Congress, or Committee of Safety; and that they take the direction and disposition of the Hospital stores in the possession of Mr. Commissary *Curtenius*.

4thly. *Resolved*, That the Provincial Congress issue immediate orders to the Committee of *King's County* to order the inhabitants of that County to give assistance in fatigue to Colonel *Ward*, thereby turning out for the service as many of the male inhabitants, Negroes included, every day, to work at the Fortifications in that County as the Committee of that County and Colonel *Ward* shall think necessary; and that they take with them their spades, pick-axes, shovels, and hoes, and to begin the work on *Friday* next, and they be under the like regulations, as to the number of officers, pay, and provisions, as the Militia of the City of *New-York*.

5thly. *Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be, and are hereby, empowered to take the direction and management of keeping proper Look-outs, and by proper persons, to discover any number of Ships on the coast, or approaching or entering *Sandy-Hook*; and that every Committee, Officer, and person in this Colony, give them any necessary aid for that purpose which the said Marine Committee may require.

6thly. *Resolved and Ordered*, That the Colonels of the Regiments in *Orange County*, on the south side of the Mountains, do draft out of their Regiments at least one hundred men, in the following proportions, to wit: Sixty-five privates out of Colonel *Hays's* Regiment, and thirty-five privates out of Colonel *Lent's* Regiment, and as many more men out of these two regiments as will turn out volunteers for that service, to be immediately sent to this

City, armed and accoutred in the best manner possible, who shall be entitled to receive the same pay and provisions as the other Continental forces in this Colony.

7thly. *Resolved and Ordered*, That Colonel *Joseph Drake* and Colonel *Thomas Thomas*, of *Westchester* County, do draft out of their Regiments two hundred men, in the following proportions, to wit: Two companies of sixty-five privates each, besides the Captains and other inferior officers, out of Colonel *Joseph Drake's* Regiment, and one company of sixty-five privates, with the Captain and other inferior officers, of Colonel *Thomas's* Regiment, and as many more men out of those two regiments as will turn out volunteers for that service, to be immediately sent to the City of *New-York*, armed and accoutred in the best manner possible, and to be joined to Colonel *Samuel Drake's* Regiment, and to receive the same pay and provisions as the other Continental forces in this Colony.

8thly. *Resolved and Ordered*, That the respective commanding Officers be directed, pursuant to the regulations made for the Militia of this Colony, to levy and collect a fine of ten Shillings upon each of those who do not appear according to the above order, and carefully reserve the same for the disposition of this Congress or Committee of Safety.

9thly. *Resolved and Ordered*, That the Officers be in the proportion of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, one Adjutant, and one Quartermaster, to each Regiment, consisting of six hundred and fifty men; and one Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign, for every sixty-five privates, and non-commissioned officers in the same proportion; that the officers and soldiers so employed be allowed the Continental pay, and ten Pence half-Penny per day instead of provisions for each day they shall do work.

10thly. *Ordered*, That the Officers commanding the parties upon fatigue do make an exact return of all the men so employed to the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, every night.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries deliver out Copies to the Colonels of the respective Regiments in the before written Resolutions mentioned, of the said Resolutions, as may be necessary for them respectively.

Captain *John Warner*, of the Militia of *New-York*, attending at the door, sent in a Warrant from Lord *Stirling*, as commander of the Continental forces at present of this City, authorizing the said *John Warner* to proceed to *Richmond* County, and take the person of *James Boyd*, and bring him before the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, with such evidence as he had against him. The said *John Warner* was called in and heard.

*Joseph Welpley*, a witness against *John James Boyd*, of *Richmond* County, was called in and examined, and his examination taken down in writing, and filed.

The Congress considering the evidence offered, are of opinion that the said *John James Boyd* is so unimportant and insignificant a person in the community, as not to deserve the expense or trouble of apprehending him without further testimony of some overt acts inimical to the *American* Colonies, and therefore dismissed Captain *Warner* and *Joseph Welpley*, with commendations of their vigilance and readiness, and directed them to inform the Congress, or Committee of Safety, if they should know of any future ill behaviour of the said *John James Boyd*.

The Congress took into consideration the late Letter of *William Leary*, Town-Major, setting forth his great share of hard duty and his small means to support himself and his family without pay.

Thereupon, a motion was made and seconded, that *William Leary*, Town-Major, be allowed the pay of a Captain on the present Continental establishment, from the 8th day of *December* last to the 8th day of *April* next, one of these days included.

The question being put thereon, it was determined in the affirmative in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

4 New-York.	2 Westchester.
3 Albany.	2 King's.
2 Cumberland.	2 Tryon.
2 Suffolk.	2 Ulster.
2 Richmond.	
2 Charlotte.	25 votes.
2 Dutchess.	

Orange divided.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *William Leary*, Town-Major, be allowed the pay of a Captain on the present Continental establishment, from the 8th day of *December* last, to the 8th day of *April* next, one of those days included.

*Oliver Templeton*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, at the door, was admitted. He informed this Congress that a Ship, laded under his direction by order of the Continental Congress, bound for *Ireland*, is ready to put to sea. That as the said Ship, or the greater part of her, is owned in *Britain*, and the lading consigned for the payment of *British* debts, as appears by the papers relative thereto, he is in hopes to prevail on Captain *Parker* to permit the said Ship to pass him and go to sea, and therefore requests permission to go on board of Captain *Parker's* Ship for that purpose.

The said *Oliver Templeton* having in Congress taken the oath usually administered to persons going on board of Ships-of-War in this harbour, a permit was given to him in the words following, to wit:

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Oliver Templeton* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board his Majesty's Ship *Phenix*, with the Port-Master, and to return, he having been sworn that he will convey no intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting in or near this City.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., March 15, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Colonel *Lott*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Col. *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *M. Graham*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR CHARLOTTE.—Colonel *John Williams*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

The Congress were informed that Mr. *Jacob Le Roy* says Dr. *William Farquhar* told him he might depend on it that the Ministry would exert their utmost force against the Colonies, and that sixty thousand foreign Troops were coming over.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, the Doorkeeper, call on *Jacob Le Roy*, Esq., and Dr. *William Farquhar*, and request them respectively to attend at the Congress Chamber, in the City-Hall, immediately.

Mr. *Abraham Livingston* attending, was admitted. He produced a draft of a Contract for victualling the Troops to be employed in this Colony, which was read. Mr. *Livingston* then requested to know what sum of money this Congress would advance him to enable him to carry on the contract, and what sum per month they will agree to pay him; and Mr. *Livingston* withdrew.

Debates arose on the said request. The sums proposed were five thousand Pounds, as soon as Mr. *Livingston* shall have given security to perform his contract, and five thousand Pounds per month, if the supplying of the Troops shall require that sum.

The question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, Captain *Rutgers* only dissenting from the vote of his County.

*Resolved, therefore*, That this Congress will advance to Mr. *Abraham Livingston* five thousand Pounds, as soon as he shall have given security to perform his contract, and pay him five thousand Pounds per month, if the supply of the Army stationed in the Colony of *New-York* shall amount to that sum, or require it.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Roosevelt* and Mr. *Gansevoort* be a Committee to examine the said draft of the Contract, and report thereon this afternoon.

Mr. *Jacob Le Roy* attending, was admitted. *Jacob Le Roy*, Esq., says, that Dr. *William Farquhar* told him he might depend on it the Ministry would do what they could by force; that there were sixty thousand foreign Troops coming over, among which were twenty thousand *Russians*; that on his asking Dr. *Farquhar* how he knew that, he answered Mr. *Temple* had said so; that he (Mr. *Le Roy*) then offered that he would lay a beaver hat with Mr. *Temple* that it was not true; that Dr. *Farquhar* offered to lay him a beaver hat of the truth of it; that he (this examinant) refused to take the advantage of him, but said he was ready to lay the wager with Mr. *Temple*; that he (this examinant) then told Mr. *Farquhar* that he should make use of the intelligence he had given him, and that he must give him leave to call on him as the author.

Dr. *William Farquhar* attending, was admitted. Dr. *William Farquhar* says that he heard some countrymen, at the Ferry, say that Mr. *Temple* had said that thirty thousand foreign Troops were coming over here. Having heard Mr. *Le Roy's* examination read, says that he did not inform him of sixty thousand, but of thirty thousand; that he told Mr. *Le Roy* that he wondered at the different reports—that Mr. *Temple* should have told some that no Troops were coming over, and has told others that large numbers were coming over; that he does not know the persons of whom he heard the report at the Ferry.

A Permit was given to *Robert Murray* and *Ichabod B. Barnet*, after being sworn, in the words following:

Ordered, That *Robert Murray* and *Ichabod B. Barnet* be, and they are hereby, permitted to go on board his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix* and Governour *Tryon's* Ship, in company with the Port-Master, and he return; they having been sworn that they will give no intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this Colony.

Ordered, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York* assist Mr. *Garret Roorback*, the Barrackmaster, to provide Quarters, without delay, for the following Troops, expected soon to arrive in this City, to wit: For six Companies of *Pennsylvania* Regulars; for eight Companies of *Jersey* Regulars; for one thousand *Jersey* Militia; and for at least three hundred Militia from different Counties in this Colony; and that the Troops of the respective corps be placed as near each other as possible.

A Letter from the Committee of *Suffolk* County was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

— Suffolk County, March 1, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In pursuance to your recommendation, the Committee of this County have ordered that no wheat or flour that shall be made after this date, nor any barrel pork or beef, be exported from this County until the 1st day of *April* next, unless the Provincial Congress or this Committee shall otherwise order. As this County stands in need of a considerable sum of money to defray their past expenses and to pay their Deputies for their attendance on Congress for the present year, we beg the favour of a loan of five hundred pounds; which this County will repay as soon as it will be in their power to collect the same; and desire the Deputies from this County may receive the money, they having our order for that purpose.

"We are, with the greatest respect, your humble servants. By order: "WILLIAM SMITH, Chairman.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress in *New-York*."

On reading the said Letter, the Congress agreed to lend or advance to the Deputies of *Suffolk* County, on their bond, or the bond of those present, four hundred and sixty Pounds.

Whereupon, the said entry of that matter, and order thereon, was read, and agreed to, in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, March 15, 1776.

The Committee of the County of *Suffolk* having, by letter dated the 1st instant, requested the loan of a sum of money, which they therein say their County will repay as soon as it is in their power to collect the same; and whereas the Provincial Congress of this Colony, by their resolution of the 13th day of *March*, instant, resolved to advance on loan, out of the Treasury of this Congress to each County Committee, a sum of money not exceeding the sum for that purpose

therein mentioned, and, amongst others, to the Committee of *Suffolk* County the sum of four hundred and sixty Pounds, payable to the Chairman of the County Committee, or his order; and whereas the Deputies of the said County of *Suffolk*, for want of such order, have requested that the said sum of four hundred and sixty Pounds may be advanced to them on the bond of *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, and *David Gelston*, Esquires, to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, Treasurer of this Congress, until such certificate from the County Committee shall be produced to entitle them to have the said bond returned, to which request this Provincial Congress unanimously agrees, and the said bond is executed accordingly:

Therefore, Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., Treasurer of this Congress, pay to the said *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *John Sloss Hobart*, and *David Gelston*, or any one or more of them, the sum of four hundred and sixty Pounds, and take a receipt of the pay for the same; and that he receive the Bond before-mentioned for that money, and retain the same until such Certificate as aforesaid from the said County Committee shall be delivered to him in lieu thereof, or until the further order of the Provincial Congress, or of the Committee of Safety.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., March 15, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Hallett*.

FOR *ALBANY*.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR *DUTCHESS*.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Major *R. G. Livingston*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR *ORANGE*.—Colonel *Hay*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR *KING'S*.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR *RICHMOND*.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR *CUMBERLAND*.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR *TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*.

Colonel *Hay*, from the Committee appointed to examine *Thomas Vernon*, delivered in their Report, and the Examination of the said *Thomas Vernon*, which was read and filed.

It thereby appears that the said *Thomas Vernon* is a worthless fellow, of no consequence. That no dependance is to be put on his information. As to *Craig*, the said Committee gave it as their opinion that he ought to be separated from *Vernon*, and not confined in the same place with him.

The Congress then resumed and read the Constitution and powers for a Committee of Safety during their recess. The whole were read, sundry amendments made thereto, and, the same being finally determined, resolved on, and agreed to, are in the words following, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety for this Colony, appointed by this Congress on the 16th day of *December* last, be, and is hereby, entirely dissolved; and that a Committee of Safety for this Colony shall, notwithstanding any former order or resolve, be formed, and is hereby formed, in the manner and with the powers hereinafter mentioned; and that a quorum thereof shall consist of seven Counties represented in Committee.

That any three or more of the Members for the City and County of *New-York* be a quorum, to represent that City and County in the said Committee of Safety.

That *Peter R. Livingston*, *Robert Yates*, and *Jacob Cuyler*, for the City and County of *Albany*; *Dirck E. Wynkoop*, Esquire, *Samuel Brewster*, and *Henry Wisner*, Jun., for the County of *Ulster*; *Morris Graham*, *Jacob Everson*, or any other Member for the County of *Dutchess*; Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, and Mr. *Paulding*, for the County of *Westchester*; *Jeremiah Clarke* and *Tennis Cooper*, for the County of *Orange*; Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Leffertse*, Mr. *Vanderbilt*, and Mr. *Covenhoven*, for *King's* County; *Thomas Treadwell*,

or any other Member, for the County of *Suffolk*; Colonel *John Williams*, or Mr. *Alexander Campbell*, for the County of *Charlotte*; Mr. *Moore*, or Mr. *Wills*, for the County of *Tryon*; Mr. *Adrian Bancker*, or Mr. *Richard Lawrence*, for the County of *Richmond*; and Colonel *William Williams* for *Cumberland* County; with any three or more Members for the City and County of *New-York*, to be the Committee of Safety for this Colony, to have duration until the second *Tuesday* in *May* next.

That each of the Counties, except *New-York*, be effectually represented by one Member.

That every vote, order, or resolve, in the said Committee be by Counties, and not by Poll; and that in estimating every vote, order, or resolve, the respective voices be as follows, to wit: The City and County of *New-York*, four; the City and County of *Albany*, three; and every other County, two.

That every Member of this Congress who attends the Committee of Safety, may sit in said Committee, and join in the vote of the County to which he belongs.

That in case any of the before-named persons should, through sickness or otherwise, be unable to attend the said Committee, the Deputies of the County where such person or persons so unable to attend resides, shall appoint and immediately send one other of their Members to supply such deficiency.

That the said Committee of Safety be fully vested with the following powers and authorities, and under the following Regulations, to wit:

1st. A power to grant all Commissions in the Militia of this Colony, subject to the regulations thereof as established by the Provincial Congress; and the said Committee have the same powers as to the nomination and election of officers, and the granting and refusing of Commissions to officers of every rank, as this Provincial Congress while sitting.

2d. A power, during the recess of this Congress, in case of any alarm, insurrection, or invasion, or for any matter or thing, for the executing whereof military force shall or may be necessary, to order and direct the Militia of the Colony, or any part thereof; subject, nevertheless, to the control of this and the Continental Congress.

3d. The like power, during such recess, from time to time, in such cases as are last mentioned, to order and direct any of the Continental forces that shall be within this Colony, and be by any order or appointment of the Continental Congress, under the direction of this Congress; subject, nevertheless, to such control as aforementioned.

4th. A power, by drafts on the Treasurer, to apply all such moneys as shall be appropriated to uses, but not actually applied by this Congress.

5th. A power, by like drafts, to appropriate and apply any such moneys as shall, from time to time, be by them judged necessary for contingent services; provided the same do not, in the whole, exceed five thousand Pounds.

6th. A power to execute, or cause to be executed, orders, resolves, and recommendations, as well of the Continental as of this Congress.

7th. A power for the care, direction, and disposition of the magazines, arms, and ammunition, and other military stores and implements belonging to this Colony, or which shall be committed by the Continental Congress to the care and direction of this Congress.

8th. A power, in the recess of this Congress, to call a meeting of the same, when and where, in the judgment of the Committee, any emergency shall require it.

9th. A power to enjoin secrecy on their Members, and others under their direction, as to all matters in the execution of their trust, wherein they shall judge it necessary.

10th. A power, during the recess of this Congress, to open and answer all letters directed to this Congress, or the President thereof.

11th. A power to comply, as far and as often as they shall think proper, with any requisition by the Generals of the Continental forces, or any or either of them.

12th. A power to take up and examine persons suspected to have broken the resolutions of the Continental or this Congress, or to have in any otherwise acted inimical to the liberties of their country; and, according to the discretion of the said Committee of Safety, to discharge such persons, or to send them to the General Committee of the County to whom it may belong to determine the matter.

13th. A power to carry into execution a settlement of accounts with the Continental Congress; which this Congress recommends to their Committee of Safety to be done with all possible despatch.

14th. A power to appoint signers for the emission of the paper currency lately resolved to be issued, and to insert their names in the plan agreed to and resolved on by this Congress for that purpose.

15th. A discretionary power to purchase arms and ammunition, and apply the same to the publick service.

16th. A power, in case of a deficiency of the Provincial Treasury, to answer the appropriations and applications by this Congress entrusted to the Committee of Safety; to supply such deficiency as often as it may happen, by a vote of credit, to be made good by provision hereafter to be made by this Congress.

17th. A power to answer and determine all questions that may be inquired of, or put to them, by the Committee for Accounts, and that may arise in their Department.

18th. A power to purchase, secure, and lodge at the publick expense, in such places of safety as they may think proper, as much pitch, tar, and turpentine, as the said Committee may think necessary for the publick use and publick safety.

19th. A power to provide for the removal of, and to remove the poor that are or may be in the Alms-House, at the City of *New-York*, and to place them in such place, or places of safety, as the said Committee of Safety may think proper.

20th. A power to remove the Records of the Colony of *New-York*, and the Records of the City and County of *New-York*, and the Treasury of this Congress, and the Treasury of the said Colony in the hands of *Abraham Lott*, Esq., or any, or either of them, to such place or places of safety, and under such guards and directions, as to the said Committee of Safety shall seem necessary.

21st. A power to restore any person or persons who may have been held up as inimical to his country, and who shall have made proper concessions, and signed or subscribed the General Association, and given to the Committee of Safety such assurances of his, or their, future good conduct, and willingness and determination to conform, and in all things be obedient to the resolutions of Congress, as shall be satisfactory to the said Committee of Safety.

22d. A power to advance to *Abraham Livingston*, contractor for the maintenance of the Continental Troops in this Colony, the sum of five thousand Pounds, as soon as he shall have given sufficient security for that sum, or for fulfilling such contract; and further, to advance to the said contractor any sum of money, not exceeding the sum of five thousand Pounds, at the expiration of every month, from the commencement of such contract, if, in the opinion of the Committee of Safety, the supply of the Army in the Colony shall require it.

23d. A power to the Committee of Safety, from time to time, to make such dispositions and distributions of any quantity, or quantities of gunpowder, or other Colony stores, of arms or ammunition, as they shall think necessary for the defence of the Colony.

24th. That the Committee of Safety keep exact Journals of their proceedings, subject to the inspection of this, or a future Provincial Congress.

Ordered, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, be directed, and he is hereby directed, to weigh the Powder lately purchased of Mr. *Nicholas Low*, so as to know exactly the quantity thereof; and to examine, or cause to be examined, with great care, the quality thereof; and to report the quantity and quality thereof particularly to this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, with all possible speed.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., March 16, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Hallett*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*.

FOR ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Gansevoort*, Colonel *Nicoll*, (on service.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Gelston*, Mr. *Hobart*

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Peter Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Morris Graham*, Major *R. G. Livingston*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Lefever*, Colonel *Palmer*, (on service.)

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Hay*, (absent on service.)

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*,

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

A Letter from Mr. *John Berrien*, dated the 15th instant, was read. He has therein stated an account of Moneys by him advanced to *Bernard Romans*, while employed as an Engineer in this Colony, amounting in the whole to seventeen Pounds seven Shillings and seven Pence.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter remain with the Secretaries, and that the Committee of Safety, or the Auditors of Accounts, on a settlement with *Bernard Romans*, deduct those Moneys, or so much thereof as they shall find him chargeable with, out of his pay.

A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, relating to Captain *Wynkoop*, and the command of the Vessels on the Lakes, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Albany, March 8, 1776.

“SIR: I am honoured with yours of the 4th instant. The Continental Congress have resolved that Captain *Wynkoop* should be employed upon the lakes under Commodore *Douglass*. Whether the latter gentleman means to engage in that service, I do not know. Of this, Congress can very speedily inform itself, as he resides near *New-York*. Should he not engage, there is no person I would more willingly have to command the vessels than Captain *Wynkoop*; at any rate I wish you to send him up the soonest possible, with a sufficient number of sailors for the two schooners and sloop.

I am, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

“PHILIP SCHUYLER.

“To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., &c.”

Thereupon, a Message was sent to Mr. *Wynkoop*, who attended.

A copy of the said Letter was delivered to him. He was requested to go to Major *Douglass* with a copy of the said Letter, and show it to him, and request to know of him whether he will accept of that command; and that Captain *Wynkoop* give an answer to the Committee of Safety, whether he will proceed to the Lakes, in the station assigned him.

The Letter from the Committee of *Suffolk* County, dated the 1st day of *March*, instant, and inserted in the Minutes of yesterday, was again read. The Congress took into consideration that part of it relating to the Embargo laid by the County Committee on the Provisions in that County.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That it be entirely submitted to the care, wisdom, and discretion, of the Committee of *Suffolk* County to continue the said Embargo after the 1st day of *April* next, or otherwise, as they shall think proper and best for the inhabitants of that County in particular, and of the Continental service in general, as occasion and circumstances may then point out or require.

N. B. A list of the names of the men inlisted in Captain *Horton's* Company, is filed this day.

The Congress was informed by Mr. *Paulding*, one of the Members, that Captain *Jonathan Horton* has recruited a great part of his Company, and is in necessity for a sum of Money to pay the Wages due to his men.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Captain *Jonathan Horton* the sum of fifty Pounds, in part of the pay of his Company; that Captain *Horton* be accountable for that sum in part of the pay of his Company, and give a receipt for the Money to the said Treasurer.

Mr. *Hobart* moved that a Captain-Lieutenant, and other Lieutenants, be appointed to serve in the Company of Artillery whereof *John Grenell* is appointed Captain.

The Congress, thereupon, *Resolved and Agreed*, That the undernamed gentlemen be appointed Officers in that Company, viz: *Joseph Crane*, Captain-Lieutenant, (on his producing a certificate that he has been examined and is duly

qualified;) *George Fleming*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Grenell*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; *John Reed*, Jun., Third Lieutenant, or Lieutenant Fire-Worker.

The Congress resumed the consideration of that part of the Report of their Committee, on the 8th of *March*, which contained Lord *Stirling's* answer, as to the case of *Samuel Gale*. And taking the case of the said *Samuel Gale* into consideration,

*Resolved*, That this Congress are of opinion that he ought to be forthwith discharged from his confinement, he having been taken, carried away, and imprisoned, without any hearing, trial, or adjudication whatever.

And *Ordered*, That a Letter be written to the Chairman of the Committee of *Fairfield* County, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, requesting the immediate discharge of the said *Samuel Gale*.

A draft of a Letter to the Chairman of the Committee of *Fairfield* County, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: The enclosed resolution of the Provincial Congress will show you their opinion in the case of *Samuel Gale*. I have it in charge from the Provincial Congress to request your order that he may be immediately discharged from confinement.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant.

To the Chairman of the Committee of *Fairfield* County.

*Ordered*, That *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *Morris Graham*, and *William Paulding*, Esquires, Members of this Provincial Congress, do execute the Contract agreed to with Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, for supplying all the Continental Troops, to be employed in this Colony, with the Rations allowed by Congress in pursuance of the resolutions and recommendations of the Continental Congress on that subject, made and passed on the — day of *February* last past; a certified copy whereof is filed amongst the Minutes and Proceedings of this Congress, on the 22d day of *February* aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to consider what Manufactures ought to be encouraged in this Colony, delivered in their Report, which was read; and, being again read, paragraph by paragraph, and amended, and unanimously agreed to, is in the words following, to wit:

Whereas it is necessary for the security of this Colony to establish manufactures of Gunpowder in the same; and this Congress having resolved to lend money for the encouragement thereof, and it being judged expedient to add some further encouragement to those who shall erect Powder-Mills in this Colony:

*Resolved*, That any person who shall, on or before the 20th day of *May* next, erect a Powder-Mill in this Colony, (except in the Counties of *New-York*, *Richmond*, *King's*, and *Queen's*,) capable of manufacturing one thousand pounds of good merchantable Gunpowder per week, shall be entitled to receive of the Treasurer of this Congress the sum of one hundred Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the person who shall, on or before the 10th day of *June* next, erect the second Powder-Mill in this Colony, (except as before excepted,) capable of manufacturing one thousand pounds of good merchantable Gunpowder per week, shall be entitled to receive of the Treasurer of this Congress the sum of seventy-five Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the person who shall, on or before the 1st day of *July* next, erect the third Powder-Mill in this Colony, (except as before excepted,) capable of manufacturing one thousand pounds of good and merchantable Gunpowder per week, shall be entitled to receive of the Treasurer of this Congress the sum of fifty Pounds.

*Provided*, That no person shall be entitled to receive any of the premiums aforesaid, unless he shall first prove to the satisfaction of the Committee of the County in which such Powder-Mill shall be erected, by his oath, or the oath of the principal manufacturer and three of the most reputable freeholders in the neighbourhood of the Powder-Mill, that the same was completed within any of the periods aforesaid; and also have proved, to the satisfaction of the said Committee, by the oath of the proprietor and of the principal manufacturer, that the quantity of one thousand pounds weight of good and merchantable Gunpowder was



manufactured at the same Mill in one week, or seven days successively; and shall produce to the Congress or the Committee of Safety of this Colony, for the time being, certificates from the said Committee of their having proved the same.

Whereas it is also necessary to encourage the setting on foot manufactures of Fire-Arms within this Colony:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will lend for two years, without interest, from the date hereof, the sum of two hundred Pounds to any inhabitant of this Colony who shall enter into good and sufficient security to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, or to the Treasurer of this Congress for the time being, for the repayment of the same; and that he will, without delay, establish a manufactory of Gun-locks in some County within this Colony, to the northward of the City and County of *New-York*; and in default thereof, to be subject to repay the principal, with seven per cent. per annum interest for the sum borrowed, and the further penalty of thirty Pounds.

*Resolved*, That any inhabitant of this Colony who shall at one or more periods, on or before the 15th day of *August* next, produce for sale to the Congress, or the Committee of Safety of this Colony for the time being, the greatest number of good and sufficient double-bridled Gun-locks, (not less than five hundred,) manufactured in this Colony at one manufactory, shall be entitled to a premium of four Shillings for every good and sufficient Gun-lock as aforesaid, so offered for sale.

*Resolved*, That any inhabitant of this Colony who shall manufacture, within the time before-mentioned, the second greatest number of Gun-locks as aforesaid, (not less than three hundred,) and offer them for sale as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a premium of three Shillings for each.

*Resolved*, That any inhabitant of this Colony who shall manufacture, within the time before-mentioned, the third greatest number of Gun-locks as aforesaid, (not less than two hundred and fifty,) and offer them for sale as aforesaid, shall be entitled to the premium of two Shillings for each.

*Provided*, That no person shall be entitled to receive any of the above premiums for the manufacturing of Gun-locks, unless he shall first prove to the satisfaction of the Committee of the County where the same shall have been manufactured, by the oath of the proprietor and the foreman of the work, that the same were *bona fide* manufactured within this Colony; and produce a certificate thereof, together with the aforesaid depositions, to the Congress or the Committee of Safety of this Colony for the time being.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will lend for two years, without interest, from the date hereof, the sum of four hundred Pounds, to any inhabitant of this Colony who shall enter into good and sufficient security to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, or to the Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony for the time being, for the repayment of the same; and that he will, without delay, erect works for the making and boring of Musket-barrels, of three-fourths of an inch bore, (capable of boring by water five Barrels at a time,) in some County to the northward of the City and County of *New-York*; and in default thereof, to be subject to repay the principal, with seven per cent. per annum interest for the sum borrowed, and the further penalty of sixty Pounds.

*Resolved*, That any inhabitant of this Colony who shall, at one or more periods, on or before the 15th day of *August* next, produce for sale to the Congress, or the Committee of Safety of this Colony for the time being, the greatest number of good and sufficient Musket-barrels, each of three feet and a half in length, and of three-fourths of an inch bore, well fortified at the breech, (not less than five hundred,) with an equal number of good Bayonets, each of the length of one foot nine inches from the shoulder, manufactured in this Colony at one manufactory, shall be entitled to a premium of eight Shillings for every good and sufficient Musket-barrel and Bayonet as aforesaid, so offered for sale.

*Resolved*, That any inhabitant of this Colony who shall manufacture, as aforesaid, the second greatest number of Musket-barrels and Bayonets as aforesaid, (not less than three hundred,) and offer them for sale as aforesaid, shall be entitled to a premium of six Shillings for a Barrel and Bayonet.

*Resolved*, That any inhabitant of this Colony who shall manufacture, as aforesaid, the third greatest number of Mus-

ket-barrels and Bayonets as aforesaid, (not less than two hundred and fifty,) and offer them for sale as aforesaid, shall be entitled to the premium of four Shillings for a Barrel and Bayonet.

*Provided*, That no person shall be entitled to receive any of the above premiums for the manufacturing of Musket-barrels and Bayonets, unless he shall first prove, to the satisfaction of the Committee of the County where the same shall have been manufactured, by the oath of the proprietor and the foreman of the work, that the same were *bona fide* manufactured within this Colony; and produce a certificate thereof, together with the aforesaid depositions, to the Congress or the Committee of Safety of this Colony for the time being.

*Resolved*, That neither of the said premiums for the erecting of Powder-Mills, making of Gun-locks, or Musket-barrels and Bayonets, is intended to be given to the proprietor of any Powder-Mills already erected, or to any person with whom the Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony have already contracted, or to any person in their behalf, for the making of Gun-locks, or Musket-barrels and Bayonets.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of this Colony be, and they are hereby, authorized to contract for any number not exceeding five thousand stand of Arms, to be manufactured in this Colony, on account of and for the defence of the Colony.

Whereas the Continental Congress have directed that the Assemblies, Conventions, or the Committees or Councils of Safety of the respective United Colonies, do cause works to be erected in each of them, at their respective expense, for the manufacturing of Saltpetre:

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and are hereby, authorized to contract and agree with proper persons to erect works for the manufacturing of Saltpetre in the several Counties of *New-York*, *Albany*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, and *Suffolk*.

Whereas the Ministry of *Great Britain* are not only depriving us of the means of defence, but have arbitrarily ordered, in a piratical manner, their Ships-of-War to ruin our commerce, and deprive us of the necessities of life, which renders it the incumbent duty of the Representatives of the people of this Colony to provide for the comfortable subsistence of their constituents:

*Resolved*, That this Congress will lend to any person, for the term of two years from the date hereof, a sum not exceeding two hundred Pounds, for the purpose of erecting works, without delay, for the making of Salt out of seawater, in this Colony, upon his giving to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, or to the Treasurer of this Congress for the time being, good and sufficient security for the repayment of the same; and in default of erecting such works, to be subject to the repayment of the principal, and of seven per cent. interest on the sum so borrowed, and the further penalty of thirty Pounds.

*Resolved*, That any person who shall, on or before the 1st day of *December* next, make the greatest quantity of good merchantable Salt in this Colony, (not less than twelve hundred bushels,) shall be entitled to one hundred Pounds premium.

*Resolved*, That any person who shall, on or before the said 1st day of *December*, make the second greatest quantity of Salt, of the quality aforesaid, in this Colony, (not less than nine hundred bushels,) shall be entitled to seventy-five Pounds premium.

*Resolved*, That any person who shall, on or before the said 1st day of *December*, make the third greatest quantity of Salt, of the quality aforesaid, in this Colony, (not less than six hundred bushels,) shall be entitled to fifty Pounds premium.

*Provided*, That any person who shall claim any of the above premiums for having manufactured Salt as aforesaid, shall produce a certificate thereof, signed by three of the principal freeholders of the neighbourhood where the said works shall be erected, and an affidavit of the person who shall have made, and of some other person who shall have measured the said Salt, in order to entitle him to any of the premiums above-mentioned.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety be, and they are hereby, directed to collect dissertations upon the making of

Salt without delay, and that they cause five hundred of the said dissertations to be printed, in order that the inhabitants of this Colony be informed of the process used in the making of Salt; and that the said Committee be also directed to publish, with the utmost despatch, two hundred copies of these Resolutions, and the other Resolutions of this Congress for the encouraging the erecting of Powder-Mills within this Colony.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries have such part of the foregoing Resolutions as relate to the making of Salt in this Colony, printed in the publick Newspapers.

A copy of two Resolutions of the Committee of *Albany*, on the 1st of *March*, certified by *Matthew Visscher*, their Secretary, and covered in a short Letter of the said Secretary, by their order, were read and filed.

By the first of their said Resolutions they recommend *Thomas Williams, Jun.*, for Quartermaster of the Regiment raising for Continental service for the Counties of *Albany, Tryon, and Charlotte*; and by the second they recommend *Peter A. Fonda* for Adjutant of the said Regiment.

*Ordered*, That the Members from *Albany* County inform their Committee that the appointments of Adjutant and Quartermasters for the Regiments is given to the respective Colonels.

The Congress were informed by Colonel *Jesse Woodhull*, that, through the unhappy dissatisfaction in the Company of his Regiment whereof *Silas Pierson* has been appointed Captain, the said Company will be useless in their present state; and he therefore requested the Congress to provide some relief in the premises.

*Ordered*, That a set of blank Commissions for that Company, signed by the President and countersigned by one of the Secretaries, be sent up to the Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County; that he be requested to lay this matter before the Committee of the County; and that the said Committee, if they should think it advisable, order a new election for Officers of the said Company, and fill up the Commissions for the Officers who shall be so elected.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Provincial Congress, New-York, March 16, 1776.

SIR: This Congress being informed that a Company of Militia, commanded by Captain *Pierson*, in Colonel *Jesse Woodhull's* Regiment, in your County, is at present in an unhappy situation, occasioned from a party arisen in the election of a Captain, by which means the said Company would be useless should any emergency happen; we have therefore enclosed a set of blank commissions, and recommend that you lay this matter before the Committee of the County with all convenient speed; and, if they should think it advisable, to order a new election, and fill up the commissions for the persons so elected.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

By order.

To *Elihu Marvin, Esq.*, Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted, together with four blank Commissions, signed and attested in the manner above-mentioned.

A Contract with *Abraham Livingston*, for victualling all the Continental Troops in this Colony, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

Articles of Agreement indented and made this sixteenth day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, between *Abraham Livingston*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, of the one part, and *Nathaniel Woodhull, Isaac Roosevelt, Abraham Yates, Jun., Morris Graham, and William Paulding*, and the survivor or survivors of them, on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, pursuant to a Resolution of the Continental Congress of the seventeenth day of *February* last past, of the other part, as follows, to wit:

The said *Abraham Livingston* doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said parties of the second part, and the survivor and survivors of them, that the said

*Abraham Livingston* shall and will furnish and supply such troops as are or shall be employed for the defence of this Colony in the City and County of *New-York, King's* County, and at the fortifications now erecting in the Highlands, for the term of six months from the date hereof, with good and wholesome provisions, and with soap and candles, agreeable to the rations or quantities allowed by the Continental Congress, at ten pence half-penny, *New-York* currency, per ration per man; each ration to consist of the following kinds and quantities of provisions, to wit: one pound of beef, or three-quarters of a pound of pork, or one pound of salt-fish, per day; one pound of bread or flour per day; three pints of peas or beans per week, or vegetables equivalent, at one dollar per bushel for peas or beans; one pint of milk per man per day, or at the rate of one seventy-second of a dollar; one quart of spruce beer or cider per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses for a hundred men per week; half a pint of rice or one pint of *Indian* meal per man per week; three pounds of candles to one hundred men per week for guards; and twenty-four pounds of soft or eight pounds of hard soap per hundred men per week. Which several articles he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, is to deliver at the City and County of *New-York*, and in *King's* County, and at the fortifications in the Highlands, at proper storehouses to be provided by the parties of the second part in the City and County of *New-York*, and in *King's* County, and at each of the said fortifications in the Highlands, so as that the said *Abraham Livingston* may not be put to the expense of more than one cartage to each of the said storehouses; which rations he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, doth covenant to deliver to the Quartermaster of the troops stationed or to be stationed at each of the said places; and in case it shall be thought necessary for the publick service to transport or carry any of the said rations from the said storehouses, so to be provided as aforesaid, to any other place or places, it is understood that the charge and expense of such second carriage or transportation shall be paid by the parties of the second part, or the survivor or survivors of them. And the said *Abraham Livingston* doth further covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said parties of the second part, to furnish the troops at each of the aforesaid places with fire-wood, at the rate of twenty shillings, *New-York* currency, per cord; and straw, at the rate of thirty shillings for every hundred sheafs, including cartage, provided he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, is put to no more than one cartage to either of the said places. And the said parties of the second part, and the survivor or survivors of them, do hereby promise and agree to and with the said *Abraham Livingston*, that, if it should so happen that any such provisions, wood, or straw, for the purposes aforesaid, should be taken or destroyed any otherwise than by the carelessness or negligence of the said *Abraham Livingston*, or his agent or agents, that then, and in that case, the loss that shall or may thereupon accrue shall be sustained by the said parties of the second part, and the survivor or survivors of them.

In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON,	[L. S.]
NATHANIEL WOODHULL,	[L. S.]
ISAAC ROOSEVELT,	[L. S.]
ABRAHAM YATES, JUN.,	[L. S.]
MORRIS GRAHAM,	[L. S.]
WILLIAM PAULDING,	[L. S.]

Sealed and delivered in the presence of (the word *Livingston*, in the fifth line, being first interlined:)

ROBERT BENSON,  
JOHN MCKESSON.

*Resolved*, That *Nathaniel Woodhull, Isaac Roosevelt, Abraham Yates, Jun., Morris Graham, and William Paulding*, Esquires, shall be, and each and every of them shall be, fully indemnified by this Provincial Congress, or the Provincial Congress of the Colony for the time being, against all losses, costs, charges, payments, damages, or demands that shall or may happen, arise, accrue, or be to be borne or suffered by reason, means, or on account of their having entered into the said contract with the said *Abraham Livingston* for supplying the said troops with rations, as there-

in mentioned, in pursuance of a resolution of the Continental Congress, recommending a contract for that purpose to be made.

And *Resolved*, That the Provincial Congress of this Colony for the time being, or any other such Representatives of the good people of this Colony as shall then represent the same, shall and will use their utmost endeavours, with the other Representatives of this Continent, that the said contract shall be fully discharged, without any particular loss or injury to the parties of the second part therein named, or their or either of their legal representatives; and that, in the mean time, the said *Nathaniel Woodhull, Isaac Roosevelt, Abraham Yates, Jun., Morris Graham, and William Paulding*, their and each of their heirs, executors, and administrators, and their and each of their goods and chattels, lands and tenements, shall be saved harmless, and kept indemnified from all payments, costs, charges, damages and demands whatever, by reason, or means, or on account of their having entered into and executed the said contract.

JAMES WILSON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Gilgorum, March 17, 1776.

MY LORD: It is not without concern that I find myself obliged to address your Lordship on this occasion, as one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State. I trust your Lordship will not require any apology for the requisition of that favour, which, in your official character, it may be proper for you to comply with. Presuming, therefore, that you are the person by whose means my sentiments may be most regularly conveyed to his Majesty, I beg leave to entreat your Lordship may lay before his Majesty the enclosed Memorial.

I have the honour to be, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

JAMES WILSON.

To Lord George Germaine, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the humble Memorial of JAMES WILSON, \* showeth:

That the Memorialist has served your Majesty for upwards of fifteen years as a Captain in your Majesty's Marine forces; during which time Memorialist discharged his duty with fidelity to the utmost of his power; and that Memorialist has had the honour of a seat in the House of Commons in Ireland during the present Parliament, in which capacity, as a servant of the people, his conduct has been uniformly directed by the best of his understanding to promote the interest of this Kingdom, humbly conceiving the well-being of this Island essentially conducive to the honour and support of your Majesty's Government; that your Memorialist, by every binding influence of allegiance, and inviolable inclination, is ready to risk his life and property, if required, to maintain those inestimable principles by which your Majesty's illustrious family obtained the sovereignty of these realms. But it is with the most poignant concern that Memorialist finds himself compelled, by the pernicious measures of your Majesty's Ministers, and the indelible dictates of nature, to implore your Majesty to withdraw him from the rank and honour he enjoys under your Majesty, as Captain on half-pay. Memorialist thinks it inconsistent with fidelity to your Majesty as a subject, or the people as a representative, to receive those wages which render him liable to the command of Ministers, the perpetration of whose designs, death would be as much preferable to, as it ever had been in the mind of Memorialist to hesitate in the support of your Majesty's real glory and happiness. Memorialist, therefore, humbly entreats your Majesty, in your Royal clemency, graciously to take his dutiful Memorial into consideration, as the only reward for his services, that Memorialist may be emancipated from the distressing apprehension which the present military preparations against America suggest, of being obliged to disobey the commands of his Sovereign, or adopt the horrid alternative of stifling every

\* The above gentleman, who is a Member in the Irish Parliament for Taghmon, in the County of Wexford, as a Captain, in the year 1750, raised one hundred and thirty men (as the purchase of his Company) on his own estate, in Ireland, and served all the remainder of the war in actual service, with the highest credit to himself.

Whereas it is apprehended by some persons that the Regiments or Companies of Minute-men in this Colony are not subject to the command of the Brigadier-Generals within whose Districts they generally reside,

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Brigadier-Generals in this Colony be authorized, and they are hereby authorized, to command all Regiments or Companies of Minute-men within their respective Districts, in as full and ample manner as any other of the Militia of their respective Brigades.

A Message was received from Lord Stirling, by Captain Morris, requesting the Barrack necessities may be ordered by this Congress to be supplied to a Company of Militia from New-Jersey, arrived at this City to enter on duty.

Thereupon, an Order was made, and directed to Colonel Curtenius and the Barrackmaster, to supply the said Company of Militia with Barrack necessities.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Safety be authorized, and are hereby authorized, to hear and determine the case of John Grigg.

impulse of humanity, and rushing into the blood of kindred fellow-subjects and countrymen.

Gilgorum, March 17, 1776.

GENERAL HOWE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Williamsburgh, March 17, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your letter enclosing a commission appointing me a Brigadier-General in the Army of the United Colonies. Devoted to the cause of America, I feel no wish so ardent, no ambition so strong, as to be able to contribute to its service and support. With pleasure, therefore, I accept the important trust, and, through you, beg leave to convey to your honourable body my grateful thanks for this distinguishing mark of their favour; which, by my strenuous endeavours and utmost efforts, I hope in some measure to deserve. The battalions here being not yet complete, nor all the commissions filled up, puts it out of my power to make you at present the return you request, which I shall be happy to forward to you the moment I can.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ROBERT HOWE.

To the President of Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 62.]

Annapolis, March 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are exceedingly anxious on account of our Treasury, as it grows very low, and the demands, as you must be sensible, continue still great. You will therefore excuse our mentioning to you so often our apprehension that, unless the plates and paper are furnished in a very short time, the Treasury will be exhausted, and the credit of the Province must sink.

Our Minute Companies have written to us for copies of the Continental regulations and pay to their troops; and as we are not provided with them, we request you will send them to us; or if a favourable opportunity should offer, transmit them to Accomack immediately, as we are sometimes at a loss for conveyances from hence. Pray send us an account of the Continental pay of the officers and men in the Navy. We are informed there have been some alterations lately made in them by Congress, and shall be glad to see them. They will be useful to us in settling the wages for the Defence.

The enclosed is a copy of a letter we have received from Mr. Harrison, our agent in the foreign West-Indies.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for Maryland in Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO TALBOT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 63.]

Annapolis, March 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are sorry the proceedings of the convention, through the negligence of our press, should not

have reached you before the day you mention, and think with you, that the not allowing those in your County that may hesitate to enroll, some time to consider the alternative given them, would be treating them with too great rigour, and are of opinion that the indulging them till the 5th of *April* will be giving them time sufficient, and be an instance of lenity towards them that, we are persuaded, will meet with the approbation of the Convention.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Talbot County*.

ELIAS BOUDINOT TO LORD STIRLING.

Newark, New-Jersey, March 17, 1776.

MY LORD: I was in great hopes that, in raising the proportion of men that was allotted for this town towards the number requested by your Lordship, it would fall to Captain *Wheeler*, with his Company of Minute-men (formerly Captain *Aling's*) to go; but I was disappointed, as I am now informed that *Elizabethtown* has failed in sending their men. And if you should still think it necessary to increase your number, and would either take the trouble to write a line to Captain *Wheeler*, requesting his company, or to Colonel *Ward*, desiring him to send for them, (which ever you might think proper,) I dare promise by to-morrow afternoon, as good a company as any in the service would attend you. If you should think it the most eligible way to apply to Colonel *Ward*, please to let it be in writing, that he may send your note to Captain *Wheeler*, as that will raise the ambition of the men.

I must beg your Lordship will not mention to Colonel *Ward*, or any one, that you have this request, as if you should, it would excite the jealousies of the other companies.

There is no necessity of having anything to do with Committees in this affair, as the men will turn out at your request alone.

I am, in great haste, with respect, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

ELIAS BOUDINOT.

To the Honourable Lord *Stirling*.

LORD STIRLING TO THE COMMITTEES OF MORRIS COUNTY, ETC., NEW-JERSEY.

New-York, March 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As a large number of the inhabitants of the Province of *New-Jersey* are now called upon to assist in fortifying and defending this city, which (by the accounts received from General *Washington* by express, and this day confirmed by the post) is certainly the object of the enemy's destination, and as I am informed that many of the inhabitants of the Province are intimidated from leaving the Province, by an apprehension of their own private affairs suffering by the common process of the civil law, I must therefore submit it to your Committee, whether it is not, at this time of imminent danger, absolutely necessary to suspend the operations of the civil law, at least until the destination of the Army at *Boston* is more certainly known. By the last accounts, it appears that five thousand men were actually embarked, and the remainder preparing to get on board as fast as possible, and it is General *Washington's* opinion they intend to make a sudden push on this place.

STIRLING.

To the Committee of the Counties of *Morris, Essex, Middlesex, Somerset, Sussex, Hunterdon, Bergen, and Monmouth*, and Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*.

LORD STIRLING TO ALEXANDER CARMICHAEL.

New-York, March 17, 1776.

SIR: I have your letter of yesterday's date. Give me leave to assure you that, by appointment of the Continental Congress, the district of the Commanding General here extends to the Province of *New-Jersey*, and that I have it in command from Congress to call in so many of the Militia of the neighbouring Provinces as I find necessary for fortifying and defending this place and its environs, and to assure them they shall receive the same pay and provisions with the Continental Troops employed in the Middle De-

partment, to commence from the time they actually begin their march for this place. As to the fears of the people about *Amboy*, the Congress will take care of it; and as to mention of furlough, they are all ordered to their regiments. I hope, therefore, there will be no longer any objections to marching of the three hundred men required from *Morris County*.

Be pleased to forward the enclosed to *Sussex County*; and am, &c.,

STIRLING.

To Mr. *Alexander Carmichael*, Chairman of the County Committee of *Morris*.

LORD STIRLING TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, March 17, 1776.

SIR: You have doubtless received all the intelligence which I have from General *Washington*, relative to the motions of the Ministerial Troops in *Boston*, and the situation of our troops which surround it. That General *Howe* intends to move this way with his army I think is highly probable. Many little manœuvres of Governour *Tryon* and the men-of-war near this place lately, seem to confirm it. I am taking every step in my power to be prepared for their reception, by fortifying every advantageous ground near the city and on *Long-Island*. But whatever may be the designs of General *Howe*, it appears, from all the intelligence received, that the Ministry are determined to make an effort to gain possession of this city; and I have, therefore, the orders of Congress, by all possible means to provide for the safety of it. I have also their directions to apply to the neighbouring Colonies for such part of their Militia or Provincial Troops as may be necessary, until the Continental Troops, destined for this service, do arrive here. The two regiments from *Connecticut* now here and at *Long-Island*, deserve the thanks of the publick for their good order, industry, and alertness; and I sincerely wish they could be prevailed on to stay while their services are necessary, as it would save time and pay to a prodigious amount in the Continental service. But I understand many of them are farmers of property, who have families at home, and want to be there to mark out the work of their farms for the ensuing season. However, I will, with the Colonels *Waterbury* and *Ward*, endeavour to prevail with as many of them as possible to stay until they are relieved by others from your Colony, of which returns shall be sent to you as soon as possible. In the mean time I think it is highly necessary (and I have not the least doubt your Excellency will carry it into execution) that recruits be raised to complete those two regiments to at least six hundred privates each; and that another regiment of the like strength be raised in your Colony if possible, on condition of serving the campaign, or as long as the service requires, and to be armed, and accoutred, and clothed, as well as time will permit, and to march to this place as soon as possible.

I shall only add, that, with the highest esteem and regard, I am your most obedient humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire, &c.

COLONEL LENT TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Orangetown, March 17, 1776.

SIR: I have this day received the resolution and order of Congress of the 13th instant, respecting the sending a number of men from the two regiments on the south side of the Mountains, in *Orange County*, to *New-York*; and as thirty-six men of my regiment have turned out as Minute-men, and elected one of my Militia Captains to command them, I immediately ordered their Captain to march down to *New-York* with the Minute-men aforesaid, (the reason for my so doing was, because I could not think that the Congress intended to leave the Minute-men here and have the Militia down.) The Captain, it seems, does not think that he is any longer under my command, and, what is more, the Captain and men are all afraid that, as the resolution and order aforesaid only mentions privates, it is intended to take our men and put in officers from other parts to command them; wherefore they decline marching without some further explanation. I hope you will, without loss of time, give me an answer, or rather an explanation of the said

order. Should thirty-five men be drafted from my regiment, exclusive of the Minute-men, many farms must go to waste.

I do not think that any of our men, whether Militia or Minute-men, can be prevailed upon to march, unless they are allowed their own officers. I think if a Captain and one Lieutenant were commissioned for the above-said Minute-men, it would be sufficient.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

ABRAHAM LENT.

To Nathaniel Woodhull, Esq., President of the honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of New-York.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, March 17, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you that this morning the Ministerial Troops evacuated the town of Boston without destroying it, and that we are now in the full possession; upon which event I beg leave to congratulate you, and sincerely wish (if the Ministry persevere in the same unconstitutional and despotick measures which too long have marked their conduct) that our opposition and resistance in every quarter may be crowned with the success they have been here.

Where their destination is, or what plans they have in view, is altogether unknown; most probably the next attempt will be against New-York, or some more southern Colony. However, I should think (though I do not believe they have any design against Rhode-Island) that it will be advisable to keep a strict look-out; and submit it to you, whether it may not be proper, against the time you apprehend they might arrive, to call in a number of the Militia, and have them posted in proper places. I do not mean to direct the measure, but only mention it for your consideration; to me it appears worthy of attention.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Governour Cooke.

N. B. March 19.—The fleet is still in King and Nantasket Roads.

JOHN LANGDON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Portsmouth, March 17, 1776.

SIR: This moment arrived a small vessel from the West-Indies with about six thousand weight of powder, belonging to the Continent; and as I thought it might be wanted at Head-Quarters, have despatched Major Gaines with this information to your Excellency; and should it be wanting, (in part or all,) shall immediately forward it on receiving your direction. The bearer will inform what intelligence the Captain brings, who I should have sent up had it not been necessary to keep him on board his vessel. The Captain informs that, at Martinique and Guadaloupe, there is at least ten thousand French Troops making great preparations for war; this, he says, may be depended on. Yesterday we had a small parcel of powder (about five thousand weight) arrived, belonging to the Colony. We have several vessels more at St. Lucia, who are taking in powder.

Please to accept of the best wishes of your most obedient servant,

JOHN LANGDON.

To His Excellency General Washington.

R. HOOE TO COLONEL JOSHUA BEALL.

Alexandria, March 18, 1776.

SIR: I have gone through every store in this town, and find but few whole pieces of B. cloths of the kinds that are wanted. However, if Colonel Smallwood would send over an officer, I think, by taking different colours, and parts of pieces, they may pick up a good deal; but as they do not answer the directions Mr. Harwood gave me, I thought it best to decline a purchase till I heard further about it. There are some rugs in town, but they are large, and at twenty shillings, Virginia currency, apiece; blankets are not to be had at all; but there are in one store several pieces of woollen, of a kind between a flannel and Kendall cotton, that I think would answer the end. The

two casks of medicine you will be pleased to receive, and send a receipt for them.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. HOOE.

To Colonel Joshua Beall, at Bladensburgh.

I have sent a memorandum of such woollens as are to be had. Be pleased to write Colonel Smallwood that I will purchase them up, and pay the cash for them if I can have orders directly.

R. H.

THOMAS TILLARD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fig-Point, March 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I this day received a line from Mr. Duwall, of the 13th of February, requesting that I would inform you what quantity of Gunpowder is in my hands, and where stored. Two hundred and one pounds is what I was paid for, at two shillings and six pence per pound. Two hundred pounds of Mr. Brogden were also lodged with mine—being, in the whole, four hundred and one pounds stored in our store at this place; three hundred and five pounds of which, per your order, were delivered to Mr. Isaac Harris; the remainder, by order of the Committee, into the hands of the Militia.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS TILLARD.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

CALVERT COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Observation, Calvert County, }  
March 18, 1776.

On motion, Resolved, To consult the honourable the Council of Safety concerning the propriety of stationing an additional number of thirty men in different places in this County, to watch the motion of the Ships-of-War and Tenders, and to prevent them from harassing the Militia by frequent and unnecessary alarms.

Resolved, That application be made to the honourable the Council of Safety for two barrels of Gunpowder and fifty stand of Arms, complete, for the use of this County, as we have not received the Powder ordered from Charles County. Per order:

JOSEPH WILKINSON, Clerk Committee.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL THOMAS WRIGHT.

[No. 64.]

Annapolis, March 18, 1776.

SIR: We have received your favour of the 12th instant, enclosing commissions of officers in the Militia who have refused to accept them; and now transmit you others to supply their places. The same motives which led you to withhold them so long, (which we think you are highly commendable in doing,) we hope will induce you still to persist in your efforts to settle and quiet the minds of the people at this alarming crisis of our affairs, and to reconcile them to the appointments of Field-Officers in your County, which the last Convention thought proper to make; and we cannot but flatter ourselves, when they reflect seriously on the consequences which will inevitably result from the measures they have adopted, they will no longer pursue them. If our expectations should not, however, be answered in a short time, and they should obstinately persevere, it will then become our indispensable duty to pursue different (though disagreeable) expedients, and to exert the powers which we are invested with for the publick good, with a view to that end. We have fixed the station of the troops for your County at Blunt's Ware-House, on Kent-Island, and shall order them to repair there as soon as they can be supplied with provisions, which we imagine will be by the last of next week at farthest; and are, &c.

To Colonel Thomas Wright.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM HINDMAN.

[No. 65.]

Annapolis, March 18, 1776.

SIR: As it will be some time before we can have our new emission struck and ready for circulation, and drafts are coming in pretty quick upon us, we find it necessary to call for some of the unsigned bills of credit now in your hands. We desire, therefore, you will send by Mr. Charles



*Wallace* the sum of six thousand pounds of them, as mentioned in the order to him of this date.

We are, &c.

To *William Hindman, Esq.*, Treasurer of *Eastern-Shore*.

ALEXANDER WILCOX TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, March 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The naval armament that is preparing for the defence of this Province requiring a considerable number of seamen, (more than can be raised in this city,) this Committee has thought it advisable to send Captain *Charles Alexander* and Lieutenant *John Humphrey*, (two of the officers of our armed boats,) to recruit a number of seamen for the naval service of this Province. The Committee has been induced to take this measure in consequence of information it has received, that there are now a great many sailors in the City of *New-York* destitute of any employment, by reason of the entire stop put to trade by the last act of Parliament; and that there is danger that they may enter on board the men-of-war, if means are not taken to engage them in the service of the Colonies. This Committee begs leave to recommend to your countenance the above-mentioned gentlemen, and trust you will give them any assistance that may be necessary to enable them to execute the business intrusted to them.

Gentlemen, your humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

ALEXANDER WILCOX, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*.

ELISHA BOUDINOT TO LORD STIRLING.

Newark, New-Jersey, March 18, 1776.

MY LORD: The bearer hereof, (Captain *Wheeler*.) with his company, waits on your Lordship, agreeable to your request, and begs the favour that you would review them before they go to their quarters, if possible. If they could be put upon duty by themselves, that their works might appear, it would raise their emulation to merit your Lordship's approbation; and you would soon see the good effects of it.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

ELISHA BOUDINOT.

To Lord *Stirling*, *New-York*.

WILLIAM BURNET TO LORD STIRLING.

Committee-Chamber, Newark, March 18, 1776.

MY LORD: Though the Committee are sensible that the common cause is deeply interested in putting the city of *New-York* in a state of defence, yet, in case the King's troops arrive, if they do not make a general landing in this Province, it is more than probable they will at least make incursions into it, especially if they meet with opposition at *New-York*. We need not mention to you, my Lord, the present very defenceless state of this Province, nor that every man sent to you from our Militia will render it more so; and if the harbour of *New-York* and the Sounds be under command of the ships-of-war expected with the troops, the return of our Militia will be impracticable, or attended with such delay that the mischief may be done here before we can receive their assistance. These considerations have prevented us the pleasure of sending you the full complement of men you requested from this County. We have, however, this day, in addition to the one hundred and fifty already sent, ordered Captain *Wheeler*, who waits on your Lordship with this, to march with his company to *New-York*, there to attend to your commands for one week, and no longer. The above reasons have weighed with us in giving him these restrictive orders.

As it will not be so injurious to the defence of this Province to send men from *Morris*, *Sussex*, *Somerset*, and *Hunterdon*, as from the frontier Counties; if your Lordship should think a larger number of men requisite to be employed in the fortifications, it is submitted to your consideration, whether it would not be most expedient warmly to solicit the aid of the back Counties above-mentioned.

By order of the Committee of the County of *Essex*:

WILLIAM BURNET, *Chairman*.

LORD STIRLING TO BERGEN COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

New-York, March 18, 1776.

SIR: The alarming intelligence received from General *Washington*, of the preparations of the Ministerial Army at *Boston* to embark for this place, induced me to call in some of the Militia of this and the neighbouring Colonies to our assistance. This measure has since been approved of by the Continental Congress, who have agreed that all such shall receive the pay of the Continental Troops in the Middle Department. I have not as yet called on the County of *Bergen*, to send any of their Militia to this place, because I had another employment in view for them in their own County. The first is, to make a thoroughly good and broad road from *Brown's Ferry* to *Paulus-Hook Ferry*, which is become of very great importance to this place, as it is the only communication between the western and south-western parts of *New-Jersey* and this place. Another work is, to make good the road through *Bergen Wood*, from *Weehawk* to *Hackensack Ferry*. I think there ought to be two hundred men employed at the first work, and one hundred on the latter; and I hope you will order the best men to turn out for this purpose. There must not be more commissioned officers than the proportion of four to the hundred, and one Field-Officer to oversee the whole. They are to take their arms and accoutrements, and working tools, with them, and are at night to mount an officer's guard at *Bergen town*. The road from *Brown's Ferry* should be laid out as nearly as possible according to the last act of Assembly. When I am informed of the men being ready to go to work, I will order a proper person to attend at *Bergen town* to muster them, and to point out how the work is to be done.

STIRLING.

To the Committee for the County of *Bergen*.

LORD STIRLING TO ESSEX COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

New-York, March 18, 1776.

SIR: I have received your letter of this date, by Captain *Wheeler*, and am much obliged to you for making the addition of his company to the one hundred and fifty before ordered from your County to the assistance of this place. I can now inform you that I have the authority of Congress to allow them Continental pay, while in the service. You may be assured the safety of *New-Jersey* shall be the object of my attention, as much as this place, and that I conceive them so closely connected that they must be looked upon as parts of one whole concern. I have already determined in my own mind on some works of fortification, which I think will cover every approach to that Province, by the way of the *Kills* or *Staten-Island*, and on some means of securing the communication between this city and *New-Jersey*, in spite of the utmost efforts of the enemy. This plan will be communicated to you in a day or two, and I should be glad that you will appoint a sub-Committee to be ready to meet me, or some officers I shall send, to explain my designs to you, and to engage the people of *Elizabethtown* to carry them into execution, which, according to my plan, they will be able to do with two or three hundred men in a few days. Some intrenching tools will be necessary, and it will be proper to have them collected as soon as possible at *Newark* or *Elizabethtown*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Ward* came here with the First Company from your County; since that, Lieutenant-Colonel *Cadmus* and Major *Ludlow* are come with the Second Company. There seems to be a competition and uneasiness, which of the Field-Officers of *Essex* is to command these detachments. I have told them that as Lieutenant-Colonel *Ward* came first, he was of course in the command, and that I should not alter it until the Committee of the County should determine otherwise. With this they seem to be perfectly satisfied. I must, therefore, request that the Committee of the County of *Essex* will determine this very important point.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Chairman of the Committee for the County of *Essex*.

## LORD STIRLING TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, March 18, 1776.

SIR: It is of the utmost importance to the safety of this city that all the artillery we are to rely on, be completed in every article. It was but lately that I could obtain a complete statement of all the artillery on this Island. It was then so near the adjournment of your Congress, that I did not care to introduce to it a matter so long in detail. I now enclose to you a return (No. 1) of the whole artillery, and the articles wanting to equip and complete them to one hundred rounds; by which you will observe, that all the cannon below six-pounders are in want of every article; and would take up more time than we can spare at present to complete them. I have, therefore, made out another return, (No. 2,) of all the cannon, down to six-pounders, inclusive, and those, if the work be properly distributed, may soon be equipped with every necessary; and I must request that the Committee of Safety will, as soon as possible, take measures to have all the necessaries provided. And you may be assured that I will lend every assistance in my power for forwarding the work.

As I have no copies of these returns, I should be glad to have them sent back when you have taken copies of them.

STIRLING.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, New-York.

## LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 23, 1776, and referred to Committee on Qualifications.]

New-York, March 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By the enclosed letter from Major *De Hart*, and the memorial from the officers of the First Regiment of *New-Jersey* Troops, you will see how exceedingly hurt that regiment is at the late promotion of Major *Ogden* to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of it. They look upon it as an inroad on the rights of the regiments; and while officers behave well, those feelings are natural, and are of infinite use in stimulating officers to do their duty. The corps is the more hurt, as they are confident that they have officers among them who have seen as much service as Colonel *Ogden*, and are conscious they have not been wanting in their duty since they came into the service. I have not the least doubt that Congress will take the first opportunity of doing the regiment justice, by giving one or other of these gentlemen preferment in the first new corps.

The regiment has never yet been allowed the privilege of being clothed in uniform by the Commissary; and to be put under easy stoppages for it, as is done with the other regiments of *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania*, they have presented a memorial to me, requesting that this may be done; and I should be happy that Congress would order Commissary *Lowrey* to do it accordingly.

The Army at this place is entirely destitute of artillerymen or matrosses. Captain *Badlam* was detached here from the camp at *Cambridge* with General *Lee*, but brought no men with him. He has the chief direction here of all preparations in that department. He is a very prudent, discreet man, extremely attentive to his duty, and seems perfectly master of it. I believe it would be proper to give him the rank and pay of Major of Artillery. There is a company of about fifty men (artillery) raising here in the Provincial service. This is but a very small proportion of what there ought to be here. We ought to have a regiment of them of at least five hundred; but this I submit to Congress, and make no doubt they will make provision for so necessary a branch as that must be at this place.

I am, with the greatest esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I was informed of Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds*'s promotion to the command of our regiment, and Mr. *Ogden*, of *Elizabethtown*, preferred to be Lieutenant-Colonel. This last appointment, I confess, much surprises me; and leaves me in doubt whether I may consider it as a particular honour meant to be conferred on him, or a direct affront to me.

If it has been a rule in the Continental Army to promote inferiors directly over the head of superiors in rank, I shall silently acquiesce; but if, on the contrary, I am the first that has fallen under the predicament, I shall consider it in the last-mentioned light. Believe me, sir, I assure you before this promotion no wish ever entered my heart to advance to that station, while I could remain with honour in my present; more studious to qualify myself in that, than to seek further.

But when I consider that, on those principles, I am absolutely forced out of a service I was fond of, I confess it gives me pain, and would more so to deserve it. As I entered into this service with no sinister views, no private feelings shall induce me, in the hour of danger, to quit it. If I stand in the way of the more deserving, or if a satisfactory answer cannot be had to what I have before proposed, I shall beg leave of your Lordship to resign my commission to that honourable body from whom I received it; and, at the same time, to give you my reasons with it; determined, at the same time, in such case, to retire to the station of a private sentinel, and there remain till death or the end of this glorious contest shall release me from the service.

I am, sir, most respectfully, yours,

WILLIAM DE HART.

To His Excellency the Earl of *Stirling*.

New-York, March 14, 1776.

We, the Captains and Subalterns of the First *New-Jersey* Regiment of Continental Troops, being heartily engaged in defending the common cause of *America*, beg leave to claim a few moments' attention of the honourable the Continental Congress, on a subject that gives us infinite pain.

As your honourable House has been pleased to appoint Mr. *Ogden*, of *Elizabethtown*, Lieutenant-Colonel in the place of Colonel *Winds*, promoted to the command of the regiment: we know nothing to the prejudice of that gentleman; neither do we question his merit; but he is put over the head of a superior in rank (who is justly entitled to the claim, and to whom we conceive no reasonable objection can be made) in such a manner as must reflect upon our feelings and characters, as gentlemen and officers, if we silently acquiesce in a matter that affects him and each one of us. It is not rank or commissions that we are asking for; but that ourselves and superiors may remain with honour in their stations, while they deserve it, and advance in that line in all other cases of such a nature followed.

We beg leave most humbly to remonstrate against an appointment of this nature, as we conceive ourselves, under the ties of honour and justice, bound to leave a service we are extremely fond of, and which we shall quit with the greatest reluctance. We would further entreat that this remonstrance may not be considered as the effect of rashness or disorder; but beg leave to assure your Honours that none employed in your service are more faithfully attached to the grand cause, and will ever remain so. This appointment, we are of opinion, would not have taken place were it not for misrepresentation.

Hear, gentlemen, we pray you, our complaints, and grant us redress; we will study to deserve it.

JOSEPH MORRIS,	JOSEPH MEEKER,
SILAS HOWELL,	ANDREW McMYER,
JOHN CONWAY,	DANIEL PIATT,
JO. POLHEMUS,	ELIAS LONGSTREET.

Captains.

DANIEL BALDWIN,	YELLES MEAD,
ISAAC MORRISON,	SAMUEL OXFORD,
JOHN MERCER,	HENDRICK FISHER,
LEWIS J. COSTIGIN,	KOERTINES SCHANCK.
JOHN VAN ANGLER,	

First Lieutenants.

ARCHIBALD DALLAS,	JOHN DELAHAYAN,
PETER VOORHEES,	JOHN HOLMES.

Second Lieutenants.

MAR. HALSTED,	GEORGE ROSS,
FRANCIS COSTIGIN,	ROBERT ROBERTSON,
JACOB KEMPER,	ABRAHAM LIANE,
THOMAS SICKELS,	JACOB PIATT.

Ensigns.

## COW-NECK (QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In Committee for the District of *Cow-Neck, Great-Neck, &c.*, held at *Cow-Neck*, this 18th day of *March*, 1776:

Whereas sundry disaffected persons have lately moved into this neighbourhood, whereby this District, instead of being an asylum for the good and virtuous, is become a nest to these noxious vermin: it has therefore become the part of prudence, and, in its effects, of necessity, to put an end to such proceedings in future, by the most speedy and effectual measures for the publick good.

*Be it therefore Resolved*, That no manner of person, after the first of *April* next, presume to move into this District, without producing to this Committee a certificate, signed by the Chairman of the Committee from whence they last removed, of their being friendly to the cause of their bleeding country.

Signed by order:

BENJAMIN SANDS, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety at New-York.

The humble Petition of BERNARD ROMANS, sheweth:

That your humble Petitioner was some time since at *Philadelphia*, with the honourable the Continental Congress, upon the business of his then office, and that he then and there had the pleasure to meet with an entire approbation of his conduct.

Whereupon said honourable Congress passed a vote that it was reasonable your humble Petitioner should be paid up to the date of his new commission. In consequence of which, a resolve was made, which your humble Petitioner has brought here, and which has been laid before your honourable Board. The time is now expired in which your humble Petitioner was to have appeared at the head of his company, and want of money prevents.

Your humble Petitioner therefore prays an order may be granted him, pursuant to the said resolves of Congress, that he may be enabled to proceed, and save his honour.

And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

B. ROMANS.

New-York, March 18, 1776.

## JOHN HASBROUCK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Marbletown, March 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I understand that Mr. *Cantine*, one of our Delegates, is gone down to *New-York*, and intends to apply to Congress for commissions for a company of Grenadiers for the township of *Marbletown*. If this is granted, it will create a great disturbance in the companies in said township, and will throw our companies into great confusion. I hereby only let you know the state of the case as it stands; and you may do in that case as you, in your great wisdom, judge will answer to, and for, the *American* union and interest.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, most humble servant,

JOHN HASBROUCK.\*

To Colonel *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the Provincial Congress, at *New-York*.

## STRATFORD (FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

Stratford, Connecticut, March 18, 1776.

On the 10th instant, (*Sunday*), Mr. *Jeremiah Leaming*, Missionary at *Norwalk*, baptized a child in the Episcopal Church at *Stratford*, and called it by the opprobrious name of *Thomas Gage*, the parson of the parish being present at the same time. This religious manœuvre gave great disgust. People in general viewed this transaction as a designed insult and ridicule upon the cause of liberty, which the *Americans* are now engaged to support against the arbitrary and oppressive measures of the *British* Parliament. Whereupon Mr. *Leaming*, being duly notified, appeared before the Committee of Inspection for this town.

\* [The original is endorsed—"MARCH 21, 1776.—A letter from John Hasbrouck, of Marbletown. This letter was read, and ordered that no notice be taken thereof on the Minutes."]

He owned that he had been previously informed that a child would be presented to him for baptism, and that the parents had proposed to give it that name; but said somebody informed him at the same time that the parents had been dissuaded from it; however, when it was offered by that name, he without any hesitation baptized it. He acknowledged that he thought the parents were imprudent, and that he disliked it; but pleaded in his own excuse the obligation he was under by the rules of the Rubrick, which, he said, directed him to receive the name from the god-fathers and god-mothers, and to pronounce that name in baptism; and that he did not look upon himself at liberty to dispense with the name given by the sponsors. Being asked why he did not object when the name was given him, he said it was unexpected, and, being on a sudden, the propriety of objecting did not come into his mind; but he declared he had no unfriendly intention in it, however it might appear in that light. He professed to have always a high esteem of the liberties and privileges of this Colony.

The Committee having heard Mr. *Leaming's* exculpation, and considered thereof, and made all charitable allowances they were able, are of opinion that he has not made it appear to their satisfaction that he is really innocent of having had a design, by the above transaction, to insult and ridicule the Continental struggle in the defence of their just rights, which are most wickedly and injuriously invaded. But yet, out of a tender regard to Mr. *Leaming's* office, and connection with the people of his charge, (most of whom, we understand, are true friends to the liberties of *America*), judge it most expedient only to state the facts, and submit it to the publick, to make what judgment they please; and to the candid friends of their county, to treat the said Mr. *Leaming* with that regard which they shall judge his person and character deserve.

Signed by order of Committee.

Attest:

JOSEPH CURTISS, *Clerk*.

## GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, March 18, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 14th instant, in which you inform me the enemy have embarked their troops on board a number of transports, and are now making a shameful retreat from *Boston*; and that their destination is conjectured to be either for *Halifax* or *New-York*—the latter place most probable. I should, on my part, rather conjecture that their women and children, with the Tory families, (if any on board,) are for *Halifax*, and the troops for *New-York, &c.*, if they mean to evacuate that town. But may it not be probable, notwithstanding all appearances, that the enemy, expecting an attack on *Boston*, are only clearing off all incumbrances, and sending off their (at present) useless baggage, in order to be better able to withstand your attack, and to give you a more warm reception, and, if possible, a fatal repulse? A hint of this I dare say you will not take amiss, though I entertain not the least doubt of your greatest attention and utmost precaution to guard yourself against the subtle wiles and artful intrigues of an artful enemy, as well as their open force and violence. But appearances, I fully agree, most probably point at *New-York*; and as a request from you, on all these publick occasions, comes with the greatest force, (notwithstanding we have great drafts of men from this Colony to various quarters, and have now at *New-York*, in consequence of your late requisition by General *Lee*, two regiments, amounting to fifteen hundred men, which, just as I received yours, had despatched orders to them to continue in service till further directions; and, in consequence of your last request, and in consideration of the importance of securing *New-York*, and the advantage of a prior possession,) have given orders to the Field-Officers of several regiments in this Colony nearest *New-York*, and where they may arrive at that place with the greatest expedition, immediately, by detachments, to draft out and forward, by land or water to *New-York*, twenty companies, consisting of ninety men each, including officers, (to admit of no delay,) and there to put themselves under the commanding officer at that place, and remain till relieved by such part of your Army as you think proper to send there; at the same time, as a very busy season for farmers is soon approaching, am obliged to let them know that it is most probable they will soon be released and discharged,

unless such as may choose to enlist themselves for further service.

On occasions like the present, the Field-Officers of the Militia are sent to command their regiments, according to a former law of this Colony, in case of alarm; and I have ordered their proper Field-Officers to take command accordingly.

As we are obliged now to drain off our Militia, so as to leave our sea-coasts bare of men, and as an attack may very suddenly be made upon some posts thereof, even in the present movements from *Boston*, I cannot but request that, in the march of your troops to *New-York*, they may be directed to take their route on or near the sea-coast, which will be nearer than through *Hartford*, and a much drier road at this season, as thereby they will be a guard, and ready to oppose the enemy, if any such attempts should be made; at the same time making their approach to *New-York* as expeditiously as any other way, unless delayed by opposing the enemy, which I am in hopes there may be no occasion for.

I have ordered Captain *Niles* to keep a good look-out for the enemy, as far as *Block-Island* and *Montauk Point*; and if any intelligence from him of consequence, shall immediately acquaint you therewith.

And am, sir, with great esteem and regard, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO LIEUTENANT HINMAN.

On board the *Alfred*, March 18, 1776.

SIR: You being appointed Master of the Ship *Endeavour*, you are to keep company with the fleet until further orders; but if you should lose company, you are to use your best endeavours to get into *Providence*. If you cannot get in there, you are to go in on the east side of *Rhode-Island*, or *Howland's Ferry*, under the Fort, or into *New-London*. And whenever you get into port, you are to land your guns and stores, and send to Governour *Nicholas Cooke*, at *Providence*, or Governour *Trumbull*, for further orders, until you hear from me.

ESECK HOPKINS.

To *Elisha Hinman*, Esq.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO DARTMOUTH COMMITTEE.

On board the *Alfred*, March 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I understand, by Captain *Jennings*, that you are in want of guns; and I have sent by him two nine-pound guns and some shot, which please to accept, and make such use of them as you think best; and if opportunity permits, send the shot he has on board, that are too big for your guns, to *Providence*, or *Howland's Ferry*, and you will oblige your and your country's friend,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Committee of the Town of *Dartmouth*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, March 18, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with yours of the 8th and 14th instant, to which I have paid the greatest attention. The several regiments of Militia are ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march in case the enemy should land in this Colony, and the General Assembly is called to meet this day. As a part of the Army in *Boston*, supposing them to be destined to the southward, might, with but little loss of time, land upon and destroy *Rhode-Island*, and cut off the troops there, without some effectual measures are taken to oppose them, I thought these steps, which were all it was in my power to take, necessary. I also beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of ordering a part of the forces designed for *New-York* to march through this Colony. The route will not be much farther, and they will be at hand to repel any attack of the enemy.

I shall give your Excellency the earliest intelligence of every motion of the enemy that shall come to my knowledge.

I am, with great truth and esteem, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

JAMES OTIS TO BENJAMIN GREENLEAF.

Barnstable, March 18, 1776.

SIR: I think it my duty to write the honourable Board the reasons of my non-attendance on them; which are, because the small-pox has been in my neighbourhood for a month past, near my house, and I am afraid it will spread, as one person broke out on the last fast day, and I am afraid more have taken the distemper; which has confined me a good deal to my house, and should be loth to go abroad if I thought I had taken the infection, and am willing to be pretty certain first, so that I do not think it proper for me to venture abroad on a journey until next week; and if I remain in health, I will wait on the honourable Board some time that week, in case the weather and other circumstances permit. I want much to be at Court, to let them know what confusion some people have thrown this town and County into, on many accounts. This town had their *March* meeting the week before last, and would not choose tithing-men, wardens, and grand jurors, for the year, nor petit jurors for our next court; nor did they make any provision as to the last Militia act, for procuring axes, spades, shovels, &c., agreeable to said act; and I find the disorder is growing. *Yarmouth* copied after *Barnstable* in not choosing jurymen. The case is this: It is given out by our Tories that there is no law; the General Court is said to have no authority to appoint Courts; the General Congress is despised and contemned, and so is all authority in this Tory County; the paper currency depreciated, and some folks won't take it on any account. And if I may be allowed, I would make a few queries, viz: Whether the General Court, and more especially the Council, as governours, have shown that firmness and resolution that is necessary in this time of difficulty as to our publick affairs in general. 2dly. Whether too much attention has not been paid to that part of the populace that incline to anarchy, which have prevented the Court and military establishments; which, in my opinion, leads to this confusion through this part of the Government. I have one request more, which is, that our Court of General Sessions of the Peace, and Court of Common Pleas, to be held in this County (by law) on the first *Tuesday* of *April*, may be adjourned until the last *Tuesday* of *June* next, the time which our *June* Court sits. By that time some of our difficulties may possibly be got over, and others subside. I hope you will excuse my freedom; and such part of my scribbling you will communicate as you think proper.

I am your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES OTIS.

To the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquire, or to the Honourable *John Winthrop*, Esq., in *Watertown*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE MASON AND JOHN DALTON.

[No. 66.]

Annapolis, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your favour of the 15th, we have directed Colonel *Beall* to deliver to your order ten barrels of gunpowder. We shall do everything in our power to promote the general welfare; and for that purpose are now increasing our Marine.

We are, &c.

To *George Mason* and *John Dalton*, Esquires.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

[No. 67.]

Annapolis, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have your favour of the 9th of this month; and as we are convinced of the expediency of constructing the beacons in the manner you propose, on the points of the river *Potomack*, we shall readily join you in any expense that may attend the erection of them, and have appointed the Honourable *George Plater*, Esq., and Brigadier *John Dent*, to act with the gentlemen nominated by you for the carrying that measure into execution. We shall acquaint them of their appointment, and we are persuaded they will attend for that purpose, on any notice your Commissioners will be pleased to give them. We have heard little of the *Otter* and her tenders since their leaving this river, except that they pillaged a small island on our *East-*

ern Shore. We are not without expectation of another visit from them, and shall be extremely obliged for any intelligence you may be pleased to communicate to us of their movements. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

P. S. We have just received a letter from *George Mason* and *John Dalton*, Esquires, requesting the loan of ten barrels of powder, which we have supplied them with for the use of your Colony.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE PLATER AND  
BRIGADIER-GENERAL DENT.

[No. 68.]

Annapolis, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of the enclosed letter from the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, desiring us to appoint Commissioners to co-operate with the gentlemen nominated by them for erecting beacons on the shores of the river *Potomack*, we have taken the liberty to appoint yourself and Brigadier *John Dent*; and we hope it may be agreeable to you to attend at any meeting their Commissioners may desire, in carrying that necessary measure into execution.

We are, &c.

To *George Plater*, Esq., and Brigadier-General *Dent*, severally.

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Tibbet*, in a brig from *Statia*, purchased and loaded by *Abram Vanbibber*, for our Province, arrived here last week. The Captain applied to us for orders, agreeable to directions he had received for that purpose from *Vanbibber*. We ordered the cargo to be landed and stored, and the hands to be discharged. A few days since application was made to us for the sale of the brig to the Congress, which we agreed to, and have delivered her up with the guns, stores, &c. The account relative to her will be settled in a few days, and shall be transmitted. You have enclosed a list of the goods imported, all of which will be forwarded by the stages, except the duck; we have retained this till your orders. It is an article very scarce and dear in this city. If you do not want the whole quantity, we can sell it at a price that will leave a considerable profit.

Congress have advanced twenty-two thousand dollars, to be exchanged for gold and silver in your Province. This money would have been sent to you had any convenient opportunity offered. *Robert Alexander*, who intended for *Maryland*, last Sunday, prevented our writing by the *Saturday's* post, as he proposed going to *Annapolis*, and could give you fuller information of the state of affairs than can be contained within the compass of a letter.

We make no doubt you have heard various reports relative to a Mr. *Temple*, who came passenger in the packet, and is now in this city. Before his arrival here it was asserted that he was charged with despatches from the Ministry to Congress; that Courts were appointed with full powers; and that, if, on their arrival in *America*, the different Assemblies refused to treat, they were to treat with Congress. *Temple*, on his arrival, delivered his budget, which was truly farsical, being only a button of his coat, in which was contained a scrawl from *Arthur Lee*, informing Congress that troops were to sail from *Ireland*, and, for other particulars, referring to *Temple*, who could give information, as he (*Lee*) had acquainted him with the state of affairs, and the designs of Administration.

We have never seen *Temple*; it is said he is sick, some say he is mad. From his conduct in taking this journey to deliver such a trifling letter, the latter opinion seems well founded. The packet letters are yet on board the *Asia* man-of-war. The Postmaster, it is reported, has refused to deliver any letters unless the postage of the whole is paid. We are in expectation of an express from *Boston*. General *Washington* took possession of *Dorchester* Parish, which commands *South Boston*. It is said by ———'s letter to Congress, that *Howe* was embarking his artillery, stores, &c., in the greatest confusion.

We are, with respect, gentlemen, your humble servants,

THE DELEGATES OF MARYLAND.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO BARON DE WOEDTKE.

Philadelphia, March 19, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of the warm recommendations in your favour,\* and in hopes, by your eminent abilities, you will be able to render essential service to the cause of liberty, the Congress have thought proper to appoint you a Brigadier-General in the Army of the United Colonies, and I have the honour to enclose you their commission.

The desire of Congress is, that you repair to *New-York* as soon as you can, with convenience, and there wait the arrival of the Commissioners going to *Canada*, and that you accompany them to that Province, where you will put yourself under the command, and receive the orders of the Commander-in-Chief in that Department.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *Frederick William Baron De Woedtke*, Knight of *Malta*, &c., &c., &c., at *Philadelphia*.

\*PARIS, August 30, 1775.

MY DEAR MASTER: A General Officer in the Horse, who is of the highest consideration in this country, interests himself much in the cause of *America*, which he regards as the cause of mankind in general, and yours in particular. I am not allowed to name him, but I can tell you he is a near relation of that man in *France* for whom you have the greatest esteem. He has a cooler head and a purer heart than his relation, and is, by his talents, possessed of a most excellent judgment in military affairs, and of military merit; he is by his sentiments incapable to give countenance to any solicitations where there is not real merit. You see, sir, under whose guaranty, and at whose instigation, I have the honour to introduce to you the Baron of *Woedtke*, whom he knows personally, and is confirmed in his opinion of him by the Baron of *Gottz*, Plenipotentiary Minister from the King of *Prussia* to this Court, of whom he has been very particular in his inquiries, and who gives him the highest character, of as good an officer of horse as any in *Europe*, and as honest a man. He comes to offer himself to assist in making the justest cause that ever people were engaged in triumph—a cause that has made a people the most pacifick in the world the most warlike; their virtue animates their courage, and their oppressors already think that, what they vainly flattered themselves with, of easily subjugating them to their views, will not be easily effected. But the most heroic virtue will not immediately supply that knowledge in war which practice only gives.

I never heard talk of *English-American* Cavalry. Notwithstanding, between your great rivers you cannot fail of having vast plains, where Cavalry must always decide the fate of battles. Mr. the Baron of *Woedtke*, brought up in the finest school in the world of this kind, and, I may add, by the hand of the first master, employed in the post of Major of the *Prussian* Troops, has all the experience, all the capacity which can be wished for by your Colonies to form a body of Cavalry, and to conduct them when formed. They may depend upon his zeal. He has suffered for three or four years in a cause somewhat parallel with yours. He was persecuted, robbed by the injustice and ingratitude of a Sovereign, whom he had so loyally and happily served, who placed in him the greatest confidence, and gave him to hope for a lot the most fortunate; but, destitute of any resource against his tyrant, he abandoned a country in which he was born and educated, to look for one that, by election, he might call his own; where he hopes to signalize himself in the glorious defence of the purest liberty that ever was known; where an asylum is to none refused, and, consequently, a generous defender has not the least doubt but he will be adopted as a citizen by engaging in the *American* cause. He has already espoused the sentiment, and wishes to have the honour of being called the countryman of *Franklin*, *Otis*, *Hancock*, *Adams*, of *Dickinson*, of *Mifflin*, *Middleton*, and *Rush*, of Generals *Washington*, *Gates*, *Lee*, *Ward*, of *Putnam*, &c.; the names of whom will be revered in future ages, and blessed more and more, while the slave of *Frederick*, to whom every knee at present bows, but whose name will be handed to posterity from generation to generation with a growing horror.

The Baron of *Woedtke* desires in an especial manner to make his appearance in your country under your auspices, and will use all his efforts to deserve your good opinion. I beg that you will immediately do all that will depend upon you, to render him service, and that he may get into employ as soon as possible. You well know that one disgraced by a King of *Prussia* has very little to depend upon in that country; that his patrimony is confiscated; all his appointments stopped, has reduced him to very great distress; to the point—he was obliged to the succours of some friends for as much as will bear the expense of his voyage to you. He has not, from his birth, imbibed the sweet influence of the laws of *Penn*. It is true, from twelve years of age he has been employed in a useful manner, as the world goes, but they have only taught him to burn powder and hew off limbs. If he can assist in procuring for you a sweet rest after a glorious war, he will be happy, from his education, bad as it is, that his work may contribute to join the simplicity of the Quaker to the firmness of a *Brutus*.

You will have here joined a Memoir of his services.

To Dr. *Franklin*.

The Baron of *Woedtke*, Knight of the order of *Jerusalem* of the Protestant Religion, is a subject of the King of *Prussia*, and was a general officer to that Prince. He entered the service in the year 1750, a volunteer; in 1753 he obtained a Cornetcy of Horse; in 1756 he was appointed Brigade-Major; in 1758 the King appointed him Aid-de-Camp and Major of Brigade to the King's own command;—all the duties of which he did with applause. He served twenty-three years until this time of his arrival in *France*. He was in high credit and esteem with the King—more so with the young Prince, nephew to his Majesty, about whose



COMMISSION FROM THE UNITED COLONIES OF AMERICA TO BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, SAMUEL CHASE, AND CHARLES CARROLL, ESQUIRES.

*The Delegates of the UNITED COLONIES of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, RHODE-ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, NEW-YORK, NEW-JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, the three Counties on DELAWARE, MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, NORTH-CAROLINA, SOUTH-CAROLINA, and GEORGIA, in Congress assembled:*

To BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, *Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at PARIS, F. R. S., &c., &c., &c., one of the Delegates of the Colony of PENNSYLVANIA; SAMUEL CHASE, Esq., one of the Delegates of the Colony of MARYLAND; and CHARLES CARROLL, of CARROLLTON, in the said Colony of MARYLAND, Esq., Greeting:*

Know ye, that we, reposing especial trust and confidence in your zeal, fidelity, abilities, and assiduity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, or any two of you, Commissioners for and on behalf of us, and all the People of the United Colonies whom we represent, to promote or to form an union between the said Colonies and the People of *Canada*, according to the Instructions herewith delivered you, and to such as you may hereafter receive; and to execute all such matters and things as you are, or shall be, directed by your said Instructions. And we do require all officers, soldiers, and others, who may facilitate your negotiations, or promote the success thereof, to aid and assist you therein; and you are, from time to time, to transmit and report your proceedings to Congress.

This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

By order of Congress:

Dated at *Philadelphia*.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

In Congress, March 20, 1776.

*Instructions to BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, SAMUEL CHASE, and CHARLES CARROLL, Esquires.*

GENTLEMEN: You are, with all convenient despatch, to repair to *Canada*, and make known to the people of that

person he was placed; but the unfortunate death of that young Prince was the fall of the Baron of *Woodtke*. He, from his station, was obliged to inform his Majesty of the death of his beloved nephew, who therefrom took such an aversion to the Baron, that he could not bear him in his sight. So far did he carry this ill-placed aversion, that he obliged a man devoted to his service and to his native country, to seek an asylum in a strange country, without friends; but he has been happy enough to gain the countenance of some of the most illustrious in this place.

The Baron de *Gotz*, Minister Plenipotentiary from *Prussia*, has certified the above in a much more ample manner than it now appears in.

PARIS, August 30, 1775.

SIR: Before the Baron de *Woodtke's* departure for *Pennsylvania*, (his country by adoption,) we have frequently talked over the men of merit with whom that country abounds more than any other I am acquainted with, and whom I profess to honour more particularly. I have not forgotten you, sir, in the number, though I had not the honour of seeing you more than one short day. Having told him that you are descended from one of the most ancient noble families of *Picardy*, and allied to the house of *Maily*, and knowing that he is also allied to that noble family, it has made him desirous of being more particularly recommended to you than to others of his future countrymen.

The Baron is a man equally to be recommended for his birth, his sentiments, his talents, and his manners. Born a subject of the King of *Prussia*, was employed in his service from his youth, and arrived to the rank of Major of Horse, in which he has distinguished himself in the armies so celebrated in *Europe*; but, after being honoured with the most intimate confidence of this Monarch, as impetuous in his temper as enlightened in his understanding, he incurred his disgrace by the intrigues of the Court, (and what Court is without intrigues?) His revenues being stopped, he is under the necessity of quitting his country. Preferable to any other country, where his reputation would not fail of giving him honourable employ, the glory which the Colonies are daily acquiring, and the conformity there is between their lot and his, have determined him to go and offer his services, *dum defensoribus istis tempus eget*—whilst the time requires such defenders. I am of opinion that this is one of the best presents which *Europe* can make at this critical time for *America*, to whom they have so many crimes to expiate.

With this confidence, I flatter myself that I shall serve *America* by introducing this gentleman to you; and lay hold of the occasion of honouring myself by recalling me to your remembrance.

*Europe* now rings with the report of the exploits of the *Bostonians*, the eloquent writings of the *Philadelphians*, the courage of your Militia, and the wisdom of your Congress. If you continue united, *Athens*, *Sparta*, and *Thebes*, must yield to you. There is one thing that I am in pain about: it is, how you can get places for the numbers who must flock to you from all parts. If I was not sixty years of age, I would not be the last.

I have the honour to be, with the most distinguished and sincere sentiments, sir, your most humble servant,

DUBOURG.

country the wishes and intentions of Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them that the arms of the United Colonies, having been carried into that Province for the purpose of frustrating the designs of the *British* Court against our common liberties, we expect not only to defeat the hostile machinations of Governour *Carleton* against us, but that we shall put it in the power of our *Canadian* brethren to pursue such measures, for securing their own freedom and happiness, as a generous love of liberty and sound policy shall dictate to them.

Inform them that, in our judgment, their interest and ours are inseparably united. That it is impossible we can be reduced to a servile submission to *Great Britain* without their sharing in our fate; and, on the other hand, if we obtain, (as we doubt not we shall,) a full establishment of our rights, it depends wholly on their choice whether they will participate with us in those blessings, or still remain subject to every act of tyranny which *British* Ministers shall please to exercise over them. Urge all such arguments as your prudence shall suggest, to enforce our opinion concerning the mutual interests of the two countries, and to convince them of the impossibility of the war being concluded to the disadvantage of the Colonies, if we wisely and vigorously co-operate with each other. To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them, you are to declare that it is our inclination that the people of *Canada* may set up such a form of Government as will be most likely in their judgment to promote this happiness; and you are, in the strongest terms, to assure them that it is our earnest desire to adopt them into our Union as a sister Colony, and to secure the same general system of mild and equal laws for them and for ourselves, with only such local differences as may be agreeable to each Colony respectively. Assure the people of *Canada* that we have no apprehension that the *French* will take any part with *Great Britain*; but that it is their interest, and we have reason to believe their inclination, to cultivate a friendly intercourse with these Colonies.

You are, from this and such other reasons as may appear most proper, to urge the necessity the people are under of immediately taking some decisive step to put themselves under the protection of the United Colonies. For expediting such a measure, you are to explain to them our method of collecting the sense of the people, and conducting our affairs regularly, by Committees of Observation and Inspection in the several Districts; and by Conventions and Committees of Safety in the several Colonies. Recommend these modes to them. Explain to them the nature and principles of Government among freemen; developing, in contrast to these, the base, cruel, and insidious designs involved in the late act of Parliament for making a more effectual provision for the government of the Province of *Quebeck*. Endeavour to stimulate them, by motives of glory, as well as interest, to assume a part in a contest by which they must be deeply affected; and to aspire to a portion of that power by which they are ruled; and not to remain the mere spoils and prey of conquerors and lords.

You are further to declare that we hold sacred the rights of conscience, and may promise to the whole people solemnly, in our name, the free and undisturbed exercise of their religion, and to the clergy the full, perfect, and peaceable possession and enjoyment of all their estates; that the government of everything relating to their religion and clergy shall be left entirely in the hands of the good people of that Province, and such Legislature as they shall constitute; provided, however, that all other denominations of Christians be equally entitled to hold offices, and enjoy civil privileges, and the free exercise of their religion, and be totally exempt from the payment of any tithes, or taxes, for the support of any religion.

Inform them that you are vested by this Congress with full powers to effect these purposes; and, therefore, press them to have a complete representation of the people assembled in Convention, with all possible expedition, to deliberate concerning the establishment of a form of Government and an union with the United Colonies. As to the terms of the union, insist upon the propriety of their being similar to those upon which the other Colonies unite. Should they object to this, report to this Congress those objections, and the terms on which alone they will come into our Union.

Should they agree to our terms, you are to promise, in the names of the United Colonies, that we will defend and protect the people of *Canada* against all enemies, in the same manner as we will defend and protect any of the United Colonies.

You are to establish a free Press, and to give directions for the frequent publication of such pieces as may be of service to the cause of the United Colonies.

You are to settle all disputes between the *Canadians* and the Continental Troops, and to make such regulations relating thereto as you shall judge proper.

You are to make a strict and impartial inquiry into the cause of the imprisonment of Colonel *Dufee*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Nefeu*, Major *St. George Dupree*, and Major *Gray*, officers of Militia; and of *John Fraser*, Esq., late a Judge of Police at *Montreal*, and take such order concerning them as you shall judge most proper.

In reforming any abuses you may observe in *Canada*, establishing and enforcing regulations for preservation of peace and good order there, and composing differences between the troops of the United Colonies and the *Canadians*, all officers and soldiers are required to yield obedience to you.

And to enforce the decisions that you, or any two of you may make, you are empowered to suspend any military officer from the exercise of his commission till the pleasure of the Congress shall be known, if you, or any two of you, shall think it expedient.

You are also empowered to sit and vote as members of Councils of War in directing fortifications and defences to be made or to be demolished; and to draw orders upon the President for any sums of money, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars in the whole, to defray the expenses of the works.

Lastly, you are, by all the means you can use, to promote the execution of the resolutions now made, or hereafter to be made in Congress.

#### *Additional Instructions.*

You are empowered and directed to promote and encourage the trade of *Canada* with the *Indian Nations*, and grant passports for carrying it on, as far as it may consist with the safety of the troops and the publick good.

You are also directed and authorized to assure the inhabitants of *Canada* their commerce with foreign nations shall, in all respects, be put on an equal footing with and encouraged and protected in the same manner, as the trade of the United Colonies.

You are also directed to use every wise and prudent measure to introduce and give credit and circulation to the Continental money in *Canada*.

In case the former resolution of Congress, respecting the *English American Troops in Canada*, has not been carried into effect, you are directed to use your best endeavours to form a battalion of the *New-York Troops* in that country, and to appoint the Field and other officers, out of the gentlemen who have continued there during the campaign, according to their respective ranks and merit; and if it should be found impracticable, you are to direct such of them as are provided in the four battalions now raising in *New-York*, to repair to their respective corps. To enable you to carry this resolution into effect, you are furnished with blank commissions by the President.

By order of Congress: JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

#### NEW-YORK DELEGATES TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We beg leave to recommend to your particular attention the enclosed request from the Delegates of *Maryland*. We are not sufficiently acquainted with the state of our artillery to judge whether it will be in your power to oblige a sister Colony on this pressing occasion. We can only say that it will give us great pleasure if you can consistently contribute to the safety of *Maryland*, from whose Delegates our Colony has always received a uniform and zealous support. Their friendship in procuring an instruction from their Convention expressly directing them to move and use their endeavours for procuring relief to our Colony in the article of tea, and their generous offer to supply us with a ton of their scanty stock of powder some

months ago, deserve our grateful acknowledgments, and the esteem of our constituents. We could not, indeed, avail ourselves of the last favour, because the interposition of Congress was necessary, and we had reason to be apprehensive that the powder would have been sent another way, where it was then thought more necessary.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

JAMES DUANE,  
JOHN ALSOP,  
JOHN JAY,  
LEWIS MORRIS.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-York*.

#### MARYLAND DELEGATES TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Convention of *Maryland* voted a considerable sum of money to defend the harbour of *Baltimore* town, the most considerable place of our trade. Fortifications and batteries are now erecting; and every means in our power to procure cannon have failed. If your Colony can spare us four eighteen-pounders, or eight twelves, or eight nines, (which shall be returned as soon as others can be procured,) they will be of infinite service in defending a boom now very nearly ready to be laid across the river.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,  
W. JOHNSON, JUN.,  
SAMUEL CHASE,  
WILLIAM PAGA.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *New-York*.

#### JOHN WITHERSPOON TO LORD STIRLING.

Princeton, March 19, 1776.

MY LORD: I am this day favoured with your Lordship's letter of the 17th, as Chairman of the Committee of *Somerset County*, and shall not fail to lay it before them at their first meeting, which is on *Wednesday* next week, the 27th. I would have called them immediately, but the notices could not be sent so as to procure a meeting above two days sooner, as one of their number is gone to *Philadelphia* to procure powder, and it would have been very disagreeable to them to have been called twice in so short a time. I shall not fail to acquaint your Lordship of the resolution of the Committee; and wishing you much lawful and signal success in your present important charge,

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN WITHERSPOON.

To Lord *Stirling*.

#### MOSES OGDEN TO JOSEPH HALLETT.

Newark, New-Jersey, March 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I yesterday attended the vendue at *Elizabethtown*, and purchased a quantity of coal, to fulfil your order for shot; and as it cannot be delivered without the cash, I am obliged to request the favour of you to advance, and send me by the bearer, (Mr. *Garret Jacobus*, one of our workmen,) one hundred pounds, who will give you a receipt for the same. We have everything prepared for despatch as soon as the coal arrives.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

MOSES OGDEN.

To Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, *New-York*.

#### LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, March 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have this evening, by express, received the two enclosed letters from General *Washington*. I have communicated the contents of them to the Committee of Safety of this Province, and shall meet them to-morrow morning, to consult on such measures as necessarily arise from this intelligence. The Congress may be assured every step will be taken to prepare this place for the reception of the enemy. The work is great; not a moment of my time is left unemployed in effecting it.

I had the honour of receiving your letter of the 16th in-

stant, last night. In consequence of which, I ordered five tons of the powder, destined for *Cambridge*, to proceed immediately, and the rest to follow as soon as it could be shifted into proper barrels, which would have been accomplished to-morrow, and sent forward; but on this intelligence from General *Washington*, and a message which this express brings from Colonel *Mifflin*, that everything on the road to the camp at *Cambridge* be stopped, and sent to this place, I have ordered the whole eleven tons of powder to be stored here.

You may depend, sir, that General *Howe* at first intended a feint, with hopes of preventing General *Washington* possessing himself of the Heights of *Dorchester*; and finding the bait did not take, the distress of his Army, and his uneasy situation after that post was secured, has obliged him, in the utmost hurry and confusion, to make a real embarkation of his Army. I have written a free letter to General *Lee* on our situation here, which, with the other from General *Washington* to him, (after the Congress has perused them,) you will be so good as to forward to him, if he has left *Philadelphia*.

I would now go into a more particular detail of matters, but the hurry of business renders it impossible. I will, at every moment's leisure, communicate to you whatever may be of consequence.

I am, dear sir, your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 29, 1776.]

Albany, March 19, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to transmit you a copy of a letter, dated 5th *March*, from General *Wooster*, which I yesterday received. It is far from being improbable that the enemy have in contemplation the plan he mentions. His being aware of it will, I hope, put it in his power to render it abortive.

Colonel *Warner's* conduct, in making me a return, on the 12th of *February*, of seven hundred and thirty-six men being engaged by him, and on which I founded a warrant for advancing pay, (a copy whereof I enclosed you in mine of the 13th ultimo,) is extremely outré, when only four hundred and seventeen were arrived on the 5th instant.

On *Saturday*, the 16th instant, two sloops arrived here; but that with the heavy cannon and shot is not yet come up, although I desired that she might be brought up as far as the ice would permit, to take the advantage of the first fair wind after the river opened.

The whole of the batteaus I was ordered to build will be finished in eight days, as far as they can be for want of pitch and oakum, which is not yet arrived from *New-York*. I have, however, a sufficiency to transport the troops now here.

I have been so continually crowded with business, that I have not had time to copy the proceedings of the Commissioner of *Indian Affairs* till lately, and now enclose them. I have taken no notice of the numerous meetings I have had with small parties of *Indians*, as they came only on begging errands. The *Six Nations* have sent us word that they will soon be down. They always expect presents on such occasions, but we have nothing to give them.

The *Indian Department* engrosses so much of the time of the acting Commissioners, that a Secretary is absolutely necessary. Should Congress be pleased to make the appointment, they will permit me to recommend Mr. *Robert Yates*, a gentleman in whom are happily combined great good sense, a facility in doing business, a most consummate virtue, a steady friend to the cause of *America*, and to whose exertions in this quarter the publick are much indebted. He has the honour to be known to most of the Delegates from this Colony.

*March 20.*—I have this moment received another letter from General *Wooster*, of the 13th instant, a copy whereof (No. 2) I also enclose. I am well convinced that General *Wooster* has sufficient employment in the military branch. The civil also requires great attention, in the present critical state of *Canada*; and I fear the most fatal consequences, if an immediate attention is not paid to it. This induces

me to repeat my former request, that a Committee of Congress may be sent.

Sir *John Johnson* was this day in town, agreeable to my request; but his accusers did not appear. He avows that he has reported that the *Indians* have thrown out threats that they would fall upon us; and says it is notorious to many of our friends in the County of *Tryon* that they have repeatedly done it.

I am just now informed that the *Indians* are already on their way to this place to hold a conference with us. We shall be greatly distressed, as we have nothing to give them.

The heavy cannon arrived this morning, and they will be moved with all possible despatch to *Fort George*, and from thence as soon as the lakes are passable. Not a sailor for vessels, nor any artillery companies, are yet arrived here.

I have been under the necessity of repairing the old Hospital in this city to lodge the troops. Several of the men are down with the small-pox. I have had them removed to a distance from town.

Apprehensive that difficulties would arise in transporting the cannon and military stores from hence by land, at this season of the year, when the roads are almost impassable, and frequently overflowed between this and *Fort Edward*, I caused ten batteaus to be built; and happy it is, as the waters are now out, and many parts of the road rendered thereby impassable. In the transportation of these stores only, considerable more than the cost of the batteaus will be saved, even if the water had not rendered the roads useless; they being so very deep that carriages, at the very utmost, can carry only half loads. I hope to be able to venture a ride to *Fort George* by the time the cannon are moving from here, that they may not be retarded on the way, or on their arrival at that place, should the lakes be open.

If no sailors come up in time, I will man a sufficient number of the vessels with men from the troops for the present occasion.

I am, sir, most respectfully and sincerely, your most obedient and very humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

Hon. *John Hancock*.

Montreal, March 5, 1776.

SIR: Your favours, with the cash by Mr. *Benson*, came safe to hand this day at a time when greatly wanted; what we had being almost entirely expended. Whether I shall be able to borrow money of the merchants upon the plan you propose or not, I cannot yet tell. I have consulted Mr. *Henry* upon the subject. I think him as likely to succeed in the business as any person I can employ; yet I imagine it doubtful whether he succeeds or not, as very few, if any, of the merchants have any remittance to make in the Colonies, and, in general, they are not disposed to assist us, when it can be avoided.

I am happy at the arrival of the Commissaries, and shall, with pleasure, publish your orders concerning that branch of business. I have no doubt but there have been many abuses, and, I fear, not a few embezzlements. I have attempted several times to make an inquiry thoroughly into the conduct of the different Commissaries; but our critical situation, and the various different kinds of business which were absolutely necessary to attend to, have prevented my taking such measures as I could have wished. There was a considerable quantity of provisions left at *St. John's*, and taken in the fleet; a part of what was taken in the fleet was carried in the vessels, and has since been sent to *Quebeck*. There has been a number of poor families who suffered greatly about *St. John's*, and a number of prisoners in the town, who have been supplied with provisions through the winter; yet I cannot but think the consumption has been greater than it ought to be. Your orders, I hope, will prevent any further waste of provisions. The cost of transporting pork across the lakes is greater than I imagined. I hope the four hundred barrels, with what we have in hand, and what can be procured here, will be sufficient for us until the lakes open. I have sent Lieutenant *Johnson*, of the train, to *St. John's*, to forward some of the cannon and artillery stores from that place to *Quebeck*; a part of which have already been sent. I hope that whatever you send from *Ticonderogo* will arrive in a few days, or I fear the passing from this to *Quebeck* will be difficult. I have been very careful to take returns of all the troops, as they arrive from the Colonies. Of Colonel *Warner's* Regiment, which, he tells

me, he supposed to consist of between seven and eight hundred, there have four hundred and seventeen arrived, and there are but a few more expected. I could wish that some method might be found out to prevent any impositions of this kind. I am of opinion that we shall need a real army in this Province—a nominal one will not answer the purpose. I hope the other regiments that are ordered for this country will not turn out so lightly. I imagine you have been deceived with regard to *Warner's* Regiment, as he tells me he made you a return of between seven and eight hundred.

I am very glad to hear that General *Lee* is coming into this Province. Perhaps it might not be amiss if the Congress should think proper to send one or two other Generals with him. It certainly will be of great consequence to our cause that we have a respectable army here this summer. We have great reason to believe that there is a correspondence kept up between some of our enemies in and about this town and the King's Troops at *Swagotcha* and *Niagara*; and, from a number of circumstances collected from the *Caughnawaga Indians*, we have reason to apprehend that there is a plan concerted for those troops, in conjunction with what *Canadians* can be collected about those places, a number of *Indian* traders and their workmen, and a number of *Savages*, to make a descent upon this town when our troops are gone to *Quebeck*. Should our apprehensions prove true, it will be necessary to keep a strong garrison here. I have sent an *Indian*, who lately arrived here from *Dr. Wheelock*, (and understands *English*, *French*, and *Indian*,) among several of their tribes, to see whether he can find out the truth. When he returns, I shall likely be better informed.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

Montreal, March 13, 1776.

SIR: I have sent down Mr. *Woolsey* and Monsieur *Beaubasin*. *Woolsey* was taken prisoner by Major *Brown*, and set at liberty upon his parole of honour to do nothing against our Army. He afterwards went into *Quebeck*, and headed a party in an attempt to take some of General *Arnold's* men prisoners, but failed in the attempt, and was afterwards taken himself. Monsieur *Beaubasin* is represented to be a very dangerous man, and a most inveterate enemy; who is reported to have intrigues with the *Indians*, and was overheard to advise the massacre of our troops. A few days since, I wrote you that we had reason to apprehend some mischief contriving against us in the upper countries; since when, a *Richard Walker*, one *Goddard*, and *Lorimier*, (a *Frenchman* and *Indian* interpreter,) have, in a secret manner, left this place, and gone to the upper countries. We have heard of them upon their way; and it is said that *Peter Johnson* (a natural son of Sir *William's*, who sailed from *Quebeck* for *England*, stopped at *Halifax*, and has come across from that place to this, and was disguised here for some days in the dress of a *Squaw*) has gone with them. What designs may be forming, we cannot certainly tell; but most likely to make a descent upon this place while the most of our troops are gone to *Quebeck*. And really we have very few men to spare for this garrison; and there has not yet arrived from the Colonies fifteen hundred men. How many more we may expect before the lakes are impassable, we do not know; but I could wish to see them come in much faster. Will it not be well to send a body of troops to *Oswego*, by the way of the *Mohawk River*? I am informed that the back Nations of *Indians* were invited down here this spring by *Carleton*; but am unacquainted whether any belts have ever reached them from the Congress—you, doubtless, know. If they have received none, will it not be advisable to send to them as soon as possible?

I am, sir, your most obedient, very humble servant,  
DAVID WOOSTER.

To General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Colony of Rhode-Island, &c., East-Greenwich, }  
March 19, 1776. }

SIR: The General Assembly of the Colony of *Rhode-Island*, &c., acknowledge with gratitude the timely notice

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you have been pleased to give them of the late movement of the Ministerial Troops. The necessary orders have, in consequence thereof, been given to the Militia of this Colony to hold themselves in readiness, should any attack or lodgment be made here by said troops. But we must inform your Excellency that the great number of troops sent out of this Colony have considerably thinned our numbers; that the troops raised and stationed within this Colony have necessitated the Colony to take the arms out of the hands of a great part of the Militia; which hath made us greatly deficient in arms. The singular situation of this Colony will, we hope, excite your Excellency's immediate attention. *Rhode-Island*, and the many other islands in our bays and rivers, with the extensive sea-coast, render it very difficult to defend ourselves against the present Ministerial Forces. What our situation must be if a large armed force should make a landing upon *Rhode-Island*, or any other part of the Colony, your Excellency may as easily suggest as we can describe. It will, we are sure, be your Excellency's great concern to defend every part of the Continent as far as possible. Should your Excellency see fit to order any part of the forces from the vicinity of *Boston* to any of the Southern Colonies, we would wish your Excellency to order their march through this Colony, by the sea-shore, that we might have the chance of their being present should the Colony be immediately invaded. And whether it may not be necessary that a considerable force should be immediately stationed here till the intention of the enemy can be known, we also submit to your Excellency. We are extremely solicitous of all the assistance your Excellency can afford us, consistently with the general good; and doubt not but the utmost attention will be paid by your Excellency to our peculiarly distressed and dangerous situation.

At the request and in behalf of the General Assembly, I subscribe myself your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LORD STIRLING.

Cambridge, March 19, 1776.

MY LORD: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 11th instant, and to give you every congratulation upon your late appointment by the honourable Congress. If the intelligence is true, and to be depended upon, which was brought by the gentlemen to *New-York*, I think with you, that we shall have an opportunity of securing and putting the Continent in a tolerable posture of defence, and that the operations of the summer's campaign will not be so terrible as we were taught to expect from the accounts and denunciations which the Ministry have held forth to the publick. I have the pleasure to inform you that, on the morning of the 17th instant, General *Howe*, with his Army, abandoned the town of *Boston* without destroying it—an event of much importance, and which must be heard with great satisfaction—and that we are now in full possession. Their embarkation and retreat were hurried and precipitate; and they have left behind them stores of one thing and another to pretty considerable account; among which are several pieces of heavy cannon and one or two mortars, which are spiked. The town is in a much better situation, and less injured, than I expected from the reports I had received; though, to be sure, it is much damaged, and many houses despoiled of their valuable furniture. The fleet is still in *King* and *Nantasket Roads*; and where they intend to make a descent next, is altogether unknown; but, supposing *New-York* to be an object of much importance, and to be in their view, I must recommend your most strenuous and active exertions in preparing to prevent any designs or attempts they may have against it. I have detached the Riflemen and five battalions from hence to your assistance, which will be followed by others as circumstances will allow. These, with what forces you have, and can assemble, if there should be an occasion, I trust will be sufficient to hinder the enemy from possessing the city, and making a lodgment, till the main body of this Army can arrive.

I am, my Lord, with great respect, your most obedient and humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Lord *Stirling*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, March 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The 17th instant Mr. *Bennett* handed me your favour of the 9th. It mortifies me beyond expression to find the troops going to *Canada* so badly provided with arms. I have so often mentioned the situation we are in from the same cause, that I shall not trouble you more thereon; indeed, your letters and mine seem echoes to each other—enumerating our mutual difficulties. Should success crown our labours, the reflection will not be disgraceful.

A short detail of what has happened here since I wrote you last will, I dare say, afford you pleasure. The night of the 4th instant we possessed ourselves of *Dorchester Heights*, which alarmed the enemy so much that they made their dispositions to engage us; which was what I most earnestly wished for. But a violent storm coming on the evening of the 5th, gave us time to strengthen our works, and cooled the enemy's ardour. From that moment they made all possible diligence in preparing to move off. Our advancing still closer to them on the 16th (by taking post on an eminence called *Nook's Hill*, which commands their works on the neck of land which separates the town from *Roxbury*, and also commands the south part of *Boston*) has obliged the enemy to take to their ships, which, rather precipitately, they effected on the 17th, in the morning, leaving behind them about thirty pieces of excellent cannon and two mortars, (spiked,) a number of ball, some shells, the chief part of their light-horse, forage, twenty thousand bushels of wheat, two thousand five hundred chaldron of coal, salt, rugs, and blankets, with many other articles too tedious to mention. The ships now lie below the Castle, extending themselves to *Nantasket Road*, about nine miles. I do not expect that they will pay us another visit; though, as a number of transports have appeared this morning to have joined them, they may be tempted; which will prevent my sending off any more troops until they quit the harbour. It is uncertain where they may go from hence. *Long-Island* or *New-York* is, in my opinion, the place of their destination. I have sent off a Rifle Regiment and five battalions to *New-York*; and, when I can be certain of their having fairly left these parts, I shall remove the rest of the Army there, where I shall have great pleasure to meet you in tolerable health.

The return of the troops with General *Arnold* is received; also, the depositions respecting Colonel *Allen's* usage, which has been very cruel.

I am in hopes we shall be able to collect some hard money from the inhabitants of *Boston*. If we do, you shall soon be informed thereof.

Application has been made to the Commissary (Mr. *Chamier*) relative to the subsistence of the prisoners in our possession; which, I believe, is settled with *David Franks*, of *Philadelphia*.

I remain, &amp;c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN LANGDON.

Cambridge, March 19, 1776.

Wrote to him to forward the Continental powder to Camp immediately, giving him an account of our possessing ourselves of *Boston*, &c.

G. W.

To *John Langdon*, Esq.

## DR. MORGAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Dr. *Morgan's* compliments to General *Washington*: Having received a present of an exceedingly handsome and good horse, he thinks it too elegant and accomplished an animal not to wish General *Washington* master of it. He therefore begs the General's acceptance of it, in which case he shall think himself very happy to have had it in his power to furnish him so noble a steed at a time when he may have more particular occasion for a good riding horse, either for his own use or that of Mrs. *Washington*.

Dr. *Morgan's* servant now attends with the horse, to deliver it to whomsoever the General shall order to take charge of it. \*

Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

\* [The original is endorsed by General *Washington*:—"From Dr. *John Morgan*, March 19, 1776. The offer not accepted."] ]

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 25, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 19, 1776.

SIR: It is with the greatest pleasure I inform you that, on *Sunday* last, the 17th instant, about nine o'clock in the forenoon, the Ministerial Army evacuated the town of *Boston*, and that the forces of the United Colonies are now in actual possession thereof. I beg leave to congratulate you, sir, and the honourable Congress, on this happy event, and particularly as it was effected without endangering the lives and property of the remaining unhappy inhabitants. I have great reason to imagine their flight was precipitated by the appearance of a work which I had ordered to be thrown up last *Saturday* night on an eminence at *Dorchester*, which lay nearest to *Boston-Neck*, called *Nook's Hill*. The town, although it has suffered greatly, is not in so bad a state as I expected to find it; and I have a particular pleasure in being able to inform you, sir, that your house has received no damage worth mentioning; your furniture is in tolerable order, and the family pictures are all left entire and untouched. Captain *Cazneau* takes charge of the whole until he shall receive further orders from you. As soon as the Ministerial Troops had quitted the town, I ordered a thousand men, (who had had the small-pox,) under command of General *Putnam*, to take possession of the Heights, which I shall endeavour to fortify in such a manner as to prevent their return, should they attempt it; but as they are still in the harbour, I thought it not prudent to march off with the main body of the Army until I should be fully satisfied they had quitted the coast. I have therefore only detached five regiments, besides the Rifle Battalion, to *New-York*, and shall keep the remainder here till all suspicion of their return ceases. The situation in which I found their works evidently discovered that their retreat was made with the greatest precipitation. They have left their barracks, and other works of wood at *Bunker's Hill*, &c., all standing, and have destroyed but a small part of their lines. They have also left a number of fine pieces of cannon, which they first spiked up; also, a very large iron mortar, and (as I am informed) they have thrown another over the end of your wharf. I have employed proper persons to drill the cannon, and doubt not shall save the most of them. I am not yet able to procure an exact list of all the stores they have left; as soon as it can be done, I shall take care to transmit it to you. From an estimate of what the Quartermaster-General has already discovered, the amount will be twenty-five or thirty thousand pounds.

Part of the powder mentioned in yours of the 6th instant has already arrived. The remainder I have ordered to be stopped on the road, as we shall have no occasion for it here. The letter to General *Thomas* I immediately sent to him. He desired leave for three or four days, to settle some of his private affairs; after which he will set out for his command in *Canada*. I am happy that my conduct in intercepting Lord *Drummond's* letter is approved of by Congress.

I have the honour to be, with sincere respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 14, 1776.

(Parole, . . . . .)

(Countersign, . . . . .)

*Stark's*, *Patterson's*, *Webb's*, *Greaton's*, and *Bond's* Regiments, together with two Companies of the Artillery, are to march to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, under the command of Brigadier-General *Heath*, who will receive his orders from the Adjutant-General this evening at Head-Quarters. The Quartermaster-General will furnish them with wagons, and the route by which they are to march. The men are to be supplied with five days' provisions, good part of which they will do well to cook before they leave *Cambridge*, as there may be difficulty in doing it upon the road. The General again reminds the officers and soldiers of the other regiments, of the necessity of being ready for a march, as they may not have more than an hour's notice.

The General was informed yesterday morning, by a person just out of *Boston*, that our enemies in that place had laid several schemes for communicating the infection of the small-pox to the Continental Army, when they get into the



town. This shows the propriety of yesterday's orders, and the absolute necessity of paying the strictest obedience thereto.

All officers and others possessed of any of the Continental horses, are to return them immediately to the Quartermaster-General in *Cambridge*.

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Hutchinson* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, March 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Augustine*.)

(Countersign, *Bristol*.)

The Regiments and Companies of Artillery, mentioned in yesterday's orders, are not to march before sunrise to-morrow morning, when everything belonging to them is to be ready to move off. The men are not to put their packs in the carts; their provisions being carried for them, the General expects the whole to carry their own packs. Any officer or soldier who is known to commit any waste or destruction to any of the barracks, or barrack utensils, upon their removing, will be punished with the utmost severity. The Quartermaster-General to order his Assistants to see every article taken proper care of when the troops march.

Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, March 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Pensacola*.)

(Countersign, *Havana*.)

As the weather is so bad and the roads so miry, the Regiments and Companies of Artillery, ordered to march this morning, are to halt until to-morrow evening.

Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, March 17, 1776.

(Parole, *Boston*.)

(Countersign, *St. Patrick*.)

The Regiments under marching orders, to march to-morrow morning, at sunrise.

Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, March 18, 1776.

(Parole, *The Congress*.) (Countersign, *Liberty*.)

Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, March 19, 1776.

(Parole, *Philadelphia*.)

(Countersign, *Sidney*.)

Brigade-Major *Henly* being ordered to attend General *Heath*, Brigade-Major *Cary* is to take the duty of both those Brigades until further orders, and is therefore upon no account to be absent from *Cambridge*.

All officers, soldiers, and others, are positively forbid going into the town of *Boston* without a pass, or being sent expressly upon duty. As soon as the Selectmen report the town to be cleansed from infection, liberty will be given to those who have business there to go in. The inhabitants belonging to the town may be permitted to return to their habitations, proper persons being appointed at the Neck and at *Charlestown-Ferry* to grant them passes.

*Cambridge*, March 15, 1776.

*Marching Orders for Colonel CHARLES WEBB, commanding the Nineteenth Regiment of Foot.*

SIR: You are to proceed with the Regiment under your command to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, according to the route annexed. In case of extreme bad weather, or other unforeseen accidents, you are obliged to halt a day or more between this place and *Norwich*, you will acquaint Brigadier-General *Heath*, who is appointed to the command of the Brigade now under marching orders, and receive and follow his directions. You will immediately apply to Commissary-General *Trumbull* and to Quartermaster-General *Colonel Mifflin*, for an order for carriages and provisions for your march to *Norwich*. Upon your arrival there, Brigadier-General *Heath* has his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's directions for the further disposal of the Brigade.

His Excellency expects you will preserve good order, and exact discipline upon your march, carefully preventing all pillaging, marauding, and every kind of ill-usage or insult to the inhabitants of the country. As the motions of the enemy and the advanced season of the year make it of the utmost consequence that not a moment should be lost that can possibly be made use of upon your march, the General, depending upon your zeal, experience, and good

conduct, is satisfied that on your part no vigilance will be wanting.

Given at Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, this 15th of *March*, 1776.

HORATIO GATES, *Adjutant-General*.

*Route*.—From *Roxbury* to *Mann's*, twenty-two miles; to *Providence*, nineteen miles; to *Green's*, twenty miles; to *Burnham's*, twenty miles; to *Norwich*, twelve miles—ninety-three miles.

#### ORDERS TO CAPTAIN BALDWIN.

Head-Quarters, *Cambridge*, March 16, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby ordered to proceed immediately to the City of *New-York*, where, being arrived, you are to receive and follow such orders and directions as shall be given you by the officer commanding the Continental Forces there. I am, sir, your most obedient servant.

To *Jeduthan Baldwin*, Esq., Assistant-Engineer.

#### INSTRUCTIONS AND ORDERS FOR BRIGADIER-GENERAL HEATH.

*Cambridge*, March 19, 1776.

As you are forthwith to take upon you the command of the Brigade now upon their march to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, consisting of the Fifth, Sixteenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-fourth, and Twenty-fifth Regiments, you will, without delay, proceed to *Norwich*, where you will confer with the persons appointed to provide vessels for the transportation of the troops to *New-York*. Despatch and secrecy are necessary in embarking and sailing with this Brigade from thence to their place of destination; in doing which, you must be entirely governed by the information you will receive at *Norwich*, and such intelligence of the motions of the enemy's ships-of-war and armed vessels as you will be able to procure at *Norwich* and from the mouth of that river. As you have your own coast aboard, there will be, in transporting the troops by water, no risk, unless the enemy's ships are in possession of the mouth of the river previous to your arrival there. In that case, you will disembark the troops, and march the Brigade by land to *New-York*.

Perceiving that several of the carts carried from hence some tables, and other articles of household furniture, you are strictly enjoined to ease the carriages of all such trumpery, and positively not to suffer the march of the Brigade to be retarded by any unnecessary luggage being put in the baggage carts.

By the order of march, delivered to the commanding officers of the several divisions of the Brigade now upon their march to *Norwich*, it is forcibly recommended to them to exert their utmost diligence and authority to prevent all pillaging and marauding, and every species of abuse or ill-treatment of the inhabitants of the country. This order you will continue to enforce, and command to be strictly observed.

Upon your arrival with the Brigade at *New-York*, you will wait upon the commanding General there, and receive and obey such orders and instructions as he shall think necessary to give; but you are not, upon any account, to go before your Brigade into that city, nor be at any time absent from them more than ten miles; taking particular care to acquaint the Colonels commanding the divisions where you lay of nights, that they may know where to send, upon any emergency, for your orders and directions. If, when you arrive at *New-York*, there is no General of superior rank, nor any senior officers to yourself, you will take the command of the Army there, and with all possible diligence proceed in executing Major-General *Lee's* plan for fortifying that post, and the intrenched camp proposed.

Given at Head-Quarters in *Cambridge*, this 19th day of *March*, 1776.

#### GENERAL HOWE'S RETREAT FROM BOSTON.

*Cambridge*, March 21, 1776.

Last Sabbath (the 17th instant) the *British Army* in *Boston*, under General *Howe*, consisting of upwards of seven thousand men, after suffering an ignominious blockade for many months past, disgracefully quitted all their strong holds in *Boston* and *Charlestown*, fled from before the Army of

the United Colonies, and took refuge on board their ships. The most material particulars of this signal event are as follow :

About nine o'clock, a body of the enemy were seen to march from *Bunker's Hill*; and at the same time a very great number of boats, filled with troops, put off from *Boston*, and made for the shipping, which mostly lay before the Castle. On the first discovery of these movements, the Continental Army immediately paraded, and several regiments embarked in boats and proceeded down the river from this place. About the same time, two men were sent to *Bunker's Hill*, in order to make discoveries. They proceeded accordingly; and, when arrived, making a signal that the fort was evacuated, a detachment was immediately sent down from the Army to take possession of it. The troops in the river, which were commanded by General *Putnam*, landed at *Sewall's Point*, where they received intelligence that all the *British* troops had left *Boston*; on which a detachment was sent to take possession of the town, while the main body returned up the river. About the same time, General *Ward*, attended by about five hundred troops from *Roxbury* (under the command of Colonel *Ebenezer Learned*, who unbarred and opened the gates) entered the town on that quarter, Ensign *Richards* carrying the standard. The command of the whole being then given to General *Putnam*, he proceeded to take possession of all the important posts, and thereby became possessed, in the name of the Thirteen United Colonies of *North America*, of all the fortresses in that large and once populous and flourishing metropolis, which the flower of the *British* Army, headed by an experienced General, and supported by a formidable fleet of men-of-war, had but an hour before evacuated in the most precipitate and cowardly manner. God grant that the late worthy inhabitants, now scattered abroad, may speedily reoccupy their respective dwellings, and never more be disturbed by the cruel hand of tyranny; and may the air of that capital be never again contaminated by the stinking breath of toriyism.

The joy of our friends in *Boston*, on seeing the victorious and gallant troops of their country enter the town, almost at the heels of their barbarous oppressors, was inexpressibly great. The mutual congratulations and tender embraces which soon after took place between those of the nearest connexions in life, for a long time cruelly rent asunder by the tyranny of our implacable enemies, surpass description. From such a set of beings the preservation of property was not expected; and it was found that a great part of the evacuated houses had been pillaged, the furniture broken and destroyed, and many of the buildings greatly damaged. It is worthy of notice, however, that the buildings belonging to the Hon. Mr. *Hancock*, particularly his elegant mansion-house, were left in good order. All the linen and woollen goods, except some that might be secreted, were carried off by the enemy. All the salt and molasses which they could find were destroyed.

The enemy also destroyed great quantities of effects belonging to themselves, which they could not carry away, such as gun-carriages and other carriages of various kinds, house-furniture, &c., together with a quantity of flour and hay. All their forts, batteries, redoubts, and breastworks, remain entire and complete. They left many of their heaviest cannon mounted on carriages, and several of them charged; all of which were either spiked up or had a trunion beat off. They also left several of their largest mortars. Quantities of cannon-shot and shells, numbers of small-arms, and other instruments of war, have been found in many parts of the town, thrown off the wharves, concealed in vaults, or broken in pieces.

In the fort on *Bunker's Hill*, several hundred good blankets were found. It is said about fifteen or twenty of the King's horses have also been taken up in the town; and it is thought about the same number of Tories remain behind, all the rest being gone with the fleet.

We are told that the Tories were thunderstruck when orders were issued for evacuating the town, after being many hundred times assured that such reinforcements would be sent as to enable the King's Troops to ravage the country at pleasure. Thus are many of those deluded creatures, those vile traitors to their country, obliged at last, in their turn, to abandon their once delightful habitations, and go

they know not where. Many of them, it is said, considered themselves as undone, and seemed at times inclined to throw themselves upon the mercy of their offended country, rather than leave it. One or more of them, it is reported, have been left to end their lives by the unnatural act of suicide.

The enemy, previous to their going off, scattered great numbers of crow's feet on *Boston Neck* and in the streets, in order to retard our troops in case of a pursuit; and with such silence and precaution did they embark, that a great part of the inhabitants did not know it till after they were gone. The prisoners who were long confined in jail were cruelly carried off in irons.

Our troops, the night before the enemy embarked, began an intrenchment on *Nook's Hill*, in *Dorchester*, which commands *Boston Neck*. This, it is thought, hastened their retreat. They kept up a fire upon our men during the latter part of the night and in the morning, until just before they went off, but without doing any execution.

To the wisdom, firmness, intrepidity, and military abilities of our amiable and beloved General, his Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.; to the assiduity, skill, and bravery of the other worthy Generals and officers of the Army; and to the hardiness and gallantry of the soldiery, is to be ascribed, under God, the glory and success of our arms, in driving from one of the strongest holds in *America* so considerable a part of the *British* Army as that which last week occupied the capital of this Province.

*Tuesday* evening the enemy set fire to the block-house and barracks at the Castle; and yesterday they were employed at the same place in blowing up and demolishing the fortifications.

A part of the Continental Army are now employed in fortifying *Fort-Hill*, in *Boston*, to secure the town against any attacks which may be made by the enemy's ships-of-war.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A PERSON OF DISTINCTION  
AT CAMBRIDGE, TO A GENTLEMAN IN NEW-YORK, DATED  
MARCH 21, 1776.

I shall now, my dear sir, acquaint you with further particulars than what I have before transmitted. The storm that was sent on *Tuesday*, the 5th instant, at night, prevented, in all probability, a deal of bloodshed, and the destruction of *Boston*. General *Howe* had formed a desperate plan. Lord *Percy* was to have attacked on the *Wednesday* morning our Fort on *Dorchester-Hill* with about two thousand men; a feint was to have been made towards *Letchmere's Point*, and General *Howe* was to have rushed on our lines at *Roxbury* with bayonets fixed, without firing a gun. Had he been repulsed, and our Provincials followed him, a large number of field-pieces were to have been fired upon them, and then spiked up. The Ministerialists were to have embarked as soon as possible, while a bomb-ketch that was to be in readiness was to fire carcasses upon the town, with a view of setting it in flames, and thereby, I suppose, covering the embarkation, and diverting our people from the pursuit. Many of them acknowledged after the storm that the Heavens were against them. After the disappointment, *Howe* was for getting off as fast as possible; he would have been on board on *Friday*, but the wind chopped about. The *British* Troops are completely disgraced. They went off in an amazing hurry, and evidently under a panick. They have left behind them a large quantity of coal, near two hundred cords of wood, and a considerable number of pack-saddles, which the subtle *Gage* got made before the battle of *Lexington*, that his troops might convey by means of them, upon a single horse, all they might want to carry with them through the woods where carriages could not go, and which may be of great service to the Provincials in some of the Colonies. What with these articles, wheat, porter, oats, &c., they have left to the amount of some thousands sterling, I imagine. All the inhabitants I have conversed with inform me that they have been most cruelly treated; but by none more than by the Refugees and Tories. On *Friday* the Crier was sent about to order all the inhabitants not to stir out of their houses till evening. While they were thus confined, the soldiers, sailors, and refugees, took the opportunity of breaking into houses and stores and plundering. As they could not carry on board for want of

stowage-room, chairs, tables, and the like, they destroyed and burnt them. A prodigious quantity of mahogany furniture has been in this way demolished. When they were gone off, upon search being made, fires were discovered in several houses, so circumstanced as to evidence a design of setting the house on fire; but that was happily frustrated.

General *Robertson*, under an official cover, seems to have been as great a plunderer as any, and to have connived at the rascally conduct of smaller villains. He might possibly answer to himself for the part he was acting, by viewing what he secured as an equivalent for the many thousands he has out at interest and in property in your Colony and elsewhere, should the same be seized. The press will be employed shortly in communicating to the publick the sufferings of the *Bostonians*, drawn up by one who has been there the whole time, and well credited; and if that does not determine the Colonies never more to admit the King's Troops into the Continent, I shall think it strange. Since the Ministerialists have left their works, every one that surveys them is convinced what a most hazardous attempt it would have been to have endeavoured to force them, and are better satisfied with that seeming inactivity, but really *Fabian* delay, that was wisely adopted by our patriotick, sensible commanders. Strain every nerve, hazard life, rather than admit of the Regulars possessing themselves of your city. But it is likely they are going to *Halifax*; or if not, that you will be strongly reinforced before they can reach you. Many of the ships have sailed. A number of good large iron cannon have been left, which, when we have unspiked them, (several are already,) will serve to fortify the town. Two good mortars fell into the water at the wharf as they were attempting to put them on board, and another was left upon the common, spiked up.

It is reported that *Manly* has taken a ship laden with *Scotch* Tories, and their property.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF DISTINCTION IN THE BRITISH ARMY, TO A PERSON IN LONDON, DATED BOSTON, MARCH 3-17, 1776.

For these last six weeks, or near two months, we have been better amused than could possibly be expected in our situation. We had a theatre, we had balls, and there is actually a subscription on foot for a masquerade. *England* seems to have forgot us, and we endeavoured to forget ourselves. But we were roused to a sense of our situation last night, in a manner unpleasant enough. The Rebels have been for some time past erecting a bomb-battery, and last night began to play upon us. Two shells fell not far from me. One fell upon Colonel *Monkton's* house, and broke all the windows, but luckily did not burst until it had crossed the street. Many houses were damaged, but no lives lost. We expect some carcasses to-night, if the fear of destroying their own property does not prevent it. What makes this matter more provoking is, that their barracks are so scattered, and at such a distance, that we cannot disturb them, although, from a battery near the water-side, they can reach us easily.

*March 4.*—Bad news from *New-York* this morning. A man who calls himself Lord *Stirling*, (I believe one of his family has a right to the title, but passed eldest, and this gentleman plays alone,) put himself at the head of three thousand men, in conjunction with that arch Rebel *Lee*, and has driven all the well-affected people from the town of *New-York*. If something is not speedily done, his *Britannick Majesty's American* dominions will probably be confined within a very narrow compass. The Rebel Army is not brave, I believe; but it is agreed on all hands that their Artillery officers are at least equal to our own. In the number of shells that they threw last night, not above three failed. This morning we threw four, and three of them burst in the air.

*March 5.*—This is, I believe, likely to prove as important a day to the *British Empire* as any in our annals. We underwent last night a very severe cannonade, which damaged a number of houses, and killed some men. This morning, at daybreak, we discovered two redoubts on the hills on *Dorchester-Point*, and two smaller works on their flanks. They were all raised during the night, with an expedition equal to that of the Genii belonging to *Aladin's* wonderful lamp. From these hills they command the

whole town, so that we must drive them from their post, or desert the place. The former is determined upon, and five regiments are already embarked. A body of Light-Infantry under the command of Major *Musgrave*, (an excellent officer,) and a body of Grenadiers, are to embark to-night at seven. I think it is likely to be so far a general affair, that we shall take our share in it. Adieu balls, masquerades, &c.; for this may be looked upon as the opening of the campaign.

It is worth while to remark with what judgment the leaders of the Rebels take advantage of the prejudices and work upon the passions of the mob. The 5th of *March* is the anniversary of what they call the bloody massacre, when in (I think) 1769 [in 1770] the King's Troops fired on the people in the streets of *Boston*. If ever they dare stand us, it will be to-day; but I hope to-morrow to be able to give you an account of their defeat.

*March 6.*—A wind more violent than anything I ever heard, prevented our last night's purposed expedition, and so saved the lives of thousands. To-day they have made themselves too strong to make a dislodgment possible. We are under their fire whenever they choose to begin, so that we are now evacuating the town with the utmost expedition, and leaving behind us half our worldly goods. Adieu! I hope to embark in a few hours.

*March 7.*—When the transports came to be examined, they were void of both provisions and forage. If any are got on board to-day, it will be as much as can be done. Never were troops in so disgraceful a situation; and that not in the least our own fault, or owing to any want of skill or discretion in our commanders, but entirely owing to *Great Britain* being fast asleep. I pity General *Howe* from my soul.\*

*Transport, March 9.*—I have slept one night on board. The troops are embarking as fast as possible. I mistook, when I imagined the works already made could destroy the town; but the Rebels possess a hill so situated, that if they pleased to erect a battery, it would entirely consume us. They as yet have not proceeded to make a work, nor do they attempt to molest us in our embarkation. It appears as if there was at least a tacit agreement between *Washington* and General *Howe*.

*March 10.*—To-day the horse transports are ordered to fall down to *Castle-William*, a fort about three miles from the town in our possession; it commands the harbour, and the troops now there will embark the last. The retreat from the town of *Boston* is to be covered by a large body of Grenadiers and Light-Infantry, and the Fifth and Tenth Regiments. The *Fowey*, a man-of-war of twenty-eight guns, commanded by Captain *George Montagu*, covers the retreat by water. A packet is to sail, I hear, as soon as the Army is clear of the town; so probably I shall have it in my power to inform you whether we are attacked in our retreat or not; if I have, I will.

*Nantasket-Road, March 17.*—According to my promise, I proceed to give a brief account of our retreat, which was made this morning between the hours of two and eight. Our troops did not receive the smallest molestation, though the Rebels were all night at work on the near hill which I mentioned to you in my last letter, and we kept a constant fire upon them from a battery of four twenty-four-pounders. They did not return a single shot. It was lucky for the inhabitants now left in *Boston* they did not; for I am informed everything was prepared to set the town on a blaze had they fired one cannon. The Dragoons are under orders to sail to-morrow for *Halifax*—a cursed cold, wintry place, even yet; nothing to eat, less to drink. Bad times, my dear friend. The displeasure I feel from the very small share I have in our present insignificance is so great, that I do not know the thing so desperate I would not undertake, in order to change our situation.

\* WHITEHALL, May 3, 1776.—General *Howe*, Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces in *North-America*, having taken a resolution on the 7th of *March* to remove from *Boston* to *Halifax*, with the troops under his command, and such of the inhabitants, with their effects, as were desirous to continue under the protection of his Majesty's Forces; the embarkation was effected on the 17th of that month with the greatest order and regularity, and without the least interruption from the Rebels. When the Packet came away, the first division of the transports was under sail, and the remainder were preparing to follow in a few days; the Admiral leaving behind as many of the ships-of-war as could be spared from the convoy, for the security and protection of such vessels as might be bound to *Boston*.—*London Gazette*.

COLONEL ISRAEL MOREY TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE  
OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: By Colonel *Gerrish*, I received yours of the 13th instant, wherein you acknowledge the receipt of mine of the 7th, and observe the surprise you mention. I am as sorry to occasion a discomposure of mind, as I am to tell you that yours is as alarming as the abruptness of your determination. In the first place, I am asked what should induce me to purchase medicines. Certainly not for private views, as I am no apothecary. Upon Colonel *Bedel's* application for them, and having your particular orders to assist in providing for and forwarding the regiment with all speed, thought it necessary. And certainly the medicines will not be lost, nor do I think, at the particular charge of this Colony.

I am told that one hundred guns were supplied for the regiment. That number cannot answer for seven hundred men, as we must expect our adversaries will be all equipped with weapons of defence to a man. As to the prices, they were valued by an indifferent person, who is esteemed to be as complete a judge as any in this Colony. Many of them are King's arms, with bayonets, of the best kind, valued at three pounds only, others in like proportion; which is twenty per cent., at least, under those purchased at *Exeter*, and free of transportation. Unless I had purchased guns, I never could have complied with my instructions, which are not to muster any until well accoutred. I am confident that not a single man has been detained by me, and every possible means has been used to despatch them. Had the honourable Committee taken into consideration the orders given to Major *Bellows* and myself, and the many articles ordered to be purchased for the use of the troops, for which there was no money advanced us, they never could have thought of an overplus paid for the fixing the regiment. The money wrote for was for articles not in any particular calculation by the Committee.

I shall (as I ever have) endeavour to follow my instructions; and as soon as I have paid as far as the money already received will allow of, make a return of my proceedings, with my accounts and proper vouchers; and if the publick business shall be retarded for want of sufficient supplies, the Court must abide by the consequences.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ISRAEL MOREY.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Chairman, &c.

## JEREMIAH FOLSOM TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

New-Market, March 19, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I ask leave to inform you that it was just intimated to me by a member of the honourable Court, that it was expected I should attend on a Committee appointed to sit on *Tuesday*, 19th *March*, instant, at *Exeter*; but for what purposes, I have not been made acquainted. I therefore should not have been prepared to answer any matters, could I have given myself the pleasure of attending on the honourable Committee. But I have the misfortune, from receiving such violent colds in attending in the late storms, to be confined to my house and bed, which has put it out of my power to have obeyed your Honours' citation, if I had received one, which I shall always esteem it my duty and pleasure readily to obey, although the complaints and allegations were as false and maliciously fabricated against me, as those that have lately been by a small number of disappointed, and, therefore, disaffected persons belonging to the Fifth Company, in Colonel *Gillman's* Regiment, who have retarded and hindered the settlement of the whole regiment, and who, without your Honours' interposition, will continue the same. Confiding, therefore, in the known knowledge and justice of your Honours, in justifying the innocent when falsely accused, think myself happy that I am at the tribunal, and in the protection of this honourable Court; to whose determination and order I shall render the steadiest and firmest obedience, when it is signified to me, if *God* in his Providence shall admit me health and opportunity to fulfil it.

I am, may it please your Honours, your Honours' most humble servant,

JEREMIAH FOLSOM.

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

CAPTAIN JAMES OSGOOD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE  
OF SAFETY.

Orford, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been informed by two gentlemen belonging to the Court, that a certain gentleman of the House declared that he was informed I had only inlisted five men, four of whom had deserted. The affair must be wrongly construed, with an intent to hurt the character of a person unworthy of the same, and who does not deserve such treatment. I have with me at least sixty good men. Boys I scorn to engage, though I might have had a number of them; and I am pretty certain most Captains have had very bad luck in raising their men, by reason of other officers engaging men to inlist for *Portsmouth*, by offering them greater advantages in respect to furloughs, which they possibly could not have by going to *Canada*; which, of course, has been a great damage to our parties. I have had a great number deserted after paying them the bounty, and part of advance pay to support their families, and have sent to the Committees to apprehend them, but have not received any answer. A Captain of a company of the Militia in *Henniker*, (which can be proved in *Concord*.) told one of my men that if he would go to Head-Quarters only for two months, he would clear him from going to *Canada*.

We are all in good spirits, though we meet with such difficulties, and shall march to-morrow with what I have got, and shall have the remainder very soon.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JAMES OSGOOD.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee, *Exeter*.

COLONEL BEDEL TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF  
SAFETY.

Orford, March 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 13th is just received by Colonel *Gerrish*, wherein you mention the marching and inlisting my men goes on much slower than you expected. The reasons I can give. In the first place, the inlisting parties about here, (some for *Cambridge*, some for *Canada*.) were inlisting only for three months, and gave the same bounty and advance as those I inlist for a year. In regard to the expense for the *Indians*, I did not ask any money to be given; but by their sickness the money fell short; so I only wanted the money to be lent till I could settle the affair, and remit it back. In regard to the stores, I have not asked for anything but medicines, and something to help them along, as I do not think it prudent to send troops to such a distance without, and the medicines would then be of use to the Continent, as I am certain they were very rare last year in *Canada*, and suppose they are so now. Though the wages are to be paid monthly, the men are under the necessity to leave something for the support of their families, as the distance being so great, they have not an opportunity of sending anything home, only at some particular time; and the Army being chiefly made up with people who are not under circumstances to support their families while gone, therefore should have something to leave them.

You also mention you expect I will march as soon as possible. That I should absolutely have done without any such directions. My orders from the Continental Congress and General *Washington* were to apply to you for any necessities I might want, where they both mention you are to furnish me with the same, suitable for my march; but not one word mentioned about my applying to you for orders to march, or how I should conduct in the affair. So, if I have applied for anything of that kind, (as the copy of my letter which I have does not mention, though there might be a mistake in the copying,) I did not mean any such thing. When I was at *Exeter*, there were two gentlemen, (one by the name of *Town*, the other by the name of *Peabody*.) whom the Committee sent to me for orders to raise a company, which I did by your desire, though the gentlemen I was never acquainted with, but supposed they would have raised their men, but never heard from them till several companies had marched. I have had to send an express to *Amherst* to them, and found they had not raised one man; so had a company to raise after all disappointments. If they had raised their men, I should have had my regiment full by the time. I have six companies marched, and full, except four

or five men. The seventh company is now on the march. They are here, and will proceed to day. The eighth company, with two officers and about fifty men, are marched, and two more officers are now recruiting. I have heard they have got their men, but not yet mustered. Captain *Osgood's* company is here, but not full. There are about sixty mustered, which he will march with. We are not able to complete them with arms, but could purchase them if we had money; and this is the only party I ever had to march without arms and money; and I have never received any money, only a little hard at *Exeter* for our use at *Canada*; but shall march with the greatest cheerfulness, and do the best in my power for the good of the service, as I am certain the cause we are upon is right and just, though we may suffer for want of proper supplies.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
TIMOTHY BEDEL.

To *Meshech Weare, Esq.*

Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.—By the Council and Assembly.

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Congress of the Colony have, agreeable to a recommendation from the honourable Continental Congress, resolved on, and formed themselves upon a plan of Government by a Council and House of Representatives; which plan has been published and dispersed through the Colony, and is to be in force during the present dispute with *Great Britain*, unless otherwise advised by the Continental Congress; conformable to which said plan of Government, the Council and Assembly have chosen and appointed the proper officers for the administration of justice, in the several Counties, who are to be sworn to the faithful discharge of their several trusts: it is therefore expected, that no person, or persons, claim, or exercise any civil authority, but such as are, or may be appointed as aforesaid, on the penalty of being deemed inimical to their country.

Provided, nevertheless, and this Proclamation is intended not to interfere with the power of the necessary Committees of Inspection, or Safety, chosen in the several towns through the Colony, by virtue, and in consequence of any recommendation or resolves of the Continental Congress; whereof all persons concerned are to take due notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

And at the same time it is earnestly recommended, that in this distressing day of publick calamity, when our enemies are watching all opportunities to ensnare and divide us, every one would strive to prevent, and, if possible, to quell all appearances of party spirit; to cultivate and promote peace, union, and good order; and by all means in their power, to discourage profaneness, immorality, and injustice.

By order of the Council and Assembly, at *Exeter*, the 19th day of *March*, Anno Domini 1776.

M. WEARE, *President of the Council.*

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

GOD save the People.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 69.]

Annapolis, March 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is an order on the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* for the sum of fifty-two pounds two pence, for expenses incurred (as appears by your account transmitted us) in equipping Captain *James Kent's* Minutemen for their expedition to *Accomack* and *Northampton* Counties, in *Virginia*; and as the several articles furnished now belong to the Province, we desire you will receive them into your possession upon the return of the company, and take proper care of them. We are sorry it is not in our power to compensate Mr. *James Brown*, who, at the request of Captain *Kent*, attended his company in the capacities of Physician and Surgeon. However, we assure you we will represent the matter to the next Convention, and do not doubt they will take it into consideration, and as the measure was expedient, make an adequate satisfaction for his trouble and services.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO HUGH YOUNG.

[No. 70.]

Annapolis, March 20, 1776.

SIR: We should have answered your letter of the 11th instant, by Mr. *Smyth*, before now, but the variety of business before the Council has prevented us. We would have you send out the *Nancy*, Captain *Wise*, immediately, under the orders heretofore given, and finish loading the Schooner *Ninety-Two*, as speedily as possible, and send the Captain to us for his sailing orders.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Hugh Young*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM ENNALLS.

[No. 71.]

Annapolis, March 20, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 16th instant, relative to the payment of paper money for the specie you had collected, in pursuance of our order, to Messrs. *Ennalls, Murray*, and *Steele*, was delivered us by Captain *Woolford*. The Council has some time past given general orders to the Treasurers of the *Western* and *Eastern-Shores* to pay out of the Treasury bills of credit for any sums that should be delivered them in gold or silver; you will therefore apply to the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* for payment of paper money for what specie you may deliver him.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *William Ennalls, Dorchester* County.

#### ALEXANDER SOMERVILLE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Calvert County, March 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience of the appointment from your honourable Board, (as a collector of hard cash,) have collected about two hundred pounds, which is now in my possession, and only wait for a safe opportunity to convey it to you. I have given this day an order on the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* to pay Colonel *Fitzhugh* twenty-four pounds fourteen shillings and two pence, currency, for the gold and silver I had of him. If you point out the way of conveyance, it will be strictly attended to by, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

ALEXANDER SOMERVILLE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. If the paper currency is not soon sent; I shall be obliged to return the hard money.

A. S.

#### MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the arrival of Captain *Tibbet* we engaged a boat, on board of which shipped the powder and arms, together with one ton of powder advanced by Congress, and eighteen hundred and seventy-five pounds returned by Congress for the quantity borrowed by Colonel *Harrison*. This boat went to *Christiana Bridge*, from whence the powder was sent to *Baltimore* in wagons. Of this transaction we advised you by the return of the express that brought the intelligence of the *Otter* and her tender's arrival in the *Patapsco*. The quantity of powder which was private property in *Tibbet*, was very small; part of it was owned by a gentleman in *Accomack* County, in *Virginia*; the residue (about six or eight quarter-casks) Mr. *Bowley* informs us is the property of a gentleman in *Baltimore*, to whom it was sent. Powder is an article that cannot be purchased in this city. Mr. *Johnson* had a sum of money lodged in his hands by Colonel *Hollingsworth*, of *Cecil* County, to purchase a small quantity of powder for that County, the money being raised by subscription for that purpose: this he could not accomplish, and, at the pressing instance of that County, we procured from Congress five barrels, which is sent down. The demand from the eastward being very great, and our magazine almost empty, prevents our making any further application.

We are, with great respect, gentlemen, your humble servants,

R. ALEXANDER, for self and Colleagues.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.



## COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF DELAWARE.

At a general meeting of the Council of Safety for the government of *Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, on Delaware, at Dover, in Kent County, aforesaid, on the 8th of January, 1776, and continued by adjournment to the 12th of the same month, inclusively:*

Saturday, January 13, 1776.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the President transmit to Congress a list of such persons as by this Council of Safety have been appointed Officers in the Continental Battalion, to be raised in this Government, with their ranks and dates of their Commissions, respectively, certified by him as President of the Council.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN CHEW, *Secretary*.

*A List of the Persons to be appointed Officers in the Battalion to be raised in the DELAWARE Government by the Council of Safety thereof, in pursuance of the requisition of the honourable Continental Congress, together with their ranks and dates of their Commissions, viz:*

1st. Captain Joseph Stidham,	commission dated 13th January, 1776.
2d. Captain Jonathan Caldwell,	- - ditto, - 15th January, 1776.
3d. Captain David Hall, Jun.,	- - ditto, - 16th January, 1776.
4th. Captain Henry Darby,	- - ditto, - 17th January, 1776.
5th. Captain Charles Pope,	- - ditto, - 18th January, 1776.
6th. Captain Nathan Adams,	- - ditto, - 19th January, 1776.
7th. Captain Samuel Smith,	- - ditto, - 20th January, 1776.
8th. Captain Joseph Vaughan,	- - ditto, - 21st January, 1776.
1st. First Lieut. Lewis Howell,	- - ditto, - 13th January, 1776.
2d. First Lieut. John Patton,	- - ditto, - 15th January, 1776.
3d. First Lieut. Jonathan Harney,	- ditto, - 16th January, 1776.
4th. First Lieut. Robert Kirkwood, Jun.,	ditto, - 17th January, 1776.
5th. First Lieut. James Wells,	- - ditto, - 18th January, 1776.
6th. First Lieut. James Moore,	- - ditto, - 19th January, 1776.
7th. First Lieut. John Dickson,	- - ditto, - 20th January, 1776.
8th. First Lieut. Joseph Frint,	- - ditto, - 21st January, 1776.
1st. Second Lieut. Enoch Anderson,	- ditto, - 13th January, 1776.
2d. Second Lieut. George McCall,	- ditto, - 15th January, 1776.
3d. Second Lieut. John Learmouth,	ditto, - 16th January, 1776.
4th. Second Lieut. William Popham,	ditto, - 17th January, 1776.
5th. Second Lieut. Alexander Stuart, Jr.,	ditto, - 18th January, 1776.
6th. Second Lieut. James Gordon,	- ditto, - 19th January, 1776.
7th. Second Lieut. Jas. McDonough, Jr.,	ditto, - 20th January, 1776.
8th. Second Lieut. John Perkins,	- - ditto, - 21st January, 1776.
1st. Ensign Thomas Holland,	- - ditto, - 13th January, 1776.
2d. Ensign James Stephens,	- - ditto, - 15th January, 1776.
3d. Ensign Cord Hazard,	- - ditto, - 16th January, 1776.
4th. Ensign Peter Jaquet, Jun.,	- - ditto, - 17th January, 1776.
5th. Ensign John Wilson,	- - ditto, - 18th January, 1776.
6th. Ensign Thomas Nixon, Jun.,	- ditto, - 19th January, 1776.
7th. Ensign Abraham Cartey,	- - ditto, - 20th January, 1776.
8th. Ensign William Vaughan,	- - ditto, - 21st January, 1776.

## Staff Officers.

Chaplain, Rev. Joseph Montgomery.	Quartermaster, Robert Bail.
Surgeon, Doctor James Tilton, M. D.	Adjutant, Thomas Holland.

I do certify that the foregoing is a true list, taken from the Minutes of the Council.

JOHN KINLEY, *President*.

In the House of Representatives for the Counties of *Newcastle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware, at Newcastle:*

Wednesday, P. M., March 20, 1776.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That Dr. *Thomas McDonough*, of the County of *Newcastle*, be, and he is hereby, recommended to the honourable the Continental Congress, as Major in the *Delaware Battalion*, vice *John Macpherson, Jun., Esq.*, deceased.

Extract from the Minutes:

JAMES BOOTH, *Clerk of Assembly*.

## CASSANDRA TO CATO.

SIR: I thought you had forgotten the fatal 7th of *November, 1774*, on which all your ambitious projects were blasted by a publick vote of your fellow-citizens, to divide from the County in their choice of Committee-men, and to hold all future elections by ballot; but I find I was mistaken. While Committees were chosen by holding up of hands, and letters from millers and popular harangues could be employed to serve the purposes of your party, though *Cato* could write, yet no press teemed with his lucubrations; but now that publick business is carried on in the only way which can secure the people from undue influence, and the party has suffered a total defeat in their electioneering attempts, his masterly pen is called forth into the field of political controversy, and, with a few dashes of it,

he has overset our Committee of Inspection, demolished the whole tribe of patriotick scribblers in newspapers, and laid *Common Sense* in the dirt; taken a catalogue of all the Whigs and Tories in the Province; converted thirty-six Commissioners (about to be sent over to insult us with terms no one can accept) into ambassadors of peace; and poor *Cassandra* into an enthusiast, madman, barbarian, and drunken Independent. Wretched must the lot of that Whig be who falls into the hands of this fiery defender of Ministerial stratagems. *Daniel* may be protected from the jaws of the lions; but alas! who can protect us when *Cato* is roused? The whole band of us is crushed to atoms with one grasp of his hand. Why did you assure us that no persons need be alarmed, for that no indecent nor angry expression should dishonour your pen? Was it that the suddenness of our destruction might heighten its terror? Well has the Scriptures assured us that the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.

Your grievous paragraph about restraining the press is so notorious a falsehood, that I boldly put you to defiance to point out the instance. And when you give the publick the names of the few who turned the mode of electing Committees out of the channel of corruption, and thereby excluded you and your colleagues, I will undertake to mention the other few who, contrary to every principle of our Constitution, by a prostitution of the cry of publick necessity, are endeavouring to cloak an unbounded hatred to our present cause, under an affected zeal for constitutional dependance; and who have nearly effected their malicious purposes, of destroying their own liberties to be avenged of their enemies. But let not *Cato* too far provoke the majesty of the people of *Pennsylvania*, by the bold flourishes of a pen which pays no respect to truth, lest he may find it expedient to end his days on the principles of dependancy.

"Few persons," says *Cato*, "gave themselves any concern about the election of a Committee of Inspection, being well satisfied that any number of respectable citizens, who would take the trouble of such a Committee, should be thankfully indulged with the office; and although it consists of a hundred members, they had not two hundred votes."

*Cassandra* begs leave to inform *Cato*, that our Committees of Inspection, ever since chosen by ballot, got possession of their office by a more respectable number of voters than any Burgess which sat in the House of Assembly since the first day in which a comparison could be made, as he can make appear by the state of the several elections.

"In carrying on our great controversy with *England, Pennsylvania*," say you, "has no need either to make the least sacrifice of its Constitution, nor yet to yield in zeal to the foremost of the Colonies." This assertion might pass for truth on the coast of *Labrador*, or in the deserts of *Siberia*; but the people of *Pennsylvania* must have drunk deep of the waters of oblivion, and laid aside all pretensions to recollection, before they can consider such assertions in any other light than insults on their understanding. Can *Cato* inform them of the single measure that can be pursued in the line of our Charter Constitution? I should gladly view the paragraph which gives our Assembly the power of legislating without the Governour; and *Cato* is too well acquainted with the King's Representative, to believe he would ever give his sanction to our opposition. Name the act of Assembly, *Cato*, which makes legal tender of the money they have so patriotically struck, and I will believe you have for once strayed into the truth. But because our Representatives can do nothing legal without the Governour, therefore *Cato* is fiery hot for confining our opposition to them, and not to a Convention, which is under no such restrictions. The interest of the Governour, and not of the people, is plainly *Cato's*.

"The great privilege," you add, "which we enjoy of giving our free unbiased voice, annually, in the choice of an Assembly, who, from that moment, by charter, become a constitutional body, vested with the authority of the people, and can meet when they please, and sit as long as they judge necessary." Here, sir, you prudently drop the consideration of their being a constitutional body. Had you pointed out the advantages of constitutionally meeting and sitting, when they can constitutionally do no more, you had told us something. But this, alas! was out of your power. So much for your first letter.

In your second, you begin by saying that you know not on what grounds I have satisfied myself that the sole view

of Administration, in this commission, is to amuse and deceive, to bribe and corrupt us. It may be so, sir, though I hope you have not the vanity to set up your knowledge as the standard of truth. Did you read the piece, and attempt to pick to pieces the principles and arguments on which my advice is founded? I begin to think you did; and finding them too hard to overturn, you vent your spleen in railing at the author. But do you recollect Lord North's conciliatory plan, and his explanation of it, viz: Substantial revenue, *divide et impera*, &c.? Do you remember the King's speech at the opening of the present sessions of Parliament, and the re-echo of both Houses? the extensive plan of warlike operations which he means to carry on against us? and his appointing persons who shall, on the spot, dispense most gracious pardons to all such as shall acknowledge their faults and plead forgiveness?—(a new species of Ambassadors, not heretofore taken notice of by the writers on the laws of nature and nations.) Do you remember General Gage's plan for disarming the people of *Boston*, and the faith he observes in treaties? and that *Howe*, his successor, pursues the same infernal plan? Or have you totally forgot what the Prime Minister said, on his declaring that he was ready to restore us to the state we were in before the year 1763; for that we did not then deny the right of Parliament to tax *America*? Or do you forget that every proposal for reconciliation, made by the friends of *America* in Parliament, was rejected without a division? Had *Cato* remembered these things, or if he can be brought to remember them, he will have as much reason to suspect the designs of the Commissioners as *Cassandra*. Perhaps it suits not with *Cato's* plan to remember these things, though he can recollect many others of a much earlier date. *Cato* may be much better acquainted with our savage neighbours than *Cassandra*, as doubtless he has traversed the uncultivated woods of *America* more frequently than he; yet it may not be an easy matter to convince the people of this Province that the dread of losing all hopes of preferment, if the counsel of *Cassandra* is taken, has not called forth this champion for an undefined dependance from that obscurity into which he has nearly fallen. It remains a doubt with me whether the historic page will ever transmit your name to posterity as the first *American D...t...y*, if you are not permitted to shake hands with the Commissioners, and allowed the opportunity of explaining your mysterious conduct. I shall long turn over the volumes which establish the principles of the laws of nature and nations, before I read of ambassadors of peace, attended with Acts of Parliament to confiscate, and Royal Proclamations to divide, the property of those they are to treat with; and backed by immense armies of Ministerial cut-throats, to enforce their demands. *Cato's* great reading, no doubt, can supply the publick with a few instances of untutored savages receiving ambassadors, thus attended, with respect and hospitality, and smoking the calumet of peace with them. However, until he does, I trust he will grant to *Cassandra* the liberty of thinking otherwise, and do him the justice to believe that he knows as much about the rights of ambassadors as *Cato*. *Cassandra* confesses that he is greatly concerned for our virtue, lest we should be cajoled, deceived, and corrupted. *Cato* is not so. Corruption may be more familiar to *Cato*, which will fully account for our difference in sentiment. I am so much of a Christian as to pray that we may not be led into temptation. This, sir, may form no part of your devotion. But if *Cato* is so easy on the score of this treaty, because it is to be managed by men delegated for their integrity and abilities by the voice of their country, why is he enraged at my attempt to confine them to these virtuous Delegates? *Cassandra* is not afraid of the Delegates. It is to keep our modern *Catos* from doing us mischief that he is so anxiously concerned; and if *Cato* has read his proposal, he knows it to be so. But, *Cato*, had you adopted a signature correspondent with your designs, my present reply might be unnecessary; and if you yet change your present one for *Syphax*, *Sempronius*, or *Iago*, I may spare the printer much of my intended lucubrations. I believe the world will readily agree with me, that either of the three would be truly characteristic of your present designs, if not of your general character as a man and a politician.

The cup out of which *Cassandra* has drank was never employed to offer libations at the altar of Royal despotism or Proprietary influence. He knows no guide but reason

and love of mankind, as he neither wishes nor expects to be Prime Minister to any future would-be King of *Pennsylvania*. He is always ready to defend his rights at the risk of his life; and prefers present war to future slavery, being conscious that a great continent will be much happier with the one than the other. *Britain* has risen triumphant, in a few years, out of bloodier wars than ever *America* has been or will be called to; but *Egypt* has not, for thousands of years, recovered from the yoke of foreign oppression.

*Cassandra* longs to see your bold declaration made good. But why so long about it? Come to the point, sir. The presses are very open for the reception of your wonderful productions. But I beseech you, dear sir, to lay aside groundless declamation for the future, and speak a language which facts will support. The people of *Pennsylvania*, I trust, will ever have the good sense to prefer *Common Sense* to the appeals of any Government tool which may appear in defence of a union with those who know no law, human or divine, but the law of violence and murder, and who have their *Catos* in all quarters to delude and deceive; men who sell their consciences for the prospect of future advantages. Don't be angry, *Cato*. Give your name to the publick, and I will stand corrected if I have missed my object.

You make a great clamour because we have been constantly enlarging our views, and stretching them beyond the first bounds. But let me tell you, *Cato*, that nothing can be a greater proof of your iniquitous designs than your present attempt to confine them. Has not Administration first passed a Declaratory Act; then an act laying duties on paper, painters' colours, &c.; then their acts to export their teas to *America*; then a *Boston Port Act*; an act to destroy the Charter of *Massachusetts*; a Restraining Act, &c., &c.? Acts to confiscate our property, and levy the most cruel and unjust war against us? Have not they been constantly enlarging their plans, to the last of all acts of tyranny, murder, and robbery? And are we to remain insensible all this time, and never enlarge our views? Where would be the wisdom of all this, *Cato*?

You artfully introduce quotations from the proceedings of Congress, to lead the people astray, by producing extracts which you know neither can nor do speak the sentiments of Congress on the subject. Congress early spoke their sentiments on that head, but *Cato* could not recollect the passage. It did not coincide with his plan, of imposing on the people of *Pennsylvania*.

"Between these Colonies and the People of *Britain* (says the Congress, in their Address to the Inhabitants of the Colonies, published in their Resolves of *September 5, 1774*) subsists the social band which we ardently wish may never be dissolved, and which cannot be dissolved until their minds shall become indisputably hostile, or their inattention shall permit those who are thus hostile to persist in prosecuting, with the powers of the realm, the destructive measures already operating against these Colonies; and, in either case, shall reduce the latter to such a situation, that they shall be compelled to renounce every regard but that of self-preservation."

This was the opinion of Congress at that time. I will leave it to *Cato* to determine whether both or either of the cases there mentioned have not taken place. *Cato* does not class himself with *Cassandra* and the writers on that side of the question; this does not much trouble *Cassandra*, I assure you; inasmuch as he can class his own with the sentiments of the celebrated Dr. *Smith*, who, in his address to the graduates, in *May* last, says: "The glory of every country is its liberty, its independency, and its improvements in commerce, arts, and religion." And I believe the sentiments of this gentleman are as much esteemed among those of your party as the sentiments of *Cato*.

CASSANDRA.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE TO PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.  
To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.

The Memorial of the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA, respectfully sheweth:

That they have the highest sense of the necessity of the Union of the Colonies at the present juncture, when the

Parliament, Ministry, and King of *Great Britain*, are united in using their utmost efforts to subdue and enslave them.

That they have likewise the highest sense of the necessity of secrecy in many of the measures of the Congress, particularly in those which relate to military affairs.

That they apprehend that the Instructions of the honourable Assembly, of *November 9th*, 1775, to their Delegates, have a tendency to weaken the Union of the Colonies, and to make publick many of those measures of the Congress which sound policy requires should be known only to the Members of that body.

The Committee beg leave, therefore, to request that the said Instructions be rescinded; and, further, to declare that they are of opinion that peace, liberty, and safety, can only be obtained for this Province by a strict adherence to the resolutions of a majority of the Colonies.

Signed in behalf, and by order of the Committee, by  
JOHN BAYARD, *Chairman*.

March 20, 1776.

#### COLONEL IRVINE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Carlisle, March 20, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your orders to march my Battalion to *New-York*, which shall be complied with, with all possible expedition.

Many of the arms are old, and want bayonets and other repairs. However, I shall not wait for bayonets, as I hope we may be supplied at *Philadelphia* or *New-York*. I have been obliged to purchase many rifles; but they, I presume, may be changed for muskets, should the service require it. Knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, and many other necessities the Commissaries promised to forward for my battalion, are not yet come to hand. Though I do not mean to wait for them, yet I think it proper to acquaint you, as, perhaps, your further orders may be necessary.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM IRVINE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

#### *A List of the Sixth Battalion of PENNSYLVANIA Troops, in the Continental service, commanded by Colonel WILLIAM IRVINE:*

Captain *David Grier's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 78 Privates—88 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *Abraham Smith's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 76 Privates—86 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *Samuel Hay's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 75 Privates present, 2 not present—87 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *Jeremiah Talbot's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 76 Privates present, 4 absent—90 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *William Rippey's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 79 Privates—89 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *Moses McLain's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 74 Privates—84 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *James J. Wilson's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 89 Privates—99 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Captain *Robert Adams's* Company: 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 1 Drummer, 1 Fifer, 70 Privates present, 7 recruits not joined—87 non-commissioned Officers and Privates.

Total of non-commissioned Officers and Privates, seven hundred and ten.

WILLIAM IRVINE, *Colonel*.

Carlisle, March 20, 1776.

#### *A List of the Officers of the Sixth Battalion, with their rank.*

Field-Officers: Colonel, *William Irvine*; Lieutenant-Colonel, *Thomas Hartley*; Major, *James Dunlop*.

Captains: *David Grier*, *Abraham Smith*, *Samuel Hay*, *Jeremiah Talbot*, *William Rippey*, *Moses McLain*, *James A. Wilson*, *Robert Adams*.

First Lieutenants: *William Alexander*, *John McDonald*, *William Bratton*, *John McDowal*, *Lewis Bush*, *John Grier*, *Samuel Eddy*, *John Alexander*.

Second Lieutenants: *Alexander Parker*, *Samuel McFerran*, *Abdiel McCalister*, *John Brooks*, *Thomas Brown*, *John Hoge*, *Andrew Irvine*, *Robert Wilson*.

Ensigns: *Samuel Montgomery*, *William Nichols*, *William Graham*, *William Miller*, *William Lusk*, *Robert Hoops*, *Joseph Culbertson*, *William Veiper*.

Staff-Officers: Chaplain, *William Linn*; Adjutant, *John Brooks*; Quartermaster, *James Calderwood*; Surgeon, *Robert Johnson*; Mate, *John McDowal*, if allowed.

#### *A List of Officers, as posted to each Company.*

First, Captain *David Grier*, Lieutenant *John McDowal*, Lieutenant *Abdiel McCalister*, Ensign *William Nichols*.

Second, Captain *Abraham Smith*, Lieutenant *John Alexander*, Lieutenant *Andrew Irvine*, Ensign *Samuel Montgomery*.

Third, Captain *Samuel Hay*, Lieutenant *John Grier*, Lieutenant *Alexander Parker*, Ensign *William Miller*.

Fourth, Captain *Jeremiah Talbot*, Lieutenant *John McDonald*, Lieutenant *Thomas Brown*, Ensign *William Graham*.

Fifth, Captain *William Rippey*, Lieutenant *William Alexander*, Lieutenant *John Brooks*, Ensign *William Lusk*.

Sixth, Captain *Moses McLain*, Lieutenant *Samuel Eddy*, Lieutenant *John Hoge*, Ensign *Robert Hoops*.

Seventh, Captain *James A. Wilson*, Lieutenant *Lewis Bush*, Lieutenant *Robert Wilson*, Ensign *Joseph Culbertson*.

Eighth, Captain *Robert Adams*, Lieut. *William Bratton*, Lieutenant *Samuel McFerran*, Ensign *William Veiper*.

The dates of the commissions are the 9th last *January*, except a few that have been lately recommended; the dates of those I am not yet informed of.

WILLIAM IRVINE, *Colonel*.

#### LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, March 20, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I had the honour of receiving your letter of the 16th instant, this day. The important intelligence received within these last three days from General *Washington*, of General *Howe's* preparations for embarking his Army from *Boston*, I have not communicated to you, as I concluded that the same intelligence would reach you at *Albany* at least as soon as it came to this place; and, indeed, it was almost impossible for me to write you sooner than this moment, as my whole time has been employed in making the necessary arrangements for the defence of this place. As to the troops here, they consist of the First Battalion from *New-Jersey*, about five hundred, sick and well; two Regiments from *Connecticut*, about five hundred each, whose time of service expires on *Monday* next, and I am fearful I shall not be able to persuade them to stay longer. We have about five hundred Minute-men and Militia from the Counties of *Westchester* and *Dutchess*, and about two hundred Militia from *New-Jersey*. This is our whole army at present. I cannot now send you the exact return of the whole, as some of the latter have arrived only this day, and I have not yet received from the reviewing officers the report of them. The whole of these, excepting the necessary guards, are employed on fatigue, on this and *Long-Island*, in executing the fortifications agreed upon between General *Lee* and myself. In these works we are assisted every day by about one thousand of the inhabitants of the city, who have turned out, on this occasion, with great alacrity—the inhabitants and the Negroes taking their turn of duty regularly. I have the satisfaction to see that, according to the numbers, the work goes on amazingly well.

I yesterday received a letter from General *Livingston*, with one thousand pounds of steel, sent from *Trenton*, at your request, for the use of the blacksmiths and armourers who are going into the *Indian* country, which I have ordered to be forwarded to you by the first sloop to *Albany*. The cannon, shot, &c., designed for *Canada*, were sent off by General *Lee* before he left this place, and I hope are safe arrived at *Albany*.

I am rejoiced to find that your health is so much re-established, that you have reason to think you will not soon ex-

perience another relapse. I sincerely wish that may be the case.

On considering the whole of the intelligence from *Boston*, I am of opinion General *Howe* has been playing off manœuvres to divert General *Washington* from taking full possession of the grounds of *Dorchester*; yet, by the last accounts, General *Howe* has proceeded too far in his embarkations to leave us room to think it is all a feint. That General *Washington* is of this opinion, I can have no longer a doubt, as he is himself preparing soon to be at this place. Some part of his Army is on the way hither; the destination of the remainder must depend on circumstances. Brigadier-General *Thompson* is this afternoon arrived from *Philadelphia*, and, of course, has the command here.

I am, my dear General, your very affectionate and most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, March 20, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I received your letter, by express, of the 14th, and your letter of the same date to General *Lee*, which I opened and forwarded agreeable to the directions he left me. I am happy to find that the aid I called in from *New-Jersey* and *Connecticut* exactly concurs with your sentiments. The two Regiments of *Connecticut* are now here, consisting of about five hundred rank and file each; they are impatient to go home, as many of them are farmers, who want to mark out their summer's work. The time of their engagement with General *Lee* ends next *Monday*. I have used my best endeavours to prevail on them to stay till their places are supplied from that quarter; but it is still doubtful whether they will consent to it. Of this I have apprized Governour *Trumbull*, and have requested him to supply their places, and to make the whole two thousand from that Colony. From *New-Jersey* I have requested one thousand men; about two hundred of them are come in. About one thousand men are ordered from the northern Counties of this Province; none of them have yet arrived. We have now in this place and on *Long-Island* about two thousand five hundred men, including the above two *Connecticut* Regiments. The Militia in town amount to about as many more. Near one-half of the whole are on fatigue every day, carrying into execution the plan of defence formed by General *Lee*. They go on with great spirit and industry.

The Congress have ordered eight thousand men for the defence of this City and Province. The corps to make up this number are, four regiments from *Pennsylvania*; one from *New-Jersey*, and four of this Province; none of which have yet arrived; and most of them are incomplete, and unfit to march, especially the latter, of which not above two hundred are yet in town; and some of them I find are to be employed on *Hudson's River*, and the northern parts of this Province. From this state of the matter, you will see that, if the Ministerial Troops leave *Boston* and move this way, how necessary it will be to detach a large part of your Army to this place; which, undoubtedly, is the most important object in *North America*. On receiving your last letter, I had determined to detain at this place the eleven tons of powder designed for your camp; but, lest the manœuvres at *Boston* should prove a feint, I have ordered five tons of it to proceed to-morrow morning. The rest will follow according to the intelligence we receive.

Ten o'clock, P. M.—Brigadier-General *Thompson* has arrived here this day, and, of course, takes the command. My utmost industry will be exerted to assist him in it.

My most sincere and best wishes attend you; and have the honour to be, my dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MAJOR DOUGLASS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Brooklyn, March 20, 1776.

SIR: I this moment am honoured with yours of the 18th instant, and at present observe the contents. It appears, by Major-General *Schuyler's* letter, that the honourable the Continental Congress have honoured me with the command of the lakes, and that Captain *Wynkoop* should be employed under me. I am now upon furlough by Major-

General *Schuyler*, which directs me to wait until I receive orders from the Congress or from the General respecting my destination. I told Captain *Wynkoop* what I now tell you, that, whenever I should receive orders from the Congress or the General, I was willing to comply, if my health would permit; and as Captain *Wynkoop* is desired by the General to get his men and go up, I beg you would assist and forward him, and, if I am not called upon, shall endeavour to serve my country in some station of as much importance as to command the lakes.

I hope you will excuse my not answering your letter before now, as it was not handed to me, but to a soldier, who laid it on my table with other papers, and did not acquaint me of it; and it was by mere accident that I found it this evening.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM DOUGLASS.

To *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

JAMES BOYD TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Staten-Island, March 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been informed there is a complaint lodged against me in your House, the particulars of which I have not been informed; but understand that it is dropping expressions injurious to the country, and in favour of Ministerial tyranny. You must know, gentlemen, that this is the country that gave me birth, and for which I hope ever shall have the tenderest and most feeling regard; the country for whose liberty I would step forward with as much cheerfulness as any gentleman that has entered complaint to your honourable body; the country which I always intended to risk my life in defence of her just rights, for which reason I last week went to *New-York*, in order to see Messrs. *Lawrence* and *Bancker*, and offer myself for a commission in the Continental service. At the time when the people belonging to one of his Majesty's transports, then lying at the watering place, came on shore to plunder the inhabitants of this island, I shouldered my firelock, and, with the foremost, marched to oppose them. Such, gentlemen, has been my conduct; which is, in my opinion, nowise inimical to the cause of *America*. For the sincerity of my intentions, and the truth here offered to you, gentlemen, I appeal to Mr. *Lawrence*, who has been intimately acquainted with my conduct, and a great deal of my conversation, since the present unhappy contest began.

Gentlemen, I shall esteem it a particular favour if you would, by letter, acquaint me with the particulars of the crime alleged against me, that I may be the better enabled to vindicate myself against the aspersions thrown out against me.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN JAMES BOYD.

To the Committee of Safety of the City of *New-York*.

WILLIAM POWELL TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, March 20, 1776.

SIR: Having a permit from the Committee of this city to sail in ballast for *St. Croix*, and as I am under a *St. Christopher's* register, and going out with a *West-India* family, my friends inform me I may probably get a permit, under those circumstances, to sail by the men-of-war; and would request of you to obtain leave from your honourable House for me to go on board of the men-of-war to solicit it.\*

Which will much oblige, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM POWELL.

To the Chairman of the Honourable Provincial Congress of *New-York*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *NEW-YORK*.

The Memorial of SAMUEL LOUDON, of the City of *NEW-YORK*, Printer, sheweth:

That some weeks ago a manuscript, composed by a gentleman at some considerable distance, and sent in order to be printed here, in answer to the celebrated pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, was put into my hands by a gentleman of this city, who desired me to print it. As a publi-

\* [Endorsed—"MARCH 20, 1776. A Letter from *W. Powell*. He desires to go to Captain *Parker's* ship. Refused."]

cation of this nature required mature deliberation, I did not incline, nor did the gentleman require me, to comply with his proposal till I should be convinced that the manuscript was written with decency, or did not express, or even imply, any disapprobation of the proceedings of the honourable Continental Congress, or the glorious cause, in defence of which *Americans* are spending their blood and treasure. Being satisfied as to these particulars, I agreed to print the manuscript on my own account.

Having made some progress in printing off the sheets, I advertised the publication of the pamphlet in *Mr. Gaine's Gazette*, not imagining that any offence could justly be taken by my fellow-citizens. But, to my great surprise, I soon found that the advertisement had given disgust to some of the inhabitants, who highly resented it.

On the evening of the 18th ultimo, I received a message to attend on the Committee of Mechanics. I attended accordingly, and was interrogated by Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck*, the Chairman, "Who was the author of the manuscript I was printing, and who gave it me?" I told them I did not know the author, and that I got the manuscript from a gentleman of this city, whose name, in my opinion, they had no right to demand. Displeased at this reply, they threatened to burn the pamphlets, blaming me, in strong terms, for printing it. I expostulated with them on the impropriety of condemning a book before they had read it, proposed to send them the sheets that were printed, for their perusal, and to refer the whole affair to the Committee of Safety, and abide by their determination. They did not, however, think it proper to regard any of my proposals, but sent six of their number to my house, who nailed and sealed up the printed sheets in boxes, except a few which were drying in an empty house, which they locked, and took the key with them. The following evening they returned the key, and informed me that they had referred the

\* To THE PUBLICK: As the liberty of the Press has been boldly attacked, my private property wantonly destroyed, and suspicions aggravated into enormous crimes,† and circulated both in city and country, greatly to my prejudice; those considerations, I hope, will apologize for laying the following Narrative before the impartial publick.

Some weeks ago, a manuscript, composed by a gentleman at some considerable distance, and sent in order to be published here, in answer to the celebrated pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, was put into my hands by a gentleman of this city, who desired me to print it. As a publication of this nature required mature deliberation, I did not incline, nor did the gentleman require me, to comply with the proposal till I should be convinced that the manuscript was written with decency, and did not express, nor even imply, any disapprobation of the proceedings of the honourable Continental Congress, or the glorious cause in defence of which *Americans* are spending their blood and treasure. Being satisfied as to these particulars, I agreed to print the manuscript on my own account.

Having almost finished printing off the sheets, I advertised the publication of the pamphlet, in *Mr. Gaine's Gazette*; not imagining that any offence could justly be taken by my fellow-citizens. But, to my great surprise, I soon found that the advertisement had given disgust to some of the inhabitants, who highly resented it as a disapprobation of the laudable efforts of the Colonies to support their just rights and privileges. On the evening of the 18th ultimo, I received a message to attend on the Committee of Mechanics. I attended accordingly, and was interrogated by Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck*, the Chairman, "Who was the author of the pamphlet I was printing, and who gave me the manuscript?" Other members of the Committee questioned me to the same purport. I told them, "I did not know the author, and that I got the manuscript from a gentleman of this city, whose name, in my opinion, they had no right to demand." Displeased at this reply, they threatened to burn the pamphlet, blaming me in strong terms for printing it. I expostulated with them on the impropriety and unreasonableness of condemning a book before they had read it; therefore, proposed to send them the sheets that were printed, for their perusal, and to refer the whole affair to the Committee of Safety, and abide by their determination. They did not, however, think it proper to regard any of my proposals, but sent six of their number to my house, who put the printed sheets in boxes, and sealed them, except a few which were drying in an empty house, the door of which they locked and took the key with them. The following evening they sent the key, and informed me, that they had referred the matter to the General Committee. Same evening I received a note to wait on that Committee. I attended, and was informed by Mr. *Broome*, the Chairman, that a complaint had been preferred against me for printing an answer to the pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*; and that the Committee advised me not to proceed any further at present lest my personal safety might be endangered.‡ I thanked the Committee, and promised to comply with their advice. But all this availed nothing towards my security; for, past ten o'clock the same night, Mr. *Duyckinck*, without any commission from the Committee of Safety, attended by a large company, and notwithstanding all my entreaties, forced into my house, ran

† Five or six weeks ago, I got leave from the Congress to endeavour to get back a runaway servant, I had been informed was on board the *Asia*. On this was founded a suspicion that Governor *Tryon* or Mr. *Kemp*, the King's Attorney, had given me the answer to *Common Sense*; and it was also reported, that I had received one hundred and fifty or two hundred pounds for printing it; both which are entirely false.

‡ None of the members of the General Committee of Inspection had seen the pamphlet, and could not justify or condemn me for printing it; but, apprehending me to be in danger, from the manner of the complaint, sent for me and gave me the above-mentioned salutary advice.

matter to the General Committee of Inspection. Same evening I received a note to wait on that Committee. I attended; and was informed by the Chairman (Colonel *Broome*) that a complaint had been preferred against me for printing an answer to the pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, and the Committee advised me not to persist in publishing it at present, as my personal safety might be endangered. I thanked the Committee, and promised to comply with their advice. This availed nothing for my security, for some time after ten o'clock, the same night, the before-mentioned Mr. *Duyckinck*, without any commission from the Committee, attended by a considerable number, to appearance more than forty persons, who rushed into my house; some of them ran up stairs to the printing-office (while others guarded the door) and took away the whole impression of said pamphlets, being about fifteen hundred, which, at a very moderate calculation, amounts to seventy-five pounds. They carried them to the commons, and there burned them, as I have been informed.

Your Memorialist, conceiving the above-mentioned transactions a violent infraction of the liberty of the Press, and an unjustifiable attack on his private property, prays that the honourable Committee will take such measures and give directions, in the premises, as may secure the liberty of the Press, protect private property, prevent such insults for the future, and enable your Memorialist to recover damages adequate to the injuries he has sustained.\*

And your Memorialist, &c.

SAMUEL LOUDON.

New-York, March 20, 1776.

THOMAS JOHNSON TO NATHANIEL FOLSOM.

Newbury, March 20, 1776.

SIR: I am sorry to inform you of the backwardness of the *New-Hampshire* forces destined to *Quebeck*. The regi-

up stairs to the printing-office, and took away the whole impression of said pamphlet, being about fifteen hundred copies, which, at a moderate computation, amounts to seventy-five pounds. They, as I have been informed, carried them to the commons, and committed them to the flames.

I would not anticipate the reflections that will naturally arise in the mind of every candid and dispassionate reader of the above plain and impartial narrative I have given; but justice to the publick and myself requires me to subjoin a few remarks.

As the question concerning *American* Independence hath not, to the best of my knowledge, been decided by the Continental Congress, nor by any legal subordinate Convention, there can be no criminality in publishing the arguments for and against it; and as it is a question of the greatest importance, it should not be decided before these arguments are fully discussed.

Though a formal answer to the pamphlet entitled *Common Sense* hath been published in *Philadelphia*, the printer hath not fallen under the resentment of the Continental Congress; which is a decisive evidence that the Representatives of *North-America*, do not judge him to be a transgressor. My zealous, well-meaning, but misguided opponents, would have acted a consistent part, had they paid a due deference to the wisdom and good sense of that honourable body of men, whom they have solemnly promised to support, by suspending all proceedings against me till the *Philadelphia* printer had been called to account and condemned by them.

The publick will determine whether, by not suffering any persons to publish their sentiments but the author of the above-mentioned pamphlet, and such as have adopted his way of thinking, many thousands of steady friends to the common cause of *America* are not deprived of one of their essential privileges—the liberty of declaring their opinion upon a subject of the greatest moment, and in which they are unspeakably more interested than the supposed author of that pamphlet?

It is, at any rate, self-evident, that if any set of unauthorized men shall be permitted to assume the power of legislating for their fellow-citizens, and punishing them as they please, our legal Conventions and Committees, with all the precious liberties for which we are contending, will be in effect annihilated, and we will be in a more miserable slavery than would arise from the most successful execution of all the tyrannical acts of the *British* Parliament.

The freedom of the Press is now insulted and infringed, by some zealous advocates for liberty. A few more nocturnal assaults upon printers may totally destroy it, and *America*, in consequence, may fall a sacrifice to a more fatal despotism than that with which we are threatened.

I have no consciousness of guilt in the affair for which I have been persecuted. It is well known that I have always been a steady friend to the liberties of *America*; and I am resolved to risk my all in their defence, and cheerfully to submit to every determination of the Continental Congress, of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and of the General Committee of this city, that is not contrary to the dictates of religion, justice, and humanity; hoping, at the same time, that the reputation of *American* Councils will never be contaminated by any determination of such an iniquitous kind. I only claim common justice; and desire that for the future, all political publications issued from my press may be legally and impartially tried, by the publicly avowed principles of the Colonies, met in Continental Congress. If, at any time, I shall publish principles opposite to these, under any other predicament than that of common news, let me be treated with all the severity which an enemy to his country deserves.

SAMUEL LOUDON.



ment is not near full, nor gone; but there are some reasons—one is, that no officers were allowed on *York* side, nor anybody even to advise. Mr. *Morey* left a letter for Colonel *Bedel*, at *Exeter*, informing that Mr. *Johnson* could not be an officer as he said.

We had concluded no officer could be allowed in another Colony; and he has given out since that he had a right to enlist all the soldiers in another Colony, but no officer might be allowed. On the whole, I am sorry that *New-Hampshire* is so backward, and am afraid the lake will be broken before they cross it. It is really strange that *Philadelphia* Troops can be raised, and in *Canada*, before your troops, when we are not more than one hundred miles from *Montreal*.

I have taken the freedom to tell you the true state of the case, as you are one of the Committee, and a friend to the cause.

From your friend and humble servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON.

To *Nathaniel Folsom, Esq., Exeter.*

WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By a letter I received from Mr. *Bowly*, by this day's post, he tells me our Delegates had ordered all the sailcloth to be left at *Philadelphia*; the other things were to come in the packet on *Tuesday*. I expect they mean to sell the sailcloth, as the price is very high there. We sold ours at nine pounds ten shillings per bolt. If the gentlemen have not written you their reasons for doing it, I think you had better order it down, as perhaps you may not soon meet a further supply.

General *Lee* got here last night, and has been to view our battery. He thinks it very well executed, and that it will answer the intention. He has taken Mr. *Massenbaugh* with him to *Virginia*, and says he understands his business, and that he cannot do without him. I desired him to write you a line on the occasion, because, as you had been pleased to give him the command chiefly through my intelligence, I desired to stand acquitted to you. That he has promised to do. Mr. *Massenbaugh* would have waited on you to have thanked you for your favours, but the General was in so great a hurry, and said he must go with him.

I am, with the highest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOHN VEAZEY.

[No. 72.]

Annapolis, March 21, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of a letter we received from Mr. *Thompson*, of the 14th of last month, advising us of the importation of eight tons of gunpowder, in *Delaware*, by Captain *Nathaniel Ramsay*, and that he had engaged to supply your County with one ton of it, we wrote to you immediately, requesting you would secure the whole for the use of this Province, and transmitted, by Captain *Craig*, the sum of five hundred pounds for the ton engaged; but as we have since understood none of the powder was to be had, we desire you will return the money by the first safe conveyance; and hope you will excuse our taking this liberty with you, as we are not yet furnished with the plates and paper for the new emission, and drafts come in every day upon our Treasury, which is reduced very low.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *John Veazey*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 73.]

Annapolis, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have transmitted a copy of the enclosed order to the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County, and expect they will send the gunpowder to you early in next week, as it probably will be with them on *Saturday*, from *Philadelphia*. Upon the late alarm, some powder was given into the hands of the Militia on this side of the bay, and we fear it will be difficult to collect the greatest part of it again, and that too much of what may remain with the people will be lost to the publick. We recommend it to

you, therefore, to deliver to the Captains of the companies on the water as much as you may conceive will be sufficient, (taking their receipt,) with orders not to distribute it among their respective companies until there is a real necessity, and to keep the residue in some convenient part of your County, where, upon an emergency, the other companies may be supplied. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DORCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 74.]

Annapolis, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received yours of the 15th instant, by Captain *Woolford*, and are much pleased to hear that the Militia of your County behaved with so much spirit and alacrity on the late alarm occasioned by the *Otter* sloop-of-war and her tender's appearance in the bay; but, at the same time, we are concerned to find they have so few good arms among them. We doubt not but that the same noble and generous spirit, which induced them to step forth on the late occasion, in defence of our just rights and privileges, and those of their fellow-citizens, will support them under every difficulty they may have to encounter. You may be assured that the Council will give them, as well as every other part of the Province, all the assistance in their power. We have ordered the arms and powder imported by Captain *Tibbet*, for the use of the Province, down to *Chestertown*, from whence the arms will be distributed among the regular troops stationed on the *Eastern-Shore*, and a proportion of the powder sent to the Committee of each County. Enclosed we send you our orders for the distribution of the powder (which we have ordered to be sent to *Cambridge*, to Mr. *Harrison's* care) by the Committee of *Kent* County, and we hope will reach you by the middle of next week, as also an order on the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* for the payment of the expenses of sending forward that for *Worcester* and *Somerset* Counties. Upon the late alarm some powder was given into the hands of the Militia on this side of the bay, and we fear it will be difficult to collect the greatest part of it again; and that too much of what may remain with the people will be lost to the publick. We recommend it to you, therefore, to deliver to the Captains on the water side as much as you may conceive will be sufficient, (taking their receipts,) with orders not to distribute it among the respective companies until there is a real necessity, and to keep the residue in some convenient part of your County, where, upon any emergency, the other companies may be readily supplied.

We have given Captain *Woolford* an order on Captain *Robson* for the Provincial arms which we received from the Committee of Observation of *Kent* County, and we hope soon to be able to completely arm his and the other Independent Companies stationed on your shore.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia County, March 21, 1776.

At a meeting of a considerable majority of the gentlemen who have been chosen to serve for the ensuing year as a Committee of Inspection and Observation for this County, Colonel *William Hamilton* was appointed Chairman, and Dr. *Enoch Edwards*, Secretary.

This Committee, after having observed that several Committees of the Province of *Pennsylvania* have recommended the calling a Convention, and some of them proceeded to nominate persons to represent them in the same,

*Resolved*, *N. C. D.*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the measure of calling a Convention is by no means necessary at this time, as we trust that the honourable House of Assembly, now sitting, are ready to hear and redress every grievance that is, or may properly be, laid before them.

*Resolved*, That it be requested of all those gentlemen who have undertaken to collect Donations for the Poor of *Boston*, that they would pay their several sums into the hands of Mr. *Joseph Mathers*, who is appointed Treasurer for this year.

*Resolved*, That *John Bull*, Esquire, Colonels *William*

*Hamilton, Robert Lewis, Doctors Charles Bensel, Samuel Swift, Messieurs Joseph Mathers, Jonathan Pascall, and Isaac Hughes, be appointed to serve as a Committee of Correspondence.*

*Resolved, That it be recommended to those few Townships which have yet neglected to choose a person to represent them in this Committee, that they would proceed to do it as soon as possible, as their members will be expected to attend when the Chairman shall think proper to call another meeting.*

By order of the Committee:

ENOCH EDWARDS, *Secretary.*

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER III.

When I sat down to address you, a resolve or vote of our Committee of Inspection for calling a Convention had alarmed many good friends of the Province, on account of our Charter Constitution; and, therefore, I determined freely to examine the right of the Committee to convene such a body, the necessity of their being convened, the powers which they might assume, and the confusion such a measure must produce. But, in the evening of the same day on which my first letter was published, we were acquainted, "by order and in behalf of the Committee, that they had recalled their former vote;" and therefore, as the resolution for this recall was probably formed before my publication, I shall claim no merit in it. The publick seems willing to ascribe it to motives of prudence, suggested by the general disapprobation of the Convention scheme, the zeal shown among all ranks of people for the support of our ancient Government by Assemblies, and the little prospect that any regard would have been paid to the edicts of a body of men constituted without necessity, even if we could suppose any number of our County Committees willing to unite in assuming powers which were never delegated to them.

But those who correspond in behalf of the Committee give us other reasons than the above. They tell us that they have held a "conference with several Members of Assembly," and have, in behalf of this Province, told them their duty; that the said members have promised all future attention to the same; but that the Committee, watchful for our good, and not willing to trust them too far, still hold the rod over them, and therefore have not annulled their vote, but have only been graciously pleased to forbear, "for the present, the forwarding the letters [or issuing the writs] for calling a Convention."

This is rather spoken in a lordly style, if it be anything more than the assuming language of the few who correspond in the name of the Committee. But if there be those who think a back door more honourable for a retreat than the front, I would not wound their dignity, nor throw a straw in the way to retard them. It is probable that our Assembly may now be permitted to exercise their own judgment, without further attempts to intimidate them in the discharge of the important trust committed to them by the voice of their country; and therefore, as I would avoid contention at all times, and especially at this dangerous crisis, I shall likewise, for the present, forbear sending to the Press everything which I had prepared in vindication of our injured Representatives, except so far as relates to Independency. But that topic I propose, as occasion offers, to handle at some length; for I find the chief resentment levelled against them, appears to be on account of their instructions to their Delegates. These, in the eyes of some men, stand as an insurmountable barrier in the way of their destructive purposes, and I trust will continue so to stand till removed by the clear sense of an uncorrupted majority of the good people of this Province. Without full proofs of this, the Assembly can neither consent to any change of our Constitution, or to make the least transfer of our allegiance; and these proofs ought to be more pure than what can flow through the foul pages of interested writers, or strangers intermeddling in our affairs, and avowedly pressing their Republick schemes upon us, at the risk of all we hold valuable. Nor would I be willing to receive these proofs from Committees, as proposed in the *Evening Post* of the 9th instant, by one who signs himself "A Lover of Order," but should be styled an Author of Confusion.

"It would be proper (says he) that the constituents of

the Congress should declare their sentiments upon that head [Independence] as soon as possible. This may be done by the various Committees and Conventions on the Continent. Their votes and resolves should determine the question in the Congress. The first Congress was nothing but the echo of Committees and Conventions. In the present important question concerning Independence, the Congress should only (as in the former case) echo back the sentiments of that people;" that is, of Committees and Conventions. And thus we may be echoed and re-echoed out of our liberties, our property, our happiness, and plunged deeper and deeper into all the growing horrors of war and bloodshed, without ever being consulted. For I insist upon it, that no Committees were ever entrusted with any authority to speak the sense of the people of *Pennsylvania* on this question. I have already observed by how few voices our largest Committee of a hundred was chosen; and I know some Counties where the whole Committee was named by six or seven voices only. At this rate, three or four hundred people would take upon them to declare the sense of as many hundred thousands, in a matter of the greatest importance that ever came before us. Can you, my countrymen, acquiesce in such a horrible doctrine? Or does not the bare mention of it still further convince you that your liberties can nowhere be so safe as in the hands of your Representatives in Assembly? "Those who are not inebriated with Independency will certainly allow, that the instructions to their Delegates were dictated by the true spirit of peace, justice, and exalted policy. Who so proper to instruct them as those chosen by yourselves, not in the hour of passion, riot, and confusion, but in the day of peace and tranquil reflection?" These words I borrow from a pamphlet just published, under the title of *Plain Truth*; which I would recommend to your perusal, as containing many judicious remarks upon the mischievous tenets and palpable absurdities held forth in the pamphlet so falsely called *Common Sense*.

I have, in my second letter, freely declared my political creed, viz: "That the true interest of *America* lies in reconciliation with *Great Britain* upon constitutional principles, and that I wish it upon none else." I now proceed to give my reasons for this declaration. It is fit, in so great a question, that you should weigh both sides well, and exercise that good sense for which the inhabitants of these Colonies have been hitherto distinguished; and then I shall be under no apprehensions concerning the pernicious, though specious plans, which are every day published in our newspapers and pamphlets. The people generally judge right, when the whole truth is plainly laid before them; but through inattention in some, and fondness for novelty in others, when but one side of a proposition is agitated and persevered in, they may gradually deceive themselves, and adopt what cooler reflection and future dear-bought experience may prove to be ruinous.

Agriculture and commerce have hitherto been the happy employments, by which these Middle Colonies have risen into wealth and importance. By them the face of the country has been changed from a barren wilderness into the hospitable abodes of peace and plenty. Without them, we had either never existed as *Americans*, or existed only as *Savages*. The oaks would still have possessed their native spots of earth, and never have appeared in the form of ships and houses. What are now well cultivated fields, or flourishing cities, would have remained only the solitary haunts of wild beasts, or of men equally wild.

That much of our former felicity was owing to the protection of *England* is not to be denied; and that we might still derive great advantages from her protection and friendship, if not valued at too high a price, is equally certain; nor is it worth inquiring whether that protection was afforded us more for her own sake than ours. That the former was the case, more especially since the Colonies grew into consequence, I have not the least doubt; but that this is a reason for our rejecting any future connection with her I must utterly deny. Although I consider her as having, in her late conduct towards us, acted the part of a cruel step-dame, and not of a fostering parent; I would not therefore quarrel with the benefits I may reap from a connection with her, and can expect to reap nowhere else. If, by her fleets and armies, every nation on the globe is deterred from invading our properties, either on the high-seas, in

foreign countries, or on our own coasts, ought we not, in sound policy, to profit by her strength; and, without regarding the motives of her conduct, embrace the opportunity of becoming rich and powerful in her friendship, at an expense far less than it would cost us merely to exist in alliance with any other power?

If our present differences can be accommodated, there is scarce a probability that she will ever renew the late fatal system of policy, or attempt to employ a force against us. But should she be so infatuated, at any future period, as to think of subjugating us, either by the arts of corruption or oppressive exertions of power, can we entertain a doubt but that we shall again, with a virtue equal to the present, and with the weapons of defence in our hands (when necessary) convince her that we are willing, by a constitutional connection with her, to afford and receive reciprocal benefits; but, although subjects of the same King, we will not consent to be her slaves. It was on this ground, and not for the purpose of trying new forms of Government, or erecting separate independent States, "that *America* embarked in the present glorious contest." On this ground, and upon none else, the Continental Union is formed. On this ground we have a powerful support among the true sons of liberty in *Great Britain*; and lastly, upon this ground, we have the utmost assurance of obtaining a full redress of our grievances, and an ample security against any future violation of our just rights. And if hereafter, in the fulness of time, it shall be necessary to separate from the land that gave birth to our ancestors, it will be in our state of perfect manhood, when we can fully wield our own arms, and protect our commerce and coasts by our own fleets, without looking to any nation upon earth for assistance.

This, I say, was our ground, and these our views, universally declared, from the origin of this contest till within a few weeks ago, when some gleams of reconciliation began first to break in upon us. If we now mean to change this ground, and reject all propositions of peace, from that moment we are deserted by every advocate of our cause in *Great Britain*; we falsify every declaration which the Congress hath heretofore held forth in our behalf; we abandon all prospect of preserving our importance by trade and agriculture—the ancient, sure, and experienced road to wealth and happiness.

In short, if thus contradicting all our former publick professions, we should now affect Independency as our own act, before it appears clearly to the world to have been forced upon us by the cruel hand of the parent state, we could neither hope for union nor success in the attempt. We must be considered as a faithless people in the sight of all mankind, and could scarcely expect the confidence of any nation upon earth, or look up to Heaven for its approving sentence. On the contrary, every convulsion attendant upon revolutions and innovations of Government, untimely attempted or finally defeated, might be our portion; added to the loss of trade for want of protection; the consequent decay of husbandry; bloodshed and desolation; with an exchange of the easy and flourishing condition of farmers and merchants, for a life, at best, of hardy poverty as soldiers or hunters.

To see *America* reduced to such a situation may be the choice of adventurers who have nothing to lose, or of men exalted by the present confusions into lucrative offices, which they can hold no longer than the continuance of the publick calamities. But can it be the wish of all that great and valuable body of people in *America*, who, by honest industry, have acquired a competency, and have experienced a happier life? Can it be their wish, I say, for such considerations, to have destruction continually before their eyes; and to have enormous debts entailed upon them and their posterity, till at length they have nothing left which they can truly call their own?

I know the answers which will be given to these questions, and am prepared to reply to them, with that temper and gravity which so serious a subject requires. It will be asserted—indeed it has already been asserted—that the animosities between *Great Britain* and the Colonies are now advanced to such a height that reconciliation is impossible. But assertions are nothing, when opposed to the nature of things, the truth of history, and all past experience. The quarrels of nations, being neither personal or private, can-

not stir up mutual hatred among individuals. There never was a war so implacable, even among States naturally rivals and enemies, or among savages themselves, as not to have peace for its object as well as end. And among people naturally friends, and connected by every dearer tie, who knows not that their quarrels (as those of lovers) are often but a stronger renewal of love? In such cases, the tide of affection, reverting to its course, is like that of water long pent back, which, at length bursting the opposing mounds, breaks forward through its native channel, and flows with redoubled vigour and increased velocity, to mix itself with its parent main.

It has been further asserted, that we are able, with our land forces, to defend ourselves against the whole world; that if commerce be an advantage, we may command what foreign alliances we please; that the moment we declare ourselves an independent people, there are nations ready to face the *British* thunder, and become the carriers of our commodities for the sake of enriching themselves; that if this were not the case, we can soon build navies to force and protect a trade; that a confederacy of the Colonies into one great Republick is preferable to Kingly Government, which is the appointment of the *Devil*, or at least reprobated by *God*; that those denominated wise men in our own and foreign countries, who have been so lavish of their encomiums upon the *English* Constitution, were but egregious fools; that it is nothing better than a bungling piece of machinery, standing in need of constant checks to regulate and continue its motions; that the nation itself is but one mass of corruption, having at its head a Royal brute, a hardened *Pharaoh*, delighting in blood; that we never can enjoy liberty in connection with such a country; and, therefore, all the hardships mentioned above, and a thousand times more, if necessary, are to be endured for the preservation of our rights.

If these things had been as fully proved as they are boldly asserted by the authors of what is called *Common Sense*, I should here drop my pen, and, through the short remainder of life, take my chance of whatever miseries Providence may have in reserve for this land, as I know of none else to which I can retire. But as these doctrines contradict everything which we have hitherto been taught to believe respecting Government, I hope you, my dear countrymen, have yet kept one ear open to hear what answer may be given in my future letters.

CATO.

*Postscript.*

*Cato to Tiberius, greeting.*—Questions civilly proposed deserve a civil answer, which shall be speedily given to those of *Tiberius*. Urbanity becomes us *Romans*; and *Cato* is proud to correspond with one assuming that character, although he is not fond of the imperial name. He has no quarrel with our Committee as a publick body, and regards many of the members as fit to fill any station to which they may be called by their country. If he cannot support his charges against the individuals who projected the Convention scheme, he will cheerfully acknowledge his mistake. He never expected to finish these letters without opposition. The question is, whether the liberty and happiness of *America* can be best secured by a constitutional reconciliation with *Great Britain*, or by a total separation from it? *Cato* is willing to be judged by his countrymen, when the whole of his arguments shall be submitted to them. Whatever may be insinuated before that time, he will scarce think worthy of regard; and it was rather unbecoming *Tiberius*, so early in the dispute to suggest that "the sentiments (in the letters) may resemble a modern, more than an ancient, *Cato*, who will consent to live a slave rather than to die free." The inaccuracy of expression, in making sentiments resemble men, may be passed over; for where a person's meaning can be picked out, in such a contest as this, *Cato* despises a war about words.

N. B. The twelve queries in the *Evening Post* are, in substance, the same as the questions of *Tiberius*, and the same answer will serve for both.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, Thursday Evening, March 21, 1776.

SIR: I am this moment honoured with your favour of the 13th by express, which I shall lay before Congress in

the morning. I expect immediately to be ordered to despatch the first by *Fessenden* to you, when I shall have the honour to write you very particularly.

This is only to inform you that I have sent two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the use of the Army under your command, to the care of *Thomas Hanson*, *John Donaldson*, and *Moses Franks*, Esquires, gentlemen of character, who, I am confident, will meet your notice.

I am, with the fullest sentiments of esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL WARREN.

Philadelphia, March 21, 1776.

SIR: I have now only time to inform you that I have sent, packed in three boxes, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the use of the Army, under the care of *Thomas Hanson*, *John Donaldson*, and *Moses Franks*, Esquires, gentlemen of character, and who I beg may meet your notice and civilities.

I am so engaged, I cannot add but that I am, with respect, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Honourable Colonel *Warren*, Paymaster.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THOMAS HANSON AND OTHERS.

Philadelphia, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You having engaged to take charge of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, which I have delivered you in three boxes, I am to desire you will proceed with as much expedition as possible, and deliver the same money at *Cambridge* to *James Warren*, Esq., Paymaster, or to the order of General *Washington*, and take a receipt therefor.

All Committees, and officers in the Continental Army, are requested to afford you all the aid you require on your journey.

Should you meet General *Washington* on the road, you will deliver the letters to him, and follow his orders; but you are by no means to be interrupted or counter-ordered by any other officer whatever.

I wish you a pleasant journey, and am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *Thomas Hanson*, *John Donaldson*, and *Moses Franks*, Esquires.

JAMES DUANE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *Carpenter Wharton*, is Commissary for the *Pennsylvania* Troops. He supplies them by contract, at seven pence per ration. He will probably make the same offer for the rest of the Army in the Middle Department; and unless others will be equally reasonable, must be entitled to a preference, it being the intention of Congress to have their armies supplied on the easiest terms. He supports a very fair character in this place, and is well connected.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, with the utmost regard, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES DUANE.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-York*.

CAPTAINS FORD AND COOKE TO LORD STIRLING.

Morris County, March 21, 1776.

MY LORD: In consequence of a letter written by your Lordship to Mr. *Alexander Carmichael*, Chairman of the Committee of this County, dated at *New-York*, the 17th instant, requesting three hundred of the Militia to come over to your assistance, we have this day marched a detachment of one hundred and fifty soldiers, (exclusive of officers,) in two companies, from the First Regiment in this County, (which we have the honour, as Colonels thereof, to command,) under some of our Militia officers, as you will see by the enclosed muster-roll. We beg, my Lord, that they may be well used, and in the like manner provided for, of which we cannot have any doubt, and which will encourage our men to turn out with cheerfulness upon any future oc-

casion. We also beg they may not be detained from their suffering farms any longer than may be found very necessary.

The authority pointed out to us in your Lordship's letter for calling out those men, leaves us no kind of doubt but it became our duty to comply with the requisition; and believe it, my Lord, we cannot be happier than in affording every possible assistance in our power at all times, to the hitherto successful struggle of the United Colonies.

Mr. *John Doughty*, to whom we have thought it most advisable to give the command of our detachment, is Adjutant to our regiment; but we beg he may be appointed to the rank and character of a Major, while he is out on the present service with the detachment, and so recommend him as a very worthy and fit person. If this should not be agreeable, we hope your Lordship will have no objections to our sending down a commissioned Field-Officer from the regiment.

We would also request of your Lordship that, as there is a probability (as we conceive) of a further detachment from this County, that we may remain a separate corps, and not be joined to those of another County. This, if agreeable to your Lordship, would be very much so to us.

Doctor *Jabez Canfield* comes out as Quartermaster to the detachment.

We have nothing to add but our compliments to your Lordship, and wishes for your good health and prosperity, and hearty prayers for the success of the *American* arms.

We are, my Lord, your Lordship's most humble and obedient servants,

JACOB FORD, JUN.,  
ELLIS COOKE.

To Lord *Stirling*.

Roll and Return of the detachment marched from the First Regiment of Militia in the County of *Morris*, under the command of *John Doughty*, appointed to the detachment, this 21st of March, 1776:

First Company: *Peter Layton*, Captain; *Henry Doremus*, First Lieutenant; *Anthony Joline*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Oliver*, Ensign; four Sergeants; four Corporals; sixty-seven Privates.

Second Company: *Sylvanus Seely*, Captain; *Obadiah Kitchell*, First Lieutenant; *Israel Ward*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Southard*, Ensign; four Sergeants; four Corporals; sixty-seven Privates.

*Jabez Canfield*, Quartermaster.

JACOB FORD, JUN.,  
ELLIS COOKE.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 25, 1776.]

*New-York*, March 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On receiving intelligence from *Cambridge* verbally, by Colonel *Bull*, that the troops ordered to this place from *Cambridge* were all countermanded except one regiment, General *Thompson* has directed five tons of the powder to proceed for General *Washington*'s camp; the rest will follow in a day or two, when it will be in condition for so long land carriage. The absolute necessity of shifting it into other strong casks, would have made this delay necessary, had there been no other reasons.

I am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

PETER T. CURTENIUS TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

*New-York*, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed is an estimate what the articles will amount to which you have given me orders to purchase. I have no cash in hand. Should be glad if you will please to give me an order on the Treasurer for the amount.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

To the Committee of Safety in *New-York*.

P. S. Besides the enclosed, Lord *Stirling* will ask of the Congress to get intrenching tools made for ten thousand men, which will take more cash.

Amount of Sundries I am ordered to purchase by Congress, as per their order of the 26th of FEBRUARY, 1776, and sundry other orders, viz :

2,752 Hunting Frocks, limited at 10s. 8d.	£1,467	14	8
2,752 Felt Hats, upon an average will cost about 6s. per piece,	825	12	0
2,752 pairs Yarn Stockings, from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.—say 5s.	688	0	0
2,752 pairs of Shoes, at 8s.	1,100	16	0
2,752 Blankets, at 16s.	2,201	12	0
2,752 Canteens—156 for Officers—2,908, at 3s.	436	4	0
458 Camp Kettles, at 8s.	183	4	0
1,566 Cartouch Boxes, (1,122 being bought by Mrs. Smith,) at 14s.	1,096	4	0
1,566 Gun Slings, at 1s. 6d.	117	9	0
2,908 Knapsacks, at about 2s. 6d.	368	10	0
2,752 Tomahawks, ground, and handles, at 2s. 6d.	344	0	0
32 Drum Cases, at 5s.	8	0	0
32 Drums, at 60s.	96	0	0
32 Fifes, at 6s.	9	12	0
700 Bill-Hooks, at 5s.	175	0	0
12 Field-Officers' Tents, at about £25	300	0	0
2,688 Muskets will average at least 75s.	10,080	0	0

32 Captains' Tents,	The price of tents depends on the price of duck. If I must give £5 10s. for Raven's duck, they will cost full what I have estimated. A square tent takes a piece of duck, and making 52s. A soldiers' 21 yds., at about 3d. pr yd., and making, 16s.	768	0	0
32 Lieutenants' "				
16 Ensigns' "				
4 Adjutants' "				
4 Quartermasters' "				
4 Chaplains' "				
4 Surgeons' "				
96, at about £8 per piece,				
108 Tent Bags, at 5s.		27	0	0
108 Valises, at about 40s.		216	0	0
450 Soldiers' Tents, at about 80s.		1,832	0	0
		£22,340	17	8

Order of the 4th MARCH.

600 fathom Tarred Rope, at 70s. per cwt.				
Can't say how much the rope will amount to until I know the weight.				
2 Fishing-Nets, about £15	}	£30	0	0
Ropes for Fishing-Nets,				

Order of 28th FEBRUARY.

100 barrels Pitch, at 30s.	150	0	0
10 barrels Turpentine, at 30s.	15	0	0
2 tons of Oakum, at £40	80	0	0
A large Chain, by General Lee's order, 100 fathom long, 2-inch link, about	400	0	0
Order for 10 sets Pump Boxes, at 4s.	2	0	0
Order for Drag Ropes. Cannot say how much they will weigh.			
122 Gimlets for priming, at 1s.	6	2	0
Order for 500 loads of Timber and Boards for the Carpenter's Shop; which is impossible to tell until the accounts come in. If I knew how many feet, I could tell. Captain Post says about	600	0	0
3 Medicine Chests, about £50 each,	150	0	0

Order of 10th FEBRUARY.

600 Pickaxes, with helves, at 8s.	240	0	0
300 Hatchets, at 3s. 6d.	52	10	0
500 Handbarrows, at 6s.	150	0	0
300 Wheelbarrows, at 24s.	360	0	0
200 Crowbars, about 6,000 wt., at 6d.	150	0	0
500 Shovels, with handles, about 5s.	125	0	0
Balance of Barrackmaster's account,	390	0	0
	£25,241	9	8
3,100 bushels Salt, and freight up, about	500	0	0
	£25,741	9	8

WILLIAM POWELL TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.  
New-York, March 21, 1776.

Yesterday I made application to your honourable House for a permit to go on board the man-of-war, and am really sorry I am thus under the necessity of being troublesome. Ruin may be the consequence to me as an individual. My property as a merchant of *St. Christopher's*, and in the vessel, is all I have to subsist on. My application to Captain *Parker* is grounded on every circumstance that ought to induce him to let me pass: my wife going with me; myself as an inhabitant of *St. Kitts*, as appears by my register; a *West-India* family with me; the vessel in ballast. On the other hand, my all at stake if I am taken going from hence, or in the Islands, unless I get the permit. All which I humbly submit to your consideration; and am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM POWELL.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

BENJAMIN BIRDSALL TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.  
At Oyster-Bay, Southwest Neck, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN OF THE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS IN NEW-YORK: I think myself bound in duty to inform you of the conduct of the people in the southeasternmost part of our County of *Queen's County*, where I am well acquainted. I here enclose a song, that is publickly and frequently sung with joy and jollity, and healths drank "Damnation to the Congress." Such publick conduct, I conceive, is detrimental to the publick union of friendship in our County—to the *American* cause now in contest with *Great Britain*. I, for my own part, rely my trust and confidence in the Continental and Provincial Congress; and depend they will take all methods that to them may seem advantageous for the safety of our country, and the more perfect union of the people. I can say our *Queen's County* has been, and still is, in a surprising situation, and dangerous to the welfare of our country, and in remarkable contradiction with those who are actually friends to the cause of *America*; and unless some particular resolves should be shortly passed for the better regulating said County, and by its being in some way regulated by the Congress military law, I apprehend it will grow worse, instead of better. I am ready and free to discharge any request in my power for the protection of my country, at either the call of the Continental or Provincial Congress; and therefore I pray that, until a perfect peace may be finally settled with you, (the Congress and *Great Britain*,) you may stand fast in the light, with that true guide in Congress, that will support and protect advantageous laws for the protection of your friends, and a perfect union in and throughout all the thirteen United Colonies—and more, all the friends to the *American* cause, be they where they may.

From your most obedient and humble servant,  
BENJAMIN BIRDSALL.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress in *New-York*.

TO THE FREEBORN SONS OF AMERICA IN GENERAL, AND OF CONNECTICUT IN PARTICULAR.  
New-York, March 21, 1776.

MY DEAR COUNTRYMEN: As the *American* separation and independence is now seriously thought of, and realized by our friends as an event near at hand, and reconciliation despaired of as a thing utterly impracticable, if not impossible, it is high time to attend in good earnest to the dictates of common sense, and to be collecting the materials and laying the plan for a more sound Constitution and perfect scheme of Government among ourselves, that will never wax old or decay, nor prove rotten and defective, as all others of human invention have done; but be so wise, permanent, and solid, as to stand in full vigour and glory as long as the sun and moon endureth, and afford to every individual in the present and in all future generations ample security and indemnification of his life, his liberty, and property. Then our peace will be as a river, and our righteousness as the waves of the sea.

To accomplish this important work, the present happy Continental Union must, by a solemn stipulation or confederation of all the Colonies, be established and ratified, to endure till



time shall be no more, to the mutual benefit and advantage of all concerned; and some general regulations come into respecting trade and commerce, and provision made for the military defence of the Continent against an invading foe; and a standing Congress agreed upon, something in the form of the present, to be chosen by the freemen of the Colonies, to be entrusted with a superintending power over them for the time being, to decide disputes and adjust differences that may arise between one Colony and another; to prepare for war, or settle peace, as occasion shall require; and to direct all commercial and Continental affairs, &c.

The internal policy of each Province will come next under consideration; as to which, since their usage and customs in civil and judicial affairs have heretofore been so different, the one from the other, it cannot be expected there will be an exact uniformity among them; though it would be happy if they might agree in all essential particulars; as it would tend to cement their union, and make them coalesce as one Continental body politick, and prevent all vain-glorying and boasting, that lesser distinctions might be swallowed up in a laudable emulation to support and vindicate their honour as *Americans*. This nice, delicate business of settling internal policy and government will be much more difficult in some Colonies than others, as the change and alteration will be greater when the proposed revolution takes place. As *Connecticut*, I apprehend it may be effected with the utmost ease, should they only form a new instrument, as the charter of a free corporation, to establish and confirm the rights and properties of the people, and substitute the respectable, august name of Congress, or whatever title was assumed by the ruling States of *America*, instead of that of Majesty. They might, in all other respects, go on in their old forms, as to their General Assemblies, Courts of Judicature, &c. *Connecticut*, from the beginning, has been a free State, and proved a nursery of freemen; and though but small in compass, yet can afford more able-bodied, effective men, for publick service, and larger quantities of good provision for an army, than perhaps any spot of earth on the globe of the like bigness and extent; which is owing, I imagine, to the inhabitants being educated in a spirit of liberty and industry, frugality, and good economy. I could wish that her liberal form of Government might be looked into by our sister Colonies, and what they find excellent in it might be adopted for their good. Not that I would propose it as a perfect model and plan; for I am full in the opinion that it is capable of much emendation and improvement, and that the people, as they grow in wisdom and knowledge, will alter the manner of their conduct in sundry particulars, and be so careful of their rights as not to trust such matters to the management and disposal of others which belong to themselves. All authority and power in this Colony, it is allowed, originates and derives from the right source, viz. from the People. From hence it is inferred, and strongly asserted by many, that no man can come into publick office only by their free choice and election; which is not true, unless the doings of the Governour, Council, and Representatives, chosen by them, may be considered, in all respects, as the doings of the people. The said people have all that liberty and freedom I could wish for in annually choosing their Governour and Council, and their Representatives, spring and fall. But it is my humble opinion that they are not wise and prudent to entrust them wholly and absolutely with the disposal of all lucrative posts, offices, and commissions: these are the inherent right of the people, and ought to be looked upon as their gift to the person that enjoys them, and not the gift of such as they have appointed to serve them as rulers. If the people would keep this right and power in their own hands at large, as they certainly might do without much difficulty, it would effectually shut the door against the mean, wicked arts of bribery and corruption, and be the strongest guard and bulwark for liberty, against all approaches of despotism and tyranny. As the freemen are annually assembled in a publick meeting to put in their votes and suffrages for a Governour, Counsellors, and Representatives, why might they not, at the same meeting, nominate and appoint a number of well-qualified persons to be commissioned for the peace, and in each County a Sheriff, Judges for the County Court, Field-Officers for the Regiment, within their bounds, as often as is necessary? And why might not Judges for the Superior Court be thus chosen by the freemen of the Colony as well as their Coun-

sellors, &c.? But, however this is, I insist upon it, that, as to inferior Magistrates—such as Justices of the Peace, on whose virtuous and exemplary conduct the peace and good order of society do so much depend—none ought to be admitted into the commission but only by the free choice and election of the people they are to serve; who, without dispute, are better acquainted with the talents, qualifications, and conduct, of persons in their several districts than their Representatives, and have a fuller knowledge of the disposition of their neighbours, and can make a wiser judgment whether they are friends or enemies to the rights and liberties of mankind, and discover who may be safely trusted with such an office, and who is most likely to be useful in it, by promoting the publick good of society, and acting as a Minister of *God* for good; besides, the people at large are not so liable to be corrupted and bribed as are a few individuals whom they may choose to represent them. A wicked Magistrate—that loves the business of the law, or at least the profits of it, the wages of unrighteousness, and uses his art and influence to stir up strife and contention, angry debates, and law-suits, in neighbourhoods and societies, and has evil-doers for his chosen companions—cannot, with propriety, be called a Justice of the Peace—but a promoter of discord and confusion; and will be a plague and vexation to mankind in all his connections, and be the object of their detestation. No business that can be done by the people themselves should ever be trusted to their Delegates. The observation of this easy maxim, which is agreeable to common sense, would prevent a multitude of mischief and confusion in the world. But not to enlarge; should the other Colonies examine the internal policy and Government of *Connecticut*, in order to draw any plan from it, it is to be hoped that they will distinguish her excellences from her defects and imperfections, and that the inhabitants themselves may, in time, grow wiser, and better understand these things that so nearly relate to their well-being and happiness.

#### GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 29, 1776, and referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.]

Albany, March 21, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I was honoured with your polite favour of the 7th instant. It is in vain for me to attempt a description of the sentiments it has inspired me with. Let it suffice that I will attempt, in the discharge of my duty to Congress and my dear country, to render a series of thanks.

Five Companies of Colonel *Burrell's* are arrived; the remaining three are daily expected. One of Colonel *St. Clair's* is also come up; and I hope the whole will soon be here.

I am exceedingly happy to learn that the gentlemen Commissioners will be here so soon. They will experience all that attention which is due to their merit and the respectable body by whom they are sent.

Colonel *Allen* is not yet arrived. He will meet with a reception consonant with that esteem and respect which I have the honour to entertain for you.

I am, sir, most sincerely and respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To *John Hancock*, Esquire.

#### MAJOR FRENCH AND OTHERS (PRISONERS) TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read May 7, 1776.]

Hartford, Connecticut, March 21, 1776.

The undersigned, Officers of his Majesty's Troops, prisoners at *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, beg leave to make the following representation to the honourable Continental Congress:

Captain *Williams*, Lieutenant *Smith* of the Royal Artillery, and Captain *McKay*, made prisoners at *St. John's*, desire to join Major *Preston*, and that garrison, at *Lancaster*, or elsewhere.

Captain *Williams*, late commanding officer of the Artillery at *St. John's*, represents that, in consequence of capitulation, he went to *Montreal*, as Quartermaster of Artillery, and Lieutenant *Smith* marched with Major *Preston* and the

rest of the garrison at *Albany*, and came into this Province, where Captain *Williams* joined them about five weeks since on his return from *Montreal*. That he applied to the Committee at *Hartford* to forward him and the Artillery to *Lancaster*, and also wrote to Major *Preston* to apply to the honourable Continental Congress for that purpose; but, having received no answer from Major *Preston*, he apprehends his letter miscarried.

He also begs leave to represent that he is informed it is not the desire of Congress to allow any of the prisoners (at least those under capitulation) to enlist in the Continental service; notwithstanding which, two matrosses of *St. John's* garrison, after taking an unfair advantage by receiving their clothing, subsistence, &c., have enlisted, and several others have sold their clothing. He presumes that these abuses arise from the Artillery (though few in number) being dispersed about the country, so far beyond the narrow limits of the six miles assigned to him, that an officer can take no charge of them. By this means, the spirit of the *St. John's* capitulation is entirely defeated in respect of that article which provides for the garrison being together, and which would have been the case had not the above mistake happened.

He further represents (as well as the undersigned officers, also prisoners at *Hartford*) that, notwithstanding it is their earnest wish and design to avoid giving any just and reasonable cause of offence to the inhabitants in their neighbourhood, yet the most trivial incidents are industriously misrepresented and maliciously propagated through the country, insomuch that their personal safety is actually endangered by mobs, there being none of the Continental Troops here to grant them a safeguard. They have only to add, that, in case the honourable Continental Congress shall think proper to comply with their request, (the cheapest way moving them being by water,) they would apply to his Majesty's Admiral-in-Chief to grant a passport for that purpose.

They take the liberty of enclosing a paragraph from the last *Hartford* paper, by which the honourable Continental Congress will see another method made use of to inflame the minds of the people against them.

CHRISTOPHER FRENCH, *Major 22d Regt.*

EDWARD WILLIAMS, *Capt. of Artillery.*

JOHN ROTTON, *Ensign 47th Regt.*

BENJAMIN HILL, *Lieut. 5th Regt.*

SAMUEL MCKAY.

JOSEPH MOLAND, *Ensign 26th Regt.*

THOMAS McDERMOTT, *Volunteer 16th Regt.*

THOMAS SANDORS, *Surgeon.*

JOHN SMITH, *Lieut. of Artillery.*

WILLIAM DELAPLACE, *Capt. 26th Regt.*

[Extract from the Connecticut Courant, enclosed in the preceding Letter.]

"Colonel *Ethan Allen*, with thirty other prisoners, by the latest accounts are arrived in *England*, and honoured with apartments in a close prison. As the Colonel left *America* in irons, it is probable he will wear those badges of Royal clemency during his abode in those dreary mansions. This mode of using prisoners must essentially affect the situation of an equal number of those whom the fortune of war has put into our power; the same mete that they measure, by the laws of reason and retaliation must be measured to them again. Severity with the *Americans*, whose hearts are softened by the benevolent spirit of Christianity, is a strange work; but the safety of the country, in the present case, requires it.

"Those we have taken prisoners, have received gentle usage, and had great indulgences hitherto. This, none but an ingrate, and such as have forfeited every blessing of life, will deny. The *Americans*, in exercising rigour, are out of their element. Their humane dispositions recoil at the thought. Though they are sensible of injuries, and of the wrong use which some worthless prisoners make of their humanity, yet they are exceeding loth to show themselves severe toward those entirely at their mercy, and whose temporal existence must cease at their pleasure. But the savage disposition of the King and his minions obstructs the exercise of mercy in the above instance, and forces the *Americans*, from their natural bias, to vindictive measures. As we have none of equal rank, the shackling of two Majors will scarcely be deemed an equivalent for a Colonel. However, I trust a line of distinction will be drawn between the pre-

cious and the vile, and that those prisoners of a humane and noble disposition will be excused from suffering any disadvantage on this score; whilst the disorderly, the haughty, and peevish, and those who delight in mischief and blood, are singled out as proper objects of the justice and severity of *America*.

HUMANUS."

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO LORD STIRLING.

Lebanon, March 21, 1776.

MY LORD: I received your favour of the 17th, the last evening, by Lieutenant *Betts*. I have now, on the commencement of a correspondence, to congratulate you on your late appointment; and from your known zeal in the great *American* cause, and your abilities to serve it, I cannot but form pleasing expectations. I have also to congratulate you on the shameful retreat of General *Howe* and his Army from *Boston*, which city they have actually abandoned, and a detachment of General *Washington's* took full possession the last *Sabbath* day. They have left it in a less ruinous situation than was expected—their own works entire, about thirty large cannon spiked up, and a considerable quantity of wheat; and are now lying in the road, (supposed for a wind,) very probably designing a descent on *New-York*, or parts adjacent. I am extremely pleased to hear that you are taking every step in your power to be prepared for their reception. It is of vast importance to prevent their establishing themselves there.

His Excellency General *Washington*, well aware of their designs, had, by his letter of the 14th, earnestly requested me to throw in two thousand men from this Colony for the same purposes mentioned and requested by your Lordship, until he could arrive there with the Army under his command, large detachments of which are now on the march. In consequence of which, I had, with the advice of my Council of Safety, despatched orders, on the 19th, for nearly that number of our Militia to march forthwith from the nearest frontiers of this Colony to *New-York*, under the command of Colonels *Silliman* and *Talcott*. It is not time yet to hear what progress they have made; but I hope and believe as good as the nature of the thing will admit, and that they will very soon be with you. Thus I have, and doubt not but you will have, much pleasure to find your request anticipated.

I am happy to hear that our regiments now with you have done themselves the honour to meet with your approbation, and have no doubt but they, and our men in general, will continue to do so, and to serve their country well, while they meet with generous usage from their commanders; and have no doubt but they will ever experience it from a nobleman of your distinguished generosity and politeness.

I expect and depend that Colonels *Waterbury* and *Ward's* Regiments will remain in the service, or the greater part of them, till they can be properly relieved and spared, and have written them accordingly; you will please to repeat to them my request for that purpose, and that, in the highest probability, a great part of the main Army will soon be there.

The troops now sending from us, you will perceive, were requested by the General for such term till they might be relieved by his Army. If it should be necessary to have a regiment raised and stationed there for this season, you may rely on it that nothing in my power shall be wanting to serve this great and just cause in this or any other way. Colonel *Dyer* and Colonel *Williams*, (two gentlemen of my Council,) will wait on you next week, on their way to *Philadelphia*, and will be instructed to confer with your Lordship on this or any other subject you may think proper, whereby the important common interest of this much injured country may be promoted.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of great esteem, your Lordship's most obedient and very humble servant,  
JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, March 21, 1776.

SIR: Your esteemed favour of the 9th instant was delivered me the 15th, per *Bennett*. Our Treasurer's chest remains

dry, as well as your Paymaster's; but hope they will both be soon replenished.

My attention has been taken up by the late movements of the enemy at *Boston*, and their appearance of evacuating the town, and removing (as is supposed) to *New-York*, the *Jerseys*, or *Long-Island*, to order eighteen hundred of our Militia to maintain the important post of *New-York*. (Being destitute of bills to exchange for silver or gold, I have made no attempts for that purpose, and fear but little can be done here.) Besides this number, Colonels *Waterbury* and *Ward*, with two battalions from *Connecticut* of seven hundred and fifty men each, have been some time at that place. I yesterday afternoon received letters from the honourable Continental Congress and from Lord *Stirling*, requesting to do what was ordered the day before; that is, to send forward a number of our Militia. The works in that quarter are now going on briskly, and hope they will soon be in readiness to prevent the mischievous operations of our enemies.

Forty-one of the old gun-barrels you sent me from *Ticonderoga* were fitted up and sent forward to General *Washington*. They make very good arms. The great difficulty is to get gun-locks for them; but shall, notwithstanding, make out of the one hundred and eighty about one hundred and seventy that prove good. If more old barrels are to be had from *Crown-Point*, as I am told, and many parts of gun-locks, I shall be glad to receive as many of both as can be had.

I do most sincerely congratulate you on the success of General *Washington*. The enemy evacuated *Boston* last Sunday. *Boston* is now open. The poor inhabitants are greatly emaciated from their want of provisions, and rejoiced for their happy deliverance. The most of the Tories are gone off with the troops. The cattle remain in the enemy's hands, but hope they will soon be in ours. They have carried off the unhappy prisoners, it is said, in irons. Is it not time to retaliate? They have done all the mischief in their power. Hitherto the Lord hath helped us. May we ever thankfully acknowledge his mercies.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Braintree, March 21, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Nothing less than an inveterate nervous head-ache has prevented my paying, in person, those compliments of congratulation which are due to you from every friend to liberty and the rights of mankind, upon your triumphant and almost bloodless victory, in forcing the *British* Army and Navy to a precipitate flight from the capital of this Colony. A grateful heart now dictates them to a trembling hand, in humble confidence of your favourable reception.

Whilst the faithful page of history records the *British* codes of blood against *America*, carried into execution by military murderers, to the utter destruction of the *British* empire, and the eternal infamy of those who devised them; you, sir, must be happy, I hope, in the unenvied certainty, in the unrivalled glory of having your name handed down to posterity with the illustrious character of being the Saviour of your country! God grant that the success of your future endeavours for its safety and prosperity may be equal to the past, and an adequate reward to your merit in both.

Since the ships and troops fell down below, we have been apprehensive of an attack from their boats, in pursuit of live-stock; but yesterday, in the afternoon, we were happily relieved by the appearance of a number of whale-boats stretching across our bay, under the command (as I have since heard) of the brave Lieutenant-Colonel *Tupper*, who, in the forenoon had been cannonading the ships with one or more field-pieces from the east head of *Thompson's Island*, and I suppose last night cannonaded them again from the same place, or from *Spectacle-Island*.

This judicious manœuvre had its genuine effect; for, this morning, the *Admiral* and all the rest of the ships, except one of the line, came to sail, and fell down to *Nantasket-Road*, where a countless number is now collected. In

revenge for their burning the Castle last night, were we provided with a sufficient number of fire-ships and fire-rafts, covered by the smoke of cannon from a few row-galleys, this night might exhibit the most glorious conflagration that was ever seen upon the watery element; and the probable consequence of it, a period to the present war. Otherwise, humanity revolts at the destruction of so great a number, even of our enemies.

If my wishes must not be gratified, either in a visit to, or from your Excellency, the best I can form will constantly attend you, whilst memory and reflection are continued to your Excellency's faithful and obedient, humble servant,

JOSIAH QUINCY.

To General *Washington*.

By His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the Thirteen United Colonies.

Whereas the Ministerial Army have abandoned the town of *Boston*, and the forces of the United Colonies, under my command, are in possession of the same:

I have, therefore, thought it necessary for the preservation of peace, good order, and discipline, to publish the following Orders, that no person offending therein may plead ignorance as an excuse for their misconduct.

All Officers and Soldiers are hereby ordered to live in the strictest peace and amity with the inhabitants; and no inhabitant, or other person, employed in his lawful business in the town, is to be molested in his person or property on any pretence whatever. If any Officer or Soldier shall presume to strike, imprison, or otherwise ill treat any of the inhabitants, they may depend on being punished with the utmost severity. And if any Officer or Soldier shall receive any insult from any of the inhabitants, he is to seek redress in a legal way, and no other.

Any non-commissioned Officer, Soldier, or others under my command, who shall be guilty of robbing or plundering in the town, are to be immediately confined, and will be most rigidly punished. All Officers are, therefore, ordered to be very vigilant in the discovery of such offenders, and report their names and crime to the commanding Officer in the town as soon as may be.

The inhabitants, and others, are called upon to make known to the Quartermaster-General, or any of his Deputies, all stores belonging to the Ministerial Army that may be remaining or secreted in the town. Any person or persons whatever that shall be known to conceal any of the said stores, or appropriate them to his or their own use, will be considered as an enemy of *America*, and treated accordingly.

The Selectmen, and other Magistrates of the town, are desired to return to the Commander-in-Chief the names of all, or any person or persons they may suspect of being employed as Spies upon the Continental Army, that they may be dealt with accordingly.

All Officers of the Continental Army are enjoined to assist the civil Magistrates in the execution of their duty, and to promote peace and good order. They are to prevent, as much as possible, the Soldiers from frequenting tippling-houses, and strolling from their posts. Particular notice will be taken of such Officers as are inattentive and remiss in their duty; and, on the contrary, such only who are active and vigilant will be entitled to future favour and promotion.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, this 21st day of *March*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Cambridge, March 21, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 18th instant, and concur with you in opinion, that their women and children, with the Tory families, will most probably go to *Halifax*. This is what I meant and alluded to, having never suspected that they (especially the latter) would go to *New-York*.

I am extremely obliged by your friendly hint, and shall ever receive them with pleasure. But I do not think that they were apprehensive of an attack from our side, but

rather preparing to make one. However, let their designs have been what they may, I have the satisfaction to inform you that, on *Sunday* morning last, they totally evacuated the town, and we are now in full possession, upon which event I beg leave to congratulate you; and more so, as the town is in a much better situation than was expected. Added to this, they have left, by means of their precipitate retreat, stores of one kind and another to a pretty considerable amount—a particular detail of which, or estimation of their value, I have not yet got. Notwithstanding they have abandoned the town, and there have been favourable winds for their departure, they are still lying with their fleet in *Nantasket-Road*; but for what purpose, is a matter of much conjecture—some supposing their vessels to have been loaded with such hurry and confusion as to be unfit for sea, and to require sundry things and arrangements to be settled previous to their going out; but for my own part, I cannot but suspect they are waiting for some opportunity to give us a stroke at a moment they conceive us to be off our guard, in order to retrieve the honour they have lost by their shameful and scandalous retreat, diminishing from that lustre and renown which *British Armies* were wont to boast, and justly claimed as their right. Suspecting them of such motives, I shall not detach any more of the Army than what is gone already, until they have taken their departure and quitted the coast.

I heartily thank you for your kind attention to my last requisition, and am glad that the companies you have ordered are of the Militia; the trouble and inconveniences occasioned by them being far less than what generally attend volunteers. Nothing but necessity and the importance of *New-York* to us in the present contest, could have induced the application, and, therefore, as soon as they can be spared by the arrival of our Army, they will be at liberty to return home to their common and necessary employments, except such as may choose to enlist and continue in service.

In compliance with your request, I shall direct the troops, or some of them that go from hence after the Ministerial Fleet are gone, to pursue their route on or near the sea-coast, if they can be accommodated with covering and provisions, that they may be ready to oppose the enemy in case they make any attempt upon your Colony about the time of their going, though that is what I do not apprehend. I rather suppose, when they once set out, that they will repair to *New-York*, or wherever bound, with all possible despatch, to secure the place they are destined for by surprise, lest preparations should be made to receive and prevent them.

I am, sir, with great regard and esteem, your most obedient servant, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Cambridge, March 21, 1776.

SIR: Your favours of the 18th and 19th instant I received, and am extremely sorry to hear that your Militia are so deficient in arms. I fear the misfortune is too common; nor do I know how it will be remedied. In this Army, although I have pursued every mode I could devise for procuring them, there is still a great deficiency, and a considerable number of men without any in their hands. The peculiar situation of *Rhode-Island*, and the extensive sea-coast, had not escaped my mind. I well know the enemy have it in their power to do it considerable damage, unless there is a sufficient force to repel their attempts. But it is the opinion of the General Officers here that their destination is against *New-York*; the importance of which (as it secures the free and only communication between the Northern and Southern Colonies, which will be entirely cut off by their possessing it, and give them the command of *Hudson's River* and an easy pass into *Canada*;) makes it absolutely and indispensably necessary for the whole of this Army, which is but inconsiderable, except that part of it which will be left here to secure the stores, barracks, and other publick property, to be marched from hence for its defence, with all possible expedition. It is an object that should command our first attention, and if lost, will be of the most fatal consequence to us in the present unhappy and interest-

ing struggle. Lest any attempts should be made against you, I shall give orders to the officers commanding brigades, if they have intelligence of an invasion upon their march, that they forthwith return to your succour. I shall also order the officer who will be left here to do the same with the troops under his command, whenever occasion may require it.

Agreeable to the request made by you and your honourable General Assembly, I shall with cheerfulness and pleasure direct some of the last divisions that go from hence to pursue the route you wish, if they can be accommodated with covering and provisions, and shall be ever ready and happy to render *Rhode-Island*, or any other place, any services in my power that may be compatible with the general good.

I am, sir, with sentiments of the highest regard, your and their most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*.

GENERAL HOWE TO THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH.

On board his Majesty's Ship *Chatham*, }  
Nantasket-Road, March 21, 1776. }

MY LORD: It is with great regret I am obliged to inform your Lordship that, after my struggles to supply the Army with provisions from the Southern Provinces and the *West-Indies*, (from whence none of the vessels have yet returned,) and after an anxious expectation of more transports to convey the troops, stores, civil officers, inhabitants, and effects, the enemy, by taking possession of and fortifying the commanding heights on *Dorchester-Neck*, in order to force the ships by their cannon to quit the harbour, has reduced me to the necessity either of exposing the Army to the greatest distresses by remaining in *Boston*, or of withdrawing from it under such straightened circumstances. The importance of preserving this force when it could no longer act to advantage, did not leave any room to doubt of the propriety of its removal; and since my determination, taken on the 7th instant, I have exerted every expedient to accomplish the arduous task, which was executed on the 17th following in the forenoon, without the least molestation from the Rebels, the transports having been previously watered and fitted for sea in every respect, excepting the article of provisions, in the view of complying with his Majesty's commands for a movement from *Boston* as soon as I might be enabled to effect it.

In order to explain to your Lordship more clearly the state I was reduced to in the article of provisions, I have enclosed a return extracted from the Commissary-General's reports between the 12th of *February* and 4th of *March*; also, the tonnage of transports at the time of embarkation.

The Rebels, about the latter end of *January*, erected new works and batteries on a point of land opposite to *West-Boston*, at a place known by the name of *Phipps's Farm*, which, lying under cover of their strongest posts, and so situated as to be supported by their whole force from *Cambridge*, was not to be prevented. Soon afterwards the Militia of the country was called in, and having intelligence that the enemy intended to possess themselves of *Dorchester-Neck*, I ordered a detachment from *Castle-William* on the 13th of *February*, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Leslie*, and one composed of Grenadiers and Light-Infantry from *Boston*, commanded by Major *Musgrave*, to pass over the ice, with directions to destroy the houses, and every kind of cover whatever upon that peninsula; which was executed, and six of the enemy's guard made prisoners.

On the 2d instant, at night, the Rebels began a cannonade upon the town, from *Roxbury* and *Phipps's Farm*, and threw some shells from both places, without doing any personal damage, and but little to the buildings. The same was repeated on the evenings of the 3d and 4th, by which only six men were wounded; the fire being returned from our batteries, but at such a distance as to be very uncertain in the execution.

It was discovered on the 5th, in the morning, that the enemy had thrown up three very extensive works, with strong abattes round them, on the commanding hill on *Dorchester-Neck*, which must have been the employment

of at least twelve thousand men. In a situation so critical I determined upon an immediate attack with all the force I could transport. The ardour of the troops encouraged me in this hazardous enterprise. Regiments were expeditiously embarked on board transports to fall down the harbour, and flat-boats were to receive other transports; making in the whole twenty-four hundred men, to rendezvous at *Castle-William*, from whence the descent was to be made in the night of the 5th; but the wind unfortunately coming contrary, and blowing very hard, the ships were not able to get to their destination; and this circumstance also making it impossible to employ the boats, the attempt became impracticable.

The weather continuing boisterous the next day and night, gave the enemy time to improve their works, to bring up their cannon, and to put themselves into such a state of defence, that I could promise myself little success by attacking them under all the disadvantages I had to encounter; wherefore I judged it most advisable to prepare for the evacuation of the town, upon the assurance of one month's provision from Admiral *Shuldham*, who, in this emergency, as he has on every other occasion, offered all the assistance he could afford.

A thousand difficulties arose on account of the disproportion of transports for the conveyance of the troops, the well-affected inhabitants, their most valuable property, and the quantity of military stores to be carried away. However, as the enemy gave no interruption but during the nights, and that inconsiderable, I found the whole in readiness to depart on the 14th, if the wind had favoured; and, assisted by the abilities and assiduity of Captains *Reynar* and *Montagu*, of his Majesty's Ships *Chatham* and *Fowey*, who superintended the embarkation, and by the alacrity of the officers under them, this operation was effected on the 17th, and the rear guard embarked at nine o'clock in the morning, without the least loss, irregularity, or accident. Such military stores as could not be taken on board were destroyed, and the utmost expedition is now using to get ready for sea in the best state our circumstances will allow; the Admiral having all the ships-of-war he can spare from the convoy for the security and protection of such vessels as may be bound for *Boston*.

Every provision my situation would afford has been made for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and the preservation of their effects. All the woollen goods also that I could find room for, belonging to those who chose to stay behind, (the want of which is more distressing to the enemy than any other article whatever,) has been shipped; inventories of them taken in the best manner possible, and put under the charge of proper persons, in order to be hereafter stored. The demolition of the Castle has been effectually executed, and an armed ship is sent by the Admiral, express, to advise the different Governours on the Continent of this removal.

*Halifax*, though stripped of provisions during the winter, and affording few conveniences to so numerous a body, is the only place where the Army can remain until supplies arrive from *Europe*. My first attention will be paid to the defence of the town and his Majesty's dock-yard, and to enable Governour *Legge* to overcome the spirit of disaffection which has lately appeared in the northern parts of *Nova-Scotia*; after which, I conclude that three battalions, with *Goreham's* and *Maclean's* corps, will be a sufficient force for its protection.

I shall also detach three regiments to *Quebeck* as soon as the navigation of the river *St. Lawrence* becomes practicable, if I do not, in the mean time, hear anything to the contrary from *Europe*. The remainder of the Army, which, after these detachments are made, may consist of about five thousand men, including sick, will be held in readiness to proceed to *New-York*, when enabled by a supply of provisions, and an addition of transports sufficient for that undertaking; and although the force, according to the present estimation, intended to go on this service, is too small to expect more from it than the possession of the town, which, in itself, is a most important post, I shall attempt it at all hazard as soon as possible, apprehending it will be more advisable to pursue this measure without delay, than, by waiting for reinforcements from *Europe*, whereof I have no certainty, to give the Rebels time to form an Army in the Province of *New-York*, and to check the encouragement they will receive from the apparent inactivity of the King's Army retired to *Halifax*, as well as to prevent the contrary effect

it may have upon the few friends to Government remaining there.

I am justly sensible how much more conducive it would be to his Majesty's service, if the Army was in a situation to proceed immediately to *New-York*; but the present condition of the troops—crowded in transports, without regard to conveniences, the inevitable dissortment of stores, and all the encumbrances with which I am clogged—effectually disable me from the exertion of this force in any offensive operations, although I should receive a supply of provisions before my departure from hence; which considerations, I hope, will lead his Majesty to approve of my determination.

Unless these supplies are sent under convoy, or of force to defend themselves, they will become very precarious, as the Rebels have greatly increased their naval strength; and I fear that many of those now on their voyage will fall into the enemy's hands, notwithstanding all the efforts which his Majesty's ships, (unequal in point of number to the service they are upon,) can make. In this persuasion, I humbly submit to your Lordship, whether it would not be an advisable measure to order all convoys directly to *Halifax*; from whence they may proceed with more certainty to the future destination of the Army.

I beg leave to remark, that the last commands I had the honour to receive from your Lordship are dated the 22d of *October*, which will serve to show the difficulties ships bound to this port have met with on the coast; many whereof, I learn by the master of a vessel just arrived here, have been forced to the *West-Indies*, and no less than thirty-seven sail of different kinds were at *Antigua* the last of this month, when he left that Island.

I shall not fail to write as fully as possible to your Lordship from *Halifax*.

I am, &c.,

W. HOWE.

P. S. The transports which brought over the Twenty-Seventh Regiment are arrived from *Halifax*, in consequence of orders sent to Brigadier *Massey* some time ago, and will afford great relief to the Army in its present crowded state.

*State of Provisions remaining in Store at BOSTON, on the 12th, 19th, 26th of FEBRUARY, and 4th MARCH, 1776, per Returns of those dates, received from the Commissary-General of Stores, showing how long the same will victual eleven thousand Men.*

*February 12, 1776.*—Beef and pork, thirty-five days; wheat-flour, seventy-two days; bread, twelve days; butter and cheese, thirteen days; oil, thirty-two days; split peas, peas, and oatmeal, two days; barley, suet, rice, and raisins, reserved for the use of the General Hospital.

*February 19th.*—Beef and pork, twenty-nine days; wheat-flour, sixty-five days; bread, twelve days; butter and cheese, twelve days; oil, thirty-two days; split peas, peas, and oatmeal, nine days; barley, suet, rice, and raisins, reserved for the use of the General Hospital.

*February 26th.*—Beef and pork, twenty-two days; wheat-flour, sixty-eight days; bread, twelve days; butter and cheese, almost six days; oil, thirty-two days; split peas, peas, and oatmeal, almost six days; barley, suet, rice, and raisins, reserved for the use of the General Hospital.

*March 4th.*—Beef and pork, almost seventeen days; wheat and flour, almost sixty-three days; bread, sixteen days; butter and cheese, almost twelve days; oil, thirty-two days; split peas, peas, and oatmeal, ten days; rice, twenty-seven days; suet, barley, and raisins, reserved for the use of the General Hospital.

W. HOWE.

*By the King.—A PROCLAMATION,  
For encouraging Seamen to enter themselves on board His Majesty's Ships-of-War.*

GEORGE R.

Whereas it is our Royal intention to give all due encouragement to all such Seamen who shall voluntarily enter themselves in our service: We have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to publish this our Royal Proclamation. And we do hereby promise and declare, that all such able Seamen, not above the age of fifty, nor under the age of eighteen years, fit for our service, who



shall, on or before the 30th day of *April* next, voluntarily enter themselves to serve in our Royal Navy, either with the Captains or Lieutenants of our ships, or the chief officers on board such tenders as shall be employed for raising men for the service of our Navy, shall receive, as our Royal bounty, the sum of three pounds each man; and all such ordinary Seamen fit for our service, who shall so enter themselves as aforesaid, shall receive the sum of two pounds each man, as our Royal bounty, in lieu of all other bounties mentioned in our Proclamation dated the 3d of *January*, and our order in Council of the 28th day of *February* last; such respective sums to be paid them by the respective clerks of the *Cheque*, residing at the ports or places where the ships into which they shall be entered shall be, immediately after the third muster of such Seamen. And we do declare, that the qualifications of the Seamen so entering themselves as aforesaid, shall be certified by the Captain, Master, and Boatswain of the ship or vessel where they shall enter. And for prevention of any abuses by any persons leaving the vessels to which they shall belong, and entering themselves on board any other ships or vessels, in order to obtain the said bounty-money, we do hereby declare and command, that such Seamen belonging to any of our ships or vessels as shall absent themselves from any of the said ships or vessels to which they shall belong, and shall enter themselves on board any other of our said ships or vessels, in order to obtain the said bounty, shall not only lose the wages due to them in the ships or vessels they shall leave, but also be severely punished according to their demerits.

Given at our Court at *St. James's*, the 22d day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, in the sixteenth year of our reign.

God save the King.

ADDRESS OF THE PROVOST, ETC., OF FORRES (SCOTLAND)  
TO THE KING.

Address of the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of *Forres*, presented to His Majesty by *Henry Dundas*, Esq., Lord Advocate of *Scotland*.

*Most Gracious Sovereign:*

Deeply impressed with a just and grateful sense of the many invaluable blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's mild and beneficent reign, the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of *Forres*, humbly beg leave to approach the Throne, to declare their firm attachment to your Majesty's person and administration.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty that we will, with the greatest cheerfulness, to the utmost of our power, support the dignity of your Crown, and the honour of *Great Britain*, in reducing the rebellious Colonies in *North America* to a sense of the duty they owe to your Majesty and the Parent State.

Though we abhor the turbulent and seditious spirit that actuates the refractory Colonies, and applaud the spirited coercive measures that are now adopted by Administration to reduce them to a proper allegiance to their King, and dependance on the Mother Country; instigated by the feelings of humanity, we commiserate the fate of our unhappy deluded fellow-subjects, who, excited by a malevolent domestick faction, have heedlessly plunged themselves into all the horrors of a most unnatural civil war; and rejoice to think that when they return to their duty, they will be again received under the protection of the best Government that ever human wisdom framed, and into the favour of a Prince whose glory it is to be in every respect a constitutional and patriotick King.

We felicitate your Majesty and ourselves on having the prospect of a national and well-regulated Militia in *North Britain*, which we are convinced will answer every good purpose Government can expect.

That your Majesty may be speedily enabled to restore peace to your Colonies, and diffuse happiness over all the *British Empire*, is the fervent prayer of,

May it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most loyal, and most dutiful subjects.

Signed by appointment, the seal of the Burgh being affixed,

JAMES GRANT, *Provost*.

PETITION OF THE CITY OF LONDON TO THE KING.

*St. James's*, March 22, 1776.

This day the Right Honourable the Lord-Mayor, several of the Aldermen, the Sheriffs, and some of the Common Council of the City of *London*, waited upon his Majesty (being introduced by the Earl of *Hertford*, Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's household) with the following Address and Petition, which was read by the Recorder:

*To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.*

*The humble Address and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of LONDON, in Common Council assembled.*

*Most Gracious Sovereign:*

We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, of the City of *London*, in Common Council assembled, beg leave to approach your Throne, and to entreat your Majesty's royal attention, whilst, with the humility of dutiful subjects, we lay before your Majesty what at present most immediately affects us in the spirit and tendency of the publick measures now depending, and the anxiety we feel at the naked and exposed state in which this country will be left, by draining it of the national troops, as well as at the danger and disgrace attending the late treaties for foreign mercenaries, whose latitude is such as to provide the means of introducing a foreign Army even into this Realm.

We cannot, sir, without horror, look forward to national debt and of burdensome taxes, that loss of our most valuable resources, those distresses of our merchants and manufacturers, those deficiencies of the revenue, that effusion of the blood of our countrymen and brethren, that failure of publick credit, and those dreadful calamities and convulsions, which must follow a civil war so begun and pursued, whose extent no wisdom can foresee.

We humbly conceive that no people can be bound to surrender their rights and liberties as a return for protection. The Colonies have fought our battles with us; and in the last war they so far exceeded their abilities, that this nation thought it just and necessary to make them an annual compensation; and even now, driven to open hostilities in their own defence, they are willing (their Charters being inviolably secured) to continue to us all those advantages of a regulated and exclusive commerce, to which we have long owed our opulence and prosperity. And we have every assurance which men in their situation can safely give, that, if asked as freemen, they are willing to go further, and to afford to the exhausted state of the revenue of this country such reasonable voluntary aid as their abilities permit; provided that their contributions are unalienably applied to relieve that distress which is the only fair and politick foundation of requiring them; and that neither their aids nor our own sinking fund shall be any longer perverted from a publick benefit, and misapplied to the purpose of corruption, instead of redeeming the debts of the nation according to its first wise and just institution.

Indulge, most gracious Sovereign, the humanity and benignity of your own Royal disposition, and our prayers will be granted. We implore the extension of your Majesty's justice and mercy towards that Continent which, when arbiter of the terms of peace, it was your Majesty's own determination to prefer to every other compensation for all the expenses of the last war. We humbly and earnestly beseech your Majesty, that the most solemn, clear, distinct, and unambiguous specification of those just and honourable terms, which your Majesty, with both Houses of Parliament, means to grant to the Colonies, may precede the dreadful operations of your armament. Every colour and suspicion of injustice and oppression will then be removed from the proceedings of the Mother Country; and if those just and honourable terms are not submitted to, your Majesty will undoubtedly be enabled to meet, what will then be rebellion, with the zealous hearts and hands of a determined, loyal, and united people.

Signed by order of Court:

WILLIAM RIX.

*To which Address and Petition His Majesty was pleased to return the following Answer.*

I deplore, with the deepest concern, the miseries which a great part of my subjects in *North America* have brought

upon themselves by an unjustifiable resistance to the constitutional authority of this Kingdom; and I shall be ready and happy to alleviate those miseries, by acts of mercy and clemency, whenever that authority is established, and the now existing rebellion is at an end. To obtain these salutary purposes, I will invariably pursue the most proper and effectual means.

WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is a letter (from Mr. *Massenbaugh*) of thanks for your favours. The bearer, Mr. *Robert Porteus*, comes to solicit an appointment in his stead. He is a young man who has lived some time in this town with Captain *Ewing*, as a clerk, in which department he has behaved very well. I believe he does not possess any military knowledge; but if you think him worthy of the station, I dare say he will exert himself.

Mr. *Hughes* cast one eighteen-pounder on *Monday*, and it was bored. He expected to have four ready by last night; and begs to have some person sent up to prove them, that if any fault be found, he may remedy it before he proceeds too far. He thinks these will answer your expectation, and turn out exceeding fine; and he can have them down by *Tuesday* or *Wednesday* next. Pray order some person up to prove them directly.

Mr. *Bowly* is not yet returned. As soon as he does, you will be waited on by, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CALVERT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 75.]

Annapolis, March 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As it was thought by the last Convention that fifty regular troops would be sufficient to watch the movements of the ships-of-war and their tenders, on your coast, and to repel any sudden attack or invasion which might be attempted by small parties; and as we do not conceive your situation more dangerous now than it was then, so we cannot think ourselves at liberty to station an additional number of men in your County. We wish to prevent the Militia being harassed; and apprehend, when Captain *Beall* arrives at his station, which we imagine will be by the last of next week, there will not be any occasion for them to move, unless a more formidable force should come up the bay than has yet appeared, which we have no reason to expect for some time; under which circumstances, the number you speak of would not avail, and the Militia would be under a necessity of taking the field.

We have renewed our orders to the Committees of Observation for *Charles* County; and if they are not shortly complied with, will send you some powder from hence. As to furnishing you with arms, though it would afford us the highest satisfaction, yet from our inability we cannot experience the pleasure of gratifying you, not having a sufficiency for the regular forces.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Calvert* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 76.]

Annapolis, March 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have called *James Morris* before us; and not finding his affair in such a situation as that we can go into a plenary hearing, we have thought proper to oblige him to give security for his good behaviour, and also for his appearance before the Committee of Observation on the first *Thursday* in *April* next; against which time, if you think it necessary, you may order witnesses to attend to enforce his charge, and send him down to us again or not, as the facts may appear.

*Stephen Gartrell* hath been heard, and is ordered to make proper concessions at the head of the *Elkridge* Battalion, at their next meeting, and to pay one moiety of the expense

of bringing him down, guards, &c.; *James Morris* to pay the other moiety. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for the *Elkridge* Department, in *Anne Arundel* County.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Philadelphia, March 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote to you lately by Mr. *Story*, and since by another conveyance. This line will be delivered to you by Mr. *Deane*, who goes over on business of the Congress, and with whom you may freely converse on the affairs committed to you in behalf of that body. I recommend him warmly to your civilities. Messrs. *Vaillant* and *Pochard* continue close at their new business, and are already able to subsist by it. As they grow more expert, they will be able to take more money.

Mr. *Deane* will inform you of everything here; and I need not add more than that I am, with esteem and respect, &c.

B. FRANKLIN.

To C. W. F. Dumas, *Utrecht*.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Province of PENNSYLVANIA.

The Petition of OSWELL EVE, of FRANKFORD, in the Township of OXFORD, and Province of PENNSYLVANIA, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner some time ago, at great expense, erected a Powder-Mill in this Province, with a view of carrying on that useful manufactory; and spent much time in inventing machines and making experiments for bringing that branch of business to perfection, which he apprehends he had in a great measure accomplished, so as to establish the making of powder in this Province, which had not been carried on to any extent before.

That the present situation of *America* requiring a greater supply of that article, he was employed by the honourable Congress and the Committee of Safety, to work up part of the saltpetre imported by them and made here, which induced him to extend his works at a very great additional expense. That, by employing his whole time and study therein, he has invented and carried into execution works for graining powder, and for other parts of manufacturing the same, which are put in motion by water, (which is not done in any part of *Europe*;) and by which not only many hands may be saved in carrying on the same, but that it can be completed with much more expedition and safety than in any other mill.

Also, that he has, by different experiments, improved the refining of saltpetre and sulphur, and has brought the whole to perfection; and is now making upwards of twenty-two hundred weight of powder per week.

That he has at all times shown his works and many of his improvements to such gentlemen as came from different Colonies to view the same, which has contributed to promote the erecting a number of powder-mills; therefore, as the expense which he has been at will not, for a considerable time, be compensated by the profits of his mill; and as other manufactories, of less publick utility than this is at present, have met with publick encouragement, he humbly proposes to make known to the honourable Congress or Committee of Safety, or such persons as they shall appoint, his whole art of making powder, and different improvements in the mill, not doubting that they will grant him an adequate reward for having brought to perfection the said manufactory in the most safe and expeditious manner.

All which he submits to the consideration of your honourable Board, either to recommend his case to Congress, or to grant him such compensation as you may think proper.

OSWELL EVE.

Frankford, March 22, 1776.

JAMES YOUNG TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 23, 1776.]

Philadelphia, March 22, 1776.

SIR: Permit me to address you in this manner, as I would not presume to take up your time with a tedious re-

lation of disagreeable circumstances. I am the unfortunate father of a wrong-headed and deluded, though only son, who made an elopement from me the latter end of *January* last, and got on board the *Phoenix* ship-of-war without my knowledge, and have not yet been able to reclaim him to the duty he owes his country. I am now informed that he is fortunately a prisoner in *New-York*, having been on board the ship that was cast away on *Long-Island*, going, as I am informed, with recommendatory letters from Governour *Tryon* to General *Howe*. This is, therefore, to implore you, with the honourable Congress, to permit him to be a prisoner on the parole of a gentleman, at the late estate of his grandfather, Dr. *Greame*, twenty miles north of this city, or where else it may be thought proper near this place; which will lay me under a deep sense of gratitude to the honourable Congress.

Being, with the utmost respect, honourable sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JAMES YOUNG.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. The youth is but eighteen years of age, and an apprentice to Messrs. *Chevalier*, of this city. His name is *John Young*.

JOHN CHATFIELD TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Easthampton, March 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This day, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, our guard, stationed at *Montauk*, saw twenty sail of square-rigged vessels (five of them appeared to be large) and two sloops, bearing about south-southeast from the point of *Montauk*, about nine or ten miles to sea, (the wind south-southeast, the weather something thick and hazy,) steering about northeast by north, and sailed to the eastward of *Block-Island*; and suppose, by the course they steered, that they were going into *Rhode-Island*. This, gentlemen, is all the information we can give you concerning them, as at about one o'clock they disappeared behind *Block-Island*, and they saw them no more.

As we are a frontier at the east end of *Long-Island*, and are destitute of men to defend us, and have but little ammunition, should be very glad if the honourable House would use their endeavours that we may have some assistance.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants.

Signed by order of the Committee of *Easthampton*.

JOHN CHATFIELD, *Chairman*.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

PETER S. VAN ALSTYNE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Kinderhook, Albany County, March 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A difficulty has arisen in the execution of my office of Justice of the Peace, under the Five Pound Act, which induces me to apply to your Board. I have hitherto issued precepts as usual, when applied to for the recovery of debts within my limited jurisdiction, though I have always, since the commencement of our publick distresses, endeavoured to dissuade parties from a prosecution where the debtor's default arose from inability; but where I have been assured that the demand of process by the plaintiff has not proceeded from litigiousness, but as a means of obtaining a just debt, which was not detained from inability, I have readily exercised the powers of my office. Notwithstanding these my principles, I have given offence, and on *Saturday* last, I was visited by sundry persons, who said they were a Committee from a larger number in the northeastern part of this District, who had come to a resolution that the law for recovery of debts before Magistrates should cease in this District; and yesterday, when I happened to be from home, about thirty or forty men came with a design to compel me to a promise of desisting from the further exercise of my office in civil suits. The objections they make are of a general nature, and by no means confined to me; for no peculiar hardship or any oppression is complained of, nor has any resentment been shown against the plaintiffs; but they say that, in the present situation of the country, they ought not to be compelled by law to pay debts; and that while we are fighting against the King, (I

state their objection,) it is absurd to use his name or authority to enforce the payment of debts. Your Board will at once perceive the dilemma to which myself, and, indeed, all who are concerned in the administration of justice, are reduced by these principles, and the compulsory methods threatened of carrying them into execution. For my part, I have remonstrated that no order of the Continental Congress, the Provincial Congress, or the General County Committee, has passed for a cessation of law, and that when either interferes, I shall doubtless be freed from further application. They, on the other hand, argue that the silence of the Congresses must be taken to be in their favour, from the evident reasonableness of their objection, (which I have already stated,) and, therefore, that it is incumbent on those who are advocates for the law's going on, to get an express declaration to destroy what they suppose to be the implied sense of the Congresses. At present, while the one party complains of the hardship of paying debts, the other thinks it equally hard to be restrained from the only effectual means of enforcing their just demands.

Upon the whole, it would be of publick benefit that your Board (which, except the Grand Continental Congress, is the only competent power to decide these differences) should express its sentiments on this important subject, for it is that by which all sides profess themselves ready to govern themselves.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER S. VAN ALSTYNE.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

Although we have not experienced the inconveniences above set forth, yet, being exposed thereto from the nature of our offices as Magistrates, we beg leave to join in the above representation.

PETER VOSBURGH,  
H. V. SCHAICK,  
ANDRIES WITBECK.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress for the Province of *NEW-YORK*.

The Petition of ROBERT ROBINSON and MICHAEL PRICE, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioners have unhappily fallen under the censure of the Committee of *New-York*, for having been concerned in selling goods at higher prices than for twelve months last past. That your Petitioners have suffered, and do daily suffer, many hardships and inconveniences from this censure. That your Petitioners are extremely sorry that any part of their conduct should have given offence to their fellow-citizens, as they have always had the sincerest regard for the welfare and prosperity of the Province of *New-York*, and of *America* in general. That your Petitioners did early sign the General Association, and, in all cases except the above, have strictly observed all orders and recommendations of the Continental and Provincial Congresses and General Committee of this City, and that they sincerely promise to abide by all such orders and recommendations for the future, and that it shall be their earnest endeavour so to demean themselves as to avoid giving any just cause of offence. That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly request this honourable Congress will be pleased to take the singular hardship of their case into consideration, and grant them relief from the present embarrassments under which they labour from said censure. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ROBINSON & PRICE.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Lebanon, March 22, 1776.

SIR: *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, are authorized and empowered by the Governour and Council appointed to assist him in the recess of the General Assembly, to move your body to grant this Colony for its use the loan of such a number and sizes of cannon as you can spare without detriment, which, if granted, the return of them, or their value, shall be secured. The reason of this application is, that we have undertaken to set the furnace

at *Salisbury* in blast, to cast cannon, &c., for use at this important crisis of publick affairs; that the hearth is laying, ore, coal, and every other necessary preparing, workmen provided for every part of the business, and hope to begin to cast cannon in all next month, or early in *May*. They can with greater ease be transported to *New-York* (and used where needed) than brought here. In the mean time, fearing our necessity of cannon for use before this work can be effected, and apprehending that a great number of various sizes may be spared from your Colony without injury to the common service, we therefore hope for a compliance with our motion.

This Colony have been exploring lead-mines. One at *Middletown* is opened, fifty or sixty tons of ore raised, a smelting furnace built there, and expect thirty or forty tons of lead to be run out soon. A Committee appointed by our Assembly in *October* last to explore and examine a lead-mine at *New-Canaan*, in your Colony, made report at our session in *December* last. A copy thereof is enclosed. If worthy of your attention, and ore is raised there, the furnace at *Middletown* may serve for smelting what is raised at both places. Any service we can render your Colony in that or any other instance, will be done with pleasure.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

East-Greenwich, March 22, 1776.

SIR: At the request of the General Assembly now sitting here, I make application to your Excellency for six seamen taken from the enemy, and now your prisoners, to be exchanged for six inhabitants of this Colony, who were taken and are detained by Captain *Wallace*. Four of these men have families, who are greatly distressed. I send this by express, by reason of the danger of Captain *Wallace's* being removed from this station, and carrying these unfortunate people with him; or, if that should not be the case, of his sending them to *Britain*, to the utter ruin of them and their families. We have but two prisoners in this Colony, both officers, and active enterprising men, whom we should be extremely unwilling to give up.

I beg the favour of your Excellency to give this matter the quickest despatch, and to deliver the seamen to Mr. *Burr*, the bearer, to be immediately brought into this Colony.

I am, with great truth and respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WARD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp at Roxbury, March 22, 1776.

SIR: The enemy having abandoned the town of *Boston*, and as my health declines, I have no prospect of being able to perform the duties of my office in the Army the ensuing campaign, therefore, I must beg leave to resign my command, and sincerely pray that some gentleman better qualified may be appointed in my place.

Wishing you the Divine smiles and protection, I am, dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

MAJOR HILDRETH TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Dracut, March 22, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: I am sensible of the honour done me by your Honours' appointing me a First Major in the Seventh Regiment in the County of *Middlesex*; but the consciousness of my being unqualified and unequal to that important post, will, I hope, excuse my declining it. I therefore have enclosed the commission to your Honours, and pray your Honours to appoint some other person in my place.

I remain your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM HILDRETH.

To the Honourable Council of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

The major part of the Council of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND, to WILLIAM HILDRETH, Esq., greeting:

You being appointed First Major of the Seventh Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, whereof *Siméon Spaulding*, Esq., is Colonel, by virtue of the power vested in us, we do by these presents (reposing special trust and confidence in your loyalty, courage, and good conduct) commission you accordingly. You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a First Major in leading, ordering, and exercising said regiment in arms, both inferior officers and soldiers, and to keep them in good order and discipline; and they are hereby commanded to obey you as their First Major, and you are yourself to observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from the major part of the Council or your superior officers.

Given under our hands and the seal of the said Colony, at *Watertown*, the 14th day of *February*, in the sixteenth year of the reign of his Majesty King *George* the Third, Anno Domini 1776.

By the command of the major part of the Council.

PEREZ MORTON, Deputy Secretary.

W. SEVER,	MICHAEL FARLEY,
W. SPOONER,	J. PALMER,
J. WINTHROP,	MOSES GILL,
JEDEDIAH FOSTER,	CALEB CUSHING,
JOHN WHITCOMB,	SAMUEL HOLTEN,
T. CUSHING,	JOHN TAYLOR,
JAMES PRESCOTT,	B. WHITE.
ELDAD TAYLOR,	

ON THE AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

London, March 23, 1776.

The dies are thrown, and the game is lost. The Addressers have won. Whether or not there was foul play, I will not inquire. But can they be so weak to imagine that the calamities of this war will only fall on the *Americans*?—that they only shall feel the storm, and that we shall remain safe and unhurt? Is it possible that a total stagnation of trade to *America* should bring no evil upon us? As well might it be asserted, and with as much truth, that causes have ceased to produce their effects. Alas! miseries, accumulated miseries, must come upon us! There is that evil in the cause that must produce them. Thousands will be seen wringing their hands, and crying for bread, whose honest industry used plentifully to supply themselves and families. The affluent merchant, and all who depended upon him for support, must be overwhelmed with misery and wretchedness; and the poor rates must be swelled beyond the ability of the land to support. None of these evils may, indeed, at present be felt by the Addressers—with them all may be plenty, calm, and sunshine; but how long will, or can it remain so? Poison thrown into the natural body does not instantly show its effects. It is not possible that we should yet feel the miseries that lie concealed in the present measures; but they will operate, and, too soon, like poison, discover the fatality of their nature. Let every man, therefore, look to himself.

The Duke of *Grafton* must be allowed to be well acquainted with the finances and resources of Government. His declaration in the House was very alarming. As a stockholder, it most sensibly affected me. If the resources fail, whence is my interest to arise? *Ex nihilo nihil fit*. Many, doubtless, see this evil; nor is it possible that so weighty a matter should escape the sagacity of our rulers. Would to God it had acted on them as a preventive, and turned their hearts to peace, instead of war!

If the *Americans* have drawn on them our resentment, they have certainly, by this time, been amply punished; but if *delenda est Carthago*, if nothing can appease the wrath risen up against them but their utter ruin, let it be remembered that the tares cannot be plucked up without the wheat suffering with it. *David* certainly made the wisest choice when he chose to fall into the hands of God, rather than into the hands of man. Man's mercies are cruelties: intent upon the object of his resentment, he neither sees how he

may be hurt himself, nor regards what mischief he brings on others.

This war has more evils in it than can possibly be foreseen. It admits of no comparison with other wars. It is rather like a family quarrel, where, every one flying to law, the whole estate becomes lost in the contest.

O Addressers! what infatuation has seized you? Is not peace better than war? Would it be any loss to you to have a general amnesty granted to the *Americans*? Would ye be sufferers were you to behold them again as in the year 1763? Ye may live to curse the day when you set your hands to the fatal paper! Sooner should my right hand have perished than have been instrumental in bringing so great an evil on the land as the curse of war. The child unborn will rue the day.

CAPTAINS KENT AND HENRY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, Northampton, Virginia, March 23, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: We embrace this opportunity by Captain *Kell*, who has been some weeks blocked up in this harbour by tenders. On *Monday* evening last a tender came into *Chariton Creek*, and carried out a sloop belonging to *Isaac Vaughan*, and got Captain *Kell's* schooner under way, but luckily run aground. Our companies that are stationed at the Court-House got down a little after dark; and as there were a ship and five small craft in the offing, that we supposed to be the man-of-war and tenders that were up the bay with you, we planted sentinels along the bay shore, and went to heaving up an intrenchment opposite to Captain *Kell's* schooner. We discovered nothing of the tender till the morning, when she weighed anchor, and came opposite to our little breastwork, and an engagement ensued, which lasted about an hour; when we obliged the tender to retreat, without carrying out the schooner.

We shall be exceedingly thankful for the Continental regulations relative to victualling and paying off troops. We were obliged to send Mr. *Bruff* to the Treasurer for the money to pay one month's wages to our companies. We hope your Honours will make some provision for getting the companies home, as also for our Surgeons.

We are, very respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

JAMES KENT,  
WILLIAM HENRY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. As Captain *Kell* will return here again, he has promised to wait on you for any commands you may have to us.

In Committee, Northampton County, Virginia, }  
March 20, 1776.

Captain *Thomas Kell*, commander of the Schooner *Dolphin*, having put into *Chariton Harbour*, being chased by one of the tenders, who have made several attempts to take possession of her since; and the said Captain *Kell* having appeared before the Committee, and desired their opinion what part to act, and there appearing no probability of getting safe out, and thinking it would be attended with fatal consequences to suffer such a valuable cargo to fall into the hands of the enemy, recommended to the Captain to unload her without loss of time, and run her up the creek, and wait the further direction of the owners.

Extract from the Minutes:

DRURY STITH, *Chairman of Committee*.

THOMAS B. HANDS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Chestertown, March 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Houston* just now returned from *Philadelphia*, and delivered me the enclosed letter, which I should have sent unopened, but he told me he had directions from Mr. *Alexander* to deliver the letter to either Mr. *Smyth* or myself, if in this town, and to desire us to open it and see the contents, and carefully to transmit it to you. As it might be imprudent to intrust it to a casual conveyance, I have engaged a person to take the care of it to you, by way of *Rock-Hall*, with orders that, should he be pursued in the bay, and be in danger of being taken, to sink the letter

with weights. Mr. *Houston* brings no intelligence worth communicating.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

THOMAS B. HANDS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOHN STEWARD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

March 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The late Convention were pleased to honour me with an appointment in the regular Independent service of this Province. I am well pleased with my present situation; but, from the consideration that I cannot attain so just a knowledge of military duty in it as in the Battalion or Artillery, I wish to exchange for the vacancy in Captain *Fulford's* Company. If, gentlemen, you think I merit such favour, it shall be my constant study to qualify myself for the post.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN STEWARD.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN JOHN ALLEN THOMAS.

[No. 77.]

Annapolis, March 23, 1776.

SIR: We received a letter of the 15th instant, from Mr. *Mackall*, advising us that you thought a *Virginia* Pilot-boat, which the *Calvert* County Guards had stopped some days past, would be very useful, as well for conveying the troops from one County to the other, as for taking any small tenders which might come into your river; and that the owner would sell her on reasonable terms; and requesting our opinion upon the expediency of purchasing and arming her for the use of the Province. We cannot conceive a pilot-boat properly calculated to transport troops across a narrow river, in which, upon an alarm given, unless the wind should suit, they cannot sail from one place to another with that expedition the service might require; and as to repelling any hostile attacks which may be made by tenders, we do not think that boat would be sufficient for the purpose, as nothing less than an eight or ten-gun vessel would offer to run up our rivers to commit depredations. These and other reasons will not justify our purchasing her for the services suggested.

We are, &c.

To Captain *John Allen Thomas*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 78.]

Annapolis, March 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Two tons of powder, or near that quantity, we believe, have been lately received at *Baltimore Town* from *Philadelphia*; one ton of which Mr. *Alexander* wrote us was intended for *Virginia*, but given up by their Deputies on occasion of the late alarm. We wish to be informed whether we are indebted to *Virginia* or to Congress for the last ton. If to *Virginia*, we can easily settle the account, because we have already lent them twelve barrels: two for the lower Counties, and ten for their sloop-of-war at *Alexandria*.

Muskets by Captain *Tibbet* not yet come to hand. They are much wanted. Our Independent Companies are very importunate for arms, which we have not as yet been able to supply them with. Our gunsmiths go on very slowly, and we want small-arms very much. Permit us to request you would remind the Congress of those lent for fitting out the *Hornet* and *Wasp*.

We are anxious to have all the powder secured we can; and should be glad to know what quantity Messrs. *Willing & Morris* sent, and whether any more is to be expected from that quarter soon.

We are satisfied, so far as relates to the Province, with the sale of the vessel called the *Wild Duck*. *W. Lux* seems not altogether pleased, and talks that he had some claim; but we think he ought to be contented, all things considered.

Some gold and silver have already come in; and more might be got had we cash to exchange. We are in daily



expectation of the arrival of the Continental money, as also of our plates and paper for the new emission. We admire much at your silence on that head, and can account for it no otherwise than by taking it for granted that your attention is engaged on subjects of more importance.

We have heretofore requested you would let us know the pay of officers and seamen engaged in the Continental Navy, and must again remind you of sending it to us, that we may settle the pay in our Province.

We can spare fifty pieces of the heaviest duck, and most unfit for tents; the rest you will be pleased to forward to us by the stages. All is quiet here at present. Nothing new, only that the man-of-war, in her passage down, plundered *Sharp's Island*, and carried off some stock, and had taken a small vessel belonging to Colonel *Tayloe*. A flying report, by *Charles Landsdale*, this day, that they were lately seen at the mouth of *Potomack*.

Your information with regard to Mr. *Temple* falls much short of the great expectations raised by the publick papers, and by private letters heretofore received. Be pleased to send us the earliest intelligence which way Lord *Howe* steers his course from *Boston*, that, if he comes this way, we may be prepared to receive him.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

P. S. If the lead be not already sent off, please order four tons to *Chestertown*, for the use of the *Eastern-Shore*.

JOHN JAY TO COLONEL McDUGALL.

Philadelphia, March 23, 1776.

DEAR COLONEL: When the Clerk of the Congress gave me the printed papers which I enclosed you, he told me they contained the Navy establishment. Whatever deficiencies there may be in them as to that matter, will, I hope, be supplied by the extract now enclosed.

As to Continental colours, the Congress have made no order as yet concerning them; and I believe the Captains of their armed vessels have, in that particular, been directed by their own fancies and inclinations. I remember to have seen a flag designed for one of them, on which was extremely well painted a large rattlesnake, rearing his crest and shaking his rattles, with this motto: "*Don't tread on me*;" but whether this device was generally adopted by the fleet, I am not able to say; I rather think it was not.

I am by no means without my apprehensions of danger from that licentiousness which, in your situation, is not uncommon. Nothing will contribute more to its suppression than a vigorous exertion of the powers vested in your Convention and Committee of Safety—at least till more regular forms can be introduced. The tenderness shown to some wild people, on account of their supposed attachment to the cause, has been of disservice. Their eccentric behaviour, by passing unproved, has gained countenance, and has lessened your authority, and diminished that dignity so essential and necessary to give weight and respect to your ordinances. Some of your own people are daily instigated, if not employed, to calumniate and abuse the whole Province, and misrepresent all their actions and intentions. One, in particular, has had the impudence to intimate to certain persons that your battalions, last campaign, were not half full, and that *Schaick's* Regiment had more officers than privates. Others report that you have all along supplied the men-of-war with whatever they pleased to have, and through them, our enemies in *Boston*. By tales like these they pay their court to people who have more ostensible consequence than real honesty, and more cunning than wisdom.

I am happy to find that our intermeddling in the affair of the Test is agreeable to you. For *God's* sake resist all such attempts for the future.

Your own discernment has pointed out to you the principle of Lord *Stirling's* advancement. Had the age of a Colonel's commission been a proper rule, it would have determined in favour of some Colonel at *Cambridge*, many of whose commissions are prior in date to any in *New-York*. The spirit you betray on this occasion becomes a soldier.

The enclosed copy of a resolve of Congress will, I hope, settle all doubts relative to rank, which may arise from your new commission. The consequence you drew from that cir-

cumstance was more ingenious than solid; for I can assure you that the Congress were not disposed to do anything wrong or uncivil; and I can also add, that your not having joined your regiment last summer has been explained to their satisfaction, as far as I am able to judge. With respect to this, however, as well as some other matters, I shall defer particulars till we meet. In a word, with some men in these as in other other times, a man must either be their tool and be despised, or act a firm disinterested part and be abused. The latter has, in one or two matters, been your fate, as well as that of many other good men. Adieu.

I am, dear sir, your friend,

JOHN JAY.

To Colonel *McDougall*.

JOHN ADAMS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, March 23, 1776.

SIR: I had the pleasure, a few days ago, of your favour of the 8th instant, for which I esteem myself under great obligations to you. We rejoice here at the prospect there is of your driving the enemy from *Boston*. If you should succeed in this, I hope effectual measures will be taken to fortify the harbour, that the Navy may never enter it again. I think the *Narrows* may be so obstructed that large ships may not be able to pass; and the channel between *Long-Island* and the Main may be commanded, by batteries on each of those Islands, in such a manner that *Boston* may be safe from men-of-war. I hope my countrymen will hesitate at no expense to attain this end, if, in order to accomplish it, they should be obliged to remove the rocky mountains of my town of *Braintree* into the harbour.

But I cannot yet clearly satisfy myself that they will leave *Boston*. It will be a greater disgrace to the *British* arms than to be taken prisoners in the town in a body. If they should abandon the persons and property of their dear friends, the Tories, in *Boston*, will any other Tories, in any other part of the Continent, ever trust to their protection? It will be considered as such impotence or such infidelity, that I am inclined to think few professors of Toryism would ever afterwards be found anywhere.

I agree with you that in politics the middle way is none at all. If we finally fail in this great and glorious contest, it will be by bewildering ourselves by groping after this middle way. We have hitherto conducted half a war; acted upon the line of defence, &c., &c. But you will see by tomorrow's paper that, for the future, we are likely to wage three-quarters of a war. The Continental ships-of-war, and Provincial ships-of-war, and letters of marque and privateers, are permitted to cruise on *British* property, wherever found on the ocean. This is not Independency, you know; nothing like it.

If a post or two more should bring you unlimited latitude of trade to all nations, and a polite invitation to all nations to trade with you, take care that you do not call it or think it Independency. No such matter. Independency is a hobgoblin of such frightful mien that it would throw a delicate person into fits to look it in the face.

I know not whether you have seen the act of Parliament called the Restraining Act, or Prohibitory Act, or Piratical Act; or Plundering Act, or Act of Independency—for by all these titles it is called. I think the most apposite is the Act of Independency; for King, Lords, and Commons, have united in sundering this country from that, I think, forever. It is a complete dismemberment of the *British* Empire. It throws thirteen Colonies out of the Royal protection, levels all distinctions, and makes us independent in spite of our supplications and entreaties.

It may be fortunate that the Act of Independency should come from the *British* Parliament rather than the *American* Congress; but it is very odd that *Americans* should hesitate at accepting such a gift from them. However, my dear friend *Gates*, all our misfortunes arise from a single source—the reluctance of the Southern Colonies to Republican Government. The success of this war depends on a skilful steerage of the political vessel. The difficulty lies in forming particular Constitutions for particular Colonies, and a Continental Constitution for the whole. Each Colony should establish its own Government, and then a league should be formed between them all. This can be done only on popular principles and axioms, which are so abhorrent to the inclinations of the Barons of the South, and the

Proprietary interests in the Middle States, as well as that avarice of land which has made upon this Continent so many votaries to mammon, that I sometimes dread the consequences. However, patience, fortitude, and perseverance, with the help of time, will get us over these obstructions.

Thirteen Colonies, under such a form of Government as *Connecticut*, or one not quite so popular, leagued together in a faithful confederacy, might bid defiance against all the Potentates of *Europe*, if united against them.

Pray continue to make happy with your favours. Accept of my most cordial wishes for your safety, happiness, and honour. Make my most respectful compliments to the General and the ladies, and the whole family; and believe me to be, with much respect, your most affectionate friend and servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

To General *Gates*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your several letters have been duly received, and laid before Congress. I beg leave to acquaint you they are at this time under consideration, and that as soon as any determination is made thereon, you may expect to have it communicated to you.

The necessity of the thing has induced the Congress to come to the enclosed resolution, which I am directed to request you will carry into immediate execution.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*.

In Congress, March 20, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey* be desired to remove the Prisoners from *Trenton* to such place, or places, in that Colony, as may be thought convenient, at a proper distance from the Sea and the Post-Roads, subject to the Regulations formerly made respecting Prisoners.

*Resolved*, That all Officers, (Prisoners,) who shall refuse to subscribe the Parole ordered by Congress, be committed to Prison.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO CAPTAIN WOLVERTON.

Philadelphia, March 21, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform you that the Congress have agreed to take your company into the service of the Continent; and as soon as they are mustered, and properly armed and accoutred, they are to enter into pay; which being effected, I am commanded by Congress to direct that you proceed with your company, with all expedition, to the city of *New-York*, and put yourself under the orders of the officer commanding the Continental Troops there.

I have delivered Colonel *Charles Stewart* the commissions for your officers; and yours as Captain, I delivered to you. I have also paid into the hands of Colonel *Stewart* six hundred dollars, to defray the necessary expenses of your company previous to their march; to whom you will please to apply.

I wish you success; and am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Captain *Thomas Wolvorton*, of a Company of seventy-six men, in Continental service.

JOSEPH REED TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 23, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: The great changes which have taken place with you will, I doubt, scarcely leave you time to read a letter; but as it conveys a piece of good news, I will venture to interrupt you for a few moments. I dare say you have heard how troublesome and dangerous the back inhabitants of *North-Carolina* were growing. General *Gage* sent some *Scotch* officers there last summer, who, pretending a disgust to the Ministerial service, went among their countrymen there, and fomented a spirit of disaffection; and when they thought matters sufficiently ripened, they headed

a large body of men, and were marching down to meet the Governour. However, they were met by Colonel *Caswell*, and totally defeated, about thirty being left dead on the spot, a great number of prisoners taken, and their commander, a Mr. *McDonald*. The whole party is said to be so crushed and disappointed, that nothing more is to be apprehended from them.

We have no news from *Virginia* since I wrote you last; no account yet of our fleet; and as no member of Congress expresses any concern on the subject, we begin to suspect they are gone upon some distant enterprise—some conjecture to lay in the way of the *East-India* ships, a few of whom would soon reimburse us the expense of the war; however, it is all supposition. It has happened, as I expected, that many who were impatient to have *Howe* driven from *Boston*, are now alarmed with the apprehension of the seat of war being moved to the Middle Colonies.

General *Lee* is gone off to *Virginia*, and we hope will be there in time to meet the troops expected from *England*. The Congress have at length granted letters of marque; but there is such a difficulty in procuring ammunition, that I imagine little use will be made of them; at least for some time. The *Prussian* General is made a Brigadier, and ordered to *Canada*. By some late accounts from *England*, we are led to expect that the scheme of sending Commissioners will be wholly laid aside. If it should, I think we shall have no reason to regret it, as it does not seem calculated to produce any real benefit.

Adieu, my dear sir. That health and honour may soon attend you is the sincere wish of, my dear General, your most obedient and affectionate humble servant,

JOSEPH REED.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

BARON DE WOEDTKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 23, 1776.

SIR: The many marks of esteem and distinction with which your Excellency honoured me when I was at *Cambridge*, and the kind recommendation you favoured me with, requires the most respectful and lively gratitude.

I now have the pleasure to inform your Excellency that the honourable the Congress have appointed me to the rank of a Brigadier-General, and that my destination is for *Canada*, where I shall repair immediately; and I pray your Excellency to continue me the honour of your protection.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

BARON DE WOEDTKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 25, 1776.]

In Committee of Safety, New-Jersey, March 23, 1776.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, covering a resolution of Congress of the 20th instant. The Committee took the resolution into consideration, and have resolved to remove the officers, now prisoners in this town, to *Mount-Holly*, eight miles from *Burlington*, as the most proper place on all accounts. They will there have the opportunity of good accommodation, and be at a distance from the sea, post, and stage-roads.

I am directed to acquaint you that, if Congress have any particular matter for this Committee to carry into execution, they request it may be sent as soon as possible, as the season is fast approaching that requires the members' attention on their domestick affairs.

By order of the Committee:

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

LORD STIRLING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, March 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I enclose you copies of two letters I received this evening from General *Washington* and Brigadier-General

*Thompson*, and of another I wrote in consequence thereof to the Committee of Safety of this Province, which comprehended everything I can say on the subject of them at present. Be pleased to excuse the want of time, or better paper.

I am, most respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

LORD STIRLING TO NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Elizabethtown, March 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have just received the enclosed letters from General *Washington* and Brigadier-General *Thompson*. From them you will see the necessity of every Province, contiguous to *New-York*, exerting themselves in sending troops to that place to assist in fortifying and defending it, and also in defending and fortifying such parts of this Province as are most liable and likely to be invaded. With an attention to the latter I came over from *New-York* yesterday, in order to view the grounds on the heights of *Bergen-Neck* and the *Kills Von Cull*, and *Staten-Island*. I was prevented by the bad weather proceeding so far in this as I could have wished. But, on the whole, I think that the Militia of the Counties of *Bergen, Essex*, and *Middlesex*, should be immediately employed in fortifying *Amboy, Elizabethtown-Point*, the *Kill*, and *Bergen-Neck*, with *Paulus-Hook*. I shall communicate my plan to Brigadier-General *Livingston*, and shall return to *New-York* to-morrow morning, and will be over here again in a day or two, and bring some Assistant Engineers with me, in order to lay out such works as General *Thompson*, on my report, approves of. In the mean time, I hope your Committee of Safety will, without delay, direct the Militia before-mentioned to be employed in the way above suggested; and also to direct the Militia of the interior Counties to march either to the succour of *New-York* or of the most exposed parts of this Province, as may be found necessary. There is a resolution of Congress, passed a few days ago, that such Militia of this Province as are called upon for the service of fortifying and defending *New-York*, shall receive pay agreeable to the establishment of the Continental Troops of the Middle Department; and as these works proposed in *New-Jersey* are with a view to the same point, I make not the least doubt but the troops employed in them will be put on the same footing. For the further satisfaction of your Committee of Safety, they can send a copy of this letter to Congress, and know their determination of this matter. But, for *God's* sake, do not, at this critical moment, suffer any delay in your directions for the march of the Militia from the interior Counties, nor for the employment of the others in the works of defence which may be found necessary.

I am, &c.,

STIRLING.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-Jersey, Trenton*.

(Copies to Mr. *Hancock* and to Brigadier-General *Livingston*, with the letter to him, to desire the Militia of the interior Counties to march immediately.)

GENERAL WILLIAM THOMPSON TO LORD STIRLING.

New-York, March 23, 1776.

MY LORD: I have taken the liberty of opening the enclosed letter from his Excellency General *Washington* to your Lordship, (of the 19th instant,) knowing it was of a publick nature. You will see, my Lord, the necessity of sending a number of troops to this place as soon as possible, as it is very probable that General *Howe* will endeavour to possess himself of the city. I must therefore request you will write to the sundry Committees to order the Militia, with all convenient speed, as well to this place as to any part in *Jersey* you may judge they will attempt to land at. You will also please to write to Colonel *Dayton* to march for this place with as many of his regiment as have arms.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM THOMPSON.

To Lord *Stirling*.

LORD STIRLING TO COLONEL DAYTON.

Elizabethtown, March 23, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from Brigadier-General *Thompson* to desire that you will immediately march to *New-York*, with as many of your regiment as have arms.

I would recommend it to you to be as alert in obeying this order as possible. And as you have this evening informed me that many of your men who have good fire-locks have yet no bayonets, they being in the maker's hands, I think you had best order such to march, and let care be taken to send the bayonets to them as soon as possible.

I am your most humble servant,

STIRLING.

To Colonel *Dayton*.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

Elizabethtown, March 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I now enclose you copies of a letter from General *Washington*, of the 19th, one from Brigadier-General *Thompson*, of yesterday's date, and another from me to the Committee of Safety of this Province. From these, you will see the necessity of putting the eastern part of this Province, as well as *New-York*, in an immediate state of defence; and from the conversation I have had with you on the subject, you know my sentiments with regard to fortifying the several places mentioned in the letter to the Committee. I think it highly necessary, also, to possess some commanding height on *Staten-Island*. The men employed in these works will be in the most proper places to guard the Province, and I should think the Militia of the Counties of *Bergen, Essex*, and *Middlesex*, would be sufficient if only one-third of them were employed weekly on the business. The Militia of the interior Counties ought to be sent forward to *New-York* as soon as possible; and you may be assured that, as soon as they can be spared from thence, they will be sent over again into *New-Jersey*, or to *Staten-Island*, for the purpose before-mentioned; and that, in case the enemy should attempt to land their Army in *New-Jersey*, a very considerable part of our Army at *New-York* will be detached to oppose them. I shall only add, that as soon as you inform me or General *Thompson* when the men of these Counties will be ready to go to work, I will attend, with the Chief Engineer, to mark out the most necessary grounds to be fortified.

STIRLING.

To Brigadier-General *Livingston*.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

The Secretary will herewith lay before you two letters from the Committee of *Newburyport*, one dated 24th *February* last, and the other the 18th instant, wherein you will observe that the order of Court of the 8th of *February* last, relative to fixing for the sea, and manning with fifty men each, the Sloop *Machias Liberty* and the Schooner *Diligent*, hath not been fully executed; that it is not in the power of said Committee to do it; and that if said vessels are manned, it must be from the eastern part of this Colony. Considering the danger that would attend the suffering said vessels to leave the harbour in which they now are, with so few men as are enlisted to serve on board, (which are a number little more than sufficient to sail them;) the great delay it would cause to attempt recruiting and marching men the distance of two hundred miles at this season of the year; that the present appearance of our affairs are materially different from what they were when said order of Court was made; and that there is good reason to believe that one, if not both, said vessels are unfit, in their construction, for the service for which they are designed; the Council thought it their duty to lay this matter before you, and recommend it to your immediate consideration.

Council Chamber, March 23, 1776.

Newburyport, February 24, 1776.

The Committee of Safety, Correspondence, and Inspection, of *Newburyport*, beg leave to acknowledge the receipt last evening of a resolve of the honourable General Court, passed the 8th of this present month, appointing them, "with

Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, a Committee to prepare, and, in all respects, equip and man, with fifty men each, including officers, the Sloop *Machias Liberty* and Schooner *Diligent*, now lying at *Newburyport*," &c. The Committee, with pleasure, will undertake and perform all in their power, and can engage to purchase the necessary articles wanted, except gunpowder. Of that essential article they, with reluctance, say, not a cask can be procured here at any rate.

The pressing demands of this town have called for every exertion in their power to raise moneys, notwithstanding the town is greatly in debt, not being able to furnish enough to pay the necessary current services. Therefore, to make it possible to comply with the aforesaid resolve, the Committee humbly hope the honourable Council will furnish them, by the bearer, (Captain *Michael Hodge*, one of their members,) with as much money as the present occasion calls for, which, by a moderate calculation, for two months' cruise only, with the fixing the vessels, will amount to five hundred pounds, lawful money, exclusive of the cost of gunpowder, (which is not to be had here,) and of which Captain *Obrien* thinks there ought to be five hundred pounds weight, besides one hundred and twenty pounds now on board. The Committee apprehend that the fifty men for each vessel, or any considerable number of them, cannot be found in this town, owing to a large number being in the Continental Army, and to several privateers out on cruises. Captain *Obrien* says he can make up the deficiency in the eastward harbour, if your Honours think it proper to let him depart hence without his full complement. As Captain *Obrien* must probably collect his men from thence, and his present officers, whom he approves of, may be most agreeable to such men, the Committee hope the honourable Council will excuse them from recommending said officers, for this reason only, that they are entire strangers to them.

Per order of the Committee:

TRISTRAM DALTON, *Chairman pro tempore*.

To the Honourable the Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Newburyport, March 18, 1776.

Immediately after the date of the before-mentioned letter, Captain *Hodge*, who was the bearer of it, set out to deliver it, but met with some of the Council, who informed him that the honourable Board were adjourned; upon which he returned home. The Committee, after some delay, procured an agent to supply Captain *Obrien*, and he is now nearly fitted for sea. They would still beg your Honours' direction whether Captain *Obrien* should depart hence without his full complement of men, which it does not appear probable he can procure in this place.

Per order of the Committee:

JONATHAN JACKSON.

To the Honourable Council of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

*Proceedings of a Court of Inquiry, held at HAMPTON, MARCH 24, 1776, by order of Major JAMES HENDRICKS, Commandant, to inquire into the conduct of Lieutenant DANIEL TRIGG, respecting his behaviour on the 22d instant, when the enemy set on fire Captain EARL's Sloop.*

Members present: Captain *West*, President; Captain *Towles*, Lieutenant *J. Peyton*, Lieutenant *Tyler*, Lieutenant *Arrill*, Lieutenant *V. Peyton*, Lieutenant *Tutt*, Lieutenant *Gummins*, Lieutenant *Cooper*, Ensign *Tibbs*, Ensign *Linn*, Ensign *Holliday*.

The Court having examined a number of creditable witnesses, on oath, who were present during the whole time the enemy were engaged in destroying the above sloop, and having an opportunity of observing Lieutenant *Trigg's* conduct throughout the whole of that affair, are of opinion that Mr. *Trigg* behaved with spirit, coolness, and as a good officer ought.

CHARLES WEST, *President*.

True copy:

JAMES HENDRICKS.

COLONEL BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Bladensburg, March 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours of the 19th instant, with the commissions for the Majors and other officers in the

Twenty-Fifth Battalion, requesting me to recommend proper persons as a Second Lieutenant and Ensign in Captain *Warring's* Company, and an Ensign in Captain *Richardson's* Company.

As to the first, Mr. *Baruch Duckett* was commissioned by the Convention, and has acted as Ensign in that company. I am, therefore, at a loss about recommending a second person, till I know whether you intend to remove, or leave him out of that company.

Mr. *Joseph Carlton*, who has acted as First Sergeant to that company ever since it was formed, and is very capable of acting in either of those offices, would be very agreeable both to the officers and men of that company. I am not yet well enough acquainted with Captain *Richardson's* Company to fix on any particular person in that; but will, in a few days, inform myself, and send up his name.

Enclosed you have some accounts for wood and candles furnished the guard at this place, as also for the hire of an express to *Annapolis* to acquaint you with the arrival of the powder. I have received your order for the delivery of ten barrels to the gentlemen in *Virginia*, which will be delivered this day; and I sincerely wish there may be a speedy distribution of the remainder.

The Militia in this neighbourhood have attended on guard pretty well, as yet; but I find they begin to grumble much since the delivery of twenty-two barrels to the wagons for *Annapolis*. I have got it all in one house, and keep only a sergeant and twelve men as a guard over it, in order to make the duty easier to the people and cheaper to the Province.

At the time of calling my Battalion together, by your order, I furnished one company with powder, lead, and flints, (in proportion to the arms they had fit for service,) out of the ammunition purchased at *Bladensburg*; and have given orders to the Captains of the distant companies to receive thirty pounds of powder, lead and flints in proportion, that they may have it ready, on any sudden alarm, to furnish such of their men as may have arms fit for use. As no one, but those who have experienced it, can tell the time it takes to furnish a company, on any sudden emergency, I think (if we have a sufficient stock of ammunition) it would be highly necessary, in our present situation, to furnish every Captain of a Militia Company in the Province in the same manner. However, I shall submit this to your determination, and give no further orders without your approbation therein.

Pray send me the money for the enclosed accounts, and likewise some money for the further support of the guard, or let me know in what manner those expenses are to be paid; otherwise, I am afraid I shall not be able to keep up a guard much longer.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSHUA BEALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 79.]

Annapolis, March 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received a letter yesterday from Mr. *Mackall*, one of the Committee of Observation for *Calvert* County, advising us that they had not been supplied with powder and lead from your County, agreeable to an order of the Council, which was made and transmitted to you the 23d of *January*. Delay, upon such occasions, may be attended with dangerous consequences; and it will be impossible for us to direct the military operations with any probability of success, unless our requisitions are complied with. *Calvert* is greatly exposed, and ought not to be without a proper supply of ammunition. You may be assured it is our wish to provide equally for the defence of every part of the Province, and that we will not reduce your stock below your proportion. It appears, by a report of the Committees appointed by the last Convention to inquire into the state of the arms and ammunition, that there were twelve hundred and five and a half pounds of powder in your County; and since then there have been but two hundred and fifty sent to *St. Mary's*; so that you have now nine hundred and fifty-five and a half pounds remaining. We desire you will, therefore, immediately despatch the bar-

rel of powder and lead ordered to *Cakeert*. When a further distribution is made, we will supply you with your full share.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO FREDERICK COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 80.]

Annapolis, March 24, 1776.

SIR: We received your letter of the 11th instant, advising us what price sulphur bears in your County. We do not think ourselves authorized to exceed the price ascertained by the last Convention, which was six pence per pound; and, therefore, have to inform you we cannot advise the purchase of it at eight pence per pound.

We are, &c.

To *John Hanson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of the Middle District of *Frederick* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DOCTORS HOWARD AND COALE.

[No. 81.]

Annapolis, March 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We hope to have a powder-mill erected early this spring; and as we must depend on our works for a supply of saltpetre, are anxious to know how much we have already in the Province, and what it may reasonably be presumed we may expect to be provided with by the middle or last of *April*; and, therefore, request you will immediately inform us of the quantity of crude nitre you have made, and what you can supply per week. We have great dependance on your works, from your abilities and assiduity, and the sums of money furnished you by the former Council of Safety to carry it on extensively.

We are, &c.

To Doctors *Ephraim Howard* and *Samuel Coale*, *Elkridge*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COMMITTEES OF OBSERVATION.

[No. 82.]

Annapolis, March 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The great difficulty we find in providing blankets for the regular forces raised for the defence of this Province, obliges us to apply to the Committees of Observation for the several Counties, earnestly requesting that they would use their endeavours to procure from the housekeepers in their respective Counties all the blankets or rugs that they can, with any convenience, spare; for which the Council will pay such price as the Committees shall agree, as well as any expense that may arise in collecting them together; and when you have procured any quantity, you will send them to *Annapolis*, to Colonel *Smallwood*, or, in his absence, to the commanding officer on the station, who will receive the same, and give orders on the Council for the payment thereof. We hope that the friends to our cause in your County will contribute everything in their power to the comfortable subsistence of the soldiery in this respect. It will be an act of great humanity, and render an essential service to the publick.

We are, &c.

To the Committees of Observation of the several Counties, respectively.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO KENT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 83.]

Annapolis, March 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, per Mr. *Houston*, we took the subject-matter thereof into our consideration, and resolved to send *Houston* to *Philadelphia*, with orders for all the powder and arms imported in the *Wild-Duck*, Captain *Tibbet*, to be sent to *Chester*, to your care, for the use of the *Eastern-Shore*.

We are much pleased with the commendable spirit which the Militia of your County manifested on the late alarm; but are concerned to hear they are so ill provided with arms.

The Council think it unnecessary to order the Minute

Companies up from *Virginia*, as they will soon return from their station. We are much obliged to you for the assistance you have given Captain *Veazey*, in accommodating his company, and wish you to continue your good offices to him. We expected our Commissary would have furnished Captain *Veazey's* Company with their rations of provisions before the date of your letter. Since then he has assured us he would immediately send a sufficient quantity of provisions to *Chester* for the company.

As soon as the arms and powder which we have ordered by Mr. *Houston* from *Philadelphia*, to your care, arrive at *Chester*, we request you would send immediately to us an account of the number of arms, that we may order a proper distribution to be made among the troops stationed on the *Eastern-Shore*.

Enclosed we transmit you our order, requesting you to send the powder therein mentioned to *Queen Anne*, *Talbot*, and *Dorchester* Counties; and also an order on the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* for the payment of the carriage of the arms and powder from *Philadelphia* to *Chester*, as well as for the expense of sending the powder ordered to *Queen Anne*, *Talbot*, and *Dorchester*, and what arms we may also order to those Counties; though we desire you would not send the powder until we have given directions how the arms are to be distributed, that they may also be sent by the same conveyance.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County.

*A Return of the Batteries in and near the City of NEW-YORK, their Cannon, with their weight of metal, and number of Men requisite to man them, as made to General THOMPSON, MARCH 24, 1776.*

NAMES OF THE BATTERIES.	Weight of Metal.					Officers and Men wanting to man the pieces.			
	32 Pounds.	18 Pounds.	12 Pounds.	6 Pounds.	Total in each.	Commissioned.	Non-commissioned.	Privates.	Total.
Grenadier's Battery, (a).....	3	1	-	1	5	2	4	20	26
Jersey's Battery, (b).....	3	1	-	1	5	2	4	20	26
McDougall's Battery, (c).....	4	-	2	-	6	2	4	20	26
Broadway Barrier, (d).....	-	-	2	-	2	1	2	10	13
Coentie's Battery, (e).....	4	1	-	-	5	2	4	20	26
Stirling's Battery, (f).....	4	2	-	-	6	3	6	30	39
Waterbury's Battery, (g).....	4	-	2	1	7	2	4	20	26
Badlam's Battery, (h).....	4	-	2	2	8	3	6	30	39
Thompson's Battery, (i).....	4	2	-	3	9	3	6	30	39
Independent Battery, (k).....	-	-	-	12	12	2	4	20	26
Field-pieces,.....	-	-	-	6	6	12	24	120	156
	30	7	10	26	73	34	68	340	442

NEW-YORK, March 24, 1776.

REFERENCES.

- (a) Near the Air-Furnace, on the bank of the *North-River*.
- (b) A little to the northward of the first.
- (c) To the westward of *Trinity Church*, and very near it.
- (d) Very near the *Bowling-Green*, or the King's Statue.
- (e) On *Ten Eyck's Wharf*.
- (f) On *Long-Island*, and nearly opposite the *Fly-Market*.
- (g) At the Ship-Yards.
- (h) On *Rulgers's* first Hill, just above the last-mentioned.
- (i) At *Horne's Hook*.
- (k) On *Bayard's Mount*.

Besides the foregoing, there is a breastwork or barrier at *Peck's*, *Beekman's*, *Burling's*, and *Fly Slips*, as also at the *Coffee-House*, *Old-Slip*, *Coentie's Market*, and the *Exchange*, and one about midway of *Broad Street*, of this construction, ———; and the same are made in several of the streets leading from the *North-River* to the *Broadway*. There is also a line of circumvallation to be drawn from river to river, taking in the *Independent Battery*, on *Bayard's Hill*, or *Jones's*, where there is also a fortification to be erected, called *Washington*, to which may be added a redoubt round the Hospital; as also a work to be erected on the Common, near the Liberty-Pole.

\* In the rear of this there is to be a citadel, which will take up about five acres, and called *The Congress*.



EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY, DATED TROIS RIVIERES, MARCH 24, 1776.

My business at this post is to furnish horses, carriages, &c., for the passing army, and see them supplied with provisions; which business takes up almost my whole time. I have it also in my orders to call in the old commissions given to the officers of Militia in the seventeen Parishes in the District of *Three Rivers*, by the late Governour *Carleton*, and to have new officers elected. Some of them seem shy of receiving the post, being afraid either that the Ministerial Troops will drive us out of the Province, or that we, after carrying our point with *Great Britain*, will leave them to fall a sacrifice; but, in general, they seem to be fond of holding commissions under the Congress. In some Parishes there have been three or four candidates for the Captaincy; and I receive information that bribery and corruption is already beginning to creep into their elections. At some, the disputes run so high that I am obliged to interfere. At one, I was under the necessity of going twenty-seven miles to superintend the poll, and was obliged to give them a new election; with which they were satisfied. I have sent up about thirty names to the General, in order to get commissions under the right honourable the Continental Congress, which have been new elected, and expect soon to send more. I have been extremely sorry that our forces do not come forward faster. Of late, some have come up; but, upon the whole, I must say I think this department has been neglected.

I have troubled you with an account of all the fresh forces which have passed this post, exclusive of those who were at *Montreal*, who have been nearer the scene of action.—Officers are included in the account.

January 31.—Captain *Seaban*, from the *Bay Government*, (the first hero that came to our assistance,) twenty-five; Captain *Smith*, with nineteen.

February 9.—Lieutenants *Munson* and *Pettibone*, with part of two companies, twenty-five. 21.—Lieutenant *Walker*, seventeen; Captain *Wetherly*, thirty-three. 22.—Lieutenant *Meacham*, twelve. 24.—Captain *Hinman*, twenty-three; Captain *Pierce*, twenty-five; *Uzziah Wright*, a gentleman volunteer, eight. 26.—Lieutenant *Sunderland*, thirty-two; Sergeant *Clark*, twenty.

March 1.—Lieutenant *Loomis*, fifty eight; Lieutenant *Talbot*, with the first *Pennsylvania* Company, sixty; Lieutenant *Deane*, from the *Bay Government*, forty. 4.—Sergeant *St. John*, fifteen; Serg't *Gideon Brenson*, seven. 5.—Captain *Goodridge*, thirty-five; Lieutenant *Frisby*, thirty-one; Lieut. *Walbridge*, forty-nine. 6.—Captain *Gideon Doud*, forty-eight; Captain *Wright*, sixty-three. 10.—Lieutenant *Hughes*, from *Philadelphia*, sixty; Lieutenant *Grant*, from *New-England*, thirty; Major *Safford*, of Colonel *Warner's* Regiment, sixty; Capt. *Grosvenor*, forty-two. 12.—Captain *Jenkins*, from *Philadelphia*, (his company chiefly passed by before,) eight; Captain *Cooley*, from *New-England*, forty. 16.—Lieutenant *Yard*, (the first of the *Jersey* forces, with an escort with provisions,) thirty-four. 17.—Major *Ray*, of the *Jersey* Battalion, one hundred and seventy-nine. 20.—Captain *Carlisle*, twenty-nine; Lieutenant *Grant*, fourteen. 22.—Lieutenant *Stone*, thirty-four; Captain *Wait*, forty-seven; Lieutenant *Stainer*, eighty-one. Gone from *Montreal* garrison, three hundred; remained, after the defeat, six hundred; by recruiting among the *Canadians*, five hundred. Total, two thousand seven hundred and sixty-two.

General *Wooster's* baggage passed through here yesterday, and I expect to receive his Excellency at this garrison to-morrow. Passed by this post, also, Colonels *Warner*, *Williams*, *Irvine*, *Maxwell*, *Wait*, and Major *Morris*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LORD STIRLING.

Cambridge, March 24, 1776.

MY LORD: Since my last to you of the 19th instant, I had the pleasure to receive your favour of the 15th. It gives me vast satisfaction to find you are making such preparations as will prevent the enemy from making any lodgment there. The reinforcement gone to you from this camp will put you on so respectable a footing, that I have no doubt but you will be able to strengthen your works in such a

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manner that, even if General *Howe* should arrive before this Army, you will be able to prevent his taking post.

The fleet are now lying in *Nantasket-Road*. The wind has been these two days fair for them to sail, but they seem fixed. I really know not what they aim at. I have made such preparation for them, that I think it will be very difficult for them to regain the post at *Boston*, if they are so inclined. While they remain in sight, I must stay here to watch their motions with the Army under my command. When they move from hence, if nothing unforeseen happens, I shall make the best of my way to *New-York*, where I shall have great pleasure in taking your Lordship by the hand. You omitted sending the paper you refer to in your last: it will be a satisfaction to me to receive it in your next.

If this should reach you ere the departure of the powder from your place, you will do well to keep it with you.

I am, my Lord, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Lord *Stirling*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSIAH QUINCY.

Cambridge, March 24, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your letter of the 21st instant. It came to hand this afternoon, and I thank you for the many kind and flattering expressions it contains. To obtain the applause of deserving men is a heartfelt satisfaction—to merit it is my highest wish. If my conduct, therefore, as an instrument in the late signal interposition of Providence, hath merited the approbation of this great country, I shall esteem it one of the most fortunate and happy events of my life. I acknowledge myself your debtor for the share you have bestowed on me of it. The continuance of the fleet in *Nantasket-Road* affords matter for speculation; it surpasses my comprehension, and awakens all my suspicions. I have taken every step in my power to guard against surprises; but the temper of your people seems to me to be apprehensive of no danger till it stares them in the face. I do not think there is cause to apprehend such marauding parties as you dread; if any stroke is aimed, it will be a capital one; for which reason I wish to be much upon my guard, and, therefore, have appointed guard-boats, look-outs, &c. There is one evil I dread, and that is, their spies. I could wish, therefore, that the most attentive watch was kept to prevent any intercourse with the ships and the main land for this purpose; and to prevent suspected persons (for I have no doubt but that trusty soldiers, sergeants, and even commissioned officers in disguise, will be sent out) from travelling about. I wish a dozen or more of honest, sensible, and diligent men, were employed to haunt the communication between *Roxbury* and the different landing-places nearest the shipping, in order to question, cross-question, &c., all such persons as are unknown, and cannot give an account of themselves in a straight and satisfactory line. If you could hire men for this purpose, whilst the shipping continue where they now are, I would pay the wages you agree upon, and thank you for the trouble, as I think it a matter of some importance to prevent them from obtaining intelligence of our situation. The earliest information should also be communicated of any movements which may be discovered, and whether any of the shipping are getting out as it were by stealth.

I am exceedingly sorry to hear of your indisposition, and heartily wish you a perfect restoration to health. I should be very happy to take you by the hand before I bid adieu to the Colony; but as my motions are regulated by those of the enemy, I cannot say when or where it can happen.

In sincerity and truth, I remain, dear sir, your most obedient and obliged servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Josiah Quincy*, *Braintree*.

GENERAL SULLIVAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Winter-Hill, March 24, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I have an account presented me by Captain *Tilton*, agreeable to the direction of General *Folsom*, for payment of seventeen pounds twelve shillings and six pence. It consists of six articles: One bill is nine pounds ten shillings, for boarding Artillerymen sent from the Army to your assistance, and remained there three

weeks without wages, and were carried there and brought back at my expense. The next is two pounds ten shillings and eleven pence, for Major *Cilley's* expenses; he was by the Committee of Safety appointed and detained as Muster-master for your troops, and I supposed you would make no difficulty in paying his expense. The next is one pound eleven shillings and one penny, for expense of Mr. *Nathaniel McClintock*, appointed my Aid-de-Camp while present, and remained as a volunteer with your forces, at the request of your commanding officer, when I was absent, and was very useful to him; and his bill, if paid, would not amount to the wages of a private soldier for the time he tarried. The next bill is for seventeen shillings and nine pence, expense of the Captain of the Riflemen sent there without my knowledge or consent, with a company to assist you if necessary. To crown the whole, is a bill of four shillings and six pence, expended in securing the Tories in your capital when the enemy appeared off your harbour, when I was at Head-Quarters, and knew nothing of the matter. This, gentlemen, is a state of the account handed me for payment, and which I am ready to pay, in case you think a single article ought to be paid by me.

Gentlemen, I am extremely sorry to find a person pretending so much patriotism as Mr. *Folsom* does, ever striving to give me pain and uneasiness, and this without the least provocation on my part. Every day do I hear of his insulting and abusive language, such as he well knows he dare not use if I were present. Every step he takes is pregnant with malice against me; and I am sorry to hear his malicious endeavours have but too great weight on some other minds; and by means of that I am daily censured in your cabinet; and for what, I know not. I now appeal to you all, and call upon you to give one instance where I have made money at the expense of my country, or where I have usurped a greater power than was at first delegated to me. What relations have I promoted, or what part of my family have I enriched? Which of my former friends have I promoted, or which of my former enemies have I persecuted with unrelenting fury? No, gentlemen, my motives are of a different kind; no private friendship or private quarrels shall take hold of my publick conduct. I call Heaven and earth to witness, that thus far, the good of my country has been my only aim. This I have endeavoured to evince by my conduct.

Consider, gentlemen, what sums of money I have already expended, and how many days I have hailed clad with new and threatening dangers to my life; how I have refrained from the seat of domestick happiness, and, confined by my country's cause at a distance, heard the fatal tidings of sickness and death in my own family, while I was contemplating my own dangers here. Can all this be, gentlemen, and yet I not be in earnest? And shall he who basks in the sunshine of malice, and sleeps securely in the bed of revenge, set my own friends, my fathers in political life, against me? Let gratitude, let pity, forbid it; and let the heavenly justice take hold on the wretch whose sordid soul could never harbour a thought but that of gratifying his own malicious dispositions, or bringing about his own promotion. I most earnestly pray that Heaven may judge between us, and reward him that is insincere with infamy and disgrace. I know, gentlemen, that some of you thought it a great stretch of power in me to select officers for a new regiment out of those you sent before. Let the enclosed paper witness the justice of the choice, and the confidence General *Washington* has placed in the Field-Officers of that regiment, by trusting them with the most important posts, (never before entrusted to Militia Regiments,) witness in favour of my judgment. Sure I am that those persons have not in private life been my intimate friends—nay, some of them my most inveterate foes; but I wish we could leave our private resentments in our closets when we are acting in publick capacities, and consider only the means of promoting our country's good.

Surely, by my having the choice of thirty-one sets of officers, who had been under my immediate inspection, I could have a much better opportunity of selecting eight good ones, than you who were not here, and could not know how they behaved. I made the choice, and the officers have done honour to themselves and the Province, and differ exceedingly from some of the Captains sent here before, who could neither sign a return nor give a receipt for the money they

received at Head-Quarters, but by making their marks. Now, let me ask what power I have gained to myself by this procedure, or what could I have in view but the credit of the Province and the good of the service. Have I added to my own interest, or gratified myself by assuming a power and laying a foundation to destroy the liberties of my countrymen? I well know that Mr. *Folsom*, and some others, have censured my conduct at *Portsmouth*, for no other reason but because they were not at the head of affairs themselves. I well know that the fatigues I went through, and the large sum I expended, were not matters of sufficient inducements in themselves to draw me into the measures of which these malicious persons complain. I must observe that, when they feel motives similar to those which actuated me at the time, malice will cease to reign in their bosoms, and envy learn to be silent.

I am sorry to hear, gentlemen, that some gentlemen have moved in your House for my being reimbursed the expense I was at in coming to assist your capital. I find myself obliged thus publickly to assure you that this was done without my knowledge and consent, and to assert that I never hinted to any person that I expected a thing of the sort. I sensibly feel my obligation to those gentlemen who, actuated by motives of justice and humanity, made the motion without my knowledge or consent; but, at the same time, must beg leave to assure them that the loss of interest and the fatigues of war are what I expect nothing in return for, except seeing my country freed from slavery, and those worthy gentlemen and their posterity enjoying the sweets of peace and freedom.

Gentlemen, I beg pardon for the length of this letter, and that you will excuse any expression that may proceed from a mind conscious of having been basely injured; and believe me to be, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SULLIVAN.

To the Honourable the General Assembly.

P. S. I must again entreat you to forward the commissions for this regiment.

J. S.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON,  
DATED ON BOARD HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP CHATHAM, MARCH  
24, 1776.

The retreat of the Troops from this garrison [*Boston*] cannot fail to be differently represented in *England*; for which reason I have found time from our great hurry to give you some account of it. In the first place, the General's not receiving any letters or despatches from Government since the middle of *October*, could not fail of making everybody very uneasy; it looked as if we were left destitute to get out of a bad scrape as we liked best. Our provisions falling short, added to our discontent. The fleet afforded us no relief; little indeed was in their power—their own ill equipment was enough to make them as dissatisfied as ourselves. The Provincials, who knew exactly the state of our garrison, harassed us from their batteries, with an intention of making our people more dissatisfied, in hopes of desertions. Finding no probability of supply, and dreading the consequence of further delay, it was thought prudent to retire to the ships, and to save what we could. Our not being burdened with provisions, permitted us to save some stores and ammunition, the light field-pieces, and such things as are most convenient of carriage. The rest, I am sorry to say, we were obliged to leave behind; such of the guns as, by dismounting, we could throw into the sea, were done so; the carriages were disabled, and every precaution taken that our circumstances would permit, for our retreat was by agreement. The people of the town who were friends to Government, took care of nothing but their merchandise, and found means to employ the men belonging to the transports in embarking their goods; by which means several of the vessels were entirely filled with private property instead of the King's stores. By some unavoidable accident, the medicines, surgeons' chests, instruments, and necessities, were left in the Hospital. The confusion unavoidable on such a disaster, will make you conceive how much must be forgot where every man had a private concern. The necessary care and distress of the women, children, sick, and wounded, required every assistance that could be given. It was not like breaking up a camp, where

every man knows his duty ; it was like departing your country, with your wives, your servants, your household furniture, and all your encumbrances. The officers, who felt the disgrace of their retreat, did their utmost to keep up appearances. The men, who thought they were changing for the better, strove to take the advantage of the present times, and were kept from plunder and drink with difficulty. In bad plight we go to *Halifax*. What supply we are to expect there I do not know ; our expectations are not very sanguine. The neglect shown us bears hard on us all ; the soldiers think themselves betrayed, the officers all blame the Admiralty, and your friend, Lord S——, is universally execrated. The sea officers complained they were hurried out of *England* in a most shameful condition, not half manned, and ill provided. Fleet and Army complain of each other, and both of the people at home. If we fare as ill at *Halifax* as we have done here lately, I fear we shall have great desertion, as the opportunity will be more convenient.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 2, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jay, Mr. Wilson.]  
Cambridge, March 24, 1776.

SIR: When I had the honour to address you the 19th instant, upon the evacuation of the town of *Boston* by the Ministerial Army, I fully expected, as their retreat and embarkation were hurried and precipitate, that before now they would have departed the harbour, and been far on their passage to the place of destination ; but, to my surprise and disappointment, the fleet is still in *Nantasket-Road*. The purpose inducing their stay is altogether unknown ; nor can I suggest any satisfactory reason for it. On *Wednesday* night last, before the whole of the fleet fell down to *Nantasket*, they demolished the Castle, and houses belonging to it, by burning them down, and the several fortifications. They left a great number of the cannon, but have rendered all of them, except a very few, entirely useless, by breaking off the trunnions, and those they spiked up, but may be made serviceable again. Some are already done.

There are several vessels in the docks, which were taken by the enemy, some with, and others without, cargoes, which different persons claim as their property and right. Are they to be restored to the former owners, on making proof of their title, or to belong to the Continent, as captures made from the enemy ? I wish Congress would direct a mode of proceeding against them, and establish a rule for decision. They appear to me to be highly necessary. In like manner, some of the cannon which are in *Boston* are said to have come from the Castle. Supposing them, with those remaining at the Castle, to have been purchased by, and provided originally at the expense of this Province, are they now to be considered as belonging to it, or to the publick ? I beg leave to refer the matter to the opinion of Congress, and pray their direction how I am to conduct respecting them.

It having been suggested to me that there was considerable property, &c., belonging to persons who had, from the first of the present unhappy contest, manifested an unfriendly and inveterate disposition, in the town of *Boston*, I thought it prudent to write to the honourable General Court upon the subject, that it might be inquired after and secured ; a copy of the letter I herewith send you, and submit it to Congress, through you, whether they will not determine how it is to be disposed of, and as to the appropriation of the money arising from the sale of the same.

As soon as the town was abandoned by the enemy, I judged it advisable to secure the several Heights, lest the enemy should attempt to return ; and for this purpose have caused a large and strong work to be thrown up on *Fort-Hill*, a post of great importance, as it commands the whole harbour, and, when fortified, if properly supported, will greatly annoy any fleet the enemy may send against the town, and render the landing of their troops exceedingly difficult, if not impracticable. This work is almost done, and in a little time will be complete. And that the communication between the town and country may be free and open, I have ordered all the lines upon the Neck to be immediately destroyed, and the other works on the sides of the town facing the country, that the inhabitants from the latter may not be impeded, and afforded an easy entrance in case the enemy should gain possession at any future time. These

matters I conceived to be within the line of my duty ; of which I advised the General Court, and recommended to their attention such other measures as they might think necessary for securing the town against the hostile designs of the enemy.

I have just got an inventory of stores and property belonging to the Crown, which the enemy left in *Boston*, at the Castle, and at *Bunker Hill*, which I have the honour to transmit you ; and shall give strict orders that a careful attention be had to any more that may be found. I shall take such precautions respecting them that they may be secure, and turn to the publick advantage as much as possible, or as circumstances will admit of.

A Mr. *Bulfinch*, from *Boston*, who acted as clerk to Mr. —, having put into my hands a list of rations drawn the *Saturday* before the troops evacuated the town, I have enclosed it for your inspection. He says neither the Staff Officers or women are included in the list ; from which it appears that their number was greater than we had an idea of.

Major-General *Ward* and Brigadier-General *Frye* are desirous of leaving the service, and for that purpose have requested me to lay the matter before Congress, that they may be allowed to resign their commissions. The papers containing their applications you will herewith receive ; they will give you full and a more particular information upon the subject, and therefore shall take the liberty of referring you to them.

I would mention to Congress that the Commissary of Artillery Stores has informed me, that whatever powder has been sent to this camp has always come without any bill ascertaining the number of casks or quantity. This, it is probable, has proceeded from forgetfulness or inattention in the persons appointed to send it, or to the negligence of those who brought it, though they have declared otherwise, and that they never had any. As it may prevent in some measure embezzlements, (though I do not suspect any to have been made,) and the Commissary will know what and how much to receive, and be enabled to discover mistakes, if any should happen, I shall be glad if you will direct a bill of parcels to be always sent in future.

There have been so many accounts from *England*, all agreeing that Commissioners are coming to *America*, to propose terms for an accommodation, (as they say,) that I am inclined to think the time of their arrival not very far off. If they come to *Boston*, which probably will be the case, (if they come to *America* at all,) I shall be under such embarrassment respecting the manner of receiving them, and the mode of treatment that ought to be used, I therefore pray that Congress will give me directions, and point out the line of conduct to be pursued. Whether they are to be considered as Ambassadors, and to have a pass, or permit, for repairing through the country to *Philadelphia*, or to any other place, or whether they are to be restrained in any, and what manner, I shall anxiously wait their orders ; and whatever they are, comply with them literally.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable the President of Congress.

Cambridge, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Ere now I was in hopes of congratulating you on the departure of the Ministerial Troops, not only from your capital, but country. That they still remain in the harbour, after having been five days embarked, affords matter for speculation, and, collected as their force is now, of apprehension. This circumstance, the security of *Boston* by a work on *Fort-Hill*, and demolition of the lines on the Neck, and preservation of the stores for Continental use belonging to the King, by a proper search after them, rendered it indispensably necessary for me to throw more troops into the town immediately, (it coming within the line of my duty ;) but notwithstanding all the precaution which I have endeavoured to use, to restrain and limit the intercourse between the town and country and Army for a few days, I greatly fear that the small-pox will be communicated to both.

So soon as the fleets sail, my attention must be turned to another quarter, and most of the Continental Regiments, now here, marched off. It may be necessary, therefore, for you, gentlemen, to consider the state of your harbour, and think

of such works as shall be found necessary for the defence of it, and the town, in case another armed force, (which I by no means expect,) should be sent hither. I shall leave three or four regiments, as circumstances may require, for the security of the stores, and throwing up such works as shall be deemed necessary for the purposes above-mentioned, and shall direct the officer commanding them to receive such instructions, in respect to the latter, as you may think proper to give.

It has been suggested to me that in the town of *Boston*, &c., there is a good deal of property belonging to Refugees, and such other inimical persons, as, from the first of the present dispute, have manifested the most unfriendly disposition to the *American* cause, and that part of this property is in such kind of effects as can be easily transported, concealed, or changed; I submit to you, therefore, gentlemen, the expediency of having an inquiry made into this matter before it is too late for redress, leaving the decision thereupon (after the quantum or value is ascertained, and held in a state of durance) to the consideration of a future day. I have ordered that no violence be offered by the soldiery, either to the property or persons of those people; wishing that the matter may be taken into consideration by your honourable body, and in such a way as you shall judge most advisable.

The enclosed came to me a few days ago, and I beg leave to recommend the purport of it to the consideration of the Court. I shall take the liberty to add, as my opinion, that the Congress expect nothing else than that the Field-Officers of the *Massachusetts* Regiments should receive the same pay as those of the other Colonies have done, and that they expected, at the time the pay was fixed, that fifteen pounds to a Colonel, twelve pounds to a Lieutenant-Colonel, and ten pounds to a Major, was the actual establishment of this Government. I could wish, therefore, they were allowed it, to remove the jealousies and uneasinesses which have arisen.

I am, with great respect and esteem, gentlemen, &c.,  
 GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable General Court. \*

\* The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration a Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, dated the 21st of *March* instant, as also the Report of a Committee who, by order of Court, had waited on his Excellency, to confer on the subject-matter of the removal of the Continental Troops now in this Colony, having attended to the business assigned them, report as followeth:

As our enemies are now withdrawn from the Town of *Boston*, and it appearing to your Committee that it is a matter of the utmost importance to secure said Town against the approaches of large ships-of-war in future, that a Committee of both Houses be appointed as soon as possible to lay before this Court a sketch of the Harbour of *Boston*, and examine and report particularly the number of passages there are for ships into the same, and what distance they are from the capital; what is the depth of water in, and the width of the channel at each passage; what is the height of the land adjoining, and the distance therefrom to the opposite side of the channel; whether it is necessary to the best good of this Colony, and its capital, that all the passages to the Town of *Boston* should be continued open; what are the advantages, and what the disadvantages, that will result from stopping either of the passages thereto; which passage, if any, ought to be stopped; where can fortifications be erected most easily to resist the enemy in their attempt to enter the harbour aforesaid; whether such posts are on the main, or on an island or islands; and if on an island, whether a communication can be kept up between it and the main in case of a siege; whether those posts are commanded by any neighbouring hills; and if by any, by what hills; and whether, at all times, a garrison at such posts can be supplied with water.

And whereas this Colony is greatly weakened by the destruction of our fortifications and warlike stores by our enemies, and will be more so on the removal of the Continental Army, as a large proportion of the men and arms therein are from this Government:

Your Committee are therefore of opinion that an application be immediately made to his Excellency General *Washington*, and request that he would further consider the exposed, and, at present, the defenceless state of this Colony, and, if consistent with the general interest, he would continue here six Regiments of the Continental Troops for the defence of this Government, instead of the three or four Regiments his Excellency hath informed this Court he intends to leave.

W. SEVER, per order.

In Council, MARCH 25, 1776: Read and accepted; and Ordered, That *B. Lincoln* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee for the purposes mentioned in the foregoing Report.

Sent down for concurrence.

PEREZ MORTON, Deputy Secretary.

In House of Representatives, MARCH 25, 1776: Read and concurred; and Mr. *Cooper*, Mr. *Brown* of *Boston*, and Deacon *Nicolls*, are joined.

Sent up.

WILLIAM COOPER, Speaker pro tem.

*Inventory of Stores belonging to the King, and left in BOSTON; taken the 18th and 19th of MARCH, 1776, by order of THOMAS MIFFLIN, Esq, Quartermaster-General of the Continental Army.*

A Brigantine, about 120 tons burden, loaded with Oil and Pearl.

A Schooner, about 80 tons, scuttled, with 200 hogsheads of Salt on board.

150 hogsheads of Salt in a store.

100 bundles of Iron Hoops.

Long Wharf—157 Pack Saddles.

123 Water Casks.

A Brigantine, scuttled, about 140 tons.

A Sloop, do. 70 tons.

A Schooner, do. 40 tons.

1,000 chaldron of Sea Coal.

52 Iron Grates.

General *Gage's* Chariot, taken out of the dock, broken.

A quantity of Cordage and old Cable, broken.

Five Anchors.

*Green's* Wharf—about 200 Blankets; four and two-thirds jars (large) of Sweet Oil.

*Hatch's* Wharf—three Cannon, double-charged and spiked.

*Hancock's* Wharf—a new Ship, about 300 tons, scuttled; a Schooner, about 70 tons, scuttled.

About 1,000 bushels of Salt.

3,000 Blankets.

30 Water Casks.

*Tudor's* Wharf—a Ship, about 350 tons, scuttled.

*Dummet's* Wharf—5,000 bushels Wheat in store; a Sloop, about 60 tons, scuttled; a Fishing Boat.

*Webb's* Wharf—a Sloop, about 60 tons, scuttled.

*Fuller's* Wharf—about 500 bushels of Salt.

*Fitch's* Wharf—a Schooner, 70 tons, scuttled.

B. M. General's Office—about 1,000 bushels Sea Coal, and one Clock; also, Lumber; about 150 hogsheads of Lime; four barrels of Flour; 100 empty iron-bound Casks, carried to *Fort-Hill* by General *Putnam's* order; 10 24-pound Cannon Cartridges.

*Tileston's* Wharf—300 hogsheads of Salt.

Three Brigantines—one, 150 tons; one, 120 tons; and one, 130 tons.

The Brig *Washington*, commanded by Captain *Martindale*, with all her Guns, in the dock.

One and a half hogshead of Sugar.

A quantity of Pickets, Fascines, and Gabions, in store.

About 5,000 feet of Boards.

*Griffin's* Wharf—a number of Iron Grates.

*Hubbard's* Wharf—about 1,500 Rugs and Blankets.

50 Water Casks, iron-bound, carried to *Fort-Hill* by General *Putnam's* order.

One cask of Deck Nails.

About 200 cords of Wood.

About 200 chaldron of Sea Coal.

South-Battery, or Laboratory—52 pieces of Cannon, trunnions broken off, and spiked; 600 feet of Boards; about 30 iron-bound Casks, carried to *Fort-Hill* by order of General *Putnam*.

A number of Ball and empty Shells.

A Brigantine, 120 tons; a Schooner, 60 tons.

*Wheelwright's* Wharf—14 Anchors; three and a half hogsheads of Brimstone.

300 hogsheads of Salt.

A quantity of Logwood.

Three hogsheads of Sea Coal.

One 13-inch Mortar, with an iron bed; a number of Shells, Carcasses, and Cannon Shot, in the dock.

*Hall's* Wharf, and in his possession—600 bushels of Corn and Oats; 100 sacks Bran; eight hogsheads of Molasses; 100 empty iron-bound Casks; two Schooners, about 60 tons each; one Sloop, about 40 tons; 10 Horses, Teams, and Harness.

*Hutchinson's* Wharf—a new Ship, about 350 tons, scuttled; two Brigs, about 120 tons each, scuttled; two Sloops, about 60 tons each, scuttled.

*Winnisimit*—a new Ship, building, thrown off the stocks, 200 tons; about 100 bushels of Salt; store pulled down.

*Peck's* Wharf—about 100 hogsheads essence of Spruce.

10 hogsheads of Beef.

Six hogsheads of Molasses, not quite full.

Five barrels of Molasses.  
A Sloop, about 50 tons, two-thirds full of Molasses.  
At Mr. Lovell's—General Gage's Coach, a Phaeton, and Harness, complete.  
20 Iron Pots and Kettles.  
Joy's Yard—a parcel of Lumber, Tools, and Joists.  
Hill's Bakehouse—20 barrels of Flour.  
North and South Mills—10,000 bushels of Wheat and Flour, not bolted; 1,500 bushels of Bran.  
King's Brewery—13 empty iron-bound Butts; 14 hogs-heads of Spruce Beer; two iron-tierced Trucks.  
Town Granary—1,000 bushels of Beans; 100 bushels of Horse Beans.  
Vincent's Stable—10 tons of Hay.  
Love's Lumber Yard—50,000 Shingles; 35,000 feet of Boards; 1,000 Clapboards; 20 Handbarrows.  
Henderson Inche's Store, near Beacon-Hill—about six tons of Hay.  
Stable at the Rope Walks—about 10 tons of Hay; 110 Horses.

By return this day:  
JOHN G. FRAZER, D. Q. M. General.  
Boston, March 20, 1776.

Provision Return.			
Light Dragoons, - -	258	38th Regiment, - -	270
Royal Artillery, - -	434	40th Regiment, - -	289
First Battalion Marines, -	315	44th Regiment, - -	284
Second ditto, - -	304	45th Regiment, - -	301
Grenadiers, - - -	698	47th Regiment, - -	332
Light Infantry, - -	650	49th Regiment, - -	308
4th Regiment, - -	295	52d Regiment, - -	291
5th Regiment, - -	284	55th Regiment, - -	204
10th Regiment, - -	279	63d Regiment, - -	287
17th Regiment, - -	313	64th Regiment, - -	396
22d Regiment, - -	297	65th Regiment, - -	140
23d Regiment, - -	283		
35th Regiment, - -	297		7,579

The General and Regimental Hospitals not included in the above Return, amounting to between five and six hundred men.

Camp at Roxbury, March 22, 1776.  
SIR: I am now to inform your Excellency that I am in such an ill state of health, that I do not think myself capable of doing the duty which ought to be done by me through the ensuing campaign, in the station I am now in. And to eat the Continental bread, and not do the duty, is what I am much averse to. Therefore, I must beg leave to resign my command, and to withdraw from the Army after the expiration of this month.  
I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.  
To His Excellency General Washington.

Camp in Cambridge, March 18, 1776.  
SIR: The Ministerial Troops having (yesterday) taken their departure from Boston, will, I presume, occasion the removal of the Continental Army to some distant part of the Continent. And as I find myself in such an infirm state of health as renders me unable to bear the fatigue of such march as that manœuvre will require, I cannot think it laudable to continue in the Army and pay of the Continent, without being able to merit the pay by my service; therefore take leave to desire I may resign the command in the Army I have been honoured with. And as I am at present unable to travel, and being one hundred and forty miles from my family, I take leave, also, to request that my resignation may take place the 11th day of April next.  
I am your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,  
JOSEPH FRYE.  
To His Excellency General Washington.

GENERAL ORDERS.  
Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 20, 1776.  
(Parole, Dorchester.) (Countersign, Salem.)  
Whitcomb's, Phinney's, and Hutchinson's Regiments, are to march into Boston this day, and remain there until fur-

ther orders. They are to guard the town and publick stores there, and do all such fatigue, and other duties, as the General commanding there thinks proper to order. Every possible precaution will be taken to destroy the infection of the small-pox.  
The troops now in Boston are to march out, and join their respective regiments, upon being relieved by the regiments that are to march in.  
The posts on Bunker's Hill, Breed's Hill, and Charlestown-Ferry, are to be garrisoned by Colonel Waldron's Regiment, who is to take especial care that the abattis, picketing, &c., are preserved entire.  
The Quartermaster-General is to see that fire-wood or coal is immediately laid in for the supply of those posts.  
The Commissary-General has orders immediately to lay in a proper supply of provisions for the garrisons of Boston, Bunker's Hill, and Dorchester Heights.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 21, 1776.  
(Parole, New-York.) (Countersign, Halifax.)  
Learned's and Cary's Regiments are to march this afternoon, and relieve the troops upon Dorchester-Heights, and those regiments are to remain in garrison until further orders. The Deputy Quartermaster-General will provide carriages from Roxbury, and provisions are ordered by the Commissary-General to be stored upon the Heights.  
The details for the Roxbury and Cambridge Departments, will be delivered to the Majors of Brigade with this day's orders.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 22, 1776.  
(Parole, Grafton.) (Countersign, . . . . .)  
The Colonel of Artillery, Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General, and Commissary of Ordnance Stores, to make out exact Returns of all Military Stores, Provisions, &c., &c., now in Boston, Cambridge, Roxbury, Dorchester-Heights, and Forts, &c., adjacent. This must be done in the correctest manner, and when finished and signed, delivered by the proper officer of each Department to the Commander-in-Chief.  
The Provost-Marshal is forthwith to remove with his prisoners to Boston. The prisoners of war and John Stevens, are, by his Excellency's order, to be put into Boston Jail.  
The Majors of Brigade to order the Adjutants to be punctual in delivering their Weekly Returns' at orderly time to-morrow.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 23, 1776.  
(Parole, Cape-Fear.) (Countersign, Moore.)  
Colonel James Read's, Nixon's, Poor's, Prescott's, Arnold's, and Baldwin's Regiments, are the first to march under Brigadier-General Sullivan. They are to be ready at a moment's warning. The General flatters himself that the commanding officer of each of these and the other corps will exert themselves (as they are going to join the troops of other Colonies) in sprucing up their men, that they may look as soldier-like and reputable as possible. This, and a proper attention to the good and orderly behaviour of the men, and the proper care of their arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, are qualifications essentially necessary to every commanding officer; therefore, for their own honour and the honour of the New-England Colonies, it is hoped they will diligently exert themselves at this time.  
Two Companies of Artillery, with such light brass ordnance and stores as the commanding officer of the Artillery shall direct, are to march with General Sullivan.  
Colonel Gridley is to apply to General Ward for such men as are necessary for the demolition of the lines on Boston Neck, who is to see the work executed as fast as possible; the pickets and other useful materials to be preserved and placed, so as to be ready when called for, under the care of sentries. Such parts of these works as may be of service for our defence are to be preserved.  
Colonel Knox will immediately lay out a battery upon Charlestown Point, to be executed under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Mason, of the Artillery. A Field-Officer, with all the men off duty of Colonel Robinson's Regiment, to march at sunrise, to-morrow morning, to Charlestown Point, as a working party.



Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 24, 1776.

(Parole, Philadelphia.)

(Countersign, Lynch.)

The enemy still continuing in the harbour without any apparent cause for it, after winds and weather have favoured their sailing, leaves abundant reason to suspect that they may have some design of aiming a blow at us before they depart. The General, therefore, in the strongest terms imaginable, recommends to the commanding officer of every corps to prevent his men that are off duty from straggling, but to have them ready to turn out at a moment's warning, with their arms and ammunition in good order. For this purpose, a strict attention is to be paid to roll-calling, and all delinquents severely punished.

The General Officers, in their several departments, are to take care that proper alarm-posts are assigned every corps, that no confusion or disorder may ensue in case we should be called out. In a particular manner, Generals *Putnam* and *Sullivan* are to attend to those of the centre and left division. As the enemy's evacuation of *Boston* will render a new disposition proper, they are to meet and consult on this point without delay. General *Greene* will dispose of the Regiments in *Boston* to the best advantage.

The floating batteries to be manned (if they have guns on board) and sent down to *Charlestown Point*, for the purpose of defence, in case of need.

The guard-boats are to patrol constantly, and be very attentive to every movement of the enemy; and good look-outs kept at and from the posts from *Chelsea*, round *Squantum*, and the earliest information given of a hostile appearance.

All the flat-bottom and whale-boats, not in immediate and necessary use, are to be brought from *Boston* and *Charlestown*, where they are beating against the wharves, and secured in *Cambridge River*. Mr. *Sylvanus Drew* is appointed to take charge of the boats, and to make a return thereof to the Commander-in-Chief. Such hands as he shall find necessary to get these boats together, General *Putnam* will order him.

The publick horses and some other articles will be sold on the Common in *Cambridge* to-morrow, at eleven o'clock.

#### ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLONEL MIFFLIN, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED COLONIES.

As the motions of the enemy, and the operations of the ensuing campaign, render it indispensably necessary that a very large body of troops should be immediately assembled at or near *New-York*, you will immediately proceed to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, where you will, in concert with the Brigadiers-General *Heath* and *Sullivan*, regulate the embarkation of the Brigades under their command, and settle all such matters with the Commissary-General of Provisions, and Contractors for the Transports, as may be further necessary for expediting the march of the rest of the Army, with the stores, artillery, camp equipage, &c.

This being done, you will proceed without delay to *New-York*, where your first care will be to provide barracks for the troops; firing, forage, and quarters, for the General Officers; fix upon a proper house or houses for a General Hospital; stabling for the Continental draught-horses, &c., &c. Intrenching tools must also be immediately provided, with a sufficient quantity of joist and plank for platforms, and timber for gun-carriages; in short, every necessary article for the publick service, and which your experience the last campaign convinces you will be wanted for that now approaching.

The variety of the business of your department renders it next to impossible to point out particularly every duty of your office; therefore a latitude is given you in these orders and instructions, which, together with the directions and advice of the commanding General at *New-York*, must be the rule for the future regulation of your conduct; and I shall at present only recommend that the same integrity, zeal, diligence, and activity, which has hitherto animated your past services, may govern that which is to come.

Given at Head-Quarters in *Cambridge*, this 24th day of *March*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Thomas Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF VIRGINIA.

MY COUNTRYMEN: The state of our publick affairs appears to be at present in a more critical situation than it has been at any time since the commencement of the quarrel, which has so much agitated the minds of the people, both in *Great Britain* and *America*. The principles of a dispute, so long contested before the whole world, I need not recite to you. You have seen it in its birth, and your own deliberations and exertions have conducted it to its present point. The single question that has for many years disturbed the publick tranquillity is well known on this side of the *Atlantick* to be, whether the Parliament of *England* has a right to bind us by their laws in all cases whatsoever, or in no case at all, without our own consent—for reason and good policy can discern no medium. And, indeed, no medium has been sought on either side; for the former is maintained in its utmost extent in *Britain*; the latter with no less firmness in *America*. And after many resolves and petitions, and after a long suspension of trade, and the milder methods of obtaining redress, you have at last been constrained to take up arms in your own defence. And I pray God that the contest may be decided by arms alone; for I fear lest we should be led into a snare, where the bait may be disposed with so much craft that many, misled by generosity of disposition, and others wearied with uncertainty and delay, or seduced by motives of interest, may unwarily be decoyed by it, without observing their danger. The snare to which I refer is the negotiation which the *British* Ministry propose to enter into with the States of *America*, in the beginning of the next campaign. Although we have been declared Rebels by both Houses of Parliament as well as by the King, to preserve a consistency with their former measures; and although they have menaced us with all the power they are able to command, to suppress this pretended rebellion; yet we receive the most authentick intelligence that they design to accompany their armaments with Commissioners to several of the Colonies, to negotiate terms of submission to *Great Britain*; a measure, it is evident, they would never have adopted, if they had not entertained some doubts of the success of the sanguinary projects in which they had before embarked; and if their long acquaintance with the policy of courts, and finesse of negotiations, had not taught them that success, if success be attainable, is most likely to be accomplished by this means. And if our attachment to *Britain*; if the prospect of peace (which seems to be doubly flattering, after distractions so great and of so long duration) do not blind us, and hurry us into the measure before we have anticipated maturely all its consequences, we may easily foresee that we shall be exposed to greater danger by negotiation than by arms. It is well known to what an excessive height bribery and corruption have been carried in *England*: as much of the publick treasure is prostituted to this iniquitous purpose as might redeem the nation in a few years from that enormous debt, under the load of which every nerve of the body politic begins to crack. And can we suppose that the treasure of *England* will be less profusely applied to buy their favourite measure into effect, from the men who lead the Councils of the Colonies, than it has been to purchase a majority in both Houses of Parliament?

They to whom we have hitherto delegated the task of steering the State through the present troubles, merit every acknowledgment we are capable of making to them, for the wisdom and integrity of their conduct; but they must have successors. Good policy, in a free State, requires that great power should not be successively intrusted in the same hands too often. The innocence of the cottage is frequently corrupted when it is produced into the publick scenes of honour and ambition. There is a situation in life in which a man may act with great and deserved applause; but we reason wrong if we therefore conclude that there are no temptations capable of corrupting his virtue. We may repent our credulity if we unsuspiciously resign too far to his honesty, without using any precautions against the frailty of human nature. I believe modern virtue is in no country carried to so great a height as it is in *America*. I have as high a veneration as a wise man ought to have for the Conventions of the different Colonies, and for the Continental Congress. But shall we be in no danger by acting with an incautious resignation, as if every man in these numerous assemblies,

like *Curius*, could reject the costly and royal bribes of the *Samnites* with a virtuous disdain? If they are to be bought; if they have not attained a perfection almost beyond the condition of human nature, they may make their own terms. No price will be denied that can be raised out of the future revenues of *America*.

Our danger is the greater, because all the parts of their demands are so inseparably linked together, that the minutest concession involves in it and draws after it all the train of evils, and innumerable others, against which we have complained and fought so long. Or if the voice of one or two Colonies should be bought from among the rest, it may throw us into endless distractions, and prolong and increase the horrors of the war, by nursing enemies in our own bosom, more formidable than those we encounter from abroad.

Besides, what are we to expect from a negotiation? The single question in dispute is, whether we are subject to the *British* legislation, consisting of King and Parliament, or to the Legislatures of *America*, consisting of the King's Representative, and the Parliaments or Assemblies of the different Colonies. If the *English* House of Representatives mean to relinquish their pretended rights, what is easier than to open the way to peace and harmony, in which we can meet them with confidence, by passing a single bill declaratory of our privileges? Such a bill they will make no difficulty to pass, if they mean to meet us upon sincere and equitable principles. If they make their approaches under any other pretext, they must be totally futile, and, according to the common policy of *European* Courts, only meant to deceive.

Are we likely to be any nearer an accommodation after they have repealed three of their obnoxious acts? The rest remain in force; and the principle, the iniquitous principle on which they are all founded, is still supposed to be true, and is kept up like a sluice, ready to pour in an inundation of oppressions whenever it shall be admitted on our side the water. Does it not kindle every honest man's indignation to see the whole Continent insulted in the refusal of these acts, as much as or more than in their creation? I can scarcely suppress the expressions of the warmest resentment when I conceive them approaching my country with the falsest proposals of treaty, and at the same time insulting, with the utmost indignity, our supposed credulity or ignorance.

They have repealed the *Boston* Port Bill, it is said, and no doubt they will make a mighty merit of conceding so far for the sake of peace. A meritorious concession, indeed! to open the ports of a town to their half-starved soldiers, after they have expelled its native inhabitants, burnt its houses and stores, pillaged its wealth, blocked up the only passage by which it can manage its trade with the country, and rendered it totally impossible to reap any benefit from the repeal. In whose emolument does all this parade of condescension issue? Not in that of the Colony; still less in that of the just proprietors of the town. It is, then, I presume, for the use and behoof of their officers and soldiers—a company of miserable wretches, in the constant terror of their lives, who neither know how nor have time nor money to make use of the privilege, unless it be to import some potatoes and porter, to keep in their souls and drown the sense of their misery. That, I suppose, the humanity of their masters would not have denied them, if the act had stood in the same predicament that it was. About half as much, upon a just computation, may be placed to the account of their merit, for the repeal of the Fishery Bill. I will venture to assert, and I dare almost engage to prove it, that they have had no design, for nine months past, to prevent the present inhabitants of *Boston* from devouring all the fish which they had time and courage to take. It would have been very cruel, because they were in a pet with *New-England*, to have made no distinction in their wrath, but have scourged their own children along with their servants, and set them down to a dry morsel of potato without any sauce. So that the sum total of Parliament merit may be pretty fairly expressed in the style of the algebraist thus: The repeal of 1 Bill for the administration of Justice + 1 Port Bill + 1 Fishery Bill = 0 — 3: that is, three full Bills less than nothing; a worthy bottom on which to open a negotiation. And yet, what concessions do they expect on this account from us? They have the insolence to demand an acknowledgment of the right to alter, cut up,

new-model, and annul our charters, whenever a whimsical Minister takes it in head that he is not complaisantly treated, because we refuse to choke ourselves with tea, or to glut the avarice of half a million of swag-bellied pensioners out of our private purse, and to be bound by their laws in all cases whatsoever. Since they offer terms of accommodation on one side, I think we have a right to state our demands on the opposite column. But this I shall reserve for another paper.

A PLANTER.

March 25, 1776.

CHARLES CARROLL TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Mount Clare, March 25, 1776.

MY DEAR MAJOR: I was so much out of order that I was obliged to leave *Annapolis* earlier in the morning than I intended, that I might not hurry myself too much in my ride home. Unfortunately I got wet before I reached the Mount, and fear, from the pains I have in my hands and knees, and other appearances, that I shall have a smart fit of the gout before I again get to rights; however, shall be able to judge in two or three days. If I should escape, I am so entirely unhinged that I do not think I can venture to *Annapolis* before *Monday* next. I hope Mr. *Rumsey* will be down, that Mr. *Smyth* may not be detained longer than is convenient to him. I desired J. T. to request the Council to let me have their opinion about the tender now fitting out, and I would manage that business while up here. I find, by what I yesterday heard, that many in town think she is so dull a sailer that she will be of no use. Let me also know of any directions to be given about sending down hats, cartridge-boxes, &c.

I find we must look for another Second Lieutenant for our *Annapolis* Artillery Company, as General *Lee* has taken Mr. *Massenbaugh* with him. Let me know whether the Council think of coming up to *Baltimore*. If anything new occurs, let us have it.

I am, dear Major, your affectionate friend and servant,  
CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

AMOS GARRETT TO BENJAMIN RUMSEY.

March 25, 1776.

SIR: I had a line from you about bayonets. I forged out by a servant I had (since runaway) about sixty, for one of the Militia Companies, and offered them at six shillings per piece. I delivered one as a sample. They are mostly unfinished; but I could get them done by another smith I have, if I could have a gauge given me as to the size of the barrel. They were originally intended to fit on guns of different bores; but if I had the size of the musket-barrels, they could be finished all but fitting them to the right barrels, which must be done by an artificer with the piece by him. If the Council of Safety should incline to take them, I will set about them, and it is likely I may make up one hundred or more, if I can, and deliver them to your order. If I had the guns I would gladly fit them; but it cannot be well done without.

I am, sir, your humble servant,  
AMOS GARRETT.  
To *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esq.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO STEPHEN WEST.

[No. 84.]

Annapolis, March 25, 1776.

SIR: We have been informed that you have a quantity of coarse blankets that are very suitable for the soldiery, who are in great want of that necessary article, and are afraid it will be some time before we shall be able to provide them, and that the soldiers in the mean time may suffer very much for want of them. Under these circumstances, and from the zeal you have manifested in the cause, we make no doubt but that you will readily spare all you possibly can, notwithstanding you may have laid them aside for the use of your own family.

You will please to write us on this subject by the first opportunity, and acquaint us what blankets you may think proper to supply the publick, and the price; for which we will send you an order on the Treasurer, and order them directly here. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Stephen West*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE PLATER AND  
GENERAL DENT.

[No. 85.]

Annapolis, March 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Colonel *Mercer* has been with us this day, and is very desirous a time and place should be appointed for meeting to consult about setting up beacons on the river *Potomack*. We have agreed with him that *Port-Tobacco* should be the place, and *Tuesday*, the 2d of *April*, the time. You will be pleased to attend accordingly, agreeable to your former appointment.

We are, &amp;c.

To *George Plater*, Esq., and Brigadier-General *Dent*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANSON.

[No. 86.]

Annapolis, March 25, 1776.

SIR: The bearer will deliver you the Association papers subscribed in your County, which we request you will return to us by some safe conveyance as soon as you can conveniently, as the Convention may possibly want to see them.

We shall be obliged to you for particular accounts of the expenses incurred by the Minute Companies in your County, as well as their wages, that we may transmit the money to you to discharge them. If an opportunity should offer, we request you will send us all the bayonets belonging to the Provincial muskets.

We are, &amp;c.

To *John Hanson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Middle District of *Frederick* County.

N. B. The times of the attendance of the men must be proved by the oath of some one at least of the commissioned officers, agreeable to the resolves of the last Convention, and we return the enclosed for that purpose.

## COLONEL ST. CLAIR TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

March 25, 1776.

SIR: I observe that, in the vote of Congress for raising five Battalions in *Pennsylvania*, there is no provision made for Surgeons' Mates, Sergeant-Majors, or Quartermaster Sergeants. I beg leave to represent to you that each of these officers is very necessary to a battalion. Part of a battalion may frequently be detached to a distance, where it may be impossible for the Surgeon to attend them, without neglecting the rest of the regiment. And as to Mates being readily found in *Canada*, I do assure you it is scarcely possible to find a person that has any knowledge, either as Physician or Surgeon, in that country, some few excepted, who have left the Army, and settled there. The duty of the Adjutant would be insupportable without the assistance of a Sergeant-Major, and the Quartermaster-Sergeant is also very necessary, as not only the quarters or encampment of the corps falls under the Quartermasters' direction, but the receiving and issuing the provisions, and the care of all the regimental stores, which it is impossible one man can at all times execute; and these men ought to be acquainted with accounts.

I also beg leave to mention to you the necessity of providing tents for the troops in *Canada*. The season of the year is at hand when they must occupy other grounds than they have been confined to in the winter, or be exposed to have their posts insulted, and, perhaps, carried by a force much inferior to theirs, were they encamped in one body, or in such manner as to be capable of supporting each other. And tents will become still more necessary, if there should be a necessity to attack *Quebeck* in form, which may probably be the case.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

## ALLAN McDONALD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 29, and referred to the Committee on Prisoners.]

Philadelphia, March 25, 1776.

SIR: It is now several weeks since the *Scotch* inhabitants in and about *Johnstown*, *Tryon* County, have been required

by General *Schuyler* to deliver up their arms; and that each and all of them should parade in the above place, that he might take from this small body six prisoners of his own nomination. The request was accordingly complied with, and five other gentlemen with myself made prisoners of. As we are not conscious of having acted upon any principle that merits such severe proceedings from Congress, we cannot help being a good deal surprised at such treatment; but are willing to attribute this rather to malicious, ill-designing people, than to gentlemen of so much humanity and known character as the Congress consists of. The many difficulties we met with since our landing on this Continent, (which is but very lately,) burdened with women and children, we hope merit a share in their feeling; and that they would obtain the surest conviction, before we were removed from our families; as, by a separation of the kind, they are rendered destitute, and without access to either money or credit. This is the reason why you will observe, in the article of capitulation respecting the *Scotch*, that they made such a struggle for having their respective families provided for in their absence. The General declared he had no discretionary power to grant such, but that he would represent it, as he hoped with success, to Congress; and in this opinion two other gentlemen present supported him. The request is so just in itself that it is but what you daily grant to the meanest of your prisoners. As we cannot, we do not claim it by any agreement. Though, by a little attention to that part of the capitulation, you will observe that we were put in the hope and expectation of having them supported in their different situations.

As to ourselves, we are put into a tavern, with the proper allowance of bed and board. This is all that is necessary so far. But what becomes of the external part of the body? This requires its necessities, and without the decent part of such, a gentleman must be very intolerable to himself and others. I know I need not enter so minutely in representing those difficulties to Congress or you, as your established character and feelings will induce you to treat us as gentlemen and prisoners, removed from all means of relief for ourselves or families, but that of application to Congress. I arrived here last night in order to have the honour of laying those matters personally, or in writing, before you and them. Shall accordingly expect to be honoured with an answer.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ALLAN McDONALD.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO OFFICER COMMANDING AT  
NEW-YORK.

Philadelphia, March 25, 1776.

SIR: Captain *James Young*, of this city, having, by letter, represented to Congress, that his son *John Young*, in *January* last, eloped from him and got on board the *Phoenix* man-of-war, at *New-York*, from whence he was proceeding to *Boston*, and on his passage was cast away on *Long-Island*, and that he is now fortunately a prisoner at *New-York*, and desiring that he may be permitted to be a prisoner on his parole at the estate of his late grandfather, (Doctor *Greame*;) in consequence of which, I have it in charge to direct that the said *John Young* be allowed to reside at the house of the late Doctor *Greame*. You will therefore please to order him to be delivered to his father, first taking his parole, which he must subscribe; and you will forward it to me.

Captain *James Young* is a gentleman exceedingly friendly to our cause; I therefore beg leave to recommend him to your notice.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Officer Commanding the Continental Troops at *New-York*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, March 25, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour of receiving yesterday yours of the 19th, containing the agreeable information of the Ministerial Troops having abandoned *Boston*. The partial victory we have obtained over them in that quarter, I hope will turn out a happy presage of a more general one.

Whatever place may be the object of their destination, it must certainly give a sincere pleasure to every friend of this country to see the most diligent preparations everywhere making to receive them. What may be their views it is indeed impossible to tell with any degree of exactness. We have all the reason, however, from the rage of disappointment and revenge, to expect the worst. Nor have I any doubt that, as far as their power extends, they will inflict every species of calamity upon us. The same Providence that has baffled their attempt against the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* will, I trust, defeat the deep-laid scheme they are now meditating against some other part of our country.

The intelligence that our Army had got possession of *Boston*, you will readily suppose gave me heartfelt pleasure. I beg, sir, you will be pleased to accept my warmest thanks for the attention you have shown to my property in that town. I have only to request that Captain *Cazeneau* will continue to look after and take care that it be no ways destroyed or damaged.

This success of our arms naturally calls upon me to congratulate you, sir, to whose wisdom and conduct it has been owing. Permit me to add, that if a constant discharge of the most important duties, and the fame attending thereon, can afford genuine satisfaction, the pleasure you feel must be the most rational and exalted.

I have it in charge from Congress, to direct that you send an account of the troops in your camp who are deficient in arms, to the several Assemblies or Conventions of the Colonies to which those men belong, and request them to send a sufficient number of arms for the men coming from the respective Colonies; and that if arms cannot be procured, that such as have not arms be dismissed the service.

The Congress being of opinion that the reduction of *Quebeck* and the general security of the Province of *Canada*, are objects of great concern, I am commanded to direct that you detach four battalions into *Canada* from the Army under your command, as soon as you shall be of opinion that the safety of *New-York* and the eastern service will permit.

Your several letters are at this time under the consideration of a Committee. As soon as any determination is made thereon, I will immediately forward it to you.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety for the Province of *NEW-YORK*.

I, *John McDonald*, Miner, who was appointed by your Honours, with the most punctual instructions relative to lead-mines, accordingly have proceeded, in compliance with the request contained in said instructions, with all convenient despatch, to the *Little Nine Partners*; and repaired myself, with all sincerity, in working and examining for lead and copper, in order to bring the true information of the state and quality of the same, which is at large reported as specified, in the following manner: *Jonathan Landon*, Esq., to whom I was recommended for directions, conducted me to a limestone hill, where, at random, took the dimensions from the northeast to the southwest, being one mile in length, included from both fallings, in the ground in each end of said hill. The breadth is half a mile, and about forty rods height. There I found said mines, the veins of ore in which appear inclining or lying west and east, in ledges of limestone, mixed with white flint. Some years ago a company of adventurers had sunk several pits, or shafts, in pursuit of lead and copper; and that amongst the trials are two pits, one of which is fifteen feet deep, the other is fifty feet deep; and in the bottom of said pits left a promising discovery of about seven inches diameter solid ore, and that of a continued vein. Unfortunately the company were under the necessity of giving up their proceedings on account of the under-water rising, anent which we are fully informed of all the particulars by Mr. *Harris*. The principal method of preventing the damage done by the water is, to drive a level from its advantageous situation

to the discoveries made, which will clear away the water. The timber which supported the pits from the beginning of sinking, broke by the age and want of repairing, thereby is filled to the top with rubbish, &c. Mr. *Harris* undertook cheerfully to make discovery of lead; therefore the said *Jonathan Landon*, Esq., applied to one Mr. *Fish* (on whose property Mr. *Harris* has made a prosperous discovery of lead) for leave to open and search the ground; but he refused the freedom of breaking the ground, so that Mr. *Harris's* best discovery was not explored. I made trials in several places, and discovered a small quantity of lead ore in each vein. The bounds wherein the mines lie are extraordinarily well situated for pursuing the necessary trials according to minery. The above-mentioned length, breadth, and height, will be a sufficient declaration to any person that professes to have a particular skill and knowledge in conducting lead-mines regularly in all its branches. My sincere advice to your Honours is, to employ some hands, and provide them with tools, in order to clear and draw the rubbish, &c., out from the said two pits, and support them well with timber; and by accomplishing the clearings of rubbish from these shafts, will make your Honours to have the satisfaction to know the truth of Mr. *Harris's* description. If it appears to be depended on, the workmen must prepare to prosecute the discovery of the said lead-mines according to the directions of the inspector appointed; and if it be carried on properly, they will follow my aforesaid directions. I surveyed some mines near *Martown*, which is not worthy to report. I am fully informed by several, that there is a good mine explored in *Rochester* Patent, in *Ulster* County, which a company of adventurers wrought at about fifty years ago, and that they raised some hundred tons of lead ore. The full truth of which mine, Colonel *Pawling*, Chairman to the Committee Board of *Marbletown*, was to acquaint your Honours. The common report of the neighbouring inhabitants was declaring their seeing two feet diameter of solid ore, and great many trials made. Your Honours may or may not carry on these trials to execution. All that can be said is, that such promising discoveries for the publick good ought not to remain dead and useless in the bowels of the earth, without trials to be properly executed.

All which is humbly submitted, by your Honours' most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN McDONALD, *Miner*.

JOSIAH QUINCY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Braintree, March 25, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Your obliging letter of yesterday was handed to me this morning by General *Ward's* son. The fleet still continues in *Nantasket-Road*; and I cannot discern any diminution of their numbers. Five or six transports, and a man-of-war, arrived last *Friday* afternoon. As the man-of-war saluted the Admiral, I suppose they came from *England*.

The signal at the Light-House was thrown out again on *Saturday*; but the wind has hitherto prevented the arrival of any more vessels. The Admiral has a signal now flying at his maintop-mast head. I wish it was in my power to construe it.

Agreeable to your Excellency's desire, as fast as I can find trustworthy persons, I shall give them directions to make diligent search after such characters as you have described, and, upon good ground of suspicion, to apprehend and carry them to Head-Quarters, or bring them to me for further examination, as may be most convenient.

*Eleven o'clock*.—This moment an explanation of the above signal occurs. Part of the fleet are come to sail. I shall proceed journalwise to inform your Excellency of their movements, till the bearer, who is gone to see Colonel *Tupper*, returns.

*One o'clock*.—They are still coming to sail; near, or quite fifty sail, are got out to sea—about half of them brigs, schooners, and sloops, one or two frigates, and the remainder transport-ships. Their course shaped for *Cape-Cod*. May not this division be bound for *Martha's Vineyard*, and the Islands in that Sound, to procure fresh provision for the fleet, which is to rendezvous at *Halifax*, and from thence to proceed to *Quebeck*?

*Three o'clock*.—My servant, who was directed to take an

account of the number that have sailed, informs me there are in all fifty-two. One transport-brig is just arrived. I expected Mr. *Ward* would return with Colonel *Tupper*, and have dined with me. From them I hoped to have gained further intelligence, but am disappointed. I hear the Colonel is preparing a formidable fire-raft, which I wish may effectually operate, but fear a single one will avail little.

Your Excellency's tender concern for the restoration of my health (which, thanks to the Father of Mercies, is much mended) lays me under a fresh obligation to subscribe myself, with cordial gratitude and esteem, your Excellency's obliged and faithful humble servant,

JOSIAH QUINCY.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. *Five o'clock*.—The Admiral has just now hoisted another signal—a pendant under his flag. Two more ships are under sail, going out of the harbour.

*Seven o'clock*.—Mr. *Ward* and Colonel *Tupper* are just arrived. They are of opinion that the ships which sailed to-day have carried off the Tories, and are bound with them to *Lewisburgh*.

*Tuesday morning*.—Mr. *Ward's* tarrying in town gives me a further opportunity to inform your Excellency that the fleet, consisting of about one hundred sail, (chiefly large ships,) remain as they were last night.

*Ten o'clock*.—The same signal is now flying at the Admiral's maintop-mast head as was hoisted yesterday morning. Scarce hoisted, before it was lowered again; and in about half an hour, a blue flag is flying, at mizen-top-mast head, and a pendant at his mizen peak.

*Eleven o'clock*.—The above signals are changed for a red ensign hoisted just under his mizen-yard. A signal is just now hoisted upon the top of the Light-House, for vessels in the offing; and immediately followed by a blue broad pendant from the middle of the Tower. In less than ten minutes, the signal first mentioned, viz: a pendant, is flying from his maintop-mast head.

*Twelve o'clock*.—A red ensign is now flying at his mizen-top-mast head, a blue ensign at his starboard mizen shrouds, and a pendant thrown out between, by hand, and immediately taken in again.

*Two o'clock*.—The sixty gun-ship, in *King Road*, is come to sail, and going down to *Nantasket*. The Admiral's red ensign is struck. The blue one remains. A large transport-ship and a brig are just arrived within the light.

If the foregoing intelligence, and the mode of it, should prove so agreeable to your Excellency as to desire the continuance of it while the fleet remains, please to let me know your pleasure any time before to-morrow night, until which time I shall continue to note down every remarkable occurrence. *Ut suprà*, J. Q.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LANDON CARTER.

Cambridge, March 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have been honoured with your favour of the 20th ultimo; and although I might intrench myself behind the parade of great business, with as much propriety as most men, yet I shall neither avail myself of it, nor be debarred the pleasure of making this address in testimony of your kind remembrance, and the favourable sentiments you are pleased to express of me.

To give you a detail of my distresses, on account of powder, arms, and other articles of almost equal importance in the military arrangement, would afford little amusement to you, and no profit to me. I shall therefore pass them over, and inform you that, having received a small supply of powder, (very inadequate to our wants,) I resolved to take possession of *Dorchester-Point*, lying east of *Boston*, looking directly into it, and commanding absolutely the enemy's lines on the Neck. To effect this, (which I knew would force the enemy to an engagement, or make the town too hot for them,) it was necessary, in the first instance, to possess two heights, (those mentioned in General *Burgoyne's* letter to Lord *Stanley* in his account of the battle on *Bunker's Hill*;) which had the entire command of this point. The ground being frozen upwards of two feet deep, and as impenetrable as a rock, nothing could be attempted with earth; we were obliged, therefore, to provide an amazing quantity of chandeliers, fascines, &c., for the work; and

on the night of the 4th, after a severe and heavy cannonade and bombardment of the town the three preceding nights, to divert the enemy's attention from our real object, we carried them on under cover of darkness, and took full possession of those heights without the loss of a single man.

Upon their discovering it next morning, great preparations were made for attacking us; but not being ready before the afternoon, and the weather getting very tempestuous, much blood was saved, and a very important blow (to one side or the other) prevented. That this remarkable interposition of Providence is for some wise purpose, I have no doubt; but as the principal design of the manœuvre was to draw the enemy to an engagement under disadvantages; as a premeditated plan was laid for this purpose, and seemed to be succeeding to my utmost wish; and as no men seemed better disposed to make the appeal than ours did upon that occasion, I can scarce forbear lamenting the disappointment. However, the enemy, thinking (as we have since learned) that we had got too formidably posted before the second morning to be much hurt by them, and apprehending great annoyance from our works, resolved upon a precipitate retreat; and accordingly embarked in as much hurry, and as much confusion as ever troops did, the 17th instant, not having got their transports half fitted, and leaving King's property in *Boston* to the amount, as is supposed, of thirty or forty thousand pounds, in provisions, stores, &c., &c. Many pieces of cannon, some mortars, and a number of shot, shells, &c., &c., are also left; their baggage-wagons, artillery-carts, &c., which they have been eighteen months and more preparing, were destroyed, thrown into the docks, and found drifted on every shore. In short, *Dunbar's* destruction of stores, after General *Braddock's* defeat, was but a faint resemblance of what we found here.

The enemy now lie in *Nantasket-Road*, (about nine miles below *Boston*;) where, and in *King's Road*, they have been ever since their embarkation. How to account for their stay there, I know not. The inhabitants of *Boston* think it is to arrange the lading of the transports, which were thrown in in such disorder as to render it unsafe to put to sea until a new regulation should take place. Others think they mean to pass over the equinoctial gales before they put to sea. But it is a doubt with me whether they may not be waiting an opening (now they have got their whole force collected, no posts to guard, and, as I understand, a reinforcement from the *West-Indies*) to retrieve the honour of their arms, which seems, in the general opinion of people here, to have undergone some disgrace in this precipitate retreat.

They have left all their works standing on *Bunker's Hill*, &c.; and very formidable they are. *Boston* has shared a much better fate than could possibly be expected; the damage done to the houses being nothing equal to report. We are now in full possession of the town, and are fortifying the harbour to prevent a return, if they should incline to it.

As *New-York* is the most important object they can have in view, on account of its command of *Hudson's River*, leading into *Canada*, and separating the Northern and Southern Colonies, it appeared necessary for me to take measures to secure it, and, therefore, I detached six regiments instantly to that place; and, as soon as I see the coast clear, shall follow immediately with the rest of the Army, leaving a few regiments for the security of this Government, and for executing such works as are laid out for the defence of *Boston* and the harbour.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *Landon Carter*, Esq., *Virginia*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, March 25, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Since my last, things remain nearly in *statu quo*. The enemy have the best knack at puzzling people I ever met with in my life. They have blown up, burnt, and demolished the Castle totally, and are now all in *Nantasket-Road*. They have been there ever since *Wednesday*. What they are doing, the Lord knows. Various are the conjectures. The *Bostonians* think their stay absolutely necessary to fit them for sea, as the vessels, neither in themselves nor their lading, were in any degree fit for a voyage, having been loaded in great haste and much disorder.



der. This opinion is corroborated by a deserter from one of the transports, who says they have yards, booms, and bowsprits yet to fix. Others again think that they have a mind to pass over the equinoctial gale before they put out, not being in the best condition to stand one; others, that they are waiting a reinforcement, which I believe has arrived, as I have had an account of the sailing of fifteen vessels from the *West-Indies*. But my opinion of the matter is, that they want to retrieve their disgrace before they go off, and I think a favourable opportunity presents itself to them. They have now got their whole force into one collected body, and no posts to guard. We have detached six regiments to *New-York*, and have many points to look to, and, on *Monday* next, ten regiments of Militia, which were brought in to serve till the first of *April*, will be disengaged. From former experience, we have found it as practicable to stop a torrent as these people when their time is up. If this should be the case now, what more favourable opening can the enemy wish for to make a push upon our lines, nay, upon the back of our lines at *Roxbury*, as they can land two miles from them and pass behind? I am under more apprehension from them now than ever, and am taking every precaution I can to guard against the evil; but we have a kind of people to deal with who will not fear danger till the bayonet is at their breast; and then they are susceptible enough of it. I am fortifying *Fort-Hill*, in *Boston*, and demolishing the lines on the Neck there, as they are a defence against the country only, and making such other dispositions as appear necessary for a general defence. I can spare no more men till I see the enemy's back fairly turned, and then I shall hasten towards *New-York*.

You mention Mr. *Webb*, in one of your letters, for an assistant. He will be agreeable enough to me, if you think him qualified for the business. What kind of a hand he writes, I know not—I believe but a cramped one; latterly none at all, as he has either the gout or rheumatism, or both. He is a man fond of company and gayety, and is of a tender constitution. Whether, therefore, such a person would answer your purpose so well as a plodding, methodical person, whose sole business should be to arrange his papers in such order as to produce any one at any instant it is called for, and capable at the same time of composing a letter, is what you have to consider. I can only add, that I have no one in view myself, and wish you success in your choice; being, with great truth and sincerity, dear sir, your affectionate servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Joseph Reed*, Esq.

P. S. I have taken occasion to hint to a certain gentleman in this camp, without introducing names, my apprehensions of his being concerned in trade. He protests most solemnly that he is not, directly nor indirectly.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COLONEL WENTWORTH.

Cambridge, March 25, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Frazier* delivered me your favour of the 21st instant. I have laid it and the Captain's petition before his Excellency, who has no objection to the gentlemen belonging to the *Susanna* seeking an opportunity to return home, which he will give them liberty to do, upon their giving their parole not to act inimical to *America* during the present contest.

The Captain sets forth, that he has been plundered of his private property to the amount of sixty-three pounds thirteen shillings and three pence sterling.

This is a circumstance which gives great dissatisfaction to the General. It has been his positive orders to the commanders of those armed vessels to guard against this so ignominious behaviour of the people on board their vessels. The only remedy at present that I can think of is, to get the sufferers' attestation of their loss. Let them be paid. The Captains must find out who the plunderers were; and, besides such punishment as is due for their crimes, the sum paid must be deducted from their share of the prize. If they cannot fix upon the defaulters, it must become a charge against the one-third given to the captors by the Continent.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Colonel *Joshua Wentworth*, *Portsmouth*.

DAVID WOODWARD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Hanover, March 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed is a copy of our proceedings, which, we hope, will be approved. We have seen a resolve of the Congress relative to such cases, but imagined the necessity that immediate measures should be taken to suppress such a disorder justified our proceeding as we have done. We could wish to have our duty in that and other cases more particularly stated, that we may not be exposed to exceed our bounds. As there is a prospect of further discoveries of the like kind in these parts, and as persons not disposed to good order, taking advantage of our broken state, have already begun to commit outrages on the property of others, which, if passed unnoticed, and no measures are directed for redress, will be made use of as precedents for other high-handed iniquity, and the person and property of no one be secure.

We are, gentlemen, with much respect, your most obedient and humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

DAVID WOODWARD, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*.

Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, *Grafton County*, ss.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety for the Town of *Hanover*, in said County, at the house of *John Paine*, Innholder in said *Hanover*, March 23, 1776—

Present: Lieutenant *David Woodward*, *Chairman*; Captain *Aaron Storrs*, *Bezaleel Woodward*, Esq., Clerk.

*Bezaleel Phelps*, of *Norwich*, in the Colony of *New-York*, Yeoman, was brought before this Committee by virtue of a warrant issued by *Bezaleel Woodward* and *Aaron Storrs*, (two of the Committee,) predicated on his having in his custody, and detaining, a certain Note of this Colony, bearing the face of a six-shilling Bill, which is supposed to have been fraudulently altered and increased as to the value or sum therein expressed by said *Phelps*, as by said warrant more fully may appear.

Respondent pleads Not guilty.

After a full hearing of evidences in said case, said *Phelps* confessed that he had burnt said bill, being conscious that it was altered; and that, in case he may be excused from penalty for detaining said bill when he knew it was counterfeit, he will disclose to this Committee the author of that and sundry other bills, and discover where some of said bills are.

Whereupon, said proposal is agreed to, only that he pay costs hitherto made in the affair till they can be regularly recovered of some other person. Costs taxed at forty shillings.

Said *Phelps* then desired *Lemuel Paine*, of said *Hanover*, to produce a certain forty-shilling Bill which he received on the evening of the 15th instant of *Andrew Wheatly*, of *Lebanon*; which said *Paine*, on request, accordingly did; which Bill is adjudged by this Committee to have been altered from a three-shilling Bill, and which said *Lemuel*, on his oath, declares he received of said *Wheatly*, as aforesaid.

Committee adjourned to to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

March 24.—Met according to adjournment.

Present: Lieutenant *David Woodward*, *Chairman*; Captain *Aaron Storrs*, *Bezaleel Woodward*, Esq., Clerk, Committee of *Hanover*. *John Wheatley*, Esq., Major *John Slapp*, Major *John Griswold*, Mr. *Azariah Bliss*, Committee of *Lebanon*.

First. *Charles Hill*, of *Lebanon*, Innholder, is brought before these Committees, for putting off and passing counterfeit money; at which time, *Solomon Cushman*, of *Norwich*, produced a forty-shilling Bill of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, No. 3260, emitted July 25, 1775, and payable December 20, 1779; which is adjudged by these Committees to have been altered; which Bill said *Cushman*, on his oath, declared he received of said *Charles Hill*, in payment for a silk handkerchief; and said *Hill* is not able to inform us of whom he received it.

Whereupon, it is considered,

And Ordered, That said *Hill* pay to said *Cushman* the value of said Bill, viz: forty shillings, and costs. Judgment satisfied.

Second. *John Stockbridge*, of *Hanover*, produced to this Committee a ten-shilling and six-pence Bill of the Colony of *Connecticut*, dated *January 2, 1775*; payable *January 2, 1777*; which is adjudged by this Committee to have been altered from a two-shilling and six-pence Bill by some evil-minded person; and the said *John*, on his oath, declares he received said Bill of *Ebenezer Mattoon*, of *Captain Green's Company*, in *Colonel Bedel's Regiment*, in payment of a debt, some time in the beginning of last week.

It is, therefore, considered,

And *Ordered*, That the said *Mattoon* ought, and is hereby ordered, to pay the said *John Stockbridge* the apparent value of said Bill, viz: ten shillings and six pence, and costs.

N. B. *March 29*. It appears that said Bill passed through sundry hands, from one *Joseph Skinner* to said *Mattoon*.

The Committee then resumed the examination relative to the Bill laid before this Committee yesterday by *Lemuel Paine*, relative to which *Charles Hill*, being sworn, testifies: That, being at this house on the evening of the 15th instant, he saw *Joseph Skinner*, of *Captain Green's Company*, in *Colonel Bedel's Regiment*, put a bill into the hand of *Andrew Wheatley*, of *Lebanon*, that he might get it changed.

*Bezaleel Phelps*, before-named, being sworn, testifies: That he saw *Andrew Wheatley* give a forty-shilling Bill to *Lemuel Paine* to be changed; and afterwards, as the said *Phelps* was going to *Dr. Eager's* with said *Skinner*, said *Skinner* told this deponent that it was his Bill with which *Wheatley* paid the reckoning at said *Paine's*; and added, "and I made it myself, and I have altered a good many Bills from three shillings to forty shillings, and I have known many more altered, both here and at *Cambridge*; and a person may make his fortune by it in a little time." He also said that all the money he spent at *Cambridge* he altered; and further said to said *Phelps*, that, if he told any body of it, he would kill him. Said *Phelps* further testifies: That he saw said *Skinner* cut certain pieces from a certain book or pamphlet, to use in altering Bills; and said *Skinner* told him he had cut pieces from it before to use for that purpose, and that he would not take a thousand pounds for the book. *Phelps* described the book, and informed particularly where he had left it, (which, being produced, exhibit strong grounds to apprehend, from its appearance, that it has been abundantly used for that purpose.) Said *Phelps* further testifies: When said *Skinner* had some paste to use in altering money, *Mrs. Winton*, coming into the room, asked what it was for. *Dr. Eager* replied, to paste books; when he was sundry times in the room whilst *Skinner* was altering Bills with the paste, both before and after *Mrs. Winton* asked the question. Said *Phelps* further testifies: That he saw said *Skinner* alter a Bill to a forty-shilling, last *Sunday*; and this deponent observed *Dr. Eager* to be present part of the time. Asked *Skinner* whether the Doctor knew of his altering Bills? To which *Skinner* replied, "Damn him, yes." Said *Phelps* further testifies: That *Dr. Eager*, at another time, examined him whether his father could make plates to stamp money; "for, (said he,) if we had plates, we could make money very conveniently at my house, and nobody would mistrust us." Said *Eager*, at the same time, added, that the reason of his going to *Canada* last fall was, because he was informed he could there get large quantities of counterfeit paper money; but they lied to him, and he would not be caught again in going to *Canada* for nothing.

Whereupon, it is considered and adjudged by these Committees that said *Joseph Skinner* ought to pay to said *Lemuel Paine* the apparent value of said Bill uttered and put off to said *Paine*, viz: forty shillings, as appears by the foregoing evidences, and the cost of this examination, taxed as follows, viz:

Time and expenses of three Committee-men from <i>Hanover</i> two days, (and one all night on the service,) at 20s. each, - - - -	£3	0	0
Four Committee-men from <i>Lebanon</i> one and a half day, at 10s. - - - - -	2	0	0
Three copies of the case at large, with the evidences, - - - - -	0	10	0
Entry of the case on record at large, - -	0	10	0
Attendance of two evidences one day each, at 12s.; one evidence two days, at 8s. -	1	0	0
Costs brought on said <i>Phelps</i> in the affair, -	2	0	0
	£9	0	0

And whereas the said *Joseph Skinner* is supposed to be guilty of altering said Bill and sundry others; and as he now belongs to *Colonel Timothy Bedel's Regiment*, in the Northern Department of the Continental Army:

It is *Ordered* by this Committee, That copies of this examination, signed by the Chairman and Clerk, be delivered to the said *Colonel Bedel*, (who is now present,) for the purpose, that he may cause the said *Joseph Skinner* to be apprehended, and that he may be made to pay the above-mentioned damage and costs; and that he may be further examined touching his altering said Bills, and dealt relative thereto, as to law and justice appertains.

And it is further *Ordered*, That copies of the foregoing procedure, signed by the Chairman and Clerk, be transmitted to the Committee of Safety for this Province, and also to *General Washington*; and that they write a respectful letter to his Excellency, setting forth the grounds this Committee have to suspect alterations of money in like manner in the Army at *Cambridge*.

Per order of the Committee:

DAVID WOODWARD, *Chairman*.

A true copy from the Minutes. Attest:

BEZALEEL WOODWARD, *Clerk*.

N. B. *March 29, 1776*.—Notwithstanding the foregoing respecting *Dr. Eager*, this Committee are fully convinced of his innocence in the matter.

Per order:

BEZALEEL WOODWARD, *Clerk*.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, March 26, 1776.

A certain *Henry Glass* being summoned before the Committee, to answer a complaint preferred against him by *Martin Fisher*, and appearing to the same; and it having been proved that he declared "the Slaves in the part of the country he lived in, being ill-used, he thought they would be justifiable in burning their Masters' houses over their heads, which would be the least revenge they could take;" and upon being charged by the same *Martin Fisher* with having broken through the Association, in demanding a higher price for his goods—particularly Coffee and Sugar—than he was allowed to take, and being threatened with a complaint against him for such breach, "he damned the Committee, and declared he did not regard them, and would sell his goods as he pleased, and in their teeth." As this conduct of said *Glass* happened before the institution of the Court appointed to take cognizance of such matters, the Committee have thought the most proper mode of dealing with him is, to hold him out to the censure of the publick; which they now do.

And *Ordered, accordingly*, That these proceedings be transmitted to the Printer to be published.

Copy from the Minutes:

JAMES DAVENPORT, *Clerk*.

GEORGE PLATER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Sotterly-Hall, March 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honour of yours of the 19th instant, communicating your appointment of me, with Brigadier *John Dent*, to co-operate with the Commissioners of *Virginia* in erecting beacons on the shores of *Potomack River*. It will give me the highest pleasure to be in any manner serviceable to my country; and I only lament that my abilities are not equal to my inclination; but upon this, and, I hope, on every occasion, be assured they shall be exerted; and that I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE PLATER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DANIEL AND SAMUEL HUGHES.

[No. 87.]

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received a letter yesterday from Mr. *Lux*, advising us of your having cast and bored one eighteen-pounder, and that you expected to have four others finished by this time. Our Board have appointed Captain *Burgess* to prove them, and desire you will forward them

to *Baltimore* as fast as you can get them ready to send off, as they are greatly wanting there.

We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOSHUA BEALL.

[No. 88.]

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

SIR: We send you, enclosed, commissions to fill up Captain *Warring's* Company, and shall do the same by Captain *Richardson's*, when you transmit us the name of a proper person for Ensign. We send you also an order on the Treasury for fifty pounds, for which you will hereafter render us accounts. It will serve to pay for wood, candles, expenses, guards, &c.

We apprehend you have not much more than one ton of powder remaining at *Bladensburg*, part of which will be ordered soon to *Piscataway*, some part left where it is, and the remainder will be ordered up to our magazine in the neighbourhood of *Annapolis*, now getting ready. In the mean time, we desire you would keep a guard of six men, to relieve each other, (two only we think sufficient to be on duty,) their pay and rations the same as when in actual service; upon which plan you are to make out the accounts for the attendance of the guard heretofore.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Joshua Beall*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN BURGESS.

[No. 89.]

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety have appointed you to prove the cannon to be supplied this Province by Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes*, and request you will immediately repair, for that purpose, to their works at *Antietam*. We enclose you an order on the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County for what powder will be wanting, and will defray any expenses you may necessarily incur on that service, as well as satisfy you for your trouble. We are, &c.

To Captain *Burgess*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 92.]

Annapolis, March 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are not as yet fully determined as to the schooner of Mr. *Lux*, fitted out for a tender. We would wish her to be in such a situation as to act, in case of danger, upon short notice; but we would not have men enlisted, or provisions purchased for her, till further orders from this Board, or the Convention. We are informed, from divers persons of credit, and, amongst others, from Captain *Nicholson* himself, that she is a dull sailer. If so, and we can get a better, we must remove the guns, &c., on board the tender hereafter to be purchased, and make the best of the schooner. We would not have her go any distance, if she is likely to be instrumental in losing us a number of brave men and all her stores. We have sent an express with order to Captain *Burgess* to try *Hughes's* eighteen-pounders, and request you will order bullets to be cast, as soon as you know the proper size.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

R. ALEXANDER AND T. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed contains a state of the powder and arms we have sent from hence. *Willing & Morris* still assure us they daily expect an arrival of powder to enable them to furnish us with the quantity they contracted for. They were but partly interested in the saltpetre which arrived, and had not the management of it; nor was it in their power to procure any of it to be manufactured for us, the Congress having, immediately on the arrival of the saltpetre, taken up all for the use of the powder-mills. If you think it necessary, we have no doubt but that we can bor-

row a ton of powder more, as it begins now to come in from the mills. We should be inclined to borrow and forward it, but that we think the additional expense and risk cannot be justified but by necessity. We should have a return of the muskets furnished the *Hornet* and *Wasp*, with the powder; but the Congress have it not in their power. Mr. *Rittenhouse* has been pressed to get the plates done. He has been lately chosen into the Assembly, which has been sitting a good while past. He promises to let us have plates to begin (enough for one sheet) next week; the paper was to be finished about this time. Enclosed you have the pay in the marine service, and for three Independent companies. You will be pleased to attend to the memorandum at bottom.

There is no getting camp-kettles or canteens on any terms, or, at least, on such terms as you could submit to. Instead of canteens, the Congress has been obliged to substitute little kegs. There is no arrival here of any tin. The price of duck, and, indeed, of every kind of linen, exceeds here what it does with you. Anything of the kind cannot be got at scarce any price; nor could it when *T. J.* got to *Philadelphia*; wherefore no attempt was made to get knapsacks and haversacks. Proper materials may arrive in *Potomack*, or from *Vanbibber*, time enough, we hope. What was sent down of *Vanbibber's* cargo will answer for these purposes, and for tents. The duck is too heavy for any use about our troops. We have sold the *Holland* duck at eight pounds ten shillings, and the *Russia* duck at seven pounds ten shillings a piece. The sale was to the Congress for the use of the frigates, and to the *Virginians* for their armed vessels.

Immediately on *T. J.'s* coming to *Philadelphia*, he and *R. A.* mentioned the *Defence* to the Marine Committee, either to sell or have insured. They seemed not very fond of taking her off our hands. Before the matter was totally given up Captain *Squire's* expedition was defeated. *T. J.* confirms our opinion, that if any depredations should take place after we had parted from the vessel, it would be imputed to the sale of her; and there is no idea of Congress taking her off our hands, but on subjecting her to the uncontrolled orders of the Congress. We have, therefore, thought it best to let this matter rest till the Convention. Mr. *R. A.* has received of the Congress eight thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, to exchange for gold and silver; of which, on *C. S.'s* order, he let him have one hundred and five. The rest Mr. *Buchanan* comes down with. The change for the money *T. J.* brought up, and for Major *Jenifer's* half-Joes is put up separately. Would it not be well that some person in *Baltimore* Town should be specially appointed to take charge and keep accounts of all things sent there for the publick use.

We congratulate you on the evacuation of *Boston*. We have not yet received any account of the course the fairies went. Some think they are destined for *New-York*; others for the southward; but most for *Halifax*.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servants,

R. ALEXANDER,  
THOMAS JOHNSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO JAMES WARREN.

Philadelphia, March 26, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Two days ago the agreeable news of the evacuation of *Boston* reached this place, on which give me leave to congratulate you. What an occurrence is this to be known in *Europe*! How are Parliamentary pretensions to be reconciled? Eight or ten thousand *British* Troops, it has been said, are sufficient to overrun *America*; and yet that number of their veterans, posted in *Boston*, (a peninsula fortified by nature, defended by works the product of two years' industry, surrounded by navigable waters, supported by ships-of-war, and commanded by their best Generals,) are driven off by about one-thirtieth of the power of *America*.

Surely the invincible veterans laboured under some great disadvantage from want of provisions or military stores, which the *Americans* were amply provided with! Directly the reverse. They had provisions enough, ammunition, muskets, and accoutrements for every man, and a piece of ordnance for every fifteen; while the *Americans* were almost

destitute of all these, and after twelve months' collection, had only a sufficiency of powder to tune their cannon for six or eight days. I am at a loss to know how *Great Britain* will reconcile all this to her military glory. Her conquests in *America*, I am certain, will never do it. Congress have voted thanks to the General, and all the officers and soldiers of the Army, and ordered a medal of gold, with a suitable device, to be presented to the former. I hope, however, that this success will not abate your exertions to obtain, by your own manufactures, sufficient supplies of military articles; for on these, and the discipline of your Militia, depend your liberty.

You are desirous of knowing what capital measures are proposed in Congress. I refer you to Colonel *Orne* for what is done concerning privateering, and I hope soon that all your ports will be open, and a free trade be allowed with all nations. This will not, in itself, satisfy you; and I hope nothing will, short of a determination of *America* to hold her rank in the creation, and give law to herself. I doubt not this will soon take place; and am sure *New-England* will not be satisfied with less, since not only the Government, but the people of *Great Britain*, are corrupt, and destitute of publick virtue.

I sincerely wish you would originate instructions, expressed with decency and firmness—your own style—and give your sentiments as a Court in favour of independency. I am certain it would turn many doubtful minds, and produce a reversal of the contrary instructions adopted by some Assemblies. Some timid minds are terrified at the word Independence. If you think caution in this respect good policy, change the name.

*America* has gone such lengths she cannot recede; and I am convinced that a few weeks, or months at farthest, will convince her of the fact; but the fruit must have time to ripen in some of the other Colonies. In *New-England*, the hot-bed of sedition, (as *North* has impudently called *Boston*;) it has already come to maturity. Would it not be good policy for the *New-England* Governments to think of the matter, and adopt similar measures? Perhaps a circular letter, and the publication of your instructions, would accomplish much. Is it not curious that the *British* Ministry should know so little of our feelings or character, that, after seizing our property, burning our towns, and destroying their inhabitants, they should make an act to interdict our trade, and suppose that Towns, Counties, and Colonies will bury in oblivion all former abuses, and subscribe themselves slaves, in order to be rescued from the severities of this commercial tyranny? This is an instance of the wisdom and policy of the *British* Ministry! Have they not yet ascertained that we know our rights, or, at least, that we think we know them? Have they not learned that we can defend them, too?

I remain your friend,

E. GERRY.

To *James Warren*, President of the Provincial Congress at *Watertown*.

#### PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation, }  
March 26, 1776. }

Whereas the Continental Congress did lately Resolve, "that if any person shall be so lost to all virtue and regard for this country as to refuse to receive the Bills of Credit emitted by the authority of Congress, or should obstruct or discourage the currency thereof, and be convicted by the Committee of the City, County, or District, where he should reside, such person should be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of this country, and be precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies;" and whereas *Benjamin Sharpless*, of this city, being charged with a breach of this Resolve, in refusing to receive the above Bills of Credit in payment, appeared before the Committee for the City and Liberties, acknowledged the truth of the charge, and alleged in his defence scruples of conscience thereupon, as being money emitted for the purpose of war:

The Committee, pursuant to the trust reposed in them, proceeded to consider the charge and defence; and were of opinion that, if such allegation was true, yet, as the Congress have made no exception, and as such conduct tends to subvert the most essential rights and liberties of their fel-

low-citizens, and, by destroying the means of defence, to expose their lives and properties to unavoidable ruin, it ought not to be admitted. But it appearing, by his own acknowledgment, that he has heretofore received, and does continue to receive, Bills of Credit emitted in this and the neighbouring Provinces, though frequently issued for the purposes of war; therefore, such objection is not well founded, nor the present pretence consistent with his former conduct. The Committee, therefore, (the party having declared he did not mean to appeal to any other Board,) do unanimously hold up to the world the said *Benjamin Sharpless* as an enemy to his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Ordered, That the above be published.

Extract from the Minutes.

R. STRETTELL JONES, *Secretary*.

Committee-Chamber, March 26, 1776.

Whereas it is represented to this Committee that some avaricious and designing persons are endeavouring, by various designs, to elude the late Resolutions of this Committee touching the prices of Sugar, Coffee, Rum, Molasses, Pepper, &c.: in order, therefore, that suitable measures may be immediately taken with such persons, the Committee will sit on the 29th instant, at six o'clock in the evening, at the *Philosophical-Hall*, in Second-street, in order to receive any complaints that may be made on that head. And they do request all persons who have any knowledge of such practices either to attend the Committee personally, or acquaint them by letter who the offenders are, and the circumstances of such offence, so far as they have come to their knowledge.

By order of the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*:

R. S. JONES, *Secretary*.

#### NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, March 26, 1776.

The Committee of Safety considering the critical situation of the City and Province of *New-York*, represented in the Letters from Brigadier-Generals *Thompson* and Lord *Stirling*, and the recommendation of the Continental Congress to this Committee on that subject,

Do Order and Resolve, That three Battalions of Militia be drafted out of the Militia of this Province, in the manner following, viz:

From *Hunterdon* County, four hundred and forty men; and from *Burlington* County, two hundred and twenty men; who are to join and form one Battalion.

From *Somerset*, two hundred and twenty men; from *Sussex*, two hundred and twenty men; and from *Morris*, two hundred and twenty men; who are to form another Battalion.

From *Middlesex*, one hundred men; from *Monmouth*, one hundred and forty men; from *Essex*, two hundred and twenty men; and from *Bergen*, two hundred men; which are likewise to join and form another Battalion.

The whole to march to the City of *New-York* with the greatest expedition, under the command of the Brigadier-Generals *Dickerson* and *Livingston*, and such Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns, as are necessary to command the said Battalions.

Resolved, That, in order to facilitate the service, twelve Wagons be furnished to the Generals to carry the baggage of the several Battalions.

Whereas, from the scarcity of Arms, the drafts may not all be properly provided with the same,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Companies of Militia to lend their Arms to such as may want them; and if a sufficient number cannot be obtained in a voluntary manner, the several Captains are hereby empowered to impress them, so as to completely equip such as are going upon the present important service; the Arms so lent or impressed, to be appraised by indifferent persons; if lost or damaged in action or real service, the value to be paid to the owner by the Province; if lost or injured by negligence, the occupier to make good the damages.

Resolved, That the Generals may draw on the Treasury of the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey* for the sum of one thousand Pounds, if so much be necessary for the sub-

sistence of the Troops on their march to the City of *New-York*.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 29, and referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. J. Adams.]

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 26, 1776.

SIR: In the month of *February* last, the Provincial Congress received, amongst other things, resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress, dated the 17th, under the hands of the President and Secretary, "that the sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the support of the Troops employed for the defence of that Colony;" "that it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York* to contract with proper persons for supplying the said Troops with the Rations allowed by Congress, and Fuel and other necessaries, on the most reasonable terms in their power."

To prevent trouble, we enclose an exact copy of the said two resolutions, marked No. 1.

The Provincial Congress appointed a Committee to receive proposals of contracts for supplying the said troops, which Committee caused the rations and other necessaries to be supplied, to be published in the *New-York* newspapers; and, agreeable to their advertisement, received all proposals offered for that purpose, sealed up to prevent collusions as far as possible.

After every care and precaution taken, the Provincial Congress, on the 15th of *March*, accepted of the proposals of Mr. *Abraham Livingston* for supplying the said troops—his being the most reasonable that were offered; and on the 16th the contract was perfected and executed by five gentlemen, from different Counties, on behalf of the Provincial Congress, pursuant to the resolution above-mentioned, and by Mr. *Abraham Livingston*.

We enclose you a copy of the Contract, (No. 2,) and therefore need not repeat its contents.

Mr. *Livingston* has by bond given sufficient sureties, in the sum of thirty thousand pounds, to perform his contract; and the Provincial Congress have agreed to advance him five thousand pounds, and to pay him five thousand pounds at the expiration of every month, if the support of the troops by him supplied shall amount to that sum.

In pursuance of those agreements, Mr. *Livingston* has purchased provisions to a very large amount. The Provincial Congress were induced to make the said contract, not only because it was the most reasonable terms then in their power, but, considering the risk and expense of transportation, should any force obstruct the navigation between this city and *King's* County, or between the city and the Highlands, because the contract would be highly advantageous to the Continent.

Yesterday we saw a resolution of Congress, "That *Carpenter Wharton*, Commissary, be continued, agreeable to his contract, to supply with rations the *Pennsylvania* Battalions serving in *New-York*," and were favoured with a letter from Mr. *Duane*, recommending him as contractor for the regiments raised in the Colony, on the same terms he is allowed for the *Pennsylvania* Battalions. We are sorry that it is now out of our power to contract with that gentleman, even should he be willing to supply the troops here on the same terms he does the others.

The Provincial Congress of *New-York* were not only directed "to contract for the troops employed for the defence of that Colony," but the method directed appeared the most eligible, as the larger the contract offered, the more reasonable terms were to be expected, and could be afforded.

Should Congress determine to supersede what has been done in this Colony, as far forth as it relates to the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, we will endeavour to make the best terms we can with Mr. *Livingston* as to that part of his contract, and are inclined to believe he will not take any unreasonable advantages of the gentlemen bound to him in the contract, or of the publick.

Whatever further directions Congress may think proper

in their wisdom to give in the premises, we would wish to receive with all convenient speed.

We have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servants.

By order:

WILLIAM PAULDING, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President, &c.

[No. 1.]

In Congress, February 17, 1776.

Resolved, That the sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the support of the Troops employed in the defence of that Colony, the said Convention or Committee of Safety to be accountable for the expenditure thereof; and that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for the above sum, in favour of the Delegates of that Colony, who are directed to forward the same with all convenient speed.

That it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York* to contract with proper persons for supplying the said Troops with the Rations allowed by Congress, and Fuel and other necessaries, on the most reasonable terms in their power.

Extract from the Minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

A true copy, filed with the Minutes of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 2.]

Articles of Agreement indented and made this sixteenth day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, between *Abraham Livingston*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, of the one part; and *Nathaniel Woodhull*, *Isaac Roosevelt*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., *Morris Graham*, and *William Paulding*, and the survivor or survivors of them, on behalf of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, pursuant to a Resolution of the Continental Congress of the seventeenth day of *February* last past, of the other part, as follows, to wit:

The said *Abraham Livingston* doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said parties of the second part, and the survivor and survivors of them, that he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, shall and will furnish and supply such troops as are or shall be employed for the defence of this Colony in the City and County of *New-York*, *King's* County, and at the fortifications now erecting in the Highlands, for the term of six months from the date hereof, with good and wholesome provisions, and with soap and candles, agreeable to the rations or quantities allowed by the Continental Congress, at ten pence half-penny, *New-York* currency, per ration per man; each ration to consist of the following kinds and quantities of provisions, to wit: one pound of beef, or three-quarters of a pound of pork, or one pound of salt-fish, per day; one pound of bread or flour per day; three pints of peas or beans per week, or vegetables equivalent, at one dollar per bushel for peas or beans; one pint of milk per man per day, or at the rate of one seventy-second of a dollar; one quart of spruce beer or cider per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses for a hundred men per week; half a pint of rice or one pint of *Indian* meal per man per week; three pounds of candles to one hundred men per week for guards; and twenty-four pounds of soft or eight pounds of hard soap per hundred men per week. Which several articles he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, is to deliver at the City and County of *New-York*, and in *King's* County, and at the fortifications in the Highlands, at proper storehouses to be provided by the parties of the second part in the City and County of *New-York*, and in *King's* County, and at each of the said fortifications in the Highlands, so as that the said *Abraham Livingston* may not be put to the expense of more than one cartage to each of the said storehouses; which rations he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, doth covenant to deliver to the Quartermaster of the troops stationed or to be stationed at each of the said places; and in case it shall be thought necessary for the publick service to transport or carry any of the said rations from the said storehouses, so to be provided as aforesaid, to any other place or places, it is understood that



the charge and expense of such second carriage or transportation shall be paid by the parties of the second part, or the survivor or survivors of them. And the said *Abraham Livingston* doth further covenant, promise, and agree, to and with the said parties of the second part, to furnish the troops at each of the aforesaid places with fire-wood, at the rate of twenty shillings, *New-York* currency, per cord; and straw, at the rate of thirty shillings for every hundred sheafs, including cartage, provided he, the said *Abraham Livingston*, is put to no more than one cartage to either of the said places. And the said parties of the second part, and the survivor or survivors of them, do hereby promise and agree to and with the said *Abraham Livingston*, that, if it should so happen that any such provisions, wood, or straw, for the purposes aforesaid, should be taken or destroyed any otherwise than by the carelessness or negligence of the said *Abraham Livingston*, or his agent or agents, that then, and in that case, the loss that shall or may thereupon accrue shall be sustained by the said parties of the second part, and the survivor or survivors of them.

In witness whereof, the parties to these presents have hereunto interchangeably set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON, [L. S.]  
NATHANIEL WOODHULL, [L. S.]  
ISAAC ROOSEVELT, [L. S.]  
ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., [L. S.]  
MORRIS GRAHAM, [L. S.]  
WILLIAM PAULDING, [L. S.]

Sealed and delivered in the presence of (the word *Livingston*, in the fifth line, being first interlined:)

ROBERT BENSON,  
JOHN MCKESSON.

In Committee of Safety, New-York.

This is a true copy. Examined by  
JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

ISAAC SEARS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, March 26, 1776.

SIR: By order of Major-General *Lee*, I was sent to *Long-Island* on an expedition with a Captain's company. Enclosed is the General's instructions for that purpose, whereby an expense has accrued; and I am informed that the Committee of Safety has refused paying that expense; and if they will not pay the billeting, it must be laid before the Continental Congress. But I cannot suppose, when your honourable Board reconsiders the matter, they will hesitate paying the expense, as it must at last be a Continental charge.

I am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,  
ISAAC SEARS.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 9, 1776.]

Albany, March 26, 1776.

SIR: General *Wooster* has recommended the bearer (Major *Zedtwitz*) to me in such terms, that I should not do him justice were I not to introduce him to you. He carries down a number of prisoners to *New-Brunswick*, with a recommendation to the Committee of that place to dispose of them agreeable to the orders of Congress.

I am, sir, most respectfully and most truly, your very obedient and humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO THE CONGRESS.

Montreal, March 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Major *Zedtwitz*, in the unfortunate attempt upon *Quebeck*, fell down a rock, which has brought on a disorder I fear he will never recover from. He is a brave deserving officer, and as such I beg leave to recommend him to your notice.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BRIGADIER-GENERAL ARNOLD,  
DATED HOLLAND-HOUSE, MARCH 26 AND 28, 1776.

You doubtless expect news from me, but I can write you very little. I expected before this to have had a reinforcement of three or four thousand men, but have not received one thousand. We have been some time busy in collecting materials for batteries—one, of four guns, on *Point-Levi*, I expect will be opened in two or three days, which will command the shipping and great part of the town; and one on the *Heights of Abraham* of eight guns, one howitzer and two mortars; which I hope will have the desired effect; in case they fail, we have ladders, &c., for a storm. The frigate in the harbour is bending her sails, I am apprehensive with intention to give us the slip as soon as the ice will permit; to prevent which, we have one gondola, with a twelve-pounder mounted, and are preparing another of the same strength, which I am in hopes will command the river. We labour under almost as many difficulties as the *Israelites* did of old, obliged to make brick without straw. However, we hope matters will take a more favourable turn. The season remains very severe here. We have near five feet snow on the ground, and in most places sufficiently hard to bear a man and horse, though under the snow the frost is entirely out of the ground. We have four hundred sick and wounded in the hospitals. Captain *Schillenger*, of *Long-Island*, and Mr. *Seaban*, of *Massachusetts*, died here a few days since; the latter was the first volunteer who arrived here after our repulse, with a company. I am so far recovered of my wound, that two days since I rode fourteen miles on horseback, and walked five more, reconnoitring, which fatigued me so much I have hardly been able to walk since.

March 28, 1776.—Three days since I had advice that a party of sixty men from *Quebeck* were landed at *St. Pierre's*, ten leagues down the river, and that they had seized a convoy of provisions coming to the camp, with two Commissaries. I immediately sent Major *Dubois*, with eighty men, in pursuit of them, who came up with a party of fifty-odd, attacked and killed two, wounded two others, and took thirty-eight prisoners, (most of them *French*.) who are just arrived here. Major *Dubois* wrote that he had intelligence of two hundred and fifty men being in arms below. Colonel *Nicholson* has joined him with seventy men, and are gone in pursuit of the enemy, and will, I make no doubt, give a good account of them. The inhabitants are generally in our favour, and many of them have taken up arms for us, or rather, for themselves.

WINTHROP SARGENT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Gloucester, March 26, 1776.

SIR: When I wrote you last, I was in hopes of saving the largest part of Captain *Watt's* cargo; but the storm coming on directly after the ship was on fire, the casks were stove against the rocks as soon as they struck the shore. There was not one cask saved after I wrote to your Excellency. Below, you have an account of what is saved. Some of the casks, which I thought was porter, is vinegar and crout. Should be glad to know whether I must libel what is saved.

Last night at sundown, the fleet, (about seventy sail,) passed our Cape, steering about east by south, distant about six leagues.

I remain, your Excellency's very humble servant,  
WINTHROP SARGENT, *Agent*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Nineteen barrels of porter; 6 hogsheads of porter; 17 quarter casks of porter—total 42. 9 hogsheads of vinegar; 2 barrels of crout; 2 cables; 3 anchors; 1 hawser; 2 iron hulks; 3 copper hulks; sails and running rigging; 2 boats; sundry blocks; 3 hogsheads.

JOHN THOMAS BOUCHER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 27, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Since receiving the enclosed, have been in company with Colonel *George Mason*, of *Virginia*, and Mr. *Dalton*. At their request, do now solicit your permission to quit the service of this Province, and enter into that of *Virginia*, which will be much more beneficial to me.

Your compliance will much oblige, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS BOUCHER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL MAGRUDER.

[No. 90.]

Annapolis, March 27, 1776.

SIR: The privates of the company of Militia lately commanded by Captain *Richard Brooke*, have petitioned our Board to commission *Nathaniel Pigman* as their Captain; *Benjamin Gaither*, First Lieutenant; and *Samuel Riggs*, Second Lieutenant. But as we have invariably promoted those who were first elected by the people, in the order they stood under that choice, we cannot prefer either Mr. *Benjamin Gaither* or Mr. *Riggs* to *William Gaither*, who was Ensign to the company, unless there should appear substantial objections against his being advanced to the First Lieutenantancy. We desire, therefore, you will inform us whether you apprehend *William Gaither* would be an improper person to fill that station, and whether the others would answer for Second Lieutenant and Ensign. Or if you think there are gentlemen in that company more deserving preferment, we should be glad you would mention them to us.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Zadock Magruder*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN YOAST.

[No. 91.]

Annapolis, March 27, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety desire you will be as expeditious as you possibly can in supplying the muskets, &c., you engaged to make for the Province; and inform us whether you have any now completed, as we are in very great want of them, and will send for them as soon as you have a number ready. We are, &c.

To Mr. *John Yoast*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO LIEUTENANT BOUCHER.

[No. 93.]

Annapolis, March 27, 1776.

SIR: We cannot oppose the preferment of a gentleman who has manifested a laudable zeal for his country; and, therefore, accept of your resignation. This we do with the less reluctance, as your station may still afford you an opportunity of giving assistance to our Province.

We thank you for the services you have rendered us, and wish you success in the command of the *Potomack* Fleet.

We are, &c.

To Lieutenant *John Thomas Boucher*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES CARROLL.

[No. 94.]

Annapolis, March 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We send you, enclosed, a letter to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County. If you approve, seal it and send it to them. Since writing, we have seen Mr. *Lux*, and have had some conversation with him about the Committee's detaining the two vessels belonging to *Hugh Young*—one intended to bring us arms and ammunition, the other salt. *Young* tells us that the first has been unloaded, and is kept with intention to sink as a hulk; and that the other is employed in bringing in ship-timber for the frigate now building—no consent of his, and contrary to express order of the Council of Safety of the 20th instant. We wish to have this affair cleared up to our satisfaction. Mr. *Lux* knows nothing of the matter. We request that you would converse with some of the Committee, and let us know how everything has been conducted.

*T. Smyth* is going to the *Eastern-Shore* on *Friday* or *Saturday*. The meeting of the adjourned Provincial Court next week, and a day appointed for hearing the *Elkridge* Petition, prevents our coming to *Baltimore*. We wish to have both yourself and Colonel *Rumsey*. Without you, there will be no meeting of the Council of Safety on *Monday*. Pray send an express to *Rumsey*, to let him know our situation. *J. Tilghman* goes off to the *Eastern-Shore* on *Monday* or *Tuesday*.

We are, &c.

To *Charles Carroll*, Esq., Barrister.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER IV.

The authors—or (if I must say) author of what is called *Common Sense*, has certainly had fair play. Full time has been allowed him by the sale of his pamphlet to reap the fruits of his labours, and gratify that avidity with which many are apt to devour doctrines that are out of the common way—bold, marvellous, and flattering. What was intended as a compliment to the publick—to give them time to gaze with their own eyes, and reason with their own faculties, upon this extraordinary appearance—the author's vanity has construed wholly in his own favour. He has called repeatedly for answers, and announced his second edition to the world in the following strain of self-adulation: "That, as no answer hath yet appeared, it is now presumed that none will;" and, therefore, as may be fairly implied, that he is unanswerable. Why, then, when his challenge is accepted, will not he and his seconds fight upon fair terms? Why will they seek to draw the attention of the publick from things to men, refusing that quarter to others which the author of *Common Sense* craves for himself? "Who the author of this publication is, (says he,) is wholly unnecessary to the publick, as the object of attention is the doctrine itself, and not the man!" Can this sentence be reconciled to all the pother made about *Cato*—who and what he is? or does it not rather betray some symptoms of fear and cowardice, to beset him at the threshold, and seek to stop him in his march to the field? What, although he attempts to walk forth humbly with his staff in his hand, and has been somewhat late in filling his scrip with stones to meet this *Goliath*, should he therefore be tauntingly defied? If what is called *Common Sense* be really *common sense*, it is invulnerable, and every attack upon it will but add to the author's triumph. If it should be proved, in any instances, to be *nonsense*, millions will be interested in the discovery; and to them I appeal.

Once more I repeat the design of these letters, in which I conceive a question to be involved of the greatest importance that ever came before us—a question not yet decided, and which ought, therefore, to be fully discussed. Opprobrious names can prove nothing here, except that they who use them have nothing better to say, and are afraid of their cause. It is probable that some may see their interest upon one side of the question, and some upon the other; but that the great body of the people can have any interest separate from their country, or (when fairly understood) pursue any other, is not to be imagined. If *Cato* may be believed, he can conscientiously class himself with this great body, and can assure his readers that the guesses hitherto made concerning him are rather unlucky.

Great pains have been taken to engage him in a contest with our Committee; but, as nothing has been quoted from him which concerns that body in general, he leaves his letters to answer for themselves; and if his comments on the circular letter to the County Committees should appear to the publick not to be well warranted, he will submit to their judgment. But he finds it would be endless to answer all the silly queries and daily scribble of his opponents; and has learned better than to be drawn from his main object by indulging them in this way. It would be too great a trespass upon the reader's patience. He has viewed the ground on which he stands, and is not afraid to tread it in the sight of the most vigilant son of liberty; making that free use of the press which is promised to him, without the least violation of any resolve of this Continent hitherto made.

One side of a great question has been held up to us. We are told that it can never be our interest to have any future connection with *Great Britain*, and are pressed immediately to declare our total separation; for now is the time, and the time has found us. Could it be expected that all *America* would instantly take a leap in the dark? or that any who had not a predilection for the doctrine, or were capable of reasoning upon it, would swallow it in the gross, without wishing to hear the arguments on the other side? I am sure this is the wish of multitudes of good men—particularly of those who may be principally concerned in deciding the question, and whose earnest desire it is not only to know the sense of individuals, but the clear sense of their country upon it; without which, they could not think themselves at liberty to give their decision.

Upon this ground, then, I proceed, and shall rest the

cause with my adversaries on the present general defence, which (although I am sorry it was necessary) I have reason to think will be more acceptable to the publick than the misspending time in private altercation. Those who oppose me may enjoy, for a while, (perhaps unnoticed,) all the triumph of the answers they may give; and if it is found at last, as has been already hinted, that I have said nothing to the purpose, their side of the question will only be strengthened.

In my remarks upon the pamphlet before me, I shall first consider those arguments on which the author appears to lay his chief stress; and these are collected under four heads, in his conclusion:

"It is the custom of nations, when any two are at war, for some other Powers, not engaged in the quarrel, to step in as mediators, and bring about the preliminaries of peace. But while *America* calls herself a subject of *Great Britain*, no Power, however well disposed she may be, can offer her mediation."

Is this *common sense* or common nonsense? Surely peace with *Great Britain* cannot be the object of this writer, after the horrible character he has given us of the people of that country, and telling us that reconciliation with them would be ruin. The latter part of the paragraph seems to cast some light upon the former, although it contradicts it; for these mediators are not to interfere for making up the quarrel, but to widen it, by supporting us in a declaration that we are not subjects of *Great Britain*. A new sort of business, truly, for mediators!

But this leads us directly to the main inquiry, What foreign Powers are able to give us this support? Whether they can be persuaded to engage with us? What will be their terms? Is an alliance with them safe; or is it to be preferred to an honourable and firm renewal of that ancient connection under which we have so long flourished?

These questions cannot but employ the most serious thoughts of men whose all is at stake in the resolution of them; and they ought to be answered to the general satisfaction, before we are launched out into a tempestuous ocean, of which we know not the other shore. That a continuance of mutual violence and hate may at last force us upon such an ocean is not altogether improbable; and it is possible we may gain some port of safety, although in a shattered condition. Not a word shall be drawn from me to discredit our own strength or resources: although the accounts given of them by the author of *Common Sense* appear incredible to some, I will even go beyond him in expressing my good opinion of our situation. He thinks foreign assistance necessary to us. I think we should but be injured by it. We are able to defend our own rights, and to frustrate the attempt of any nation upon earth to govern us by force. For my part, I would risk my all in resisting every attempt of this kind at every hazard.

But let us see what assistance he offers us: and we find *France* and *Spain* held out for that purpose, although not as mediators to "strengthen the connection between *Great Britain* and *America*," but wholly to dissolve it.

As to *Spain*, it is well known that the Government of her own unwieldy Colonies is already a weight which she can hardly bear; and some profound politicians have thought that, from the first, she has rather been weakened than strengthened by them; and that all her returns of gold and silver from *America* are but a poor compensation for the lives and cost with which they are purchased. It may well be questioned, then, (supposing *Spain* were able to assist us in erecting an independent empire in *America*.) whether her jealousy would permit her to risk the possibility of our seducing her own *American* subjects into an alliance with us, for the purpose of a future revolt from herself. But our author mentions *France*, as well as *Spain*, and thus proposes that both branches of the *Bourbon* family, so long the terror of Protestants and freemen, should now join as their protectors. By what means, or at what price, is this marvellous revolution in the system of politics, religion, and liberty, to be accomplished? How are these two Powers to divide these Colonies between them? Is their guardianship to be joint or separate? Under whose wing is *Pennsylvania* to fall—that of the most Catholic, or most Christian King?

I confess that those questions stagger me; and, till answered to satisfaction, cannot but give every good man the most painful apprehensions concerning the future fate of his

country. To be told by the author of *Common Sense* that all this is mere prejudice; that we must divest ourselves of every opinion in which we have been educated, in order to digest his pure doctrine, and throw down what our fathers and we have been building up for ages, to make room for his visionary fabrick; I say, to be told this, is only insult instead of argument, and can be tolerated by none but those who are so far inflamed or interested, that separation from *Great Britain*, at any risk, is their choice, rather than reconciliation, upon whatever terms.

This, I much fear, is the temper of those who are constantly dimming in our ears the necessity of an immediate Declaration of Independence, for the sake of procuring foreign assistance, especially that of *France*. Their real desire is, to shut the door against all further reconciliation, by this precipitate step. The matter of foreign assistance is a mere decoy. Can we imagine that, if *France* thought it her interest to quarrel with *Great Britain* for any benefits to be derived from us, her delicacy would stand in her way? Was she ever restricted by such delicacy in any of the former civil wars of her neighbours, especially those of *Great Britain*? But the truth is, that, in the present ruinous state of her finances, and feeble condition of her fleets, she will scarce think it prudent (for any prospects we can yield her) to rush into a new and expensive war, when so ill recruited, after the blood and treasure which she lavished so ineffectually in the last.

Would it be wise, then, to risk a refusal from her, or to mix our affairs with those of any foreign Power whatever in this contest with *Great Britain*? No; I conceive this would only protract our wars, increase our dangers, weaken our force, and probably end in our ruin. And of all nations in the world, *France* is the last from which we should seek assistance, even if it were necessary. What kind of assistance do we expect from her? Gold and silver she can but ill afford to give us; her men we have no occasion for; and, in a word, until she has a fleet able to contend with that of *England*, she can do us no essential service. The want of such a fleet has been the great bar to her numerous projects for universal empire. Can any Protestant—can you, my countrymen, ever wish to see her possessed of such a fleet, assist her in attaining it, or willingly give her footing in *America*? Would she then be contented to be the humble ally of these Colonies; or would she not, in her own right, resume *Canada*, which, according to the limits she formerly claimed, is larger than all our Provinces together? Could we hinder her from introducing what multitudes of her people she might think proper into that country, where they have already a great body of their friends to receive them? In that case, we should soon be left without room for the increasing number of our posterity; hemmed in upon the sea-shore; and, with armies behind us, and fleets before us, be either crushed to pieces, obliged to submit to the absolute dominion of *France*, or to throw ourselves back upon the protection of *Great Britain*.

This consideration is truly alarming; and *France* has never shown herself so worthy of confidence among the nations of *Europe*, as to induce us to run such risks, by throwing ourselves precipitately into her arms. She is so notorious to the whole world for her disregard of the most sacred treaties, that *Gallica fides*, or *French* faith, is become as proverbial now as *Punica fides*, or *Carthaginian* faith, of old. It could scarce have been imagined that the author of *Common Sense*, after telling us that "the blood of the slain, the weeping voice of nature, cries, 'tis time to part"—eternally to part—from the limited monarchy of *Great Britain*, (whatever future terms might be offered us,) would so soon have recommended to us a new alliance with the arbitrary monarchs of *France* and *Spain*. Bloody massacres, the revocation of sacred edicts, and the most unrelenting persecutions, have certainly taught *American* Protestants (and especially our *German* brethren) what sort of faith we are to expect from Popish Princes, and from nations who are strangers to liberty themselves, and envy the enjoyment of it to others.

In short, I am not able, with all the pains I have taken, to understand what is meant by a Declaration of Independence; unless it is to be drawn up in the form of a solemn abjuration of *Great Britain*, as a nation with which we can never more be connected. And this seems the doctrine of the author of *Common Sense*. But I believe he has made but a few converts to this part of his scheme; for who

knows to what vicissitudes of fortune we may yet be subjected?

We have already declared ourselves independent, as to all useful purposes, by resisting our oppressors upon our own foundation. And while we keep upon this ground, without connecting ourselves with any foreign nations, to involve us in fresh difficulties, and endanger our liberties still further, we are able, in our own element, (upon the shore,) to continue this resistance; and it is our duty to continue it, till *Great Britain* is convinced (as she must soon be) of her fatal policy, and open her arms to reconciliation, upon the permanent and sure footing of mutual interest and safety.

Upon such a footing, we may again be happy. Our trade will be revived. Our husbandmen, our mechanics, our artificers, will flourish. Our language, our laws, and manners, being the same with those of the nation with which we are again to be connected, that connection will be natural; and we shall the more easily guard against future innovations. *Pennsylvania* has much to lose in this contest, and much to hope from a proper settlement of it. We have long flourished under our Charter Government. What may be the consequences of another form we cannot pronounce with certainty; but this we know, that it is a road we have not travelled, and may be worse than it is described.

CATO.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read March 28, 1776.]

Trenton, March 27, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the resolution of Congress of the 15th instant, and in pursuance of the requisitions of Generals *Thompson* and Lord *Stirling*, of the 23d, the Committee of Safety have ordered three Battalions of the Militia of this Province to march to *New-York*, for the defence of that city and parts adjacent, as you will see by their letter sent herewith; which troops, it is expected, are to be paid by the Continent. I have prevailed with the Committee to send by express, and must beg that your answer may be sent immediately, that we may have it in our power either to stop the march of the Militia or expedite it, as may be most agreeable to Congress. It is certainly best to save all the expense in our power, but not to retard a necessary service.

We have ordered the removal of the prisoners to *Mount Holly*; and this day received an answer from the Committee of that place, advising they are preparing for the reception of the officers, but cannot prepare places for the soldiers in less than a fortnight.

I cannot help mentioning some expressions in Lord *Stirling's* letter of the 23d: "But, for *God's* sake, don't suffer any delay in your directions for the march of the Militia from the interior Counties." Pray despatch your answer, as our Committee proposes to adjourn for a week.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

In Committee of Safety, Trenton, New-Jersey, }  
March 27, 1776. }

SIR: The Committee of Safety of this Province, being sincerely desirous to give every aid in their power for the protection and defence of the United Colonies, have, in pursuance of your recommendation of the 15th instant, and the application of Brigadier-Generals *Thompson* and Lord *Stirling*, resolved and ordered that three Battalions of Militia, to consist of six hundred and sixty men each, to be drafted out of the Counties of *Essex*, *Morris*, *Sussex*, *Monmouth*, *Somerset*, *Bergen*, *Middlesex*, *Hunterdon*, and *Burlington*, and immediately marched to *New-York*, under the command of the Brigadier-Generals *Dickerson* and *Livingston*, there to continue for one month, unless sooner discharged by the commanding officer of the Continental Troops at that station. General *Dickerson* has issued his orders to the respective officers, and the Militia are on their march for *New-York*. To facilitate this service, the Committee have appointed a Commissary and Quartermaster, and directed the Treasurers of the Provincial Congress to pay the sum of fifteen hundred pounds on the orders of the Generals and

Commissary, for the subsistence of the troops on their march; in confidence that whatever sum is advanced on this occasion, will be reimbursed from the Continental Treasury.

As we have reason to believe the enemy will take every opportunity of distressing the inhabitants, by parties from their cutters and armed vessels, the Committee have ordered four companies, to consist of seventy-five men each, to be raised at the expense of the Province, and stationed in *Middlesex* and *Monmouth* Counties.

The Committee hope their proceedings, on this occasion, will meet with the approbation of the honourable Continental Congress.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

DOCTOR FRANKLIN TO LORD STIRLING.

Brunswick, March 27, 1776.

MY DEAR LORD: I received your obliging letter some days since at *Philadelphia*; but our departure from thence being uncertain, I could not till now acquaint your Lordship when we expected to be at *New-York*. We move but slowly, and think we shall scarce reach farther than *Newark* to-morrow, so that we cannot have the pleasure of seeing you before *Friday*. Being myself, from long absence, as much a stranger in *New-York* as the other gentlemen, we join in requesting you would be so good as to cause lodgings to be provided for us, and a sloop engaged to carry us to *Albany*. There are five of us, and we purpose staying at *New-York* two nights at least.

With great and sincere esteem and respect, I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

B. FRANKLIN.

To the Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, March 27, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: When your letter of the 19th arrived at this place, I was viewing some grounds on *Statensland*, and the most exposed parts in *New-Jersey*. It of course went into the hands of Brigadier-General *Thompson*, who writes to your Excellency by this conveyance. I sincerely congratulate you on the sudden change of the scene at your late station. The evacuation of *Boston* is an event that must surprise all the world; and yet I believe your late manœuvres had put General *Howe* under a necessity of taking this very extraordinary step. The hurry and precipitation in which they have embarked, will prevent their making any immediate attempt to land where they can meet with opposition. However, every measure has been taken here, as if we had been sure of their immediate approach; and I have the satisfaction to think that, for the time and numbers, a very great deal has been done; and as the troops are now coming in from the east and west, I hope we shall soon be able to put things in such a state as will prevent the enemy from getting any foothold in this part of the world.

Be pleased to present my best respects to Mrs. *Washington*, and Mr. and Mrs. *Custis*; and am, with the highest regard and esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

STIRLING.

To General *Washington*.

COW-NECK (QUEEN'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In Committee for the District of *Cow-Neck* and *Great-Neck*, in *Queen's* County, held at *Cow-Neck*, the 27th of *March*, 1776:

Whereas *Israel Rogers*, one of the disarmed in this District, being since charged with counteracting the measures carrying on for the preservation of *American* liberty: On examination, the complaint appeared well founded; it was, therefore, the opinion of this Committee, that the said *Israel Rogers* be held in bond for his good behaviour. But on resistance of this order, it became the part of expediency to reprobate this vile man as an enemy to his country, and unworthy of the least protection; and do hereby strictly enjoin all manner of persons in this District, immediately to break off every kind of civil, mechanical, and commercial inter-

course with this deluded and obstinate person, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

By order: BENJAMIN SANDS, *Chairman*.

GILBERT LIVINGSTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, March 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed I send muster-rolls of part of Captain *Billings's* and *Swartwout's* Companies, taken at their particular request, on being ordered to this post. The Captains not choosing to march their men till they were mustered, a difficulty arose, as the Mustermaster (Colonel *Swartwout*) was at *New-York*. To give the gentlemen satisfaction, as far as I was able, I took the enclosed muster-rolls from necessity, as the only expedient that then presented. Only parts of companies were ordered down—thinking it better to have them down in detached parties, as fast as they could be enlisted, than to have many idle till the companies were completed. Captain *Billings*, who carries this, will inform you of the state of things at this post, the soldiery having scarcely one camp necessary but what we have lent them.

I am, gentlemen, with much respect, your very humble servant,

GILBERT LIVINGSTON.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO LORD STIRLING.

Albany, Monday, March 27, 1776.

MY DEAR LORD: The expense of transporting the prisoners and their baggage is so exceedingly high, that I have ventured to send such as have families down *Hudson's River*, on their way to *New-Brunswick*. Lieutenant *Bleecker* will show your Lordship his orders, and receive yours for his conduct on his arrival at *New-York*.

A Captain *Dundee* has behaved in a very cavalier manner, and refused giving his parole. I shall lodge him in *Kingston Jail*. Some others also hesitated to do it, but afterwards applied for leave; but as I had understood that they conceived they might, without censure, break parole given to people whom they consider as Rebels, I told them, in plain terms, that if any one attempted to escape who was under that honorary engagement, and I could retake him, I would punish the injury done to society by immediately hanging the faithless wretch.

I am, my dear Lord, your Lordship's most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, March 27, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 21st I had the honour to receive yesterday by Mr. *Bennett*. General *Washington's* success, which I learned with the most feeling satisfaction, whilst it reflects so much honour on him and the troops under his command, I think cannot fail of the most salutary consequences. It will give *Europe* a just idea of our martial abilities, and they will respect a people who are determined to enjoy their liberties, and so capable of defending them. Our *Indian* allies, too, will be confirmed in their peaceable disposition towards us; and such of them as are wavering will become steady. But yet I have no hopes the Ministry will recede from their diabolical plan. They seem to be seized with an infatuation, that leads them on to the ruin of Old *England*, which, I think, must inevitably happen whenever we are driven to the necessity of declaring ourselves an Independent State.

I shall order old gun-barrels and locks, at any of the posts above, to be sent down here and forwarded to *Connecticut*. We shall certainly not do justice to those unhappy men who have fallen into the hands of our brutal enemy, and are treated without any respect to the laws of humanity and decorum, if we do not retaliate. A Captain *Dundee*, who is lately arrived prisoner from *Canada*, behaved in a very *outré* manner, and refused giving his parole. I have ordered him into close confinement, and shall send him to *Ulster County Jail*; and have declared to the others, that if any attempted to escape who had given their parole, I would hang them; which I am fully resolved to do, and thereby

resent the injuries which such wretches would do to mankind in general.

That Heaven may continue to smile propitiously on our honest endeavours; that it may be pleased to inspire us with a grateful sense of its mercies; that it may give us so to use its blessings as that we may look up with a confident hope for the continuance of the Divine favour on us and our posterity, is my sincere prayer.

I am, most truly and sincerely, with great regard, your Honour's most obedient servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, March 27, 1776.

I thank you, my dear General, for your favour of the 19th instant, which I had the honour to receive yesterday. I most sincerely congratulate you on the success of your operations. Forcing a formidable and well appointed Army, commanded by Generals of reputation, and secured with the best of works to seek elbow-room, *malgré-eux*, by a precipitate retreat, whilst it reflects the highest honour on you, cannot fail of the most salutary effects with the Powers of *Europe*, out of which I except devoted *England*, whose Prince and Ministry seem unalterably bent on the destruction of their country and themselves.

Enclose you a letter from General *Arnold*, which I opened by mistake, and read to within a few lines of its conclusion, before I discovered my error. I hope you will pardon my carelessness, for I assure you it was owing to nothing else.

The north end of *Lake Champlain* is open, and I hope a few warm days will open the remainder of that, and also *Lake George*. We have here now about six hundred men, who will move as soon as there is a prospect of conveying them across the lakes.

The cannon from *New-York* are arrived, and are on their way to *Fort George*. I fear they will not reach it in less than ten days from this, if so soon, as I cannot procure cattle sufficient to move them at once from *Half-Moon*, (to which place they are gone by water,) owing to the incredible scarcity of forage.

On the 22d instant, one hundred new batteaus were finished at *Fort George*, as far as they can be without pitch and oakum, which is not yet arrived from *New-York*. Thirty-five, however, are completely finished. I am of opinion that a much greater number are necessary to pour troops into *Canada*, in case it should be found necessary; but Congress have stinted me to the number I have built.

The powder (only eight tons) arrived here last week, and will be sent on with the first troops.

Congress have ordered me to remain here until further orders; so that I shall not have the pleasure of saluting you on your arrival at *New-York*, although I may soon after, if it be agreeable to your Excellency.

The officers, (prisoners,) that came a few days ago from *Canada*, refused to give their parole; and one of them, a Captain *Dundee*, was very cavalier with me. I have ordered him into close custody. The others have since given their parole; but as some of them had dropped expressions, as if they should not consider a breach of it criminal, I convened them all, and informed them that if any of them attempted an escape after having given their parole, and I could lay hands on them, I should resent the injury done to mankind in general by hanging such faithless wretches.

The *Cayugas*, (one of the *Six Nations*,) have expressed much resentment that Colonel *Johnson's* war belt was delivered up to us. Altercation ran very high between them and the *Oneida* Nation. Your success will, I hope, quiet the minds of all, and restore tranquillity amongst them. I shall immediately transmit an account of it to the whole of the *Six Nations*.

General *Wooster* is distressed beyond conception for hard money; and whatever your Excellency can send will be most heartily welcome.

May Heaven guard and guide your steps, and may your every future movement be fraught with happiness and honour, is the sincere wish of, dear General, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.



*To the Committee of Safety and Protection for the County of ALBANY.*

The Petition of the Committee and Militia Officers of *King's* District, in conjunction with some of the Committee of the east part of *Claverack* District, as also of the east part of Manor *Rensselaer*, humbly sheweth :

That your Petitioners live in that part of the County of *Albany* that borders on the *Massachusetts* line, and that the good people inhabiting said part of the County have vigorously exerted themselves, since hostilities have been committed in our land, in defending their country against the *British* Troops; and that there did go into actual service, the last year, many companies of men from said part of the County, and some of them yet remain in service.

That this part of said County yet manifests a freedom to adventure their lives and fortunes in the general cause of our distressed land; and have made application to us, (the Committee and Militia Officers before-said,) that we would use our influence that they might be embodied and officered as a Battalion in the Continental Army, to go to the defence of the country wherever wanted, &c.; on which your Petitioners did meet on the 25th day of *March* instant, to take into consideration the aforesaid application; and, on inquiry, it did appear to your Petitioners that there might be raised a Battalion for the Continental service, of friendly and well-disposed men in the parts before-mentioned, if officered from those parts; and as your Petitioners understand that the Battalion ordered to be raised by the Province are officered, and, consequently, that your Petitioners, as a matter of right, want to be heard in the honourable Continental Congress, therefore, your Petitioners humbly pray that your Board would please to give them your assistance in recommending your Petitioners' aforesaid matter to the said honourable Continental Congress, or any other body that has a right to answer the prayer of your Petitioners, if the same shall seem just and meet for the good of the Continent, and the same appear just to your Board; and as your Petitioners are bound in duty, to pray.

Signed in the name and by order of the aforesaid Committees of Militia Officers.

MATT. ADGATE, *Chairman.*

Dated *King's* District, *March* 27, 1776.

Your Petitioners further pray, that, if you see fit, in your wisdom, to answer said prayer, the following men might be appointed to fill the places of the Field-Officers, namely: *Asa Waterman*, Colonel; *George White*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joel Pratt*, Major; and that this Committee, with the said Field-Officers, under your inspection, might be allowed to nominate the other officers for said Battalion.

In Committee, *MARCH* 29, 1776: *Resolved*, That the prayer thereof cannot be granted.

A true copy from the Minutes:

MAT. VISSCHER, *Secretary.*

MAJOR BARBER TO MOSES GILL.

Watertown, *March* 27, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is the state of the North Battery, according to the promise I made you. You will please present the same, with my most respectful compliments, to the honourable Council for this Colony; and be assured that I am, with grateful acknowledgments, honourable sir, your most obedient and obliged servant,

NAT. BARBER.

To the Hon. *Moses Gill*, Esq.

P. S. Please make my compliments to *John Pitts*, Esq. I hope I shall be remembered. If any imperfection is in the letter and statement enclosed, I hope you will be so kind as to make my excuse, as I assure you it was not for want of respect.

*State of North-Battery, MARCH* 20, 1776.

Breastwork and Platform destroyed and stolen.

Flag-Staff cut in three pieces.

Part of Chimney knocked down; Iron Bar stolen.

Small Stores and Shot stolen.

Eight Cannon, trunnions broken; two Cannon spiked—10. Eight carriages destroyed, some old; two Carriages, good, stolen—10.

Two Flags and the Halyards stolen.

Watertown, *March* 27, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Above is a true state of the North-Battery in *Boston*, which I had the honour to command until I was obliged to escape from said town. I thought it my duty to acquaint your Honours of its situation. There remain a fine stone foundation in front and on two sides, a large house and a good magazine. I have at all times exerted myself for the good of the cause, and stand ready, on every occasion, to do all in my power for the service of the Continent in general, and this Colony in particular.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

NAT. BARBER.

To the Honourable Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, *March* 27, 1776.

SIR: I take the earliest opportunity to acquaint you that the men-of-war and transports with the Ministerial Troops, sailed this afternoon from *Nantasket* Harbour.

In consequence of this movement, I have ordered a brigade to march to-morrow morning for *New-York*, and shall follow with the remainder of the Army as soon as I can receive certain information of the fleet being clear off the coast, and that we are in no further danger of their returning to attack us at a disadvantage. I shall leave a few regiments at *Boston*, to protect the Continental stores, and to assist in fortifying the town and harbour agreeable to the directions that may be given by the General Assembly of this Colony.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To His Honour Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*.

[Same to Governour *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*; to Lord *Stirling*, and to Brigadier-General *William Thompson*, *New-York*.]

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Received April 6. Referred to Committee of the Whole House.]

Cambridge, *March* 27, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 11th instant by *Saturday* night's post, and must beg pardon for not acknowledging it in my last of the 24th. The hurry I was then in occasioned the neglect, and I hope will apologize for it.

I now beg leave to inform you that I just received intelligence that the whole of the Ministerial Fleet, besides three or four ships, got under way this evening at *Nantasket-Road*, and were standing out for sea; in consequence of which, I shall detach a brigade of six regiments immediately from hence for *New-York*, under the command of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, (Brigadier-General *Heath* having gone with the first,) which will be succeeded by another in a day or two, and directly after I shall forward the remainder of the Army, except four or five regiments, which will be left for taking care of the barracks and publick stores, and fortifying the town, and erecting such works for its defence as the honourable General Court may think necessary, and follow myself.

Apprehending that General *Thomas* will stand in need of some Artillerists in *Canada*, I have ordered two companies of the train to march immediately, and two mortars, with a quantity of shells and shot to be sent him. He set out on the 21st instant.

Enclosed you have a copy of the return of ordnance stores left in *Boston* by the enemy. In it are not included the cannon left at the Castle, amounting to one hundred and thirty-five pieces, as reported, all of which, except a very few, they have destroyed and rendered useless by breaking off the trunnions and spiking up.

I beg leave to transmit you the copy of a petition from the inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia*, brought me by *Jonathan Eddy*, Esq., mentioned therein, who is now here with an *Acadian*. From this it appears they are in a distressed situation; and from Mr. *Eddy's* account, are exceedingly apprehensive that they will be reduced to the disagreeable alternative of taking up arms and joining our enemies, or to flee their country, unless they can be protected against their insults and oppressions. He says that their Committees think

many salutary and valuable consequences would be derived from five or six hundred men being sent there, as it would not only quiet the minds of the people from the anxiety and uneasiness they are now filled with, and enable them to take a part in behalf of the Colonies, but be the means of preventing the *Indians* (of which there are a good many) from taking the side of Government, and the Ministerial Troops from getting such supplies of provisions from thence as they have done. How far these good purposes would be answered if such a force was sent as they ask for, is impossible to determine in the present uncertain state of things. For if the Army from *Boston* is going to *Halifax*, as reported by them before their departure, that, or a much more considerable force, would be of no avail. If not, and they possess the friendly disposition to our cause suggested in the petition and declared by Mr. *Eddy*, it might be of great service, unless another body of troops should be sent thither by the Administration, too powerful for them to oppose. It being a matter of some importance, I judged it prudent to lay it before Congress for their consideration; and requesting their direction upon the subject, shall only add, if they determine to adopt it, that they will prescribe the number to be sent, and whether it is to be from the regiments which will be left here. I shall wait their decision, and whatever it is, will endeavour to have it carried into execution.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the greatest regard, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

Return of Ordnance Stores left by the Enemy in BOSTON,  
MARCH 17, 1776.

- 7 twelve-pounders,  
2 nine-pounders,  
4 six-pounders,  
3 twenty-eight-pounders,  
177 twenty-eight-pound shot,  
1 eight-inch shell,  
273 wads,  
2 handbarrow levers,  
2 drag-ropes,  
Half a side of leather,  
3 thirty-two-pounders,  
39 shot,  
154 wads,  
1 thirteen-inch iron mortar and bed,  
1 large chain,  
2 twelve-pounders,  
23 shot,  
23 wads,  
1 cohorn in the dock at *Hutchinson's Wharf*.  
3 twenty-four-pounders at the *Haymarket Battery*.  
1 twenty-eight-pounder,  
1 twenty-four pounder,  
8 twelve-pounders,  
3 five and a quarter-pounders,  
1 three-pounder, useless,  
3 twenty-four-pounders,  
3 thirty-two-pounders,  
1 cohorn,  
3 twelve-pounders at *Hatch's Wharf*.  
A number of shot and shells in the dock at *Hatch's Wharf*.  
10 swivels in the *Washington* armed vessel.  
2 twenty-four-pounders.  
1 thirty-two-pounder.  
7 iron wheels for carriage-guns.  
31 cannon, useless, in South Battery.  
1 four-pounder.  
19 four-pounders, useless, at *Row's Wharf*.

In North Battery, all useless.

On *Copp's Hill*.

At *West-Boston*.

On *Beacon-Hill*.

On the Neck.

In the Block-House Battery.
- Errors excepted. EZEKIEL CHEEVER,  
Commissary of Artillery.
- Cambridge, March 22, 1776.
- To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, Generalissimo of the Army of the twelve United Colonies of AMERICA.
- May it please your Excellency:
- The liberty we take in addressing a person of so exalted a rank will, we presume, be fully pardoned, when you per-
- ceive the occasion of it. The inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia*, and, in particular, those of the County of *Cumberland*, have been under the greatest anxiety and apprehensions, ever since the great contest subsisting between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*. Our situation has been such, that we have not had it in our power to do anything in conjunction with the other Colonies. The form of Government we are under, and the manner of executing its authority, has been such, that we are rather to be looked upon as slaves than freemen.
- With anxious desires have we been waiting for the success of your righteous cause, and that you would cast an eye of pity towards this forlorn part. We have, indeed, nothing to recommend us but misery and impending destruction and devastation. We trust our manner of proceedings will have the desired effect on you, as well as the others who are the instruments of supporting the liberty of mankind.
- We have been harassed much, occasioned by different proceedings of Government; threatened are we, because we have such sentiments concerning the cause contended for by our brethren on the Continent. News have been received that Troops will soon be sent among us. This, in a manner, has roused many who were invisioned in lethargy; and Committees have been appointed from the different towns (including the *Acadians*) to fall upon some method for safety.
- There are a number among us (vainly called Government men) who are continually prying into our proceedings, and, with accumulated tales, give information to the Government at *Halifax*. Liable, therefore, are we to be cut in pieces, having no expectation of succour but what comes through your Excellency.
- We agreed in our Committees that nothing should be done publicly, as it might aggravate the others to fall upon us sooner than they intended; further, as we could not tell the intention of the honourable Continental Congress concerning us.
- Therefore, as individuals who belong to the aforesaid Committee, we recommend *Jonathan Eddy, Esq.*, to your Excellency, who will acquaint you with our situation; and we pray with ardency that your Excellency will please to relieve us, so that we may be able to give our sentiments publicly, and join with our little strength, in conjunction with the other Colonies, in preventing the ensigns of slavery from being set up in any part of this great empire. We further pray your Excellency will keep this our request as a secret at present.
- We do separately and jointly pray for the success of your arms, and that you may be victorious, and vanquish all your enemies.
- We are, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most devoted and very humble servants,
- ELIJAH AYER,  
NATHANIEL REYNOLDS,  
MARK PATTON,  
JOHN ALLAN,  
WILLIAM LAWRENCE,  
AMASA KILLAN,

JESSE BENT,  
WILLIAM MAXWALL,  
GEORGE FORSTER,  
SIMON NEWCOMB,  
ROBERT FOSTER,  
SIMEON CHESTER.
- Detail of the Guards in the CAMBRIDGE Department,  
MARCH 21, 1776.
- | GUARDS.                       | Field-Officers. | Captains. | Subalterns. | Sergeants. | Corporals. | Drummers. | Privates. |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Prospect-Hill.....            | -               | 1         | 2           | 3          | 3          | 2         | 50        |
| Cobble-Hill.....              | -               | -         | 1           | 1          | 1          | 1         | 24        |
| Lechmere's Point.....         | -               | 1         | 2           | 3          | 3          | 2         | 50        |
| Main Guard in Cambridge.....  | -               | 1         | 2           | 3          | 3          | 2         | 50        |
| Magazine, Winter-Hill.....    | -               | -         | 1           | 1          | 1          | 1         | 24        |
| Main Guard, Winter-Hill.....  | -               | 1         | 2           | 3          | 3          | 2         | 45        |
| Barrack Guards.....           | -               | -         | -           | -          | -          | -         | -         |
| Provost's Guards.....         | -               | -         | -           | 2          | 2          | -         | 24        |
| General Officers' Guards..... | -               | -         | 1           | 3          | 3          | 1         | 48        |
| Hospital Guards.....          | -               | -         | -           | 4          | 4          | -         | 36        |
| Total.....                    | -               | 4         | 11          | 23         | 23         | 11        | 351       |
- HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

*Detail of the Guards in the Roxbury Department, MARCH 21, 1776.*

GUARDS.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Privates.
Main Guard at Roxbury.....	1	2	4	6	6	3	100
Picket in Dorchester Lines.....	1	2	4	6	6	3	100
Dorchester Main Guard.....	1	2	4	6	6	3	100
Fox Point Guard.....	-	1	1	4	4	2	76
Preston's Point Guard.....	-	1	1	4	4	2	76
Magazine Guard.....	-	-	1	1	1	1	24
Barrack Guards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Officers' Guards.....	-	-	-	2	2	-	24
Total.....	3	8	15	29	29	14	500

HORATIO GATES, *Adjutant-General.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 25, 1776.

(Parole, *Charlestown.*)

(Countersign, *Rutledge.*)

The Wagonmasters and Company of Carpenters in *Boston*, to receive and obey all such orders and directions as Brigadier-General *Greene* shall think proper to give. The Hospital and Regimental Surgeons to examine carefully the state of their sick, and whenever they discover the smallest symptom of the small-pox, they are without delay to send the patient to the Small-Pox Hospital in *Cambridge*.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 26, 1776.

(Parole, *Martinico.*)

(Countersign, *Barbadoes.*)

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 27, 1776.

(Parole, *Hispaniola*)

(Countersign, *York*)

The Colonels, or commanding officers of the Regiments of Militia, are desired to make up their pay abstracts to the 1st of *April*. They will be allowed pay until they get home, estimating every twenty miles they have to travel as one day's pay. They will be allowed also one penny a mile in lieu of rations for their expenses in return. The pay of the Militia is to commence from the day the men marched from their respective towns, in the same manner as the last were paid. If more than this is expected, a separate account must be exhibited by each Regiment; as the General does not think himself authorized to pay them otherwise in behalf of the Continent than as above, and agreeable to former practice; nor did he conceive that pay could possibly be demanded by Militia whilst they remained at home, about their private concerns, until a Company could be completed. The penny per mile is to be allowed for their coming to camp, if it has not been already paid. As there can be no correcting of Militia accounts without great difficulty, after they are once passed and paid, the General desires that the Colonels, or commanding officers of those Regiments, will be particularly careful in seeing they are exactly stated. To this end, the Captain, or commanding officer, of each Company, is to exhibit to the Colonel, or officer commanding the Regiment he belongs to, his pay-roll, agreeable to the foregoing directions, upon oath, which rolls are to accompany the pay abstracts as vouchers to it.

Upon an alarm, *Reed's*, *Nixon's*, and *Poor's* Regiments, are to repair to *Bunker's Hill*; *Varnum's* and *Hitchcock's*, to man the Fort upon *Prospect-Hill*; *Little's* to repair to *Cobble-Hill*; *Arnold's* and *Robinson's* Regiments to *Lechmere's Point*; and *Smith's* Regiment is to parade at the *White-House* Guard, and there wait for orders. *Phinny's* and *Arnold's* are positively ordered to send immediately to the Continental store for new clothing.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, March 28, 1776.

SIR: There being no ship-of-war in immediate readiness to sail for *North-America*, I have thought fit to despatch one of his Majesty's armed packets with this letter, that you may be informed as early as possible of the additional force you are to expect from hence, and of the present state of our preparations.

The enclosed treaties will inform you of the number of foreign auxiliary troops engaged to serve in *North-America*; of which number twelve thousand two hundred men, being the whole body of *Hessians*, are intended to serve in the Army under your command, and the *Brunswickers*, *Waldeckers*, and the Regiment of the hereditary Prince of *Hesse*, together with the nine *British* Battalions and the whole of Lieutenant-Colonel *Maclean's* corps, are to serve in *Canada* under General *Carleton*.

The transports for the First Division of *Hessians*, amounting to eight thousand two hundred men, are already completed for embarkation. A detachment of guards, consisting of one thousand and ninety-eight men, formed into a distinct corps, is on its march to *Portsmouth*; and I am not without hope that the First Division of *Hessians* may arrive at *Spit-head* in time, so that the whole may proceed to *North-America* together.

It appears to me, as far as I stand informed at present, that this body of troops should proceed to *Rhode-Island*; and I shall take the King's pleasure for the necessary instructions accordingly, in confidence that, if you approve of that destination, they will find upon their arrival there such orders from you as will determine their future proceedings; or, otherwise, that a proper number of cruisers will be stationed upon the coast to watch the arrival of the fleet, and to proceed with it to such other place as you shall appoint.

The difficulties in procuring transports have been very great, and it is impossible as yet to form a guess when a sufficient number will be ready to receive the Second Division of the *Hessians*; but I trust it will not be long first, and that the corps of *Highlanders*, consisting of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, making together three thousand four hundred and sixty-six men, which are nearly, if not entirely, completed, will embark by the *Clyde*, the 20th of next month at farthest.

The delays and disappointments which have attended the armament sent out to the Southern Colonies, have been greater than could have been expected; and as the fleet did not leave *Cork* before the 12th of last month, and afterwards met with very tempestuous weather, in which many ships were separated, and put back in distress, there is but little hope that any of the objects of that expedition can be obtained; and, therefore, I received the King's command to despatch a vessel after the fleet, with a letter to Major-General *Clinton*, of which I enclose you a copy, and also of the instructions sent, at the same time, by the Admiralty to Sir *Peter Parker*.

The effect of these orders will probably be, that the whole, or at least the greatest part of that armament, will join you as early as the troops can arrive from hence; so that you may be able to open the campaign in the month of *May* or beginning of *June*.

Our recruiting for some time went on very slowly, and the men raised in *Ireland* will be of little use to you. Since the parties have been removed to *England*, we have had better success, and the recruits raised may make soldiers. They will be sent over to you by different ships as opportunities offer, or whenever a number is collected sufficient to be the object of a separate embarkation; but there is no prospect that we shall be able to procure in time for this campaign all that are necessary to complete the augmentation.

I observe that, in your disposition of the battalions under your command, you include the Sixth Regiment, at *St. Vincent's*, and therefore it was the King's intention to give you that regiment complete, by turning over to it the effective men of the Forty-Eighth; but the slow progress made in forming the additional Battalions and Companies of the *Royal Americans*, has made it impossible to take both the Sixth and Forty-Eighth from the ceded Islands for the present; and, therefore, all that we can do is, to give you the Sixth Regiment in its present state; and you will therefore send for it when you can spare transports for that purpose; and as there are many recruits already raised for that corps, they will be sent immediately to you, by which means that battalion will be tolerably complete.

With regard to the service on the side of *Canada*, and the operations of the force to be employed there, (of the extent of which you are already informed,) it will depend upon the situation of affairs in that Province. But if the Rebels

shall, in consequence of their repulse and defeat on the 31st of *December*, have given up all thoughts of conquest on that side, which is most probably the case, there is good ground to hope that the Army will be able to advance into the other Colonies by the passage of the lakes, and accordingly, every proper preparation has been made here that can give facility to such a plan.

As far as I can judge of what is likely to be the general plan of operations in *North-America*, and, indeed, in all events, the securing the affection and assistance of our old friends and allies, the *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, is a consideration of no small importance; and I hope Colonel *Guy Johnson*, who is now here, and is preparing to return by the first ship, will be found useful. The King has been pleased to give him the same commission and appointments as were given to Sir *William Johnson* in 1756; and he is in all respects made subject to your direction and control. You will therefore employ him in such manner, and give him such instructions, as you shall think necessary and proper.

I have already acquainted you, in my letter of the 1st of *February*, of his Majesty's intention to give higher rank to his General Officers serving in *North-America*, and enclosed I send you a list of the commissions which have been signed by his Majesty for that purpose, with the date of each commission respectively.

You will observe that the rank given by these commissions is confined to *America* only; but it is hoped that this arrangement will have the effect to prevent any embarrassment or inconvenience which might otherwise arise from the General Officers of the foreign troops claiming the command in consequence of their superior rank.

In your letters of the 16th and 22d of *January*, (Nos. 7 and 8,) you express a wish to receive instructions concerning the corps under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Maclean* and *Gorham*. I have, therefore, made inquiry into that matter, and find that his Majesty's pleasure was signified by my predecessor in office to the Commander-in-Chief, authorizing him to raise such corps, and to grant commissions for that purpose; but the officers were not to be entitled to half-pay, or to have any other rank than what was allotted to the like corps in the last war.

With regard to the bounty-money and pay of these Provincial levies, I apprehend that the Commander-in-Chief must supply the sums necessary for that purpose; but the proper steps have been taken for supplying them here with clothing, arms, and accoutrements, and also with tents and other camp necessities. These are the regulations which were thought fit with respect to those corps, and they will equally apply to the *Nova-Scotia* Regiment, or any other Provincial corps which may be raised in *America* for his Majesty's service in the present rebellion.

I must not conclude this letter without congratulating you upon the appointment of Lord *Howe* to be the Naval Commander-in-Chief in *North-America*. The choice his Majesty has been pleased to make of so able and experienced an officer, has given universal satisfaction, and will, I am persuaded, have the most happy consequences.

I am, &c.

GEORGE GERMAINE.

To General *Howe*.

P. S. You will observe that, in speaking of the force to be employed in *Canada*, I have mentioned only nine *British* Battalions, in which I have not included Lord *Cornwallis's* Regiment, which I acquainted you in my letter of the 1st of *February* was to be sent to *Quebeck* as soon as it returned from the expedition to the Southward.

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

London, March 28, 1776.

The doctrine of recurring to the first principles on calamitous occasions not possible to be provided against by the positive laws of the State, was, till the Revolution, the theme of logical disputes, and the portion of abstract opinion. But at that glorious era in the history of the world, as well as of this country, it remained no longer a problem of the schools; it became law; and when the Crown pressed King *William's* brows, Monarchy and the rights of mankind were, for the first time in human annals, made consonant and compatible—prerogative and private rights, obedience and resistance, so wisely blended together, that no

man who has ever since that day dared to violate its purity, but must answer for a crime against nature at the bar of *God*.

This palladium, purified from the rubbish, washed from the blood of five hundred years, placed by a kind of miracle in your hands, and your right to preserve it made the tenure of the Royal authority itself, you suffered, in thirty years afterwards, without murmuring, to be removed from amongst you, though the pretext for doing it only added insult to injury; and, couched as it was under Parliamentary language, was a gross and impudent affront to the nation.

As I address myself to the whole body of the people, rich and poor, many of whose situations set them aloof from a knowledge of our history and Constitution, I assert, that that Parliament, which continued itself from three years to seven, was guilty of a notorious breach of publick trust; and that the King, when he confirmed the act, broke his coronation oath of Government according to law. From that period we are to date that omnipotence of Parliament, which is now shaking the empire to the centre, in less than ninety years from the birth of the Constitution. By suffering that stroke of Parliamentary magick to pass unpunished, the allegiance of the Commons was annihilated and dissolved; since at any time, by submission to the two other estates, they might, from peaceable and undisputed precedent, renew their lease, and usurp your elective rights.

This *opus magnum*, this grand elixir of life, being thus discovered, the terrors of retribution are taken away. As long, indeed, as your corruption makes a vacancy, like the surrender of a copyhold estate, to be granted back on a fine, or, rather, as a reserved rent on a freehold, they will submit to betray you under the humble title of servants; but should you ever recover your senses, they would immediately have recourse to the old experiment to evade your resentment. Even now were you to call aloud to Parliament to restore the honour, the peace, and commerce of the nation, and declare you would no longer support the expenses of a ruinous and iniquitous war, you would soon be told that the Constitution knows no other power than the King, Lords, and Commons; that the power of the last, when delegated, cannot be dictated to, or recalled; a proclamation of rebellion would be issued; the Militia would be embodied into a standing Army; and you would be taxed to the teeth to defray the charges of your own subjection.

Make the case of *America* your own, then, before it is too late. The same scenes are preparing for *Ireland*, and you must drink the dregs of both the cups. If you suffer an infringement of the rights of the remotest verge of the empire, it will soon run, like electricity, to the centre. Strip off the bark from the hardy oak, and the heart will soon follow in decay. Rouse yourselves from the sleep in which the opiate of influence has hushed the *British* dragon till his head be cut off. Try the experiment of sending your instructions to the Commons, to put an end to the war; and if my prophecy be fulfilled in their reception, you already know the legal powers of redress with which you are invested by the Constitution.

AMERICUS.

#### ROBERT TREAT PAINE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress, taking into consideration the urgent importance to the safety, freedom, and wealth of the United Colonies, that the manufacture of saltpetre and gunpowder should be established in all of them, in addition to their former resolves on that subject, have passed those herewith enclosed, and appointed the Committee therein mentioned. In pursuance of this trust, the Committee transmit you the resolves; and, being deeply impressed with their importance to our common cause, think themselves in duty bound to urge upon you the immediate and vigorous execution of them.

The erection of publick works (as mentioned in the resolves) will be the first step to promote this useful business. If prosecuted with skill and diligence, it will ensure the making saltpetre in large quantities, and will also afford the best method for suitable persons to learn the process; and from thence be sent abroad to teach those who have not an

opportunity of learning from these publick works; for it is thought an object of the greatest concern that private families should be induced to make it. The inconsiderable expense attending the making it in families, when the method is once understood, and the quantities that each family may make, should remove all objections to their putting it into immediate practice.

When we consider the great consumption of saltpetre, used as medicine, in preserving meat, and in gunpowder, even in times of peace, it should seem a sufficient inducement to private families to learn and practise this art; but most of all, when so large quantities are wanted for our necessary defence, and when it will, in a great measure, supply the want of salt, which the rage of our enemies may render scarce, it should not reasonably be supposed that any true *American* will neglect it.

As there can be no doubt but that every Colony may produce saltpetre enough, at least, for their own consumption, it is necessary that powder-mills be erected, and skilful persons provided to manufacture gunpowder, and proper regulations established for preventing their explosion.

It is supposed that sulphur may be found in many Colonies, and it is necessary that it should be collected. Trials may be made at places supposed to contain it, at no great expense.

It must afford great pleasure to find that some Colonies have already, in a measure, anticipated the design of these resolves; from the good effects of which, it is clearly evinced that we can never want the most abundant supply of ammunition from our own manufactures, but through inattention and neglect.

We doubt not you will consider these proceedings as designed to promote the best welfare of the Colonies, and that you will, as soon as may be, and from time to time, inform the Congress of the state of these manufactures in your Colony; of the quantity of saltpetre already made; the preparation for, and prospects of, increasing it; what quantities of gunpowder are already made; and the state of your powder-mills; and also, what discovery is made of sulphur mines, and the progress in working them.

Supposing the most approved method of making saltpetre may not have reached you, we have enclosed such as experience in some Colonies has recommended.

The laying together suitable composts, either in fences or beds, in order to collect nitrous matter, seems necessary to be immediately attended to, as the earth from under old buildings may soon be exhausted.

It is hoped this effort of the Congress will have the desired effect; without which, we have reason to fear it will, ere long, be said of us, that we are become slaves because we were not industrious enough to be free.

By order of the Committee, I subscribe myself your obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT TREAT PAINE.

To the Honourable the Convention or Council of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*.

P. S. I take the liberty herewith to send an extract from *Dr. Brownrigg's* Treatise of making Salt. The climate is so suitable, and there are so many places on our sea-coasts where neither men-of-war nor cutters can come, where salt may be made in plenty, that it is hoped some persons of judgment and application will immediately undertake it.

The extract was made for the sake of those who are unacquainted with the original, to which recourse may easily be had by those who are disposed to manufacture white salt.

Any account of your success in these undertakings must give great pleasure to all lovers of *America*. R. T. P.

TO CATO.

Philadelphia, March 28, 1776.

To be nobly wrong is more manly than to be meanly right. Only let the error be disinterested—let it wear not the mask, but the mark of principle, and it is pardonable. It is on this large and liberal ground that we distinguish between men and their tenets, and generously preserve our friendship for the one, while we combat with every prejudice of the other. But let not *Cato* take this compliment to himself. He stands excluded from the benefit of the distinction—he deserves it not; and if the sincerity of disdain

can add a cubit to the stature of my sentiments, it shall not be wanting.

It is indifferent to me who the writer of *Cato's* letters are, and sufficient for me to know that they are gorged with absurdity, confusion, contradiction, and the most notorious and wilful falsehoods. Let *Cato* and his faction be against Independence, and welcome; their consequence will not now turn the scale; but let them have regard to justice, and pay some attention to the plain doctrine of reason. Where these are wanting, the sacred cause of truth applauds our anger, and dignifies it with the name of virtue.

Four letters have already appeared under the specious name of *Cato*. What pretensions the writer of them can have to the signature, the publick will best determine; while, on my own part, I prophetically content myself with contemplating the similarity of their exits. The first of those letters promised a second, the second a third, the third a fourth; the fourth has since made its appearance, and still the writer keeps wide of the question. Why doth he thus loiter in the suburbs of the dispute? Why hath he not shown us what the numerous blessings of reconciliation are, and proved them practicable? But he cunningly avoids the point. He cannot but discover the rock he is driving on. The fate of the *Roman Cato* is before his eyes; and that the publick may be prepared for his funeral, and for his funeral oration, I will venture to predict the time and the manner of his exit. The moment he explains his terms of reconciliation, the typographical *Cato* dies. If they be calculated to please the Cabinet, they will not go down with the Colonies; and if they be suited to the Colonies, they will be rejected by the Cabinet. The line of no-variation is yet unfound; and, like the Philosopher's stone, doth not exist. "I am bold," says *Cato*, "to declare, and yet hope to make it evident to every honest man, that the true interest of *America* lies in reconciliation with *Great Britain* on constitutional principles."

This is a curious way of lumping the business, indeed! And *Cato* may as well attempt to catch lions in a mousetrap, as to hope to allure the publick with such general and unexplained expressions. It is now a mere bugbear to talk of reconciliation on constitutional principles, unless the terms of the first be produced, and the sense of the other be defined; and unless he does this, he does nothing.

To follow *Cato* through every absurdity and falsehood in the compass of a letter\* is impossible; neither is it now necessary. *Cassandra* (and I thank him) hath saved me much trouble; there is a spirit in his remarks which honesty only can inspire, and a uniformity in the conduct of his letter which the want of principle never can arrive at. Mark that, *Cato*.

One observation, which I cannot help making on *Cato's* letters, is, that they are addressed "To the People of *Pennsylvania*" only. In almost any other writer this might have passed unnoticed; but we know it hath mischief in its meaning. The particular circumstance of a Convention is undoubtedly Provincial, but the great business of the day is Continental; and he who dares to endeavour to withdraw this Province from the glorious Union, by which all are supported, deserves the reprobation of all men. It is the true interest of the whole to go hand in hand; and dismal, in every instance, would be the fate of that Colony which should retreat from the protection of the rest.

The first of *Cato's* letters is insipid in its style, language, and substance; crowded with personal and private inuendoes, and directly levelled against "the majesty of the people of *Pennsylvania*." The Committee could only call, propose, or recommend a Convention; but, like all other publick measures, it still rested with the people at large whether they would approve it or not; and *Cato's* reasoning on the right or wrong of that choice is contemptible; because, if the body of the people had thought, or should still think, that the Assembly, or any of their Delegates in Congress, by sitting under the embarrassment of oaths, and entangled with Government and Governours, are not so perfectly free as they ought to be, they undoubtedly had, and still have, both the right and the power to place even the whole authority of the Assembly in any body of men they please; and whoever is hardy enough to say to the contrary is an enemy to mankind. The Constitution of *Pennsylvania*

\* The writer intended, at first, to have contained his remarks in one letter.



*nia* hath been twice changed through the cunning of former Proprietors; surely the people, whose right, power, and property is greater than that of any single man, may make such alterations in their mode of Government as the change of times and things require. *Cato* is exceedingly fond of impressing us with the importance of our "chartered Constitution." Alas! we are not now, sir, to be led away by the jingle of a phrase. Had we framed our conduct by the contents of the present Charters, we had, ere now, been in a state of helpless misery. That very Assembly you mention hath broken it, and been obliged to break it, in almost every instance of their proceedings. Hold it up to the publick, and it is transparent with holes—pierced with as many deadly wounds as the body of *Macleod*. Disturb not its remains, *Cato*, nor dishonour it with another funeral oration.

There is nothing in *Cato's* first letter worthy of notice but the following insinuating falsehood: "Grievous as the least restraint on the Press must always be, to a people entitled to freedom, it must be the more so, when it is not only unwarranted by those to whom they have committed the care of their liberties, but cannot be warranted by them, consistent with liberty itself."

The rude and unscholastical confusion of persons in the above paragraph, though it throws an obscurity on the meaning, still leaves it discoverable. Who, sir, hath laid any restraint on the liberty of the Press? I know of no instance in which the Press hath been even the object of notice, in this Province, except on account of the Tory letter from *Kent County*, which was published last spring in the *Pennsylvania Ledger*, and which it was the duty of every good man to detect, because the honesty of the Press is as great an object to society as the freedom of it. If this is the restraint you complain of, we know your true character at once; and that it is so, appears evident from the expression which immediately follows the above quotation: Your words are, "Nevertheless, we readily submitted to it, while the least colourable pretence could be offered for requiring such a submission." Who submitted, *Cato*?—we Whigs, or we Tories? Until you clear up this, sir, you must content yourself with being ranked among the rankest of the writing Tories; because no other body of men can have any pretence to complain of want of freedom of the Press. It is not your throwing out, now and then, a little popular phrase, which can protect you from suspicion; they are only the gildings under which the poison is conveyed, and without which you dared not to renew your attempts on the virtue of the people.

*Cato's* second letter, or the greatest part thereof, is taken up with the reverence due from us to the persons and authority of the Commissioners; whom *Cato* vainly and ridiculously styles "Ambassadors coming to negotiate a peace." How came *Cato* not to be let a little better into the secret? The act of Parliament which describes the powers of these men, hath been in this city upwards of a month, and in the hands, too, of *Cato's* friends. No, sir, they are not the ambassadors of peace, but the distributors of pardons, mischief, and insult. *Cato* discovers a gross ignorance of the *British Constitution*, in supposing that these men can be empowered to act as Ambassadors. To prevent his future errors, I will set him right. The present war differs from every other in this instance, viz: that it is not carried on under the prerogative of the Crown, as other wars have always been, but under the authority of the whole Legislative power united; and as the barriers which stand in the way of a negotiation are not Proclamations, but Acts of Parliament; it evidently follows, that were even the King of *England* here in person, he could not ratify the terms or conditions of a reconciliation; because, in the single character of King, he could not stipulate for the repeal of any acts of Parliament; neither can the Parliament stipulate for him. There is no body of men more jealous of their privileges than the Commons; because they sell them. Mark that, *Cato*.

I have not the least doubt upon me but that their business (exclusive of granting us pardons) is downright bribery and corruption. It is the machine by which they effect all their plans. We ought to view them as enemies of a most dangerous species; and he who means not to be corrupted by them, will enter his protest in time. Are they not the very men who are paid for voting in every measure against us? and ought we not to suspect their designs? Can we view the barbarians as friends? Would it be prudent to trust the

viper in our very bosoms? Or to suffer them to ramble at large among us, while such doubtful characters as *Cato* have a being upon the Continent? Yet let their persons be safe from injury and outrage—but trust them not. Our business with them is short and explicit, viz: we are desirous of peace, gentlemen; we are ready to ratify the terms, and will virtuously fulfil the conditions thereof; but we should deserve all and every misery which tyranny can inflict, were we, after suffering such a repetition of savage barbarities, to come under your Government again.

*Cato*, by way of stealing into credit, says, that "the contest we are engaged in is founded on the most noble and virtuous principles which can animate the mind of man. We are contending (says he) against an arbitrary Ministry, for the rights of *Englishmen*." No, *Cato*, we are now contending against an arbitrary King, to get clear of his tyranny. While the dispute rested in words only, it might be called "contending with the Ministry;" but since it is broken out into open war, it is high time to have done with such silly and water-gruel definitions. But it suits not *Cato* to speak the truth. It is his interest to dress up the sceptered savage in the mildest colours. *Cato's* patent for a large tract of land is yet unsigned. Alas, poor *Cato*!

*Cato* proceeds very importantly to tell us, "that the eyes of all *Europe* are upon us." This stale and hackneyed phrase hath had a regular descent from many of the King's speeches down to several of the speeches in Parliament; from thence it took a turn among the little wits and bucks of *St. James's*; till, after suffering all the torture of senseless repetition, and being reduced to a state of vagrancy, it was charitably picked up to embellish the second letter of *Cato*. It is truly of the bugbear kind; contains no meaning, and the very using it discovers a barrenness of invention. It signifies nothing to tell us "that the eyes of all *Europe* are upon us," unless he had likewise told us what they are looking at us for; which, as he hath not done, I will: They are looking at us, *Cato*, in hopes of seeing a final separation between *Britain* and the Colonies, that they (the lookers on) may partake of a free and uninterrupted trade with the whole Continent of *America*. *Cato*! thou reasonest wrong.

For the present, sir, farewell. I have seen thy soliloquy, and despise it. Remember, thou hast thrown me the glove, *Cato*, and either thee or I must tire. I fear not the field of fair debate; but thou hast stepped aside, and made it personal. Thou hast tauntingly called on me by name. And if I cease to hunt thee from every lane and lurking hole of mischief, and bring thee not a trembling culprit before the publick bar, then brand me with reproach, by naming me in the list of your confederates.

THE FORESTER.

#### GERMANTOWN (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Germantown, March 28, 1776.

Whereas complaints have been made to this Committee, that divers persons of this Township, retailers of Salt, and other articles, are inclined to take advantage of our distressed situation, by holding some articles at an exorbitant price, especially that most necessary article of Salt, notwithstanding the reasonable regulations so lately made by the Committee of the City of *Philadelphia*, who have found the scarcity of many articles to be artificial, and therefore have rated them accordingly, viz: *Lisbon* Salt, at four shillings per single bushel, or greater quantity, and *Liverpool* blond Salt at five shillings per bushel:

*Resolved, therefore*, That the venders of Salt within this Township ought to advance only three pence per bushel on the above prices, to defray the carriage thereof. And as many poor people are under a necessity of buying their Salt by small quantities, in such cases, we recommend it to be sold at the rate of nine pence per half-peck.

Should this Committee receive any more such disagreeable complaints for the future, the persons occasioning the same need not be surprised to see their names published to their distressed country.

JOSEPH FERREE,  
JAMES HEASLET,  
JACOB HALL,  
SAMUEL MECHLIN,  
MARTIN SHOWERER,  
JOHN REX.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO MR. DEWEES.

Philadelphia, March 28, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from the Congress to desire you immediately to confine, in separate apartments, Mr. *Connolly*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Kirkland*, who were some time past committed to your custody by order of Congress; and I am further to direct that you suffer no person whatever to visit or converse with either of the above-named persons, without an order from me in writing.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Mr. *Deweese*, Keeper of the *Philadelphia* Prison.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, March 28, 1776.

SIR: Your two letters of the 27th being received by express, were communicated to Congress; and I have their orders to inform you, that the Congress see no reason to change their requisition of the 15th.

I have it, therefore, in command, to request you to exert your utmost endeavours in expediting the march of the troops to *New-York*, agreeable to the requisition of the commanding officer. I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., and Gentlemen of the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, at *Trenton*.

## NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, New-Jersey, March 28, 1776.

SIR: Major *Dunn*, the bearer hereof, has represented to this Committee that on the return of Colonel *Heard* from *Philadelphia*, where he had been in order to lay the accounts of his expenditures to *Long-Island* before the honourable Congress, and reporting that the detachment of Militia under his command in that service were only allowed for their subsistence while on that expedition, it caused a general dissatisfaction among them, alleging they thought it but reasonable they should receive the same pay while on the service of the Continental Congress, as other troops employed by them. This Committee taking the said representation into consideration, and finding that Colonel *Heard* received express order from Congress immediately to march the Minute-men under his command, and transmit an account of his expenditures, while on that service, to Congress; also a letter from your honourable body, of the 25th of *October* last, directed to our Provincial Congress, wherein you say that "where they (Minute-men) are taken into Continental service, they will be entitled to the same pay as the other Continental troops;" and as these men, on account of the inclemency of the season, were obliged to pass through much fatigue and hardship, and many of them chiefly dependant on their daily labour for support, we cannot forbear humbly hoping that the honourable Congress will reconsider their case, and grant them redress.

I am, sir, your humble servant.

By order of the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*:

HENDRICK FISHER, *Vice-President*.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

## WILLIAM BURNET TO LORD STIRLING.

Newark, March 28, 1776.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, my Lord, that *John Young*, the Professor, who made his escape from the guard here, was taken up at *Elizabethtown* this morning, and is now in jail there. I am going down there to examine him immediately, in hopes to find who has harboured him here, and by what means he made his escape. Perhaps it will be best to keep him here a few days: something important may be discovered. However, we want your orders. The Committee is adjourned to *Tuesday* next, when the guard are to be tried for their negligence. If you think proper for him to be detained until that time, we will have them face to face.

I am, my Lord, with much respect, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM BURNET.

To Lord *Stirling*.

## JOHN HARING TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Orangetown, March 28, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Lent* was with me the evening before last, and appeared to be much out of humor on account of the late behaviour of part of his regiment. He says that his orders have been treated with contempt, and himself slandered, by those from whom he expected assistance.

The Colonel has, for a number of years last past, been a Militia officer, and I believe we never had one who was more punctual in obeying and performing the orders of his superiors; and he consequently expected that those under his command should also obey him; but by experience he finds that he cannot get the orders of Congress, which from time to time I send, properly expedited, and he is apprehensive that, if he continues in office any longer, he will be censured by his superiors as well as blamed by his inferiors.

The *Orangetown* Regiment is chiefly composed of such as know but little of the *English* language, and nothing of military affairs; wherefore I must impute their backwardness and delays to ignorance, and ill-founded jealousies of being imposed upon by their commanders, and not to disaffection.

The commission of the Colonel, together with his resignation, you have enclosed. He brought the commission to me, and would not be prevailed upon to take it home again; so that I thought it my duty to send it to you by the first opportunity.

The command of the above-said Regiment now devolves upon Lieutenant-Colonel *Blauvelt*. I am fearful that *Lent's* resignation will be followed by others; but I shall do all that is in my power to prevent it.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HARING.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

## RESIGNATION OF COLONEL ABRAHAM LENT.

To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern:

Whereas I, the subscriber, have some time since been commissioned by the honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York* to be Colonel of the Regiment of Militia-foot in *Orangetown*; and whereas I have been much blamed and slandered by some officers and others in said Regiment, for giving orders in pursuance of a late resolve and order of said Congress; I have thought proper to resign my said commission, and accordingly do resign the same, choosing rather to serve as a private than command people who are prejudiced against me.

Given under my hand, the 26th day of *March*, Anno Domini 1776.

ABRAHAM LENT.

In Provincial Congress for the Colony of New-York, }  
the 22d day of December, 1775. }

To ABRAHAM LENT, of ORANGETOWN, in ORANGE County, Esq., greeting:

By virtue of the authority reposed in us, we do hereby nominate, authorize, constitute, and appoint the said *Abraham Lent*, Esq., to be Colonel of the First Regiment of the Militia of Foot of *Orangetown* and Precinct of *Orange*, in *Orange* County, in the Colony of *New-York*; hereby requiring you, before you enter into the exercise of your said office, to make in writing, and subscribe in presence of the Chairman of the Committee of the City, Town, District, or Precinct wherein you reside, the Declaration appointed and directed by the eleventh section of the seventh Resolve, contained in the Rules and Orders for regulating the Militia of the Colony of *New-York*, recommended by this Congress on the 22d day of *August*, 1775, and authorizing you fully to execute all the powers belonging to your said office by virtue of the said Rules and Orders, and the said Declaration. And we do hereby require all persons under your command to pay due obedience to you, according to the said Rules and Orders, and such further rules and orders as shall be made and recommended for the Militia of this Colony, by the present, or any future Continental Congress or Provincial Congress of this Colony.

By order. JOHN HARING, *President pro tem*.

Attest: JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

## COLONEL SMITH TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Suffolk County, March 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of Safety have appointed an Adjutant in the Minute service in this County; and he being unwilling to act in that department, and as it is absolutely necessary that such an officer should be immediately appointed, I take the liberty of recommending Mr. *Ephraim Marvin* as an Adjutant, and should be exceeding glad to have his commission forwarded to me by the first opportunity.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOSIAH SMITH,

Colonel of Minute Battalion, Suffolk County.

To the Committee of Safety now sitting at New-York.

## HENRY WISNER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Goshen, March 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Some days ago my son received a letter from you, desiring him to inform you of what quantity of powder we had then made, what quantity we could make per week, and what quantity of materials we had by us; but as we had at that time but just begun, we could only have given a partial answer, and therefore omitted giving an answer until we had made further trial. And to which I now have to inform you that we had made, before the 12th of this instant, only two hundred weight. The first week after that time we made eight hundred weight; the second week we made eleven hundred weight; and I believe this week we shall make twelve hundred weight; so that, I believe, by *Saturday* night we shall have some better than three thousand weight. We have tried the quality of it by shooting with a gun. Several of our gunners have tried it, and all say it is of the best quality.

As to materials, we have saltpetre enough to work about two weeks only. We have had a promise of ten tons to be sent from *Philadelphia*, which was sent as far as *Bordentown* several months ago, and was to have been sent forward to our works. I wrote twice to the Congress about it, though the last letter they cannot have received. I hope they will soon send it.

As to sulphur, I cannot say what quantity we have. It is part of it at *New-Windsor*. I wish more might be had. I believe we have not got much.

I have made application to the Committee of our County for liberty to build a mill in our County, on the encouragement given by your honourable Board. I believe I shall succeed. If so, I make no doubt but will build one to make a ton a week, and more if necessary. Shall be glad of your assistance in procuring materials.

I wish you would direct what we shall do with the powder, as fast as it is fit for being sent off. As powder is an article that will take a considerable time to dry, especially at this time of the year, so that we shall have in the drying house at least two thousand weight all the time—in that case, query: Whether there will not be danger of some Tory setting fire to it in the night, by firing the house? If so, query: Whether it would not be right to keep a guard? And if so, as the powder all belongs to the publick, query: Whether the expense ought not to be borne by the publick? I should be glad of an answer by the first opportunity.

I am, with the greatest regard and esteem, your assured friend and humble servant,

HENRY WISNER.

To the President of the Provincial Congress, or Chairman of the Committee of Safety, at New-York.

P. S. If you should think proper to order a guard, I believe four men would be sufficient for that purpose. I hope you will excuse this scrawl. I should have copied it, but have only three half sheets more of paper, and do not know where to get the next.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO LORD STIRLING.

Albany, March 28, 1776.

MY DEAR LORD: General *Washington* has favoured me with an account of General *Howe's* precipitate retreat from *Boston*; but as he had not left *Nantasket-Road* on the 19th, I hope the troops at *New-York* will be considerably reinforced before he can get there, should that be the place of his destination. I am exceedingly happy that the forti-

fications are advancing with so much rapidity; and I trust, should Mr. *Howe* make an attempt to possess himself of the city, that he will meet with a repulse.

The cannon and shot arrived here last *Friday*, and left this on *Monday* morning. I am this moment going to mount my horse to forward them from *Half-Moon*, where they are detained for want of cattle to transport them to *Fort George*. The incredible scarcity of forage creates great distress in moving any military stores.

I am, my dear Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling*.

## MARCHING ORDERS TO CAPTAIN EBENEZER STEVENS, OF THE ARTILLERY.

Camp at Cambridge, March 28, 1776.

Instructions for Captain EBENEZER STEVENS, commanding two Companies of the Regiment of Artillery, on a march to QUEBECK.

You (with the Companies under your command) are to make the most expeditious marches into *Canada*; there to join the Army under Major-General *Thomas*, in order to conquer, and entirely subdue, the enemies of liberty and *America* in that Province.

Your route will be through *Number Four*, in the Province of *New-Hampshire*, to *Crown-Point*, where you will draw what provisions you will think necessary for your further progress.

It is a matter of great importance that the mortars, shells, &c., which you have in charge, should reach the Camp before *Quebeck*. If, therefore, any of the teams should fail, you must procure fresh ones from the country people, and give an order for the pay on the Quartermaster-General, or his assistant up that way, or to this Camp, whichever shall be most agreeable.

You are to take particular care that your men are well covered in the night, and likewise that they observe the strictest discipline.

HENRY KNOX, Col. Regiment of Artillery.

## ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Thursday, four o'clock P. M., March 28, 1776.

SIR: Will you do me the favour to ask the Committee of Safety for a certificate for my drovers to go into *Connecticut* for fresh beef? If a number of troops come here, I readily foresee a scarcity of that article, which is a very essential one indeed, and cannot be had without a certificate. If a permit were given me to procure provisions where they could be purchased, it would save a vast deal of trouble; and in that case I would get a number copied, and you and Mr. *Benson* can sign them at leisure. But as I have three drovers on the borders of *Connecticut*, and are returned this day for want of credentials, I must request it as a particular favour that you would facilitate my getting a certificate. I would apply in person, but am really ashamed, I have teased them so much lately.

Your humble servant,

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To Mr. *John McKesson*.

P. S. You will oblige me by sending my contract with the bearer.

## EDWARD GAITHER, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elkridge, March 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas Mr. *John Marriott*, who was First Lieutenant to Captain *Elisha Riggs*, is deceased; I am therefore desired by Captain *Riggs* and his Company to recommend to you Mr. *Joseph Walker*, Jun., their First Lieutenant; Mr. *Aquila Randall*, Jun., their Second; and Mr. *Nathaniel Owings*, their Ensign. I also beg leave, gentlemen, to inform you that I look on the above gentlemen to be very proper persons.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

EDWARD GAITHER, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

Captain *Riggs* wishes that the vacancy might be filled up with all convenient speed.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM HENRY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head Quarters, Northampton County, Virginia, }  
March 29, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a Monthly Return of the Minute-Company under my command.

Gentlemen, I am, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM HENRY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

A Monthly Return of Captain WILLIAM HENRY's Minute-Company, from KENT County.

Commissioned Officers.		NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.										RANK AND FILE.												
Captain.	Lieutenants.	Ensign.	Surgeon.	Sergeant Major.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster Seig't.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Fife and Drum Majors	Fifer.	Drummer.	Fit for duty.	Sick.	On command.	On furlough.	Camp Color-men.	Confined.	Dead.	Deserted.	Discharged.	Recruited.	On duty.	Artificers	Total.
1	2	1	1	•	1	•	4	4	2	1	1	70	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	92

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, Northampton County, Virginia.

WILLIAM HENRY.

February 29, 1776.

A List of the Minute-Company from KENT County, under the command of WILLIAM HENRY, who marched from said County on the 29th of JANUARY, 1776, and now stationed in NORTHAMPTON County, VIRGINIA.

William Henry, Captain.  
John Hyland, } Lieutenants.  
G. W. Forester, }  
William Clark, Ensign.  
William Tillotson, Surgeon.  
Robert Campbell, Adjutant.  
Enos Reves, } Sergeants.  
William Sprot, }

George Vansant, } Sergeants.  
Charles Irons, }  
John Day, }  
Robert Jay, } Corporals.  
James Henry, }  
Garret Vansant, }  
Joseph Purden, Drummer.  
William . . . ., Fifer.

John Bond, William Haley, Joseph Newson,  
Stephen Boddy, John Hurt, John Nowland,  
Benjamin Brokson, James Hurt, Richard Nab,  
Henry Bostick, Peter Justice, William Petegrew,  
Lambert Boyer, William Johnson, Charles Phillipshill,  
John Burnsides, Nathaniel Knock, Andrew Park,  
Henry Clarke, David Keain, Benedict Richardson,  
Edward Clayton, Francis Lemon, James Wilson, Sen.  
James Campher, George Littles, Sen. John Wilson,  
John Cole, George Littles, Jun. James Wilson, Jun.  
John Covy, John Miller, William Wilson,  
Isaac Cornelius, John M. Gowan, John Wilmer,  
William Davis, William Mirers, James Woodland,  
Samuel Davis, Enoch Massy, Robert Young,  
Samuel Bades, Nathaniel McClelland, John Stevenson,  
Isaac Freeman, John Massey, Benjamin Stoops,  
Daniel Ferguson, Samuel Money, John Stoops,  
Abraham Freeman, Sampson Redgrave, Marlow Taylor,  
Salathiel Freeland, Thomas Read, Wm. Peregrine Thrift,  
Lambert Flowers, John Richardson, Matthew Richardson,  
Benjamin Garland, Jacob Richardson, Christopher Vansant,  
James Greedy, Thomas Sewell, Benjamin Vansant,  
Oliver Gallop, Thomas Sappington, John Vansant—70.  
William Gray,

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, February 29, 1776.

WILLIAM HENRY.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANSON AND OTHERS.

[No. 95.]

Annapolis, March 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Our regular troops are not yet provided with arms, but might be in a very short time, if we could have a supply of gun-locks from you. We desire, therefore, to be informed in what forwardness you have got your manufactory, and when you expect to furnish us with some.

We are, &c.

To John Hanson, Charles Beatty, and James Johnson.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL JOSHUA BEALL. [No. 96.]

Annapolis, March 29, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety desire you will immediately examine into the quality of the powder now under your charge, and give them a particular account of the quantities of cannon and fine. We are, &c.

To Colonel Joshua Beall.

CAPTAIN MACPHERSON TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read March 29, 1776.]

Philadelphia, March 29, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I have already taken the liberty of pointing out my opinion of the many advantages which would arise to North-America by employing row-galleys, viz: The many superior advantages they have in calms and little winds, the great advantage they have in being able to take shelter from a superior force (in case of necessity) at all times upon the coast of North-America, as they draw less water than vessels of the usual construction, and as I am persuaded I can construct them to sail much faster than any vessels in Great Britain, at least before the wind. These, with other considerations, led me to undertake to capture or destroy every British ship-of-war on the coast of North-America, with twelve row-galleys only; which command was promised to me by the Honourable Messrs. Hopkins, Randolph, and John Rutledge. I sincerely believe, had I been expeditiously furnished with those vessels, there would have been few British ships-of-war now on the coast of America to molest our trade. I am still ready to undertake the same charge, and will risk my life and every farthing I possess on earth on my success.

Or, if more agreeable to the honourable Congress, I will fit out two galleys at my own expense, the honourable Congress furnishing me with timber, guns, powder, &c., for which I will pay before my departure, and will risk my reputation that I will take or destroy an English man-of-war in a very little time. If I do not succeed, I do not wish to be reimbursed one penny. If I do, I should be glad the honourable Congress would grant me a commission for such a command, bearing date from the time that command was promised me, and that they would pay to my officers and men the full value of the first man-of-war I should take, or the estimated value of the first man-of-war I should destroy. I am little concerned about any mercenary reward to myself. I should ill merit the confidence of the honourable Continental Congress did I doubt their honour. Twelve row-galleys will not cost near as much money as the four frigates now building here.

I hope the honourable Congress will not be offended by my begging they will be expeditious in fixing the matter with me.

I am, honourable gentlemen, with sincere esteem for your august body, your most obedient, most devoted, very humble servant,

JOHN MACPHERSON.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation, }  
Philadelphia, March 29, 1776. }

Resolved, That William Sitgreaves and Peter Ozeas have, knowingly, counteracted the Resolution of this Committee, of the 6th instant, regulating the prices of several articles of Merchandise; and that they be published in the papers, agreeable to said Resolve, and that they be made acquainted with the determination of this Committee herein.

April 2, 1776.

William Sitgreaves and Peter Ozeas, having presented to this Committee the following papers, as acknowledgments of their having infringed the rules laid down by this body for regulating the prices of several articles of goods, and desired them, if they thought it necessary to lay their cases before the publick, to suffer their declarations to accompany them; the Committee, therefore, in discharge of the duty they owe to the publick, and in order to show to the world their resolutions to support their limitations, which they are of opinion are founded on just, generous principles, do think it highly proper to publish the several papers

voluntarily signed and handed to them by the said *William Sitgreaves* and *Peter Ozeas*, and at the same time resolve that they esteem those papers as acknowledgments satisfactory to this Committee.

Extract from the Minutes:

SAMUEL C. MORRIS, *Secretary*.

*To the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA.*

Philadelphia, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am very sorry that I have exceeded the limits prescribed by you for the price of coffee. Had I apprehended that advancing one penny per pound more than you had fixed would have been considered as injurious to the publick welfare, I should not have demanded it. As I have thereby given offence, I take this method of acknowledging my error, and to declare that, for the future, I will avoid every occasion of uneasiness to my fellow-citizens. Should you think it necessary to publish what has past on this subject, I request you will, at the same time, let this acknowledgment accompany it, and you will thereby oblige, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM SITGREAVES.

*To the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA.*

Philadelphia, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The mistake which I have committed, in having bought and sold two barrels of coffee at a price higher than that limited by you, has given me extreme pain. Had I adverted to the fatal consequences of such conduct, the regard I have for the publick welfare, and the interest I have taken in the present struggle for liberty, would have wholly prevented my having any share in so destructive a measure. I now, voluntarily, offer to the publick, through this Committee, my sincere acknowledgment for this error, and declare the utmost readiness to acquiesce in any measure which may assure the publick of my exact conformity, in future, to such regulations as this Committee may judge to be for the publick benefit; being fully satisfied of their unbiased attention to the publick good. If this Committee should judge it necessary to publish my case to the world, I shall hold myself extremely obliged if they shall judge it proper to suffer this declaration and acknowledgment to appear at the same time, and order it accordingly.

PETER OZEAS.

WILLIAM ELDER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Upper Barracks, March 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are sorry to give you this trouble, but being in some measure led to imagine you have forgotten us, by our long confinement without having any hearing, and being fully conscious of not having acted in any shape inimical to the interests of the country, therefore should esteem it as a particular favour if you will be kind enough to order us before you, as we make no doubt we shall give every satisfaction that you will desire with respect to our conduct.

We remain, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

WILLIAM ELDER,  
JOSEPH WOOLCOMBE,  
WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

To the Committee of Safety, New-York.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

*To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the United American Colonies.*

*May it please your Excellency:*

When the liberties of *America* were attacked by the violent hand of oppression; when Troops, hostile to the rights of humanity, invaded this Colony, seized our capital, and spread havock and destruction around it; when our virtuous sons were murdered, and our houses destroyed by the Troops of *Britain*; the inhabitants of this and the other *American Colonies*, impelled by self-preservation and the love of free-

dom, forgetting their domestick concerns, determined resolutely and unitedly to oppose the sons of tyranny.

Convinced of the vast importance of having a gentleman of great military accomplishments, to discipline, lead, and conduct the forces of the Colonies, it gave us the greatest satisfaction to hear that the honourable Congress of the United Colonies had made choice of a gentleman thus qualified, who, leaving the pleasures of domestick and rural life, was ready to undertake the arduous task. And your nobly declining to accept the pecuniary emoluments annexed to this high office, fully evinced to us that a warm regard to the sacred rights of humanity, and sincere love to your country, solely influenced you in the acceptance of this important trust.

From your acknowledged abilities as a soldier, and your virtues in publick and private life, we had the most pleasing hopes; but the fortitude and equanimity so conspicuous in your conduct; the wisdom of your councils; the mild, yet strict government of the Army; your attention to the civil Constitution of this Colony; the regard you have at all times shown for the lives and health of those under your command; the fatigues you have with cheerfulness endured; the regard you have shown for the preservation of our Metropolis; and the great address with which our military operations have been conducted, have exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and demand the warmest returns of gratitude.

The Supreme Ruler of the Universe having smiled on our arms, and crowned your labours with remarkable success, we are now, without that effusion of blood we so much wished to avoid, again in the quiet possession of our capital. The wisdom and prudence of those movements which have obliged the enemy to abandon our Metropolis will ever be remembered by the inhabitants of this Colony.

May you still go on, approved by Heaven, revered by all good men, and dreaded by those tyrants who claim their fellow-men as their property. May the United Colonies be defended from slavery by your victorious arms. May they still see their enemies flying before you. And (the deliverance of your country being effected) may you, in retirement, enjoy that peace and satisfaction of mind, which always attends the good and great. And may future generations, in the peaceful enjoyment of that freedom, the exercise of which your sword shall have established, raise the richest and most lasting monuments to the name of *Washington*.

His Excellency's Answer.

*To the Honourable Council and Representatives of the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.*

GENTLEMEN: I return you my most sincere and hearty thanks for your polite Address; and feel myself called upon, by every principle of gratitude, to acknowledge the honour you have done me in this testimonial of your approbation of my appointment to the exalted station I now fill; and, what is more pleasing, of my conduct in discharging its important duties.

When the Councils of the *British* nation had formed a plan for enslaving *America*, and depriving her sons of their most sacred and invaluable privileges, against the clearest remonstrances of the Constitution, of justice, and of truth; and to execute their schemes, had appealed to the sword; I esteemed it my duty to take a part in the contest, and more especially, when called thereto by the unsolicited suffrages of the Representatives of a free People; wishing for no other reward than that arising from a conscientious discharge of the important trust, and that my services might contribute to the establishment of freedom and peace, upon a permanent foundation, and merit the applause of my countrymen, and every virtuous citizen.

Your professions of my attention to the civil Constitution of this Colony, whilst acting in the line of my department, also demand my grateful thanks. A regard to every Provincial institution, where not incompatible with the common interest, I hold a principle of duty and of policy, and shall ever form a part of my conduct. Had I not learned this before, the happy experience of the advantages resulting from a friendly intercourse with your honourable body, their ready and willing concurrence to aid and to counsel whenever called upon in cases of difficulty and emergency, would have taught me the useful lesson.



That the Metropolis of your Colony is now relieved from the cruel and oppressive invasion of those who were sent to erect the standard of lawless domination, and to trample on the rights of humanity, and is again open and free for its rightful possessors, must give pleasure to every virtuous and sympathetick heart; and being effected without the blood of our soldiers and fellow-citizens, must be ascribed to the interposition of that Providence which has manifestly appeared in our behalf, through the whole of this important struggle, as well as to the measures pursued for bringing about the happy event.

May that Being, who is powerful to save, and in whose hands is the fate of nations, look down with an eye of tender pity and compassion upon the whole of the United Colonies; may He continue to smile upon their councils and arms, and crown them with success whilst employed in the cause of virtue and of mankind; may this distressed Colony and its capital, and every part of this widely extended Continent, through His divine favour, be restored to more than their former lustre and once happy state; and have peace, liberty, and safety, secured upon a solid, permanent, and lasting foundation.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

#### INSTRUCTIONS AND ORDERS TO MAJOR-GENERAL PUTNAM.

As there are the best reasons to believe that the enemy's Fleet and Army, which left *Nantasket-Road* last *Wednesday* evening, are bound to *New-York*, to endeavour to possess that important post, and, if possible, secure the communication by *Hudson's River* to *Canada*; it must be our care to prevent them from accomplishing their designs. To that end I have detached Brigadier-General *Heath*, with the whole body of Riflemen, and five battalions of the Continental Army, by the way of *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, to *New-York*. These, by an express arrived yesterday from General *Heath*, I have reason to believe are in *New-York*. Six more battalions, under General *Sullivan*, march this morning, by the same route; and will, I hope, arrive there in eight or ten days at farthest. The rest of the Army will immediately follow in divisions, leaving only a convenient space between each division, to prevent confusion and want of accommodation upon their march.

You will, no doubt, make the best despatch in getting to *New-York*. Upon your arrival there, you will assume the command, and immediately proceed in continuing to execute the plan proposed by Major-General *Lee* for fortifying that city, and securing the passes of the *East* and *North* Rivers. If, upon consultation with the Brigadier-Generals and Engineers, any alteration in that plan is thought necessary, you are at liberty to make it; cautiously avoiding to break in too much upon his main design, unless where it may be apparently necessary so to do, and that by the general voice and opinion of the gentlemen above-mentioned.

You will meet the Quartermaster-General, Colonel *Mifflin*, and the Commissary-General, at *New-York*. As they are both men of excellent talents in their different departments, you will do well to give them all the authority and assistance they require; and should a council of war be necessary, it is my direction they assist at it.

Your long service and experience will, better than any particular directions at this distance, point out to you the works most proper to be first raised; and your perseverance, activity, and zeal, will lead you, without my recommending it, to exert every nerve to disappoint the enemy's designs.

Devoutly praying that the Power which has hitherto sustained the *American* arms may continue to bless them with His divine protection, I bid you farewell.

Given at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, this 29th day of *March*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

#### NATHANIEL SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I had the honour of seeing you last in *Annapolis*, you desired I would commit to writing what would be necessary to have done about the Fort (that the Committee refused to do)—a Magazine, Hospital, and Laboratory; which, in my opinion, no Fort or Garrison ought to be without. Those would not cost more than three hundred pounds. The Hospital sufficient to hold fifty sick or

wounded men; the Magazine to hold ammunition for a month's siege; the Laboratory sufficient for ten or twelve men to work in—making cartridges, &c.

I was mentioning a seine for catching fish; but, if it cannot be allowed without deducting any part of the soldiers' rations, would not desire it, as their allowance is full small for a hearty man to subsist on.

I understand there has been application to you for Captain of the Fort, or Fort-Majors. I do not know that there would be any necessity for such an officer at this time, but hope, gentlemen, you will not put another over me, unless you think him more fit to fill the station; and, in that case, shall submit with pleasure.

I am, gentlemen, your most obliged, humble servant,  
NATHANIEL SMITH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS KENT AND HENRY.

[No. 97.]

Annapolis, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We send this by express, with three hundred pounds to defray the expenses of your march to your respective Counties, as well as others you may necessarily have incurred in the service; and hope it will be found adequate to the purposes for which it is designed. If, however, it should not, you shall be immediately reimbursed any money you may be obliged to expend. We sent to *Philadelphia*, upon the receipt of your letter of the 28th of *February*, for the Continental regulations relative to wages and victualing, and desired our Deputies, if an opportunity should offer, to convey them directly to you; which, we apprehend, has been done, as they have not been transmitted to us; but, lest they should not have sent them, we will endeavour to inform ourselves of the pay, and lodge an account of it for you with the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

We are much obliged to the people of *Accomack* and *Northampton* Counties for the civilities you have experienced from them, and the pains taken by their Committees to render your time as easy and agreeable as circumstances would admit of; and we request you will make our grateful acknowledgments to them for their favours.

We wish you a happy return; and are your most, &c.  
To Captains *Kent* and *Henry*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CHARLES COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 98.]

Annapolis, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When we requested your Committee to furnish *Calvert* County with one barrel of powder, we had not any fund so convenient, or yet so well supplied, as that in *Charles*. Your intention of complying with the order, at a time when you apprehended it could not be well spared, is in confirmation of all your other actions hitherto manifested in promoting the general welfare.

We have wrote to Colonel *Joshua Beall* to inform us how much musket powder is at *Bladensburg*. As soon as we are informed thereof, a due proportion shall be sent to *Charles* County. One ton of bullets from *Frederick* we expect is, by this time, with you; part of which you will spare to *St. Mary's* and *Calvert*, should those Counties be in want. *Port-Tobacco* is the place appointed for part of Captain *Beall's* Company to be stationed at; and we request that you will assist him in providing proper houses and firewood for his men, as well as supplying them with provisions and other necessities till they are furnished by the contractor, which, we imagine, will be in a few days.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County.

#### TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER V.

In my fourth letter, some notice was taken of the dangerous proposition held up to us by the author of *Common Sense*, for having recourse to foreign assistance, and mixing the virtuous cause of these Colonies with the ambitious views of *France* and *Spain*, even allowing that they are either able, or that we could make it their interest, to enter into a war with *Great Britain* and her allies on our account. His

tory will scarce give us an example of any people that ever recurred to an expedient of this kind without having their allies, at last, for their masters. The fatal consequences of hasty resolutions, in great questions, might be well illustrated by the conduct of the foolish *Danes*, who, to avenge themselves of their nobility, in one dreadful moment made an irretrievable surrender of their own liberty, and that of their posterity, into the hands of a tyrant. And had I been disposed to work upon the passions, rather than address the reason of my readers, the mention which was made in my last of the arbitrary Governments of *France* and *Spain*, their bloody massacres and unrelenting persecutions, gave me an opportunity of entering into descriptions which would have "harrowed up the very souls" of Protestants and Freemen.

The Administration of *Great Britain* itself, daring as they seem to be, have not yet dared to recur to the desperate measure of calling in foreign aid. But some of our best friends intimate that an example of this kind, on either side, would justify the like conduct on the other. A great majority of the patriotick Freeholders of the County of *Berks*, in *England*, nobly supporting our cause before the Throne, compliment us upon this—that we have not thrown ourselves into the arms of other Powers, and that "our Petitions have yet appeared before no Throne but that of *Britain*." "Let not *England* (say they) set an example, which is but too easily copied, by drawing into a free country the insidious and mercenary aid of foreign forces, trained to the support of barbarous despotism. The moment that a great army of such, or of any foreigners, shall enter your territories, the liberties of your people are at an end. Strenuous as we are for the honour of our country, we cannot be forgetful of its peace and concord. It is therefore we abhor the idea of encouraging foreigners to make a prey of this nation and its dependencies, under the miserable and uncovered pretext of discountenancing faction and sedition among ourselves."

It is but too reasonable, then, to conclude, that whichever side—*Great Britain* or *America*—shall first call in foreign assistance, will but force the other into the same desperate measure. In either case, this devoted land would become one field of blood and carnage for a length of years; which, at last, it is to be apprehended, would only be dreadfully closed in our perpetual subjection and slavery to the victorious side, whether allies or foes! It is, indeed, impossible to describe the miseries of that country which is once made the seat of foreign wars. Torn in pieces by contending armies, subjected to the alternate ravages and oppressions of rival powers, the merchant, the farmer, the peasant, has nothing to call his own. Even the wife of his bosom, and the daughter of his affection, are not safe from the unholy violence of mercenary soldiers, rioting through every corner of a land not their own, insolent in victory, and barbarous in defeat.

Although we now sadly bleed under the cruel hand of an unjust Administration, who have kindled up a most unnatural war among brethren in their own land, yet (*God* be thanked) that war hath not reached, and, I trust, will never be able to reach, much farther than our sea-shores. A nation cannot long continue totally blind to all its most essential interests. Our own vigour and virtue have already gone a great way to convince our oppressors of the inanity, as well as the impracticability, of their schemes to govern a great and distant country by force. Perseverance, on our side, will speedily accomplish the rest. Our friends in *Britain*, unbought by us, and uncorrupted by our foes, are yet of more worth to us than whole nations of foreigners drawn in to our assistance by mercenary or interested views. If, by no precipitate or unnecessary measures, we forfeit the esteem of the former, and make them also enemies, we shall prevail by our united strength. The devices of those who, for ambitious purposes, strive to divide a house against itself, will be finally confounded, and the whole family of *Britons*, on both sides of the *Atlantick*, may yet be bound together by fresh ties of mutual love and interest for many generations.

But, (I repeat it once more,) by the former measure of calling in foreigners to decide our quarrels, we shall bleed, not in a few parts only, but at every pore; and the present generation will not, probably, see the end of the contest. Would to Heaven that they who press such a measure, as

preferable to reconciliation with our ancient friends, upon whatever terms, could but behold the face of *Poland*, and visit the scenes of havock and desolation which mark the late footsteps of contending foreign powers in that country, or read the accounts of the like scenes in many parts of *Germany*. They would not then continue to urge such a measure till they could clearly prove that the last necessity was come.

Let it not be said that I am here drawing a horrible picture to strengthen this country into an absolute submission to *Great Britain*. No. I persevere in my belief, that, on our present plan of resistance, *Britain* can never force us, either into submission or reconciliation, but upon such terms as the united wisdom of the Colonies shall deem safe and honourable. But, upon the other plan, it is much to be feared that submission, as well as ruin, might be our lot. And were I disposed to give bad names to any persons who may, perhaps, be honestly inquiring after our true interest in this contest, they who advise such a plan, and not *Cato*, might be called inimical to these Colonies. Nor let it be said that the wished-for assistance is not that of armies, but of fleets for trade, and commercial protection. Even supposing that to be the case, will the fleets of any power, who can look those of *Britain* in the face, be content just to take a peep at our fruitful shores, give us their protection when called upon, and then return quietly home? But the author of *Common Sense* (and it is him I am now answering) makes no such distinction; and speaks of the "assistance of *France* and *Spain*" generally—and that for the purposes of a total separation from *Great Britain*. His words are these:

"It is unreasonable to suppose that *France* or *Spain* will give us any kind of assistance, if we mean only to make use of that assistance for the purpose of repairing the breach, and strengthening the connection between *Britain* and *America*."

That the assistance here meant, is not confined to mere naval assistance, in the idea of some who are great advocates for this author's pamphlet, might have been easily gathered from their expressions, when we received the late accounts of the arrival of unusual numbers of troops in the neighbouring *French West-Indies*.

But this only alarmed others the more; and I am well persuaded that this writer's idea is not yet adopted by many persons of much consideration in this country, much less by any publick bodies. I consider it only as thrown out to collect the sentiments of *America* upon it, although I cannot but think it a dangerous, as well as unseasonable question at this time, and could have been content that it had not been brought before the publick. But, since it hath been made a question, it ought now to be fairly discussed; for whatever we have left worthy of our attention as freemen, is all involved in this stake; and when important questions are put upon the footing that, if they are not answered, they are to be taken for granted, it becomes absolutely necessary to examine them.

For my part, the more I consider the matter, (and I have long considered it impartially,) the more I am persuaded that our political salvation can only be worked out by our own united virtue, and upon our own foundation. When it shall clearly appear that we can no longer stand upon this ground; when we shall be generally convinced, by better arguments than declamation, and the abuse of things venerable and ancient, that future connection with *Great Britain* is neither possible nor safe; then we shall be fully united and prepared, at every risk, to pursue whatever measures the sense of the community, fairly collected, shall think necessary to adopt. But even then, before we launch forth, many domestic concerns are to be adjusted.

Under what form of Government are we to confederate? How much of our ancient Constitutions is to be preserved? Who is to settle our clashing Territorial claims? In what cases are the jurisdiction and expenses of these Colonies to be joint or separate? On what terms are we to engage foreign alliances, and yet to secure our liberties in connection with them? Are the Colonies to vote equally in determining these grand concerns? or is a new representation to be formed in proportion to numbers and consequence?

I might propose more questions of this kind; and when the necessity comes, they will rise thick enough upon us, and we must then encounter them all, for the sake of *American* liberty, which I would never desert but with my life. But

I am sure that the author of *Common Sense*, who labours to prove that the necessity is already come, offers nothing on this head that can give much satisfaction to the publick in general. Trusting, however, that, in the preceding part of his work, he has levelled the *English* Constitution to the dust, together with all our *American* Constitutions, which are formed on similar models, and that he has thereby led us past the *Rubicon*, he may flatter himself that we will the more readily follow his future direction, and adopt what plans he may offer. But I choose to examine for myself; and having despatched his main argument for Independence, which he founds on the necessity of foreign assistance, I proceed to consider some other parts of his work.

His first sections, on the origin of Government and Monarchy, appear to be the strangest medley of inconsistencies and contradictions which were, perhaps, ever offered to the common sense of any people, and calculated only to mislead those superficial readers, who are content to believe as they go, without comparing one part of a writer's doctrine with another.

"Society," says he, "is produced by our wants, and Government by our wickedness: the former promotes our happiness positively, by uniting our affections; the latter negatively, by restraining our vices. Government, like dress, is the badge of lost innocence; the palaces of Kings are built on the ruins of the bowers of Paradise."

If the author meant only by this to tell us that if all men were perfectly virtuous, and followed the pure dictates of right reason, human Governments would have been unnecessary, then I could subscribe to his doctrine, and might have paid him a compliment for clothing an old truth in a spruce metaphor. But if he meant to prove that Monarchies were any more founded on the ruins of Paradise than Republicks, he ought, in consistency with himself, to have shown us that, after *Adam* was expelled from Paradise, he and his descendants, as soon as they were "four or five" strong, and "able to raise a tolerable dwelling in the wilderness," were found erecting some sort of palace for him as their King; and that, after this example, all future Governments were kingly in the first ages. But our author shows us no such thing. On the contrary, when he speaks of the manner of "peopling the world," and frames a Government out of the state of nature, the first idea he presents us with is, that of a pure Republick.

"Some convenient tree," says he, "affords a State-House, under the branches of which the whole Colony may assemble to deliberate on publick matters." They proceed, as their numbers increase, to improve this Constitution, and devise checks that "the elected may not form to themselves an interest separate from the electors." On these checks ("not on the unmeaning name of King) depend the strength of Government and happiness of the governed."

How can this be reconciled to what follows? The author has told us that all Government "being at best but a necessary evil, promotes happiness only negatively, by restraining (viz: checking) our vices;" and, in erecting his early Republick, he contrives his checks accordingly; but (*risum teneatis!*) directly forgets himself, and says that no "power which needs checking can be from *God*." Thus, by his own argument, *God* has as little to do with the powers of Government in the Republican, as mixed forms. But further, lest his readers should also forget themselves, and be carried away by his first assertion, that "the palaces of Kings were built on the ruins of Paradise," he takes care to tell us, and backs it with the authority of "Scripture chronology, that, in the early ages of the world, there were no Kings;" that the Devil himself, in those ancient times, was but a dull fellow; and that, although "Government by Kings was his most prosperous invention for the promotion of idolatry," he was a long while in hammering it out; which is but a poor compliment to Satan's cunning. For being a King himself from the beginning, he might have hit upon it sooner. But I leave our author to make his own apology to his infernal majesty, if he be of his councils, for I have no business to interfere between them.

It is sufficient to show what use he makes of his *common sense*, at the very outset, in refuting his own first doctrine, and proving to demonstration that, instead of palaces for Kings, State-Houses for whole Colonies were built on the ruins of Paradise; nay more, that these ruins, in the case of the *Jews*, were near three thousand years tossed up and down

into various forms, before they were converted into Royal edifices! That I have not misrepresented our author in this argument, his own words will show: "Near three thousand years passed away, from the *Mosaick* account of the creation, till the *Jews*, under a national delusion, requested a King. Till then, their form of Government (except in extraordinary cases, where the Almighty interposed) was a kind of Republick," &c.

He proceeds, in the next place, to persuade us that he is as well acquainted with the secrets of Heaven as the devils of Hell, concerning the origin of kingly Government; and that the Almighty consented at last to this "most prosperous invention of Satan," in mere wrath and vengeance against the *Jews*, as a greater punishment for their ingratitude than could have been inflicted upon them by any other human form of Government. There never was a greater perversion of Scripture than our author has been guilty of in his endeavours to establish this part of his argument, as every man of common understanding, who has his Bible in his hand, may easily perceive.

The bounds prescribed for this letter will not suffer me, at present, to point out his misrepresentations, and to show how he sets himself up, not only against the plain letter of Scripture, but the universal sense of wise and holy men of every age. It is not consistent with my principles to say one word in favour of the divine right of Kings, nor do I believe a word of what others have said in its favour. As little do I believe what has been said concerning the divine right of Republicks, or any other human forms of Government. But the question is, whether *God* hath particularly reprobated any of them. For my part, as the author has set me the example of examining Scripture on this head, I cannot find any modern Kings particularly rejected by Heaven but *Monsieur*, the King of *France*. It is in the thirty-fifth chapter of *Ezekiel*; and I am sure our author, who is so deeply versed in Scripture, could not have overlooked it, if it had not been for the treaty which he proposes with this King. The reader will readily allow that the application is much more natural than that which the author has made of the 8th chapter of the First Book of *Samuel*.

"Son of man, set thy face against *Mountseir*, (*Heb. Mounseir*, or *Monseur*;) and prophesy against it, (*Heb. him*;) and say unto him, thus saith the Lord *God*: Behold, O *Mountseir* (or *Mounsier*) I am against thee, because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of *Israel* [that is, the *French* Protestants] by the force of the sword: therefore, as I live, saith the Lord *God*, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee: sith thou hast not hated blood, even blood shall pursue thee. Thus will I make *Mountseir* (or *Monsieur*) most desolate, because thou hast said these two nations, and these two countries [here *Britain* and *America* are clearly pointed out] shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas the Lord was there:"—as much as to say, You shall not have these two countries, *Monsieur*; the Lord intends them for his own use; they shall be free, Protestant countries.

The reader may peruse and apply the remainder of the chapter, which he may do as well as the author of *Common Sense*; and some may say, perhaps, as well as

CATO.

#### YORK COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Hanover Town, Heidlebergh Township, }  
March 30, 1776. }

Whereas information has been given unto us, the subscribers, Members of the General Committee for *York* County, that a certain *Robert Owings*, of *Heidlebergh* Township aforesaid, had, on the 15th day of this instant, in an open and publick manner, taken the liberty to speak in an unbecoming manner against the measures now pursuing for the maintaining our invaluable rights and privileges; and, being called before us, was duly convicted thereof by sufficient testimony. Whereupon he, the said *Robert Owings*, expressing his hearty and unfeigned sorrow for his said conduct, agreed further to signify his entire disapprobation thereof, by signing the underwritten declaration, which was voted satisfactory.

RICHARD McALLISTER,  
HENRY SLAGLE,  
CHARLES GALWICK,  
JOSEPH JEFFERIS,

Whereas I, the subscriber, having, in an unguarded hour, been induced to degrade and speak disrespectfully of the persons and proceedings of the Committees and other bodies of men unto whom the management of our publick affairs are committed, for the endeavouring to support and maintain our invaluable rights and privileges as freemen, especially by disrespectfully degrading by words, in a most atrocious and insolent manner, the proceedings of the Committees in general, as well as of the honourable the Continental Congress; for all which I am most heartily and unfeignedly sorry; and, craving forgiveness of my country, am in hopes, by my future good conduct, to be again received into the friendship of my neighbours and fellow-citizens. And to manifest that I am a friend to the liberties of my country, I do hereby consent and agree voluntarily to sign the articles of Association recommended by the honourable the Assembly of the Province of *Pennsylvania* for our mutual defence. And, further, I desire that this, my declaration, be made publick.

ROBERT OWINGS.

RECANTATION OF PETER LOUDERBACK.

In Committee, Piles-Grove, Salem County, }  
March 30, 1776. }

I, *Peter Louderback*, having, by divers expressions, shown myself to my countrymen inimical to the present cause of *America*, by abusing the magistrates in civil power, and calling the persons fighting in the present glorious struggle a set of rascally Rebels, and that the Congress would be all hung; all which unguarded expressions I am heartily sorry for, and do beg pardon of my injured countrymen; promising, for the future, to conduct myself in a more respectable manner, and to do everything in my power to forward the cause of liberty against the present vile Administration.

PETER LOUDERBACK.

GENERAL THOMPSON TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As a number of troops are arrived, and more are hourly expected, who must be quartered in the city; and as I understand that many of the inhabitants who have quitted the town have left part of their furniture in their houses, I must request that you will give such directions as you may judge best for securing the property of those people whose houses are, or shall be, occupied as barracks for the troops. And you will much oblige, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM THOMPSON.

To the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

CAPTAIN GRENNELL TO THOMAS TREDWELL.

SIR: Was this day informed by Mr. *Hobart* that Mr. *Crane* is appointed Captain-Lieutenant of the company designed for me. It becomes incumbent on me to inform the Committee of Safety with my determination respecting the appointment, which I thought I had done already by my letter to General *Woodhull*; but as that was not read in Congress, must again say, that I am so bound in the nomination I gave the Congress, (and that more especially to Mr. *Stoddard*, wherein he was named for Captain-Lieutenant,) that I cannot in honour be released; therefore must repeat, that I cannot serve, and resign a commission that I confess gave me pleasure, in the hopes of being serviceable to my country in a way that best suited my genius. But, however, doubt not some better man will easily be found to supply my place.

It may be asked why I refused serving. The case was this: I was desired to look out and nominate proper men for officers, which I understood was a privilege given Captain *Lamb* also; and concluded from thence that the Congress meant to confirm the nomination, otherwise I should not have put any gentlemen to the pain or suspense or of being so publicly rejected, and thereby have avoided the situation I am now in; in consequence of which, I gave Mr. *Stoddard* the fullest assurances that he would be confirmed, and pledged my commission to him for the certainty, otherwise he would not have left Captain *Billings*, with whom he was engaged as a First Lieutenant, and at the time about marching from *New-York* to the northward,

and was to commission his officers at General *Schuyler's*; which opportunity *Stoddard* has now lost.

The chance of raising a company here for that service being now over, I have turned my attention another way, and perhaps may be as serviceable to my country as a private as I would have been in commission. Please to acquaint the respectable the Committee of Safety with my determination; and though am not in office, my sentiments of the cause are not changed, in which I hope to live and die; being, with regard, sir, your humble servant,

JOHN GRENNELL.

To Mr. *Thomas Tredwell*, *New-York*.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, NEW-YORK.

New-York, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It astonishes every lover of his country your allowing at this time so many gentlemen to leave this Continent and go to *Britain*. You cannot have too many pledges in your hands, and there are none at this period of danger that should be allowed to leave the Continent who are able to bear arms; far less should they be allowed to be conveying quantities of specie out of this Province. The passengers now going from this place must pay their freight in gold and silver, which will at least take away one thousand pounds in cash. This hurts the cause much more than importing necessary articles. Do not stumble at mole-hills and jump over mountains.

Yours, as you conduct yourselves,

AMERICANUS.

ELIHU MARVIN TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Cornwall Precinct, March 30, 1776.

SIR: The subscriber of the enclosed, *Jonathan Brooks* and *Reuben Clark*, being proper members of the Committee of *Cornwall* Precinct, and the bearer, (*Nathan June*,) informs the need of having the commissions sent speedily. If you can send them by the bearer, you will oblige your humble servant,

ELIHU MARVIN, *Chairman*.

To *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

JOHN BLACKLER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Esopus Jail, March 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Conscious of my own innocence as to acting any ways derogatory from the rules established by the Congress, I am emboldened to flatter myself my crime cannot be of so heinous a nature but that my present punishment is sufficient. I have now been confined upwards of one hundred days, without the least prospect of enlargement on the one hand, and my inevitable ruin on the other. Had I ever, directly or indirectly, been employed in the present unhappy contest, I should not have murmured; but on bare suspicion to be sent away from my friends and the means of support, surely is cruel. The term limited by the honourable the Continental Congress for a capital offender is but three months imprisonment. That time (if I am made to appear in that light) is expired. All that I crave is liberty to return to my native country, in order to live peaceably, if possible; or, should not that be agreeable, permission to seek a living within any bounds you may think proper to allow; and on the breach of such restriction, my life shall pay the forfeit. Should I be so happy as to merit your attention, it shall ever, with a most grateful heart, be acknowledged by, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN BLACKLER.

To *New-York* Committee of Safety.

Albany Committee-Chamber, March 30, 1776.

A Petition of *Henry Van Rensselaer* and Sons was laid before this Board; which said Petition is in the following words, to wit:

To the Committee of Safety, &c., of the County of ALBANY.  
The Petition of HENRY VAN RENSSELAER and Sons, of CLAVEBACK, humbly sheweth:

That whereas the Provincial Congress of this Colony has recommended the erection of two Powder-Mills in this

County, under certain encouragements and regulations, as more particularly by said resolves will appear:

Your Petitioners have taken the said resolves into consideration, and are of opinion that their situation at the place aforesaid is conveniently formed for erecting a manufactory of the kind, a sufficient stream running at the distance of more than two miles east from *Hudson's River*, which they conceive to be proper for the said purpose. They therefore humbly request the Committee will take the same into consideration; and if, upon inquiry, the said place will answer the intention of said resolves, they pray that they may be entitled to the recommendation of this Committee for the purpose aforesaid; and your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

HENRY VAN RENSSELAER & SONS.

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the said Petition be granted, and they are hereby recommended to the Provincial Congress accordingly.

A true copy from the Minutes:  
ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., *Chairman*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO SILAS DEANE.  
Camp before Quebec, March 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have often sat down to write you, and as often been prevented by matters of consequence crowding upon me, which I could not postpone. I am now so much perplexed with a multiplicity of affairs that I can hardly form an assemblage of three ideas, and those, I am afraid, will not be very pleasing to you, as they convey no very agreeable intelligence, but rather matters of complaint, (which, I make no doubt, you are daily troubled with.) Without further preamble, I shall give you a short sketch of our strength, situation, prospects, &c.: From the 1st of *January* to the 1st of *March*, we have never had more than seven hundred effective men on the ground, and frequently not more than five hundred; since which we have been increasing in our numbers, as you will observe by the enclosed morning reports. Our numbers are far short of what I expected before this time, and the *New-England* Troops will be of very little service to us for some time, as the greatest part of them have the small-pox. That fatal disorder has got into our camp, though every method that prudence could suggest has been attempted to prevent it; a variety of orders have been repeatedly given, (some of which I enclose,) and as repeatedly disobeyed or neglected. The reinforcements, (as fast as they came in,) privately prepared and inoculated, (Colonel *Warner's* Regiment and Major *Cady's* detachment in particular;) not one-quarter of the former, and very few of the latter, are fit for duty; so that the publick will incur an expense of at least twenty pounds for each of those people, who will not, on an average, have done ten days' service to the 15th *April*, to which time they are engaged. Our Surgeons are without medicine; our Hospitals crowded, and in want of almost every necessary.

Enclosed is a small sketch of the City of *Quebeck* and vicinity, by which you will see the great extent of ground we are obliged to occupy. No less than twenty-six miles makes a tour of the rounds, including three ferries. A few small cannon—sixes, twelves, and one twenty-four-pounder, little ball, and less powder, cannot be expected to effect the reduction of a place so strongly fortified as *Quebeck*. Three seven-inch mortars, a few shells, (and those too small,) will cut a despicable figure at a bomb-battery, and serve but to expose our weakness; only one Artillery officer, and twenty matrosses, very few of whom know their duty; not one artificer for making carcasses, or any kind of fire-works. An able Engineer (a most necessary man in an army) wanting, and no prospect of being supplied with one; a well furnished military chest (which gives life and spirits to an army) entirely wanting, without which we cannot make one movement in this country. For, to tell you the truth, our credit extends no farther than our arms. Add to this catalogue, want of provisions, (not more than one month's on hand,) and our resources uncertain, and most of the *New-England*, and all the *New-York* Troops, engaged no longer than the 15th *April*—these are some few of the difficulties we have to encounter.

The want of money and provisions laid me under the necessity, the 4th of this month, to issue a Proclamation, giving our paper money a currency; promising to exchange

it in four months for hard cash, at the same time declaring those enemies who should refuse it. About fifteen thousand dollars have been paid away. Many received it willingly, but the greater part of the people were averse to taking it. This step could not possibly be avoided, and will have this good effect: those who have received it will be interested in keeping the credit of it good. Notwithstanding this long catalogue of wants, &c., we are determined to exert ourselves. The officers and men are in general in good spirits, but too few in numbers to attempt an escalade. We are, therefore, raising batteries; one on *Point Levi*, of three twelve-pounders and one eight-inch howitz, will be ready to open to-morrow; another on the *Heights of Abraham*, within five hundred yards of the wall, of one twenty-four-pounder, four twelves, two sixes, and two howitz, we expect to open in four or five days. I have one gondola, mounting one twelve-pounder, at *Sellery*, with several armed boats. I am preparing a fire-ship to send into the *Cul-du-Sac*, where the two frigates and merchant ships are lying, which I make no doubt will have a proper effect if we are not prevented by ice, or contrary winds, until the ships can lay in the stream. If we should be happy enough to succeed in destroying the ships, I think it will be impossible for the town to hold out until they can be relieved.

A few days since I received intelligence from *Point La Caile* (twelve leagues from the south shore) that a party of sixty men had landed there from *Quebeck*, and that two hundred and fifty *Canadians* had joined them, and seized a convoy of our provisions. I immediately despatched Major *Dubourgs*, Captain *Bruyn*, and eighty men, in pursuit of them, who surprised their advanced guard, killed seven, wounded two, and took thirty-eight prisoners, with the King's standard, without any loss on our side; the rest dispersed immediately, and everything now remains quiet.

It is now twelve o'clock at night, and I dare say you will be glad when I end my dull epistle.

I am, with great truth and sincerity, dear sir, your friend and humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To the Honourable *Silas Deane*, Esq.

A Return of the Troops before QUEBECK, in the service of the United Colonies, MARCH 30, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	Effectives.	Sick.	Total.	DISORDERS.
Colonel Warner's.....	102	271	373	Small-Pox by inoculation.
Major Cady's.....	82	50	132	Do. do.
Colonel De Haas's.....	225	-	225	Do. do.
Major Brown's Detachment...	38	132	170	Do. do.
General Wooster's.....	42	48	90	Do. do.
Colonel McDougall's.....	76	115	191	Small Pox, great and various.
Colonel Van Schaick's.....	81	77	158	Various.
Colonel Clinton's.....	207	20	227	Various.
Colonel Holmes's.....	91	23	114	Various.
Colonel Livingston's.....	206	-	206	Various.
General Arnold's.....	117	50	167	Various and wounded.
Captain Wool's Artillery.....	31	-	31	
Colonel Duggan's.....	123	-	123	
Colonel Maxwell's.....	216	-	216	
Colonel Fellows's.....	82	-	82	
Total.....	1719	786	2505	

Since which have joined of different Regiments, 350.

N. B. Fifteen hundred of the above men are at liberty the 15th of *April*; probably one-half of them will be retained in the service.

B. ARNOLD.

General Orders before QUEBECK, FEBRUARY 11, 1776.

Whereas the repeated orders given to prevent the spreading of that fatal disorder the Small-Pox, have been in a great measure disregarded; it is ordered that the commanding officer of every company immediately send such of his company as are seized with it to the Hospital; and all soldiers who shall know of any persons with that disorder in their private quarters, and do not make immediate complaint thereof to the Barrackmaster, shall be treated as neglecting their duty, and guilty of a breach of orders.



*General Orders before QUEBECK, MARCH 15, 1776.*

As the spreading the Small-Pox at this juncture will probably prove the entire ruin of the Army, the officers are desired to take all possible care to prevent it, by keeping the men from strolling from their quarters.

The Surgeons of the Army are forbid, under the severest penalty, to inoculate any person. And as many officers and men are preparing for the small-pox, it is said with an intention of taking it by inoculation; to prevent the fatal consequences attending such conduct, those who are found guilty, if officers, will be immediately cashiered; if private soldiers, punished at the discretion of a Court-Martial.

## PAYMASTER-GENERAL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 18. Referred to Mr. Read, Mr. Clinton, Mr. Braxton.]

Watertown, March 30, 1776.

SIR: I beg the favour of you to make my grateful acknowledgments to the Congress for the honour they did me in appointing me Paymaster-General of the Army. I have endeavoured to answer their expectation, by executing that office with assiduity and fidelity, and should think it an honour still to continue in that station. But, sir, as the operations of war may, and probably will, change their seat, and some other of the Colonies be the principal scene of action, and it may be expected that I should attend the Army with the General and Commander-in-Chief, you will oblige me by desiring the Congress, under these circumstances, to accept my resignation of that office. The inconvenience to my private affairs is the smallest inducement to this step. The provision made for the support of the Paymaster's office is ample. But, as I have ever made the publick good my ruling principle, I flatter myself, from the connection and interest I have here, it may be more in my power to render some small services to the publick here than in another part of the Continent. I hope, therefore, this resignation will not be considered as proceeding from any discontent, or want of respect for the General or for the Congress, whose dignity and influence I make it my business on all occasions to support.

I shall be ready to render my accounts of the disposition of the money I have received, in such manner as the Congress shall direct, and to serve them in any station they may think proper to appoint me to.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. WARREN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress.

## MARK HOPKINS TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Great-Barrington, March 30, 1776.

SIR: Upon the receipt of the Militia Bill, and the order of the honourable Council conformable thereto, the Field-Officers of the Regiment which I have the honour to command, met, and divided the same into companies; and, amongst the rest, divided this town of *Barrington* into two companies, by a line running east and west through the middle of the same, having first taken off some of the out corners of the town, and placed them to other companies for their convenience. After which division, the companies were brought to a choice of their officers, and chose those named in the list now sent to the Secretary. The Captains of each company were chosen by a bare majority of votes, and the Lieutenants but by a few more. Since the choice, a large number of the soldiers appear to be very uneasy with the officers elected. Those of the South Company say that Captain *Peter Ingersoll* was broke last fall by the sentence of a Court-Martial in the Continental Army, and was then declared incapable of sustaining any office in the Continental service. The First Lieutenant, *Timothy Younglove*, they say is a Tory, and during the whole of our troubles has manifested himself unfriendly to the common cause, and openly opposed all the measures that have been recommended by the Congress; therefore that he ought not to have any command in the Militia. Those in the North Company say that the Captain, *Hewit Root*, is advanced in years, and by frequent fits of the gout, or rheumatism, is rendered incapable of doing the duties of his office. They also object against the moral character and general conduct

of the First Lieutenant; and the uneasiness in both companies has risen to that height, that they say they never will bear arms under these officers, so long as they are able to earn enough to pay their fines.

It must be observed that the town consists of members of the Church of *England* and Dissenters; the former of which (a few excepted) have been very backward in all our late publick matters, and amongst us are denominated Tories. It is said that by their interest principally, the aforementioned officers were elected. They have never turned any men out for the publick service, which the other party have; and thus, being all present, are able to outvote the Whigs.

A petition has been presented to me, signed by fifty-four persons, requesting an alteration in the division of said companies into East and West Companies. By the proposed new division, the main of those called Tories will be in the West Company. The petitioners imagine that, upon a choice according to this division, such officers would be chosen as would give general satisfaction. The other party say that this proposed division will give as great uneasiness as the present, and they, to the number of eighty-seven, have petitioned against the proposed new division. The Field-Officers, upon the present appearance, are of opinion that, if the now proposed division had been made at first, it might have been for the best; but after we had proceeded to make a division, and a choice of officers has been made accordingly, thought ourselves hardly warranted to make a new division without the direction of the honourable Council; and the rest of the Field-Officers directed me to write to your Honours upon the matter. *William Whiting*, Esq., the Representative from the town, can fully inform your Honours of the difficulties and circumstances attending the whole matter, to whom we refer for that purpose.

I beg leave further to mention, that a part of this town, called the *Hoplands*, containing about thirty-eight men, is separated from the rest of this town by mountains, in such a manner that the people there cannot get to the place of parade here without travelling eight or ten miles. They lie contiguous to a part of *Tyringham*; we therefore determined that they should join that part of *Tyringham*, and so make a company; but upon notice, the said *Hoplanders* refused to join with *Tyringham*. They are so few that, by the act, they cannot be formed into a company by themselves; so that, as matters now stand, they must be obliged to join the North Company in this town; and yet they have had no voice in the choice of the officers, it not being known but that they would be willing to join with *Tyringham* till after the choice here.

We look to your Honours for direction in these matters, not doubting but the people will acquiesce in what your Honours shall direct in the premises.

I am your Honours' most humble servant,

MARK HOPKINS.

To the President of the Honourable Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 99.]

Annapolis, March 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed is a copy of a letter we have just received from Mr. *Hughes*. And as mounting the eighteen-pounders immediately will be a capital thing for your town, and, eventually, the Province in general, we request you will exert your utmost diligence in getting the carriages ready for them.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

## TO CATO, CASSANDRA, AND ALL THE WRITERS ON THE INDEPENDENT CONTROVERSY.

Philadelphia, March 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: \* Though it might be deemed absolutely necessary to suppress all publications which tend to disunite the Colonies in their present spirited opposition to a cruel

\* *Cassandra* will please to excuse the appellation of "Gentlemen," for as *Phœbus* decreed that the Prophetess should never be credited, I am under the necessity of disbelieving that the modern *Cassandra* is a lady.

and unnatural attack from the people of *England*; yet, as the question of Independency has been lately started, in a pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, and supported by a variety of subsequent authors, I confess I was much pleased on the appearance of a writer on the other side of the question; for, as I have no other view than peace and happiness for myself and posterity, I was determined to give an earnest attention to the arguments on both sides. It is no matter with me whether I live under an Emperor, a Pope, a Bashaw, a King of *England*, or a Republick, provided I can be convinced, by irrefutable arguments, that such or such a state contained the greatest quantity of happiness for the people at large, and for individuals in particular; for, as I am in the situation of ninety-nine out of every hundred in the world, who have no expectations of ever ascending into office, and riding upon the top of the machine, and have only to expect to contribute my proportion of labour to wheel it along, I therefore think it my business, as well as my fellow-labourers', to see that it is so constructed as to move with as little labour as possible, and the machinery so contrived as to be the least liable to get out of order in the variety of rough and smooth roads through which we must inevitably pass. Now, taking it for granted that the machine must necessarily be kept in proper motion, I conclude, we are not to consult the ease and convenience of the riders, but that of the draughtsmen, who, being the majority, and giving motion to the machine for their own emolument—(I know, critics, the simile won't run upon all fours, but I shall nevertheless stick to it till you offer me a better)—I say, we move it along for our own emolument; and if the riders should insist on having it built to contain only a single chair for a crowned head, or to spread a larger floor over our heads to support a Commonwealth, we who pull, and not they who ride, ought to be the judges of the matter; for that some must pull, and that some will ride, in every community on the face of the earth, must be granted me; therefore, all I have to consider, with the rest of my brethren on the ground, is to attach myself to that machine, or (if you won't let me pursue the simile) to that form of Government, which will afford me the most ease, and give me the least pain.

People in general know so little of the different movements of a State, and the complicated connections and dependencies on the other powers of the world, that they are almost unequal to the task of forming a proper judgment of the fitness or unfitness of this or that mode; for this reason it gave me great pleasure to think I was now about to have the matter laid before me in an open and candid manner, that I and the rest of my unlettered brethren might judge for ourselves. The writer signed *Cato*, I should have liked much better had his actions corresponded with his declarations. Says he, "Nor need any person be alarmed; for an indecent nor angry expression shall not dishonour my pen, nor yet a single sentiment which is not calculated to cement all parties in the Province, upon safe and popular grounds, more firmly than ever, in executing the resolves of the Congress, and maintaining *American* liberty." Had this decency really prevailed in *Cato's* breast, why did he, a few lines before, charge the commentators on the conduct of the Assembly with "scurrilous misrepresentations?" Decency and scurrility can certainly have no possible connection; and, unhappily for him, in his second letter, he proceeds to term a writer, who styles himself *Cassandra*, "an enthusiast, a madman, and a barbarian." Language of this kind can be of no real use to men who are searching for truth; and I will take the liberty to request *Cato*, in his future essays, to keep up to the decency he professed to set out with. I could have wished to have passed *Cassandra* unnoticed on this head; but as he also has given too much reason for censure, I will just make free to say, that his arguments have acquired no force with me by directing personal attacks on *Cato*, and endeavouring to point out the real man to the publick; nay, by introducing the very name of a private gentleman into his essays, and obliquely glancing at him as the writer of *Cato's* letters. I am sensible it is so guarded that *Cassandra* may plead off, and declare, if he pleases, that he had no such person in view; and *Cato* might find it difficult to disprove his sincerity. *Cassandra* may also assert, where he hints at the danger which *Cato* runs of "too far provoking the majesty of the people by the

bold flourishes of a pen which pays no respect to truth, lest he may find it expedient to end his days on the principles of *dependency*," that he meant no such thing as the threatening *Cato* with the chance of being hanged by a mob; though his marking the word "*dependency*" in italicks, will certainly convey that idea to many minds. Now, gentlemen, with all due respect to you both, I would wish you to avoid indecency and personality. However sharp your minds may be set against each other, upon a supposition that you have got at the secret of names on both sides, I would request you to consider, that though you are both volunteers, yet you are in some measure accountable to the publick. If two advocates, pleading a cause of great importance before a learned Court and an intelligent Jury, were to make use of illiberal reflections upon each other's characters, and rip up a long list of charges of fraudulent designs and wicked practices, would not both Court and Jury think themselves grossly insulted, and would not such advocates deserve the severest censure from the bench? Be pleased to remember, gentlemen, you are pleading at the bar of the publick, upon a cause of greater importance than ever came before any tribunal on earth—no less than whether it is expedient or inexpedient to make a total separation in Government between the new and the old world. Do you think, gentlemen, that a thousandth part of your readers either know, care for, or desire to know, who are the writers on this popular subject? If *John a Nokes* and *Tom a Stiles* should be fixed on as the authors in this city, and should hand forth to the publick every foible and unfavourable incident of each other's life, of what importance, think you, would this be to those who are strangers to them both? If *Kouli Khan's* gardener's daughter had a child by the Grand Vizier's brother, what has that to do with the Revolution in *Persia*? It is the matter, and not the man, that the publick are concerned with. If Lord *North* himself was a prisoner amongst us, and should issue forth from his confinement daily lucubrations on the subject now before us, I would give them as earnest a reading as if they flowed from the pen of a *Camden* or a *Burke*; and yet I am a zealous advocate against *Great Britain* in the present controversy. It is truth alone I am hunting for, and this I believe to be the case with nine-tenths of the people; therefore I beg you will behave like gentlemen to yourselves and to the publick; canvass the matter fairly, fully, and freely; and do not suppose yourselves of so much importance as to think we shall be pleased with your calling off our attention from the grand question, to the unimportant discussions of the characters or schemes of either party. I, with a great number of others, should be glad to see you enter deeply into the question on both sides. State the advantages of an Independence—the benefits to be derived from a new mode of Government; how it will affect individuals; the additional happiness and freedom it will produce—particularized in a number of plain, clear instances; for though I, and some others, might be satisfied with the general assertion, "that the State will be much benefited by the change," yet there is no gaining admission into some bosoms but by full and positive demonstration; and the number of such is very great. To make myself better understood, I mean thus: If *A*, being a shopkeeper in this city, having a tolerable stand for business, though at a distance from the market, was to be advised by *B* to remove his shop to the outskirts of the town, where he should be sure to make his fortune, *A* would naturally require of *B* some proof of its probability, as the proposal might seem a strange one; but if *B*, being in the secret, should inform him that the Corporation had determined to remove the market to that very spot, *A* would not hesitate a moment about the matter. So with respect to Independence: some people will be satisfied with nothing short of such clear and demonstrative evidence. You must tell them, also, of the particular new trades which will be opened to us; the prices our goods will bear at home to the farmer, and what they will bring at such and such ports, and how much those prices exceed what we have been used to get for them at the markets we were allowed to trade to. In this you must name the articles, the prices, and the places. You must then tell us the advantages of buying linens, woollens, cottons, silks, and hardware in *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*, and other counties in *Europe*, and how much cheaper they are than in *England* and *Ireland*. In this, too,

you must name the goods, the places, and prices; and whether these places will take in exchange our lumber, our naval stores, our tobacco, flaxseed, &c., &c., and what prices they will give; what credit it is customary for those several places to allow to foreigners on what we commonly call dry goods—for our country people generally requiring credit, the merchant-importer must have credit too, otherwise trade will be confined to a few rich houses, who will exact what prices they please upon the farmer and consumer. Next, you must show that the charge of supporting Government will be less, in a state of independence, than it hath been heretofore, during a connection; you must name the expenses we now pay, and the expenses we shall then pay; you must give an estimate of the charge of supporting such an Army and Navy in time of peace, as may always preserve the peace. There are many who will not be satisfied with your telling them that “a well-regulated Militia will save all the expense arising on the score of an Army;” say they, a man’s time and labour, when he musters, will always be the same to him as money paid, and that, therefore, you must fix the number of men that are to be enrolled every year, and the number of times they shall appear; for instance, if in *Pennsylvania* twenty-five thousand should muster eight times in the year, at two shillings and six pence per day, it would amount to twenty-five thousand pounds, which would be just equal to the present one shilling and six pence tax on all the estates in the Province; if they are to receive no pay, it will nevertheless be a loss to them equal to that sum; if they are to be paid, the amount of this tax should certainly be estimated, because it must be paid by the community at large in every Province, in proportion to the numbers so enrolled as a Militia. The expense of building a sufficient fleet should also be ascertained, and also the number of ships and men necessary to be kept in constant pay, as *guarda costas*, occasional convoys or despatch vessels, conveying Ambassadors to the different ports in *Europe*; and you must also estimate the annual expense of watching and keeping those vessels in repair which are laid up. Also, the expenses of maintaining in every Court of *Europe* Ambassadors, Consuls, Messengers, Spies, and even bribe-money, for intelligence of the designs of their respective Cabinets. Also, the expenses of the Fleet and Army in time of war; for we may reasonably expect to share the fate of other nations, and of being sometimes unfortunately engaged in war with some troublesome ambitious Prince or other. Perhaps they may undertake to stop our trade up the *Straits*, in the *Mediterranean*, or up the *North Seas*, to *Holland*, *Denmark*, *Norway*, *Sweden*, and *Russia*: we must then either give it up, or fight for it, or pay some subsidy to a foreign power for protection in those seas—the expenses in any, or all of these cases, you should give to us. Also, in what proportion the value of our estates in *America* will increase, so as to defray the necessary charges of Government, taking for granted that a one shilling and six pence tax in the pound on all taxable estates in *America* does now yield five hundred and thirty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars—being rather more than half a million; which is calculated thus: *Pennsylvania* is rated by the Congress to pay about one-eighth of all the expenses of the United Colonies; and as a tax of one shilling and six pence in the pound in the said Province, nets about twenty-five thousand pounds, we may suppose a one shilling and six pence tax upon the United Colonies will yield just eight times as much; which is two hundred thousand pounds, our currency, or five hundred and thirty-three thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars per annum. Lastly, you are to consider, after all things are candidly stated, whether the sums annually raised on the one hand to protect ourselves, and the absolute gain in trade (over and above what we used to make) on the other hand, do or do not render it most for our interest to separate from *Britain*.

On the part of those who contend for a reunion, they must show what are the advantages that result from such a connection; what were the customary expenses of Government in *America* before the present rupture; what are the exclusive privileges we derive from exporting goods to *Great Britain*; whether there are acts of Parliament in favour of the Colonies, to the prejudice of other nations, and which we reap the sole advantage of, and whether these are equi-

valent to any loss we may sustain by having our trade confined to them; whether our trade is not limited to our great disadvantage. You are to particularize the ports we may trade to under the old regulations, and the different articles of *America* which we may carry directly to foreign ports. You must also show that the principle part of the goods we import from *England* and *Ireland* could not be supplied us upon as good terms from any other country; and that those nations with whom we might incline to trade, would not grant us bounties upon naval stores and sundry other articles, in the same manner as *England* does; the amount of which, annually paid to the Colonies, you should sum up. You must also show cause, if you can, why *America* ought not to take credit to herself for all the taxes paid by the *English* manufacturers before they send their goods to the Colonies, it being generally granted that the consumer ultimately pays all charges. You must also show whether taxes on goods imported into *America* from *Holland*, *France*, or *Spain*, where imposts are very heavy, are or are not added to the cost of the said goods, in the same manner as we reckon them on *English* goods. Also, whether the long established credit our *American* merchants have obtained in *England*, in the interior part of the kingdom, with the original manufacturers, cannot be as well accomplished in the new countries we may go to; or whether we must take their goods from merchants at the several out-ports, with all the middle men’s or intervening dealers’ profit added to them. And if we should obtain credit at such places for twelve months, as in *England*, what will be the advance which a *Frenchman*, a *Dutchman*, or a *Spaniard*, will choose to put on his goods, as an equivalent for the risk which he will suppose himself to run by trusting strangers. Whether it is not a generally established custom with all trading nations to trust foreigners, with whom they have no legal or political constitutional connection, as freely as their own subjects in distant parts of the world. If this is not generally the case, you should show why *America* cannot make treaties with such powers in order to obtain credit, either by pledging to them the estates of the community at large, to make good deficiencies that might happen by individuals failing or neglecting to pay such foreign debts, or by such other means as the *American* States might think fit to offer. You should also show whether the low price of goods for many years past, was owing to the smallness of the demand, or to the great quantity brought to market, or to the reasonableness and moderation of the importing merchants; and whether if *France*, *Spain*, and *Holland*, should refuse to give credit to every young merchant going out for a cargo, with a tolerable recommendation, as the traders in *England* have been accustomed to do—I say, if this should be the case, and the importations should fall wholly into the hands of a few rich merchants, why might not some mode of restriction be entered into for preventing the exorbitant exactions they might be guilty of, to the great injury of the consumers. You must also convince the farmer, if he bought his goods as low as formerly, occasioned by a reunion with *Great Britain*, that he would also have the same advantages of shipping off his produce, which he has been used to, without any restriction being laid on our trade that might lower the price when he brought his crops to market. You must also point out what advantage it would be to *England* to have tobacco once more exported to them; and whether this, among other considerations, would be any inducement for them to offer us better terms. Some might possibly think that, nationally speaking, the being deprived of an expensive luxury would be rather a gain than a loss; for though the tax on this article may be rated at four hundred thousand pounds per annum, yet it is wholly paid by themselves, as well as the nett cost of the tobacco. The publick funds would, indeed, be losers, but the people would be gainers in a sum just equal to the nett amount paid to the *American* planter; therefore you must show other reasons why *England* would give up any points for the sake of reconciliation. And before this point is settled, you must convince us that the people of *England* are not gainers by our withholding trade to the *West-Indies*; for as the large quantities of rum and sugar, which we formerly imported from the Islands, will now be sent to *England*, the price to the consumer there will be considerably abated; of course the quantity used by the lower class of people will be increased; and as those

articles pay very high duties, the revenue will be capitally enlarged. And it may be supposed to have this further effect: the great tracts of ground hitherto occupied in *England* for raising grain, purely to distil spirits, will, in a great measure, be deprived of their object, by the plenty of rum carried in from the *West-Indies*; and as a total stop is put to the exportation of tea, it may probably fall so low in *England* as (together with the low price of sugar) to make it a very general diet, morning and night, for the lower class of people; thus drinking foreign spirit, and making part of their meal of foreign produce, the land which was before employed in those services may be spared for raising provisions to ship to the *West-Indies*, where they will be sure to come to a good market as long as we withhold our trade thither. Therefore you must show some substantial reason for your opinion, that it is the interest of *England* to wish our trade with the *West-Indies* restored to its old state; for if *England* can now buy her sugar and rum cheaper, and sell her grain higher than formerly, why should she wish to reunite with us on this score? A full reply to this suggestion is expected.

You must also prove that *England*, on a reunion, would grant us such a protection as would secure our property in any part of the world; and that, on our complaining to their Court of seizures or detainer of our vessels by the *Russians*, *Normans*, *Swedes*, *Danes*, *Hamburgers*, *Dutch*, *French*, *Portuguese*, *Spaniards*, the States of *Medina*, *Tuscany*, *Venice*, *Rome*, *Geneva*, *Courland*, *Grecian*, *Turkish*, or *Piratical States*, &c., &c., that they would demand instant satisfaction and restitution for us, as is usual with their own ships, and all this without bringing us in for any share of the expenses. Business of this kind took up a great deal of the attention of the Commonwealth of *England*, their vessels being frequently detained and insulted; but, by the spirited conduct of the Protector, justice was always obtained. It is therefore your part to show that, on a reunion, the King of *Great Britain* would take as ample care of the *Americans*, in such cases, as *Cromwell* did of *British* property. Or if a reunion should not take place, you are to point out sufficient reasons to justify you in the supposition that *America* has not or may not have a naval power competent to the task of doing herself justice. You must also show, in case of a reunion, that *England* would not call on us for a share of the expenses attending a compact with *Russia* or other *European* Princes, in order to keep up the balance of the Protestant power against the *Roman Catholic* States, thereby preventing Popery from overrunning the world. And you must, lastly, show that, by a reconciliation on constitutional principles, we shall return to the free, money-getting trade we formerly enjoyed; and that we shall have it enlarged to us upon a grand national scale, without any regard to the private emolument of this or that party, but upon principles of the general interest of the whole Empire, without our paying any taxes for the support of Government, more than what we have been used to—the debt arising from the present dispute only excepted. That the administration of justice, and security of property, will be as upright and safe as heretofore; and that the present happiness and future liberty of *America* would be as well maintained in a reunion as by a separation.

These are heads which I would wish to see separately and largely discussed. And I entreat you, gentlemen, to pursue the subject with calmness and temper. Stick to the matter and neglect the man. It imports not who is the writer, but all are eventually concerned in the cause. I shall read your controversy with great attention, and so will thousands beside me; and if, upon an impartial hearing, it shall appear to be for the real interest of *America* to cut the Gordian-knot, and establish Independence, I declare, with the utmost sincerity and solemnity, that I will give it my hearty concurrence.

Should curiosity, agreeable to the fashion of the times, tempt some readers to desire a knowledge of the writer of this essay, they may be informed that his fortune, his connexions, and everything he holds dear, give him a deep interest in the happiness of *America*; that his abilities to serve his country rise no higher than to occupy the station of an honest man and quiet citizen; and, most happily for him, he has never been prompted by ambition to quit his post, being simply and truly

A COMMON MAN.

AZOR BETTS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Esopus Jail, March 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I flatter myself my present melancholy situation will be a sufficient pardon for this intrusion; but where can the wretched flee for shelter, but to those where the power of extricating them is lodged? By the last post, gentlemen, I troubled you with a petition, the purport of which I am willing most solemnly to swear to; and as the inevitable ruin of myself and family must be the certain issue of my confinement, therefore trust to your clemency for my enlargement, which, if I am so happy as to obtain, shall ever, with gratitude, be remembered by, gentlemen, your very obedient, humble servant,

AZOR BETTS.

COLONEL NICOLL TO JOHN McKESSON.

Fort Constitution, March 31, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of a letter sent to Congress by Captain *Raymond*, but am doubtful it never was delivered, as I have not had any account of the receipt of it. The Garrison is still destitute of the greatest part of the articles therein mentioned. I desire you would let the Committee of Safety see the enclosed copy, if the original was not delivered, and let me know, as soon as possible, how I am to be provided with necessaries, both for this and the Garrison at *Pooplopen's Kill*.

I sent an account by Captain *Moffat*, a few days ago, of sundries the Island is charged with for the use of the Garrison; and as the money is wanting, should be glad to know how I am to come at it. Be good enough to introduce the matter in Committee of Safety, and let me know their conclusion. Your compliance will oblige, sir, your humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To John McKesson, Esquire.

N. B. Mr. *Phelps* has been here since the enclosed letter was written, but has made no provision at all only some fresh meat and potatoes.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, March 31, 1776—5 o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I am to inform your Excellency that I have this moment an express from *Newport*, informing me that a ship-of-war hath arrived in the harbour of *Newport*, and that twenty-seven ships, undoubtedly having the Ministerial Troops on board, are within *Second-Point*. Upon this most alarming occasion, when we have not more than four hundred soldiers upon *Rhode-Island*, and not above seven or eight hundred more in the whole Colony, besides the Militia, not more than half armed, I must use the most pressing instances with your Excellency to forward sufficient succors to the Colony with all possible despatch. I am about issuing the necessary orders for calling the whole Militia together, and taking other proper measures.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To General Washington.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN A. WASHINGTON,

Cambridge, March 31, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: Your letter of the 24th ultimo was duly forwarded to this camp by Colonel *Lee*, and gave me the pleasure of hearing that you, my sister, and family, were well. After your post is established to *Fredericksburgh*, the intercourse, by letter, may become regular and certain; and whenever time (little of which, *God* knows, I have for friendly correspondences) will permit, I shall be happy in writing to you. I cannot call to mind the date of my last to you, but this I recollect, that I have written more letters to, than I have received from you.

The want of arms, powder, &c., is not peculiar to *Virginia*. This country (of which, doubtless, you have heard such large and flattering accounts) is more deficient of each than you can conceive. I have been here months together with (what will scarce be believed) not thirty rounds of musket cartridges a man—have been obliged to submit to all the insults of the enemy's cannon for want of powder,

keeping what little we had for pistol distance. Another thing has been done, which, added to the above; will put it in the power of this Army to say what, perhaps, none other, with justice, ever could: We have maintained our ground against the enemy under the above want of powder, and we have disbanded one Army and recruited another within musket-shot of two-and-twenty regiments, the flower of the *British* Army, when our strength had been little, if any, superior to theirs; and at last have beat them, in a shameful and precipitate manner, out of a place the strongest by nature on this Continent—strengthened and fortified in the best manner, and at an enormous expense.

As some account of the late manœuvre of both armies may not be unacceptable, I shall, hurried as I always am, devote a little time to it.

Having received a small supply of powder, then, very inadequate to our wants, I resolved to take possession of *Dorchester-Point*, lying east of *Boston*, looking directly into it, and commanding, absolutely, the enemy's lines on the Neck (*Boston*.) To effect this, which I knew would force the enemy to an engagement, or subject them to be enfiladed by our cannon, it was necessary, in the first instance, to possess two Heights, (those mentioned in General *Burgoyne's* letter to Lord *Stanley*, in his account of the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.) which had the entire command of it. The ground at this time being frozen upwards of two feet deep, and as impenetrable as a rock, nothing could be attempted with earth. We were obliged, therefore, to provide an amazing quantity of chandeliers and fascines for the work; and on the night of the 4th, after a previous severe cannonade and bombardment for three nights together, to divert the enemy's attention from our real design, removed every material to the spot, under cover of darkness, and took full possession of those Heights, without the loss of a single man.

Upon their discovering of the works next morning, great preparations were made for attacking them; but, not being ready before the afternoon, and the weather getting very tempestuous, much blood was saved, and a very important blow (to one side or the other) prevented. That this remarkable interposition of Providence is for some wise purpose, I have no doubt; but as the principal design of the manœuvre was to draw the enemy to an engagement under disadvantages—as a premeditated plan was laid for this purpose, and seemed to be proceeding to my utmost wish; and as no men seemed better disposed to make the appeal than ours did upon that occasion, I can scarce forbear lamenting the disappointment, unless the dispute is drawing to an accommodation, and the sword going to be sheathed.

But to return; the enemy, thinking (as we have since learned) that we had got too securely posted before the second morning to be much hurt by them, and apprehending great annoyance from our new works, resolved upon a retreat, and accordingly embarked in as much hurry, precipitation, and confusion, as ever troops did, the 17th, not taking time to fit their transports, but leaving King's property in *Boston* to the amount (as is supposed) of thirty or forty thousand pounds, in provisions, stores, &c. Many pieces of cannon, some mortars, and a number of shot, shells, &c., are also left; and baggage-wagons, artillery-carts, &c., which they have been eighteen months preparing to take the field with, were found destroyed, thrown into the docks, and drifted upon every shore. In short, *Dunbar's* destruction of stores after General *Braddock's* defeat, which made so much noise, affords but a faint idea of what was to be met with here.

The enemy lay from the 17th to the 27th in *Nantasket* and *King's Roads*, about nine miles from *Boston*, to take in water from the Islands thereabout, surrounded by their shipping, and to fit themselves for sea. Whither they are now bound, and where their tents will be next pitched, I know not; but as *New-York* and the *Hudson River* are the most important objects they can have in view, as the latter secures the communication with *Canada*, at the same time it separates the Northern and Southern Colonies, and the former is thought to abound in disaffected persons, who only wait a favourable opportunity and support, to declare themselves openly, it became equally important for us to prevent their gaining possession of these advantages; and, therefore, so soon as they embarked, I detached a brigade of six regiments to that Government; so soon as they sailed, another

brigade composed of the same number; and to-morrow another of five will march. In a day or two more I shall follow myself, and be in *New-York* ready to receive all but the first.

The enemy left all their works standing in *Boston* and on *Bunker's Hill*—and formidable they are. The town has shared a much better fate than was expected, the damage done to the houses being nothing equal to report; but the inhabitants have suffered a good deal by being plundered by the soldiery at their departure. All those who took upon themselves the style and title of Government-men in *Boston*, in short, all those who have acted an unfriendly part in this great contest, have shipped themselves off in the same hurry; but under still greater disadvantages than the King's Troops have done, being obliged to man their own vessels, (for seamen could not be had for the transports for the King's use,) and submit to every hardship that can be conceived. One or two have done what a great many ought to have done long ago—committed suicide.

By all accounts, there never existed a more miserable set of beings than these wretched creatures now are. Taught to believe that the power of *Great Britain* was superior to all opposition, and that foreign aid, if not, was at hand, they were even higher, and more insulting in their opposition, than the Regulars. When the order issued, therefore, for embarking the troops in *Boston*, no electric shock—no sudden clap of thunder—in a word, the last trumpet, could not have struck them with greater consternation. They were at their wits' end; and, conscious of their black ingratitude, chose to commit themselves, in the manner I have above described, to the mercy of the waves at a tempestuous season, rather than meet their offended countrymen. But with this declaration the choice was made, that if they thought the most abject submission would procure them peace, they never would have stirred.

I believe I may, with great truth, affirm, that no man, perhaps, since the first institution of armies, ever commanded one under more difficult circumstances than I have done; to enumerate the particulars would fill a volume. Many of my difficulties and distresses were of so peculiar a cast, that, in order to conceal them from the enemy, I was obliged to conceal them from my friends—indeed, from my own Army; thereby subjecting my conduct to interpretations unfavourable to my character, especially by those at a distance, who could not, in the smallest degree, be acquainted with the springs that governed it. I am happy, however, to find, and to hear from different quarters, that my reputation stands fair; that my conduct hitherto has given universal satisfaction. The addresses which I have received, and which, I suppose, will be published, from the General Court of this Colony, (the same as our General Assembly,) and from the Selectmen of *Boston*, upon the evacuation of the town, and my approaching departure from the Colony, exhibit a pleasing testimony of their approbation of my conduct, and of their personal regard, which I have found in various other instances, and which, in retirement, will afford me many comfortable reflections.

The share you have taken in the publick disputes is commendable and praiseworthy; it is a duty we owe our country—a claim posterity has upon us. It is not sufficient for a man to be a passive friend and well-wisher to the cause. This, and every other cause of such a nature, must inevitably perish under such an opposition. Every person should be active in some department or other, without paying too much attention to private interest. It is a great stake we are playing for, and sure we are of winning, if the cards are well managed. Inactivity in some, disaffection in others, and timidity in many, may hurt the cause—nothing else can; for unanimity will carry us through triumphantly, in spite of every exertion of *Great Britain*, if linked together in one indissoluble band. This they now know, and are practising every stratagem which human invention can devise to divide us, and unite their own people. Upon this principle it is, the Restraining Bill is passed, and Commissioners are coming over. The device, to be sure, is shallow—the covering thin. But they will hold out to their own people that the acts complained of are repealed; and Commissioners sent to each Colony to treat with us, neither of which will be attended to, &c. This, upon weak minds among us, will have its effect; they wish for reconciliation,



or, in other words, they wish for peace, without attending to the conditions.

General *Lee*, I expect, is with you before this. He is the first officer in military knowledge and experience we have in the whole Army. He is zealously attached to the cause, honest and well meaning, but rather fickle and violent, I fear, in his temper. However, as he possesses an uncommon share of good sense and spirit, I congratulate my countrymen upon his appointment to that department. The appointment of *Lewis*, I think, was also judicious; for, notwithstanding the odium thrown upon his conduct at *Kanhawa*, I always looked upon him as a man of spirit, and a good officer; his experience is equal to any one we have. Colonel *Mercer* would have supplied the place well; but I

question (as a *Scotchman*) whether it would have gone glibly down. *Bullitt* is no favourite of mine; and, therefore, I shall say nothing more of him, than that his own opinion of himself always kept pace with what others pleased to think of him—if anything, rather ran ahead of it.

As I am now nearly at the end of my eighth page, I think it time to conclude; especially as I set out with prefacing the little time I had for friendly correspondences. I shall only add, therefore, my affectionate regards to my sister and the children, and compliments to any inquiring friends; and that I am, with every sentiment of true affection, your loving brother and faithful friend,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *John A. Washington*.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

At the Second Session of the Second Provincial Congress of *South-Carolina*, begun and holden at *Charlestown*, on *Thursday*, the 1st of *February*, 1776:

The Honourable Captain *William Henry Drayton*, as President, having taken the Chair, and the bad weather having prevented the attendance of a sufficient number of Members to proceed upon business:

Mr. President adjourned the Congress to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

In Congress, Friday, February 2, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Resolution of a Committee for a District between *Broad* and *Enoree* Rivers, appointing *John Thomas*, Jun., Esq., to be an additional Representative for that District, being presented, as a Return, and read:

*Resolved*, That, upon examining the said Resolution, it appears that the said *John Thomas*, Jun., has not been so elected as to entitle him to a seat in the present Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for the lower District in the fork between *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers, not having yet returned any Members to represent the same in the present Congress, do cause three Members to be elected, in the usual form and manner, and after due notice given, as enjoined by a Resolution of this Congress of the 29th of *November* last.

The Honourable *Henry Middleton* and *John Rutledge*, Esquires, two of the Delegates of this Colony to the Continental Congress, being lately returned from *Philadelphia*, and being in their places as Members of this Congress, presented a manuscript copy of the Journals of the present Session of the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Journals of the present Session of the Continental Congress, presented by the Honourable Mr. *Middleton* and Mr. *Rutledge*, be read in this Congress.

And the Journals of the Continental Congress were read accordingly, from the 10th day of *May*, 1775, to the 29th day of *June* following, inclusive:

*Resolved*, That this Congress do sit, to do business, from nine o'clock in the morning to three in the afternoon, every day.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Saturday, February 3, 1776.

The Congress met.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Mr. *Harrington* having delivered in a special Return, of this date, addressed to the President of the Congress, which was read, and is as follows:

"*Charlestown*, February 2, 1776.

"*SIR*: *Claudius Pegues*, Esq., one of the six Deputies duly elected to represent the Parish of *St. David* in Congress, signified by letter, addressed to the Committee of the said parish, that he declined serving the said parish in Congress. He delivered the letter to me, to lay before the Committee, who were not to meet till the 19th of last month; and as the Congress were to sit on the 1st instant, I, as Churchwarden, and not recollecting the resolve of the last Congress relative to elections, advertised the 23d of *January* as a day of election for a Deputy to Congress, in-

stead of Mr. *Pegues*, when it appeared that *William Henry Mills* had a majority of votes, of which I acquainted him by letter.

"I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"HENRY WILLIAM HARRINGTON."

*Resolved*, That a Member of Congress cannot resign his seat during the continuance of the Congress in which he took his seat as a Member; and, therefore, as *Claudius Pegues*, Esq., could not decline his seat in the present Congress, the election of *William Henry Mills*, Esq., as a Member of Congress, in the room of *Claudius Pegues*, Esq., was null and void.

*Ordered*, That, for the more expeditious publication of the proceedings of Congress, Colonel *Laurens*, Mr. *Bee*, and Mr. *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., be a Committee to extract from the Journals, and send to the press from day to day, such parts thereof as are proper to be made publick, and to cause a sufficient number of copies to be printed for the use of the Members.

Colonel *Laurens*, President of the Council of Safety, reported that a packet of very interesting intelligence had this morning been received by that Board, by express from *Philadelphia*, which they were ready to lay before the Congress, if it should be their pleasure.

*Ordered*, That the contents of the said packet be immediately laid before the Congress, and read.

The following were accordingly read, viz:

Letter from the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, *January 2*, 1776, enclosing the following copies of intercepted Letters, certified by *Charles Thomson*, Secretary to the said Congress:

From Lord *William Campbell*, Governour of this Colony, to General *Gage*, in *Boston*, dated *Rebellion-Road*, *September 20*, 1775:

From *John Moultrie*, Esq., Lieutenant-Governour of *East-Florida*, to Colonel *James Grant*, in *Boston*, dated *St. Augustine*, *October 4*, 1775:

From *Frederick George Mulcaster*, Esq., Engineer at *St. Augustine*, to Colonel *Grant*, containing a draft of this Harbour, and plan of this Town, with references and remarks, dated *St. Augustine*, *October 3*, 1775:

Two from *John Stuart*, Esq., the King's Superintendent of *Indign Affairs* in the Southern District of *North-America*, both addressed to General *Gage*, and dated *St. Augustine*, *October 3*, 1775—one of them enclosing copy of a talk from the *Cherokee Indians* to *Alexander Cameron*, Esq., one of Mr. *Stuart's* Deputies, delivered at *Choté*, *August 8*, 1775:

From Major *Jonathan Furlong* to General *Gage*, dated *St. Augustine*, *October 5*, 1775:

Extract from *Patrick Tonym*, Esq., Governour of *East-Florida*, to General *Gage*, dated *St. Augustine*, *September 14*, 1775:

Extract from *Frederick George Mulcaster*, Esq., to Colonel *Grant*, dated *St. Augustine*, *September 29*, 1775.

The originals having been taken by Captain *Manly*, of the Continental Armed Schooner *Lee*, within a few hours' sail of *Boston*, in a sloop that was, at the same time, conveying *Moses Kirkland* to General *Gage*, after having first carried him to Lord *Dunmore*, in *Virginia*.

*Resolved*, That it is expedient and necessary that the Lady and Daughter of *John Stuart*, Esq., be restrained from absenting themselves from his house in *Charlestown*.

*Ordered*, That proper Guards be immediately placed, and continued, about the house of the said *John Stuart*, to prevent such absenting; and that Colonel *Moultrie* do place Guards accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Captain *William Cattell* and Captain *Benjamin Huger*, two Members of this Congress, do wait on Mrs. *Stuart* previous to the placing Guards as aforesaid, and acquaint her of the Order.

*Resolved*, That no property whatever of the Honourable *John Stuart*, the King's Superintendent of *Indian Affairs* for the Southern District of *North-America*, or of his brother, *Henry Stuart*, lying or being in any Parish or District within this Colony, be removed from thence upon any pretence.

*Ordered*, That the Committees in such Parishes or Districts, respectively, where such property may be, do take the most effectual measures to prevent any removal thereof.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Powell* and Colonel *Richardson* be desired to make inquiry what men from their respective Regiments of Militia, and from such other country Militia as are now in town, are willing to engage to remain here on pay for a given time.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do now proceed in reading the Journals of the Continental Congress.

And the said Journals were read accordingly to the 19th of *July*, 1775, inclusive.

Adjourned to *Monday*, nine o'clock.

In Congress, Monday, February 5, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of *Saturday* was read.

Captain *Benjamin Huger* reported that he, with Captain *Cattell*, had, on *Saturday*, agreeable to order, waited on Mrs. *Stuart* and her daughter, (Mrs. *Fenwicke*), and acquainted them with the order of Congress respecting their persons; that Mr. *Fenwicke* requested it might be represented to the Congress that, as his wife was in an ill state of health, and required air and exercise, he might have permission to remove her into the country; and that he would be answerable for her appearance at any time, agreeable to the order of Congress or Council of Safety; and that Mrs. *Stuart* also requested of the Congress permission to accompany her daughter to *John's Island*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Fenwicke* have leave to take his wife into the country; he being answerable that she shall not depart the Colony, and for her appearance at any time, agreeable to the order of Congress or Council of Safety.

*Ordered*, That no person whatever be suffered to visit Mrs. *Stuart* without leave from Colonel *Moultrie*, or the commanding officer for the time being, signified by an introduction by an officer appointed by him for that purpose; and that, if Mrs. *Stuart* shall, at any time, have occasion to go abroad, with the permission of Colonel *Moultrie*, or the commanding officer for the time being, she shall do so, attended by an officer to be appointed for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do proceed in reading the Journals of the Continental Congress.

And the said Journals were read accordingly, to the 18th day of *October* last, inclusive.

Colonel *Powell* and Colonel *Richardson* reported that, having made some inquiry, they were of opinion that one hundred and fifty men from each of their Regiments may be induced to remain in *Charlestown* for the term of one month ensuing, provided proper care be taken of their horses.

*Ordered*, That a Return be made, as soon as may be, of all the country Militia now in *Charlestown*.

The following Letter was written to the Committees of the Parishes of *St. Bartholomew* and *St. Helena*, and of *Charlestown*, respectively:

Charlestown, February 5, 1776.

[By authority of Congress.]

To the Committee for the Parish of . . . . .

GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to transmit to you a resolution of Congress, respecting the estates and property of *John Stuart* and *Henry Stuart*; which, without doubt, you will cause to be duly observed. And that you may be at no loss in what manner to proceed, I do also signify to

you that it is the sense of the Congress that, if you shall be of opinion you cannot prevent the removal of any part of the property to be restrained but by taking such part into your custody, you ought, on the part of the publick, to take such part into your custody, and to acquaint the Congress or Council of Safety thereof.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, *President*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety do forthwith cause the *Marsh* and *Hog-Island* Creek Channels, in *Charlestown Harbour*, to be so effectually stopped as to prevent the passage of Ships-of-War through either; and that they do also cause such land-marks as they shall think proper to be so removed or disguised as to render the passage over the bar as difficult as possible.

*Resolved*, That three thousand Bills, each of the denomination of fifty Pounds, be stamped and signed, in lieu of thirty thousand Bills, each of the denomination of five Pounds, heretofore resolved to have been stamped and signed.

*Ordered*, That the Commissioners formerly appointed do cause the said three thousand Bills, each of the denomination of fifty Pounds, to be stamped, signed, and lodged in the Colony Treasury, with all possible despatch.

The Letter from Major *Williamson*, of the 29th past, read in Congress on the 3d instant, the consideration whereof had been postponed, was now again read.

And the following Resolution and Orders were passed in consequence thereof:

*Resolved*, That *Patrick Cunningham*, *Hugh Brown*, and *Thomas Edghill*, now in custody of Major *Williamson*, be forthwith sent to *Charlestown*, to be committed to the common jail; that *John York*, Major *Joseph Robinson*, Captain *Hendricks*, *Henry O'Neal*, and *Euan McLaurin*, be also sent to *Charlestown* as soon as they can be taken and secured; and that *Andrew Cunningham*, *John Evans*, and *William Evans*, also in the custody of Major *Williamson*, may be discharged.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thomas* do take proper measures for apprehending and securing *John York* above-mentioned.

*Ordered*, That a Letter be written to Major *Williamson*, transmitting to him the Resolutions of Congress respecting the Prisoners at *Fort-Charlotte*; and ordering that he do suspend the disarming the Insurgents until the Congress shall make further order thereon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Arthur Middleton*, Major *Pinckney*, Colonel *Richardson*, Major *Mayson*, Mr. *Salvador*, Mr. *Rapley*, Colonel *Gervais*, Colonel *Thomas*, and Mr. *Woods*, be, and they are hereby appointed, a Committee to inquire into the state of the interior parts of the Colony lately in commotion; to consider what measures are proper to be pursued to preserve the peace, and secure the safety, and to prevent future commotions therein; and also to consider of the cases of the State Prisoners, and to report what measures might be pursued with respect to them.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Powell* and Colonel *Richardson* do retain such of the men of their respective Regiments now in town, and who may hereafter arrive, as are or shall be willing to remain on duty here for one month, respectively; that they do discharge the remainder of their Detachments; and that the horses of such as shall so stay be sent home, and brought back, at the charge of the publick.

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding twenty thousand Pounds, currency, be forthwith placed in the hands of Colonel *Richard Richardson*, to be by him applied to discharge the pay due to such of the men under his command who were with him on the late expedition, as stand most immediately in need thereof.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

*Ordered*, That all the absent Members be summoned to attend their duty in Congress.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Captain *Robert Patton*, who had in *August* last been elected a Member of Congress for the District eastward of *Wateree River*, and in whose absence Mr. *George Douglas* was chosen to serve during the last Session as a provisional Representative, as stated in the proceedings of the 3d of *November* last, now attending, to take his seat,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Robert Patton* do take his seat, in the room of Mr. *Douglas*.

*Resolved*, That the expenses of the Horses belonging to the Foot Militia, now in *Charlestown*, since their arrival, be defrayed by the publick.

*Resolved*, That, in lieu of making provision, in future, for the Horses of Detachments ordered to march on the publick service, provision shall be made for Wagons and Carts for the conveyance of the necessary Baggage of such Detachments while in actual service.

A motion was made that no Member of this Congress shall, in future, be allowed to speak more than twice upon one question.

After some debate, the question being put, the Congress divided,

The yeas went forth. Yeas, 53; Nays, 49.

Tellers, { For the yeas, Colonel *Pinckney*.  
              { For the nays, Captain *William Cattell*.

So that it was resolved in the affirmative.

*Resolved*, That every Member of Congress who shall hereafter fail to give his attendance at the hour of adjournment, shall be subject to a fine of twenty Shillings currency.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Peter Bounetheau* be, and he is hereby, appointed Cashier to this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do proceed in reading the Journals of the Continental Congress.

And the same were read accordingly, to the end of the manuscript.

*Resolved*, That the absence of the Members of Congress who are Officers of the Militia in *Granville County*, and actually upon duty, be excused.

Mr. President reported the following Letter, which he had written by order:

Charlestown, February 6, 1776.

[By authority of Congress.]

To Major ANDREW WILLIAMSON:

SIR: I transmit to you the determinations of Congress this day relative to the Prisoners at *Fort-Charlotte*, which I make no doubt you will, without delay, endeavour to execute.

The Congress mean to take the most effectual measures to settle the state of the interior country, and to prevent, if it be possible, any future commotions there. For this purpose, a Committee is appointed to form a plan of proper measures; and, in the mean time, you are ordered to suspend the disarming the Insurgents until further order shall be made therein.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, *President*.

*Resolved*, That the Members of the present Council of Safety be a Committee to take into consideration the number of Forces necessary to be raised, and kept in pay, for the service of this Colony; and the Resolution of the Continental Congress of the 4th day of *November* last relative thereto.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Thursday, February 8, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President do signify the approbation of this Congress, and present their thanks to the Honourable *Henry Middleton* and *John Rutledge*, Esquires, now present in Congress, and to the other Delegates of this Colony at *Philadelphia*, for their important services in the *American Congress*.

Mr. President accordingly addressed himself to the Honourable Mr. *Middleton* and Mr. *Rutledge*, in nearly the words following:

"GENTLEMEN: When the hand of tyranny, armed in hostile manner, was extended from *Great Britain* to spoil *America* of whatever she held most valuable, it was, for the most important purposes, that the good people of this Colony delegated you to represent them in the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*. It became your business to ascertain the rights of *America*—to point out her violated franchises, to make humble representation to the King for redress; and, he being deaf to the cries of his *American* subjects—to appeal to the King of Kings, for the recovery of the rights of an infant people, by the majesty of Heaven formed for future empire.

"In this most important business, you engaged, as became good citizens; and, step by step, you deliberately advanced through it, with a regret and sorrow, and with a resolution and conduct, that bear all the characters of ancient magnanimity. Your constituents, with a steady eye, beheld your progress. They saw the *American* claim of rights, the Association for the recovery of *American* franchises, and the humble Petition to the King for redress of grievances. They saw the *American* appeal to the King of Kings, and a second humble Petition to the *British Monarch*—alas! as unavailing as the first. They have also seen the establishment of an *American* naval force—a Treasury—a General Post-Office—and the laying on a Continental embargo. In short, they have seen permission granted to Colonies to erect forms of Government, independent of, and in opposition to, the regal authority.

"Your country saw all these proceedings, the work of a body of which you were, and are members; proceedings arising from dire necessity, and not from choice; proceedings that are the natural consequences of the present inauspicious reign; proceedings just in themselves; and which, notwithstanding the late declarations of the corrupt Houses of Parliament, the Proclamation at the Court of *St. James's*, on the 23d of *August*, and the subsequent Royal Speech in Parliament, are exactly as far distant from treason and rebellion as stands the glorious Revolution which deprived a tyrant of his Kingdoms, and elevated the House of *Brunswick* to royalty.

"Worthy Delegates! It is the judgment of your country that your conduct, of which I have just marked the grand lines, in the *American Congress*, is justifiable before God and man; and that, whatever may be the issue of this unlooked-for defensive civil war, in which, unfortunately, though gloriously, we are engaged—whether independence or slavery—all the blood, and all the guilt, must be imputed to *British*, not to *American* counsels. Hence your constituents, sensible of the propriety of your conduct, and of the benefits which, with the blessing of the Almighty, it is calculated to shed upon *America*, have constituted me their instrument, as well to signify to you their approbation, as to present to you their thanks; and it is in the discharge of these duties that I now have the honour to address you.

"In an important crisis like the present, to receive the publick thanks of a free People, is to receive the most honourable recompense for past services; and to deserve such thanks, is to be truly great. I know that it is with pain such men hear their commendations. Gentlemen, with the publick recompense, I mean to pay in to you my mite also; and lest I wound your delicacy, when I mean only to do justice to your merit, I forbear to particularize what is already well known. I therefore confine myself; and I do most respectfully, in the name of the Congress, present to you, and to each of you, the thanks of your country, for your important services in the *American Congress*, at *Philadelphia*."

Colonel *John Lisle*, elected one of the Representatives for the District between *Broad* and *Saludy Rivers*, not having taken his seat during the late Session, now attended, and declined serving.

A return was made of the following gentlemen, as duly elected Members of the present Congress, in the upper part of the District between *Broad* and *Saludy Rivers*, viz: Captain *John Caldwell*, *James Williams*, *John Williams*, *Jonathan Downs*, *John Rogers*, *John Lindsey*, and *John Caldwell*, of *Enoree*, Esqrs. And Messrs. *John Williams* and *James Williams* attending to take their seats,

*Ordered*, That they do take their seats in Congress accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Reverend Mr. *Tennent*, Mr. *Prince*, Colonel *Thomas*, Colonel *Wofford*, Mr. *John Williams*, Mr. *James Williams*, and Mr. *Jonas Beard*, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee, to consider and report a proper division of the extensive District between *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers, into three, and the number of Members each division ought to have in Congress, to constitute a full representation.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the interior parts of the Colony, be authorized and empowered to send for Persons, Papers, and Records; and that such Members of Congress who choose so to do, may attend and give their opinions.

Mr. *Edwards*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of the Congregation of *Particular Baptists*, in *Charlestown*, had been referred, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration,

*Ordered*, That *James Brisbane* be sent for to *Charlestown*, to do justice to the Petitioners.

*Resolved*, That the present Members of the Council of Safety, together with Mr. President of the Congress, Colonel *Powell*, and Major *Pinckney*, be, and they are hereby, appointed a Committee, to take into consideration the following Resolution of the Continental Congress, of the 4th of *November* last, viz:

“*Resolved*, That if the Convention of *South-Carolina* shall find it necessary to establish a form of Government in that Colony, it be recommended to said Convention to call a full and free representation of the People; and that the said Representatives, if they think it necessary, establish such form of Government as, in their judgment, will best produce the happiness of the People, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.”

*Resolved*, That this Congress will make provision for defraying the necessary expenses of Wagon-hire, incurred on the late expedition under Colonel *Richardson*.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Friday, February 9, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Colonel *Christopher Gadsden*, one of the Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress, having arrived last night, and being present in his place, as a Member of this Congress, for *Charlestown*,

*Resolved*, That the approbation of this Congress be signified to Colonel *Gadsden*, for his conduct, and their thanks returned to him, for the important services he has rendered to his country in the *American* Congress.

Mr. President signified the approbation, and returned the thanks of this Congress, to Colonel *Gadsden*, accordingly.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Gadsden* be added to the Committee appointed on the 7th instant, to take into consideration the number of Forces necessary to be raised and kept in pay for the service of this Colony; and the Resolution of the Continental Congress relative thereto, of the 4th of *November* last; and, also, to the Committee appointed yesterday, to consider the Resolve and Recommendation of the said Congress, respecting a form of Government.

The Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, from the Committee to consider of a proper Division of the District between *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers, &c., delivered in their Report.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration, the Congress came to the following Resolution thereupon:

*Resolved*, That the District heretofore described between *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers, be now divided into three, as well for the convenience of electors of Members of Congress, as on account of the happy influence which it may have upon the peace and union of the inhabitants. That the Lower District, commonly called the *Dutch Fork*, shall have the following boundaries, viz: from the Fork where *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers meet, up *Broad River* to where *Tiger River* falls into *Broad River*; thence up said *Tiger River* to the Ford crossed by the old *Saludy* Road; thence along the said road to where it crosses *Saludy*, at the place

usually called *Saludy Old Town*; thence down to the confluence of *Saludy* and *Broad* Rivers. And that the election of Members of Congress for the said District be held at the Meeting-House nearest to the house of *Adam Somers*.

That the *Little River* District be bounded as follows: by *Saludy River*, from *Saludy Old Town*, to where the said river crosses the *Indian Line*; by the said *Indian Line*, to where it is crossed by *Enoree River*; thence down *Enoree* to the road above described, which bounds the Lower District. The election to be held at *Hammond's Old Store*.

That the Upper, or *Spartan* District, be bounded by *Tiger River*, from its confluence with *Broad River*, up to where the said *Tiger River* is crossed by the old *Saludy* Road; thence by the said road to where it crosses *Enoree*; thence by the said *Enoree River*, to the *Indian Line*; thence by the *Indian Line* to the Colony Line; thence by the Colony Line to where it intersects *Broad River*; thence by *Broad River* to its confluence with *Tiger*. The place of election to be at the Meeting-House, near the house of *Joseph Kelsey*.

And that the said Districts, as now divided, be allowed and do respectively elect, four Members of Congress, as their Representatives.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolution be forthwith printed in Handbills, and made publick.

Colonel *Gadsden* presented to the Congress an elegant Standard, such as is to be used by the Commander-in-Chief of the *American Navy*; being a yellow field, with a lively representation of a Rattlesnake in the middle, in the attitude of going to strike, and these words underneath, “*Don't tread on me!*”

*Ordered*, That the said Standard be carefully preserved, and suspended in the Congress room.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Saturday, February 10, 1776.

The Congress met.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Colonel *Laurens*, from the Committee to whom was referred the Resolution of the Continental Congress, of the 4th of *November* last, respecting a form of Government, reported.

*Resolved*, That the said Report be now taken under consideration, by a Committee of the Whole.

The Congress accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the Chair,

And the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, from the Committee of the Whole, reported, That they had gone through the Report referred to them, and agreed to the same, without any alteration, to wit:

That, in their opinion, the present mode of conducting publick affairs is inadequate to the well-governing the good people of this Colony; that many regulations are wanting for securing peace and good order, during the unhappy disputes between *Great Britain* and the Colonies; and that the Congress should immediately take under consideration what regulations are necessary for these good purposes.

*Resolved*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be authorized to order payment of Constables' Fees employed in the publick service.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Sunday, February 11, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, having performed Divine service, received the thanks of the Congress.

The Congress then proceeded upon the Order of the Day.

And the Report of the Committee of the Whole being gone through, the same was unanimously agreed to.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of eleven Members be chosen, by ballot, to prepare and report to this Congress such a plan or form of Government as will best produce

the happiness of the People, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the ballots of the Members, for the said Committee, be received at five o'clock this afternoon.

Adjourned to five o'clock in the afternoon.

In Congress, Sunday, February 11, 1776, P. M.

The Congress met.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for the Members of the Committee to prepare a plan or form of Government.

And the following gentlemen were, by Mr. President, declared duly elected by a majority of votes, viz:

Major *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, *John Rutledge*, Esq., Colonel *Charles Pinckney*, Colonel *Henry Laurens*, Colonel *Christopher Gadsden*, Hon. *Rawlins Lowndes*, *Arthur Middleton*, Esq., Hon. *Henry Middleton*, *Thomas Bee*, Esq., *Thomas Lynch*, Jun., Esq., *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esq.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Monday, February 12, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That no Guns be fired in or about *Charlestown* without permission from the proper officers; and that publick notice hereof be immediately given.

*Resolved*, That whosoever shall presume to violate the above Resolution, shall be subject and liable to a Fine of five Pounds, current money, for every Gun so fired; to be recovered before any three Members of the *Charlestown* Committee, two of whom shall be a quorum.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do cause the above Resolutions to be forthwith printed, and made publick, in Handbills, and by beat of drum.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Colonel *Fuller*, Captain *Shubrick*, Captain *Lynch*, and Captain *Harrington*, be a Committee to consider and report the best method for promoting the manufactory of Saltpetre in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That *Richard Rapley*, Esq., be a Commissioner for stamping and signing the Money issued by Resolution of Congress, of the 14th of June last, in the room of *Theodore Gaillard*, Jun., Esq.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Roger Smith*, Mr. *Edwards*, Captain *Gillon*, Mr. *Kershaw*, Mr. *Hall*, Captain *Harrington*, Mr. *Corbett*, Colonel *Gervais*, and Mr. *Dupont*, be a Committee to inquire and report the quantity of Flour now in the Colony; how much will be requisite for the subsistence of the Inhabitants and Troops; and to consider and report proper ways and means for supplying the Colony with Salt, Sugar, Rum, and other necessaries of life, at reasonable rates; and also, the causes of, and remedies for, the present impositions upon the publick, in the high advance in price upon the necessaries of life, and all kinds of commodities and labour.

Read a continuation of the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, presented by Colonel *Gadsden*, to the time of his leaving *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gadsden*, Captain *Shubrick*, and Captain *Gillon*, be a Committee to examine a Ship now on the stocks at Captain *Cochran's*; and to report whether it is a proper Vessel to be purchased and armed in the Colony service.

*Resolved*, That every Member of Congress be entitled, during the present Session, for his actual attendance therein, on the service of the Colony, to the allowance of forty Shillings, currency, per diem, upon application to the Treasurers, during the sitting thereof, or within three days after.

*Resolved*, That every Member of Congress who shall, during the present Session, absent himself from the service thereof, without leave first had and obtained, shall be sent for at his own expense.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

A Petition of *Henry Aitkin*, Master of the Ship *Port-Henderson*, and *Nathaniel Russell*, of *Charlestown*, Merchant, was presented and read.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be taken into consideration to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for immediately committing to *Charlestown* Jail the body of *William Guest*, charged with practices inimical to, and destructive of, the peace of this Colony.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *De Saussure*, Colonel *Gervais*, and Mr. *Salvador*, be a Committee to extract such parts as they shall judge proper to be made generally known, from the intercepted Letters lately taken from *Moses Kirkland*, and laid before this Congress on the 3d instant, and also from a Letter formerly written by *John Stuart*, Esq., to the Committee of Intelligence, dated . . . . . 1775; and that the Secretary do cause copies of such Extracts, certified by him, to be forthwith printed and published.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be authorized to pay to Captain *Thomas Brandon* all reasonable charges, for having apprehended and brought to *Charlestown* persons taken in criminal practices; and also, to order payment of reasonable charges for other similar services.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress being informed that *Joseph Woods*, Esq., one of the Members for the *New-Acquisition*, had this morning departed this life,

*Ordered*, That the Members of Congress do attend the Funeral of the said Mr. *Woods*, in form, at five o'clock this afternoon; and that Colonel *Neel*, Colonel *Gervais*, Mr. *Brown*, and Mr. *Weyman*, be a Committee to conduct the same.

Colonel *Tacitus Gaillard*, elected one of the Representatives of the Parish of *St. Matthew*, not having taken his seat the last Session, now attended, and declined serving.

*Ordered*, That four hundred and fifty pounds weight of Gunpowder, borrowed from *Augusta*, by Captain *Le Roy Hammond*, for the publick service, be repaid.

A motion was made, That this Congress do order payment of certain expenses, amounting to two hundred and thirty-four Pounds, incurred by a detachment of Militia, under the command of Major *Hicks*, lately marched to this Town, for Camp-utensils and other articles.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, it was carried in the negative.

Read a Letter from the Committee at *Beaufort*, dated February 11, 1776, relative to the Shippers of the Cargo on board the Brigantine *William*, Captain *Mercier*, detained there.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter, with the Papers that were enclosed, be referred to the Council of Safety, and that they do report thereon.

Mr. *De Saussure*, from the Committee to whom was referred the Petition of *John Ellis*, reported.

And the said Report being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the Money lodged in the Colony Treasury, for the purchase of a cargo of Rice, sold by *Philip Tidyman* to *John Ellis* and *Thomas Todd*, the 30th of November last, and by them since sold to Captain *Alexander Gillon*, be retained in the said Treasury until the further determination of this Congress.

*Ordered*, That the determination on the prayer of the Petitioner, to be permitted to depart the Colony, be postponed.

On motion, the following Resolution was unanimously agreed to:

Whereas, the Continental Congress, on the 1st day of November last, prohibited exportation from the the United Colonies until the 1st day of March next: And whereas,



by reason of the distance of several of those Colonies from *Philadelphia*, the Resolution of said Congress relative to exportation after that day may not be known for some time; and it may be injurious to the common cause of *America* if exportation should be permitted in any Colony, before such Resolution shall be known there:

*Resolved*, That the said prohibition shall continue, and be of force in this Colony, until the 1st day of *May* next, unless an authentick account of the determination of the Continental Congress relative to exportation after the said 1st day of *March*, shall be sooner received and published by the Council of Safety.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolution be forthwith printed in Handbills, and made publick.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President do transmit a copy of the foregoing Resolution to the Conventions of *Georgia* and *North-Carolina*, recommending that those Colonies do pass one similar thereto; and to our Delegates at *Philadelphia*, desiring them to give the Council of Safety the earliest intelligence of the proceedings of the Continental Congress on this subject.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President's Letter to *Georgia* be forwarded by a Committee of two gentlemen, to be delegated to make all possible representation to induce that Colony to come into a similar Resolution.

*Resolved*, That orders be forthwith issued to the Committees of Parishes and Districts where vacancies have happened by the death of Members, or persons elected refusing to serve, to order Elections for filling up such vacancies.

Orders accordingly were issued in the form following, to the Committees of the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, *Charlestown*; *St. George*, *Dorchester*; and *St. Matthew*, for the District of *Ninety-Six*; for the District in the fork between *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers, and for the District called the *New-Acquisition*, respectively, for filling up a vacancy in each, in the room of *Miles Brewton* and *William Sanders*, Esqs., deceased; *Tacitus Gaillard*, *John Lisle*, and *Champness Terry*, Esqs., who had declined serving; and *Joseph Woods*, Esq., deceased.

In Congress, February 14, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for the Parish of . . . . . do forthwith give due and sufficient publick notice to the inhabitants of the said Parish, who have a right to vote, to assemble at the Parish Church, on a day to be by them appointed, then and there to proceed, by ballot, to the choice of a Member to represent them in the present Congress, in the room of . . . . ., and that the said Committee do make a due return of the said election as soon as may be.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for the Parish of *St. John*, in *Berkley* County, do forthwith make a return of the Member of Congress said to have been elected for that Parish, in the room of *James Ravenell*, Esq., who had declined serving, and that they do notify to said Member to give his attendance.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Thursday, February 15, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

A Petition of *Joseph Buffington* was presented, and read.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to the following Committee, viz: Colonel *Powell*, Colonel *Thomas*, Colonel *Richardson*, Major *Henderson*, the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Mr. *Kershaw*, Dr. *Farrar*, and Mr. *Prince*.

Captain *Shubrick*, from the Committee to examine a Ship now on the stocks at Captain *Cochran's*, reported, that, having examined the said Ship according to order, they found her every way unfit to be equipped as a Ship-of-War in the Colony service.

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider and report the best means, and an estimate of the expense of building, with the utmost despatch, two Frigates, for the service of this Colony, each to mount thirty-two guns on one deck; and also to consider and report the expediency of stationing Armed Vessels to protect the navigation of *Beaufort* and *Georgetown* Harbours.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Shubrick*, Captain *Gillon*, Colo-

nel *Powell*, Mr. *Edwards*, Doctor *Farrar*, Major *Mayson*, and Captain *Joiner*, be a Committee for the above purposes.

Read a Petition of *John Sigell*, Steward to Lord *William Campbell*, of this date.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to the following Committee, viz: Mr. *Jacob Motte*, Captain *Benjamin Huger*, Captain *Hammond*, Mr. *Elias Horry*, and Mr. *John Parker*. And that the said Committee do also consider and report what may be proper to be done with the Effects of Lord *William Campbell*, and a trunk of Books belonging to *James Trail*; both having withdrawn themselves from this Colony on board the *Cherokee* Ship-of-War—the latter, after having been enjoined by the General Committee not to go out of the limits of *Charlestown*.

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *Rawlins Lowndes*, Esq., Colonel *James Parsons*, and Captain *Thomas Savage*, be delegated to proceed forthwith to *Savannah*, to make proper representations to induce that Colony to co-operate with this, in paying the strictest obedience to all the Resolves of the Continental Congress, particularly that relative to Non-Exportation, and to urge the necessity of extending the Non-Exportation to the 1st day of *May* next.

Mr. *John Rutledge* acquainted the Congress that it was with the utmost concern he found himself obliged to request that they would dispense with his attendance in the Continental Congress in future; that he had many weighty reasons which rendered his request proper; but above all, that, as the *American* dispute was now agitated by arms, he was certain he could be of more service to his country and the common cause at home than abroad; and that, therefore, he earnestly desired they would grant his request. He also acquainted the Congress that his brother, (*Edward Rutledge*, Esquire,) from very urgent motives, requested to be recalled.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will to-morrow proceed to the choice of Delegates to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, by ballot.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Friday, February 16, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Honourable *Henry Middleton* arose, declared his sensibility of, and thankfulness for, the honour that had been conferred upon him, in his appointment as a Delegate from this Colony to the Continental Congress; and that no man had better wishes, or would go greater lengths to serve his country, than himself; but that, as the infirmities of age which were creeping on, deprived him of the ability of rendering so much service to the publick as in his earlier days he might have done; so he requested that the Congress would not again appoint him as a Delegate to the Continental Congress, in the choice now to be made.

Mr. *John Rutledge*, from the Committee to take into consideration the number of Forces necessary to be raised and kept in pay for the service of this Colony, and the Resolution of the Continental Congress on the 1st day of *November* last, relative thereto, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

On motion, that the number of Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress, be now ascertained,

*Resolved*, That five Delegates be chosen to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the said five Delegates be chosen to serve for one year.

A motion was made, that the majority of the Delegates present in *Philadelphia* shall be a Quorum; and that when, by sickness or accident, only one Delegate shall be present in Congress, in such case such Delegate shall give his voice on the part of the Colony.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

*Resolved*, That the ballots for Delegates to the Continental Congress, be received at five o'clock this afternoon.

*Resolved*, That Sergeants of Militia in future, while in

actual service, be allowed a pay of twelve Shillings and six Pence currency per day, and Corporals, in the like case, eleven Shillings and three Pence.

Adjourned to five o'clock in the afternoon.

—  
In Congress, Friday Evening, February 16, 1776.

The Congress met.

Mr. President laid before the Congress the following copy of the Letter which he had written, and sent express, by their order, to the Colony of *Georgia*:

South-Carolina, Charlestown, February 15, 1776.

[By authority of Congress.]

To the Honourable the Congress of *GEORGIA*:

GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to enclose to you the copy of a Resolution of Congress, extending the Resolution of the Continental Congress on the 1st of *November* last, prohibiting exportation from the United Colonies; and I have it in charge to recommend to you, in the strongest terms, that your Colony should form a similar resolution.

It is thought so absolutely necessary for the welfare of *America* that *Georgia* form a similar resolution, and we have this point so much at heart, that the Congress have delegated the Honourable *Rawlins Lowndes*, Colonel *Parsons*, and *Thomas Savage*, Esq., to repair forthwith to *Savannah*, to make all possible representation to induce your co-operating with us in so salutary a step.

These gentlemen mean to set out to-morrow or next day, and their speedy departure renders it unnecessary for me to add anything more to give weight to the recommendation in question.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, *President*.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for the Delegates to the Continental Congress.

And the ballots being reckoned, it appeared, and Mr. President declared, that *Thomas Lynch*, *John Rutledge*, *Edward Rutledge*, *Arthur Middleton*, and *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esquires, were, by majority of votes, duly elected.

Whereupon, the Congress

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Lynch*, *John Rutledge*, *Edward Rutledge*, *Arthur Middleton*, and *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esqs., be, and they are hereby appointed, and fully authorized, to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress for one year next ensuing.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Saturday, February 17, 1776.

The Congress met.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Mr. *Corbett*, from the Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Captain *Aitken* and Mr. *Russell*, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

A motion was made, that *Benjamin B. Boote*, Esquire, being a person whose going at large may endanger the publick safety, be committed to close confinement.

*Resolved*, That *Benjamin B. Boote*, Esquire, be forthwith committed to close confinement in the common Jail of *Charlestown*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President do forthwith, by Letter, acquaint the Council of Safety at *Salisbury* with the present situation of Messrs. *Dunn* and *Boote*, and desire their further directions.

Mr. President of the Council of Safety laid before the Congress Letters received by that Board:

From the Provincial Congress of *Georgia*, dated *Savannah*, 12th instant, relative to the hostile armament assembled there:

From Captain *John Allston*, of the Volunteer Company of Foot Rangers, dated 15th instant, relative to the original establishment of the said Company, and referred to Congress: and

From Dr. *Chalmers*, relative to the ill state of health of

Mrs. *Stuart*, and the necessity of her taking air and exercise, also referred to Congress.

Which were severally read.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of Captain *Allston's* Letter be postponed.

*Resolved*, That Mrs. *Stuart* be allowed to take necessary air and exercise, upon the terms proposed in Doctor *Chalmers's* Letter; that is, accompanied by Mr. *Fenwicke* or the Doctor, and they being responsible for her appearance whenever called for.

Notice was given to the Congress, that the Contract for supplying the Colony Forces with Provisions would expire on the 29th instant.

The Congress then proceeded upon the Order of the Day. After some time spent in debate,

A motion was made, that the further consideration of the Report, on the number of Forces necessary to be raised and kept in pay for the service of this Colony, be postponed.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was then made, that this Congress do now resolve that three Battalions of Infantry be forthwith raised upon the Continental establishment, agreeable to the powers vested by the Continental Congress in this Colony.

After some debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Sunday, February 18, 1776.

The Congress met.

The Rev. Mr. *Turquand*, by desire, performed Divine service.

And the thanks of the Congress were returned to that gentleman.

The Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That *Benjamin Booth Boote*, Esq., be supplied with all proper necessaries and accommodation in his present confinement, and that he be allowed the liberty of the garden belonging to the Jail, in the day time only.

*Resolved*, That *Michael Kalteisen*, Esq., be appointed to the office of Commissary of Military Stores for the Regular Forces.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Powell*, Colonel *Pinckney*, Colonel *Richardson*, Colonel *Bull*, Colonel *Thomas*, Colonel *Wofford*, Colonel *Neel*, Colonel *Horry*, Major *Mayson*, Major *Kershaw*, Captain *Hammond*, Captain *Harrington*, Captain *Maham*, Captain *Vanderhorst*, and Captain *William Skirving*, be a Committee to consider and report the number of country Militia that ought to supply the place of the detachments to be discharged on the first day of *March* next, and, in rotation, to do constant duty in and near *Charlestown*; also, the most effectual means to oblige such of the Inhabitants of *Charlestown* as are liable to bear arms, and are absent, to return to town; also, the best division of the country Militia into Battalions, where such division is necessary; and also, such measures as may, in their opinion, be necessary to render the Militia most serviceable to the publick.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Edwards*, Captain *Roger Smith*, Mr. *Corbett*, Mr. *Dupont*, Mr. *Robert William Powell*, Mr. *Hall*, Captain *Leger*, Mr. *Theodore Gaillard*, Jun., and Mr. *Elias Horry*, be a Committee to receive and examine such publick Accounts as may be referred to them by the Congress or Council of Safety, and to report their opinion thereon to the Congress, or Council of Safety, as soon as possible.

A motion was made, that the Council of Safety, in order that they may be enabled to devote the more of their time to the immediate objects of their appointment, do set apart a particular day in each week for the particular purpose of determining on publick Accounts.

After some debate, the previous question was moved for; and, being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

But the main question being then waived,

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety shall only twice in the week be liable to be called upon to pay publick Accounts.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Monday, February 19, 1776.  
The Congress met.  
And the Journal of yesterday was read.  
Mr. President laid before the Congress the copy of a Letter which he had yesterday written by their order, relative to the present situation of Messrs. *Dunn* and *Boote*, viz:

South-Carolina, Charlestown, February 18, 1776.  
[By authority of Congress.]  
To the Committee of Safety for SALISBURY, NORTH-CAROLINA:

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Dunn* and Mr. *Boote*, who were sent prisoners from your Colony to this, have repeatedly made applications to our publick Assemblies for their discharge. In our last session of Congress, they presented a petition and remonstrance to the same effect, which the Congress referred to your judgment, and I enclosed the prayer of the petition in the following letter addressed to you. The letter was delivered to Mr. *Boote*, who undertook to forward it:

“January 10, 1776.  
“GENTLEMEN: I have the honour to enclose to you an extract of the prayer of a remonstrance and petition which has been, by Mr. *Dunn* and Mr. *Boote*, presented to the Congress of this Colony in their last session. These gentlemen, in their remonstrance and petition, declared they did not mean and never would relinquish any right of action at law which they may have against those gentlemen who were the immediate cause of their being sent prisoners into this Colony. The Congress would not make any other order upon the remonstrance and petition than that it should be referred entirely to your judgment.”

Mr. *Dunn* is now a prisoner upon his parole; and Mr. *Boote* is a prisoner in the common jail in this town, he being, of the two, thought to be by much the most dangerous person.

The Congress have directed me to acquaint you with the situation of these gentlemen, requesting that you will signify your sentiments to me thereupon.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, President.

Mr. President of the Council of Safety laid before the Congress an Account of Mr. *John Champneys*, one of the Commissioners for receiving and selling Rice on the publick account.

And the said Account being immediately taken under consideration, the Congress disallowed the following charges therein:

For his commission on the purchase of Rice, £183 2 6  
Commission on selling, - - - - - 399 1 11

Ordered, That the Committee on Publick Accounts do ascertain the quantity of Rice sold out by retail by said Mr. *Champneys*, and report the commission proper to be allowed thereon; and that the charge of five hundred Pounds in said Account, for damages sustained, be referred to the Committee on Mr. *Thomas Singleton's* Petition.

Resolved, That the Committees in the several Parishes and Districts throughout the Colony ought, and they are hereby required, strictly to execute the Resolution of the Congress in *January*, 1775, to prevent the removal of the effects of any Debtors out of the Colony, without the knowledge or consent of their Creditors.

Resolved, That at least one thousand men from the country Militia are necessary for the immediate defence of *Charlestown*.

Captain *John Allston's* Letter, of the 15th instant, being taken into consideration,

Resolved, That the Resolution of Congress, of the 27th of *November* last, relative to Captain *Allston's* Indian Company of Foot Rangers or Rovers, be made void, and that the said Company be restored to their original establishment.

Whereas one thousand and fifty men of the country Militia, exclusive of commissioned and non-commissioned Officers, are necessary to do duty in and near *Charlestown*, in addition to the Regulars and town Militia, from the first day of *March* to the first day of *April* next:

Therefore Resolved, That the following drafts be forthwith made and marched to *Charlestown*, to relieve the Militia to be discharged on the first day of *March*, viz:

From the Regiments of	Capt's.	Sub's.	Rank & File.
Colonel <i>Powell</i> , - - - -	2	4	125
Colonel <i>Richardson</i> , - - -	3	6	180
Colonel <i>Bull</i> , - - - - -	1	3	75
Late Colonel <i>Fletchall</i> , - -	1	3	100
Colonel <i>Starke</i> , - - - - -	1	2	65
Colonel <i>Thomas</i> , - - - - -	1	2	50
Colonel <i>Savage</i> , - - - - -	1	3	100
Colonel <i>Neel</i> , - - - - -	1	2	55
Colonel <i>Thomson</i> , - - - - -	2	4	100
Colonel <i>Rothmahler</i> , - - -	2	4	100
Colonel <i>Singellton</i> , - - -	1	2	50
Colonel <i>Glover</i> , - - - - -	1	2	50
	17	37	1050

And further Resolved, That the said drafts shall remain in and near *Charlestown* one month; at the expiration of which time they shall be relieved monthly by the same numbers, to do the same duty, from the same Regiments; that the first drafts shall be made of such men (if there are any such in their respective Regiments) as have not been on duty by order of Congress or Council of Safety—except in such Regiments, respectively, volunteers shall offer to do the duty for which the drafts are intended; and that the Colonels of the said Regiments respectively shall appoint the Captains and Subalterns, to command the said detachments, according to the dates of their commissions.

Resolved, That the Militia on the *Sea-Islands*, and in *Christ-Church* Parish, be not included in the said drafts.

Ordered, That Mr. President do transmit copies of the foregoing Resolves to the Commanding Officers of the several Regiments from which drafts are to be made, by express, with the utmost expedition.

Ordered, That Letters be forthwith written, by different conveyances, to the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*, acquainting them with the present situation of affairs in this Colony, and the recent alarming intelligence we have received from *Georgia*, of the hostile armament collecting at *Cockspur*.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Tuesday, February 20, 1776.  
The Congress met.  
And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress proceeded on the consideration of the Report of the Committee, upon the number of Forces necessary to be raised and kept in pay for the service of the Colony; and made some progress therein.

A motion was made that the Regiment of Rangers be reduced from horse to foot.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, the Congress divided.

The yeas went forth. Yeas, 46; Nays, 54.  
Tellers, { For the yeas, Captain *Benjamin Huger*.  
          { For the nays, Dr. *Farrar*.

So that it was determined in the negative.

A motion was made, that the name of the Regiment of Rangers be changed to that of *Light-Dragoons*.

A debate arose; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was made, that a Colonel be appointed to command the Regiment of Rangers.

A debate ensued; the question was put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was made, that the Rule of Congress, of the 7th instant, restricting the Members from speaking more than twice upon one question, be amended, by adding the words “without leave from the Chair.”

After some debate, the previous question was moved for, and put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was made, that Rations be allowed to the Regiment of Rangers, in like manner as to the Regiments of Infantry.

After some time spent in debate, the question was put. The Congress divided.

The yeas went forth. Yeas, 49; Nays, 49.

Tellers, { For the yeas, Colonel *Moultrie*.  
For the nays, Colonel *Pinckney*.

So that Mr. President was obliged to decide, which he did by voting in favour of the motion.

And it was resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the further consideration of the Report be adjourned.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Wednesday, February 21, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. *Salvador*, from the Committee to inquire into the state of the interior parts of the Colony, lately in commotion; to consider what measures are proper to be pursued, to prevent future commotions therein; and also to consider of the cases of the State Prisoners, and to report what measures ought to be pursued with respect to them; delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the said Report be postponed.

The Congress then proceeded in the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the number of Forces necessary to be raised and kept in pay, for the service of this Colony, and made a further progress therein.

*Resolved*, That an Adjutant and a Quartermaster be allowed and appointed to the Regiment of Rangers.

A motion was made, that the daily Pay of the Privates in the Regiment of Artillery be augmented to ten Shillings currency.

A debate arose; the question was put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was made, that a daily Pay of ten Shillings be allowed to expert Riflemen who shall enter into a Regiment of Riflemen, to be raised for the service of this Colony.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made, that a Bounty of ten Pounds currency be allowed, on inlisting, to expert Riflemen entering in the Regiment of Riflemen.

After some debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was made, that the sum of five Pounds, currency, be allowed to every Private who shall, at the time of his entering into the Regiment of Riflemen, be provided with a good and sufficient Rifle-gun, as hire for the same, during the time for which he is engaged to serve.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was then made, to allow to such Riflemen a Bounty of seven Pounds and ten Shillings at the time of inlisting.

After some time spent in debate,

The Congress was adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Thursday, February 22, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The consideration of the Report on the number of Forces necessary to be raised, and kept in pay, for the service of this Colony, was resumed.

A motion was made, that a Bounty of nine Pounds ten Shillings, currency, be allowed and paid to every expert Rifleman who shall enlist in the Regiment of Riflemen to be raised for the service of this Colony.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The whole of the said Report being gone through, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon:

Whereas, it is absolutely necessary that a considerable body of Regular Forces be kept up for the service and defence of the Colony in this time of imminent danger;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the First and Second Regiments be immediately augmented to their original establish-

ment; and that their Bounty Money be increased to twenty-five Pounds per man. Also,

That the Regiment of Rangers be continued upon their present establishment of nine Companies, each to be augmented to fifty Privates; the Companies to be immediately completed, and the men enlisted according to the Rules and Articles for the government of the Troops: and it is hereby declared, that the said Regiment of Rangers shall be composed of expert Riflemen, who shall act on horseback or on foot, as the service may require; each man, at his own expense, to be constantly provided with a good Horse, Rifle, Shotpouch, and Powderhorn, together with a Tomahawk or Hatchet. Also,

That the Regiment of Artillery be continued upon their present establishment. Also,

That a Regiment of expert Riflemen, to take rank as the Fifth Regiment, under proper Field and other Officers, be immediately raised, to consist of seven Companies; each Company to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, and one hundred Men, including four Sergeants and four Corporals: and it is hereby declared, that the said Regiment shall be enlisted to the 1st of June, 1777, subject to the Rules and Articles for the government of the Troops, and liable to be sooner discharged by publick authority, having one month's pay advanced; each man in the said Regiment, at his own expense, during the service, finding his own clothes, except a uniform Hunting-shirt, and Hat or Cap, and Blanket, to be provided by the publick; and also, at his own expense, to be constantly provided with a good Rifle, Shotpouch, and Powderhorn, together with a Tomahawk or Hatchet; the Privates shall be allowed five Pounds, as the hire of their arms, during their service; nine Pounds and ten Shillings as Bounty, and ten Shillings daily Pay; the Sergeants, twelve Shillings and six Pence; the Corporals, eleven Shillings and three Pence; and the Commissioned Officers the same daily Pay as those of the First and Second Regiments. Also,

That a Company of Artillery, of one hundred Men, with proper Officers, be immediately raised for the defence of *Fort Lyttleton*, on *Port-Royal Island*; and one other Company of Artillery, consisting of sixty Men, with proper Officers, be, in like manner, raised for the defence of *Georgetown*. These Companies to be officered and paid in like manner, and in proportion to the Artillery establishment; and the men to be enlisted for the same term, and in like manner with the Regiment of Riflemen. Also,

That, of the Matrosses on the present establishment, the Seamen in the Colony Navy, and the Matrosses and Seamen expected to arrive here from the *New-England* Colonies, and other parts, in the whole upwards of nine hundred men, two hundred may, if found necessary, be established as Marines on board the Navy. Also,

That the Rations of the Regular Forces be increased to one pound and a half of fresh Beef, or to eighteen ounces of salt Pork; and that the Regiment of Rangers, the Regiment of Riflemen, the two Independent Companies of Artillery, and the Militia, upon actual service, be allowed Rations in like manner with the First and Second Regiments of Foot, and the Regiment of Artillery, and as increased by this establishment. Also,

That an Adjutant be appointed to the Regiments of Rangers and Riflemen, respectively; a Paymaster and a Surgeon to the Regiment of Riflemen, and a Sergeant-Major, a Quartermaster, and a Quartermaster-Sergeant, to each Regiment of the Regular Forces. Also,

That the men to be enlisted in the Regiment of Rangers and Riflemen, be approved of by the Commanding Officer of each Regiment, respectively, as expert Riflemen. And,

That the Captains in the Regiment of Riflemen, who shall first send, bring, or cause to be brought, to the Regimental Head-Quarters, sixty Men, approved as aforesaid, such Captains shall take priority of rank, respectively, in the said Regiment; and the said Captains, respectively, with the approbation of the Colonel of the Regiment, shall appoint their Lieutenants, Ensign, and Non-Commissioned Officers. And also,

*Resolved*, That all the Regular Forces of this Colony, both Naval and Military, shall, upon any emergency, and when the Congress or Council of Safety shall think proper, be liable, under either of their order and direction, to serve and act in any part of this or of a neighbouring Colony.

And whereas it will not be expedient to put any of the Forces of this Colony upon the Continental establishment, so as to be subject to Continental Articles, and entitled only to Continental Pay, and to their discharge in *December* next; it being more proper to keep all the Colony Troops upon the present footing, as to their quantum of pay, their articles, and the time of enlistment:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the Council of Safety do return the thanks of this Colony to the Continental Congress for their attention to its security; that they state the peculiar circumstances and the heavy expenses which have been, and will be incurred, by this Colony, in the measures necessary for her defence; and that they do request the Continental Congress to allow this Colony so much Money as the expenses of three Battalions, upon the Continental establishment, would amount to for one year; and to give Continental Rank to the Officers of the three Regiments raised in *June*, and of the Regiment of Artillery raised in *November*, from the dates of their respective Commissions, or, at least, from the 1st day of *November*, when they resolved to allow this Colony three Battalions.

*Resolved*, That all the Officers and Men in the Naval and Military Forces of this Colony shall take the same oath of fidelity as is prescribed in the Rules and Articles for the government of the Troops.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, by ballot, elect the Field-Officers of the Regiment of Riflemen to be raised, separately.

A motion was made, that the Captains for the said Regiment be also elected, by ballot, by the Members of Congress.

After some debate, the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

*Resolved*, That the Captains of the two Companies of Artillery, to be raised for the defence of *Beaufort* and *Georgetown*, be also balloted for, to-morrow, by the Members of Congress.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will proceed to ballot for the said Officers to-morrow afternoon.

Captain *Leger*, from the Committee on the Memorial of *Charles King Chitty*, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Colonel *Powell*, from the Committee to consider and report the number of country Militia necessary to replace the detachments to be discharged the 1st day of *March* next, and in rotation to do constant duty in and near *Charlestown*—the means of obliging absentees liable to bear arms, to return—the best division of the country Militia—and such measures as will tend to render the Militia most serviceable, delivered in a further Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

Mr. *Motte*, from the Committee on the Petition of *John Sigell*, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be likewise postponed.

Colonel *Powell*, from the Committee on the Petition of *Joseph Buffington*, delivered in their Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of that Report be also postponed.

Captain *Roger Smith*, from the Committee to inquire and report the quantity of Flour now in *Charlestown*; the quantity that will be wanted; the best means of obtaining Salt, Sugar, Rum, and other necessities, on reasonable terms; with the causes of, and remedies for, the present impositions in the advanced prices on the necessities of life, other commodities and labour; delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the said Report also be postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Friday, February 23, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That a Mustermaster-General be appointed for the Naval and Land Forces of this Colony, with power to appoint one Deputy.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gadsden*, Colonel *Moultrie*,

Colonel *Motte*, Colonel *Gervais*, and Dr. *Oliphant*, be a Committee to ascertain and report the special duties of the said Mustermaster-General.

The Congress then proceeded to take under consideration the Report on the state of the interior parts of the Colony, and made some progress therein.

Adjourned to five o'clock in the evening.

—  
In Congress, Friday Evening, February 23, 1776.

The Congress met.

A motion was made, that the election of Field-Officers for the Regiment of Riflemen to be raised, be determined by a majority of ballots of the whole number of Members present in Congress, and not otherwise.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, the Congress divided. The yeas went forth.

Tellers, { For the yeas, Captain *Sumpter*.  
          { For the nays, Captain *Benjamin Huger*.

So that it passed in the negative.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for a Colonel of the said Regiment.

And *Isaac Huger*, Esq., was declared, by majority of votes, duly elected.

The Lieutenant-Colonel was then balloted for,

And *Alexander McIntosh*, Esq., declared duly elected, by a majority of votes.

The Major was next balloted for,

And *Benjamin Huger*, Esq., declared, in like manner, duly elected.

A motion was made, that the Captains for the Regiment of Riflemen be postponed till to-morrow.

A debate arose; and the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for the Captain to command the Company of Artillery, to be raised for the defence of *Georgetown*; and also for the Captain of a like Company, for the defence of *Fort Lyttleton*, *Port-Royal*.

And the majority of votes, for the former, were declared to be in favour of *Paul Trapier*, Jun., Esq.; and for the latter, in favour of *William Harden*, Esq.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Saturday, February 24, 1776.

The Congress met.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

*Resolved*, That the Privates in the Regiment of Riflemen to be raised, shall remain, and be continued, in the same Companies wherein they were respectively first enlisted.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Publick Accounts, do, and they are hereby required, to give all possible aid and assistance to Colonel *Gadsden*, or the Commanding Officer of the Colony Forces for the time being, and also to Captain *John Copithorn*, in procuring and supplying all such articles for the publick service, as the said Commanding Officer shall, from time to time, apply for.

Read a Petition of *Thomas Farr*, Jun., Esq., Clerk of the late Commons House of Assembly, with his Account against the publick.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to a Committee of such Members of the present Congress as were members of the said Commons House on Publick Accounts.

Whereas a Constitutional Post is now established, under the authority of the Continental Congress: And whereas it is of the utmost consequence, in the present time of imminent danger, that the Post-riders do not meet with the least delay in their progress:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That it be recommended, and it is hereby recommended, to the Keepers of all the Publick Ferries in this Colony, to give all possible despatch to the passage of the Constitutional Post-riders over their respective Ferries.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Bee*, Captain *John Huger*, Colonel *Richardson*, Colonel *Thomas*, Captain *Hammond*, Major *Henderson*, Mr. *John Owen*, Colonel *Thomson*, Captain *Harrington*, Mr. *De Saussure*, Captain *Simons*, and Dr. *Farrar*, be, and they are hereby appointed, Commissioners



to contract for the making, or purchasing already made, any number, not exceeding one thousand stand, of good Rifles, with good bridle-locks, and proper furniture, not exceeding the price of thirty Pounds each; the barrels of the Rifles to be made not to weigh less than seven pounds and a half, or be less than three feet eight inches long, and carrying balls of about half an ounce weight; and those new ones already made, not to be less than three feet four inches long in the barrel. Also for the making, or purchasing already made, one thousand stand of good smooth-bored Muskets, carrying an ounce ball, with good bridle-locks and furniture, iron ramrods and bayonets, at a price not exceeding twenty Pounds each; the Muskets to be made to be three feet six inches long in the barrel, and the bayonets seventeen inches long. The power of the Commissioners to continue during six months. And they are required, from time to time, to cause the Rifles and Muskets by them purchased, to be delivered to the Council of Safety, who are hereby authorized to pay their drafts for such Arms.

The Report of the Committee on the Petition of Captain *Aitkin* and Mr. *Russell*, was taken under consideration; and the same being gone through,

*Ordered*, That the Ship *Port-Henderson* be forthwith discharged, agreeable to the prayer of the Petitioners.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be, and they are hereby authorized, to contract with Mr. *Kershaw* for all the Flour and Ship-bread he can supply, on the publick account; the delivery thereof to be at the risk of the publick from capture by the enemy.

Adjourned to five o'clock in the evening.

In Congress, Saturday Afternoon, February 24, 1776.

The Congress met.

A Memorial, signed by twenty-one Officers of the country Militia, now doing duty in *Charlestown*, was presented and read.

Mr. President, by desire of the Congress, requested of the Rev. Mr. *Turquand* that he would perform Divine service in Congress to-morrow.

Adjourned to half past nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Sunday, February 25, 1776.

The Congress met.

The Rev. Mr. *Turquand* performed Divine service, and received the thanks of the Congress.

The Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners for purchasing Rifles, or either of them, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered, to agree with any person to make a Rifle of a new and different construction from the kind they have power to purchase by the Resolution of yesterday; and that, if the Council of Safety shall approve of the construction, they may contract for the purchasing and making such kind of Rifles.

*Ordered*, That the Memorial delivered in yesterday, do lie on the table.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for the Captains of the Regiment of Riflemen.

And the ballots being counted, it appeared that the following gentlemen were, by majority of votes, duly elected: *Hezekiah Maham*, *Benjamin Tutt*, *George Cogdell*, *William Richardson*, *Richard Richardson*, Jun., *William Henderson*, and *John Bowie*, Esquires.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Monday, February 26, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. President declared the names of the gentlemen that had been yesterday, by majority of votes, elected Captains for the Regiment of Riflemen.

*Ordered*, That the Members of the Council of Safety, with Colonel *Gadsden*, be a Committee to consider the necessity and expediency of immediately raising another Regiment of Riflemen, for the service of this Colony; and that they do report thereon to-morrow.

A Petition of *Robert Cunningham*, proposing to observe a neutrality, was presented and read.

Captain *Maham*, Captain *Richard Richardson*, and Major *Henderson*, yesterday elected Captains for the Regiment of Riflemen, respectively declined accepting Commissions in that Regiment; the two former alleging, among other reasons, that they already commanded Volunteer Companies, to which their particular attention was due, and with which they should always be ready to go forth and render their best services to the Colony; and the latter, that being a Field-Officer of a new Regiment, composed entirely of Volunteers, the publick service required his continuance in that station.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will forthwith proceed to the choice of three other Captains, for the Regiment of Riflemen, in the room of the gentlemen who have declined to serve.

The said Captains were accordingly immediately balloted for; and the following gentlemen, declared duly elected, by a majority of votes, viz: *Francis Prince*, *Thomas Potts*, *David Anderson*, Esquires.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Church-wardens of the Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, *Charlestown*, returned *Alexander Moultrie*, Esquire, as duly elected, yesterday, to be a Member of the present Congress, for *Charlestown*, in the room of the late *Miles Brewton*, Esquire.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Moultrie*, (who attended,) do take his seat accordingly.

Read a Letter from *Jonathan Downs*, Esq., dated the 25th instant, acquainting the Congress that he was on his way to *Charlestown*, with *Patrick Cunningham*, *Hugh Brown*, and *William Duggins*, three of the late Insurgents, as Prisoners.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President do issue his Warrant for the immediate commitment of the said *Patrick Cunningham*, *Hugh Brown*, and *William Duggins*, to the common Jail in *Charlestown*.

And a Warrant was issued accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Captains of the Companies of Artillery, to be raised and posted at *Fort Lyttleton* and *Georgetown*, shall have rank in the Army as they shall respectively have made Returns to the Parochial Committees, of their having raised sixty men; the said Returns to be transmitted to the Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That the Ensigns in the Regiment of Riflemen be allowed a daily pay of thirty-two Shillings and six Pence.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gervais*, Colonel *C. C. Pinckney*, Major *Cattell*, Captain *Lynch*, and Doctor *Oliphant*, be a Committee to consider and report the best ways and means of supplying the Colony Troops and Militia with Rations.

*Ordered*, That the Committee on Publick Accounts do inquire into the state of the Colony Treasury, and report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That *Edward Rutledge*, Esq., one of the Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress, have leave to return.

Mr. *Rutledge*, from the Committee appointed to consider the necessity and expediency of raising another Regiment of Riflemen, for the service of this Colony, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Adjourned to eleven o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress entered upon the consideration of the Report of the Committee to consider and report on the necessity and expediency of raising another Regiment of Riflemen.

A motion was made, that a question be put, whether a Second Regiment of Riflemen shall be raised?

A debate ensued, and the question being put, the Congress divided.

The yeas went forth: Yeas, 51; nays, 37.

Tellers, } For the yeas, Mr. *Salvador*.  
 } For the nays, Colonel *Pinckney*.

So that it was resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made, that the said Regiment shall consist of seven hundred Men.

A debate arose, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was then made, that the said Regiment shall consist of six hundred Men.

After some debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was made, that a Colonel be appointed to command the said Regiment.

A debate arose, and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

The Report of the Committee on the expediency of raising another Regiment of Riflemen being gone through,

*Resolved*, That a Second Regiment of Riflemen, to rank as the Sixth Regiment, in the Colony service, be raised as soon as possible, to consist of five Companies, of one hundred men each, under a Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant, and a Major, upon the same terms and establishment as the First Regiment of Riflemen.

Major *Cattell*, from the Committee to consider and report the best ways and means to supply the Troops and Militia with Rations, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

Upon an application by Mr. *George Ancrum*, Jun.,

*Ordered*, That Mr. President do write to *Georgia*, to request the good offices of the Congress or Council of Safety there, to enable Mr. *Ancrum* to export from thence to this Colony certain Goods, the property of the said *Ancrum*, which had been detained for the *Indian* trade.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
 In Congress, Thursday, February 29, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Agreeable to the Order of yesterday, the Report of the Committee, on the best ways and means of supplying the Troops and Militia with Rations, was taken into consideration.

On motion, to disagree with a part of the said Report, recommending an allowance of (not exceeding) forty Shillings per day to the Clerks of the Commissary-General, a debate arose, and the question being put, it was determined in the affirmative.

The said Report having been fully debated and amended, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon, viz:

*Resolved*, That a Commissary-General be appointed to supply the Colony Troops and Militia with Rations; and also to supply the Hospital with such Provisions as the Director shall require.

That the said Commissary-General be allowed as many Deputy-Commissaries and Clerks as, with the approbation of the Council of Safety, he may judge necessary; the said Deputy-Commissaries and Clerks to be approved by the Council of Safety, who shall be informed by the Commissary-General what branch of service they are to be employed in. And the Council of Safety are empowered to allow such salaries to the Clerks so appointed as they shall deem sufficient, not exceeding five hundred Pounds per annum, and one Ration each per day.

That the Commissary-General shall be allowed a salary of two thousand Pounds, currency, per annum; and each Deputy a pay not exceeding three Pounds per day, and two Rations; and, also, such boat-hire, and other charges, as the Council of Safety may think reasonable. And that orders to the Commissary-General shall be issued in writing, from the Council of Safety, or the Commander of the Troops for the time being.

That the Commissary shall give bond, with surety, for

ten thousand Pounds, duly to account for the Moneys that may be advanced to him. And that he shall, once in every month, make a return to the Commander-in-Chief; and once in every three months render an account, on oath, to the Council of Safety, of what Provisions he hath purchased, what has been delivered to each corps respectively, what remains on hand, and at what places; and that the accounts rendered by the Deputies to the Commissary-General shall also be on oath.

That the Commissary-General shall, from time to time, acquaint the Council of Safety with his proceedings; point out abuses, and the proper remedies for them; represent the best mode to be pursued for supplying the Army plentifully, regularly, and at the same time with economy; and he shall have timely notice at what places magazines are to be formed, of what quantity and quality.

That no money be paid for Rations that have not been drawn; and whatsoever Officer, whether Commissary-General, Deputy-Commissary, or Clerk, shall pay for such Rations, he shall be dismissed from his office. And that, if the Commissary-General shall apprehend more Rations have been drawn by any corps than they have a right to, he shall immediately acquaint the Council of Safety thereof.

That the price of Rations shall not be fixed; but that the Commissary-General shall be empowered to purchase Provisions on the best terms, or to contract for them, with the approbation of the Council of Safety, and whose drafts or certificates, if approved by the said Council, shall be answered.

That, besides the Rations of Beef and Pork already allowed by the present Congress, there shall also be allowed one pound of Bread, Flour or Ship-bread, or one pint and a half of Rice, each man, per day; also, Salt and Vinegar, not exceeding one pint per month of each; and two pounds of Pepper (if to be had) per day, for each Regiment of seven hundred and fifty men, and in that proportion to other Regiments; and,

That the Council of Safety shall be, and they are hereby empowered to remove or suspend the Commissary-General, or any Deputy-Commissary, for malpractices or incapacity, on a hearing; and to appoint others in their room, during the recess of Congress.

Colonel *C. C. Pinckney*, from the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *De Brahm*, reported, and recommended it as an expedient measure to retain him in the Colony service.

A motion was then made, that Mr. *De Brahm* be retained in the Colony service, as an Engineer, upon the terms proposed yesterday.

After some debate, the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

*Resolved*, That every Member of Congress who has left it, or shall absent himself from the service thereof, without leave, and does not reside more than sixty miles from *Charlestown*, shall be sent for at his own expense.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kershaw*, Captain *Alexander Moultrie*, and Captain *Roger Smith*, be a Committee to draw a proper form of Accounts to be delivered in against the publick, for the service of drafts of Militia, and lay the same before this Congress.

Two Accounts of *Richard Savage*, for attendance and Medicines to some of the drafted Militia, who had fallen sick, were delivered in, amounting together to eighty-nine Pounds ten Shillings.

*Ordered*, That they be referred to the Committee on Publick Accounts.

Adjourned to five o'clock in the evening.

—  
 In Congress, Thursday Evening, February 29, 1776.

The Congress met.

The Congress proceeded to ballot for the Field-Officers for the Second Regiment of Riflemen, separately.

And *Thomas Sumpter*, Esq., was declared, by majority of votes, to be duly elected Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant,

And *William Henderson*, Esq., Major, of the said Regiment.

A motion was made, that the balloting for the Captains

in the said Regiment be adjourned till nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

A debate ensued, and the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Friday, March 1, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress proceeded to ballot for the Captains in the Second Regiment of Riflemen.

And the ballots being reckoned, the following gentlemen were declared duly elected, by majority of votes, viz: *Samuel Taylor, James Duff, George Wade, Richard Richardson*, Jun., and *William Brown*, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That no Vessels whatsoever shall pass any armed posts in the Rivers and Inlets, or on the Coast of this Colony, until a satisfactory account shall have been given of them at such posts; and that publick notice be given of this Resolution.

*Resolved*, That publick notice be given that a Commissary-General is wanted; and that the nomination of that officer be by the Council of Safety.

The Honourable Mr. *Lowndes*, with Colonel *Parsons*, being returned from *Georgia*, Mr. *Lowndes* reported, that he, with Colonel *Parsons* and Captain *Savage*, having found the Congress of that Colony dissolved, they made every representation to the Council of Safety to induce them to co-operate with this Colony in continuing the Non-Exportation Resolution of the Continental Congress; that the Council represented to them the great opposition, in *Savannah*, to the measures of Congress, which had not entered into any decisive resolve on that head; but that they would do everything in their power to co-operate with us; and, in short, that it was their opinion, unless this Colony interfered in a forcible manner, exportation would speedily take place.

*Ordered*, That the thanks of this Congress be returned to the Honourable Mr. *Lowndes*, Colonel *Parsons*, and Captain *Savage*, for the zeal and diligence they have exerted in the discharge of the business for which they were delegated by this Congress to go to *Georgia*.

And thanks were accordingly returned to those gentlemen.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Bull*, in addition to the detachments in *Savannah*, from the Regiment under his command, do forthwith, from the most convenient parts of *Greenville* County, march as many men, including the draft already ordered for *Charlestown*, to reinforce those detachments, as he shall think proper. And that Colonel *Pinckney* do immediately detach, not exceeding one hundred men, such as shall offer themselves volunteers, from the Militia now in *Charlestown*, and cause them to be conveyed or marched to *Savannah*, to join the forces under the orders of the Commanding Officer from this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President, the Hon. Mr. *Lowndes*, and Mr. *John Rutledge*, be a Committee to prepare a form of Orders proper to be given to Colonel *Bull*.

*Resolved*, That one Paymaster be appointed for the two Regiments of Riflemen resolved to be raised.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will immediately proceed to ballot for a Paymaster for the two Regiments of Riflemen.

And that officer being balloted for accordingly, *Richard Mercer*, Esq., was declared, by a majority of votes, duly elected.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Saturday, March 2, 1776.

The Congress met.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

Mr. *Rutledge*, from the Committee to prepare a form of Orders proper to be delivered to Colonel *Bull*, made a Report, which, being amended, was unanimously agreed to, as follows:

*South-Carolina*:

[By authority of Congress.]

To STEPHEN BULL, Esq., Colonel, or to the Commanding

Officer for the time being, of the SOUTH-CAROLINA Forces ordered to act in aid of *GEORGIA*.

Whereas there is reason to apprehend that attempts will be made to cause the merchant vessels in *Savannah* River to sail with their cargoes; and as such a proceeding would be detrimental to the interest of *America*, it becomes this Colony to aid the friends of *America* in *Georgia*, by endeavouring, with them, effectually to prevent the said vessels sailing with their cargoes; therefore you are hereby ordered, under the direction of the Colonel of the Continental forces in *Georgia*, and with the concurrence of the friends of *America* in that Colony, to take post on either side of *Savannah* River, with the troops under your command, and use every effort in your power to incapacitate those vessels from proceeding with their cargoes on their several voyages; and to that end, cause them to be forthwith unrigged, their rudders taken off, and their sails and rudders deposited in some secure place, or kept under a proper guard.

You are also ordered, under the direction and with the concurrence aforesaid, to give every aid in your power for repelling insurrections and invasions there, and securing and imprisoning every person in *Georgia* whose going at large may be dangerous to the liberties of *America*, or the security of that Colony.

Having executed these orders, you are, either with all or a part of the forces under your command, to return to this Colony, or remain in *Georgia*, at your discretion, and so act, under the direction, and with the concurrence aforesaid, as you shall think most advantageous to the *American* cause, until you shall receive further instructions from the Congress or Council of Safety of this Colony; to whom you are, from time to time, to transmit full information of your proceedings.

*Ordered*, That an engrossed copy of the above Orders be forthwith made out, signed by Mr. President, and delivered to Colonel *Bull*.

All which was done accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the sum of two thousand Pounds be advanced to Colonel *Bull*, for the above service; to be accounted for by him.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Hammond*, Mr. *Richard Waring*, and Mr. *Doussaint*, be added to the Committee on Publick Accounts.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Jacob Motte* and Captain *Alexander Moultrie*, be added to the Commissioners for signing the first emission of Money, by authority of Congress; and that Mr. *John Izard*, Captain *William Skirving*, Mr. *Richard Waring*, Captain *Robert Ladson*, Mr. *Elias Horry*, Jun., and Captain *Benjamin Smith*, be added to the Commissioners for signing the second emission, under the same authority.

Mr. *Salvador*, from the Committee to whom the Report on the state of the interior parts of the Colony, lately in commotion, was recommitted, reported on the part which had been recommitted.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to form a plan of Government, do forthwith sit, and that they do report to-morrow.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Sunday, March 3, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Powell*, Mr. *Edwards*, Mr. *Neufville*, Captain *Roger Smith*, Captain *Trapier*, Mr. *Salvador*, and Mr. *Matthews*, be a Committee to consider of ways and means for payment of the services already voted; and that they do report to-morrow.

Read a Letter from the Committee of *St. Bartholomew's* Parish, dated the 29th past, inclosing an Inventory of the Estate and Effects of *John Stuart*, Esq., in that Parish, taken in consequence of the Order of Congress of the 3d.

The Congress proceeded, on the Order of the Day, to consider the recommitted part of the Report on the state of the interior parts of the Colony, lately in commotion.

After some time spent in debate thereon.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Monday, March 4, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The President of the Council of Safety laid before the Congress a Letter which he had last night received from Mr. *Habersham*, in *Georgia*, dated *Savannah, February 28, 1776*, representing the present state of publick affairs in that Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Simon Berwick* be added to the Commissioners for signing the first emission of Money ordered by Congress.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be forthwith written to Colonel *Bull*, enclosing to him a copy of the Letter received from *Savannah*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Kershaw* be added to the Committee on Publick Accounts.

Colonel *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, from the Committee appointed to prepare such a plan or form of Government as will best produce the happiness of the People, and most effectually secure peace and good order in the Colony, during the continuance of the present dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the determination when the said Report shall be taken into consideration, be postponed till to-morrow morning, eleven o'clock.

*Resolved*, That all the Members of Congress within sixty miles of *Charlestown*, who are still absent, be forthwith sent for, by special messengers, at their own expense.

The Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, from the Committee to whom the Petition of *William Hill*, relative to a Bloomery, was referred, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Tuesday, March 5, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to superintend and promote the making of Gunpowder in this Colony, do forthwith make a Report of their proceedings to this Congress.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Powell*, the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Mr. *Corbett*, Colonel *Gervais*, Mr. *Felder*, and Mr. *Kershaw*, be a Committee to consider and report the best means of erecting a Powder-Mill, and of promoting the making of Gunpowder in this Colony.

Mr. President of the Council of Safety laid before the Congress the following Papers, received this morning, by express, from *Georgia*, and addressed to their Board, viz :

A Letter from the Council of Safety of *Georgia*, dated *Savannah*, the 1st instant.

Another from the same, dated the 2d instant.

Copy of certain Resolutions entered into by said Council, same date.

Copy of a Proclamation issued by said Council, same date.

*Resolved*, That the unanimous thanks of this Congress be returned, by Mr. President, to the Council of Safety of *Georgia*, in terms of the highest approbation of their noble and spirited conduct.

A Return was made of the election of *Thomas Tudor Tucker*, Esquire, on the 26th past, to be a Member of the present Congress, to represent the Parish of *St. George, Dorchester*.

Notice being at the same time given that Mr. *Tucker* declined to serve,

*Ordered*, That the Committee for the said Parish of *St. George, Dorchester*, do forthwith take the proper measures for filling up the vacancy.

The Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, from the Committee to consider and report the best means of promoting the making of Nitre in this Colony, delivered in a Report.

*Resolved*, That *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, joint Publick Treasurers, be ordered forthwith to lay before this Congress an exact state of the Treasury under their care.

*Ordered*, That they be immediately served with a copy of the above Resolve.

Captain *Roger Smith*, from the Committee to consider of ways and means for payment of the services already voted, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President, Mr. *John Rutledge*, Colonel *Powell*, Colonel *C. C. Pinckney*, and Captain *Shubrick*, be a Committee to prepare proper Rules and Articles for the better regulation and government of the Navy of this Colony.

The Congress then proceeded in the Order of the Day.

After a considerable time spent in debate,

A motion was made, that this Congress do postpone the consideration of the Report on the plan or form of Government until *May* next.

A debate arose, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Thursday* morning next, in a Committee of the Whole, take into consideration the Report of the Committee who were appointed, by ballot, to prepare such a plan or form of Government as will best produce the happiness of the People, and effectually secure peace and good order in the Colony.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Wednesday, March 6, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. President laid before the Congress the following copy of the Letter, written by their order, to *Georgia* :

*Charlestown, South-Carolina, March 5, 1776.*

[By authority of Congress.]

To the Honourable the Council of Safety for *GEORGIA* :

GENTLEMEN: Your letters of the 1st and 2d instant, and your resolutions, order, and proclamation of those dates, were laid before the Congress, transfusing a general and perfect joy. And the Congress, sensible of the vast importance which your exemplary conduct must be of to the *American* cause, unanimously voted their thanks; and I have the honour thus to transmit them to you, for your having decisively taken the noble, politick, and vigorous resolution, that the vessels in the ports of *Savannah*, ready to sail contrary to the interest of *America*, shall be forthwith unrigged and unruddered; and that, rather than the enemy shall possess those vessels and your Capital, all shall perish in a noble conflagration, lighted by yourselves—an instance of heroick principle not exceeded by any, and equalled but by few, in history.

Your conduct, in citing such of the inhabitants of *Savannah* as had abandoned their possessions in that town to return to its defence, under penalty of being deemed to have deserted such property, and of being excluded from any support towards obtaining an indemnification for any loss they may sustain by a general conflagration, received the highest applause, as being worthy of imitation; the policy and justice of the measure are equally conspicuous.

In short, the Congress feel the greatest satisfaction from their having anticipated your call for assistance; it is sufficient that we know our friends stand in need of our aid. We hope that our forces under Colonel *Bull* will fully accommodate your necessities; and you may rest assured that we shall continue to afford to the friends of *America* in *Georgia*, every support in our power.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, President.

Mr. *Peronneau* and Mr. *Dart*, in conformity to the Order of yesterday, attended, and delivered in the following :

" *State of the Paper Currency in the Publick Treasury of SOUTH-CAROLINA.*

Of lawful Bills of Credit, so torn and obliterated as not to be current, of various denominations, about,	- - -	£50,000	0	0
Of Tax Certificates and Publick Orders, out of date, and kept to be destroyed,		20,620	0	0
Of Certificates issued by the House of Assembly,	- - - - -	17,900	0	0
Of Certificates issued by the Congress,	-	23	15	0

There is owing, on Bonds to the King,	
for Negro Duties, - - - - -	11,693 12 10
And on Notes to the Joint Treasurers for	
other duties, - - - - -	18,693 18 4
<b>March 6, 1776.</b>	<b>£118,931 6 2</b>

Signed :

HENRY PERONNEAU,  
BENJAMIN DART,  
Joint Publick Treasurers."

The Report from the Committee on Ways and Means, for payment of the services already voted, was taken into consideration.

\*And the said Report having been debated and amended, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon, viz :

Whereas it appears that, on the 28th day of *February*, after discharging the services now due, there remains in the Colony Treasury no more of the one million one hundred and twenty thousand Pounds, issued by authority of Congress, than three hundred thousand Pounds : And whereas the charge of the Naval and Military establishments, calculated from the 1st instant to the 1st of *January* next, will amount to one million one hundred and nineteen thousand two hundred and seventy-six Pounds ; so that, should this Colony obtain the allowance for three Continental Battalions, with rations at three Shillings per man, per day, amounting to three hundred and sixty-five thousand three hundred Pounds, with the sum remaining in the Treasury, there will be a deficiency of four hundred and fifty-three thousand nine hundred and seventy-six Pounds ; and there may be wanted, for contingencies, two hundred and ninety-six thousand and twenty-four Pounds more :

Therefore, *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding seven hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, currency, in Bills or Certificates, in the quantities, and of the denominations following, be stamped or printed, signed, and lodged in the Treasury, viz :

- 2,000 bills of one hundred Pounds each ;
- 3,700 bills of fifty Pounds each ;
- 5,200 bills of twenty-five Pounds each ;
- 9,000 bills of fifteen Pounds each ;
- 5,000 bills of three Pounds each ;
- 10,000 bills of two Pounds five Shillings each ;
- 5,500 bills of two Pounds each ;
- 10,000 bills of one Pound fifteen Shillings each ;
- 6,000 bills of one Pound ten Shillings each ;
- 10,000 bills of seventeen Shillings and six Pence each ;
- 10,000 bills of twelve Shillings and six Pence each ;
- 12,000 bills of six Shillings and three Pence each ;
- 10,000 bills of five Shillings each ;
- 10,000 bills of three Shillings and nine Pence each ;
- 10,000 bills of two Shillings and six Pence each ;
- 10,000 bills of one Shilling and three Pence each.

*Resolved*, That the publick faith of this Colony be, and it is hereby, solemnly pledged to provide funds for calling in and sinking the Bills to be issued under the foregoing Resolutions.

And whereas, notwithstanding the great issue of Paper Currency, it appears that cash is scarce in circulation : but to avoid a redundancy of such currency,

*Resolved*, That a power be, and is hereby, vested in the Council of Safety to borrow, on interest, the whole or any part of the said sum of seven hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, now resolved to be issued, if they shall find it expedient and practicable.

The Report of the Committee to whom the Petition of *William Hill* was referred, being taken into consideration, debated on, and amended,

*Resolved*, That the sum of one thousand Pounds, currency, be paid by the Commissioners of the Treasury to *William Hill*, upon his producing and depositing with them proper conveyances and titles of his land, and the improvements thereon, situated on *Allison's Creek*, a branch of *Catawba River*, in *St. Mark's Parish*, to be made to Colonel *Thomas Neel*, Captain *Samuel Watson*, and Mr. *John Howe*, in trust for the publick, for repayment of the said sum of one thousand Pounds, within the term of two years.

*Resolved*, That no Moneys be issued by *Henry Peronneau*

or *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, Joint Publick Treasurers, out of the Publick Treasury, until the further order of this Congress, or authority derived from them.

The following Prohibition was accordingly issued by Mr. President, and served upon the said Treasurers :

Charlestown, South-Carolina, March 6, 1776.

[By authority of Congress.]

To HENRY PERONNEAU and BENJAMIN DART, Esquires,  
Joint Publick Treasurers :

GENTLEMEN: You are hereby prohibited from issuing, or causing to be issued, any publick money in your charge, without order first had and obtained from the Congress, or proper authority derived from them.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, *President*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Thursday, March 7, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

On motion, the Congress entered into the following Resolution :

Whereas some doubts have arisen whether the Bounty-money, and the sum allowed for clothing, to the men inlisted into the Colony Regiment of Artillery, was intended by the Resolve of Congress, of the 22d of *February* last, to extend to the two Companies to be raised for the defence of *Fort-Lyttleton* and *Georgetown* ; it is hereby declared and resolved, that the same bounty and allowance for clothing shall be paid to and for the men inlisted in the said Companies, as to those who are raised for the Regiment of Artillery.

A motion was made, that the men to be raised for the Regiment of Rangers, be inlisted to serve until the 1st day of *June*, unless sooner discharged by proper authority ; upon one month's pay being advanced.

A debate arose, and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Hammond*, Col. *Thomas*, Major *Williamson*, Mr. *Kershaw*, Mr. *Beard*, and Mr. *Felder*, be a Committee to consider and report the most proper places for erecting of Iron Works in this Colony, and what encouragement from the publick, in their opinion, may be most effectual to promote the establishment of such works, and the manufacturing of Iron.

*Resolved*, That the Order of the Day be postponed ; and that this Congress will, to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take the same into consideration.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Friday, March 8, 1776.

The Congress met.

And yesterday's Journal was read.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report on a plan or form of Government.

After some time spent therein,

Colonel *Powell*, from the Committee of the Whole, reported, that, having taken into consideration the Report on a plan or form of Government, they had made some progress therein, and desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, and resume the consideration of the said Report.

Mr. President informed the Congress that he had just received a Letter, by express, from *Georgia*, containing very important intelligence.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be read.

Read accordingly, a Letter from the Council of Safety in *Georgia*, signed *William Ewen*, President, and dated *Savannah*, March 4, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary to this Congress do forthwith cause the said Letter to be published in a Gazette Extraordinary.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.



In Congress, Saturday, March 9, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to resume the consideration of the Report on a plan or form of Government.

And some time being spent in the said Committee,

Major *Cattell* reported that they had made some progress in the Report on the plan or form of Government, and desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to resume the consideration of the said Report.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Sunday, March 10, 1776.

The Congress met.

The Rev. Mr. *Turquand* performed Divine service.

The Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That the Resolution of Congress in *January*, 1775, prohibiting the killing of Sheep in this Colony, be repealed. And, in lieu thereof, it is now resolved that no Lambs, or Sheep under two years old, shall be killed for sale.

Agreeable to the Resolve of yesterday, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

After some time spent therein,

Major *Cattell* reported that they had made a further progress in the Report before them; and desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to resume the consideration of the Report on the plan or form of Government.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Monday, March 11, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That every Soldier or Militia-man who shall engage to labour on the publick works, shall, in addition to his Regimental or Militia pay, receive such pay as, with each of them, shall be agreed by Mr. *Daniel Cannon*, who shall weekly render in and receive payment on his account for such services.

The Congress, agreeable to the Order of yesterday, again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to resume the consideration of the Report on the plan or form of Government.

And having spent some time therein,

Major *Cattell*, from the said Committee, reported that they had made a further progress; and desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to resume the consideration of the said Report.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Tuesday, March 12, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress, agreeable to the Resolve of yesterday, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, and resumed the consideration of the Report on a plan or form of Government.

After some time spent therein,

Major *Cattell*, from the said Committee, reported that they had made a further progress; and desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to proceed on the said Report.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Wednesday, March 13, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Loockock*, Mr. *Theodore Gaillard*, Jun., Mr. *Kershaw*, Mr. *Toomer*, and Mr. *Verree*, be a Committee to inquire and report the quantity of Salt now in the Colony, and the prices at which the respective holders purchased the same.

*Resolved*, That no person shall have permission to remove out of this Colony, until such person, so intending to remove with permission, shall have first given ten days' publick notice, by advertisements affixed at the doors of the State-House, of his or her intention to apply for such leave.

The Congress having resumed the consideration of the Report to inquire into the state of the interior parts of the Colony, lately in commotion, and the most likely measures to preserve peace, and to prevent future commotions therein; and having gone through the said Report,

*Resolved*, That a declaration of pardon and amnesty be published to the late Insurgents, with certain exceptions.

That all persons who shall hereafter bear arms against, or shall be active in opposing, the measures of the Continental or Colony Congress, and upon due conviction thereof, before a majority of the Committee of the District or Parish where such persons reside, shall be disarmed, and, at the discretion of the said Committee, taken into custody; and, if necessary thereto, the said Committee shall call in the aid of the military as soon as possible, transmitting to the Congress or Council of Safety an account of such proceedings.

That all reasonable indulgence ought to be given to the aforesaid late Insurgents, and, as far as is consistent with the publick safety, they be allowed to trade as usual, except for Arms and Ammunition.

That if any person who has been disarmed, shall convince the Committee aforesaid that he sincerely desires to join in support of the *American* cause, his arms shall be restored to him, and, in every respect, he shall be put on the footing of an Associator, upon his taking the following oath:

"I, A B, do, upon the Holy Evangelists, (or, according to the form of my profession,) freely, voluntarily, and without the least compulsion, evasion, or mental reservation, solemnly swear and declare, that I will, at all times, to the best of my power, aid and support the authority of Congress, and every authority derived from them. And also, that I will pay obedience to the Continental and Provincial Councils, according to the true meaning and spirit of the Association entered into by the Congress of this Colony, on the 4th of *June* last. So help me *God*."

That if any person, having been disarmed, shall, without leave of the Committee aforesaid, be found in possession of Arms or Ammunition, or be convicted of having purchased either of those articles, he shall again be disarmed, and committed to close confinement by the said Committee; they transmitting, as soon as possible, to the Congress or Council of Safety, an account of such proceeding.

That all Commissions of officers who have been in arms against the authority of Congress, or who have been, or shall be, convicted of having been active in opposing the authority of Congress, or having refused to act in support of that authority, be, and shall be null and void.

That the respective Committees, and the supporters of the *American* cause, ought to discourage the use of any opprobrious language reflecting upon the late misbehaviour of the aforesaid Insurgents, who, behaving in a peaceable manner, ought to be treated with friendship and humanity, tenderness and moderation, as the Congress wishes to reclaim rather than to punish.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the Order of the Day be postponed.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to resume the consideration of the Report on a plan or form of Government.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Thursday, March 14, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, according to the Resolve of yesterday, and resumed

the consideration of the Report on a plan or form of Government.

After some time spent therein,

Major *Cattell*, from the said Committee, delivered in a partial Report, on a plan or form of Government in this Colony, until an accommodation shall take place between *Great Britain* and the *British American Colonies*.

And the said Report being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be taken into consideration to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President do prepare a draft of a declaration of pardon and amnesty to the late Insurgents, agreeable to the Resolution of this Congress of yesterday.

*Resolved*, That the Committees for *Georgetown* and *Beaufort*, respectively, be, and they are hereby, authorized and empowered to purchase, and fit out, a proper Armed Vessel at each of those ports, for the protection of the trade and navigation thereof.

The Report of the Committee to point out the best mode of encouraging the making of Saltpetre in this Colony, being taken into consideration,

After some debate thereon, the Congress

*Resolved*, That Dr. *David Ramsay* be requested to superintend the Publick Nitre Works in *Charlestown*, and to direct the manufacturing of Nitre at the said Works. And that the sum of five hundred Pounds be lodged in Dr. *Ramsay's* hands, for the repairing of the said Works, and for the carrying on the manufacture of Nitre thereat to the best advantage, to be by him accounted for.

That the said Works be open to all persons, who, for the purpose of acquiring instruction, shall choose to visit them. And that Dr. *Ramsay* be requested to publish, as soon as he can, the most easy and simple method of manufacturing Nitre; and that, from time to time, he also publish such further improvements therein as he may experience.

That a person be appointed by every Parochial or District Committee, to receive all such good Nitre made in the Colony as shall be offered to such person; and the said Committees shall transmit the quantities so received to the Council of Safety, who, after the Nitre now belonging to the publick shall be made into Gunpowder, shall then be authorized to exchange Gunpowder for Saltpetre, at the rate of one pound of Gunpowder, manufactured at the Publick Works, for one pound and a half of Nitre transmitted as aforesaid. And where the owner of the Nitre shall not choose such Powder in exchange, he may receive, in lieu thereof, twenty Shillings, currency, the pound.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do forthwith cause a number of copies of directions for an easy process in the making of Saltpetre, sent by Mr. *Lynch*, from *Philadelphia*, to be printed, and distributed amongst the Members, that they may be properly dispersed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Friday, March 15, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress proceeded to take under consideration the Report of the Committee of the Whole, on a plan or form of Government in this Colony.

And proceeding in that clause of the first section of the said Report, "That this Congress, being a full and free representation of the people, shall henceforth be called the General Assembly of *South-Carolina*;"

A motion was made that the said clause be struck out.

After some debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

On reading the clause, "That this Congress, as a General Assembly, shall continue as such, until the 20th day of *July* next,"

A motion was made for an amendment, by striking out the words "20th of *July*," and inserting in their stead, the words "21st of *October*."

And the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The second section of the said Report being read,

A motion was made that the words "Legislative Council," be struck out.

A debate ensued; and the question being put, the Congress divided.

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The yeas went forth. Yeas, 30; Nays, 40.

Tellers, { For the yeas, Colonel *Gadsden*.  
For the nays, Colonel *Pinckney*.

So that it was determined in the negative.

A motion was then made that the said Legislative Council shall consist of twenty-one Members, eleven whereof to be a quorum.

After some time spent in debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

On motion, That the said Council shall consist of seventeen Members, nine of them to be a quorum;

The question was put, and passed in the negative.

A motion was made, That the said Council shall consist of fifteen Members, whereof nine to be a quorum.

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was made, That the Members of the said Legislative Council be chosen by ballot "from among the Members of the General Assembly."

After some time spent in debate, the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Saturday, March 16, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole, on a plan or form of Government.

And the third section of the said Report being read,

A motion was made, to strike out the word "President," and to insert instead thereof, the word "Governour."

After some debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

The fourth section of the said Report being read,

A motion was made for an amendment, by inserting, after the words "by ballot," the words "from among themselves, or the people at large."

The question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The fifth section of the said Report being read,

A motion was made for an amendment, by inserting, after the words "Legislative Council," "Provided always, That no Officer in the Army or Navy, in the service of the Continent, or of this Colony, shall be eligible."

After some time spent in debate, the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The Congress then proceeded in the seventh section of the Report, on a plan or form of Government.

A motion was made to amend the same, by striking out the words "bills of supply," and inserting instead thereof, the words "money bills."

After some debate, the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Sunday, March 17, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole, on a plan or form of Government.

The eleventh section of the said Report being read,

A motion was made to strike out the words "every year," and to insert in lieu thereof the words "the same days in every second year."

After some debate, the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

On motion, to agree with that part of the said eleventh section which directs "that each Parish and District have the same representation as at present;"

A debate ensued; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

In Congress, Monday, March 18, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be, and they are hereby, empowered and directed to appoint a proper person

as Barrackmaster, whose duty it shall be to take care of the Barracks, and to procure proper quarters and Barrack necessities for the Colony Troops and Militia.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole, on a plan or form of Government.

Upon reading the last clause of the eleventh section, a motion was made to amend the same, by inserting at the end thereof the words "and construed to mean clear of debt."

A debate arose; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The thirteenth section being read,

A motion was made for an amendment, by inserting the words "shall not be elected oftener than twice successively."

A debate ensued; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

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In Congress, Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole, on a plan or form of Government, was resumed.

After some progress made therein,

*Ordered*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The Congress then proceeded to take into consideration the Report of the Committee to inquire what quantity of Salt is in the Colony.

And the said Report being debated on, and gone through, the following Resolutions were thereupon entered into:

Whereas information hath been laid before the Congress, that certain persons do monopolize the necessary article of Salt, and demand an extravagant price for the same; and also require specie in payment, to the detriment of the Continental and Colonial currency:

The Congress do therefore *Resolve*, That no person do hereafter presume to sell Salt for more than twenty-five Shillings per bushel, exclusive of the expense of reasonable freight or carriage to the distant parts of the Colony; and that Mr. *Joseph Kershaw*, Mr. *Loocock*, Mr. *Samuel Prioleau*, Jun., Captain *Maurice Simons*, and Captain *Samuel Legaré*, for *Charlestown*; Mr. *Daniel De Saussure* and Mr. *Thomas Hughes*, for *Beaufort*; and Mr. *George Croft* and Mr. *Anthony Bonneau*, for *Georgetown*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners, and empowered to inquire after and buy up, out of the hands of individuals, all quantities of Salt which such individuals may have more than necessary for their respective families, and to dispose of the same in small quantities, at the same rate; and that the said Commissioners do also purchase all the Salt which may be imported within six months.

That Colonel *Laurens*, Mr. *Ferguson*, the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Mr. *Edwards*, and Mr. *Gibbes*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners to erect and superintend a publick Salt Work, at or near *Charlestown*; that Mr. *Joseph Allston*, Captain *William Allston*, Mr. *Benjamin Young*, Mr. *Peter Simons*, and Mr. *Thomas Butler*, be, and they are in like manner, appointed Commissioners for a publick Salt Work on the Northern Coast; and that Captain *Thomas Tucker*, Mr. *Daniel Jenkins*, Mr. *Joseph Fickling*, Mr. *James Clark*, and Mr. *James Fickling*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners, in like manner, for a publick Salt Work on the Southern Coast of this Colony; that each Board of the said Commissioners, respectively, shall have power to draw upon the Colony Treasury for any sum not exceeding seven thousand Pounds, currency, for defraying the necessary expenses incurred by this service; and that they shall sell the Salt, to be made at the said publick Works, at the most reasonable rate.

*Resolved*, That all Continental Currency, all currency issued by authority of the Congress of this Colony, and all Tax Certificates, and other certificates and orders issued by authority of the Commons House of Assembly, shall be, and they are hereby, declared legal tenders in all payments whatsoever within this Colony.

The Congress then again resumed the consideration of the Report on a plan or form of Government.

Upon reading the sixteenth section, a debate arose;

And a motion was made to amend the same by striking out the words "there shall be a Chancellor, who," and inserting instead thereof the words "the Vice-President of the Colony and the Privy Council, or the Vice-President and a majority of the Privy Council for the time being."

The question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made to amend that clause of the said section respecting an Ordinary;

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

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In Congress, Wednesday, March 20, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Resolved*, That one half of the established rates of Ferriage, for single persons and horses, is a sufficient allowance for the transporting any number, more than three at a time, of the Colony Forces or Militia, in times of alarm, over any of the established Ferries in this Colony.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee of the Whole, on a plan or form of Government.

Upon reading the section relative to a Court of Appeals,

A motion was made to disagree to the said section.

A debate arose; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The nineteenth section of the said Report being read,

On motion for an amendment, by inserting the words "that no persons selling liquors shall be put into the commission of the Peace,"

A debate arose; and the previous question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was made to strike out of the same section the words "that they [the Magistrates] shall not be entitled to fees except on prosecutions for felony."

After some debate, the question was put, and passed in the negative.

Upon reading the twenty-fifth section of the said Report,

A motion was made to insert after the words "during pleasure" the words "until otherwise directed by resolution of the General Assembly and Legislative Council."

After some debate, the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. President, Major *Cattell*, Captain *Moultrie*, Captain *Lynch*, and Mr. *Salvador*, be a Committee to consider, and report to-morrow morning, what salaries are proper to be allowed to the several publick Officers.

The Congress being informed of the arrival of a Committee from *North-Carolina* to concert, with a Committee of this Congress, a plan of measures for mutual defence and assistance,

*Ordered*, That the present Members of the Council of Safety, together with Colonel *Gadsden*, and all the other Field-Officers of the several corps of regular Forces of this Colony, be a Committee to confer with the Committee from *North-Carolina*, and with them to concert a proper plan.

Colonel *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, from the Committee to prepare proper Rules and Regulations for the government of the Navy of this Colony, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being read,

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

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In Congress, Thursday, March 21, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

An Act of the *British* Parliament, just received from *Georgia*, declaring all seizures of the persons and property of, and damages done to the *American* Colonists, before the passing of the said Act, from *Massachusetts-Bay* to *Georgia* inclusive, to be legal—and also declaring all the said

Colonies in actual rebellion, entitled "An Act to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, during the continuance of the present rebellion within the said Colonies respectively; for repealing an Act, made in the fourteenth year of the reign of his present Majesty, to discontinue the landing and discharging, lading or shipping, of goods, wares, and merchandise, at the Town and within the Harbour of *Boston*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*; and also two other Acts, made in the last session of Parliament, for restraining the trade and commerce of the Colonies in the said Acts respectively mentioned, and to enable any person or persons appointed and authorized by his Majesty to grant pardons, to issue Proclamations, in the cases and for the purposes therein mentioned,"—was read.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the said Act be immediately despatched, and conveyed with all possible haste, to the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*; and that proper extracts from the said Act be forthwith made, printed, and published here.

*Resolved*, That the Ship *Port-Henderson, Henry Aitken* Master, now lying under the cannon of *Fort-Johnston*, and bound for *London*, be forthwith seized, and brought up to *Charlestown* under the care of the *Prosper* ship-of-war; that, upon the said Ship being brought up, the Cargo on board be forthwith landed, and sold; and that, the said Cargo being sold, the moneys arising from such sale be lodged in the Colony Treasury.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Loockock* be added to the Board of Commissioners appointed to erect and superintend the intended publick Salt Work at or near *Charlestown*.

Major *Cattell*, from the Committee to consider and report what Salaries are proper to be allowed to the several publick Officers, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration,

A motion was made, to agree with that part thereof which recommends a Secretary to be allowed the President and Commander-in-Chief, with a salary of two thousand Pounds a year.

After some debate, the question was put; and it passed in the negative.

A motion was made, to agree with the Report in fixing the salary of the President and Commander-in-Chief at ten thousand Pounds a year.

After some time spent in debate, the question was put; the Congress divided.

The yeas went forth: Yeas, 25; Nays, 27.

Tellers, { For the yeas, Captain *Vanderhorst*.  
          { For the nays, Mr. *Salvador*.

And it was determined in the negative.

A motion was made, that a yearly salary of nine thousand Pounds be allowed the said President and Commander-in-Chief.

The question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

On motion, to agree with the Report that the Assistant Judges be allowed a yearly salary of twenty-eight hundred Pounds each,

A debate ensued; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was then made, that a salary of two thousand five hundred Pounds per annum be allowed to each of the said Judges.

After some debate, the question was put; and it passed in the negative.

On motion, to agree with the Report that a salary of one thousand Pounds a year be allowed to the Ordinary,

A debate arose; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made, that a Judge of Admiralty be allowed a salary of five hundred Pounds a year.

After some time spent in debate, the question was put; and it passed in the negative.

The said Report being amended and agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the same be added to, and made the 34th section of the Report of the Committee of the Whole on a plan or form of Government.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Benjamin Eddings* be added to the Commissioners for erecting a publick Salt Work on the southern coast of this Colony.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

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In Congress, Friday, March 22, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

A Proposal of Mr. *William Bellamy*, that he, with some assistance from the publick, would undertake to erect and complete a proper Mill, for making Paper, and cutting Files at the same time, was presented, and read.

*Ordered*, That the said Proposal be referred to a Committee of the following gentlemen, viz: Mr. *Kershaw*, Mr. *Edwards*, Mr. *Loockock*, the Reverend Mr. *Tennent*, and Mr. *William Bull*; and that they do report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Powell*, Colonel *Fuller*, Mr. *Loockock*, Captain *Shubrick*, Dr. *Oliphant*, Mr. *Cannon*, and Mr. *Brown*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners for laying forthwith such obstructions to the navigation of the channels over *Charlestown* Bar, and in the Harbour, as they shall judge necessary to prevent the passage of Ships-of-War; and that the Council of Safety do give every assistance to the said Commissioners, and cause the necessary sums of money to be advanced for the carrying on this service.

Colonel *Powell*, from the Committee to consider and report the best means of erecting a Powder-Mill, and promoting the making of Gunpowder in this Colony, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being considered, the Congress came to the following Resolution:

Whereas *Henry Felder*, Esq., having proposed to manufacture Sulphur and Nitre into Gunpowder: according to his offer, it is

*Resolved*, That a proper quantity of Nitre and Sulphur, belonging to the publick, be put into the hands of the said *Henry Felder*, Esq., to be by him made up into Gunpowder, and delivered into the publick Magazine; that Mr. *Felder* be allowed seven Shillings and six Pence currency for each pound of Gunpowder by him so made up from such materials, exclusive of the charge of carriage; and that, upon his delivering a quantity of Gunpowder into the hands of the publick Receiver, he be, from time to time, supplied with an equal quantity of materials, to be in like manner made up into Gunpowder.

*Resolved*, That the following Members of Congress be immediately, at their own expense, summoned to attend the publick service in Congress on or before the 26th instant, viz: *Peter Leger, Gabriel Capers, Elias Ball, Jun., Richard Walter, Benjamin Smith, John Izard, James Akin, Charles Elliott, Robert Ladson, George Haig, William Skirving, Thomas Horry, Capers Boone, Elias Horry, Jun., Theodore Gaillard, Jun., Thomas Tucker, Benjamin Garden, Isaac Macpherson, John Gaillard, Philip Porcher, Peter Sinckler, and Hezekiah Maham*, Esquires.

And further *Resolved*, That, if any of the said Members shall fail, without good and sufficient reason, of being present in Congress as aforesaid, such absent Members shall be, at their own expense, taken into custody.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners of the Treasury do pay the forty Shillings per day allowed by Congress to Members attending the publick service in Congress only by Warrant from the President, specifying the sum due to the Member requiring payment, and that he hath leave of absence.

Colonel *Laurens*, from the Committee to confer with the Committee from *North-Carolina*, and to concert a plan of measures for mutual defence and assistance, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being read, and agreed to,

*Resolved*, That three hundred Men from Colonel *Powell's* Regiment, and two hundred from Colonel *Horry's*, (exclusive of the Militia on *Waccamaw Neck*,) nearest to the *North-Carolina* boundary line, be drafted, and held in readiness to march, on the shortest notice, when required, to the assistance of that Colony.

That one thousand Men from the District of *Salisbury*

should be drafted, and held in readiness to march, on the shortest notice, when required, to the assistance of this Colony.

And that all expenses attending Troops sent from one to the relief of the other Colony, should be paid by the Colony from which they are sent; and that, on stating a proper account between the two Colonies, the balance, in which one shall be indebted to the other, shall be forthwith paid.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed on the 18th of last month, to consider, among other things, of a proper division of the Militia, and how the same may be rendered most serviceable to the publick, do forthwith sit, and give in a Report to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Major *Williamson*, Colonel *Gervais*, Captain *Williams*, and Captain *Winn*, be added to the said Committee.

Read a Letter received last night from the Council of Safety of *Georgia*, dated 16th instant,\* with the sundry Papers therein referred to, viz :

\* SAVANNAH, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN : Since ours of the 4th instant to you, we have neither heard from you, nor have we wrote to you, except by Lieutenant-Colonel *Wells*, upon a particular business, which, by your assistance, we hope he will soon have effected.

Colonel *Bull*, with the detachment from your Province, arrived here very seasonably on *Sunday* last, our own Militia having been so greatly fatigued with marching, keeping out-guards, ambuscades, and watching, that we were under the necessity of suffering a great part of them to go home.

On the evening of the 3d instant, the chief of the vessels which escaped the fire, got up some small distance from the town, and lay under cover of the armed schooner and sloop; and, towards the morning, they sent express to Colonel *McIntosh*, with the original of the enclosed copy marked No. 1, by which we were entrapped into a cessation, at the time when we should have done ourselves justice by destroying or taking all the vessels, both warlike and mercantile, which it was in our power easily to do with fire-ships, as they lay in the *South River* for near two days, and most of them often aground. This mistake was occasioned by our anxiety for the safety and recovery of our captive friends, though, perhaps, a very mistaken policy, for coercive measures might have been more successful.

We enclose to you copies of all the letters which passed upon that occasion, which will convey to you a full idea of the subject. By them you will find that they sued for peace. During this truce, when any of our officers or men went near the shore where any of the vessels lay, (in all which the soldiery were distributed,) they were meanly obsequious.

On the 7th instant, while they were yet within our power in the *Back River*, we found that they had affected to construe one of Colonel *McIntosh's* proposals into a consent that the merchant shipping should be carried to *Cockspur*; and, therefore, by way of explanation, and to make a further demand of our prisoners, we sent the despatch marked No. 2, which was delivered as directed, about six o'clock at night. Immediately after which, the whole of the marines, soldiers, and mariners, were set to work, and, after labouring very hard, staving and throwing overboard most of the rice, got out of the *Back River*, safe into *Five-Fathom Hole*, about two o'clock in the morning, and in the course of two or three days down to *Cockspur*.

A few days ago, we sent down a boat, with some necessities to our confined friends; and by the return, among a number of others, came the originals of the copies we now enclose to you. We are informed that there are many other letters in the packet, both for *Carolina* and *Georgia*, which may be had by sending the hard money; and as we intend sending down further supplies to-day, we shall send hard money for all the letters. Those which shall appear to belong or appertain to your Province, we will despatch to you.

By the letters from the contracting victuallers, we learn that our enemies have essayed to make this river a victualling and watering place for the whole forces employed against *America*; but, with respect to the former, we are determined at all hazards to disappoint them. All we have to guard against is, the being surprised. A number of vessels and troops may arrive below, and be tempted to attack the town at a time when it may be most defenceless. To prevent this, it will be necessary to keep a standing force; in doing which, we are in need of your assistance. If you could spare us about one hundred and fifty or two hundred men, until our officers shall get the battalion recruited, it would enable us, with drafts from our own people, to keep a force sufficient, with our natural advantages, to repel a formidable enemy.

We are much afraid that the enemy will use their exertions to ravage your plantations bordering on our river. They have done it already, as they were making their escape through the *Back River*, by taking a number of negroes belonging to Mr. *Middleton*, Mrs. *Cuthbert*, and others, and by taking the live stock, &c., from the plantations appertaining to the friends of *America*.

We have ordered a large boat to be fitted out for the purpose of guarding the river. We have some reasons to believe that the transports, with some of the vessels-of-war, are about sailing for *Boston*; and we are almost certain that the force now upon our coast will not attempt aught against *Charlestown*; however, the officers below say that Sir *Peter Parker* sailed on the 5th of *December*, for *America* with four forty-four-gun ships, and five thousand soldiers, and that their destination, in particular, was against your Province.

Several of the King's officers and non-associates have taken sanctuary on board the King's ships; and we have six others, besides the two Captains, confined as hostages for the 'good treatment and enlargement of Messrs. *Demeré*, *Roberts*, and *Rice*. If necessary, we shall trouble some of our sister Colonies with them.

No. 1. Two Letters from Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts* to Colonel *McIntosh*, dated on board the *Charming Nancy*, 3d and 4th *March*; Colonel *McIntosh's* Answer. Letter from Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts*, 4th *March* :

No. 2. Letter from Colonel *McIntosh* to Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts*. Letter from Captain *Barclay* and Major *Grant*, dated on board the *Hinchinbrook*, 6th *March*. Colonel *McIntosh's* Letter to them, 5th *March*. Letter from Mr. *Demeré* to Colonel *McIntosh*, dated *Hinchinbrook*, 6th *March* :

No. 3. Letter from the Council of Safety in *Georgia* to Captain *Barclay* and Major *Grant*, dated *Savannah*, 7th *March*. Letter from Captain *Barclay* and Major *Grant* to *Anthony Stokes*, Esq., dated on board the *Scarborough*, 14th *March* :

No. 4. Letter from the Council of Safety for *Georgia* to Captain *Barclay* and Major *Grant*, dated *Savannah*, 16th *March*. Copy of an intercepted Letter from *James Taylor*, dated on board the *Christie*, at *Cockspur*, 14th *March*, to Mr. *George Houstoun*. Copies of other intercepted Letters,

Captain *Grant*, of the armed schooner *St. John*, has, within a few days past, arrived at *Cockspur*, and gives an account that the *American* fleet was seen off near *Providence*, and that thereupon he took the powder (amounting to two hundred and seventy barrels) on board, and went out from the Island one way as the fleet came in on the other.

Six or seven large ships have been seen off *St. Catherine's*, from whence they got a pilot; but whether it is Sir *Peter Parker* or our friends, we are at a loss to conjecture. The King's ships below have taken the *Georgia* Packet, Captain *George Bunner*, with four hundred barrels of flour, and other articles of provisions.

By order of the Council of Safety :

WILLIAM EWEN, President.

To the Honourable the Congress or Council of Safety for *South-Carolina*.

ON BOARD THE CHARMING NANCY, March 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN : In obedience to your command, we both came on this vessel to demand Mr. *Rice*. We were ordered on board, and examined by Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant*, who have both declared it was never their intention to commit any act of hostility against this Province, nor do they even now mean any, unless drawn on by you. The above gentlemen have desired me to declare to you, that if any two of you will come on board, you will have their faith and honour to return unmolested; and you may be satisfied with what is above set forth.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

RAYMOND DEMERÉ,  
DANIEL ROBERTS.

[No. 1.] ON BOARD THE CHARMING NANCY, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN : Immediately on our coming on board here, we wrote you a letter by return of the boat; but as we did not hear from you, and the unfortunate scene that afterwards ensued, we apprehend the letter has not reached you. We therefore beg leave to mention the purport of it.

On our coming alongside, we were ordered on board, and examined by Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant*, with regard to our errand. After informing them of this particular, we were confined to the cabin. The above gentlemen have both declared, on their mutual faith and honour, it was never their order or intention to commit any act of hostility against this Province, nor do they even now mean any, unless drawn on by any fresh provocation from you. They have both desired us to assure you, in the most solemn manner, that if any two gentlemen, such as the inhabitants most confide in, will come on board, they may inform themselves of the truth of what has been mentioned; and they pledge themselves, as above, to grant them permission to return when and where they please, unmolested. This, gentlemen, is the conversation that has passed, and beg leave to submit it to your consideration.

We further assure you, that we write without any constraint, or being any way dictated to; and the genteel treatment we have both received, encourage us to place the greatest confidence in their assertions. We shall just add, that your deliberations on this matter may be productive of the most important consequences. Mr. *Rice* is with us, and treated very well.

We are, gentlemen, with respect and esteem, yours, &c.

RAYMOND DEMERÉ,  
DANIEL ROBERTS.

To the Commanding Officer at *Savannah*.

Colonel McIntosh's Answer.

DEAR GENTLEMEN : I received your letters of yesterday and to-day, and am authorized to tell you that, as you have been so shamefully treated, contrary to the uniform practice of all civilized people, we will not risk the liberty of any more of our fellow-citizens, which they are unanimously determined, at all events, to sell with their lives. The manoeuvres of these gentlemen, their hostile appearance, with so many armed vessels and troops, stealing in the night on board the ships of those who have scandalously deserted a people by whom they got their bread, in order to attack us, and their conduct with respect to you, evidently show their design against an innocent, peaceable people. We all earnestly wish you among us again; but are sure you would not desire your freedom on any conditions dishonourable to your country. If they will withdraw their vessels and troops from annoying us, to *Cockspur* again, we authorize you to receive any proposition they may make.

I am, &c.

To Messrs. *Raymond*, *Demeré*, and *Roberts*.



viz: From *John Simpson*, in *London*, dated 23d *December*, 1775, to *Mr. George Houstoun*; from *Robert Grant & Co.*, in *London*, to the same, of same date, with an extract of a Contract with the Commissioners of the Victualling-Office;

IN SAVANNAH RIVER, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We just this moment received yours, and are authorized to inform you that, from the circumstance of our letter of yesterday not being answered, and your firing to-day, it was believed your intention was to treat his Majesty's sea and land forces in a hostile manner, notwithstanding the declaration made in our letter; but as the proposal made in your letter of this day intimates your disposition to act inoffensively towards his Majesty's sea and land forces, if the vessels and troops are carried to *Cockspur* without annoying you, we are authorized to assure you that, consistently with the declarations made, the troops and vessels will be conducted to *Cockspur* immediately, without any act of hostility on their part, if not attacked; and an express-boat is to be sent to stop the firing below, not doubting but similar steps will be taken by you. We therefore flatter ourselves that you will pay due attention to the above, as we have pledged our words, in consequence of the above declaration, that every act of hostility will be refrained from by you.

We are, gentlemen, with regard and esteem, your most humble servants,

RAYMOND DEMERÉ,  
DANIEL ROBERTS.

To Colonel *McIntosh*.

N. B. Captain *Barkley* has this moment despatched an express to the *Cherokee*, to stop firing. We beg the bearer may be permitted to return.

[No. 2.] Colonel *McIntosh's Answer*.

DEAR GENTLEMEN: In consequence of your letter of this evening, I have given orders that not a single shot shall be fired at the ships and troops, unless they show evident signs of hostility against the Province, as we act altogether upon the defensive. But we shall not relax in our vigilance while they are hovering around us.

I am, &c.,

LACHLAN MCINTOSH.

To Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts*.

ON BOARD THE HINCHINBROOK, March 6, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 5th *March* came to hand this morning, about half an hour ago; and we must observe, that the gentlemen whose release you desire were aboard ship at the time that you signified to Mr. *Demeré* that, if the vessels and troops were withdrawn to *Cockspur*, without annoying the people of the Province, these gentlemen were authorized to receive any propositions that might be made. And, in a subsequent letter, you intimated that there should be a cessation of hostilities, and not a single shot fired unless we annoyed you. On this ground we set out, and are resolved religiously to observe the conditions mentioned. We will proceed to *Cockspur* without offence to the Province, if we are not fired on, and are to expect the same punctual performance of your engagements. But after our arrival at *Cockspur*, (as we are determined to act up to our declarations on coming here,) if you, any gentleman, or gentlemen, properly authorized, will come down and suggest a plan that can accommodate all parties, by a release of the ships now at *Savannah*, and their masters, we give you our word of honour that you, or them, shall be perfectly safe, and return when they please, as this method seems most likely to bring matters to the issue that you wish for. In the mean time, if hostilities commence, they must be imputed to the people of *Georgia*, not to us, as we are determined to act up to the proposal made to us.

As Mr. *Demeré* is in a ship that has fallen down the *Back-River*, his letter shall be conveyed to him, and his answer sent on shore. We are, sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

ANDREW BARKLEY,  
JAMES GRANT.

To *Lachlan McIntosh, Esq.*

SAVANNAH, March 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I authorized Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts*, by my letter of yesterday, to inform you that orders were given for a cessation of arms on our side, we certainly expected you would consider it as implied that those gentlemen, together with Mr. *Rice*, should be immediately released; for surely it must appear to every man that the detention of our fellow-citizens is, to all intents and purposes, a continuation of hostilities on your side. I am now directed to acquaint you that the people have waited with the utmost anxiety for the arrival of those gentlemen all this day; and I am induced to think, from your professions of a friendly disposition, that you will see how absolutely necessary it is to make this step the groundwork of a further negotiation. I shall wait with impatience for your answer, and hope our friends will be the messengers themselves, by ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

I am, &c.,

LACHLAN MCINTOSH.

To Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant*.

ON BOARD THE HINCHINBROOK, March 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was this morning sent for by Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant*, who presented me with your letter of yesterday to them: in answer to which, I must observe, that, when you authorized Mr. *Roberts* and myself to declare to those gentlemen that a cessation of hostilities should cease until the vessels got down to *Cockspur*, I did not imagine it implied that we should have liberty to return. I therefore particularly request you will do nothing till we reach *Cockspur*. By that time you can consider what is best to be done; and everything in our power will be exerted to bring matters to some favourable issue. With regard to Captains *Inglis* and *Wardell* being detained, I most earnestly wish they may be included with the other masters of vessels, to have the liberty of sailing with their ships. I imagine Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant* will expect those gentlemen are entitled to the same indulgence as the others; and as I am now very confident no hostilities

from *Roger Kelsall*, in *London*, dated 5th *December*, 1773; and from the same, dated 22d *December*, to *Kelsall* and *Spalding*, at *Sunbury*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

are meant against the Province, the detention of those vessels may only aggravate matters, and their enlargement may be productive of something very agreeable in the event. I have just to conclude, with my usual esteem and regard, dear sir, your humble servant,

RAYMOND DEMERÉ.

To Colonel *McIntosh*.

P. S. I have just had intimation of some intrenchment being thrown up at or near Mr. *Bryan's* Plantation. If so, I sincerely wish it may be stopped, as it can answer no good purpose. I would rather suffer every inconvenience from my confinement than any further hostilities should be commenced; for I would, in that case, think myself partly the cause.

[No. 3.] SAVANNAH, IN THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY, March 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have been privy to several letters which have passed to and from Colonel *McIntosh*, Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts*, and yourselves; and we find by yours that you consider that we consented the merchant shipping should go down to *Cockspur*, with the troops; whereas the most cursory review of the letter which appertains to that matter, will at once evidently show you, that the troops and armed vessels only were meant; and we now declare to you, that none others were intended. Indeed, a moment's reflection will further demonstrate this; for you and all *Great Britain* know, that we have made, and are yet pursuing, a commercial opposition to the acts so much complained of, and which have roused this large Continent into arms.

We abhor the idea of infidelity, and have, therefore, forbore to avail ourselves of the advantages which your situation, for several days past, put in our power, until we should have an opportunity of having the misapprehension explained. We will now forbear any virulent expressions, but we deem the detention of Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts* a breach of that good faith which the parent country has been so much famed for keeping inviolate.

We knew the troops were on board the merchant shipping some hours before they went, and, relying on the common faith of the civilized part of the world, expected that you would have permitted them to return, and have made what might pass between you and them the groundwork of an explanation; and by that means have prevented any hostilities.

In one of Colonel *McIntosh's* letters to Messrs. *Demeré* and *Roberts*, he authorized them, in case you should withdraw to *Cockspur*, as before we have explained, then to receive any propositions you might make; but this never can be construed into an assent on our part to your detaining them.

The merchant shipping, also, we consider as appertaining to this Province, and, of course, under our cognizance; and the attempt to take them away by force justified the opposition. The capture, also, of the vessel with goods, we conceive, cannot be justified upon any principle whatever.

From these premises, gentlemen, you will readily conclude that we expect two things: the one is, the return of our citizens, and the other the withdrawing your troops from on board the merchant shipping, and carrying them and the armed vessels down only to *Cockspur*.

That you may not be deceived, we now make this declaration: We expect a return of our citizens to the place from whence they were taken, by twelve o'clock to-morrow, with your assurance, upon your honour, to withdraw without any attempt to land in either Province, as soon as wind and tide shall permit; and in case you shall refuse or neglect compliance, we shall consider either as a breach of the cessation you desired. And we declare further, that your treatment of our three citizens, now in your power, will be our criterion of conduct towards all those men who now are, or may be in our power.

The laws of retaliation have suggested to us the propriety and expediency of arresting and confining the King's officers; several of whom we have accordingly taken and confined; but these men, upon the return of our friends, and not before, shall be enlarged.

By order of the Council of Safety:

WILLIAM EWEN, President.

To Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant*.

SCARBOROUGH, COCKSPUR, March 14, 1776.

SIR: We are surprised and concerned that you and the other gentlemen with you, should be confined by the rulers of the people, now at *Savannah*, as you had a right to protection from the parole that had been given. It is equally unaccountable that the Captains *Inglis* and *Wardell* should be carried into confinement, and prevented from sailing with their ships and cargoes, contrary to the faith that had been plighted to them by the very powers which the people at present acknowledge. But as proposals have been made to us for the release of Messrs. *Demeré*, *Roberts*, and *Rice*, and that we wish to remove your distresses and those of your fellow-sufferers, we authorize you to signify to such of the people as take direction in these matters, that if you, Captain *Powell*, Colonel *Tattnall*, Colonel *Multryne*, the two *McGillivrays*, Captain *Inglis*, Captain *Wardell*, and all others that may be in confinement on this occasion, are set at liberty, and that *Lachlan McIntosh*, *Samuel Elbert*, and *Joseph Habersham*, Esquires, or any others that you may conjoin with them, engage themselves upon honour, by a writing under their hands, for the future security of your persons, families, and properties, while you act a neutral part, and likewise the security of the persons, family, and property of the Governour, gentlemen of the Council, and other servants of the Crown, who may not be in confinement, and that you, any, or all of you, shall be at liberty to quit the Province when you or they think proper, and also that the Captains *Inglis* and *Wardell*, with other masters of vessels, who may incline to go to sea, shall immediately be permitted so to do with their ships and cargoes; then, and in that case, you are authorized to assure the people or their leaders, that we will release the Messrs. *Demeré*, *Roberts*, and *Rice*.

The conditions that only require men to be just to their own engage-

In Congress, Saturday, March 23, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

*Thomas Waring*, duly elected and returned a Member of Congress for the Parish of *St. George, Dorchester*, in the room of *William Sanders*, Esq., deceased, attending, and declaring that he was willing to serve,

Ordered, That Mr. *Waring* do take his seat accordingly.

Resolved, That the Commissioners appointed yesterday  
ments may easily be complied with. An immediate answer is required;  
and we have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servants,

ANDREW BARKLEY.  
JAMES GRANT.

To *Anthony Stokes*, Esq.

[No. 4.] SAVANNAH, IN THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY, March 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As we have already pledged our faith to release all the King's officers, and others now in our custody, upon the enlargement of our captive friends, and we, holding it inviolate, are yet willing to perform our engagement. Should this exchange take place, such of them as choose to leave the Province may; and such as do not, may remain upon their parole of honour to refrain from all connection with the King's vessels and soldiery. And we do now declare that we will neither make, or receive, any other terms.

By order of the Council of Safety:

WILLIAM EWEN, President.

To Captain *Barkley* and Major *Grant*.

The following are Copies of Intercepted Letters.

COCKSFUR, ON BOARD THE CHRISTIE, March 14, 1776.

SIR: I have the opportunity of acquainting you of my misfortune of being here; which is adding loss to loss. I also have to acquaint you of the disagreeable circumstance of Captain *Andrew Lee* having, by the Commodore's orders, hove overboard some of your rice, and also have some of it on board now, which he intends to take away, and put on board some of the transports for *Boston*. But if in my power, I shall stop it for two days, till I hear from you, which I beg may be as soon as possible. I never intended being here, if it had been in my power to have done otherwise; which would have been more pleasure to your most humble servant,

JAMES TAYLOR.

To *George Houstoun*, Merchant in *Savannah*.

LONDON, December 23, 1775.

DEAR SIR: I have been applied to by Messrs. *Robert Grant & Co.*, Contractors to the Navy, for a proper person in your Province to supply the King's ships with what provisions they may want when any of them come your way. I therefore mentioned you, hoping it may be of some advantage to you. But should the executing of it be disagreeable, or attended with any risk, you are at liberty to decline it; only, I should, in that case, wish you to recommend some person who would undertake it. Messrs. *Robert Grant & Co.* will write you themselves upon the subject.

I am, with esteem, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SIMPSON.

To *George Houstoun*.

LONDON, December 23, 1775.

SIR: By the recommendation of Mr. *John Simpson*, (from whom we enclose you a letter,) we have taken the liberty to send you a copy of a contract with the Victualling-Board for supplying his Majesty's ships on your station with provisions, in the name of Mr. *Robert Grant*, though on our joint account. We beg you will make the necessary supplies when demanded, and draw on us for your reimbursement; at the same time transmit us the vouchers.

The usual commission we give on such transactions is five per cent., which we hope will be agreeable to you. We shall be much obliged to you if you will, from time to time, advise us of the prices current with you, as we have several contracts to the northward, which, probably, might be supplied with some articles from your place; and if any opportunity for *Boston*, advise *Charles Lyell*, Esq., or *Alexander Brymer*, to the same purpose. You will please observe, that we have nothing to do with the Pursers' necessary bills, only to give them money for them at the current exchange, if they apply for it, without putting us to any loss or expense whatever. You have form of a voucher enclosed.

We are, sir, yours, &c.,

ROBERT GRANT & CO.

To *George Houstoun*.

VICTUALLING-OFFICE, September 20, 1775.

GENTLEMEN: Having contracted with Mr. *Robert Grant*, of London, merchant, for furnishing sea provisions to such of his Majesty's ships and vessels as shall touch at *Georgia*, and be in want thereof, we desire you will please to receive of him, or his agent, all such quantities of sea provisions as you may be in want of at the said place; and underneath is a copy of the contract made with the said gentlemen, for your information.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

JAMES WALLACE,  
ROBERT PETT,  
THOMAS COLBY,  
JONAS HANWAY.

To the Commanders of his Majesty's Ships and Vessels at *Georgia*.

Extracts from Mr. ROBERT GRANT's Contract.

And it is further agreed, that I am to furnish rice in lieu of half the quantity of oatmeal that shall be demanded, after the rate of half a

for laying such obstructions to the navigation of the channels over *Charlestown Bar*, and in the harbour, as they shall judge necessary, be, and they are hereby, authorized and required, to prepare proper Fire-Vessels, for the most effectual annoyance of any enemy that shall attempt to enter the said harbour.

Ordered, That Captain *Lempriere* be added to the said Commissioners.

Resolved, That all the Letters which have been put on board the Ship *Port-Henderson*, be forthwith brought from

pound of rice in lieu of a pint of oatmeal; and the quantity of rice that shall appear by the vouchers to be supplied to his Majesty's ships shall be paid for in the following manner, viz: Thirty-two pounds of rice shall be allowed to be equal, and shall be paid for at the same price as one bushel of oatmeal.

And I do also oblige myself to deliver weekly to the Admiral, or Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's ships at *Georgia*, or when the commanding officer for the time being shall require it, during the continuance of this contract, an abstract of all the provisions remaining in my stores, and likewise an abstract of the several species and quantity of provisions issued to each of his Majesty's ships every week at *Georgia*.

LONDON, December 5, 1775.

DEAR SIR: The act now before the House for prohibiting all trade and intercourse with the associated Provinces, will effectually prevent our getting home any remittances from *Georgia*. All American vessels are to be seized after *January*. All vessels found going to, or in, any of the ports, are to be seized after the 1st of *March*; and all property whatever going to, returning from, or remaining in any of those ports after the 1st *June*. This being the case, you will readily see that it will be impracticable to charter vessels from hence to proceed to *Georgia*, load, and get away before *March*. The only chance left of our shipping anything will be from *East-Florida*; if, therefore, (and for this purpose nothing must be left unessayed,) you can, by any means, collect and lodge five hundred barrels of rice on the *Florida* side of *St. Mary's*, we shall not only be able to throw a handsome sum into the hands of our correspondents, to whom we owe it, and much more, but shall make a handsome profit, and it is more than probable something extraordinary. As *Tonyn* is no friend of ours, it is not prudent that you be seen in the conduct of this matter. Make Mr. *Egan* acquainted with the plan, and let the whole be conducted in his name in that country; and as, from your resolutions, you are to have no intercourse with that Province, *Egan's* name, and none other there, must appear with you.

You can easily collect the rice, I am sure; and if you conduct the business properly, it may be accomplished without the knowledge of an individual in your Province to whom you do not communicate it. In fact, as the scheme is feasible, practicable, and may be very profitable, I am come to the determination of chartering a small vessel, not to exceed four hundred and fifty or five hundred barrels of rice, and go out in her to *St. Mary's, East-Florida*, to sail from hence in thirty days from the date hereof, and to load rice. But, for fear of the worst, it shall be in option to send her (in case only you find the former plan impracticable) to the *West-Indies* with lumber, so that, from this sketch of the matter, regulate and govern yourselves accordingly. A load of lumber you may surely get. To prevent suspicion, I shall charter the vessel in *Egan's* name, and only appear in the business as his agent.

I am extremely anxious to get out; and as this is the only chance I shall have, nothing will prevent my putting it in execution; and as the risk we run of a failure is by no means equal to the advantages we may reap in case we succeed, you may depend upon what I now write.

The act recites, that so soon as any of the Provinces, or any part of a Province, returns to its allegiance, its trade shall be restored. You will therefore be best able to judge of the temper and disposition of our Province, and by which you will take care to regulate your conduct. As to purchasing of rice, (for, as you know, it is a perishable article,) we ought not to meddle with more than we have a prospect of getting off our hands. If, on the other hand, you find an opening for anything, buy largely—we owe money, and we must, we ought to pay it. I shall at this time say no more, than that you may once again, before you see me, hear from me by the Packet to sail the 16th for *Virginia, North and South-Carolina*.

I am, &c.,

ROGER KELSALL.

LONDON, December 22, 1775.

DEAR SIR: Above is a copy of what I wrote you via *Augustine*, since which I can only inform you that the before-mentioned law received the Royal assent yesterday, and I have very good reason to suppose will be transmitted to every Governour and Commander on the Continent. I would, notwithstanding, send you the act, but cannot procure it. I refer you to Captain *McKay*, who will see it as soon as any person in your Province, and, I dare say, will communicate its contents most willingly. I confirm what I before wrote to you, and you may expect to see me in the vessel, which I have already wrote you I would charter. I shall put off her sailing as long as possible, yet think and believe it will be in all the month of *January*; therefore you will purchase accordingly. I hope you will exert yourself in this business, in which case I have no doubt of success, and you may have and entertain the most sanguine hopes of the greatest advantages from the result. Rice will command, in all probability, twenty shillings per hundred, staves twenty pounds per thousand, and other things in proportion. Upon the whole, exert yourselves, risk something, and leave the rest to fortune. But remember rice. This is the article we ought to ship, and it is expected we shall do it. I say no more. As to my own affairs, I refer you, &c.

I am, dear James, yours,

R. KELSALL.

To Messrs. *Kelsall* and *Spalding*, *Sunbury*.

True copies:

EDWARD LANGWORTHY, Secretary.

thence, and lodged in the Constitutional Post-Office, and there delivered to the several persons claiming; the claimants opening the same in the office, to prevent misdelivery.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Edwards*, Captain *Roger Smith*, Mr. *Hall*, Mr. *Loockock*, Mr. *Corbett*, and Mr. *Dupont*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners for unlading and valuing the Cargo of the Ship *Port-Henderson*, and for fixing a reasonable rate at which the said Cargo shall be sold, for consumption or for sale, at a price not exceeding the purchase and carriage, in small quantities, by retail; and for employing proper persons to execute this service, allowing such proper persons a reasonable compensation for their trouble.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners appointed to purchase Salt, do take, for the publick benefit, all such Salt as they can find in the hands of private persons, as expressed in the Resolve of the 19th instant, for the uses therein mentioned; paying for the said Salt twenty-five Shillings per bushel, and allowing for each family from whom such Salt shall be taken, sufficient for such family's use during six months.

Read a Letter from *Edward Rutledge*, Esq., one of the Delegates from this Colony in the Continental Congress, dated at *Philadelphia*, 1st March, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress, or a majority of such of them as shall at any time be present in the said Congress, or any one of the said Delegates, if no more than one shall be present, be, and they and he are and is hereby, authorized and empowered, for and in behalf of this Colony, to concert, agree to, and execute, every measure which they or he, together with a majority of the Continental Congress, shall judge necessary, for the defence, security, interest, or welfare of this Colony in particular, and of *America* in general.

*Resolved*, That *Roger Smith*, *Thomas Savage*, *John Matthews*, *John Huger*, *John Parker*, *Jacob Motte*, *Elias Horry*, Jun., *Peter Leger*, and *Alexander Moultrie*, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners to stamp, and any three of them to sign, the Bills or Certificates of the larger denominations, from one hundred Pounds down to fifteen Pounds; which Bills shall also be countersigned by any one of the Commissioners of the Treasury. And that *John Deas*, *John Scott*, Sen., *John McCall*, Sen., *Joshua Ward*, *Samuel Prioleau*, Jun., *James Fisher*, *John Webb*, *William Doughty*, *Alexander Inglis*, *William Greenwood*, *Samuel Legaré*, *Nathaniel Russell*, *Thomas Jones*, *Peter Fayssoux*, and *Thomas Waring*, Esqs., be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners, with all possible despatch, to have printed, and any two of them to sign, the Bills of smaller denominations, from three Pounds down to one Shilling and three Pence, voted on the 6th instant to be issued. And when stamped, printed, signed, and numbered as aforesaid, that they, from time to time, deliver all the said Bills into the hands of the Commissioners of the Colony Treasury.

The Report of the Committee to whom were referred the Petitions of *Joseph Buffington* and *William Wofford*, Esqs., being taken into consideration, and amended, the Congress came to the following Resolutions thereupon:

Whereas it appears, that the fifty acres of Land upon which Iron Works are to be erected by *Joseph Buffington*, are not his, but the property of *William Wofford*, Esq., or others; and that there is an encumbrance upon the said Works already begun; and that the carrying on the said Works will be a publick benefit:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said encumbrance, being two thousand three hundred and eighty-one Pounds eight Shillings and ten Pence half-Penny, due to the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, be paid; and that the sum of four thousand Pounds be lent, for the carrying on and completing the said Works, upon the following terms, viz: That when the said *William Wofford*, or others having legal right so to do, shall have made, to the said *Joseph Buffington*, good and sufficient title, in fee simple, to the said fifty acres of Land; saving to the said *William Wofford*, his heirs and assigns, that on no part of the said fifty acres of Land shall any Grist or Flour Mill, to work by water, be erected, and that the water shall not be stopped to the detriment of the said *William Wofford*, his heirs and assigns; and the said *Joseph Buffington* shall then have made to *John Neufville*,

*William Gibbes*, and *Peter Bacot*, Esqs., in trust for the publick, good and sufficient titles in fee simple, and also titles in like manner to one thousand acres of Land, with timber for fuel contiguous thereto; and Mr. *Drayton* shall have transferred to the said *John Neufville*, *William Gibbes*, and *Peter Bacot*, Esqs., for the use of the publick, all such securities as he may have for the payment to him of the said encumbrance; then the said sum of two thousand three hundred and eighty-one Pounds eight Shillings and ten Pence half-Penny, shall, by the Commissioners of the Treasury, be paid to Mr. *Drayton*; and the said Commissioners shall also then pay into the hands of Colonel *John Thomas*, Captain *James Williams*, and Mr. *John Prince*, the said sum of four thousand Pounds, to be by them expended and laid out, as Commissioners for erecting and completing the said Works. And that, if the said sum of six thousand three hundred and eighty-one Pounds eight Shillings and ten Pence half-Penny, shall not, by the said *Joseph Buffington*, his heirs or assigns, be repaid to the Commissioners of the Treasury for the time being, within four years next ensuing, then the said Lands, with all the improvements thereon, shall be sold, and the publick reimbursed the said six thousand three hundred and eighty-one Pounds eight Shillings and ten Pence half-Penny, of the money arising from the sale; and the overplus, if any, be paid to the said *Joseph Buffington*, his heirs or assigns.

And whereas the establishment of another Iron Work will also be of publick utility:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the sum of three thousand Pounds for that purpose, be granted to *William Wofford*, upon his giving full and sufficient security for the repayment of the same, within four years, to the Commissioners of the Treasury for the time being. *Provided*, nevertheless, That the said sum of three thousand Pounds shall not be lent to the said *William Wofford* until he shall have made, or caused to be made, good titles as aforesaid, to the said *Joseph Buffington*, to the said fifty acres of Land. And also,

It is hereby declared, that the two Iron Works above specified, shall not be entitled to receive the Premiums already declared for the encouragement of Iron Works.

Mr. *Edwards*, from the Committee to whom the Proposal of Mr. *William Bellamy* was referred, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration,

*Resolved*, That the sum of three thousand Pounds, currency, be advanced to the said *William Bellamy*, out of the Colony Treasury, on loan, for the term of five years, free of interest, in consideration, and for the express purpose, of his forthwith erecting a proper Mill for making Paper and cutting Files, in as great perfection as in any part of *Europe*: he, the said *Bellamy*, giving undeniable security to *John Neufville*, *William Gibbes*, and *Peter Bacot*, Esqs., Commissioners of the Colony Treasury, for the performance thereof, and for repayment of the said sum into the said Treasury, by the expiration of the said term of five years.

On motion, that this Congress do now proceed to choose another Captain for the Second Regiment of Riflemen, in the room of Captain *Richardson*, resigned,

*Resolved*, That the said appointment be referred and left to the Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Lynch*, Jun., Esq., on account of the alarming ill state of health of his father, one of the Delegates from this Colony, at *Philadelphia*, have leave of absence.

*Resolved*, That another Delegate to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, be forthwith chosen by this Congress, by ballot, in addition to, and with as full powers, in all respects, as the Delegates already chosen have, and are invested with.

The Congress then proceeded to ballot for the said Delegate,

And *Thomas Lynch*, Jun., Esq., appeared to be, and was declared, duly elected.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Lynch*, Jun., Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed a sixth Delegate from this Colony, to represent the same in the Continental Congress.

Colonel *Powell*, from the Committee to consider of a proper division of the country Militia, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being taken into consideration immediately, amended, and agreed to,

It was *Resolved*, That the Regiment of Militia, commanded by Colonel *Richard Richardson*, be, in the following manner, divided into four Battalions; each under a Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, resident in the District, and the whole under the command of Colonel *Richardson*, viz: That part of the said Regiment lying eastward of *Santee* and *Wateree* Rivers, into two Battalions, to be divided by *Rafting-Creek*, from the mouth and north branch thereof up to its source, and thence, by a line due east, to *Lynch's Creek*; and the other part of the said Regiment, lying westward of *Wateree-River*, into two other Battalions, to be divided by *Wateree-Creek*, and the south branch thereof up to its source, then down *Jackson's Creek* to the mouth, and to *Shyra's Ferry*, on *Broad-River*. And that the Fork between *Sahudy* and *Broad* Rivers be divided into three Regiments, according to the division of Districts by the Resolve of Congress of the 9th of *February* last, one Regiment in each of the said Districts.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Lynch*, Sen., Esq., one of the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress, on account of his ill state of health, have leave to return to this Colony, if he shall think it necessary.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Sunday, March 24, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

Mr. *John Rutledge*, from the Committee to prepare a plan or form of Government, in addition to their former partial Report, made a further Report.

And the said further Report being taken into immediate consideration, and amended, and the whole Report being gone through,

*Ordered*, That the same be forthwith fairly engrossed upon royal paper, and laid before the Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Gabriel Manigault*, *Thomas Smith*, *John Scott*, Senior, *Samuel Prioleau*, Senior, *Lionel Chalmers*, Esqs., and Messrs. *Benjamin Baker*, *Richard Moncrieff*, *Thomas Young*, and *William Banbury*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners, they, or any five of them, to appraise and value the Houses in *Charlestown*, in order that if, during the present unnatural civil war, any of those Houses should be damaged or destroyed, and any recompense should hereafter be thought proper to be made, such owners of them as shall be in readiness, by arms, to defend *Charlestown*, and Widows and Orphans, may be recompensed accordingly. And that the said Commissioners, or a majority of them, as aforesaid, shall, upon oath, and, as soon as possible, make return of the said appraisement, together with the names of the proprietors, or inhabitants, of the Houses respectively that are abandoned.

*Resolved*, That the same allowance as has been heretofore granted to the Delegates of this Colony, be given to the Delegates now representing, and to represent, this Colony in the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be forthwith, by Mr. President, presented, by letter, to Colonel *Richard Richardson*, for the very important and signal services he has rendered to his country, and to the common cause, by putting a stop to the late dangerous and alarming insurrection, which the enemies of *America* had excited in the interior parts of the Colony; desiring the Colonel to signify the thanks of this Congress also to the officers and men who were under his command upon that expedition.

*Resolved*, also, That the thanks of this Congress be returned to Major *Andrew Williamson*, for his important services on the same occasion.

And Major *Williamson* being present in Congress, received thanks accordingly.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President be desired to transmit the thanks of this Congress to Major *James Mayson*, for his services upon the late expedition under Colonel *Richardson*.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be returned to *Stephen Bull*, Esq., of *Sheldon*, Colonel of the *Granville* County Regiment of Militia, for his important services in the command of the Colony Forces in *Savannah*; and that he

be desired to signify their thanks to the officers and men then under his command.

And thanks were accordingly returned to Colonel *Bull*.  
Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Monday, March 25, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Report of the Committee to prepare proper Rules and Articles for the government of the Navy of this Colony, being taken into consideration,

The said Rules were amended, and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary do forthwith cause a proper number of copies of the said Rules and Articles to be printed, for the use of the Navy of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That every Officer who actually keeps a Servant, and does not take a Soldier from the Regiment to wait on him, shall be allowed a ration of Provision for such Servant per day.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Williams*, Captain *Winn*, Mr. *Loocock*, Mr. *Prince*, Colonel *Wofford*, and Mr. *Beard*, be a Committee to consider and report proper places in the interior parts of the Colony, at which the election of Members of Congress, or of the General Assembly, should be held, where such places are not already appointed, or where those already appointed may be improper or inconvenient; and also, of proper persons to attend and receive the votes of the electors.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

—  
In Congress, Tuesday, March 26, 1776.

The Congress met.

And the Journal of yesterday was read.

The Committee to whom the Petition of *David Duncan* was referred, reported, that they had, to the satisfaction of both parties, settled the dispute between him and Mrs. *Lingard*.

The engrossed copy of "A Constitution, or form of Government," being laid before the Congress,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *C. C. Pinckney* and Mr. *Salvador* be a Committee to examine and compare the same with the rough draft thereof.

*George King*, Esq., was returned duly elected on the 6th instant, as a Representative for the Parish of *St. Matthew*, in the room of *Tacitus Gaillard*, Esquire, who had declined serving.

On motion, to establish a proper rank between the Officers of the Land and Sea Forces of this Colony:

Whereas it is expedient for the publick service, that a proper rank should be established between the Officers in the Navy and the Officers in the Land Forces of this Colony:

Therefore, it is *Resolved*, That rank be established in the following manner:

The Captain of a Ship, or Frigate, of not less than twenty guns, all not less than nine-pounders, of three years' standing, to rank with a Colonel.

The Captain of a Ship, or Frigate, as aforesaid, of less than three years' standing, to rank with a Lieutenant-Colonel.

The Captain of a Ship that does not carry twenty guns, all not less than nine-pounders, to rank with a Major.

The Master or Commander of a Snow or Brigantine, Schooner or Sloop, each carrying not less than fifty men, to rank with a Captain of Foot. And

Lieutenants in the Navy, to rank with Lieutenants of Foot.

Colonel *C. C. Pinckney* reported, that he, with Mr. *Salvador*, had carefully examined the engrossed copy of the Constitution or form of Government, and that they found it correct.

*Ordered*, That the following Title be prefixed to the said engrossed copy:

"*South-Carolina*."

"In a Congress, begun and holden at *Charletown*, on *Wednesday*, the first day of *November*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and continued, by divers ad-

journments, to *Tuesday*, the twenty-sixth day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six."

"A Constitution, or form of Government, agreed to and resolved upon by the Representatives of *South-Carolina*."

*Resolved*, That *Michael Kalteisen*, Esq., while he continues to discharge the duties of Commissary of Military Stores for the Regular Forces, be allowed a pay of forty Shillings per day for that service.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of sundry inhabitants on *Savannah-River*, *Great Rocky-Creek*, and places adjacent, was referred, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being taken into immediate consideration, was agreed to.

*Resolved*, That *Fort Royal*, about eighteen miles above *Fort Charlotte*, on *Savannah River*, on the frontiers of this Colony, is advantageously situated for the security of the inhabitants, in case of an *Indian* war, either with the *Creeks* or *Cherokees*. That Major *Williamson*, Captain *Bowie*, Captain *Andrew Pickens*, *Adam Crain Jones*, Esquire, and Mr. *Rapley*, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners, they, or a majority of them, to view the said Fort, and to report, upon oath, at the next meeting of Congress or General Assembly, the state thereof, the expense of building it, and the damage done to the owner of the land.

*Resolved*, That the Paymaster to the two Regiments of Riflemen, be allowed a daily pay of three Pounds ten Shillings.

*Ordered*, That the engrossed copy of the Constitution or form of Government, with the Title prefixed, be now read.

And the same being read, is as follows:

*South-Carolina*.

In a Congress, begun and holden at *Charlestown*, on *Wednesday*, the first day of *November*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, and continued, by divers adjournments, to *Tuesday*, the twenty-sixth day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

*A Constitution, or form of Government, agreed to, and resolved upon, by the Representatives of SOUTH-CAROLINA*.

Whereas the *British* Parliament, claiming of late years a right to bind the *North-American* Colonies by law, in all cases whatsoever, have enacted statutes for raising a revenue in those Colonies, and disposing of such revenue as they thought proper, without the consent, and against the will of the Colonists. And whereas, it appearing to them, that (they not being represented in Parliament) such claim was altogether unconstitutional; and, if admitted, would at once reduce them from the rank of freemen to a state of the most abject slavery; the said Colonies, therefore, severally remonstrated against the passing, and petitioned for the repeal of those acts—but in vain. And whereas the said claim being persisted in, other unconstitutional and oppressive statutes have been since enacted, by which the powers of the Admiralty Courts in the Colonies are extended beyond their ancient limits, and jurisdiction is given to such Courts in cases similar to those which in *Great Britain* are triable by jury—persons are liable to be sent to, and tried in, *Great Britain*, for an offence created and made capital by one of those statutes, though committed in the Colonies; the Harbour of *Boston* was blocked up; people indicted for murder in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, may, at the will of the Governour, be sent for trial to any other Colony, or even to *Great Britain*; the chartered Constitution of Government in that Colony is materially altered; the *English* Laws, and a free Government, to which the inhabitants of *Quebeck* were entitled by the King's Royal Proclamation, are abolished, and *French* Laws are restored; the *Roman* Catholic Religion (although before tolerated and freely exercised there) and an absolute Government are established in that Province, and its limits extended through a vast tract of country, so as to border on the free Protestant *English* settlements, with design of using a whole people, differing in religious principles from the neighbouring Colonies, and subject to arbitrary power, as fit instruments to overawe and subdue the Colonies. And whereas the Delegates of all the Colonies on this Continent, from *Nova-Scotia* to *Georgia*, assembled in a General Congress at *Philadelphia*, in the most dutiful manner, laid their com-

plaints at the foot of the throne, and humbly implored their Sovereign, that his royal authority and interposition might be used for their relief from the grievances occasioned by those statutes, and assured his Majesty, that harmony between *Great Britain* and *America*, ardently desired by the latter, would be thereby immediately restored, and that the Colonists confided in the magnanimity and justice of the King and Parliament for redress of the many other grievances under which they laboured. And whereas, these complaints being wholly disregarded, statutes still more cruel than those above-mentioned have been enacted, prohibiting the intercourse of the Colonies with each other, restricting their trade, and depriving many thousands of people of the means of subsistence, by restraining them from fishing on the *American* coast. And whereas, large Fleets and Armies having been sent to *America*, in order to enforce the execution of those laws, and to compel an absolute and implicit submission to the will of a corrupt and despotick Administration, and in consequence thereof, hostilities having been commenced in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, by the Troops under command of General *Gage*, whereby a number of peaceable, helpless, and unarmed people, were wantonly robbed and murdered; and there being just reason to apprehend that like hostilities would be committed in all the other Colonies, the Colonists were therefore driven to the necessity of taking up arms to repel force by force, and to defend themselves and their properties against lawless invasions and depredations. Nevertheless, the Delegates of the said Colonies, assembled in another Congress at *Philadelphia*, anxious to procure a reconciliation with *Great Britain* upon just and constitutional principles, supplicated his Majesty to direct some mode by which the united applications of his faithful Colonists might be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; that, in the mean time, measures might be taken for preventing the further destruction of their lives; and that such statutes as immediately distressed any of the Colonists might be repealed. And whereas, instead of obtaining that justice to which the Colonists were, and are, of right entitled, the unnatural civil war into which they were thus precipitated, and are involved, hath been prosecuted with unremitted violence; and the Governours, and others bearing the Royal commission in the Colonies, having broken the most solemn promises and engagements, and violated every obligation of honour, justice, and humanity, have caused the persons of divers good people to be seized and imprisoned, and their properties to be forcibly taken and detained, or destroyed, without any crime or forfeiture; excited domestick insurrections; proclaimed freedom to servants and slaves; enticed or stolen them from, and armed them against their masters; instigated and encouraged the *Indian* nations to war against the Colonies; dispensed with the law of the land, and substituted the law-martial in its stead; killed many of the Colonists; burned several towns, and threatened to burn the rest; and daily endeavour, by a conduct which has sullied the *British* arms, and would disgrace even savage nations, to effect the ruin and destruction of the Colonies. And whereas a statute hath been lately passed, whereby, under pretence that the said Colonies are in open rebellion, all trade and commerce whatsoever with them is prohibited; vessels belonging to their inhabitants trading in, to, or from, the said Colonies, with the cargoes and effects on board such vessels, are made lawful prize, and the masters and crews of such vessels are subjected, by force, to act on board the King's ships, against their country and dearest friends; and all seizures and detention, or destruction of the persons and properties of the Colonists, which have at any time been made, or committed, for withstanding or suppressing the said pretended rebellion, and which shall be made in pursuance of the said act, or for the service of the publick, are justified; and persons suing for damages in such cases, are, on failing in their suits, subjected to payment of very heavy expenses. And whereas, large reinforcements of troops and ships have been ordered, and are daily expected in *America*, for carrying on war against each of the United Colonies, by the most vigorous exertions. And whereas, in consequence of a plan recommended by the Governours, and which seems to have been concerted between them and their Ministerial masters, to withdraw the usual officers, and thereby loosen the bands of Government, and create anarchy and confusion in the Colonies, Lord *William Campbell*, late Governour, on the 15th day of *Sep-*



tember last, dissolved the General Assembly of this Colony, and no other hath since been called, although, by law, the sitting and holding of General Assemblies, cannot be intermitted above six months; and having used his utmost efforts to destroy the lives, liberties, and properties of the good people here, whom, by the duty of his station, he was bound to protect, withdrew himself from the Colony, and carried off the Great Seal and the Royal Instructions to Governours. And whereas the Judges of the Courts of Law here have refused to exercise their respective functions, so that it is become indispensably necessary that, during the present situation of *American* affairs, and until an accommodation of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and *America* can be obtained, (an event which, though traduced and treated as Rebels, we still earnestly desire,) some mode should be established by common consent, and for the good of the people—the origin and end of all Government—for regulating the internal polity of this Colony, the Congress being vested with powers competent for the purpose, and, having fully deliberated touching the premises, do therefore Resolve,

I. That this Congress, being a full and free representation of the people of this Colony, shall henceforth be deemed and called the General Assembly of *South-Carolina*, and as such shall continue until the 21st day of *October* next, and no longer.

II. That the General Assembly shall, out of their own body, elect by ballot a Legislative Council, to consist of thirteen Members, seven of whom shall be a quorum, and to continue for the same time as the General Assembly.

III. That the General Assembly and the said Legislative Council shall jointly choose by ballot, from among themselves or from the people at large, a President and Commander-in-Chief, and a Vice-President of the Colony.

IV. That a Member of the General Assembly, being chosen and acting as President and Commander-in-Chief, or Vice-President, or one of the Legislative Council, shall vacate his seat in the General Assembly, and another person shall be elected in his room; and if one of the Legislative Council is chosen President and Commander-in-Chief, or Vice-President, he shall lose his seat, and another person shall be elected in his stead.

V. That there be a Privy Council, whereof the Vice-President of the Colony shall of course be a Member, and President of the Privy Council; and that six other members be chosen by ballot—three by the General Assembly, and three by the Legislative Council: *Provided always*, That no Officer of the Army or Navy, in the service of the Continent or of this Colony, shall be eligible; and a Member of the General Assembly or of the Legislative Council, being chosen of the Privy Council, shall not thereby lose his seat in the General Assembly or Legislative Council, unless he be elected Vice-President of the Colony; in which case he shall; and another person shall be chosen in his stead. The Privy Council, of which four to be a quorum, to advise the President and Commander-in-Chief when required; but he shall not be bound to consult them, unless in cases after-mentioned.

VI. That the qualifications of the President and Commander-in-Chief, and Vice-President of the Colony, and Members of the Legislative and Privy Council, shall be the same as of Members of General Assembly; and, on being elected, they shall take an oath of qualification in the General Assembly.

VII. That the Legislative authority be vested in the President and Commander-in-Chief, the General Assembly, and Legislative Council. All money Bills, for the support of Government, shall originate in the General Assembly, and shall not be altered or amended by the Legislative Council, but may be rejected by them; all other Bills and Ordinances may take rise in the General Assembly or Legislative Council, and be altered, amended, or rejected by either. Bills having passed the General Assembly and Legislative Council may be assented to or rejected by the President and Commander-in-Chief; having received his assent, they shall have all the force and validity of an Act of General Assembly of this Colony; and the General Assembly and Legislative Council, respectively, shall enjoy all other privileges which have at any time been claimed or exercised by the Commons House of Assembly; but the Legislative Council shall have no power of expelling their own Members.

VIII. That the General Assembly and Legislative Council may adjourn themselves respectively; and the President and Commander-in-Chief shall have no power to adjourn, prorogue, or dissolve them; but may, if necessary, call them before the time to which they shall stand adjourned; and where a Bill has been rejected, it may, on a meeting after an adjournment (for not less than three days) of the General Assembly and Legislative Council, be brought in again.

IX. That the General Assembly and the Legislative Council shall each choose their respective Speakers and their own Officers without control.

X. That if any Member of the General Assembly, or of the Legislative Council, shall accept any place of emolument, or any commission, except in the Militia, he shall vacate his seat, and there shall thereupon be a new election; but he shall not be disqualified from serving upon being re-elected.

XI. That on the last *Monday* in *October* next, and the day following, and on the same days of every second year thereafter, Members of the General Assembly shall be chosen to meet on the first *Monday* in *December* then next, and continue for two years from the said last *Monday* in *October*; the General Assembly to consist of the same number of Members as this Congress does, each Parish and District having the same representation as at present, viz:

The Parishes of *St. Philip* and *St. Michael*, *Charleston*, thirty Members.

The Parish of *Christ-Church*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. John*, in *Berkley* County, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Andrew*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. George*, *Dorchester*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. James*, *Goose-Creek*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Thomas* and *St. Dennis*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Paul*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Bartholomew*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Helena*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. James*, *Santee*, six Members.

The Parish of *Prince George*, *Winyah*, six Members.

The Parish of *Prince Frederick*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. John*, in *Colleton* County, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Peter*, six Members.

The Parish of *Prince William*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. Stephen*, six Members.

The District to the eastward of *Wateree River*, ten Members.

The District of *Ninety-Six*, ten Members.

The District of *Saxe-Gotha*, six Members.

The District between *Broad* and *Saludy* Rivers, in three divisions, viz:

The Lower District, four Members; the *Little River* District, four Members; the Upper or *Spartan* District, four Members.

The District between *Broad* and *Catawba* Rivers, ten Members.

The District called the *New-Acquisition*, ten Members.

The Parish of *St. Matthew*, six Members.

The Parish of *St. David*, six Members.

The District between *Savannah River* and the North Fork of *Edisto*, six Members.

And the election of the said Members shall be conducted, as near as may be, agreeable to the directions of the Election Act; and where there are no Churches or Churchwardens in a District or Parish, the General Assembly, at some convenient time before their expiration, shall appoint places of election, and persons to receive votes and make returns. The qualification of Electors shall be the same as required by law; but persons having property which, according to the rate of the last preceding tax, is taxable at the sums mentioned in the Election Act, shall be entitled to vote, though it was not actually taxed, having the other qualifications mentioned in that Act. Electors shall take an oath of qualification, if required by the returning officer; the qualification of the elected to be the same as mentioned in the Election Act, and construed to mean clear of debt.

XII. That if any Parish or District neglects or refuses to

elect Members, or if the Members chosen do not meet in General Assembly, those who do meet shall have the powers of the General Assembly; not less than forty-nine Members shall make a House to do business; but the Speaker or any seven Members may adjourn from day to day.

XIII. That as soon as may be after the first meeting of the General Assembly, the President and Commander-in-Chief, a Vice-President of the Colony, and Privy Council, shall be chosen in manner and for the time above-mentioned; and till such choice shall be made, the former President and Commander-in-Chief, and Vice-President of the Colony, and Privy Council, shall continue to act as such.

XIV. That in case of the death of the President and Commander-in-Chief, or his absence from the Colony, the Vice-President of the Colony shall succeed to his office, and the Privy Council shall choose out of their own body a Vice-President of the Colony; and in case of the death of the Vice-President of the Colony, or his absence from the Colony, one of the Privy Council (to be chosen by themselves) shall succeed to his office, until a nomination to those offices respectively by the General Assembly and Legislative Council for the remainder of the time for which the officer so dying, or being absent, was appointed.

XV. That the Delegates of this Colony, in the Continental Congress, be chosen by the General Assembly and Legislative Council jointly, by ballot, in the General Assembly.

XVI. That the Vice-President of the Colony and the Privy Council, or the Vice-President and a majority of the Privy Council for the time being, shall exercise the powers of a Court of Chancery; and there shall be an Ordinary, who shall exercise the powers heretofore exercised by that officer in this Colony.

XVII. That the jurisdiction of the Court of Admiralty be confined to maritime causes.

XVIII. That all suits and process depending in any Courts of Law or Equity may, if either party shall be so inclined, be proceeded in and continued to a final ending, without being obliged to commence *de novo*; and the Judges of the Courts of Law shall cause Jury Lists to be made, and Juries to be summoned, as near as may be according to the directions of the Acts of the General Assembly in such cases provided.

XIX. That Justices of the Peace shall be nominated by the General Assembly, and commissioned by the President and Commander-in-Chief during pleasure; they shall not be entitled to fees except on prosecutions for felony; and, not acting in the Magistracy, they shall not be entitled to the privileges allowed to them by law.

XX. That all other Judicial Officers shall be chosen by ballot, jointly, by the General Assembly and Legislative Council, and (except the Judges of the Court of Chancery) commissioned by the President and Commander-in-Chief during good behaviour; but shall be removed on address of the General Assembly and Legislative Council.

XXI. That the Sheriffs, qualified as by law directed, shall be chosen in like manner by the General Assembly and Legislative Council, and commissioned by the President and Commander-in-Chief for two years only.

XXII. That Commissioners of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Colony, the Register of Mesne Conveyances, Attorney-General, and Powder Receiver, be chosen by the General Assembly and Legislative Council jointly, by ballot, and commissioned by the President and Commander-in-Chief during good behaviour; but shall be removed on address of the General Assembly and Legislative Council.

XXIII. That all Field-Officers in the Army, and all Captains in the Navy, shall be by the General Assembly and Legislative Council chosen jointly, by ballot, and commissioned by the President and Commander-in-Chief; and that all other Officers in the Army and Navy shall be commissioned by the President and Commander-in-Chief.

XXIV. That in case of vacancy in any of the offices above directed to be filled by the General Assembly and Legislative Council, the President and Commander-in-Chief, with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, may appoint others in their stead, until there shall be an election by the General Assembly and Legislative Council to fill those vacancies respectively.

XXV. That the President and Commander-in-Chief, with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, may ap-

point during pleasure, until otherwise directed by resolution of the General Assembly and Legislative Council, all other necessary officers, except such as are by law directed to be otherwise chosen.

XXVI. That the President and Commander-in-Chief shall have no power to make war or peace, or enter into any final treaty, without the consent of the General Assembly and Legislative Council.

XXVII. That if any Parish or District shall neglect to elect a Member or Members on the day of election, or in case any person chosen a Member of the General Assembly shall refuse to qualify and take his seat as such, or die, or depart the Colony, the said General Assembly shall appoint proper days for electing a Member or Members of the said General Assembly in such cases respectively. And on the death of a Member of the Legislative, or Privy Council, another Member shall be chosen in his room, in manner above-mentioned for the election of Members of the Legislative and Privy Council, respectively.

XXVIII. That the Resolutions of the Continental Congress now of force in this Colony, shall so continue until altered or revoked by them.

XXIX. That the Resolutions of this, or any former Congress of this Colony, and all Laws now of force here, and not hereby altered, shall so continue, until altered or repealed by the Legislature of this Colony, unless where they are temporary, in which case they shall expire at the times respectively limited for their duration.

XXX. That the Executive authority be vested in the President and Commander-in-Chief, limited and restrained as aforesaid.

XXXI. That the President and Commander-in-Chief, Vice-President of the Colony, and Privy Council, respectively, shall have the same personal privileges as are allowed by act of Assembly to the Governour, Lieutenant-Governour, and Privy Council.

XXXII. That all persons now in office shall hold their commissions until there shall be a new appointment, in manner above directed; at which time all commissions, not derived from authority of the Congress of this Colony, shall cease and be void.

XXXIII. That all persons, who shall be chosen and appointed to any office, or to any place of trust, before entering upon the execution of office, shall take the following Oath:

"I, A B, do swear, that I will, to the utmost of my power, support, maintain, and defend the Constitution of *South-Carolina*, as established by Congress, on the 26th day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, until an accommodation of the differences between *Great Britain* and *America* shall take place, or I shall be released from this oath by the Legislative authority of the said Colony. So help me *God*."

And all such persons shall also take an oath of office.

XXXIV. That the following yearly Salaries be allowed to the publick officers undermentioned:

The President and Commander-in-Chief, nine thousand Pounds.

The Chief Justice and the Assistant Judges, the salaries, respectively, as by act of Assembly established.

The Attorney-General, two thousand one hundred Pounds, in lieu of all charges against the publick for fees upon criminal prosecutions.

The Ordinary, one thousand Pounds.

The three Commissioners of the Treasury, two thousand Pounds each.

And all other publick Officers shall have the same salaries as are allowed such Officers respectively by act of Assembly.

By order of the Congress.

March 26, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. President of the Congress do sign the same, and also the Secretary.

Which being done,

Ordered, That the Secretary do cause the same to be forthwith printed and published, and three copies delivered for every Member.

Ordered, That Colonel *Parsons* and Mr. *Bee*, be a Committee to prepare and report the form of an Oath proper to be administered to his Excellency the President and Com-

mander-in-Chief, previous to his entering upon the execution of the duties of that high station.

The Constitution, or form of Government, agreed to, and resolved upon, by the Representatives of *South-Carolina*, being signed by the President of the Congress, and attested by the Secretary;

The Members made choice of the Honourable *William Henry Drayton* to be their Chairman.

And were then adjourned as a General Assembly, to meet at five o'clock, in the afternoon.

#### SOUTH-CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, March 26, 1776.

The Constitution, or form of Government, agreed to and resolved upon by the Representatives of *South-Carolina*, having been signed by the President of the Congress, and attested by the Secretary,

The Members of the General Assembly made choice of the Hon. *William Henry Drayton*, to be their Chairman.

The General Assembly were then adjourned, to meet at five o'clock, in the afternoon.

Five o'clock, P. M.

The General Assembly met, according to adjournment; and Mr. Chairman being seated,

The Members proceeded to ballot for a Legislative Council. And the ballots being cast up, Mr. Chairman reported, that *Charles Pinckney, Henry Middleton, Richard Richardson, Rawlins Lowndes, Le Roy Hammond, Henry Laurens, David Oliphant, Thomas Ferguson, Stephen Bull, George Gabriel Powell, Thomas Bee, Joseph Kershaw, and Thomas Shubrick*, Esquires, were duly chosen Members of the Legislative Council.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the President and Commander-in-Chief, and all other Officers to be chosen by ballot, be declared duly elected only by the votes of a majority of the Members present.

The Members of the General Assembly and of the Legislative Council then proceeded to ballot for a President and Commander-in-Chief; and as it appeared, upon casting up the ballots, that no person who had been balloted for had the votes of a majority of the Members present,

The Members of the General Assembly and of the Legislative Council again proceeded to ballot for a President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina*; and, upon casting up the ballots, Mr. Chairman reported that the Honourable *John Rutledge*, Esq., was duly chosen President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina*.

The Members of the General Assembly and of the Legislative Council then proceeded to ballot for a Vice-President of the Colony; and, upon casting up the ballots, Mr. Chairman reported that the Honourable *Henry Laurens*, Esq., was duly chosen Vice-President of the Colony.

The Members of the General Assembly were then adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, March 27, 1776.

The General Assembly met according to adjournment.

The Minutes of yesterday being read, his Excellency the President elect, being present, addressed the General Assembly, in nearly the words following:

"GENTLEMEN: The very great, unsolicited, and unexpected honour which you have been pleased to confer on me, has overwhelmed me with gratitude and concern. Permit me to return you my most sincere thanks for so distinguishing and unmerited a mark of your confidence and esteem. I have the deepest sense of this honour. The being called by the free suffrages of a brave and generous People to preside over their welfare, is, in my opinion, the highest any man can receive. But dreading the weighty and arduous duties of this station, I really wish that your choice had fallen upon one better qualified to discharge them; for, though in zeal and integrity I will yield to no man, in abilities to serve you I know my inferiority to many. Since, however, this, gentlemen, is your pleasure, although I foresee that, by submitting to it I shall be ranked by your enemies amongst ambitious and designing men, (by whom they say the people have been deceived and

misled,) yet, as I have always thought every man's best services due to his country, no fear of slander, or of difficulty or danger, shall deter me from yielding mine. In so perilous a season as the present I will not withhold them; but in her cause every moment of my time shall be devoted. Happy indeed shall I be, if those services answer your expectations, or my own wishes. On the candour of my worthy countrymen I rely, to put the most favourable construction, as they hitherto have done, upon my actions. I assure myself of receiving, in the faithful discharge of my duty, the support and assistance of every good man in the Colony; and my most fervent prayer to the omnipotent Ruler of the universe is, that, under his gracious Providence, the liberties of *America* may be for ever preserved."

And then the President elect withdrew.

His Honour the Vice-President elect, in a speech, stating his reasons for so doing, desired leave to decline the appointment to the office of Vice-President, and requested that the Members of the General Assembly and Legislative Council would proceed to a new choice of a Vice-President of the Colony.

His Honour then withdrew.

And the Members having taken the subject under their consideration, directed Mr. Chairman to point out to his Honour the Vice-President the mistake he was under, touching his not being equal to act in the Chancery, and upon which he had founded his desire to decline the Vice-Presidentship; to acquaint him that his services in that station were desired; and to report his determination thereupon. And the Vice-President being sent to, to desire his presence in the General Assembly, and his Honour signifying that he was much indisposed, and begged to be excused attending for the present,

The Members of the General Assembly and of the Legislative Council, proceeded to ballot for a Chief Justice; and, upon casting up the ballots, Mr. Chairman reported that the Honourable *William Henry Drayton*, Esq., was duly elected Chief Justice.

The Members of the General Assembly and Legislative Council then proceeded, in like manner, to the choice of four Assistant Judges; and the ballots being cast up, Mr. Chairman reported that the Honourable *Thomas Bee, John Matthews*, Esq., and the Honourable *George Gabriel Powell*, were duly elected Assistant Judges, by the votes of a majority of the Members present; but that Mr. *Henry Pendleton*, who had the next number of votes, had not such a majority.

A motion was thereupon made, to determine, by a question, whether Mr. *Pendleton* was duly elected an Assistant Judge; and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

Colonel *Powell* then requested leave to decline accepting the appointment to the office of an Assistant Judge of this Colony; and giving such reasons as were satisfactory to the House, his request was granted.

The Members of the General Assembly and Legislative Council thereupon proceeded to ballot for two Assistant Judges; and the ballots being cast up, Mr. Chairman reported that *Joshua Ward* and *Henry Pendleton*, Esquires, were duly elected Assistant Judges.

The Members of the General Assembly and Legislative Council then proceeded to ballot for an Attorney-General; and the ballots being cast up, Mr. Chairman reported that *Alexander Moultrie*, Esq., was duly elected Attorney-General.

Colonel *Parsons* reported, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, the draft of an Oath proper to be taken by His Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief.

And the said Report being agreed to,

*Resolved*, That the following Oath be administered, in the General Assembly, to his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief, to qualify him for entering upon the execution of his office:

"I solemnly promise and swear to preside over the people of this Colony according to the Constitution, or form of Government, agreed to and resolved upon by the Representatives of *South-Carolina*, on the 26th day of *March*, 1776; that I will cause law and justice in mercy to be executed; and, to the utmost of my power, maintain and defend the laws of *God*, the Protestant Religion, and the liberties of *America*. So help me *God*."

The Members of the General Assembly were then adjourned, to meet at five o'clock, in the evening.

—  
Wednesday, March 27, 1776, five o'clock, P. M.

The General Assembly met, according to adjournment, and proceeded to ballot for the following Officers, separately, viz:

The Secretary of the Colony, the Ordinary, the Judge of the Admiralty, the Register of Mesne Conveyances, and the Sheriff of *Charlestown* District. And upon casting up the ballots, Mr. Chairman reported that *John Huger*, Esq., was duly chosen Secretary of the Colony; that *William Burrows*, Esq., was duly chosen Ordinary; that *Hugh Rutledge*, Esq., was duly chosen Judge of the Admiralty; that *George Sheed*, Esq., was duly chosen Register of Mesne Conveyances; and that *Thomas Grimbail*, Esq., was duly chosen Sheriff for *Charlestown* District.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief be sworn into office to-morrow; and that Colonel *Gadsden* be desired to issue General Orders, that the Regulars and Militia in *Charlestown* do parade to-morrow; and that the artillery be fired when his Excellency shall have taken the State oath; also, that the salute be returned by the Navy; and that Proclamation, with all due solemnity, be made of his Excellency's being sworn to the administration of Government.

*Resolved*, That a similar Proclamation be made by the several Sheriffs of the country Districts.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Chairman be desired to wait on the President, and acquaint his Excellency with the above Resolutions.

And then the General Assembly was adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

—  
Thursday, March 28, 1776.

The General Assembly met according to adjournment.

The names of the Members were called over, and the Journal of yesterday was read.

The gentlemen who had, on *Tuesday* last, by the General Assembly, been elected Members of the Legislative Council, withdrew to make choice of their own officers.

On motion, that a Speaker of the General Assembly be now chosen,

Mr. Chairman quitted the Chair.

And the Honourable *James Parsons*, Esq., was unanimously chosen Speaker.

Mr. Speaker having taken the Chair,

The House proceeded to the election of their Clerk, and unanimously made choice of *Peter Timothy* to that office.

Mr. Speaker and the rest of the Members having, respectively, taken the oath of fidelity required by the Constitution, and the oath of office being also administered to the Clerk,

A Message was sent to the Members of the honourable the Legislative Council, to acquaint them that the Members of this House having been duly sworn, they were ready to receive the Legislative Council, that the oath of fidelity might likewise be administered to them, respectively, in the General Assembly, as required by the Constitution.

The Honourable *George Gabriel Powell*, *Henry Middleton*, *Thomas Ferguson*, *Charles Pinckney*, *Le Roy Hammond*, *Stephen Bull*, *Thomas Shubrick*, and *David Oliphant*, Esquires, accordingly attended, and took the oath of fidelity in the General Assembly; and then they withdrew.

*Thomas Grimbail*, Esq., who had been duly elected Sheriff of *Charlestown* District, attending at the door, he was called in, and likewise took the oath of fidelity required by the Constitution.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *Gadsden*, Colonel *C. C. Pinckney*, Colonel *Daniel Horry*, Major *Cattell*, and Captain *Roger Smith*, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief, to acquaint him that the Members of this House having been sworn in, and having made choice of their Speaker, they were now ready to receive his Excellency, to administer to him the Oaths necessary to qualify him to enter upon the duties of that important station to which, by the suffrages of a free People, he had been elected.

And the Committee being returned, and having introduced his Excellency, he took the oath of fidelity, and also the oath of office, in the General Assembly. And his Honour the Vice-President also took the oath of fidelity.

His Excellency then, preceded by the Sheriff bearing the sword of State, and the Officers of the Legislative Council, and accompanied by his Honour the Vice-President, the Honourable the Speaker, and the Members of the Legislative Council, the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the General Assembly, in solemn procession, proceeded to the Exchange; where the preamble and the three subsequent clauses of the Constitution, or form of Government, being read, and the proceedings in the General Assembly on the 26th instant, whereby it appeared that his Excellency *John Rutledge*, Esquire, was duly chosen President and Commander-in-Chief, and that his Honour *Henry Laurens*, Esq., was duly chosen Vice-President of this Colony, being also read and proclaimed by the Sheriff; his Excellency, with the same procession, returned into the General Assembly, Mr. Speaker and the Members of the General Assembly first coming in; and, being seated, his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief, his Honour the Vice-President, and the Legislative Council, then entered, and

Mr. Speaker reported to the House the proceedings since he had quitted the Chair. His Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief, his Honour the Vice-President, and the Legislative Council, then withdrew.

The General Assembly then proceeded to choose, by ballot, a Member of the Legislative Council in the room of the Honourable *Henry Laurens*, Esq., who, by accepting the office of Vice-President of the Colony, had vacated his seat therein; and it appearing, upon casting up the ballots, that the gentleman who had the greatest number of votes had not those of a majority of the Members present, the House again proceeded to ballot for a Member of the Legislative Council; and having balloted accordingly, Mr. Speaker reported that the Honourable *William Moultrie*, Esq., was duly elected.

The House was then adjourned to meet at five o'clock in the afternoon.

—  
Thursday, March 28, 1776, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

And the names of the Members being called over,

The House proceeded to ballot for three Members of the Privy Council; and, upon the ballots being cast up, the Honourable *James Parsons* was declared duly elected a Member of the Privy Council by a majority of votes of the Members present.

The House then proceeded to ballot for two other Members of the Privy Council; and, upon casting up the ballots, it appeared, and Mr. Speaker reported, that the Honourable *William Henry Drayton* was, in like manner, duly elected a Member of the Privy Council.

The House then proceeded to ballot for a third Member of the Privy Council; and, upon casting up the ballots, it appeared that none of the gentlemen balloted for had the votes of a majority of the Members present. The House thereupon again proceeded to ballot for a third Member of the Privy Council; and, the ballots being cast up, Mr. Speaker reported that *John Edwards*, Esquire, was duly elected a Member of the Privy Council.

*Ordered*, That a Message be sent to the President, acquainting his Excellency that this House have chosen the Honourable *James Parsons*, *William Henry Drayton*, and *John Edwards*, Esquires, to be Members of the Privy Council.

The following Message was accordingly drawn and agreed to by the House:

*May it please your Excellency:*

This House having chosen *James Parsons*, *William Henry Drayton*, and *John Edwards*, Esquires, Members of the Privy Council, acquaint your Excellency therewith.

*Ordered*, That the said Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Roger Smith* and Captain *Moultrie* do wait on his Excellency with the said Message.

*Ordered*, That a Message be sent to the Legislative Coun-

cil to acquaint their Honours that this House have chosen Colonel *William Moultrie* to be a Member of their House.

The following Message was accordingly drawn and agreed to by the House:

*May it please your Honours:*

This House think proper to acquaint your Honours that they have chosen *William Moultrie*, Esq., a Member of the Legislative Council in the room of his Honour *Henry Laurens*, Esq., Vice-President of the Colony.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *C. C. Pinckney* and Mr. *Gibbes* do wait on their Honours with the said Message.

Captain *Moultrie* reported, that he, with Captain *Roger Smith*, had waited upon his Excellency the President, and delivered to him the Message they had in charge.

It being represented to the House that there was an urgent necessity for immediately opening the Ordinary's Office,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Moultrie* do wait upon *William Burrows*, Esq., to acquaint him of his being chosen Ordinary of this Colony, and that it is necessary he should properly qualify himself to enter upon the execution of the duties of that office as soon as possible.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Loock*, Captain *Trapier*, Colonel *Thomas*, Major *Williamson*, Captain *Winn*, Mr. *Beard*, Colonel *Gervais*, and Mr. *Bull*, be a Committee to receive and report the names of Candidates, or other fit persons, to be chosen Sheriffs for the several Districts out of the limits of *Charlestown*, and that they do report the same as soon as may be to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

Friday, March 29, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Captain *Moultrie* reported that he had, agreeable to the order of the House, waited upon Mr. *Burrows* with the message he had in charge; that Mr. *Burrows* expressed great sensibility of the honour conferred upon him by the House in electing him to the office of Ordinary, which he was willing to accept, but that his present indisposition rendered it impossible for him to attend the General Assembly to take the necessary oaths.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Horry* do, on account of Mr. *Burrows's* present indisposition, wait upon him at his own house, and administer the oaths to him there.

Colonel *Thomas*, from the Committee on the state of the Militia in the interior parts of the Colony, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the said Report be taken into consideration to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *Charles Cotesworth Pinckney*, Captain *Moultrie*, Colonel *Gervais*, and Captain *Trapier*, be a Committee on the state of the Colony, and to report to the House such Bills and Ordinances as may be necessary to pass during the present session of the General Assembly.

*Ordered*, That one of the Messengers be sent to desire the immediate attendance, in this House, of Captain *Francis Ross*, one of the Members for the *New-Acquisition*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Message be sent to the honourable the Legislative Council, to desire a conference between a Committee of both Houses on the subject of a joint Congratulatory Address to his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief.

The following draft was accordingly prepared:

*May it please your Honours:*

The General Assembly think it expedient that a joint Address from the Legislative Council and General Assembly should be presented to his Excellency the President, congratulating him upon his being in possession of the administration of the Government, and assuring him that both the Houses will support him in the same with their lives and fortunes. If the Legislative Council are of the same opinion, the General Assembly will appoint six Members to manage the free conference on their part.

And the same being agreed to by the House,

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Captain *Roger Smith* do wait upon the Legislative Council with the said Message.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *C. C. Pinckney*, Colonel *Daniel Horry*, and Mr. *Salvador*, be a Committee to inquire and report the names of proper persons to be appointed Magistrates in the different Districts of this Colony.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that he, with Captain *Smith*, had waited upon the Legislative Council and delivered the Message they had in charge.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will make provision for the payment of such reasonable Salaries as the Legislative Council may, during their session, assign to their respective Officers.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Matthews* and Captain *Skirving* do wait upon the Legislative Council with a copy of the above Resolution.

*Peter Bacot*, Esquire, one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, requested leave to resign that office, for reasons which he stated, and which were approved by the House.

His resignation was therefore accepted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Sheriffs for the several Districts out of *Charlestown* be now balloted for.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Colonel *C. C. Pinckney* do wait on the honourable the Legislative Council to request their attendance in the General Assembly to join this House in balloting for the Sheriffs.

Mr. *Matthews* reported, that he, with Captain *Skirving*, had delivered the Message they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that he, with Colonel *Pinckney*, had waited on the Legislative Council, agreeable to the order of this House, to request their attendance, in order to proceed to the election of Sheriffs; and their Honours were pleased to answer they would attend presently.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"In the Legislative Council, March 29, 1776.

"*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:*

"In answer to your Message proposing a free conference on the subject-matter of a joint Address to be presented to his Excellency the President by both Houses, we acquaint you that we have appointed Colonel *Charles Pinckney*, *Thomas Ferguson*, and *David Oliphant*, Esqs., a Committee to confer with your Committee in the Conference-Room immediately, or at such other time as may be convenient.

"*GEORGE GAB. POWELL, Speaker.*"

The Members of the Legislative Council being introduced, they, with the Members of the General Assembly, immediately proceeded to ballot for the Sheriffs; and, the ballots being cast up, Mr. Speaker reported that the following gentlemen were duly elected by the votes of a majority of the Members of both Houses present, viz:

*Edward Martin*, Esq., for *Georgetown* District;

*Tunis Tebout*, Esq., for *Beaufort* District;

*Lewis Golson*, Esq., for *Orangeburgh* District;

*Robert Stark*, Esq., for *Ninety-Six* District;

*John Wyllly*, Esq., for *Camden* District;

*Henry William Harrington*, Esq., for *Cheraws* District.

The Members of the Legislative Council then withdrew.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *C. C. Pinckney*, Mr. *Motte*, Captain *Benjamin Elliott*, Mr. *Rapley*, and Captain *Roger Smith*, be a Committee to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council on the subject of an Address to his Excellency the President.

*Ordered*, That *William Williamson* and *Benjamin Young*, Esqs., have leave of absence.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

Saturday, March 30, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Major *Cattell*, Captain *Maham*, and Mr. *Toomer*, be a Committee to prepare and report proper Rules and Orders to be observed by the Members of this House.



The House proceeded on the Order of the Day.

And the Report of the Committee on the state of the Militia in the interior parts of the Colony being debated on, the said Report was disagreed to.

*Thomas Bee*, Esq., elected a Member of the honourable the Legislative Council, attended, to take the oath of fidelity in this House.

And being introduced, the said oath was administered to him accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Major *Cattell* and Mr. *Cannon* do attend Mr. *Bee* to the Legislative Council, and acquaint their Honours that the oath of fidelity has been administered to him.

Major *Cattell* reported, that he, with Mr. *Cannon*, had delivered the Message they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"In the Legislative Council, March 30, 1776.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:

"This House hath taken into consideration the Address which was prepared jointly by a Committee of both Houses, to be presented to his Excellency the President, and have agreed to the same without any amendment.

"By order of the House:

"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, *Speaker*."

The Committee appointed to prepare proper Rules to be observed by the Members of this House, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report, being taken into immediate consideration, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the said Rules be engrossed, and signed by Mr. *Speaker*.

*Ordered*, That *Gideon Dupont*, Esq., be Cashier to this House.

*Ordered*, That Major *Andrew Williamson* have leave of absence.

Colonel *Charles C. Pinckney*, from the Committee to inquire and report the names of proper persons to be appointed Magistrates in the different Districts of this Colony, reported a list of the names.

And the said List being immediately taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the following persons are proper to be put into the Commission of the Peace in the different Districts of the Colony, viz:

JUSTICES QUORUM UNUS.—The Members of the Legislative Council, the Members of the Privy Council, the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, the Judge of the Admiralty, and the Speaker of the General Assembly, all for the time being, respectively: *John Drayton*, *Christopher Gadsden*, *Paul Trapier*, *Claudius Pegues*, *John Chesnut*, *John James Haig*, *Richard Rapley*, and *Benjamin Garden*, Esquires.

#### *Justices for CHARLESTOWN District.*

James Akin,	Benjamin Fuller,	Isaac Legaré,
Nathaniel Broughton,	John Fullerton,	Thomas Ladson, <i>John's</i>
Edmund Bellinger,	Frederick Grimké,	<i>Island.</i>
Richard Bohun Baker,	Culcheth Gibbes,	Gabriel Manigault,
Joseph Bee,	Joseph Glover,	Arthur Middleton,
Elias Ball, Jun.,	William Gibbes,	Gabriel Marion,
John Boone,	Robert Gibbes,	Jacob Molle,
John Brailsford,	Gabriel Gignilliat,	John Moore,
William Boone,	Melchior Garner,	Isaac Mazyck,
Capers Boone,	John Gaillard,	Hezekiah Maham,
Peter Bonnetheau,	Thomas Heyward,	Job Marion,
Andrew Cunningham,	Thomas Hutchinson,	Joseph Maybank,
William Cattell,	Daniel Horry,	Peter Mouzon,
Lionel Chalmers,	John Huger,	William Mason,
James Carsan,	William Hopton,	William Massey,
Isham Clayton,	George Haig,	Benjamin Marion, Jun.,
James Clark,	Richard Hutson,	Ephraim Mitchell,
John Coram,	James Hamilton,	William Morgan,
Charles Cantey,	William Hort,	Robert Murrill,
Gabriel Capers,	Edward Jerman,	James Murray,
James Donnom,	Ralph Izard,	Sampson Neyle,
Paul Douxsaint,	John Izard,	Hopkin Price,
Levi Durand,	Benjamin Jenkins,	John Pamot,
John Sandford Dart,	Joseph Jenkins, Jun.,	John Parker,
William Dewit,	William Jenkins,	Philip Porcher,
John Drake,	Thomas Lynch,	Isaac Porcher,
John Deas,	Thomas Lynch, Jun.,	William Parker,
Samuel Elliott,	Andrew Leitch,	John Poaug,
Thomas Evance,	William Logan,	Hopson Pinckney,
Thomas Fuller,	James Lynah,	James Reid,
Alexander Fraser,	John Livingston,	James Lytton Richards,
John Frierson,	James Laroach,	James Ravenell,

Isaac Rivers,	Peter Sinckler,
David Reynolds,	James Skirving, Jun.,
George Sheed,	William Swinton,
Thomas Smith,	Maurice Simons,
James Stobo,	James Smith,
James Skirving,	John Scott, son of Jona-
Jonathan Scott,	than.
William Scott,	Richard Park Stobo,
Henry Smith,	Joseph Slann,
Philip Smith,	Charles Shephard,
Jeremiah Savage,	William Stanyarne,
Joseph Seabrook,	James Sinckler,
Benjamin Simons,	Thomas Turner,
Benjamin Smith,	John Troup,
John Syme,	Joshua Toomer,

Edward Thomas, Jun.,
Arnoldus Vanderhorst,
Robert Williams,
Robert Williams, Jun.,
Sims White,
John Wright,
Richard Withers,
Abraham Waight,
Benjamin Waring,
John Wigfall,
Joseph Wigfall,
Peter Witten,
Richard Walter,
Jno. Wilson Wadmelah,
Francis Young.

#### *Justices for BEAUFORT District.*

Andrew Aggnew,	William Elliott,
John Lewis Bourquin,	John Fripp, Sen.,
John Bull,	David Girond,
William Brisbane,	Benjamin Guerard,
Pierce Butler,	Richard Guerard,
Joseph Brailsford,	Godin Guerard,
John Barnwell, Jun.,	James Gignilliat,
Nathaniel Barnwell,	William Harden,
John Chisholme,	William Hazard,
Belamy Crawford,	Thomas Hughes,
Cornelius Dupont,	John Joiner,
Edward Davies,	Adrian Mayer,

John Mitchell,
Samuel Porcher,
Richard Proctor,
Hugh Rose,
Thomas Rivers,
William Ross,
William Reynolds,
Thomas Rutledge,
Daniel De Saussure,
William Stoutenburg,
James Thomson,
William Waight.

#### *Justices for GEORGETOWN District.*

Joseph Allston,	Thomas Greigher,
Josias Allston,	Benjamin Gause,
William Allston, Jun.,	Hugh Giles,
Anthony Bonneau,	Daniel Horry,
Abr. Buckholts,	Robert Herriot,
John Brockington,	Elias Horry, Jun.,
Capers Boone,	Daniel Huger,
Francis Britton,	Benjamin Huger,
John Baxter, Jun.,	Thomas Henning,
<i>Kingston.</i>	John James,
James Carey,	Thomas Lynch,
Alexander Chovin,	Isaac Marion,
Samuel Dwight,	William Mason,
Thomas Ennes,	Archibald McDonald,
Charles Fyffe,	Adam McDonald,

James McDonald,
William Michau,
Samuel Nesmith,
John Plowden,
Thomas Port,
Job Rothmahler,
William Snow,
Benjamin Screven,
Peter Simons,
Paul Trapier, Jun.,
Samuel Wragg,
Anthony White,
John Witherspoon,
William Wilson,
Gavin Witherspoon.

#### *Justices for ORANGEBURGH District.*

George Ancrum,	Benjamin Farrar,
William Arthur,	John Fairchild,
Jonas Beard,	Lewis Golsan,
Samuel Boykin,	Tacitus Gaillard,
Richard Brown,	Ralph Humphries,
Donald Bruce,	— Househill,
Peter Corbin,	David Holmes,
James Cornelley,	William Housell,
Malcolm Clark,	John Kensalaw,
Isham Clayton,	Michael Leitner,
John Chesnut,	Ephraim Mikell,
Michael Dickert,	David Pow,

Henry Patrick,
James Pritchard,
Samuel Rowe,
Michael Christ. Rowe,
Jacob Richman,
George Robinson,
John Savage,
Arthur Simkins,
George Strawther,
William Thompson,
William Tucker,
Thomas Young.

#### *Justices for NINETY-SIX District.*

William Anderson,	James Hamilton,
David Anderson,	John Johnston, Jun.,
Robert Anderson,	Adam Crain Jones,
John Bowie,	William Jones,
Patrick Calhoun,	William Kennedy,
William Calhoun,	Charles King,
John Caldwell,	James Linley,
John Caldwell, of En-	James Mayson,
<i>ree.</i>	Robert McCreary,
Jonathan Downs,	John Lewis Mesnil, <i>De</i>
John Delatow,	<i>St. Pierre.</i>
John Fairchild,	John Purves,
John Ford,	James Price,
John Lewis Gervais,	Thomas Polk,
James Griffin, Sen.,	James Pollard,
Thomas Gordon,	Andrew Pickens,
William Henderson,	James Pritchard,
Elias Hollingsworth,	John Rogers,
David Holmes,	Andrew Rogers,

George Ross,
John Savage,
Arthur Simkins,
Ralph Smith,
John Sutterwaite,
John Thomas,
John Thomas, Jun.,
Benjamin Tutt,
John Tyger,
Edward Wilkinson,
Thomas Waddleton,
William Wofford,
George Whitefield,
James Williams,
John Williams,
James Wood,
William Wood,
David Zubly.

#### *Justices for CAMDEN District.*

Andrew Allison,	Robert Hancock,
Robert Allison,	William Howell,
Francis Adams,	George Hancock,
Richard Brown,	Henry Hunter,
William Bratton,	David Hopkins,
William Byers,	Andrew Hemphill,
Joseph Brown,	James Mortimer Harris,
Samuel Baykin,	Simon Irons,
William Brown,	John Palmer,
John Canty,	James Pattern,
James Carey,	Philip Pearson,
Thomas Charlton,	Thomas Polk,
Henry Cassels,	Ezekiel Polk,
Michael Dickson,	Robert Patton,
Wood Furman,	John Robinson, <i>Crow-</i>
Lewis Golsan,	<i>der's Creek.</i>
David Gordon,	Richard Jenkins,
William Gaston,	William Lang,
John Gaston,	William Myers,

Nathaniel Moore,
John Nixon,
Thomas Neel,
John Newman, <i>Ogle-</i>
<i>thorpe.</i>
John Robinson, <i>Mill-</i>
<i>Creek.</i>
Richard Richardson,
William Richardson,
James Simpson,
Rich'd Richardson, Jr.,
Matthew Singleton,
William Strother,
John Smith,
Alexander Turner,
Thomas Taylor,
John Winn,
Richard Winn,
Thomas Woodward.

*Justices for the CHERAWS District.*

John Alan,	Henry William Har-	William Henry Mills,
William Dewitt,	ington.	George Pawley,
Elias Dubose,	Arthur Hart,	Claudius Pegues,
Charles Evans,	John Kimbrough,	William Pegues,
Robert Gray,	Thomas Lide.	Philip Pledger,
George Hicks,		

The Committee of this House who were appointed yesterday to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council, on the subject of an Address to his Excellency the President, reported a draft thereof; and the said Address being read and amended, was agreed to by the House.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Colonel *C. C. Pinckney* do wait on the Legislative Council, and acquaint their Honours with the amendment made to the said Address, and desire their Honours' concurrence therein.

The Committee appointed yesterday to report such Bills and Ordinances as may be necessary to pass during the present session of the General Assembly, delivered in a Report.

And the said Report being taken into consideration and agreed to,

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *Charles C. Pinckney*, Captain *Moultrie*, Colonel *Gervais*, and Captain *Trapier*, do forthwith prepare and bring in the following Bills:

A Bill to punish those who shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Continental or Colonial Currency, which hath been, or shall be hereafter issued.

An Ordinance for altering the times of holding the next Circuit Courts of General Sessions of the Peace and Common Pleas in *Charlestown*.

An Ordinance to vest the several powers therein mentioned, formerly granted to the Council of Safety, in the President and Privy Council; to suspend the *Habeas Corpus* Act, as to commitments by them, until the 5th day of *December* next; and to enable them to take measures for assisting a neighbouring Colony.

A Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in cases of Captures; and to establish the trial by Jury in such cases.

An Ordinance to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charlestown*, and to empower any two of them to pull down a House, in order to prevent the spreading of Fire, without the consent of a Justice of the Peace.

An Ordinance to repeal so much of a former Act of Assembly as relates to the appointment of *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, joint Publick Treasurers of this Colony.

A Bill to punish those who shall harbour Deserters.

A Bill to revive and continue such necessary Acts as are expired, or near expiring.

On motion, *Resolved*, That an Ordinance be brought in, appointing a proper Oath to be taken by every person previous to his entering upon office under the present Constitution.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* do bring in the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the President of the late Congress do give Certificates to the Members applying for the same, for their daily attendance therein, till a Speaker was appointed; and that Mr. Speaker do give such Certificates from the time of his being placed in the Chair.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gervais*, Major *Williamson*, Captain *Benjamin Elliott*, Mr. *Rapley*, and Mr. *Sinckler*, be a Committee to consider and report what recompense and provision should be made for several persons wounded and disabled in the publick service, and also for the families of such as may be killed in the said service.

A Petition, signed by *Wilson Cook*, in behalf of himself and other complainants, was presented and read.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition do lie on the table.

And then the House adjourned to *Monday* morning, nine of the clock.

Monday, April 1, 1776.

On motion, (inasmuch as there is no Paymaster for payment of the Militia in the service of the Colony doing duty

in and near *Charlestown*, and there is immediate occasion for their payment.) *Resolved*, That the demands now due to such Militia be settled and adjusted by a Committee of this House; and, on being adjusted by such Committee, be discharged by a draft on the Treasury by his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolution be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence, and to his Excellency for his assent.

*Ordered*, That the said Resolution be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Mr. *Chiffelle* do wait on the Legislative Council with the said Resolution.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Edwards*, Captain *Roger Smith*, and Mr. *Hall*, be a Committee to adjust and settle the Accounts due from the publick to the Militia.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported that he, with Mr. *Chiffelle*, had delivered the Resolution they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Acts of the General Assembly and the Journals of the Commons House of Assembly, for two or three years last past, lately removed to *Dorchester*, be forthwith brought down from thence.

The Rules and Orders to be observed by the Members of this House, agreed to yesterday, being engrossed, were signed by Mr. Speaker, and affixed to the wainscot for the perusal of the Members.

Message from the honourable the Legislative Council, by their Clerk, acquainting the House that they had read the Resolution sent to them from this House, and concurred therein.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Thomas Waring* and Mr. *William Parker* do wait on his Excellency the President with the said Resolution.

Mr. *Waring* being returned, reported that he, with Mr. *Parker*, had delivered the Resolution they had in charge to the President, and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would give orders accordingly.

Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk, acquainting the House that they had agreed to the amendment made in the Address to his Excellency the President.

*Ordered*, That the said Address be engrossed.

And the same being engrossed accordingly, is as follows:

To his Excellency JOHN RUTLEDGE, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of SOUTH-CAROLINA.

The Address of the Legislative Council and General Assembly:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the Legislative Council and General Assembly of *South-Carolina*, convened under the authority of the equitable constitution of Government established by a free People in Congress, on the 26th instant, beg leave most respectfully to address your Excellency.

Nothing is better known to your Excellency than the unavoidable necessity which induced us as members of Congress, on the part of the people, to resume the powers of Government, and to establish some mode for regulating the internal polity of this Colony; and, as members of the Legislative Council and General Assembly, to vest you for a time limited with the Executive authority. Such constitutional proceedings, on our part, we make no doubt will be construed into acts of the greatest criminality by that despotism which, lost to all sense of justice and humanity, has already pretended that we are in actual rebellion. But, sir, when we reflect upon the unprovoked, cruel, and accumulated oppressions under which *America* in general, and this country in particular, has long continued,—oppressions, which gradually increasing in injustice and violence are now, by inexorable tyranny, perpetrated against the United Colonies under the various forms of robbery, conflagrations, massacre, breach of publick faith, and open war; conscious of our natural and unalienable rights, and determined to make every effort in our power to retain them, we see your Excellency's elevation from the midst of us, to govern this country, as the natural consequence of such outrages.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

By the suffrages of a free People you, sir, have been chosen to hold the reins of Government; an event as honourable to yourself as beneficial to the publick. We firmly trust you will make the Constitution the great rule of your conduct; and, in the most solemn manner we do assure your Excellency that, in the discharge of your duties under that Constitution which looks forward to an accommodation with *Great Britain*, (an event which, though traduced and treated as Rebels, we still earnestly desire,) we will support you with our lives and fortunes.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, from the Committee appointed to bring in certain Bills and Ordinances, presented the following:

A Bill to punish those who shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Continental or Colonial Currency which hath been already, or shall be hereafter issued.

An Ordinance for establishing an Oath of Office to be taken in manner therein mentioned.

A Bill to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the Peace.

A Bill for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them.

A Bill to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charlestown*, and to empower any two of them to pull down such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall judge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire.

An Ordinance to suspend the *Habeas Corpus* Act, in manner therein mentioned.

An Ordinance for making a disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to exercise certain powers, in manner therein mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance for establishing an Oath of Office, to be taken in manner therein mentioned, be now read.

The same was accordingly read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Being read a second time,

*Ordered*, That Dr. *Haig* and Mr. *Motte* do carry the said Ordinance to the honourable the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance for making a disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to exercise certain powers, in manner therein mentioned, be read a first time.

The same was read accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the said Ordinance be read a second time.

On motion, to strike out the words "and Militia" in the latter clause of the second section,

After some debate, the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made for an amendment to the said clause, by inserting the words, "and Militia to act in an adjoining Colony."

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought to this House the Ordinance for establishing an Oath of Office, to be taken in manner therein mentioned, read a first and second time in the Legislative Council.

Read a second time the Ordinance for making a disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to exercise certain powers, in manner therein mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the same be sent to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Roger Smith* and Captain *Tra-pier* do wait on his Excellency the President, to know when he will be pleased to receive this House with the joint Address of both Houses.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

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The House met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Thomas Middleton*, Jun., and Mr. *Salvador* do carry to the Legislative Council the Ordinance making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief for the time being, to exercise certain powers, in manner therein mentioned.

The House having received information that a person, who is suspected to have counterfeited some of the Certificates issued by the authority of Congress, resides somewhere near Colonel *Thomas's*, and also that *Philip Hart* had a considerable sum paid him in such counterfeit Certificates,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thomas* be desired to use his utmost endeavours to apprehend, or cause to be apprehended and secured, all and every person or persons in his neighbourhood who shall be suspected of being concerned in counterfeiting or uttering any of the Bills, Certificates, or Orders issued by authority of the General Assembly, the Commons Houses of Assembly, or Congresses of this Colony, or of the Continental Congress, so that such persons may be brought to justice.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above Order be delivered to Colonel *Thomas*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Veree*, Mr. *Weyman*, and Mr. *Ashe*, be a Committee to inquire of Mr. *Hart* touching the sum he has received in counterfeit Certificates.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* presented to the House, according to order, an Ordinance for altering the time of holding certain Circuit Courts, and of holding the Court of Common Pleas and the Court of General Sessions, usually held in *Charlestown* in *May*; and the same was received and read the first time.

*Resolved*, That the Ordinance be read a second time.

A Bill to punish such as shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Continental or Colonial Currency, which shall have been already, or shall be hereafter issued, was read a first time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be read a second time.

A Bill for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers or Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, was read a first time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Berwick* have leave of absence.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Thomas*, Captain *Winn*, Captain *Williams*, and Mr. *Beard*, have leave of absence.

An Ordinance for altering the time of holding certain Circuit Courts, and of holding the Court of Common Pleas and the Court of General Sessions, usually held in *Charlestown* in *May*, was read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Salvador* and Mr. *Thomas Middleton*, Jun., do carry the Ordinance to the honourable the Legislative Council.

A Bill to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charlestown*, and to empower any two of them to pull down any such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall adjudge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire, was read a first time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be read a second time.

Mr. *Salvador* reported that he, with Mr. *Middleton*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

An Ordinance to suspend the *Habeas Corpus* Act, in manner therein mentioned, was read a first time.

*Resolved*, That the Ordinance be read a second time.

And the same was read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McQueen* and Mr. *Macpherson* do carry the said Ordinance to the honourable the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Daniel Horry*, Mr. *Benjamin Elliott*, the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *Charles C. Pinckney*, and Captain *Moultrie*, be a Committee, to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council, on the proper medium, and of the proper persons for carrying on the intercourse, and conveying messages to and from the Legislative Council and this House, respectively, and to report thereon.

Captain *Roger Smith* reported that he, with Captain *Trapier*, together with the Honourable Mr. *Bee*, of the Legislative Council, had, according to order, waited on his Excellency the President, to know when he would be pleased to receive the joint Address of the General Assembly and Legislative Council, and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would receive the same to-morrow, twelve o'clock, in the Council Chamber.

*Ordered*, That an Account of Mr. *John Champneys*, which, by the late Congress, had been referred to a Committee, be referred to the following Committee of this House, viz: Mr. *William Parker*, Mr. *Cannon*, Mr. *Chiffelle*, Captain *Savage*, and Mr. *Bacot*.

Information being given to the House of the discovery of a counterfeit Bill, of the denomination of three Pounds, issued by authority of the late Congress,

*Ordered*, That Captain *Maurice Simons*, Captain *Roger Smith*, and Mr. *Powell*, be a Committee to make inquiry after, and to have secured, the counterfeiters and utterers of such Bills or Certificates, in imitation of those issued by order of Congress, with power to search persons and houses, and seize upon such counterfeit Bills.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"In the Legislative Council, April 2, 1776.

"*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen* :

"Upon the third reading of the Ordinance establishing an Oath of Office, to be taken in manner therein mentioned, this House is of opinion that some amendments are necessary to be made thereto. We, therefore, desire your House will be pleased to appoint a Committee to confer with a Committee of this House, in the Conference-Room immediately, on such amendments. Our Committee are the Honourable Colonel *Pinckney* and the Honourable Mr. *Bee*.

"By order of the House :

"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, *Speaker*."

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Captain *Moultrie*, and Mr. *Matthews*, be a Committee, to confer with a Committee of the honourable the Legislative Council, upon the amendments proposed in the Ordinance referred to in the foregoing Message.

*Message to the Legislative Council.*

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen* :

This House have appointed a Committee, to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council, on the proper medium, and of the proper persons, for carrying on the intercourse and conveying messages to and from the Legislative Council and this House, respectively. We, therefore, desire that your Honours will be pleased to appoint a Committee, to confer with a Committee of this House in the Conference-Room, as soon as convenient, upon the above business. Our Committee are Captain *Daniel Horry*, Mr. *Benjamin Elliott*, the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Colonel *Pinckney*, and Captain *Alexander Moultrie*.

*Ordered*, That the said Message be signed by Mr. *Speaker*, and carried to the honourable the Legislative Council by Mr. *John Parker* and Mr. *John Izard*.

Mr. *Parker* reported that he, with Mr. *Izard*, had delivered the Message they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, from the Committee upon a free conference with a Committee from the Legislative Council, touching certain amendments to an Ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance establishing an Oath of Office, to be taken in manner therein mentioned," reported the amendments agreed to by the said Committee.

And the said amendments being debated, read, and passed three times,

*Ordered*, That they be made parts of the said Ordinance, and sent to the Legislative Council.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"In the Legislative Council, April 2, 1776.

"*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen* :

"This House received a Message just now from your House, by Mr. *Parker* and Mr. *Izard*, the address of which being 'To Mr. *Speaker and Gentlemen*,' we suppose must be done through mistake, as the mode hitherto used by your

House hath been otherwise. We, therefore, beg leave to return you the Message for amendment.

"By order of the House :

"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, *Speaker*."

*Ordered*, That the words "Mr. *Speaker* and" be taken out of the Message referred to, and the word "Honourable" inserted in their stead.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Parker* and Mr. *Izard* do carry the said Message, as amended, to the Legislative Council.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House the Ordinance establishing Oaths of Office, to be taken in manner therein mentioned, having been read a third time in Legislative Council, and passed.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be engrossed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief, by and with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, may, and he is hereby, authorized to design, and cause to be made, a Great Seal of *South-Carolina*; and, until such a one can be made, to fix upon a temporary Publick Seal.

*Ordered*, That the above Resolution be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence, and to his Excellency the President for his assent.

*Ordered*, That the said Resolution be engrossed, and signed by Mr. *Speaker*; and that Mr. *Weyman* and Mr. *Rapley* do carry the same to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Weyman* reported that he, with Mr. *Rapley*, had delivered the Resolution they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought to this House the Ordinance making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to execute certain powers, in manner therein mentioned; read twice in the Legislative Council.

*Resolved*, That the said Ordinance be now read a third time.

In proceeding on the third reading thereof, it appearing that the Legislative Council had introduced some amendments,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Gadsden* and the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* do return the said Ordinance to the Legislative Council, and point out to their Honours the mistake.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"In the Legislative Council, April 2, 1776.

"*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen* :

"In answer to your Message of this day, we beg leave to acquaint you that this House hath appointed the Honourable Colonel *Pinckney* and Mr. *Bee* a Committee, to meet in free conference with your Committee, on a proper medium, and of the proper persons, for carrying on the intercourse and conveying messages to and from the two Houses, respectively.

"By order of the House :

"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, *Speaker*."

Captain *Maurice Simons*, from the Committee to inquire after the counterfeiters or utterers of money, reported that they had made some progress; and that Mr. *Smithson* and Mr. *Askew* were at the door, ready for examination.

Mr. *Smithson* and Mr. *Askew* being separately called in, and examined,

*Ordered*, That they be put under care of the Militia Guard, until the Committee shall have made a further inquiry.

*Ordered*, That the said Committee do immediately proceed in the said further inquiry.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Weyman* be added to the said Committee.

The Committee to consider what recompense and provision should be made for several persons wounded and disabled in the publick service, and also for the families of such as may be killed in the said service, delivered in a Report.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will choose their Messengers by ballot.

A motion was made to adjourn the House to six o'clock, in the evening; and the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House adjourned to six of the clock, in the evening.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776, Six o'clock, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

Captain *Simons* reported, that the Committee to inquire after the counterfeiters of money had prosecuted their inquiry, but made no further discovery.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Smithson* and Mr. *Askew* be carried before some Magistrate for examination, according to law, so that such Magistrate may proceed therein as the case may require.

The House proceeded to ballot for their Messengers; and the ballots being cast up, Mr. Speaker reported that Mr. *John Vinyard* was, by a majority of votes, duly elected First Messenger, and Captain *John Stephenson*, Second Messenger.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

—  
Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Report of the Committee to consider what recompense and provision should be made for several persons wounded and disabled in the public service; and, also, for the families of such as may be killed in the said service, be taken into consideration to-morrow.

A Bill to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the peace, was read a second time.

On motion, the following clause was added to, read twice, and made a part of the Bill:

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all fines and penalties to be incurred by virtue of this act, shall, upon recovery thereof, be paid into the Colony Treasury, to be applied to, and for such uses and purposes as are hereinbefore mentioned.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be sent to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Lempriere* and Mr. *Verree* do carry the same to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Doctor *Haig* be a Committee for a free conference with a Committee of the Legislative Council, touching the manner of signing, and mode of delivery of their joint Address to his Excellency the President.

Captain *Lempriere* reported, that he, with Mr. *Verree*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Captain *Moultrie* presented, according to order, an Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance of the General Assembly, passed 23d February, 1771, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, joint Publick Treasurers, and to appoint Commissioners to take a state of the Treasury; and the same was received, and read a first time.

*Resolved*, That the Ordinance be read a second time.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that, in compliance with the Message from this House to the Legislative Council, touching the signing and delivery of the joint Address to his Excellency the President, they appointed the Honourable Colonel *Pinckney* and Doctor *Oliphant* as a Committee, to confer with the Committee of this House; and it was agreed, as the engrossed Address was in the General Assembly, the Speaker of this House should sign it first, leaving room for the Speaker of the Legislative Council to sign above; that then the Address should be sent to the Legislative Council, to be signed by their Speaker, in presence of both Houses.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the House do, in the present instance, agree to the mode proposed in the above Report, but that the same shall not be drawn into precedent.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do sign the joint Address of this House and the Legislative Council.

Message from the President, that his Excellency is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive this House with their Address.

The House accordingly went into the Council Chamber; and, being returned, Mr. Speaker reported, that the honourable the Legislative Council having, with this House, waited on his Excellency the President, with their joint Address, his Excellency was pleased to return them the following answer:

*"Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the General Assembly:*

*"My most cordial thanks are due, and I request that you will accept them, for this solemn engagement of support in discharging the duty of the honourable station to which, by your favour, I have been elected. Be persuaded that no man would embrace a just and equitable accommodation with Great Britain more gladly than myself; but until so desirable an object can be obtained, the defence of my country, and preservation of that Constitution which, from a perfect knowledge of the rights and a laudable regard to the happiness of the people, you have so wisely framed, shall engross my whole attention.*

*"To this country I owe all that I hold dear and valuable, and would with the greatest pleasure sacrifice every temporal felicity to establish and perpetuate her freedom.*

*"JOHN RUTLEDGE.*

*"April 3, 1776."*

*Ordered*, That the joint Address of this House and the honourable the Legislative Council, this day presented to his Excellency the President, together with his Excellency's Answer, be forthwith printed and made publick.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

*"In the Legislative Council, April 3, 1776.*

*"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:*

*"In answer to the verbal message, just now received by Colonel Gadsden and Mr. Chief Justice, relative to the amendments made by this House to the Ordinance making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of South-Carolina for the time being, to execute certain powers in manner therein mentioned; we beg leave to acquaint you, that, agreeable to your request, we have examined the Ordinance, and cannot find any mistake therein. We, therefore, return the same, and shall be glad you will point out to us, either by message or at a free conference of both Houses, those mistakes you refer to.*

*"By order of the House:*

*"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, Speaker."*

Colonel *Pinckney*, according to order, presented a Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Ships or Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain, Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies*, and to establish the trial by Jury in such cases.

And the same was received and read a first time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill be read a second time.

An Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance of the General Assembly, passed the 23d February, 1771, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esqs., joint Publick Treasurers, and to appoint Commissioners to take a state of the Treasury, was read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Townsend* and Mr. *John Boone*, do carry the said Ordinance to the Legislative Council.

*Message to the Legislative Council.*

*In the General Assembly, April 3, 1776.*

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your message, desiring that a Committee should be appointed by this House to have a free conference with a Committee of the Legislative Council, on certain amendments to an Ordinance making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to execute certain powers in manner therein mentioned, we have appointed a Committee to have a free conference with a Committee of your House, in the Conference-Room, as soon as may be. Our Committee are Colonel *Gadsden*, the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, and Colonel *Pinckney*.

*Ordered*, That the said Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney* and the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* do carry the said Message to the Legislative Council.

A Bill for the more effectual prevention of Desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, was read a second time.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill be sent to the Legislative Council.



Captain *Simons*, from the Committee appointed for that purpose, reported, that they had continued a diligent inquiry after three Pound Counterfeit Bills, but could discover none besides what had been produced to the House, which probably had been stolen; and that Mr. *Smithson* and Mr. *Askew* had been held to bail.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

Thursday, April 4, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Captain *Simons*, from the Committee to make inquiry after the Counterfeiters of the three Pound Bills, issued by authority of Congress reported, that, notwithstanding the Report made by him yesterday evening, more Counterfeit Bills, of that denomination, had been discovered.

Ordered, That the said Committee do continue their inquiry; and that they do also consider and report the best ways and means of suppressing so dangerous an evil.

Ordered, That the Commissioners of the Treasury do give a publick caution against receiving such Bills, of the denominations of two Pounds ten Shillings and three Pounds, as are signed by *Edward Weyman*, *J. Berwick*, and *M. Simons*.

Ordered, That the Commissioners of the Treasury do forbear to issue any more Bills of the above denomination, and signatures, until the further order of this House.

Ordered, That Mr. *Philip Porcher*, on account of the illness of his family, have leave of absence.

Ordered, That Captain *Roger Smith* do wait on *Hugh Rutledge* and *Joshua Ward*, Esqs., to acquaint the former of his having been elected Judge of the Admiralty, and the latter of his being chosen an Assistant Judge, and to inquire of them, respectively, if they are willing to qualify for those offices.

The Order of the Day, to take into consideration the Report of the Committee on what recompense and provision should be made for several persons wounded and disabled in the publick service, and also for the families of such as may be killed in the said service, was proceeded in. And the said Report having been debated and amended, was agreed to, and is as followeth:

Resolved, That the following recompense and provision be made, to wit:

To the family of *James Birmingham*, who, on the 19th of November last, was wounded through the body, and died the 22d of the same month, leaving a widow and a large family very poor, one hundred Pounds, to be paid immediately to relieve their present distresses; and, from the 1st day of April, 1776, to the widow an annuity of one hundred Pounds during her widowhood, and afterwards to the children, or child, under twelve years of age.

To *William Dunlap*, who lost a leg the 19th of November last, and has a wife and two children, pay to the 1st of March, one hundred and two days, fifty-one Pounds, and from the 1st March, 1776, an annuity during his life of ninety Pounds.

To *John Talbot*, who lost his right arm and one eye the 25th of December last by firing a swivel, and has a wife and children, to be paid immediately, in lieu of pay to 1st April, 1776, an annuity during his life of one hundred Pounds.

To *Robert Cosby*, who was wounded through the knee 20th of November last, and who, the Doctor believes, will be impeded in walking, to be paid immediately, in lieu of pay to the 1st of April, seventy Pounds.

To *John Wilson*, who was wounded in the wrist 20th of November last, not yet cured, and who, it is believed, will be disabled, to have the same provision as *Robert Cosby*.

To ——— *Patterson*, a Ranger, who had his skull fractured 21st November, not yet cured, doubted whether he ever will recover and be in his senses, to have the same provision as *Robert Cosby*.

To *Michael Cane*, who was wounded through the hand, and cured, pay from the 28th of November last to the 29th February, 1776, included, is ninety-three days, at ten Shillings—forty-six Pounds ten Shillings.

To *John Calkoun*, who was wounded in the head 21st November last, and is cured, a gratuity of thirty Pounds.

To ——— *Johnston*, a Ranger, wounded through the thigh, and cured, a gratuity of fifteen Pounds.

To ——— *Boles*, who was wounded in the head the 21st of November, and cured, in lieu of pay twenty-five Pounds.

To ——— *Trentham*, wounded in the neck the 21st of November, and cured, in lieu of pay twenty-five Pounds.

Resolved, That the annuities be paid every six months, upon producing a certificate signed by one of the Field-Officers of the Regiment, and one Magistrate of the District, where such persons reside.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing Report, as agreed to by this House, be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

Colonel *Pinckney* reported that he, with the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, had delivered the Message they had in charge yesterday to the Legislative Council.

Captain *Townsend* reported, that he, with the Honourable Mr. *Boone*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge yesterday to the Legislative Council.

Message to his Excellency the President.

May it please your Excellency:

To the intent that your Excellency may commissionate the several Civil Officers, chosen agreeable to the constitution of Government, we herewith send you a list of their names.

Ordered, That the said Message be engrossed.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought to this House an Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance passed 23d February, 1771, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esqs., joint Publick Treasurers, and to appoint Commissioners to take a state of the Treasury; read twice in the said Council.

Captain *Roger Smith* reported that he had, according to order, waited on Mr. *Hugh Rutledge* and Mr. *Joshua Ward* with the Message he had in charge, and that Mr. *Rutledge* declared his willingness to qualify for the office to which he had been chosen; but Mr. *Ward* said it would be inconvenient for him to accept the place for an Assistant Judge, and therefore he declined that honour.

A Bill to punish such as shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Colonial or Continental Currency, which hath been, or shall be hereafter issued, was read a second time.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Parker* and Mr. *Theodore Gaillard* do carry the said Bill to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Parker* reported, that he, with Mr. *Gaillard*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Ordered, That the Bill for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers or Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, be carried to the Legislative Council by Mr. *William Skirving* and Mr. *Macpherson*.

Mr. *Skirving* reported that he, and Mr. *Macpherson*, had according to order, delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Speaker reported, that Captain *Stephenson*, who, on the 2d instant, was chosen one of the Messengers to this House, having been sent for to take upon him that office, had begged leave to decline accepting it on account of his being severely afflicted with the rheumatism.

A Bill to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charleston*, and to empower any two of them to pull down any such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall adjudge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire, was read a second time.

Ordered, That the said Bill be sent to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Parker* reported that he, with Mr. *Gaillard*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

On motion, that leave be given, and a Committee appointed, to bring in several clauses to be added to the Bill for increasing the number of Firemasters; at the third reading thereof,

Ordered, That leave be given accordingly, and that

Colonel *Pinckney*, the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, Captain *Roger Smith*, Mr. *William Parker*, and Mr. *Toomer*, be a Committee for that purpose.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, from the Committee of conference with a Committee of the Legislative Council, on a proper medium and proper persons for carrying on the intercourse between the two Houses, reported, that the Legislative Council would send their Message by the Master in Chancery, and, in his absence, by their Clerk.

A motion was made, that this House do resolve not to receive the Message from the Legislative Council by their Clerk.

A debate ensued; and the question being moved for the previous question, whether that question should be now put? It was determined in the negative.

The House being informed that the Master in Chancery attended at the door, with a Message from the Legislative Council,

A motion was made, that this House do resolve not to receive Messages by the Master in Chancery.

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

The Master in Chancery brought to this House a Bill to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace; read a second time in the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the Messenger do summon Dr. *Farrar* to attend his duty in this House at the meeting thereof to-morrow morning.

A Bill to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace, was read a third time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill do pass; and that the title be, An Act to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and Disturbers of the Publick Peace.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill be sent to the Legislative Council, and that Captain *McQueen* and Mr. *Thomas Middleton* do carry the same.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Commissioners of the Treasury are, by the Resolve of Congress of the 24th of last month, authorized to pay the allowances to the Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress.

Colonel *Pinckney* gave notice that he would, to-morrow, move the House to resolve to make provision for the necessary expenses of the said Delegates.

A Petition of *Thomas Singleton* was presented to the House and read.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to the following Committee: Mr. *William Parker*, Mr. *Cannon*, Captain *Savage*, Dr. *Haig*, and Mr. *Kalteisen*.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

Friday, April 5, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House three Letters from the Honourable *Edward Rutledge*, one of the Delegates representing this Colony in the Continental Congress, dated *Philadelphia*, 11th, 14th, and 15th of *March*, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the said Letters be read.

And they were read accordingly.

A motion was thereupon made, that this House do resolve that this Colony will not enter into any treaty or correspondence with *Great Britain*, or any Commissioners authorized by that Court, but through the medium of the Continental Congress.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter from *Alexander Cameron*, Esq., one of Mr. *Stuart's* Deputies, dated *Toquoh*, in the *Cherokee* Country, 5th *March*, 1776, to *Preston Hampton*, a trader in the Valley.

An Ordinance making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to exercise certain powers therein mentioned, was read a third time.

The House was moved for leave to bring in a clause, by way of amendment, to the said Ordinance.

Leave being given, the following was accordingly brought in:

VII. *And be it further ordained, by the authority afore-*

*said*, That in case of the sickness of the President and Commander-in-Chief for the time being, or of his absence from *Charlestown* in other parts of the Colony, the Vice-President, being duly authorized by warrant under the hand and seal for the President, shall and may have and exercise the same powers touching the premises hereinbefore mentioned, as are hereby given to or vested in the President.

And the said clause being read three times and passed, *Ordered*, That the same be made a part of this Ordinance.

*Resolved*, That the Ordinance do pass.

*Ordered*, That the same be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Charles Elliott* and Captain *Maham* do carry the said Ordinance to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Cuming* have leave of absence.

Mr. *McQueen* reported that he, with Mr. *Middleton*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Elliott* reported that he, with Captain *Maham*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Gaillard* and Mr. *Simon Berwick* do carry the Report of the Committee to consider what provision should be made for the persons therein mentioned, disabled in the publick service, as agreed to by this House, to the honourable the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

Mr. *Gaillard* reported that he, with Mr. *Berwick*, had delivered the said Report to the Legislative Council.

The Message to his Excellency the President, to accompany a List of the Civil Officers chosen agreeable to the Constitution, being engrossed,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do sign the same; and that Mr. *Mattheus* and Captain *Roger Smith* do deliver the said Message to his Excellency.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Act to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace, which had been read a third time and passed.

*Ordered*, That the Act be engrossed.

Captain *Roger Smith* reported that he, with Mr. *Mattheus*, had delivered the Message and List they had in charge to his Excellency the President.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Ordinance for making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina*, for the time being, to exercise certain powers in manner therein mentioned, which had been read there a third time and passed.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be engrossed.

On motion, that this House do make provision for paying the expenses of the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, several sums were proposed.

And the question being put, on a motion to allow at the rate of six hundred Pounds sterling a year for that purpose to each Delegate, it was resolved in the affirmative.

An Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance of the General Assembly, passed the 23d of *February*, 1771, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esqrs., joint Publick Treasurers; and to appoint Commissioners to take a state of the Treasury; and also to empower the said Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the late Powder Receiver; was read a third time.

*Ordered*, That the said Ordinance be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Simons* and Mr. *McDonald* do carry the same to the Legislative Council.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House a Bill for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, or who shall purchase, receive, or conceal the Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements of Deserters.

And, also, a Bill to punish such as shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued

by the late House of Assembly, or the Colonial or Continental Currency, which hath been or shall be hereafter issued.

Both read twice in the Legislative Council.

Captain *Simons* reported that he, with Mr. *McDonald*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

A Bill to punish such as shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Colonial or Continental Currency, which hath been or shall be hereafter issued, was read a third time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill do pass; and that the title be, An Act to punish such as shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Colonial or Continental Currency, which hath been or shall be hereafter issued.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Trapier* and Captain *Leger* do carry the said Act to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Ordinance to repeal an Ordinance of the General Assembly, passed the 23d day of *February*, 1771, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, joint Publick Treasurers; and to appoint Commissioners to take a state of the Treasury; and, also, to empower the said Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the late Powder Receiver; read a third time and passed in the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the said Ordinance be engrossed.

Captain *Trapier* reported that he, with Captain *Leger*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

A Bill for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, or who shall purchase, receive, or conceal the Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements of Deserters, was read a third time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill do pass; and that the title be, An Act for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, or who shall purchase, receive, or conceal the Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements of Deserters.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence; and that Captain *Harlston* and Mr. *Loockock* do carry the same.

A Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Ships or Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies*, and to establish the trial by Jury in such cases, was read a second time.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be sent to the Legislative Council.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Members of this House do punctually attend the service thereof at the hour of adjournment, to-morrow, under a fine of five Pounds.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

—  
Saturday, April 6, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the House will make suitable provision for a Secretary, and other necessary officers, to the honourable the Privy Council.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will make provision for the pay of a Clerk to the Commissary of Stores for Regular Forces, not exceeding five hundred Pounds currency.

Captain *Harlston* reported that he, with Mr. *Loockock*, had delivered the Bills they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Commissioners of the Treasury be, and they are hereby, authorized to pay to Mrs. *Sarah Stuart*, during the time that she may be restrained of her liberty, the sum of one hundred Pounds, currency, per month, for her maintenance; and that the same shall

be reimbursed out of the profits of Mr. *John Stuart's* estate, by the Committees in whose custody and possession, or charge, the same now is.

On motion, Whereas the honourable the Continental Congress hath resolved that, in the present situation of affairs, it will be very dangerous to the liberties and welfare of *America* if any Colony should separately petition the King or either House of Parliament: and whereas no step should be left unessayed to promote the general welfare: and whereas the sending Commissioners from *Great Britain* to treat with the different Colonies, is dangerous to the stability of the liberties of *America*:

Therefore *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this House, that no measures should be left unessayed to establish the liberties of *America*, and to place them, as far as may be, out of the reach of fraudulent schemers, to subvert them by negotiation; and that this Colony should not enter into any treaty or correspondence with the Court of *Great Britain*, or with any person or persons under that authority, but through the medium of the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, also, That it is the opinion of this House that if any person or persons, sent from *Great Britain* to treat with the several Colonies, shall arrive in this Colony by water, such person or persons, and their retinue or company, should not, upon any pretence, be allowed to land, or to remain in the Colony longer than forty-eight hours, wind and weather permitting; or while so remaining, to hold any communication with any person in this Colony, but through his Excellency the President; and if any such persons shall arrive by land, they should be forthwith carefully escorted out of the Colony, and not be permitted to hold any intercourse with persons not for that purpose authorized by the President, and that merely for the purpose of accommodation.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolutions be forthwith printed and made publick.

*Ordered*, That a Message be sent to the President, with a copy of the said Resolutions, requesting that copies thereof may be forwarded to *Georgia*, *North-Carolina*, *Virginia*, and the Continental Congress.

The following Message was accordingly drawn and agreed to by the House:

*May it please your Excellency*:

In the present conjunction of affairs, this House has thought it expedient to come to the resolutions, a copy whereof is herewith sent to your Excellency; and we request that you will be pleased to forward copies of them to *Georgia*, *North-Carolina*, *Virginia*, and the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Trapier* and Captain *Roger Smith* do wait on his Excellency therewith.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House a Bill to punish those who shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Continental or Colonial Currency which hath been or shall be hereafter issued, read the third time and passed in the said Council.

Also, a Bill for the more effectual prevention of the desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall purchase, receive, or conceal the Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements of Deserters; also read a third time and passed in the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the said Bills be engrossed.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council likewise brought from that House a Bill to increase the number of Firemasters, and to empower any three of them to pull down any such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall adjudge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire; read a second time in the Legislative Council.

Captain *Moultrie*, according to order, presented a Bill to revive and continue, for the time therein mentioned, the several Acts and clauses of Acts of the General Assembly, therein particularly mentioned.

And the same was received and read a first time.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time.

A Bill to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charles-*

town, and to empower any three of them to pull down any such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall adjudge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire; was read a third time.

Colonel *Pinckney*, according to order, presented several clauses, which leave had been moved for to be brought in and added to the said Bill.

And the same were received, read three several times, amended, and passed, and are as followeth:

IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That, in case any fire shall break out in the night time in *Charlestown*, every owner, or tenant, of every inhabited house in the said town, shall put up a light in such house, in one of the windows fronting the street, or a lantern lighted at the street door, and shall suffer the light to remain there during the whole time of the fire, on pain of forfeiting the sum of five Pounds, current money; to be recovered by warrant of distress, and sale of the offender's goods, by any one Justice of the Peace for the District of *Charlestown*.

V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said Firemasters shall purchase and provide a sufficient quantity of ladders and buckets, to be kept with the fire-engines, or in such other convenient place and places in *Charlestown* as the said Firemasters shall think proper, and the expense of providing such ladders and buckets shall be borne and paid by the landlords and owners of houses in *Charlestown*.

VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That it shall and may be lawful for each Firemaster, and he is hereby empowered, to choose two Assistants, whose business it shall be, under the direction of the Firemasters, to form lanes, procure water, and take care that the inhabitants do properly, and to the utmost of their strength, power, and abilities, aid and assist at the fire; and to the intent that the said Firemasters and Assistants may be known and distinguished, the said Firemasters shall attend such fires with the usual fire-staves carried by them, and the said Assistants, respectively, shall carry in their hands a white staff; and in case any person or persons shall wilfully and obstinately refuse or neglect to give reasonable aid and assistance when commanded by the said Firemasters or their Assistants, or any of them, he and they shall forfeit twenty Pounds, lawful current money, each—one moiety to the said Assistants, and the other moiety to the said Firemasters, to be given by them as a gratuity to such person or persons as shall exert or distinguish themselves in doing any considerable service at the fire, to be recovered in manner above-mentioned; and all persons whatsoever, who shall do or execute a matter or thing whatsoever, for the preventing or extinguishing fire, in obedience or in pursuance to the command or directions of the said Firemasters or their Assistants, are hereby indemnified and saved harmless against all and every person and persons whatsoever.

*Ordered*, That the said clauses be made parts of the Bill.

*Resolved*, That the Bill do pass; and that the title be, An Act, &c.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Verree* and Captain *Stone* do carry the said Bill to the Legislative Council.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Ordinance for altering the time of holding certain Circuit Courts, and of holding the Court of Common Pleas, and the Court of General Sessions, usually held in *Charlestown* in *May*; read a second time in that House.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:

"This House hath read a second time an Ordinance for altering the time of holding certain Circuit Courts, and of holding the Court of Common Pleas, and the Court of General Sessions, usually held in *Charlestown* in *May*; and now return the same to your House. But, inasmuch as this House is of opinion that the said Ordinance, being a matter of importance, requires several great alterations to be made thereto, do, therefore, propose a conference should be held on the same, to sit without delay; and request you will be pleased to appoint a Committee to meet a Committee of this House, on this business. Our Committee are the Honourable Colonel *Pinckney* and the Honourable Mr. *Bee*.

"By order of the House:

"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, *Speaker*."

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney*, the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Mr. *Salvador*, and Mr. *Matthews*, be a Committee to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council upon the subject mentioned in their Message.

*Message to the Legislative Council.*

*Honourable Gentlemen:*

Agreeable to the Message just now received from your House, we acquaint you that we have appointed a Committee, to confer with a Committee of your House, on the alterations necessary to be made in the ordinance for altering the time of holding certain Circuit Courts, and of holding the Court of Common Pleas, and the Court of General Sessions, usually held in *Charlestown* in *May*. Our Committee are Colonel *Pinckney*, the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, and Mr. *Matthews*.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McQueen* and Mr. *Cordes* do carry the said Message to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Parker* have leave of absence.

Mr. *McQueen* reported that he, with Mr. *Cordes*, had delivered the Message they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* do, with one of the Members of the Legislative Council, compare the engrossed Ordinance, establishing an Oath of Office to be taken in manner therein mentioned, with the original draft.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney* do, with one of the Members of the Legislative Council, compare the engrossed Ordinance for making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to execute certain powers therein mentioned, with the original draft.

Colonel *Pinckney* reported, that the Ordinance committed to his charge had been compared according to order, and was found right.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that the Ordinance committed to his charge had, according to order, been compared, and was found right.

*Message to His Excellency the President.*

*May it please your Excellency:*

This House, having two Ordinances of great importance and exigency to present to your Excellency for your assent; and the Legislative Council being adjourned till to-morrow, twelve o'clock, we beg leave to request your Excellency will be pleased to call them to meet at five o'clock this afternoon, to the intent the said Ordinances may be then presented for your Excellency's assent.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hall* and Mr. *McQueen* do wait on his Excellency with the said Message.

Captain *Roger Smith* reported that he, with Captain *Trapper*, had waited on the President, and delivered to his Excellency the Message and Resolutions they had in charge.

Mr. *Hall* reported that he, with Mr. *McQueen*, had delivered to the President the Message they had in charge, and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would give orders accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Savage* and Mr. *Rapley* do wait on the President with the engrossed Ordinances, which are to be presented for his assent, and request that his Excellency will be pleased to cause the seals to be affixed thereto.

Mr. *Rapley* reported that he, with Captain *Savage*, had delivered the engrossed Ordinances they had in charge to the President, and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would cause the seals to be affixed accordingly.

The House was moved for leave to bring in an Ordinance for appointing and ascertaining the duties of a Mustermaster-General of this Colony.

*Ordered*, That leave be given to bring in such an Ordinance, and that Colonel *Pinckney* and Colonel *Gervais* do prepare and bring in the same.

And then the House adjourned till six of the clock, in the evening.

Saturday, April 6, 1776, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Message from the President, by the Clerk of the Council.*

"MR. SPEAKER: His Excellency the President is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive this House with any Bills they may have ready to present for his assent."

And then the Messenger withdrew.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the House, went into the Council Chamber.

And being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that this House and the Legislative Council had attended his Excellency the President in the Council Chamber, and presented to him—

An Ordinance establishing an Oath of Office, to be taken in manner therein mentioned:

And an Ordinance for making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, and to enable his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of *South-Carolina* for the time being, to execute certain powers in manner therein mentioned.

To both of which his Excellency had been pleased to give his assent.

Mr. *Verree* reported that he, with Captain *Stone*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That a Message be sent to the President, requesting that his Excellency will give orders that proper measures may be taken, by sinking Chevaux-de-Frise, and other ways, to obstruct the Bar of the Inlet to *Stono*.

*Resolved*, That this House will make provision for the expense attending the sinking such Chevaux-de-Frise, and making such other obstructions on the Bar of the Inlet to *Stono* as his Excellency the President shall order to be made.

*Ordered*, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the honourable the Legislative Council for their concurrence, and to his Excellency for his assent.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Salvador* and Mr. *De Saussure* do carry the said Resolution to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *William Parker*, from the Committee to whom Mr. *John Champneys's* Account was referred, delivered in a Report.

*Ordered*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till *Monday*.

Mr. *Salvador* reported that he, with Mr. *De Saussure*, had delivered the Resolution they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

On motion, That this House do adjourn to to-morrow, twelve o'clock,

The question being put, it passed in the negative.

And then the House adjourned till *Monday* morning, nine of the clock.

Monday, April 8, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the Report on Mr. *Champneys's* Account be postponed.

*Message to His Excellency the President.*

*May it please your Excellency:*

This House, thinking it necessary that obstructions should be laid on the Bar of the Inlet to *Stono*, have come to a Resolution to make provision for the expense of that service, which they request you will give orders to have executed.

A Bill to revive and continue, for the time therein mentioned, the several Acts, and clauses of Acts, of the General Assembly therein particularly mentioned, and to appropriate certain Penalties, and confirm the powers of the Commissioners of the Roads, Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys, and Water Passages, was read a second time.

The House was moved for leave to bring in several additional clauses to the said Bill.

And leave being given accordingly, the following were presented, received, severally read twice, and passed, and are as followeth:

Also, such parts and clauses of an Act entitled An Act

for appointing Commissioners to lay out a Road or Causey over *Lynch's Island*, situate in *Santee River*, and for establishing Ferries therein, passed the 11th day of *March*, 1737, as respects the establishment of the Ferries therein mentioned. Also, an additional Act to an Act entitled An Act for the better regulation of Taverns and Punch-Houses, passed the 8th day of *March*, 1741. Also, an Act for the better establishing and regulating of Patrols in this Colony, passed the 17th day of *June*, 1746. Also, an Act for regulating the assize of Bread, passed the 16th day of *March*, 1749. Also, such parts and clauses of an Act entitled An Act for reviving and continuing several Acts of the General Assembly of this Province therein mentioned, and for amending one of the said Acts, entitled An Act for the better regulation of the Militia of this Province, and for repealing the former Acts for regulating the Militia, and for repealing An Act for the further security and better defence of this Province, passed the 14th day of *May*, 1755, as respects the amending the Militia Law of this Colony. Also, such clauses and parts of an Act entitled An Act to revive and continue such Acts and clauses of Acts of the General Assembly of this Province, and for amending some of the said Acts in manner herein mentioned, passed the 7th day of *April*, 1759, as respects Boats passing of *Fort-Lyttleton*, and the empowering of the Governour and Council to limit the number of Tavern licenses.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That where, in any of the said Acts, any power or authority is given, or duly enjoined to the Governour, or any of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Constables, or to any other officers, that in all such cases, his Excellency the President for the time being, and the Justices, Constables, and other officers, respectively, appointed, or to be appointed, under the present Constitution of the Colony, shall have full power and authority to exercise all and every such powers and authorities, and to do and perform the several matters and things in the said Acts respectively required or enjoined.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all Commissioners of High-Roads and Private Roads, Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys, or for cleansing of Water-Passages in this Colony, or for altering, laying out, cleansing, or amending the same, who have hitherto been appointed by virtue of any Act, or clause, or clauses of any Act or Acts of the General Assembly now in force, or any such as are revived by this Act, or by appointment of any Governour of this Colony hitherto, or by election in any Parish or District in this Colony, or by any resolution of Congress, shall have and exercise as full and ample powers and authorities, to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as any Commissioners of High-Roads, or Private Roads, Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys, or Water-Passages whatever, have hitherto had, enjoyed, or received, by virtue of any law or laws, resolution or resolutions, of Congress heretofore made for that purpose.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That in case any of the Commissioners nominated or appointed as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect to act, all and every such Commissioner who shall so refuse to act, or neglect his duty, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred Pounds, current money, one-half to be applied to the use of this Government, and the other half to him or them who shall sue for the same.

*Ordered*, That the said Clauses be added to and made parts of the Bill.

And the question being put, that the Bill do pass a second time, resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bull* and the Rev. Mr. *Tennent* do carry the said Bill to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Moultrie* do, together with one of the Members of the Legislative Council, examine and compare with the original draft, the engrossed copies of a Bill to punish those who shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificats issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Continental or Colonial Currency, which hath been, or shall be hereafter issue; and an Ordinance to repeal part of an Ordinance of the General Assembly, passed the 23d day of *February*, 1771, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart*, Esquires, joint Publick Treasurers, and to appoint Commissioners to take a



state of the Treasury, and also to empower the said Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the late Powder Receiver.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Roger Smith* do, with one of the Members of the Legislative Council, examine and compare with the original draft the engrossed copies of a Bill for the more effectual prevention of the desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour or conceal them, or who shall purchase, receive, or conceal the Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements of Deserters; and a Bill to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace.

Captain *Moultrie* reported, that he, with one of the Members of the Legislative Council, had examined and compared the Bill and the Ordinance he had in charge, and they were found correct.

Captain *Roger Smith* reported, that he, with a Member of the Legislative Council, had examined the engrossed Bills he had in charge, and found them right.

Colonel *Pinckney*, according to order, presented an Ordinance to ascertain the duties of a Mustermaster-General of the Land and Sea Forces in the service of this Colony.

And the same was received, and read a first time.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be read a second time.

An Ordinance to ascertain the duties of a Mustermaster-General of the Land and Naval Forces of this Colony, was read a second time.

On motion, to fill up a blank for the daily pay of the Mustermaster-General with five Pounds,

The question being put, it was passed in the negative.

A motion was then made to fill up the said blank with four Pounds ten Shillings.

And the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion being made to fill up the blank for the daily pay of a Deputy to the Mustermaster-General with three Pounds,

The question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was then made to fill up the said blank with fifty-five Shillings.

And the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

*Resolved*, That the Ordinance do pass.

*Ordered*, That it be sent to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Trapier* and Mr. *Berwick* do carry the said Ordinance to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Colonel *Pinckney* do wait on his Excellency the President with the Message of this date, and also the Ordinance and three Bills that have been engrossed and examined, and to request that he will be pleased to cause the seals to be affixed thereto, and also to signify his pleasure when he will receive this House to present the same for his assent.

An Ordinance for altering the time of holding the Circuit Courts, and the Courts of Common Pleas, and General Sessions in *Charlestown*, and for other purposes therein mentioned, was read a third time.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Elias Horry* and Mr. *Salvador* do carry the same to the Legislative Council.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will make provision for supplying all the Forces in the service of the Colony with necessary Salt, not exceeding one quart per month each man, instead of one pint, hitherto allowed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That every Member of this House now in *Charlestown* do punctually attend the meeting thereof, to-morrow morning, under a fine of five Pounds, to be paid immediately.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will, to-morrow afternoon, at five o'clock, proceed to choose by ballot such Officers as remain to be chosen.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Upon representation made to this House, that *Gabriel Manigault* and *Lionel Chalmers*, Esquires, requested to be

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excused from being of the Commissioners appointed by Congress on the 24th of *March* last, to appraise and value the Houses in *Charlestown*, being too far advanced in years and infirm to perform that service; and that the number of Commissioners then appointed were insufficient for the purpose,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Manigault* and Dr. *Chalmers* be excused, agreeable to their request, and that Messrs. *Samuel Prioleau*, *Joshua Ward*, *John McCall*, *John Hopton*, *Joseph Dill*, *William Miller*, *Hopkin Price*, *Jonathan Sarrazin*, *Daniel Legaré*, *William Doughty*, and *Thomas Doughty*, be added to the said Commissioners.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of one thousand Pounds be allowed and paid to *Peter Timothy*, Secretary to the late Congress, in full for his services in that station to the 26th of *March* last.

*Resolved*, That his Excellency the President be authorized to issue his orders to the Commissioners of the Colony Treasury, for the payment of the said sum of one thousand Pounds to the said *Peter Timothy*, and also of his salary as Secretary to the late Council of Safety; and also, for payment of such Accounts as shall appear to be due to him for printing for the publick of this Colony.

On motion, *Resolved*, That his Excellency the President be empowered to order payment of whatever shall appear to be due to *Peter Bonnetheau*, Esquire, as Assistant to the Secretary of the late Congress, during their last session, and for such other services as he has performed, which have not yet been provided for.

The Report of the Committee to whom the Petition of *Thomas Singleton* was referred, being taken into consideration, and agreed to by the House,

*Resolved*, That the sum of six hundred Pounds, currency, be paid out of the Colony Treasury to *Thomas Singleton*, in full of all his demands against the publick for damages he sustained by the intrenchment being laid through his Land in *Charlestown-Neck*, and for the purchase of his Boat, which was taken into the publick service in *November* last.

Captain *Trapier* reported, that he, with Mr. *Berwick*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Bull* reported, that he, with the Rev. Mr. *Tennent*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Elias Horry* reported, that he, with Mr. *Salvador*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

A motion was made, that this House do resolve to choose another Delegate to the Continental Congress.

After some debate, the previous question was moved for, and put, whether that question should be now put? And it passed in the negative.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House a Bill to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charlestown*, and to empower any three of them to pull down any such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall adjudge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire; read a third time in that House.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be engrossed.

And the same being engrossed,

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney*, together with one Member of the Legislative Council, do examine and compare the same with the original draft.

Colonel *Pinckney* reported that, having examined and compared the Bill according to order, the same was found right.

*Ordered*, That the said Bill be carried to his Excellency the President, in order to have the seal affixed thereto.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will make like provision the present year for the Clothing of the First and Second Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Rangers in the service of this Colony, as was made for them by resolution of Congress for the year past.

*Ordered*, That the following gentlemen be a Committee to purchase and ship such commodities as may be necessary to be shipped and sold for payment and procuring of Clothing for the First and Second Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Rangers, in the service of this Colony, and for the hiring or purchasing and fitting out proper vessels for that

purpose, viz: *George Abbott Hall, Roger Smith, Thomas Corbett, Robert William Powell, and Aaron Loockock, Esquires.*

Colonel *Pinckney* reported, that he had delivered the several engrossed Bills and Ordinances he had in charge to his Excellency the President, to have the seals affixed to them; and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would have the seals affixed accordingly; and that he would receive this House in the Council Chamber at six o'clock, with such Bills as they may then have ready to present for his assent.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners of the Treasury do advance and pay to *George Abbott Hall, Roger Smith, Robert William Powell, Thomas Corbett, and Aaron Loockock, Esqs.*, such sums of Money as may be necessary for the purchase of Rice, or other produce of this Colony, to be shipped by them to a foreign market, in order to be sold, and the produce thereof applied in the purchase of Clothing for the First and Second Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Rangers, in the service of this Colony; and also, for the hire or purchase, and fitting out of proper vessels for that service.

*Ordered*, That this Resolution be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence, and to his Excellency the President for his assent.

*Ordered*, That the said Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney* and Mr. *Chiffelle* do carry the said Message to the Legislative Council.

The Report of the Committee to whom Mr. *Champneys's* Account was referred, being taken into consideration, was agreed to by the House, viz: That Mr. *Champneys*, for the sundry articles enumerated in his account, for which he charges the publick five hundred Pounds, is entitled to no more than fifty Pounds for damages at his Plantation. That seventy-five Pounds be allowed him for the hire of Stores at his Plantation. That a commission of five per centum be allowed him on sixteen hundred and fourteen Pounds eleven Shillings and eleven Pence, the amount of Rice retailed for the publick benefit, which is eighty Pounds fourteen Shillings and six Pence; and that one hundred and seven Pounds ten Shillings be allowed him for Boards delivered to Mr. *Cannon* for the publick use; and that those allowances made, (the Congress having before disallowed the charge he made of five hundred and eighty-one Pounds four Shillings and five Pence, for buying and selling Rice,) leave a balance due from Mr. *Champneys* to the publick, on sale of Rice, thirteen hundred and one Pounds seven Shillings and three Pence, subject, in the opinion of the Committee, to the direction of this House.

*Ordered*, That the said balance of thirteen hundred and one Pounds seven Shillings and three Pence, in the hands of Mr. *John Champneys*, due to the publick, be by him paid into the Colony Treasury within one month.

The House being informed that several sums of Money remain due to the publick for Rice sold,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gibbes, Mr. William Parker, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Blake, Mr. Chiffelle, Mr. Roger Smith, Mr. Simons, Mr. Dupont, and Mr. Hall*, be a Committee to inquire and report what quantities of Rice, and other commodities, have been received and purchased on the publick account by the Commissioners appointed for that purpose under the authority of Congress, and also to inquire and report what other Rice and commodities have been purchased or shipped by order of the Secret Committee and Council of Safety, how the same has been disposed of, and what sums or balances are now due to the publick on the score of such Rice and commodities.

*Ordered*, That the said Commissioners have power to send for Persons and Papers, and to demand and receive from all persons who shall appear to be indebted to the publick on the foregoing accounts, the several sums from them respectively due, and to pay over the same into the hands of the Commissioners of the Treasury.

*John Neufville, Esq.*, one of the Commissioners of the Treasury, requested leave to resign that office; and persisting in his request, it was granted.

A Petition of *Henry Aitkin*, late Master of the Ship *Port-Henderson*, was presented and read.

*Ordered*, That the said Petition be referred to the fol-

lowing Committee, viz: Mr. *Dupont, Mr. Roger Smith, and Mr. Chiffelle.*

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House a Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of the Ships and other Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain, Ireland, the British West-Indies, Nova-Scotia, and East and West-Florida*; to establish the trial by Jury in the Court of Admiralty in cases of capture, and for the other purposes therein mentioned; read a second time in that House. Also, an Ordinance to ascertain the duties of a Mustermaster-General of the Land and Sea Forces in the service of this Colony; read twice in the Legislative Council.

The Ordinance being then read a third time in this House, *Ordered*, That the same do pass.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Middleton* and Mr. *Bull* do carry the said Ordinance to the Legislative Council.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Ordinance for altering the time of holding the ensuing Circuit Courts, and the Courts of Common Pleas, and the General Sessions, in *Charlestown*, and for other purposes therein mentioned; read a third time in that House.

*Resolved*, That the Ordinance do pass.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be engrossed.

A Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of the Ships and other Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain, Ireland, the British West-Indies, Nova-Scotia, and East and West-Florida*, to establish the trial by Jury in the Court of Admiralty, in cases of capture, and for the other purposes therein mentioned; was read a third time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill do pass; and that the title be, An Act, &c.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Bull* and Mr. *Salvador* do carry the Bill to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

And then the House adjourned till half-past five of the clock, in the afternoon.

Five o'clock, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

*Message from the President, by the Clerk of the Council.*

"MR. SPEAKER: His Excellency the President is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive this House with any Bills they may have to present for his assent."

And then the Messenger withdrew.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the House, attended his Excellency in the Council Chamber.

And being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that this House, with the Legislative Council, having attended his Excellency in the Council Chamber, and presented to him the following Ordinance and Bills, he had been pleased to give his assent to them, viz:

An Ordinance to repeal part of an Ordinance of the General Assembly, passed the 23d day of *February, 1771*, appointing *Henry Peronneau* and *Benjamin Dart, Esquires*, joint Publick Treasurers, and to appoint Commissioners to take a state of the Treasury; and, also, to empower the said Commissioners to settle the Accounts of the late Powder Receiver.

An Act to increase the number of Firemasters in *Charlestown*, and to empower any three of them to pull down any such Houses, or other Buildings, as they shall adjudge necessary for the stopping and preventing the spreading of Fire, and for altering and repealing such parts of an Act as is therein mentioned.

An Act to punish those who shall counterfeit, or utter knowing them to be counterfeit, the Certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the Continental or Colonial Currency, which hath been already, or shall be hereafter issued.

An Act for the more effectual prevention of the Desertion of the Soldiers and Sailors in the service of this Colony, and for the punishment of those who shall harbour and conceal them, or who shall purchase, receive, or conceal the Arms, Clothes, or Accoutrements of Deserters.

*Ordered*, That the latter Act be forthwith printed, and made publick.

The House then proceeded, with the Members of the honourable the Legislative Council, who attended in the

General Assembly for that purpose, to ballot for two Commissioners of the Colony Treasury.

And the ballots being cast up, Mr. Speaker reported that *William Parker, Esq.*, one of the gentlemen balloted for, appeared to have the votes of a majority of the Members present.

And he was accordingly declared duly elected.

Both Houses then proceeded to ballot for another Commissioner of the Treasury.

And the ballots being cast up, Mr. Speaker reported that *Edward Blake, Esq.*, was duly elected a Commissioner of the Treasury.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

— Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

A Petition of *David Baty* was presented and read.

After which, the Member who presented it requested leave to withdraw the same.

And it was withdrawn accordingly.

On motion, that this House do resolve that it is necessary a Commander of the Navy of this Colony, subordinate to the President, should be appointed, a debate arose, and the question being put, it passed in the negative.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House a Bill to revive and continue, for the time therein mentioned, the several Acts and clauses of Acts therein particularly mentioned, and to appropriate certain Penalties, and confirm the powers of Commissioners of Roads; read a second time in the Legislative Council.

The House was moved for leave to bring in an Ordinance for vesting certain powers and authorities, in subordination to the President, in the Commander-in-Chief, for the time being, of the first-rate Vessel in the Colony service.

And the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

*Ordered*, That such an Ordinance be brought in; and that the Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, Captain *Lempriere*, Captain *John Huger*, Colonel *Pinckney*, and Captain *Moultrie*, do prepare and bring in the same.

Mr. *Dupont* reported from the Committee to whom the Petition of *Henry Aitkin* was referred. And he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read, and is as followeth:

That, having examined the accounts of the Petitioner, they found a balance of three thousand one hundred and fifty-eight Pounds sixteen Shillings due from the Ship *Port-Henderson*, of which, five hundred and fifty-eight Pounds twelve Shillings were for wages. That the sum of three hundred and one Pounds sixteen Shillings and nine Pence appears to be a Bill of Exchange paid to Mr. *Nathaniel Russell*, which bill being drawn upon himself, is now of no value. They, therefore, recommend that these two sums, making together eight hundred and sixty Pounds eight Shillings and nine Pence, currency, be paid to Captain *Aitkin* out of the proceeds of the cargo of the Ship *Port-Henderson*; also, the sum of four hundred and sixty-nine Pounds eight Shillings and nine Pence, which Captain *Aitkin* has received from sundry passengers, and expended on the said Ship, and which is now demanded of him by the said passengers.

*Message from the Legislative Council, by their Clerk.*

"In the Legislative Council, April 10, 1776.

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen:

"Upon the third reading of the Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Ships or Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain, Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies*, and to establish the trial by Jury in such cases, this House is of opinion that some amendments are necessary to be made thereto. We, therefore, desire your House will be pleased to appoint a Committee, to confer with a Committee of this House in the Conference-Room immediately, on such amendments. Our Committee are the Honourable Mr. *Bee* and the Honourable Dr. *Oliphant*.

"By order of the House:

"GEORGE GAB. POWELL, *Speaker*."

*Message to the Legislative Council.*

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to a Message just

now received from your House, this House have appointed a Committee, to confer with a Committee of your House, on such amendments as may be necessary to be made to the Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Ships or Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain, Ireland*, and the *British West-Indies*, and to establish the trial by Jury in such cases. Our Committee are Colonel *Pinckney* and the Hon. Mr. *Drayton*.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney* and the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* do carry the said Message to the Legislative Council.

Colonel *Pinckney*, from the Committee of Conference, reported several amendments proposed in the Conference; which being read, were severally agreed to, and ordered to be made parts of the Bill.

A Bill to revive and continue, for the time therein mentioned, the several Acts and clauses of Acts of the General Assembly, therein particularly mentioned, was read the third time.

*Resolved*, That the Bill do pass; and that the title be, An Act, &c.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Moultrie* and Mr. *Bacot* do carry the same to the Legislative Council.

Captain *Moultrie* reported, that he, with Mr. *Bacot*, had delivered the Bill they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

A Petition of *Thomas Fletchall, Robert Cunningham, Patrick Cunningham, Robert Pearis, Elisha Robinson, Pinkethman Hawkins, James Alexander, Thomas Wisdom, William Dodgen, Henry Green*, and *Robert Proctor*, Prisoners in *Charlestown Jail*, principal actors in the late commotions in the interior parts of the Colony, was presented and read.

After some debate thereon, a motion was made, and seconded, for leave to withdraw the Petition.

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

*Ordered*, That the Petition do lie on the table.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House a Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Ships or Vessels of the inhabitants of *Great Britain, Ireland*, the *British West-Indies*, *Nova-Scotia*, and *East and West-Florida*, and to establish the trial by Jury in such cases; read the third time, and passed in that House.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be engrossed.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council brought from that House an Ordinance to ascertain the duties of a Muster-master-General of the Land and Naval Forces in the service of this Colony; read a third time, and passed in the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be engrossed.

The House was moved, that a Committee be appointed to prepare an Address to be presented to his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief, requesting that he will be pleased to order a day of solemn Fasting, Prayer, and Humiliation, to be observed throughout this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney* and the Rev. Mr. *Tennent* be a Committee to prepare and bring in the same.

*Ordered*, That Captain *McQueen*, Mr. *Verree*, and Mr. *Chiffelle*, be a Committee to inquire and report the names of such persons amongst the late Insurgents, as are proper to be excepted in a declaration of pardon or amnesty.

*Resolved*, That Mr. Speaker do issue Writs for the election of Members of the General Assembly, to fill up such vacancies as have already happened, or may, from time to time, happen in any of the Parishes and Districts throughout the Colony.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will now proceed to ballot, jointly with the Honourable the Legislative Council, for a Captain of the Ship *Prosper*.

The Members of the Legislative Council being introduced into the General Assembly for that purpose, the balloting was proceeded in accordingly.

And the ballots being reckoned, Mr. Speaker reported.

that *Clement Lempriere*, Esquire, was duly elected Captain and Commander of the Colony Ship-of-War *Prosper*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Certificates issued, and to be issued, in pursuance of the Resolutions of Congress of the 14th of *June*, 1775, which have not been signed by Mr. *Neufville* and Mr. *Bacot*, two of the late Commissioners of the Treasury, shall be numbered and signed by Mr. *Gibbes*, and the other Commissioner nominated yesterday.

On motion, that the Report of the Committee on *Henry Aitkin's* Petition be now taken under consideration, the question was put, and it passed in the negative.

And then the House adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine of the clock.

— Thursday, April 11, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

Colonel *Pinckney*, from the Committee to prepare a Message to the President, to request that his Excellency will issue his Proclamation appointing a General Fast, reported the following Message to the President:

*May it please your Excellency:*

The House, sensible of their dependance upon the Supreme Ruler of all events, and impressed with sentiments of gratitude for the many signal interpositions of Heaven in favour of *American* liberty in general, and of this Colony in particular; more especially in the late happy establishment of a Constitution of Government, framed by the Representatives of this Colony for their security and good order, until an accommodation shall take place between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, do request that your Excellency will please to issue your Proclamation, appointing a day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer, to be observed throughout this Colony, exhorting and commanding the people, of every denomination, to confess and deplore their sins against Almighty *God*; thankfully to acknowledge his unmerited goodness; earnestly to implore his blessing upon all endeavours for the security of *American* rights; that he would be pleased to direct the united Councils of these Colonies, and prosper their arms for the defence of their lives, liberties, and properties, against the cruelty of their invaders; and that he would aid and bless the present constitutional authority of this Colony. And this House do likewise request that your Excellency would be pleased strictly to enjoin all Clergymen to make proper prayers, and deliver proper discourses upon the occasion.

And the same being agreed to by the House,

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Daniel Horry* and Colonel *Pinckney* do carry the said Message to his Excellency the President.

*Message to the President.*

*May it please your Excellency:*

This House beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that *Clement Lempriere*, Esq., was yesterday duly chosen by the Members of the honourable the Legislative Council and of this House, to be Captain and Commander of the Colony Ship-of-War *Prosper*.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Colonel *Pinckney* do carry the Message to the President; and that they do, at the same time, acquaint his Excellency that this House have several Acts and Ordinances ready to be presented for his assent, as soon as it may be his pleasure to receive them.

Colonel *Pinckney* reported, that he, with Colonel *Horry*, had delivered the Message they had in charge to the President; and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would issue a Proclamation, as requested in the Message.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that he, with Colonel *Pinckney*, had delivered the Message they had in charge to the President; and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would acquaint the House when he should be ready to receive them.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Simons* and Mr. *Elias Horry* do wait on the President with such Bills and Ordinances as are engrossed, and desire his Excellency will be pleased to cause the seals to be affixed thereto.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Captain *Savage* do make immediate inquiry of *Edward Blake*, Esq., Commissary for the Naval Department, and yesterday chosen one of the Commissioners of the Colony Treasury, which of the two Departments he chooses to act in.

Mr. *Elias Horry* reported, that he, with Captain *Simons*, had waited on the President with the engrossed Bills and Ordinances they had in charge, and that his Excellency was pleased to say he would cause the seals to be affixed thereto.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Loocock*, Mr. *Rapley*, and Mr. *Salvador*, be a Committee to inquire and report proper places of election for such Districts as are not yet fixed or divided into Parishes, and, also, proper persons to attend and receive the Votes of the Electors.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton* reported, that he, with Captain *Savage*, had made the inquiry they were ordered, of Captain *Blake*, and that Captain *Blake* said he chose to act as a Commissioner of the Treasury, and to decline the Office of Commissary for the Naval Department.

Colonel *Pinckney* presented, according to order, an Ordinance to appoint a Commander of the Navy of this Colony, subject to the immediate command of the President and Commander-in-Chief; and the same was received and read a first time.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be read a second time.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Corbett*, Mr. *Bacot*, Mr. *Powell*, and Mr. *Chiffelle*, be a Committee to examine the Receipts of the Paymasters of the several Regiments in the service of this Colony, and to compare them with the Pay-Bills which are, or ought to be, lodged in the Treasury, and to order the balance, if any in such Paymasters' hands, to be paid into the Colony Treasury.

An Ordinance to appoint a Commander of the Navy of this Colony, subject to the immediate command of the President and Commander-in-Chief, was read a second time, and passed.

*Ordered*, That the Ordinance be sent to the Legislative Council.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dupont* and Mr. *Berwick* do carry the same to the Legislative Council.

A motion was made, that this House do resolve to make provision for a Chaplain to each of the Regiments as soon as such Regiments, respectively, have two hundred Men.

And the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

A motion was made, that such Chaplains be allowed a Salary of one thousand Pounds a year, each, and two Rations per day.

And the question being put, it passed in the negative.

A motion was then made, that the Salary be seven hundred Pounds a year, each, and two Rations per day.

And the question being put, resolved in the affirmative.

The Report of the Committee on Captain *Aitkin's* Petition being taken into consideration, the same was debated on, paragraph by paragraph, and agreed to, after a question being put upon each.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners appointed by the late Congress for the sale of the Cargo of the Ship *Port-Henderson*, *Henry Aitkin* late Master, be authorized to pay to the said *Henry Aitkin*, out of the proceeds of such sales, the sum of five hundred and fifty-eight Pounds twelve Shillings, currency, due to him for Wages; also, the sum of three hundred and one Pounds sixteen Shillings and nine Pence, for a Bill of Exchange paid to Mr. *Nathaniel Russell*, which, being drawn upon himself, is now of no value; and, also, the sum of four hundred and sixty-nine Pounds eight Shillings and nine Pence, currency, which Captain *Aitkin* has received from several passengers, and expended on the said Ship, and is now demanded of him by the said passengers.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the above Resolution be sent to the Legislative Council for their concurrence, and to his Excellency the President for his assent.

*Ordered*, That the said Resolution be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dupont* and Mr. *Corbett* do carry the said Message to the Legislative Council.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this House will make provision for the payment of all reasonable charges attending the

cure of any Militia-men who shall fall sick while drafted, and doing duty in the service of the Colony, until a General Hospital shall be established: provided that the said Militia-men shall not be, in the judgment of this House, in circumstances to defray that expense.

*Message to the President.*

*May it please your Excellency:*

The Congress, on the 28th of November last, resolved that a General Hospital for the sick and wounded men of the Provincial Land Forces, for Seamen, and the Militia, should be established, and that a Director-General thereof should be appointed; and ordered that the then Council of Safety should carry the said resolution into execution; which service has not yet been done. Wherefore, and as this House are of opinion that such an establishment and appointment ought to take place, they request your Excellency will give proper orders for the purpose, and, in the mean time, direct that proper care be taken of the country Militia doing duty in *Charlestown* as have or shall fall sick, or get hurt in the service.

*Ordered*, That the said Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Pinckney* and Colonel *Horry* do carry the Message to his Excellency.

Mr. *Dupont* reported, that he, with Mr. *Berwick*, had delivered the Ordinance they had in charge to the Legislative Council.

Mr. *Loockock* reported from the Committee to inquire and report proper places of election for such Districts as are not yet fixed or divided into Parishes; and, also, proper persons to attend and receive the Votes of the Electors. And he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered it at the Clerk's table, where the same was read and agreed to, as followeth:

*Resolved*, That the election of Members of the General Assembly, in the District eastward of the *Wateree River*, should be held at the Court-House in *Camden*; and that the Commissioners to attend and receive the Votes of the Electors be *John Wyllly*, *Richard Richardson*, Jun., *Matthew Singleton*, *George Douglas*, and *James Bradley*, Esquires. That the election for the District of *Ninety-Six* should be held at the *Indian Camp*, near Major *Andrew Williamson's*; and that the Commissioners be Major *Williamson*, Captain *Andreus*, Captain *Hammond*, *Patrick Calhoun*, and *William Moore*, Esquires. That the election for the District of *Saxe-Gotha* should be held at *Granby*, on the *Congaree River*; and that the Commissioners be *William Arthur*, *Benjamin Farrar*, *Ralph Humphries*, *Jacob Rickman*, Esqs., and Mr. *Jacob Friday*. That the election for the District between *Broad* and *Saluda* Rivers being subdivided, should be as follows: 1, For the Lower District, four Members to be elected, at or near the Meeting-House near *Adam Summers's*; and that the Commissioners be *Adam Summers*, Jun., *Michael Litener*, *George Strother*, *Jonas Beard*, and Mr. *George Swighead*; 2, For the Middle or *Little River* District, four Members to be elected, at Captain *Hammond's* Old Store; and that the Commissioners be *John Williams*, *James Williams*, *James Linley*, *Robert McCreary*, and *Jonathan Downes*, Esquires; 3, For the Upper or *Spartan* District, four Members to be elected, at or near the Meeting-House, *Fair-Forest*; and that the Commissioners be Colonel *Thomas*, Captain *Andrew Berry*, Captain *Thomas Brandon*, Captain *Ralph Smith*, and *John Thomas*, Jun., Esqs. That the election for the District between *Broad* and *Catawba* Rivers should be at Captain *Winn's* Old Place; and that the Commissioners be Captain *Robert Patton*, Captain *William Lang*, and Messrs. *William Strother*, *Joseph Kirkland*, and *Charles Daniel Bradford*. And that the election for the *New-Acquisition* be at or near Colonel *Thomas Neel's*; and that the Commissioners be Colonel *Neel*, *William Byers*, *John Howe*, *Francis Adams*, and *Samuel Watson*, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk do cause the foregoing Resolutions to be forthwith made publick by Handbills, and also in the Newspapers.

And then the House adjourned till five of the clock this afternoon.

Five o'clock, P. M.

The House met according to adjournment.

Captain *McQueen* reported from the Committee to inquire and report the names of such persons among the late Insurgents as are proper to be excepted in a declaration of pardon or amnesty; and he read the Report in his place, and afterwards delivered it in at the Clerk's table, where the same was read; and it is as followeth:

That the persons whose names are hereinafter mentioned should be excluded, to wit: *Henry O'Neal*, *Jacob Bockman*, alias *Jacob Bowman*, *Thomas Fletchall*, *Robert Cunningham*, *Patrick Cunningham*, *Richard Pearis*, *Elisha Robinson*, *Pinkethman Hawkins*, *James Alexander*, *Thomas Wisdom*, *Henry Green*, *Robert Proctor*, *William Dodgen*, *Stephen Prosser*, and *John Morgridge*.

*Resolved*, That this House do agree with the Report of the Committee, and that it be made a Resolution.

Colonel *Pinckney* reported, that he, with Colonel *Horry*, had delivered the Message they had in charge relative to a General Hospital, and that his Excellency was pleased to say the request of the House should be complied with.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Colonel *Pinckney* be a Committee to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council on a proper time for both Houses to adjourn to.

The Honourable Mr. *Drayton*, from the Committee of Conference, reported, that *Tuesday*, the 1st day of *October* next, was agreed on as a proper time to adjourn to.

*Resolved*, That this House will adjourn to *Tuesday*, the 1st day of *October* next.

*Message from the President, by the Clerk of the Council.*

"MR. SPEAKER: His Excellency the President is now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive this House with such Bills as they have to present for his assent."

And then the Messenger withdrew.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, with the House, attended his Excellency in the Council Chamber.

And being returned, Mr. Speaker reported that this House and the Legislative Council had attended his Excellency the President, in the Council Chamber, and presented to him the following five Ordinances and Acts, to wit:

An Ordinance for altering the time of holding the ensuing Circuit Courts, and the Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions, in *Charlestown*, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

An Ordinance to ascertain the duties of a Mustermaster-General of the Land and Naval Forces in the service of this Colony.

An Act to prevent Sedition, and to punish Insurgents and Disturbers of the Publick Peace.

An Act to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Ships or Vessels of the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, the *British West-Indies*, *Nova-Scotia*, and *East and West-Florida*, and to establish the Trial by Jury in such cases.

An Act to revive and continue, for the time therein mentioned, the several Acts and clauses of Acts of the General Assembly therein particularly mentioned; and to appropriate certain penalties, and to confirm the powers of the Commissioners of Roads, Paths, Bridges, Creeks, Causeys, and Water Passages.

To all which the President had been pleased to give his assent.

After which his Excellency was pleased to deliver the following Speech to both Houses:

"Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

"It has afforded me much satisfaction to observe that, though the season of the year rendered your sitting very inconvenient, your private concerns (which must have suffered greatly by your long and close application in the late Congress to the affairs of this Colony) requiring your presence in the country; yet, continuing to prefer the publick weal to ease and retirement, you have been busily engaged in framing such laws as our peculiar circumstances rendered absolutely necessary to be passed before your adjournment. Having given my assent to them, I presume you are now desirous of a recess. On my part, a most solemn oath has been taken for the faithful discharge of my duty; on yours, a solemn assurance has been given to support me therein. Thus, a publick compact between us stands recorded. You



may rest assured that I shall keep this oath ever in mind. The Constitution shall be the invariable rule of my conduct. My ears shall always be open to the complaints of the injured. Justice in mercy shall neither be denied or delayed. Our laws and religion, and the liberties of *America*, shall be maintained and defended to the utmost of my power. I repose the most perfect confidence in your engagement. And now, gentlemen, let me intreat that you will, in your several Parishes and Districts, use your influence and authority to keep peace and good order, and procure strict observance of and ready obedience to the law. If any persons therein are still strangers to the nature and merits of the dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, you will explain it to them fully, and teach them, if they are so unfortunate as not to know their inherent rights. Prove to them that the privileges of being tried by a jury of the vicinage, acquainted with the parties and witnesses; of being taxed only with their own consent, given by their representatives, freely chosen by and sharing the burden equally with themselves—not for aggrandizing a rapacious Minister and his dependant favourites, and for corrupting the people and subverting their liberties, but for such wise and salutary purposes as they themselves approve; and of having their internal polity regulated only by laws consented to by competent judges of what is best adapted to their situation and circumstances—equally bound, too, by those laws, which are inestimable, and derived from that Constitution, which is the birthright of the poorest man, and the best inheritance of the most wealthy. Relate to them the various unjust and cruel statutes which the *British* Parliament, claiming a right to make laws binding the Colonies in all cases whatsoever, have enacted, and the many sanguinary measures which have been and are daily pursued and threatened, to wrest from them those invaluable benefits, and to enforce such an unlimited and destructive claim. To the most illiterate it must appear that no power on earth can of right deprive them of the hard-earned fruits of their honest industry, toil, and labour; even to them the impious attempt to prevent many thousands from using the means of subsistence provided for man by the bounty of his Creator, and to compel them, by famine, to surrender their rights, will seem to call for Divine vengeance. The endeavours, by deceit and bribery, to engage barbarous nations to imbrue their hands in the innocent blood of helpless women and children; and the attempt by fair, but false promises, to make the ignorant domesticks subservient to the most wicked purposes, are acts at which humanity must revolt. Show your constituents, then, the indispensable necessity which there was for establishing some mode of Government in this Colony; the benefits of that which a full and free representation has established; and that the consent of the people is the origin, and their happiness the end, of Government. Remove the apprehensions with which honest and well-meaning, but weak and credulous minds may be alarmed, and prevent ill impressions by artful and designing enemies. Let it be known that this Constitution is but temporary, till an accommodation of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and *America* can be obtained; and that such an event is still desired by men who yet remember former friendships and intimate connections, though, for defending their persons and properties, they are stigmatized and treated as Rebels.

Truth being known, will prevail over artifice and misrepresentation. Conviction must follow its discovery. In such cases, no man, who is worthy of life, liberty, or property, will or can refuse to join with you in defending them to the last extremity; disdaining every sordid view, and the mean, paltry considerations of private interest and present emolument, when placed in competition with the liberties of millions; and seeing that there is no alternative but absolute, unconditional submission and the most abject slavery, or a defence becoming men born to freedom, he will not hesitate about the choice. Although superior force may, by the permission of Heaven, lay waste our towns and ravage our country, it can never eradicate from the breasts of freemen those principles which are ingrafted in their very nature. Such men will do their duty, neither knowing or regarding consequences, but submitting them, with humble confidence, to the omniscient and omnipotent Arbiter and Director of the fate of Empires, and trusting that His almighty arm, which has been so signally stretched out for our defence, will deliver them in a righteous cause.

The eyes of *Europe*, nay, of the whole world, are on *America*. The eyes of every other Colony are on this—a Colony whose reputation, generosity, and magnanimity, is universally acknowledged. I trust, therefore, it will not be diminished by our future conduct; that there will be no civil discord here; and that the only strife amongst brethren will be, who shall do most to serve and to save an oppressed and injured country.

JOHN RUTLEDGE.

April 11, 1776.

*Ordered*, That the Speech this day delivered by his Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of this Colony to both Houses, be forthwith printed, as well in the Newspapers as otherwise.

*Ordered*, That a sufficient number of copies of all the Acts and Ordinances passed in the present Session (for each Member of both Houses, and every Magistrate to have one) be printed with all possible expedition.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this House that such Crown Officers as were confined by the late Congress to *Charlestown* should have liberty, if they choose it, to depart this Colony; and that this House will make provision for the payment of their passages and necessary sea-stores to *Europe* or the *West-Indies*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That his Excellency be desired to issue a Declaration of Pardon with certain exceptions.

On motion, *Resolved*, That his Excellency be desired to cause all publick Papers and Effects, in the possession of all or any of the Crown Officers, to be immediately secured and properly taken care of.

Whereupon the following Message was drawn and agreed to by the House:

*May it please your Excellency:*

We request that your Excellency will, as soon as may be, cause the Resolution of the 13th of last month, respecting the sending certain persons therein named to *Connecticut*, to be carried into execution; and, when the persons therein named shall be without the limits of this Colony, that your Excellency will then publish a declaration of pardon and amnesty to the late Insurgents then in the Colony, with such exceptions as your Excellency shall think proper, with the advice of the Privy Council.

We do also acquaint your Excellency that this House have resolved that such Crown Officers as were confined by the late Congress to *Charlestown*, shall have liberty, if they choose it, to depart this Colony; and that this House will make reasonable provision for the payment of their passages, and necessary sea-stores, to *Europe* or the *West-Indies*; and upon this resolution your Excellency will be pleased to cause such measures to be taken as that the resolution may have its proper effect.

And to the intent that the publick papers and effects, in the possession of all or any of those officers, may be properly secured and taken care of, we request your Excellency will order proper persons immediately to take possession of such publick papers and effects.

*Ordered*, That the Message be engrossed, and that Mr. Speaker do sign the same.

*Ordered*, That the Honourable Mr. *Drayton* and Captain *McQueen* do carry the said Message to his Excellency the President.

Mr. Speaker then adjourned the House to *Tuesday*, the 1st day of *October* next, after the Members thereof had sat in Congress and in General Assembly seventy-one days.

*An Act to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace.*

Whereas a horrid and unnatural war is now carried on by the Ministry and Parliament of *Great Britain*, against the United Colonies of *North-America* in general, and this Colony in particular, with a cruel and oppressive design of robbing the Colonies and good people of this Colony of their dearest and most valuable rights as freemen, and reducing them to a state of the most abject slavery and oppression; and whereas, also, in order further to accomplish the said iniquitous and unwarrantable designs, every means has been adopted by a wicked Administration to sow civil dissensions and animosities, and to create disorder, confusion, and bloodshed amongst the good people of this Colony, by employing

secret emissaries to stir up in the minds of wicked and evil-disposed persons, persuasions and principles inimical to the ties of humanity, and the common rights of mankind, and thereby inducing them not only to disturb the common peace, safety, and good order of this Colony, but to take up arms, and spill the blood of their fellow-citizens, who are only acting in the defence of their lives, liberties, and properties, against the hands of a lawless and despotick power; to the intent, therefore, and in order the more effectually to preserve and secure the peace, order, and good government of this Colony, and to deter and prevent such evil-minded persons from committing such offences, and all such other offences declared in this act, to the great danger of the lives, liberties, and properties of the inhabitants of this Colony:

*Be it enacted by his Excellency JOHN RUTLEDGE, Esquire, President and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of SOUTH-CAROLINA, and by the honourable the Legislative Council and General Assembly of this Colony, and by the authority of the same,* That if any person or persons within this Colony do, or shall, from and immediately after the passing of this act, take up arms with a hostile intent, and by force and violence, or by words, deeds, or writing, or any other means whatsoever, cause, induce, or persuade, or attempt to cause, induce, or persuade any other person or persons, with such hostile intent, to take up arms, and by force and violence to oppose and subvert the authority of the Government of this Colony, established by the Constitution, agreed on and confirmed in Congress at *Charlestown*, on the twenty-sixth day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, or to wound, maim, or kill any person or persons, or destroy any of the houses, goods, or chattels, of any such persons, who shall, under, and by virtue of any authority of the said Government, be acting in support and defence of the same, or the execution of any power, authority, or office derived therefrom,—all and every of such person or persons, and the aider and abetter, or aiders and abettors, of such person or persons so offending, in either of the offences aforesaid, shall, on being indicted and convicted of the same, by due course of law, be deemed and adjudged guilty of felony, and suffer death without benefit of clergy.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any persons within this Colony shall, immediately after the passing of this act, or at any time thereafter, by letter, writing, message, or other means of intelligence, hold any correspondence or intercourse, or conspire or concert in any manner whatever with, or aid or abet any Land or Naval Force, raised or to be raised, or which shall be sent by *Great Britain*, in a hostile manner, against this Colony, or any force or body of men within this Colony, who shall, in a hostile intent or manner, oppose the power and authority of the present Government of this Colony, established as aforesaid, with an intent to promote the accomplishments of any hostile plan of operation, designed by such force or forces against the lives, liberties, and properties, of all or any of the inhabitants and friends to the Constitution of this Colony, established as aforesaid,—every such person or persons, so offending in any of the said offences, shall, on being indicted and convicted thereof, by due course of law, be deemed and adjudged guilty of felony, and suffer death without benefit of clergy.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person or persons within this Colony shall, immediately after the passing of this act, or at any time thereafter, furnish or supply, or cause or procure to be furnished or supplied, with any bills of exchange, moneys, goods, provisions, liquors, or other necessary articles of subsistence, or any military or naval stores whatever, any of the Land or Naval Forces, raised or to be raised, or sent by *Great Britain*, or any authority derived from that Government, against this Colony, or shall, in like manner, furnish or supply, or cause to be furnished or supplied, any force or body of men who shall, in a hostile manner, oppose the Government of this Colony, established as aforesaid,—every such person or persons, so offending in either of the offences aforesaid, and the aider or abetter, or aiders and abettors of any of the said offences, shall, on being indicted or convicted thereof, by due course of law, be deemed and adjudged guilty of felony, and suffer death without benefit of clergy.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person or persons within this Colony shall, at any time after the passing of this act, compel, induce, per-

suade, or attempt to compel, induce, or persuade, any white person or persons, or any free negro or negroes, mulatto or mulattoes, *Indian* or *Indians*, to desert from their habitation or habitations, or any negro, or other slave or slaves, to desert from his or their master, mistress, or owner, and to join any land or naval force, raised, or to be raised, or sent by *Great Britain*, or any authority derived from that Government, against the United Colonies of *America*, or this Colony, or to join any person or persons armed in a hostile manner, with intent to oppose or subvert the Government of this Colony, established as aforesaid, or with intent of killing any person or persons, or destroying his, her, or their goods or property, who shall be acting, or ready and willing to act, in support and defence of such Government, or any of the inhabitants of this Colony, and friends to the same,—every such person or persons, so offending in any of the above offences, and all such as shall aid and abet the said offender or offenders, in the perpetration and execution of any of the said offences, shall, on conviction thereof, by due course of law, be deemed and adjudged guilty of felony, and shall suffer death without benefit of clergy: *Provided always, nevertheless,* That nothing in this act contained shall be construed, or taken, to prevent the good people of this Colony from arming of slaves, or negroes, for the better defence of this Colony against all enemies whatsoever who shall invade or attack the same, or endanger the safety thereof.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person, or persons, within this Colony, shall, immediately after the passing of this act, or at any time thereafter, collect, or assemble, with any body or assembly of persons, or cause, or procure them to be so collected and assembled, with intent, in a riotous and seditious manner, to disturb the publick peace and tranquillity, and the good order of the Government, and by words, or otherwise, to create and raise traitorous seditions or discontents in the minds of the good people of this Colony against the authority of the present Government, established as aforesaid,—every such person or persons, so offending in any of the said offences, shall, on conviction thereof, by due course of law, be deemed and adjudged guilty of felony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the lands and tenements, goods and chattels, and other real and personal estate of all such person or persons, who shall be duly convicted, by virtue of this act, of any of the crimes and offences thereby made felony, shall, within one month after such conviction, by the Sheriff of each District, respectively, in which such real and personal estate of the person, or persons, so convicted, or any part thereof, shall be found, with three freeholders of the said District, be appraised upon oath, and the said appraisement duly returned, by the said Sheriff of such District, to the Secretary's office in *Charlestown* within one month after such appraisement is made; and the said Sheriff of such District in which the appraisement is made, as aforesaid, shall, within one month thereafter, expose such estate so appraised to publick sale, first giving twenty-one days' publick notice of the sale; and shall, within three months after such sale, deposit the amount of the same, deducting legal poundage and charges, in the office of the Colony Treasury in *Charlestown*; and the Commissioners of the Colony Treasury, or any one of them, on receipt of such moneys from the Sheriff, as aforesaid, shall give a receipt or voucher for the same.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any Sheriff or Sheriffs, for any of the Districts in this Colony, shall, in anywise, transgress, or disobey, or neglect, the putting in execution any of the provisions or clauses in this act respecting their duty and office,—every Sheriff so offending, disobeying, or neglecting the same, shall forfeit his office, and incur the penalty of one thousand pounds, current money, to be sued for, and recovered, by bill or plaint in any court of record in this Colony, wherein no essoign, privilege, protection, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the moneys arising from the sale of all such estates as shall become forfeited, by virtue of this act, shall be appropriated for a fund, and shall become a reprisal fund, for reimbursing all such losses and damages which have been, or shall be, sustained by any person or persons, who have been, are, or shall be, engaged in opposition to the oppres-

sive measures of the *British* Ministry, or the defence of the present established Constitution and the liberties of this Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That no person or persons shall be reimbursed, by virtue of this act, for any losses or damages sustained from persons acting in open hostility against the present Constitution of Government, and the liberties of this Colony, unless the said reimbursement be, on application, and oath made of the damages actually sustained, deemed just and reasonable by the General Assembly of this Colony, or such other body, or persons, as the Legislative body of this Colony shall appoint: *Provided always, nevertheless,* That such person or persons, to whom such reimbursement shall be thought reasonable, do first, before the receipt thereof, take and sub-

scribe the oath of fidelity ordained in the present Constitution, if such person or persons had not before taken and subscribed the same.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the fines and penalties to be incurred, by virtue of this act, shall, upon recovery thereof, be paid into the Colony Treasury, to be applied to, and for such uses and purposes as are herein mentioned.

G. G. POWELL,  
*Speaker of the Legislative Council.*

JAMES PARSONS,  
*Speaker of the General Assembly.*

*In the Council-Chamber, the 11th day of APRIL, 1776:*  
Assented to:

J. RUTLEDGE.

#### PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

Monday, February 12, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with nineteen Members, met pursuant to adjournment, [November 12, 1775,] and a quorum not appearing, they adjourned to three o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-four Members, met pursuant to the adjournment of last night, and a quorum not attending, they adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with the Members present last night, met this morning, and a number sufficient to proceed on business not yet appearing, they adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

A quorum met pursuant to adjournment.

*Ordered,* That Mr. Rodman and Mr. Pennock wait on the Governour, and acquaint him that a quorum of the Representatives is met in pursuance of their adjournment, and ready to receive any business his Honour may be pleased to lay before them.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the message of last night, reported they had delivered the same according to order, and that his Honour was pleased to say he had no business at present to lay before the House.

Mr. Hunter and Mr. Thompson, Members for *Northumberland* and *Westmoreland*, this day appearing in the House for the first time since their election, were qualified as usual, and took their seats accordingly.

Mr. Speaker acquainting the House that *Joseph Fox*, Esq., had requested leave to resign his office of Barrackmaster, and his resignation being admitted, a Petition from Captain *William Masters*, of the *Northern-Liberties*, for the said office was presented to the Chair, read, and

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

Mr. Hillegas produced at the table an Account from Mr. Fox, amounting to two hundred and eleven Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence, for repairs lately made at the Barracks; which was read by order, and referred to further consideration.

A Petition from *Henry Hale Graham*, Esq., Prothonotary, Recorder of Deeds, and Deputy Register for the Probate of Wills, &c., in the County of *Chester*, was presented to the House, and read, setting forth that the Publick Records of the said County are, by legal authority, ordered to be kept within the Borough of *Chester*, in the said County; that, soon after the Petitioner's appointment to the said offices, he did (at his own private expense) erect a building, (detached from all others,) constructed in such manner as to preserve these Records from any common accident of fire, and from being destroyed by vermin, in which the said Records have ever since been lodged and kept; that a number of the inhabitants of the said County have "requested the Petitioner to remove those Records to some place of greater security, (out of the said Borough,) being

fully sensible of the importance of their preservation, and being apprehensive from their situation that they may be easily destroyed by an armed force from the river;" that although the Petitioner might look upon himself highly justifiable, in case of an actual invasion, to remove those Records out of the said Borough, yet he cannot think himself warranted in doing it until such a case did actually happen, (which might then be too late for their preservation,) unless directed so to do by legal authority; that the Petitioner, therefore, apprehends it to be his duty to apply to the honourable House, and humbly to request, that they would be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and do therein what shall appear to them expedient and necessary.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

Mr. *Montgomery* informing the House that *Thomas Beard*, appointed Collector of Excise, in *October* last, for the County of *Cumberland*, had declined to serve in that office, and that *John Bowman*, of the said County, is a proper person to execute the same,

*Resolved*, That the said *John Bowman* be, and he is hereby appointed, Collector of Excise in the said County of *Cumberland*, for the remainder of the present year.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-six Members, met pursuant to adjournment, and a quorum not attending, they adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, February 16, 1776.

A quorum met pursuant to adjournment.

By the Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Philadelphia*, it appearing that *Joseph Reed*, Esq., was, on the 26th ultimo, duly elected a Representative in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*, and the said gentleman this day attending the House, he was qualified as a Member, and took his seat accordingly.

Mr. Hillegas produced at the table a Receipt from *Richard Butler*, Agent at *Pittsburgh*, for the sum of one hundred Pounds, voted by the House at their last sitting, as a present to *Petapanihila*, (alias *George Allen*,) an *Indian*, for his services to this Province; which sum was ordered to be carried to the account of the eighty thousand Pounds lately emitted.

Two Petitions from *John Britton* and *John Ladd Howell*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, for the office of Barrack-master, were presented to the House and read.

*Ordered* to lie on the table.

The Committee for Battalion Expenses produced at the table an Account for raising and training a Troop of Light-Horse, and requested the opinion of the House on some charges therein; which being examined, the said Account was referred back to the Committee for settlement, after making such deductions as they may judge reasonable.

The House taking into consideration the Account from *Joseph Fox*, Esq., for repairs made at the Barracks, referred the same to the Committee of Accounts for settlement.

The Petition from *Henry Hale Graham*, Esquire, being again read and considered,

*Ordered*, That Mr. Hillegas, Mr. Reed, Mr. Gibbons, and Mr. Pearson, be a Committee to prepare and bring in

a Bill to enable the Keepers of Records in the Counties of *Philadelphia* and *Chester* to remove them to more safe and convenient places, if the state of publick affairs shall require it.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

— Post Meridian.

The House met, and adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, February 17, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to enable the Keepers of the Records in the Counties of *Philadelphia* and *Chester* to remove them to more safe and convenient places, reported they had essayed a draft for that purpose, which they presented to the Chair; and the same being read the first time, was ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

A Petition from Major *Lewis Nicola*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, for the office of Barrackmaster, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, by a Member, representing the utility and expediency of immediately erecting a Powder-Mill for the use, and on account of, this Province, and requesting the sentiments of the House thereon, the same was taken into consideration; and, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this House that the erecting such Powder-Mill is a proper and necessary measure in the present circumstances of the Province, and that the same ought to be immediately carried into execution, under the direction of the Committee of Safety, upon the best terms that can be had, as to the place, materials, and persons to be employed in such undertaking.

The House adjourned to *Monday* next, at four o'clock, P. M.

— Monday, February 19, 1776, P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-five Members, met pursuant to adjournment, and a quorum not appearing, they adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

A quorum met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from Major *William Coats*, of the *Northern-Liberties*, for the office of Barrackmaster, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial from the Managers of the United Company of *Philadelphia*, for promoting *American Manufactures*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, That the Memorialists, having been appointed by a large number of the inhabitants of the said City, and the County adjacent, as Managers of a Manufactory of Linen, Woollen, and Cotton, they have made very considerable progress in the institution, and at present employ above seven hundred persons as spinners, weavers, bleachers, &c.; but the present high price of flax operates as a great discouragement to this undertaking, which is wholly owing to the real scarcity of that article. And as an increase equal to the demand, in the ensuing year, may prove very uncertain, if left to the private opinion of individuals with respect to the quantity wanted, the Memorialists beg leave to recommend to the honourable House the offering bounties on that article, upon the plan of the *Dublin Society*; the happy effects of which have been evidenced in the extensive establishment of a very beneficial manufacture through the Kingdom of *Ireland*; or to give such other encouragement as the House may judge proper.

That the Memorialists, calling to mind the publick spirit of former Assemblies of this Province, in the article of hemp, are emboldened in this application, trusting that the present House will not yield to any set of men in zeal for the publick good.

That the Memorialists further beg leave to represent, that there is now introduced into the Manufactory a machine for spinning cotton and wool, by which one person can perform the work of three; but as the expense of such ma-

chines (being about seven Pounds) renders it impracticable for the poorer sort of people to procure them, they are as yet but little used among us; but the Memorialists are of opinion if the honourable House would appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of erecting a number of the said machines, and fixing them in different parts of the country, it might be the means of introducing them into general use, in every family that could accomplish the purchase, which would be a considerable saving of labour, and contribute greatly to the establishment of *American Manufactures*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, the House resumed the consideration of the several Petitions from *William Masters*, *John Britton*, *John Ladd Howell*, *Lewis Nicola*, and *William Coats*, for the office of Barrackmaster, in the room of *Joseph Fox*, Esq., who has resigned; and, after some time spent therein,

*Resolved*, That Major *Lewis Nicola* be, and he is hereby, appointed Barrackmaster of the Barracks in the *Northern-Liberties* of the City of *Philadelphia*, for the remainder of the present year.

The House resumed the consideration of the Bill entitled "An Act to enable the Keepers of Records in the Counties of *Philadelphia* and *Chester* to remove them to more safe and convenient places;" which being read the second time, and debated by paragraphs, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

— Thursday, February 22, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House sundry Resolutions and Orders from the honourable Continental Congress, which were read, and referred to further consideration.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, sent down a written Message to the House, with a Letter from *Northumberland County*, therein referred to; which were read by order, and are as they respectively follow, viz:

*A Message from the Governour to the Assembly.*

"GENTLEMEN: In consequence of your message of the 25th of *November* last, founded on a letter addressed to you from the County of *Northumberland*, respecting the *Connecticut* settlers at *Wyoming*, I took the earliest opportunity of giving orders to the Magistrates of that County to put the laws of this Province in execution in their County. The letter I have since received from the Magistrates and Sheriff (which I have ordered the Secretary to lay before you) will inform you of the steps they took, in pursuance of my order, and of the unfortunate event of their proceedings.

"As a considerable expense must have arisen on this attempt to execute the laws of Government, I doubt not you will readily make provision for defraying it.

"JOHN PENN.

"February 22, 1776."

*Letter to the Governour from NORTHUMBERLAND.*

"Sunbury, December 30, 1775.

"SIR: In pursuance of your Honour's letter of the 25th ultimo, the Magistrates of this County delivered into the hands of our Sheriff warrants, and other legal processes, against a number of persons residing at *Wyoming*, in this County, who have been charged, on oath, with the most illegal practices, and some of them with the greatest crimes. The Sheriff, apprehensive of resistance, judged it prudent to raise the posse of the County. A body of near five hundred men accompanied him to the neighbourhood of *Wyoming*, where they were met by some people from *Wyoming*, one of whom was said to be an officer. To these men the intention of the Sheriff and his posse was sufficiently explained, and the strongest assurances given that no violence or molestation should be offered to any person submitting to the laws. The Sheriff proceeded, however, but a little further, when he was most unexpectedly fired upon—one man (*Hugh McWilliams*) killed, and three others dangerously wounded. It was soon found impossible to force a passage on that side of the river, as the Narrows, naturally strong, had been fortified with the greatest care, and were lined with numbers of men, to which ours bore no reasonable proportion. An attempt was made to cross the river, with design, if possible, to arrive at the settlement of the persons against whom process had issued, without further molestation. This attempt was, for greater secrecy, made in the

night. When the boats had nearly reached the opposite shore, and were entangled in a margin of ice, too thin to bear the weight of a man, they were, without any previous challenge, fired upon repeatedly by a party from the top of the bank. *Jesse Lukens* received a mortal wound, of which he is since dead; sundry others narrowly escaped. As a landing could not be effected, the boats returned.

"Baffled in this second attempt, the weather being intolerably severe, and receiving information that the persons we wished to arrest were the chief in command in their breast-works, it was thought advisable to desist from any further attempt. The boat, with the wounded men, was fired on while within gun-shot. A constant fire was kept up on our men from the opposite side, while they retreated through a long Narrows; one man only, however, was wounded, in the arm.

"We are sorry to inform your Honour, that a very considerable expense is incurred in this unfortunate affair. We, however, hope that the other branch of the Legislature will show the same readiness in properly resenting this daring insult on the Government of the Province, which we have ever experienced in your Honour.

"We are, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient, and most humble servants,

"WILLIAM SCULL, *Sheriff*.  
 "SAMUEL HARRIS, *Coroner*.  
 "WILLIAM PLUNKET,  
 "SAMUEL HUNTER,  
 "MICHAEL TROY,  
 "JOHN WEITZEL."

Friday, February 23, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from the Field-Officers of the Association in the County of *Berks*, was presented to the House, and follows in these words, viz:

"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met:

"The Petition of MARK BIRD, DANIEL BROADHEAD, BALFAR GEEHR, and JONATHAN POTTS, Esquires, Field-Officers in the several Battalions in *Berks* County, in behalf of said Battalions, humbly sheweth:

"That the establishment of a Militia by this honourable House for the defence of the Province, gave great satisfaction to the inhabitants of this County, in general. But as we are humbly of opinion that the Militia law, in its present form, will not answer the good ends intended by it, and, therefore, gives great concern to many well-wishers to their country, we have taken the liberty to point out to the honourable House such parts of the said law as are generally objectionable, and to propose such alterations as, in our judgment, would be more satisfactory to the people, and better fulfil the design of the Association; trusting that the honourable House will patiently hear and consider the petitions and representations of their constituents at all times, and give such redress as, in their wisdom, shall appear right and reasonable; and hoping that, as this application proceeds from the most earnest wishes to serve our country, whatever may be the opinion of the House with respect to the propriety of the amendments proposed, it will not (as it is not intended) prove offensive to the House.

"To the Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in *Pennsylvania*, we beg leave to make the following objections, and propose the following alterations, &c.

"First: 26th Article. The Provincial Arms and Accoutrements will be delivered to the poorest Associators, by whom there is the greatest danger of loss. Is it not severe upon the commanding, or other officer, who is obliged to deliver arms, &c., to a large number of this class of people, to be accountable for their delivery to the Assembly, &c., at every other event than loss in actual service? If an Associator should run off, or be not able to purchase other arms, &c.; in case an accident should happen to those belonging to the Province, the officer cannot be justly censured; and if he does not fail in his duty, he ought not to be punished.

"Secondly: 27th Article. The Militia, in general, are yet very ignorant of Military discipline; and as actual service is expected from them early next summer, we think no

time should be neglected in training them. We, therefore, humbly propose that the Companies should be exercised twice a week, except when they meet in Battalion, and then once a week, and the Battalions once a fortnight, till the 1st day of *June* next. After which time, it might, perhaps, be sufficient to exercise the men once every week, in Companies, and once in every month in Battalion.

"32d Article. Drum-Majors and Fife-Majors will be extremely useful in the Militia, and have a great deal of trouble. We wish the House would consider whether there is sufficient encouragement given to them.

"34th Article. A family may labour under such circumstances as to make it nearly impossible for the head of it to march with the Company. We submit it to the House, whether it would not be too heavy a punishment for a man in that situation to be held up to the publick as a coward and betrayer of his country. We think it would not injure the service to intrust the Captain with the power of dispensing with the personal attendance of any of his men, upon their finding another whom he approves of, well accoutred, and ready to march with the Company. But, unless an Associator should be situated in the manner before mentioned, we think the punishment rather too light for his basely withdrawing himself from the defence of his country, at the time of an invasion.

"35th Article: We think the expense of maintaining the families of poor Associators, entering into actual service, will fall too heavy on particular townships, many of which are very poor. The benefit derived from the service of such Associators will extend to the whole Province, and, therefore, the expense of providing for their families, in their absence, should be refunded by it. We would pray the House, also, to consider whether it would not have a good effect in encouraging the poorer sorts of people to act with spirit, by engaging to maintain them in case of their being disabled from labour in the service.

"37th Article. It would desolate whole townships to draft off whole Companies at a time. We would propose, when the ranks of the Captains are fixed, that the privates in each Company ballot which shall march first on any emergency; and if a full Company is necessary, let the eldest Captain take one-third of the men from each of the three eldest Companies, and take their tour of duty in that manner.

"38th Article. And in the mode for levying taxes, Res. 12th. For what purpose should any distinction be made between the application of the fines of Associators and Non-Associators? Associators' fines are to be immediately applied towards payment of the publick taxes, and burnt. The fines paid by the Non-Associators are to be safely preserved in the hands of *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, for some unknown occasion.

"Resolutions directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators.

"1st Article. Many healthy, rich people, who are above fifty years of age, having no children under their care, and their servants being excused, they bear no part of the burden of associating. If they are able to pay a tax of . . . we think they should be put on a footing with other Non-Associators.

"2d Article. We think Assessors ought not to be excused on any pretence, from performing the duties enjoined them, without at least paying the expense of another person's performing that duty.

"8th Article. Resistance against a common enemy is equally advantageous to the whole community, and all the members of it should contribute their proportion towards it. But, as some persons declare themselves conscientiously scrupulous of joining in this most essential purpose of society, it ought not to be made their interest to act so destructive a part to the very existence of the community. The Associators, by these resolves, are obliged to furnish themselves with a good firelock, bayonet, steel-ramrod, worm, priming-wire and brush, cartridge-box, twelve flints, a knapsack, powder-horn and pouch; he must attend twenty days in the year at the place of exercise, at his own expense, and, in case of an invasion, must risk his life not only in his own defence, but in that of the Non-Associator's person, family, and property. The penalty on the Non-Associators for refusing to do a duty which he owes to his country, and to be at all this trouble, expense, and risk, is only fifty Shillings



per annum. The great advantage given to the Non-Associator in point of interest, would entirely defeat the Association, if the people in general were not actuated by a patriotic spirit. We pray the honourable House particularly to attend to this objection.

"If the number of times of exercise was increased in the manner before-mentioned, and the Non-Associators to pay in proportion to the number of such times of exercise, and the Associators allowed one Shilling for every day that they exercise, to find them in provisions, the inequality between Associators and Non-Associators would be greatly reduced.

"11th Article. We think the Field-Officers of the several Battalions more proper and impartial judges to determine appeals, or discharge or lower assessments of Non-Associators, than the Commissioners, many of whom are themselves Non-Associators, particularly in this County.

"We think, as the fines for not associating are fixed at a certain sum by the Assembly, they should not be lowered or discharged by the Commissioners, or any other person, except for such reasons as are mentioned in the preceding article, viz: Death of the Non-Associator, or the dissolution of the Association; as no fines can accrue after either of those times; but we are of opinion, that to lodge so large a power in the Commissioners as to discharge or lower assessments as they shall think proper, will tend to defeat the Association entirely.

"We beg leave further to represent to this honourable House, that there are a great many persons able and willing to assist in the defence of the Province, but cannot afford to buy arms and accoutrements; or if they could afford it, the publick demand for them is so great, that they cannot be procured by a Militia; others there are who have arms, but are unwilling to associate. The time is now fast approaching, when a large Army is expected to invade the Province, and it will be necessary to strain every nerve in our defence. To have at such a time a large number of able-bodied men useless for want of arms, which may easily be procured, would, in our humble opinions, be extreme bad policy. We, therefore, pray the House to direct, that all Non-Associators shall, within a small space of time, deliver up their arms to the nearest Captains of the townships or places in which they reside, who should appoint proper persons to value them, and give the respective owners certificates of such receipt and valuation; and, in case of a loss, the Province refund their value; these arms to be distributed by the commanding officers of the several Battalions in the same manner as the Provincial arms are distributed.

"That the several matters and things before-mentioned may be fully considered, and redress granted in the premises by the honourable House, is the humble prayer of your Petitioners.

"MARK BIRD,  
"DANIEL BROADHEAD,  
"BALSAR GEEHR,  
"JONATHAN POTTS."

"In Committee, February 17, 1776.

"The foregoing Petition being deliberately read and considered,

"Ordered, That the same be signed by the Chairman in behalf of this Committee.

"MARK BIRD, Chairman."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the Magistrates, Sheriff, and Coroner of the County of *Northumberland*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, That the Petitioners, in pursuance of the express orders of his Honour the Governour, (founded on a Message from this honourable House, requesting orders to be given for a due execution of the laws of this Province, in the County of *Northumberland*, &c.) assembled the posse of this County, in order to serve processes upon, apprehend, and bring to justice, a number of notorious offenders, who, for some years past, have, with open force, bid defiance to the laws of this Province; that the posse aforesaid proceeded into the neighbourhood of *Wyoming*, were unexpectedly fired upon, and had one man killed and several wounded; that the Petitioners soon discovering that the obnoxious persons were intrenched, and that they could not force a passage along the accustomed road without great loss, attempted to cross the river, were again fired upon, and had one man mortally wounded; that the great severity of the weather, and other concurrent circumstances, determined

the Petitioners to return home; that the Petitioners are sorry to inform the House that, notwithstanding their utmost care and frugality, a very considerable expense is incurred by this unfortunate attempt; that they hope, however, their endeavours to support the laws of the Province will meet with the approbation of the House, whose protection they implore, and humbly pray that some proper and effectual means may be used to secure them in the peaceable enjoyment of their property, and a due execution of the laws; or, if force only must decide the controversy, (which seems to be the wish of their adversaries,) the Petitioners beseech the House that they may not be left single and unsupported, to contend with a whole Colony.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Post Meridian.

The Bill intituled "An Act to enable the Keepers of Records in the Counties of *Philadelphia* and *Chester* to remove them to more safe and convenient places," being transcribed according to order, was read the third time, and compared at the table.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Ordered, That Mr. *Roberts* and Mr. *Humphreys* wait on the Governour therewith, for his assent to the same.

A Petition from the Committee of Privates of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House, and follows in these words, viz:

"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.

"The Petition of the Privates of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA, humbly sheweth:

"That your Petitioners, having the greatest confidence in the equity and justice of this honourable House, have signed the Articles of Association framed the last session, notwithstanding the many difficulties to which they are thereby subjected; and the strong inducements to them to become Non-Associators, by the easy terms of exemption, being firmly persuaded that, on a reconsideration, this honourable House will remove every reasonable cause of complaint, and hear with favourable attention what your Petitioners, with the greatest deference and respect, beg leave to point out as necessary to quiet the minds of the Associators, and excite them to act with cheerfulness and vigour in the service to which they may be called. When the importance and necessity of defending our country against the ravages of a cruel and desolating enemy are so obvious, no arguments can be necessary to show it to be the duty of every good citizen to bear an equitable and proportional part of the publick burden; and surely no terms of exemption, affecting property merely, can be deemed equal to the risks and dangers to which they expose themselves, who are under the most solemn engagements of honour and duty, to lay down their lives, if necessary, in defence of their country. But your Petitioners would more especially solicit the attention of this honourable House to the following particulars, in which they humbly apprehend the resolutions of the House to be defective:

"First. That no regard has been shown to the great and otherwise useless expense Associators have been at, to equip themselves with arms and other accoutrements, and the long and earnest assiduity with which they have endeavoured to qualify themselves for the duties of the field. They beg leave to observe, that, in levying penalties upon Non-Associators, this honourable House have confined their views to the future only, imposing no more on such persons than what might be esteemed an equivalent to the twenty days which are expected to be employed in the field; though this honourable House, upon the slightest attention to the subject, must, and indeed seem to be sensible, that the time prescribed is not sufficient to acquire a competent knowledge of the art military, as they recommend it to the Associators, not already sufficiently expert, to meet as frequently as they can, at other times, to perfect themselves in the military exercise. Here, then, your Petitioners conceive themselves aggrieved; that, while animated with a fervent regard to liberty and their country, they have acquired a share of military knowledge sufficient, they hope, to encourage them

to meet the enemy in the field, and being thereby exposed to the greatest danger, as most capable of repelling it, no regard has been shown either to the expense of equipment, or loss of time in acquiring this useful and necessary knowledge. The hardships and partiality of the regulation will further appear more strongly, when it is considered that your Petitioners will probably be called out to do duty before many of the field-days arrive; so that the strongest temptations are held out, from the smallness of the penalty, to the lazy, the timid, and disaffected, to avoid the danger and fatigue, by neglecting to qualify themselves, or at a critical moment evading their duty. So apparent already are the effects of this regulation, that persons of the above character affect to ridicule those whose patriotism would lead them to activity and action when necessary, by representing this honourable House as rating their lives at fifty shillings apiece. Such easy terms of exemption, in times of such imminent danger, your Petitioners humbly conceive, seem rather an invitation to prefer ease, security, and convenience, to the public interests and safety, and, if unaltered, will leave your Petitioners little to hope or expect, but the exertions and efforts of a generous few, whose zeal will probably prove their destruction. Your Petitioners humbly presume that, when so much is at stake, and there is so little prospect of securing it but by the sword, the terms imposed upon Non-Associators should be such as to induce every man of suitable age and strength (not truly conscientiously scrupulous) to join in the Association, and not such as would lead every one, whose attachment to the cause of his country did not supersede every other consideration, to pay his fine, and decline serving; they, therefore, cannot but lament, that while they, who are enemies to the liberties and cause of *America*, may, under the authority of the Province, appear in the garb of its best friends, by paying less than five shillings per month; they who are really its best friends, are liable, by an accidental deficiency, to be reproached with cowardice, and exposed to infamy.

"Your Petitioners, sensible that a compensation for arms, and past time employed in the publick service, involves several important considerations, do not presume to point out any sum, but beg leave to state their complaint, and leave it to the wisdom and justice of the House to give them suitable redress.

"*Secondly.* Your Petitioners beg leave to represent, that, under the present regulations, the estates of Non-Associators pay nothing but in common with Associators; and by this means such persons who, by age or other incapacity, are not included in the above articles, have the protection and security arising from the Association, upon easier terms than others—an indulgence for which your Petitioners can see no good reason, and which involves some of the most considerable estates in the Province; besides, personal service being principally required for the protection of property, your Petitioners would, with all humility, submit to the honourable House whether an annual sum of so much in the Pound, over and above the taxes paid equally by Associators and Non-Associators, ought not to be levied on the taxable estates of all Non-Associators, and others who do not come within the limits of the recommendation of the honourable Continental Congress respecting a General Association.

"*Thirdly.* Your Petitioners beg leave to point out a defect in the above regulation respecting apprentices: in some cases the apprentice is willing to associate, and the master withholds his consent; in others, the master consents and the apprentice refuses. Your Petitioners would humbly propose that, in the former case, the master should pay the fine; and in the other, that the apprentice, if of estate, shall pay the fine by his guardian or next friend; and if non-estated, suffer such punishment as the House shall deem proper and suitable to the offence.

"*Fourthly.* Your Petitioners do most earnestly remonstrate against the application of the fines and penalties levied in consequence of the Association. As the money to arise is not by the way of tax to defray the charge which the Associators may occasion, they humbly conceive that reason, custom, and precedent, all concur in showing that such appropriation ought to be for the immediate support and encouragement of the Association; and this, they humbly submit, might very properly be done in the following manner: That all such fines and penalties, whether levied from Associators or Non-Associators, be carried unto a fund by

themselves, to be appropriated, First, To the relief of such Associators as may be wounded, or otherwise disabled in actual service. Secondly, To the relief and support of the widows and children of those who may be killed in actual service, by way of annuity. Thirdly, To the providing of arms and accoutrements for such Associators as are unable to furnish themselves. Fourthly, To pay such Associators as, through poverty, are not in the publick tax-books, for the time they may spend in the field. The residue, if any, to be applied as before proposed. Such an appropriation, your Petitioners conceive, would give life and spirit to the Association; and, upon a call of actual service and danger, the mind of the brave Associator would be relieved from those anxieties for his family which would otherwise damp his ardour, and induce him to avoid danger rather than meet it.

"*Fifthly.* In order to prevent any evasion of the regulations now or hereafter to be made, your Petitioners pray, that all persons alleging scruples of conscience, or claiming exemption by virtue of age or otherwise, be, if required, under a test by oath or affirmation, before they be admitted to the indulgence claimed. As the above exceptions are not made in favour of pretenders, but of those who are truly and really entitled thereto, your Petitioners humbly conceive no good reason can be offered against such claimants' giving full satisfaction on this head to those of their fellow-citizens who are risking all that is dear and valuable to them in life, in defence of the rights and interests of the Province, in which those of all its inhabitants are included.

"*Sixthly.* Your Petitioners beg leave to represent, that it has been the practice of all countries, and is highly reasonable that all persons, (not being mercenaries,) who expose their lives in defence of a country, should be admitted to the enjoyment of all the rights and privileges of a citizen of that country which they have defended and protected. Under this consideration your Petitioners beg leave to submit to the House the case of a number of brave and spirited *Germans*, and others, who have cheerfully joined in the Association, but are not entitled to the privileges of freemen electors. Good policy, as well as gratitude, suggest the propriety of granting every indulgence which can attach them to this country, and animate them in its defence. Your Petitioners therefore pray that some mode may be adopted for the purpose.

"*Seventhly.* Your Petitioners pray this honourable House to revise the thirty-fourth article of the Rules framed the last session for the government of the Associators, by substituting in the place of the penalty therein mentioned, "that such offender shall be forever hereafter incapable of holding any office of profit or trust under the authority of this Province." They moreover pray this honourable House to give directions to two or more Associators, to join the Commissioners of this City and the several Counties, in hearing the appeals of such persons as are mentioned in the eleventh resolution framed in the last session of this honourable House.

"*Eighthly.* It is with great concern your Petitioners inform this honourable House, that, notwithstanding the directions given and pointed out the last session, there is great reason to fear the Assessors in many places, from different motives, have omitted to execute the branch of their office which respects the Association. Your Petitioners therefore pray this honourable House to make some further provision against such neglect, so that the salutary and beneficial effects arising from the Association may not fail through the neglect, or other misconduct, of those entrusted to carry into execution the intentions of this honourable House.

"Your Petitioners, with the utmost humility, request this honourable House to take these matters into their serious consideration, and grant them such relief as, in their wisdom and equity, shall seem best calculated to remove that inequality which appears in the foregoing terms of exemption, and such other redress as the nature of the case may merit and require. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

"Signed by order of the Committee of Privates:

"SAMUEL SIMPSON, *Chairman.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial from the Officers of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House, and is as follows, viz:

*"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.*

*"The Memorial of the Officers of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA, sheweth :*

"That your Memorialists have perused, at the request of the Private Associators of this City and Liberties, their Petition to your honourable House, and concur with them in the sentiments therein contained, earnestly desiring the attention of the honourable House to the weighty matters therein set forth. In addition to the several amendments proposed by the Privates to the Rules and Regulations relative to the Association, your Memorialists beg leave to subjoin the following, which they think of great importance :

"That numbers of the present Associators are people who have not heretofore associated, and therefore are, for the most part, undisciplined. Among these are a great many apprentices, and others, who, however desirous they may be of gaining military instruction, will not be permitted to turn out oftener than the Regulations require. And it is well known to persons of experience in this way, that it is impossible to train men so as to render them expert soldiers, without great assiduity and frequent exercise, and that the times mentioned in the Regulations are scarce sufficient to perfect a man even in his manual. Your Memorialists therefore request the honourable House would increase the number of days appointed for the general meetings of Associators, which, in the opinion of your Memorialists, should be at least once in every week.

"That the wages appointed for drummers and fifers are so extremely trifling, that no persons can be procured to do the duty, and our Battalions are almost totally deprived of their musick, as the drummers and fifers have left the Association, to get employ where they receive pay on which they can subsist. That the drummers and fifers are, in general, persons who have no other way of gaining a livelihood ; and as much time is taken up in perfecting themselves, they ought, as we conceive, instead of casual and uncertain pay, to have a permanent and settled support.

"Your Memorialists therefore pray the honourable House to raise the wages of the Drum and Fife-Majors, and allow the drummers and fifers reasonable and constant pay, that persons already taught may be induced to join the Association, and that others may be incited to qualify themselves for this part of military duty, which is not merely parade, but absolutely essential to the service.

"That the officers of the several Battalions experience many inconveniences from the want of a Sergeant-Major ; and as there are now in all the Battalions officers tolerably qualified, it is submitted to the honourable House, whether, instead of an Adjutant, it would not be better to appoint a Sergeant-Major on constant pay, and let a subaltern officer, in every Battalion, do the duty of an Adjutant.

"Your Memorialists beg leave to give it as their opinion to the honourable House, that the several alterations and amendments pointed out in the petition from the Privates, together with those before-mentioned, being made, the minds of the people will be entirely satisfied, and strength and vigour will be given to the Association, which, though now very extensively adopted, will then be more generally agreed to, and which persons in general signed, not because they esteemed the Regulations perfect, or in all cases proper, but from their zeal for the cause, and the confidence they had in the honourable House that you would be pleased to remedy all defects when applied to for that purpose.

"By order of a Board of Officers :

"DANIEL ROBERDEAU, *President.*

"Philadelphia, February 21, 1776."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Remonstrance and Petition from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the County of Chester, was presented to the House, and is as follows, viz :

*"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.*

*"The Remonstrance and Petition of the Committee of Inspection and Observation of CHESTER County, humbly sheweth :*

"That your Remonstrants, in obedience to the resolves of this honourable House, and from zeal to the cause of their

country, have, since your last session, used their best endeavours to prevail on the people of this County to adopt and sign the articles for the better government of the Military Association ; but we find them not so well received as the exigency of the times requires ; and are apprehensive, unless your Honours will, at this session, amend such parts thereof as are the most exceptionable they will not be generally signed but by those who think it better to adopt any government rather than none.

"Your Remonstrants beg leave briefly to mention some of the articles which the people most generally object to, viz : They say, 'that the burden of the Association falls chiefly on the poor and middling sort of the inhabitants, whilst the more opulent are, for the most part, exempt, they carrying on their business by bought servants and Negroes. On the contrary, those in low and middling circumstances are obliged to take in apprentices ; the arming of which, together with their loss of time, will be extremely burdensome ; so much so, that they cannot comply with the resolves of the House, without distressing themselves and families. But, were arms and accoutrements to be provided at the publick charge, they are ready to conform to the other parts as far as in their power.'

"Your Remonstrants are humbly of opinion, that the above objections are founded in justice ; and firmly believe that, was some measure taken to provide arms for the whole, at the publick charge, and all able-bodied men, from sixteen to sixty, obliged to associate or pay the fine, that then it would be generally adopted.

"Your Remonstrants therefore humbly request your Honours to take the premises under your serious consideration, and make such alterations in the present Association as to you may seem just and reasonable.

"Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee :

"ANTHONY WAYNE, *Chairman.*

"Chester, February 12, 1776."

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, February 24, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the Bill passed last night, reported, that they had delivered the same according to order, and that his Honour was pleased to say that he would take the said Bill into immediate consideration.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Thompson* be added to the Committee of Safety.

The House adjourned to *Monday* next, at four o'clock, P. M.

— Monday, February 26, 1776, P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-five Members, met pursuant to adjournment ; and a quorum not appearing, they adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

A quorum met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter from *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., which was read by order, and is as follows, viz :

"February 26, 1776.

"SIR : I am extremely sensible of the honour done me by my fellow-citizens in choosing me their Representative in Assembly, and of that lately conferred on me by the House in appointing me one of the Committee of Safety for this Province, and a Delegate to the Congress. It would be a happiness to me if I could serve the publick duty in all those stations ; but, aged as I now am, I feel myself unequal to so much business, and, on that account, think it my duty to decline a part of it. I hope, therefore, that the House will be so good as to accept my excuse for not attending as a member of the present Assembly, and, if they think fit, give orders for the election of another in my place, that the city may be more completely represented.

"I request, also, that the House would be pleased to dispense with my further attendance as one of the Committee of Safety.

"With the greatest and most sincere respect to yourself

and the House, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

"BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

"To the Honourable John Morton, Esq."

Upon consideration of the foregoing Letter,

*Resolved*, That the seat of the said Member in this House be vacated accordingly, and that the Speaker do issue his order to the Provincial Secretary for the election of another fit person in the room of the Member who has resigned.

The House resumed the consideration of the Governour's Message, the Letter sent down with it, and the Petition from the Magistrates and Sheriff of the County of *Northumberland*; and, after a debate of some length, adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a copy of his Order to the Secretary, requiring him to issue a Writ for the election of a Member of Assembly in the place of *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., who has resigned; which was read by order, and follows in these words, viz:

*Pennsylvania, ss.*

By a Resolve of Assembly of this day, I am empowered and directed to order the Provincial Secretary that he do issue a Writ to the Sheriff of the County of *Philadelphia* for the election of a Member to serve as a Representative in this Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*, in the room of *Benjamin Franklin*, Esq., who has requested leave to resign his seat in the said Assembly.

Therefore, by virtue of the said Resolve, and in pursuance of a law of this Province in that case made and provided, I do require that a Writ be issued to the Sheriff of the said County for the purpose aforesaid, according to the direction of the said law.

Dated at *Philadelphia*, the 27th day of *February*, Anno Domini 1776.

JOHN MORTON, *Speaker*.

To *Joseph Shippen*, Esq., Provincial Secretary.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition, signed by a considerable number of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of *York*, was presented to the House, and read, praying an allowance of more Members to represent the said County in Assembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Hillegas* presented at the table an Account from Messieurs *William* and *Thomas Bradford*, Printers, amounting to fifteen Pounds, for forty copies of the Journal of Congress; which was read, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

A Petition, signed by a considerable number of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of *Berks*, was presented to the House, and read, praying an allowance of more Members to represent the said County in Assembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition, signed by a number of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of *Bedford*, was presented to the House, and read, praying an allowance of more Members to represent the said County in Assembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, the House took into consideration the several Memorials and Petitions from the Officers and Privates of the Military Association, pointing out defects, and praying alterations in the Rules and Regulations formed by the House for the better government of the said Association; and, after a debate of considerable length, adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Petitions from the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Northumberland*, signed by a great number of the Inhabitants, were presented to the House, and read, praying an allowance of more Members to represent the said Counties in Assembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House proceeded in the consideration of the Memorials and Petitions from the Officers and Privates of the Military Association; and, after further debate,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Rodman*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Pearson*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *Slough*, Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *Ewing*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Chrcist*, Mr. *Kachlein*, Mr. *Dougherty*, and Mr. *Hunter*, be a Committee to revise the Rules and Regulations formed by this House for the better government of the Military Association, together with the Resolutions directing the mode of levying taxes on Non-Associators; to report such alterations and additions thereto as shall appear necessary; also, to select from the Petitions of the Associators, lately presented, such parts as point out defects, and propose amendments to the said Rules and Regulations, and lay them before the House in one view, for the more easy consideration thereof.

The House resumed the consideration of the Governour's Message of the 22d instant; and, after some time spent therein,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Rodman*, and Mr. *Ross*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in an Answer to the said Message.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, February 29, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Resolutions of Congress, laid before the House the 22d instant, were again read by order, and are as follows, viz:

"In Congress, October 26, 1775.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Provincial Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, to export to the foreign *West-Indies*, on account and risk of their respective Colonies, as much Provision or other Produce (except horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, and Poultry) as they may deem necessary for the importation of Arms, Ammunition, Sulphur, and Saltpetre.

"*November 4, 1775.—Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies or Conventions of the Colonies, respectively, to set and keep their Gunsmiths at work, to manufacture good Fire-locks with Bayonets; each Fire-lock to be made with a good Bridle-lock, three-quarters of an inch bore, and of good substance at the breech; the Barrel to be three feet eight inches in length; the Bayonet to be eighteen inches in the blade; with a steel Ramrod, the upper end thereof to be trumpet-mouthed. That the price to be given be fixed by the Assembly or Convention, or Committee of Safety, of each Colony; and that, until a sufficient quantity of good Arms can be manufactured, they import as many as are wanted, by all the means in their power.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Legislatures, Assemblies, or Conventions of the Colonies, to enact a law or pass an ordinance inflicting the following punishments upon such as harbour Deserters, knowing them to be such, viz: A fine upon all such offenders, not less than thirty nor more than fifty Dollars; and in case of inability to pay the fine, to be punished with whipping, not less than thirty-nine lashes for each offence. Also, that they empower the Commander-in-Chief, or the officer commanding a detachment or any out-post, to administer an oath, and swear any person or persons to the truth of any information or intelligence, or any other matter relative to the publick service.

"*November 25, 1775.—Resolved*, That all such Ships-of-War, Frigates, Sloops, Cutters, and Armed Vessels, as are or shall be employed in the present cruel and unjust war against the United Colonies, and shall fall into the hands of, or be taken by, the inhabitants thereof, be seized and forfeited to and for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

"That all Transport Vessels in the same service, having on board any Troops, Arms, Ammunition, Clothing, Provisions, or Military or Naval Stores, of what kind soever; and all Vessels, to whomsoever belonging, that shall be employed in carrying Provisions or other necessities to the *British* Army or Armies, or Navy, that now are or shall hereafter be within any of the United Colonies; or any Goods, Wares, or Merchandise, for the use of such Fleet or Army, shall be liable to seizure, and, with their cargoes, shall be confiscated.

"That no Master or Commander of any Vessel shall be

entitled to cruise for or make prize of any Vessel or Cargo before he shall have obtained a commission from the Congress, or from such person or persons as shall be for that purpose appointed in some one of the United Colonies.

"That it be, and is hereby, recommended to the several Legislatures in the United Colonies, whether Assemblies or Conventions, as soon as possible to erect Courts of Justice, or give jurisdiction to the Courts now in being, for the purpose of determining concerning the captures to be made as aforesaid; and to provide that all trials in such cases be had by a Jury, under such qualifications as to the respective Legislatures shall seem expedient.

"That all prosecutions shall be commenced in the Court of that Colony in which the captures shall be made; but if no such Court be at that time erected in the said Colony, or if the capture be made on open sea, then the prosecution shall be in the Court of such Colony as the captor may find most convenient. *Provided*, That nothing contained in this Resolution shall be construed so as to enable the captor to remove his prize from any Colony competent to determine concerning the seizure, after he shall have carried the Vessel so seized within any harbour of the same.

"That in all cases an appeal shall be allowed to the Congress, or such person or persons as they shall appoint for the trials of appeals, provided the appeal be demanded within five days after definitive sentence, and such appeal be lodged with the Secretary of Congress within forty days afterwards; and provided the party appealing shall give security to prosecute the said appeal to effect. And in case of the death of the Secretary during the recess of Congress, then the said appeal to be lodged in Congress within twenty days after the meeting thereof.

"That when any Vessel or Vessels shall be fitted out at the expense of any private person or persons, then the captures made shall be to the use of the owner or owners of the said Vessel or Vessels; that where the Vessels employed in the capture shall be fitted out at the expense of any of the United Colonies, then one-third of the prize taken shall be to the use of the captors, and the remaining two-thirds to the use of the said Colony; and where the Vessel so employed shall be fitted out at the Continental charge, then one-third shall go to the captors, and the remaining two-thirds to the use of the United Colonies. *Provided, nevertheless*, That if the capture be a Vessel-of-War, then the captors shall be entitled to one-half of the value, and the remainder shall go to the Colony or Continent, as the case may be, the necessary charges of condemnation of all prizes being deducted before distribution made.

"That in cases of recaptures, the recaptors have and retain, in lieu of salvage, one-eighth part of the true value of the Vessel and Cargo, or either of them, if the same hath, or have been, in the possession of the enemy twenty-four hours, and less than forty-eight hours; one-third part if more than forty-eight and less than ninety-six hours; and one-half if more than ninety-six hours; unless the Vessel shall, after the capture, have been legally condemned as prize by some Court of Admiralty; in which case the recaptors to have the whole. In all which cases, the share detained, or prize, to be divided between the owners of the Ship making the recapture, the Colony, or the Continent, as the case may be, and the captors, agreeable to the former Resolution.

"*December 26, 1775.*—Whereas the Congress, on the 29th day of November, resolved that a further sum of three millions of Dollars be emitted in Bills of Credit:

"*Resolved*, That the thirteen United Colonies be pledged for the redemption of the Bills of Credit so directed to be emitted.

"That each Colony provide ways and means to sink its proportion of the said Bills, in such manner as may be most effectual, and best adapted to the condition, circumstances, and equal mode of levying taxes in each Colony.

"That the proportion or quota of each respective Colony be determined according to the number of Inhabitants, of all ages, including Negroes and Mulattoes in each Colony.

"That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety, of the respective Colonies, to ascertain, by the most impartial and effectual means in their power, the number of Inhabitants in each respective Colony; taking care that the list be authenticated by the oaths or affirmations of the several persons who shall be intrusted with this service; and that the

said Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety, do, respectively, lay before Congress a Return of the number of Inhabitants of their respective Colonies, as soon as the same shall be procured.

"That each Colony pay its respective quota in four equal payments; the first to be made on or before the last day of November, 1783; the second on or before the last day of November, 1784; the third on or before the last day of November, 1785; and the fourth or last on or before the last day of November, 1786.

"And that for this end the several Assemblies or Conventions provide for laying and levying Taxes in their respective Colonies towards sinking the Continental Bills. That the said Bills be received by the Collectors in payment of such Taxes, and be by the Collectors paid into the hands of the Provincial Treasurers, with all such other moneys as they may receive in lieu of the Continental Bills; which other moneys the Provincial Treasurers shall endeavour to get exchanged for Continental Bills; and where that cannot be done, shall send to the Continental Treasurers the deficiency in silver and gold, with the Bills, making up the quota to be sunk in that year; taking care to cut, by a circular punch of an inch in diameter, a hole in such Bills, and to cross the same, thereby to render them unpassable, though the sum or value is to remain fairly legible. And the Continental Treasurers, as fast as they receive the said quotas, shall, with the assistance of a Committee of five persons, to be appointed by the Congress then sitting, or by the Assembly or Convention of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, examine and count the Continental Bills, and in the presence of the said Committee, burn and destroy them.

"And the silver and gold sent them to make up the deficiencies of quotas, they shall retain in their hands until demanded in redemption of Continental Bills that may be brought to them for that purpose; which Bills, so redeemed, they shall also burn and destroy in the presence of the said Committee. And the Treasurers, whenever they have silver or gold in their hands for the redemption of Continental Bills, shall advertise the same, signifying that they are ready to give gold or silver for such Bills, to all persons requiring it in exchange.

"*Resolved*, That the Inspectors of the Press deliver the proof-sheets and checks of the Continental Bills to the Continental Treasurers, and that they deliver one of each to the Delegates of every Colony, to remain with the Provincial Treasurer to be appointed in such Colony, and to retain the rest in their hands.

"Whereas there is reason to believe that divers persons, either from inattention to the publick good, or with design to retard the recruiting service, have arrested and imprisoned, for very trifling debts, many Soldiers who had engaged to risk their lives in defence of the rights and liberties of *America*; and as it has always been found necessary, in time of war, to regulate and restrain a practice of such pernicious tendency, and in such cases to abate the rigours of law:

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Legislatures in these Colonies, whether Assemblies or Conventions, to pass Acts or Ordinances prohibiting the arrests of Continental Soldiers for small debts. And in order that the same rule may pervade all the Colonies, that no such Soldier be arrested at the suit of any of his creditors, unless the said creditor make oath that the said Soldier is justly indebted to him in the sum of twenty-five Dollars over and above all discounts; and that the estate of no such Soldier be liable to attachment at the suit or for the benefit of all his creditors, unless their debts in the whole, on being ascertained by their oaths, shall amount to more than one hundred and fifty Dollars.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*"

The Committee of Accounts, to whom the Barrackmaster's Account was referred for consideration, reported they had examined the same, and are of opinion it ought to be immediately paid.

And an Order being drawn at the table on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, for two hundred and eleven Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence, in discharge of the said Account, the same was signed by the Speaker, and delivered to Mr. *Hillegas*.

A Petition from *John Marshall*, Threadmaker, from *Eng-*



land, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, That the Petitioner, emboldened by the laudable attention of the honourable House to the promotion and encouragement of useful manufactures in this Province, begs leave to represent that, at a considerable expense, and after several years' close application, he hath made himself perfect master of the aforesaid business in all its branches, according to the best established and approved methods practised in the most noted manufacturing towns in *England*. That about sixteen months ago, the Petitioner arrived in this city, and engaged with the Managers of the House of Employment, at a small annual salary, where (by their permission, at his own risk, and at a very considerable cost) he erected several useful implements and machines, the whole of which are now in use there. That the most material machine is a twisting and throwing-mill, entirely of the Petitioner's own invention, which is a most excellent improvement upon any heretofore known, and answering every purpose that was expected; greatly forwarding the business, by lessening the labour that was otherwise necessary for carrying it on, and such an one as he apprehends was never known before in any part of the world. That the Petitioner hath, in the said House of Employment, brought the thread manufactory to a perfection before unknown in this Province, or, as he is informed, in *America*, it being generally allowed by the consumers (the only true judges) that the threads he manufactures there are vastly preferable to any imported or elsewhere had. That the Petitioner, far from wanting to make any secret of his business or machine, is willing to instruct any proper or capable persons in the whole business, and to do everything in his power to establish the manufacture in this Province, the great utility of which, on many accounts, is universally acknowledged, and more particularly at this time necessary.

That the Petitioner therefore prays the honourable House to take the premises into consideration, and hopes they will consider him as an useful manufacturer, as also the first inventor and introducer of a most excellent machine into this Province, not applied to his own benefit by the partial or exclusive use of it, but that it is of a publick benefit and utility, being, as aforesaid, now in use at the House of Employment; and that the honourable House will grant him such bounty or encouragement as he may be judged to merit.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, the Memorial from the Managers of the United Company of *Philadelphia*, for promoting *American* Manufactures, was again read; and, after some debate thereon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Miles*, Mr. *Roberts*, Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Pennock*, Mr. *Grubb*, Mr. *Swoope*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Chreist*, Mr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Dougherty*, and Mr. *Hunter*, be a Committee to consider of, and report to the House, the best mode of encouraging the culture of Flax in this Province.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, returned the Bill intituled "An Act to enable the Keepers of Records, in the Counties of *Philadelphia* and *Chester*, to remove them to more safe and convenient places," and acquainted the House he should be ready to pass the said Bill into a law whenever presented to him for that purpose.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—  
Post Meridian.

The House resumed the consideration of the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, laid before them on *Thursday*, the 22d instant; and, after some time spent therein,

Ordered, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Rodman*, Mr. *Gibbons*, Mr. *Slough*, Mr. *Swoope*, Mr. *Chreist*, Mr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Dougherty*, Mr. *Hunter*, and Mr. *Thompson*, be a Committee to make inquiry what part of the Arms and Accoutrements, directed by the late Assembly to be provided for publick use, are now completed, and when the whole will probably be procured; and that the said Members use their utmost endeavours to forward this necessary business in their respective Counties.

The House being informed by a Member, who is also a Member of the Committee of Safety, that the Committee have diligently applied themselves to the promoting the manufacture of good Arms in this Province,

Resolved, That the Resolution of Congress of the 4th of

*November* last be transmitted to the Committee of Safety, and that they be directed to prosecute their measures for the procuring good Arms with the utmost industry.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Miles*, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Pyle*, Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *Taylor*, and Mr. *Thompson*, be a Committee to prepare a Resolve inflicting the following punishments upon such persons as harbour Deserters from the Continental and Provincial Forces, knowing them to be such, viz: A fine upon all such offenders, not less than thirty nor more than fifty Dollars; and in case of refusal or inability to pay the fine, to be punished with imprisonment, not exceeding . . . months for each offence; and that such Resolve do also extend to institute some proper Court or authority for the trial of such offenders, with suitable powers, and under proper limitations.

Ordered, That the Resolution of Congress, respecting the delegation of power to the Commander-in-Chief, or officer commanding a detachment or out-post, to administer an Oath, be referred to the said Committee, and provision made accordingly.

Ordered, That the Resolution recommending to the Legislatures of the several Colonies to erect Courts of Justice, for the purpose of determining concerning Captures, be adopted, and referred to the said Committee.

Ordered, That the Resolution for ascertaining the number of Inhabitants in each Colony, be recommended to the attention of the said Committee; and that this service be performed by the Township and Ward-Assessors within their respective Districts.

Ordered, That the Resolution recommending to the several Assemblies to pass Acts or Ordinances for prohibiting arrests of Continental and Provincial Soldiers, be complied with, and referred to the said Committee.

A Petition from *William Scout*, of *Moorland*, in the County of *Philadelphia*, Fugleman, complaining that he had not received the wages due to him for his services, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie upon the table.

The House adjourned to to-morrow.

—  
Friday, March 1, 1776.

A Petition from the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Bucks*, was presented to the House, and is as follows, viz:

"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.

"The Petition of the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Bucks*, humbly sheweth:

"That as a general uneasiness prevails among the Associators in this County, on account of the late Military Resolutions of this honourable House, and many persons have signed them under a full persuasion that amendments would be made therein; and as there are many able-bodied men, between the age of fifty and sixty years, possessed of large estates, who are entirely exempt from military duty and expense, your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the Association may be extended to the age of sixty.

"And as the tax upon Non-Associators is confined merely as an equivalent for personal services, and the Associators have no compensation for their arms and accoutrements, not to mention the dangers they will be exposed to when called into actual service, your Petitioners pray, that an additional tax be laid upon the estates of Non-Associators proportionate to the expenses of the Associators necessarily incurred for the general defence of property.

"And as, by marching whole Battalions or Companies of Militia, large tracts of country will be left destitute of men, except those who either hold all resistance unlawful, or such as are disaffected to the present measures; your Petitioners therefore beg leave to submit it to the consideration of the House, whether it would not be better to direct the Colonels to draft from their Battalions such number as shall, from time to time, be requisite; thereby affording an opportunity for those whose circumstances will not always admit their going to get volunteers in their stead, and, at the same time, leaving sufficient force in every part of the country to quell any local insurrections.

"All which your Petitioners humbly pray may be taken

into the consideration of the House, and such amendments made as you in your wisdom shall see meet.

"Per order of the Committee:

"JOSEPH HART, *Chairman*.

"Bucks County, in Committee, February 27, 1776."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the Township of *New-Britain*, concerning the settlement of the account of expenses exhibited to the Committee for Captain *William Roberts's* Company, in the said Township, was presented to the House, and read, praying the said Account may be re-examined.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from a number of Freholders and Inhabitants of the County of *Northampton*; a copy of a Memorial from the said Freholders and Inhabitants, delivered to Congress in *December* last, and several Affidavits taken in the said County, were presented to the House, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in an Answer to the Governour's Message, reported an essay for that purpose; which, being read and agreed to by the House, was ordered to be transcribed.

A Memorial from the Committee of Safety was presented to the House, and is as follows, viz:

"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met: The Memorial of the Committee of Safety.

"The Committee have, ever since their appointment, applied themselves with the greatest zeal and fidelity to the important trust confided to them, in providing means for the defence of this Province; they were, however, such means only as were thought more immediately requisite for our security against the attempts made by a Naval Armament, and were, besides, necessarily confined within the limits of the funds allotted to them by your honourable House; but they beg leave to represent that, as every day brings with it fresh proofs of the violence of the *British* Ministry, and of their fixed purpose to subdue the free spirit of *America*, that has yet given such obstructions to all their schemes of tyranny and despotism—a purpose assisted, too, by an obsequious Parliament which may not speak the genuine sense of the nation, though it has unhappily the direction of its force, it truly becomes us to prepare seriously for the storm gathering over the Colonies, and which, in the uncertainty of its course, may, in a few weeks, fall upon this Province. This being the idea of the Committee, they have come to the following Resolution, claiming the most earnest attention of your honourable House thereto:

"Resolved, That application be made to the honourable the House of Representatives, praying that they will take order for the raising of two thousand Men, to act in the defence of this Province; and this Board will represent it as their opinion, that it will be most for the publick service, that one Battalion of Regular Troops be formed out of that number, and the remainder be a body of Riflemen.

"The Committee beg leave to solicit your attention to another object, also of extensive importance—the Military Association; the general sentiments concerning which, they have, in the recess of Assembly, had an opportunity of collecting. And though such numbers already have, and, we hope, will still engage in it, under its present form, as may prove a considerable addition to our strength; yet, as there are material objections made to it, and, as they understand, are to be laid before your honourable House by divers respectable bodies of men, they submit to you whether it will not be highly expedient and consistent with good policy, immediately to remove every cause of discontent on this head from the minds of the Associators, who, under an apprehension of partial and unequal burdens imposed on them, have nevertheless, had the virtue not to refuse their services to their country, in confidence that your honourable House will reconsider the several provisions and regulations complained of, and give them satisfaction therein.

"By order of the Committee:

"ALEXANDER WILCOX, *Chairman*.

"In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, February 22, 1776."

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House, being informed by the Speaker that the *Indians* now in town request to be supplied with a Horse, a Beaver-Trap, and some other necessaries,

Ordered, That Mr. *Hillegas* and Mr. *Parker* provide the said *Indians* with the articles they mention, and such other little matters as the Members think expedient.

The Answer of the House to the Governour's Message being transcribed, according to order, was signed by the Speaker, and follows in these words, viz:

May it please your Honour:

We have taken into our consideration your Message of the 22d instant, respecting the expenses incurred, in obedience to your order for carrying into execution the laws of this Province, in the County of *Northumberland*, and request your Honour would be pleased to furnish the House with a copy of the orders given on that occasion; and, also, that you will direct a particular account to be laid before us of the expense which has accrued, to enable us to judge of the propriety and amount of the provision expected from us.

Signed by order of the House:

JOHN MORTON, *Speaker*.

March 1, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Rodman* and Mr. *Hunter* wait on the Governour with the foregoing Answer to his Message, and deliver the same.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Monday, March 4, 1776, P. M.

Upon motion, the House took into consideration the Petition of *John Marshall*, Threadmaker; and after some debate, Ordered, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Parker*, Mr. *Pearson*, Mr. *Swoope*, and Mr. *Dougherty*, be a Committee to view the Machines contrived by the Petitioner for throwing and twisting of Thread, and report their opinion thereof.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, March 5, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

By the Return of the Sheriff of the County of *Philadelphia*, produced at the table, it appearing that *David Rittenhouse*, Esq., was, on the 2d instant, elected a Representative in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*; and the said gentleman this day attending the House, he was qualified as a Member, and took his seat accordingly.

Upon motion, Ordered, That this House will, on *Friday* next, take into consideration the great number of Petitions lately presented from the several back Counties, for an increase of Members to represent the said Counties, respectively, in Assembly.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, sent down to the House a copy of his Letter to the Magistrates of *Northumberland* County, on the 25th of *November* last, which was read by order, and follows in these words, viz:

"Philadelphia, November 25, 1775.

"GENTLEMEN: I have just now received a Message from the Assembly, founded on a letter addressed to them from the County of *Northumberland*, respecting the *Connecticut* settlers at *Wyoming*, requesting me to give orders for a due execution of the laws of this Province in the Counties of *Northumberland* and *Northampton*. In consequence thereof, I do most cheerfully order you to use your utmost diligence and activity in putting the laws of this Province in execution throughout the County of *Northumberland*; and you may depend on the faith of the House, and my concurrence with them, that every proper and necessary expense that may be incurred on the occasion shall be defrayed.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"JOHN PENN.

"To *William Phunket*, Esq., and his Associates, Justices of the Peace for the County of *Northumberland*."

On delivery of the above, Mr. Secretary informed the House his Honour had not yet received a proper account of the expenses attending the late expedition to *Wyoming*; but would give immediate orders to have such account laid before him, and communicate the same to the House.

Upon motion, the House resumed the consideration of the

Memorial from the Committee of Safety, respecting the raising of Troops for the defence of this Province; and after some debate,

Ordered, That Mr. *Hillegas*, Mr. *Miles*, Mr. *Humphreys*, and Mr. *Thompson*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in an estimate of the expense of levying a body of fifteen hundred Men, and victualling and paying them for one year.

A number of Petitions from the Counties of *York*, *Cumberland*, *Berks*, and *Bedford*, for more Members to represent the said Counties, respectively, in Assembly, was presented to the House, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the Committee of Officers and Privates belonging to Colonel *Richard Thomas's* Battalion of *Chester* County, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, That the Petitioners, apprehending themselves aggrieved by several of the Regulations of the honourable House for the better government of the Associators of this Province, beg leave to represent that it is their opinion there is a necessity of an amendment to the said Regulations in the following particulars, viz:

First. They imagine it would be more equitable, in itself, and advantageous to the publick, if the Arms and Accoutrements were provided at the expense of the Province, and made Provincial property.

Secondly. They apprehend the present Fines and Taxes upon both Associators and Non-Associators to be considerably too low.

Thirdly. They are of opinion that the limitations, with regard to the age of those who come under the notice of the Regulations, whether as Associators or Non-Associators, ought to be extended; that the Petitioners, confiding in the regard of the honourable House to the welfare and safety of the Province, humbly refer these matters to their serious consideration, and hope for redress in the above particulars, or such other relief as may be thought proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the Inhabitants of the Town of *Reading*, in the County of *Berks*, was presented to the House, and read; setting forth, That a number of the Regulars, who were taken Prisoners at *Fort St. John's*, are confined in the said town; that, having no Barracks, such of the Petitioners, to whom it was the least inconvenient, were obliged to lodge the said Prisoners in their Houses; that, in all probability, from the situation of the said town, the Petitioners will have more inconveniences of the same kind to labour under from the billeting of Continental Troops, as well as Prisoners; that, from the idleness of the said Prisoners' manner of living, they will probably become disorderly, and they may be more easily restrained from mischief by being all confined to one place in the night time; that the Petitioners, therefore, pray the honourable House will take the premises into consideration, and erect Barracks in the said town, capable of containing four or five hundred men.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in an estimate of the expense of levying a body of fifteen hundred Men, and victualling and paying them for one year, reported a draft for that purpose; which was read by order, and is as follows, viz:

Estimate of the Pay and Subsistence of fifteen hundred Men for one month.

Two Battalions of Riflemen :		Per Month.
1 Colonel, at 50 dollars, - - - - -		\$50
2 Lieutenant-Colonels, at 40 dollars, each, - - - - -		80
2 Majors, at 33½ dollars, - - - - -		66½
12 Captains, at 26½ dollars, - - - - -		320
24 First and Second Lieutenants, at 18 dollars, - - - - -		432
12 Third Lieutenants, at 13½ dollars, - - - - -		160
48 Sergeants, at 8 dollars, - - - - -		384
12 Fifers, at 7½ dollars, - - - - -		88
12 Drummers, at 7½ dollars, - - - - -		88
1 Quartermaster, at 18½ dollars, - - - - -		18½
2 Adjutants, at 18½ dollars, - - - - -		36½

2 Surgeons, at 25 dollars, - - - - -	50
2 Surgeons' Mates, at 13½ dollars, - - - - -	26½
1 Chaplain, at 20 dollars, - - - - -	20
867 Privates, at 5 dollars, - - - - -	4,335
1000	\$6,155½
1087 Rations, (firing included,) at nine Pence per day, is £1,222 17s. 6d. per month, which is equal to - - - - -	\$3,261
	\$9,416½

One Battalion of Musket-men :	
1 Colonel, at 50 dollars, - - - - -	\$50
1 Lieutenant-Colonel, at 40 dollars, - - - - -	40
1 Major, at 33½ dollars, - - - - -	33½
8 Captains, at 26½ dollars, each, - - - - -	213½
8 Lieutenants, at 18 dollars, - - - - -	144
8 Ensigns, at 13½ dollars, - - - - -	106½
16 Sergeants, at 8 dollars, - - - - -	128
16 Corporals, at 7½ dollars, - - - - -	117½
8 Fifes, at 7½ dollars, - - - - -	58½
8 Drums, at 7½ dollars, - - - - -	58½
1 Quartermaster, at 18½ dollars, - - - - -	18½
1 Adjutant, at 18½ dollars, - - - - -	18½
1 Surgeon, at 25 dollars, - - - - -	25
1 Surgeon's Mate, at 13½ dollars, - - - - -	13½
1 Chaplain, at 20 dollars, - - - - -	20
420 Privates, at 5 dollars, - - - - -	2,100
500	\$3,145
549 Rations, (firing included,) at nine Pence per day, is £636 per month, which is equal to - - - - -	\$1,680
	\$4,825
The two Battalions of Riflemen, - - - - -	9,416½
Total per month, - - - - -	\$14,241½

Twelve months' Pay and Subsistence for 1500 Men, at \$14,241½ per month, - - -	\$170,896
Raising 1407 Men, at \$1½ each, - - -	1,876
	\$172,772

Equal to £64,789 10s. of *Pennsylvania* Currency.

Upon consideration of the foregoing estimate, the following questions were called for, and put by the Speaker, viz:

First. Whether the House will levy and take into pay, fifteen hundred men, (officers included,) for the immediate defence of this Province?

Carried in the affirmative.

Secondly. Whether the said men shall be entitled to serve till the 1st day of *January*, 1778, subject to be discharged at any time upon the advance of a month's pay to each man?

The Members dividing equally on this question, the casting vote was given by the Speaker in the affirmative.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, March 6, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County of *Northumberland* was presented to the House and read, setting forth, That many of the Petitioners have taken money from the Province upon loan; and, as a security that such money should be refunded at different times, agreeable to an act of Assembly of the said Province, have mortgaged their landed estates; that, at the time the Petitioners gave such security, they were by no means apprehensive of the troubles which have since arisen on the Continent, but hoped they would have been able to make their payments according to their contracts; that the total stagnation of trade, and, of consequence, no moneys circulating, especially in such an infant County, at present prevents their being able to comply with the terms upon which they have received money out of the Loan-Office; that the time at which the first payment ought to have been made, as well as the time of indulgence allowed by the Trustees since the day of payment, are expired; that, if sale should be made of the estates of such of the Petitioners as have received money in the present situation of affairs, they would not bring one-sixth part of their real value; that, in case a sale should be

ordered of such estates as are so mortgaged, a taxation of the County will ensue, which must unavoidably, amidst the variety of other taxes, involve the whole country in ruin; that the Petitioners are willing to do every act in their power, by their industry, to pay off and discharge on their parts what is required of them; and pray the honourable House will grant them such indulgence and relief, as the particularity of their case may appear to deserve.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Representation from *John Secord*, in behalf of himself and other Inhabitants of *Pennsylvania*, at or near *Wyoming*; a Memorial from a number of Inhabitants of the County of *Northumberland*, respecting the *Wyoming* disputes, and sundry other papers relative to that subject; were presented to the House, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House resumed the consideration of their vote of yesterday, for levying and taking into pay fifteen hundred men for the defence of this Province; and having spent some time therein,

*Resolved*, That one thousand of the said Levies be Riflemen, and divided into two Battalions, of five hundred men each.

*Resolved*, That the remaining five hundred of the said Levies be a Battalion of Musket-men.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the Officers requisite for the three Battalions to be raised in this Province, and

*Resolved*, That the two Rifle Battalions have one Colonel, and that each Battalion consist of six Companies, to be officered with one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, six Captains, eighteen Lieutenants, twenty-four Sergeants, six Fifes, six Drums, one Adjutant, two Surgeons, and one Quartermaster; seventy two Rank and File.

*Resolved*, That the Battalion of Musket-men consist of eight Companies, to be officered with one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, eight Captains, eight Lieutenants, eight Ensigns, sixteen Sergeants, sixteen Corporals, eight Fifes, eight Drums, one Adjutant, two Surgeons, and one Quartermaster; fifty-two Privates.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 7, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from the Committee of Correspondence of the County of *Bedford*, was presented to the House, and is as follows, viz:

*"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met."*

"We think it our duty, as Members of the Committee of Correspondence of the County of *Bedford*, humbly to represent to the honourable House the peculiar situation of that County; by reason of which, we flatter ourselves that the unusual request which we, in behalf of the Associators within the same, are now going to make, will not appear altogether unreasonable.

"Our County is new, and on the frontiers; its inhabitants few, and scattered amongst the mountains; by reason of which, they are under much greater inconveniences and difficulties in associating and mustering than those of the more interior parts of the country, having frequently twenty or thirty miles to ride for that purpose. This must necessarily take up much of their time, which, on account of their being mostly new settlers, is a peculiar loss and hardship on them, as it is almost their only treasure. Yet, notwithstanding these circumstances, we can, with great truth and pleasure, assure the honourable House that they are not only as unanimous in their patriotick principles, but as constant at their exercise as any in the Province, who have none of their disadvantages to encounter; besides, several of the officers and Companies have been at a pecuniary expense in paying fuglemen, drummers, fifers, and for drums, &c., which they could ill afford; and others of them, for this reason, have not yet been able to procure these articles, nor to be taught the exercise so completely as they could wish. By reason

of our remote and scattered situation, it is often impossible for us to receive the necessary information in time to enable us to regulate ourselves according to the modes recommended to the Counties to transact their business in; to this cause it is owing, that we could not comply with the advertisement published some time ago respecting these articles. It will, perhaps, be said, Let them (such as have not already done it) buy and supply themselves with such articles in the same manner the other Counties have done, and then let them deliver in their accounts of the expenses incurred, and they will be paid in the same regular manner. However trifling such expense may appear, yet we are well convinced that it is out of the power of many of them to advance money sufficient for such purpose. By this confession, our County will perhaps appear too insignificant to merit any attention or encouragement. To those altogether unacquainted with the situation of a frontier and new settlement, this would appear to be the case; but when it is remembered that, upon a late demand, we, in a few days, raised and sent off a Company of Riflemen; that the greatest number of our inhabitants are inured to hardship, and that many of them were in the service in the late war, particularly against the *Indians*; these circumstances will, we believe entitle us to some regard. We, therefore, beg leave to submit to the honourable House, whether it would not be expedient to empower the Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Associators within the Province, to draw on their Treasurer in favour of your Petitioners, or of such other persons in the County as may be thought most proper, for such a sum of money as will answer in some measure these necessary purposes; the persons to whom it is delivered to be answerable for it; the accounts sent down properly authenticated, in a limited time, and subject to the same control as the other Associators' accounts have been; and if it appear that the persons who shall receive the money have paid it where they ought not, they to be answerable in the first instance. We should not think it necessary that much more than half the sum paid to an equal number of Companies in any other part of the Province should be advanced, as we think that will answer every valuable purpose. We hope our request will appear the more equitable, when (added to the reasons arising from our situation) it is considered that, at a future day, we will have to pay our proportional part of the very large sums paid to most of the other Associators in the Province; and, indeed, our people will urge this point so strongly to us, that it will be impossible to keep up that spirit of unanimity, and that readiness to lend their little aid in time of need, in conjunction with their more powerful compatriots; but they will become languid and indifferent, if they see that no regard is paid to their situation, when they feel that those advantages are denied to them, which it is out of their power to obtain by the same method which those did who were not under their local and other disadvantages. We had twenty Companies returned to us, which are to be formed into two Battalions; the reason this was not sooner done, was, that we delayed it till we should receive the Articles of Association for them to sign, which they are now doing.

"As we have no other view in this representation than a faithful discharge of the trust reposed in us, we pray the honourable House will not construe the only means we could think of to answer the end, into an offence. We shall be ready, to the utmost of our power, to do our parts in carrying into execution any other method that may be proposed, if the prayer of our Petition shall be thought improper; which the honourable House will be pleased to take into their consideration. And their Petitioners, as in duty bound, will pray, &c.

"GEORGE WOODS, Chairman.

"THOMAS SMITH."

Sundry Petitions and Recommendations from the Counties of *Lancaster* and *Northumberland*, having been presented at the table in behalf of *John Morrow*, *William Hay*, *James Crouch*, *William Mackey*, *Hawkins Boon*, *William Caldwell*, and *Robert King*, as persons suitable for Officers in the Rifle Battalions to be raised for the service of this Province; the House took the same into consideration; and, after some time spent therein,

*Resolved*, That *John Morrow*, of *Lancaster* County, be, and he is hereby, appointed a Captain in one of the Rifle Battalions to be formed for the above service.

*Resolved*, That the settlement of rank in the Battalions to be raised for the service of this Colony, be referred to future consideration.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

— Post Meridian.

The House proceeded in the consideration and appointment of Officers for the new Levies.

*Resolved*, That *James Marshall*, of the County of *Lancaster*, be, and he is hereby, appointed a Captain in one of the said Rifle Battalions.

The House adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Friday, March 8, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition, signed by a great number of the Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House, and read, praying a more adequate representation in Assembly. Ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of last *Tuesday* being read,

The House took into consideration the Petitions before them from the City of *Philadelphia*, and several of the back Counties, for an increase of Members to represent them in the Assembly of this Province; and, after a debate of considerable length, adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

— Post Meridian.

The House proceeded in the consideration of the subject before them in the morning; and, after further debate thereon,

*Resolved*, (upon the question,) That four additional Representatives in Assembly be allowed to the City of *Philadelphia*; two additional Representatives to each of the Counties of *Lancaster*, *York*, *Cumberland*, *Berks*, and *Northampton*; and one additional Representative to each of the Counties of *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Dickinson*, *Mr. Reed*, *Mr. Rodman*, *Mr. Jacobs*, *Mr. Ross*, *Mr. Ewing*, *Mr. Montgomery*, *Mr. Christ*, *Mr. Taylor*, *Mr. Dougherty*, *Mr. Hunter*, and *Mr. Thompson*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill for allowing to the City of *Philadelphia*, and certain Counties of this Province, such additional Members in Assembly as are mentioned in the foregoing Resolve.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, March 9, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment; and resuming the consideration of Officers for the new Levies,

*Resolved*, That *William Rankin*, of *York* County; *William Peoples*, of *Cumberland* County; *Henry Christ*, Jun., of *Berks* County; *Henry Shade*, of *Northampton* County; *Richard Brown*, of *Bedford* County; *Caspar Weitzell*, of *Northumberland* County; and *Joseph Irwin*, of *Westmoreland* County, be, and they are hereby, appointed Captains in the Rifle Battalions to be formed for the service of this Province.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Dickinson*, *Mr. Miles*, *Mr. Grubb*, and *Mr. Montgomery*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a draft of Instructions for Recruiting Officers.

The House adjourned to *Monday* next, at four o'clock, P. M.

— Monday, March 11, 1776, P. M.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to increase the number of Representatives in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*, and the Counties of *Lancaster*, *York*, *Cumberland*, *Berks*, *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*, reported they had essayed a draft for that purpose, which they presented to the Chair; and the same being read the first time, was ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

Upon motion, the Petition from the Committee of Correspondence for the County of *Bedford* was again read; and, after some debate,

*Resolved*, That the Committee for settling the Battalion Accounts draw an order on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., for the sum of two hundred Pounds, payable to *Barnard Dougherty*, Esq., to be applied to the purchase of Drums and Colours for the use of the Association in the said County of

*Bedford*, and to be accounted for with said Committee by the Field-Officers of the said Association.

It being represented to the House by the Speaker that some doubts have been entertained by the Commissioners and Township and Ward Assessors of the several Counties, whether they are to proceed to the execution of the duties enjoined by the Resolves of Assembly of the 25th of *November* last, respecting their making out lists, and levying Taxes on Non-Associators in this Province,

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners and Assessors within this Province proceed with all diligence and fidelity in the execution of the respective duties required of them by the above-mentioned Resolves, without waiting for any further notice.

A Petition from the Privates of the First Battalion of Militia in the County of *Cumberland*, was presented to the House, and follows in these words, viz:

"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.

"*The Petition of the Privates of the First Battalion of Militia in CUMBERLAND County, most humbly sheweth:*

"That your Petitioners, desirous of exerting themselves in defence of *American* liberty against the tyranny of a cruel and desolating enemy, beg leave to lay before the honourable House some amendments, which they wish to have made in the Articles of Association framed at your last sitting, in order that they may sign them with that freedom which every true patriot and friend to *American* liberty ought to feel himself possessed of: without which amendments, the liberties of the Privates of the Association appear to be, in a great measure, taken away.

"*First*. The time of keeping the Associators out on actual service is nowhere limited, either in the Rules or Articles of Association; which, your Petitioners apprehend, puts them in a worse situation than the enlisted Troops. We submit it to the wisdom of the honourable House whether two or three months are not sufficient to keep out any party of Associators at one time, until relieved by others at the call of the Assembly, or Committee of Safety.

"*Secondly*. The Articles, as they now stand, establish all the officers of the Association during life, or until otherwise removed by resignation, promotion, or broken by the sentence of a General Court of Associators. We would pray the honourable House to reconsider this matter, and see if it is not more agreeable to the rights of freemen and the Constitution of this Province, that all Military Officers, not exceeding the rank of a Colonel of a Battalion, should be voted in by ballot annually, in the same manner as Members of Assembly, Sheriffs, and other civil Officers; the Field-Officers, Standard-bearer, and Adjutant, by the Battalion at large; and the Officers of a Troop or Company by the Troop or Company. Your Petitioners are of opinion that officers voted in in this manner would by no means be liable to disgrace upon the promotion of others in their room, as their going out of office might not be for any bad conduct alleged against them, but in order to serve others equally worthy of notice; for annual election is so essentially necessary to the liberty of freemen, that your Petitioners hope the honourable House will be careful not to deprive their constituents of it.

"*Thirdly*. Your Petitioners humbly conceive that the Regimental and General Courts of Associators should consist of an equal number of Officers and Court-Associators, (one of the said officers to be President,) as we can see no reason why there should be a superior number of officers in the said Courts; because officers and privates of the Association, being engaged in the same cause, ought to have the same mode of trial, be the offence what it will.

"*Fourthly*. The thirty-first article of Association enjoins the Associators to be subject to all the Rules and Articles already made by the honourable Continental Congress for the government of the Continental Troops when called by the Assembly, or the Committee of Safety in recess of Assembly, into actual service. Your Petitioners pray that the honourable House would please to amend said article by allowing the Associators to be tried for all offences and crimes, of which they may be guilty, as mentioned in the said Rules and Articles when on actual service, in the same way as is proposed above, viz: by an equal number of their



own officers and court-associators; and, where the punishment directed by said rules and articles is to be whipping, and the crime not made felony by the civil law, that the delinquent shall have it in his power to evade such whipping by paying a certain fine—such as the wisdom of the honourable House shall point out, and in such time as shall be thought proper after conviction. This indulgence, your Petitioners apprehend, will not be attended with any bad consequences to the Army, as the Associators are on a different footing from the Continental Troops, and may, through inadvertency or ignorance, be guilty of an offence that would subject them to a punishment which would be a lasting stain to them and their family, more especially if they have been of any repute at home.

“*Lastly*. Your Petitioners pray the honourable House to consider the inequality of fines respecting Non-Associators; the grievances whereof are so great and many, that it would be giving you too much trouble to enumerate them, as we are well assured they are fully laid before the honourable House in a Petition from the Committee of Privates of the City and Suburbs of *Philadelphia*, and, perhaps, by other Committees.

“Your Petitioners most humbly pray the honourable House to take these matters into their most serious consideration, and grant the amendments herein proposed, or such redress of the grievances we complain of as to their wisdom shall appear right. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will pray.

“Signed in behalf of the twelve Companies of the First Battalion of Militia in *Cumberland* County, by order of Delegates from each of the said Companies.

“JONATHAN HOGE,  
“WILLIAM LYON,  
“HENRY MAKINLY,  
“JOHN CREIGH,  
“WILLIAM BROWN,  
“HUGH MCCORMICK,  
“ROBERT WHITEHILL,

“Committee of Correspondence.”

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a draft of Instructions for Recruiting Officers, reported an essay for that purpose; which was read by order, and referred to further consideration.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Tuesday, March 12, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter (dated the 6th instant) from the Committee of *Berks* County, respecting the Arms directed to be provided for the use of the said County, and some other publick matters; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, the Petition from the Privates of the First Battalion of Militia in the County of *Cumberland* was again read, and referred to the Committee appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations formed by the House for the better government of the Military Association.

The House resumed the consideration of the draft of Instructions for Recruiting Officers; which, being read by paragraphs, and agreed to by the House, was transcribed, and follows in these words, viz:

*Instructions for recruiting Riflemen in the service of PENNSYLVANIA.*

1st. You are to inlist no man who is not able-bodied, healthy, and active; nor any whose attachment to the rights and liberties of this Province, and of *America* in general, you have any cause to suspect.

2dly. You are to have great regard to sobriety and moral character in general.

3dly. You are to take the utmost care, as you value your office and the esteem of your country, that you inlist no man who is not provided with a good rifle-gun, perfectly fit for service, and very expert in the use of it.

4thly. You are not to inlist any indented servant, nor, without the leave of his master or mistress, any apprentice.

5thly. You will take notice that the Colonel of the Battalion, or some person to be appointed by him, is to inspect your men, and to reject such as do not answer to your instructions.

6thly. Every man is to be inlisted by his taking and subscribing, before some Justice of the Peace, an oath or affirmation in the following words, to wit: “I, A B, voluntarily inlisted a soldier until the 1st day of *January*, 1778, unless sooner discharged, in the Troops ordered to be raised by the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, and subjecting myself to such rules and articles as are, or shall be, made or directed by the said Assembly for regulating and governing the said Troops, do solemnly — that, in this service, I will truly and faithfully obey the present and any Assembly of this Colony, and, in their recess, any Committee of Safety by them appointed, for the time being, and, in pursuance of their direction and command, such officers as shall be placed in authority over them; that I will, to the utmost of my power, defend the rights and liberties of this Province, and of *America* in general; and will oppose and resist any force or enemies that shall act or be employed against them.” So help me —.

7thly. You are to use all diligence in completing your company, and report to your Colonel.

8thly. You shall be allowed ten shillings per week for the subsistence of every recruit till they arrive at their stations, and ten shillings for every man you inlist who shall be approved on inspection, besides such subsistence money and your pay.

9thly. You are to furnish each of the subalterns of your company with a copy of these Instructions, who are to exert themselves in recruiting.

10thly. That each soldier, when inlisted, and having taken the foregoing qualification, shall receive a month's pay advance.

11thly. That the men be inlisted to serve till the 1st day of *January*, 1778; to find themselves arms and clothing; and to be subject to be discharged at any time, upon the advance of a month's pay to each man, over and above the sum that may be due to him.

Signed by order of the House:

JOHN MORTON, *Speaker*.

To . . . . . Esq., Captain of the . . . . Company of Riflemen, in the Province of *Pennsylvania*.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the County of *Cumberland*, was presented to the House, and read, setting forth that the Petitioners, last year, mortgaged their lands in the General Land Office of this Province, with a prospect of repaying the money they borrowed, agreeable to the terms stipulated; but that the distressing situation of publick affairs (which prevents selling the produce of their plantations, their stock, or other property, whereby they expected to raise money) has put it out of their power to comply with their contracts within the times limited by law; that the Petitioners, therefore, pray the House will suspend the execution of the law till a revival of trade shall enable them to dispose of their effects, when they will most cheerfully, without any compulsion, perform their respective agreements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants in and near the Townships of *Whitehall* and *Salisbury*, in the County of *Northampton*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth that the Petitioners conceive the articles for regulating the Associators in this Province are very unequal, as those who do not join with them are put to no expense in providing themselves with arms and accoutrements, and have only the trifling sum of fifty shillings to pay yearly; that, for this reason, many of the inhabitants still neglect to sign the Articles of Association, by which means the publick cause suffers. That the Petitioners therefore humbly pray the honourable House to take the premises into consideration, and make such further Rules and Regulations as shall render the publick defence less burdensome to individuals.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

— Post Meridian.

The House resumed the consideration of the appointment of Officers for the new Levies in the Rifle service.

And Resolved, That *Andrew Long*, of *Bucks* County, *Peter Grubb, Jun.*, of *Lancaster* County, and *Lewis Farmer*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Captains in the said service.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, March 13, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment; and, taking into consideration the Bill intituled "An Act to increase the number of Representatives in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*, and in the several Counties therein named," the question was called for, and put by the Speaker, whether the blank in the first clause of the said Bill shall be filled with the words "the twenty-fifth day of *April* next?" Carried in the affirmative.

Yeas.	Yeas.	Yeas.
Mr. Hillegas,	Mr. Wynkoop,	Mr. Montgomery,
Mr. Potts,	Mr. Bartholomew,	Mr. Chreist,
Mr. Miles,	Mr. Grubb,	Mr. Kachlein,
Mr. Parker,	Mr. Slough,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Morris,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Dougherty,
Mr. Rittenhouse,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Hunter,
Mr. Rodman,	Mr. Swoope,	Mr. Thompson.
Nays.	Nays.	Nays.
Mr. Gray,	Mr. Twining,	Mr. Jacobs,
Mr. Roberts,	Mr. Brown,	Mr. Humphreys,
Mr. Foulke,	Mr. Jenks,	Mr. Webb.
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Pearson,	

The said Bill having been read the second time, and debated by paragraphs, the question was called for, and put by the Speaker, whether it shall be transcribed for a third reading? Carried in the affirmative.

Yeas.	Yeas.	Yeas.
Mr. Hillegas,	Mr. Wynkoop,	Mr. Montgomery,
Mr. Gray,	Mr. Bartholomew,	Mr. Chreist,
Mr. Potts,	Mr. Jacobs,	Mr. Kachlein,
Mr. Miles,	Mr. Grubb,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Parker,	Mr. Slough,	Mr. Dougherty,
Mr. Morris,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Hunter,
Mr. Rittenhouse,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Thompson.
Mr. Rodman,	Mr. Swoope,	
Nays.	Nays.	Nays.
Mr. Roberts,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Pearson,
Mr. Brown,	Mr. Twining,	Mr. Webb.
Mr. Foulke,	Mr. Jenks,	

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter from the Committee of Safety, which was read by order, and follows in these words, viz:

"In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, March 13, 1776.

"SIR: A company of soldiers being on their march to the southward, General *Lee*, under whose orders they are, has applied to this Board to settle the rates they are to pay for their accommodation on the road. The Board dismissed the application, as not being competent to the business; but as such cases will frequently happen in the course of the war, and the unsettled prices be a fruitful source of contention between landlords and soldiers, they submit to your honourable House whether it is not an object worthy of their attention to determine what rates are reasonable to be paid by all the *American* Troops on their march through this Province. I am, sir, your very humble servant.

"By order of the Committee:

"JOHN NIXON, Chairman.

"To John Morton, Esq."

The House proceeded to the nomination of Field-Officers for the three Battalions to be raised for the service of this Province.

And *Resolved*, That *Samuel Miles*, Esq., of the County of *Philadelphia*, be, and he is hereby appointed Colonel of the two Rifle Battalions; and *John Cadwallader*, Esq., of the City of *Philadelphia*, Colonel of the Battalion of Musket-men, to be raised for the service aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Daniel Broadhead*, Esquire, of *Berks* County, *James Piper*, Esq., of *Bedford* County, and *Caleb Parrey*, Esq., of *Philadelphia* County, be, and they are hereby appointed Lieutenant-Colonels of the said three Battalions.

*Resolved*, That *Enion Williams*, *John Patton*, and *James Potts*, Esquires, of the County of *Philadelphia*, be, and they are hereby appointed Majors of the said three Battalions.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 14, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Bill, intituled "An Act to increase the number of Representatives in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*,

and in the several Counties therein named," being transcribed according to order, and read the third time, the question was called for, and put by the Speaker, whether the said Bill shall pass the House, and be sent to the Governour? Carried in the affirmative.

Yeas.	Yeas.	Yeas.
Mr. Gray,	Mr. Bartholomew,	Mr. Montgomery,
Mr. Potts,	Mr. Jacobs,	Mr. Chreist,
Mr. Miles,	Mr. Grubb,	Mr. Kachlein,
Mr. Parker,	Mr. Slough,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Rittenhouse,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Dougherty,
Mr. Rodman,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Hunter,
Mr. Wynkoop,	Mr. Swoope,	Mr. Thompson.
Nays.	Nays.	Nays.
Mr. Roberts,	Mr. Twining,	Mr. Pearson,
Mr. Foulke,	Mr. Brown,	Mr. Humphreys,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Jenks,	Mr. Webb.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse* and Mr. *Montgomery* wait on the Governour with the said Bill for his assent to the same.

The House, taking into consideration their Resolution of the 7th instant respecting the settlement of rank in the Battalions raising for the service of this Province,

*Resolved*, That *Samuel Miles*, Esq., take rank as First Colonel of the *Pennsylvania* Forces; and that the two Battalions of Riflemen be formed into one Regiment, to be commanded by the said Colonel.

*Resolved*, That *John Cadwallader*, Esq., take rank as Second Colonel of the said Forces, and that the Battalion of Musket-men be commanded by the said Colonel.

*Resolved*, That *James Piper*, Esq., take rank as Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Battalion; and *Daniel Broadhead*, Esq., as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Battalion in the Regiment of Riflemen.

*Resolved*, That *Caleb Parrey*, Esq., take rank as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Battalion of Musket-men.

*Resolved*, That *Enion Williams*, Esq., take rank as Major of the First Battalion, and *John Patton*, Esquire, as Major of the Second Battalion in the Regiment of Riflemen.

*Resolved*, That *James Potts*, Esq., take rank as Major of the Battalion of Musket-men.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

The Members appointed to wait on the Governour with the Bill passed in the forenoon, reported they had delivered the same according to order, and that his Honour was pleased to say he would take the said Bill into immediate consideration.

A number of printed copies of the Instructions to the Recruiting Officers being produced at the table, the same were signed by the Speaker, by order of the House, and delivered to Colonel *Miles*.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That an order for the sum of three thousand Pounds be drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., payable to Colonel *Samuel Miles*, to be immediately applied to the Recruiting Service.

And an order being drawn at the table accordingly, was signed by the Speaker, and delivered to Colonel *Miles*.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 15, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Resolution of the honourable Continental Congress, which was read by order, and is as follows, viz:

"In Congress, March 14, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend by arms these United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and to apply the Arms taken from such persons in each respective Colony, in the first place, to the arming the Continental Troops raised in said Colony; in the next, to the arming such Troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence; and the residue to be applied to the arming the Associators. That the Arms when taken be appraised by indifferent persons, and such

as are applied to the arming Continental Troops be paid for by Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

The House proceeded to the nomination of Officers for the Battalion of Musket-men to be raised for the defence of this Province.

And *Resolved*, That *Thomas Herbert, Joseph Howell, Jun., Abraham Dehuff, Francis Murray, Abraham Marshall, John Nice, Patrick Anderson, and Peter Zachary Lloyd*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed Captains of the said Battalion.

It being represented to the House, that the Continental Troops at the Barracks of this City are in want of some necessaries usual in Quarters,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety make inquiry into the circumstances of the said Troops, and give orders to the Barrackmaster to allow them the use of such Bedding and other conveniences at the Barracks as have been provided for the Troops of this Province.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

A Petition from the Committee of Privates of the Military Association for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* was presented to the House, and is as follows, viz:

"To the Honourable the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Assembly met.

"The Petition of the Committee of Privates of the Military Association for the City and Liberties of PHILADELPHIA, humbly sheweth:

"That your Petitioners, observing that this honourable House had, in the introduction to the Articles of Association, expressed an intention of altering such articles, rules, and resolutions, respecting the Military Association, as should be found inconvenient; and being desirous of obtaining such alterations as would give general satisfaction throughout the Province, and to save this honourable House the trouble of repeated applications for amendments, opened a correspondence with the country Battalions, to know what objections they had to the Resolutions of this honourable House; designing, if possible, to express the sense of the whole Province in their Petition. But as these objections did not come to hand in time, your Petitioners request this honourable House to take the amendments proposed in the enclosed papers into their serious consideration, and grant redress in such manner as shall appear most consonant to their wisdom and justice. They particularly recommend the article to your Honours respecting the provision which ought to be made for the support of the families of such Associators during their absence on actual service, whose maintenance depends on their labour; as no man who is able, by his industry, to support his wife and children, could ever consent to have them treated by the Overseers of the Poor as the law directs; we therefore pray, that such a fund be fixed for their supply as may be more worthy of men who are risking their all in defence of their country.

"And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will pray, &c.

"Signed by order of the Committee of Privates:

"WILLIAM ADCOCK, *Chairman*."

The papers referred to in the above Petition, containing divers amendments proposed by the Committees of Privates of the *Elk*, or Fourth Battalion, in *Chester* County, and Colonel *Galbreath's* Battalion, in *Lancaster* County, to the Rules and Regulations drawn up by the House at their last sitting, were read by order, and referred to the Committee of the House appointed to consider and report on sundry other papers of the same kind.

An Account from Major *Lewis Nicola*, Barrackmaster, was produced at the table, amounting to ten Pounds twelve Shillings and two Pence, for disbursements at the Barracks, and the same being allowed by the House, an order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., for the said sum in payment thereof.

The Governour, by Mr. Secretary, returned the Bill intituled "An Act to increase the number of Representatives in Assembly for the City of *Philadelphia*, and in the seve-

ral Counties therein named," and acquainted the House he should be ready to pass the same whenever presented to him for that purpose.

Two Accounts from *Jeremiah Trexler* and *Adam Yohe*, were laid before the House, amounting to twenty-eight Pounds five Shillings and nine Pence, for expenses in entertaining and conducting a number of *Indians* from *Easton* to *Philadelphia*; which, being examined, were allowed, and an order drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., for payment.

The House then taking into consideration the appointment of Subalterns for the Rifle Regiment,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Paxton, Thomas Bartholomew Bowen, John Stoner, John Clerk, Jacob Levan, John Davis, John Thompson, William Gray, John Young, John Spear, Matthew Scott, and Edward Thompson*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby, appointed First Lieutenants in the said Regiment of Riflemen.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter from Colonel *John Cadwallader*, which was read, and follows in these words, viz:

"Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

"SIR: I am informed that the honourable House of Assembly have thought proper to appoint me a Colonel (second in command) in the Provincial service. I am very sensible of the honour conferred on me; but as the House have not granted my request, (which was the command of the First Battalion,) I beg you will be pleased to inform the House that I decline accepting the appointment.

"I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, very humble servant, &c., JOHN CADWALLADER.

"To the Hon. *John Morton*, Esq., Speaker of the honourable House of Assembly of *Pennsylvania*."

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 16, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment; and proceeding in the appointment of Subalterns for the Regiment of Riflemen,

*Resolved*, That *Jacob Maise, Thomas Gourley, Jost Treisbach, Robert McPherson, John Perrin, John Carpenter, John Robb, James Hamilton, John Shannon, Joseph Finley, John Burns, and James Carnagan*, Esquires, be, and they are hereby, appointed Second Lieutenants in the said Regiment.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House an extract of a Letter from *Zebulon Butler*, Esq., of *Westmoreland*, dated the 28th of *February* last, with the Depositions of *Jeremiah Bickford* and *John Shewfert*, relative to the late disturbances at *Wyoming*; which were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Applications from Lieutenant-Colonel *Broadhead* and Major *Coats*, for the command of the Battalion of Musket-men, now vacant by the resignation of Colonel *Cadwallader*, were presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to *Monday* next, at four o'clock, P. M.

Monday, March 18, 1776, P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-five Members, met pursuant to adjournment, and a quorum not appearing, they adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

A quorum met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration certain Resolutions of Congress, sent down to the House, reported a draft of sundry Resolves for carrying into execution the several interesting matters recommended by Congress; which draft was read by order, and referred to further consideration.

The House proceeded in the nomination of Subalterns for the Rifle Regiment, and

*Resolved*, That *Jacob Stake, Stephen Hanna, William Barnit, John Dungan, Abraham Smith, Thomas Boyd, Joseph Jacquet, Charles Taylor, Daniel Topham, Robert Campbell, David Sloan, and George Grant*, Gentlemen, be, and they are hereby, appointed Third Lieutenants in the said Regiment.

It being represented to the House that *Thomas Paxton*, of *Bedford* County, is an improper person for a Lieutenantcy in the Rifle service, to which he was appointed on the 15th instant,

*Resolved*, That *James Francis Moore*, of the said County, be, and he is hereby, appointed a First Lieutenant in the said Regiment, in the room of *Thomas Paxton* aforesaid.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That an Order for the sum of one thousand Pounds be drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., payable to Lieutenant-Colonel *Parrey*, to be applied to the service of recruiting Men for the Musket Battalion.

And an order being drawn accordingly at the table, the same was signed by the Speaker, and delivered to Colonel *Parrey*.

The House being informed that *William Rankin*, Esq., of *York* County, appointed a Captain in the Rifle service, has resigned his Commission,

*Resolved*, That *Philip Albright*, Esq., of the said County, be, and he is hereby, appointed a Captain in the said service, in place of *William Rankin* aforesaid.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, March 20, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment; and receiving information that *John Shannon*, of *Bucks* County, appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Rifle service, is an improper person to be continued therein,

*Resolved*, That the Commission of the said *Shannon* be vacated, and some other person appointed in his room.

The House resumed the consideration of Subalterns for the Battalion of Musket-men; and, having made some progress therein, adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Post Meridian.

A Petition from divers Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth that the high security required by our laws has been found a great discouragement to the setting Negroes at liberty in this Province, and praying such alteration of the laws as shall render a practice so humane and commendable less difficult in future.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House, proceeding in the nomination of Subalterns for the Battalion of Musket-men,

*Resolved*, That *Morton Garrett*, *John Davis*, *Joseph McClellan*, *Barnard Ward*, *Walter Finney*, *Peter Sheffner*, *Matthias Weidman*, and *Robert Caldwell*, Gentlemen, be, and they are hereby appointed Lieutenants in the said Battalion.

*Resolved*, That *James Lang*, *Hezekiah Davis*, *Michael App*, *Henry Valentine*, *Alexander Huston*, Jun., *John Hough*, *William Henderson*, and *John Kirk*, Gentlemen, be, and they are hereby, appointed Ensigns in the said Battalion of Musket-men.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 21, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Memorial and Petition from *John Secord*, in behalf of himself and a number of other Settlers on the east branch of *Susquehanna*, above *Wyoming*, with the Affidavit of *John Salmon*, were presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee for settling the Battalion Accounts do, and they are hereby required and empowered to call before them all such persons as have been complained against by Petitioners to this House, for having exhibited to, and settled with the said Committee, unjust and exorbitant accounts of military expenses; and that the said Committee do examine strictly, upon oath or affirmation, where they judge it necessary, in order to discover and correct such errors as may have been committed.

The House, taking into consideration the refusal of *John Cadwallader*, Esq., to serve as Colonel of the Battalion of Musket-men,

*Resolved*, That *Samuel Alee*, Esq., of the County of *Lancaster*, be, and he is hereby appointed, Colonel of the said Battalion.

*Resolved*, That *George Wert*, of *Philadelphia*, Gentleman, be, and he is hereby appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Rifle service, in the place of *John Shannon*, of the County of *Bucks*.

*Resolved*, That *John Maxwell Nesbit*, Esq., be, and he is hereby appointed Paymaster of the *Pennsylvania* Forces, Naval and Military.

*Resolved*, That a Dollar per diem be allowed to the said Paymaster for his services in both departments, and that he give security to the Speaker of this House for the time being, in the sum of two thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

*Resolved*, That *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, pay such orders as shall be drawn by the Committee of Safety in favour of the said Paymaster, from time to time, for the purpose of paying the said Forces.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Hillegas*, Mr. *Gray*, and Mr. *Rittenhouse*, be a Committee to contract with persons willing to undertake supplying the Troops to be raised for the service of this Province with Provisions.

*Resolved*, That *Ludowick Sprogle*, Esq., be, and he is hereby appointed Mustermaster of the Forces of this Province, and that he be allowed for his services eighteen Dollars per month.

*Resolved*, That the same Mustermaster be enjoined to muster the said Forces at least once a month, and make a just return thereof to the Paymaster three days before they are to be paid; and, also, return a copy of his Muster-Roll monthly to the Committee of Safety, or to the Assembly of this Province when sitting.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 22, 1776.

The House met pursuant to their adjournment; and, taking into consideration the expediency of appointing Surgeons and a Chaplain for the three *Pennsylvania* Battalions,

*Resolved*, That *John Davis* and *William Curry*, of *Chester* County, and *Jacob Reiger*, of *Lancaster* County, Gentlemen, be, and they are hereby, appointed Surgeons of the said Battalions.

*Resolved*, That the Reverend *William Rogers* be, and he is hereby, appointed Chaplain of the said Forces.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That *Francis Montges* be, and he is hereby, appointed an Adjutant in the said Forces.

The Committee appointed to consider and report to the House the best mode of encouraging the raising of Flax in this Province, presented a written Report thereon at the table; which was read by order, and referred to further consideration.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 23, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Miles*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Rodman*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Swoope*, Mr. *Taylor*, Mr. *Dougherty*, and Mr. *Hunter*, be a Committee to settle the rank of the Captains and Subalterns in the several Battalions of the *Pennsylvania* Forces.

The House being certified that *Hezekiah Davis*, lately appointed an Ensign in the Musket-Battalion of the said Forces, was previously engaged in the Continental service, and has not been discharged,

*Resolved*, That the appointment of the said *Davis* in the corps aforesaid, be, and the same is hereby declared void.

The House adjourned to next *Monday*, at four o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday, March 26, 1776.

Upon motion, the Representation from *John Secord*, in behalf of himself and other inhabitants of *Pennsylvania*, at or near *Wyoming*, with the several Papers and Affidavits attending the same, were again read; and, after some debate, referred to the Committee of Grievances, who are to hear the complainants, and report thereon to the House.

The House adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Post Meridian.

The House again took up the Resolves of the Committee appointed to consider the Resolutions of Congress; which having been read a second time, and separately agreed to on the question, were transcribed, and follow in these words, viz:

**Resolved 1.** That any person or persons whatsoever, within this Colony, who shall harbour and conceal any Deserter (knowing him to be such) from the Continental Forces, or any other Forces raised within this or any other of the United Colonies, for the defence of *America*, shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding fifty, nor less than thirty Dollars, or suffer three months' imprisonment, for each offence, being convicted thereof by the testimony of one or more witnesses, before any two Justices of the Peace of the City, Borough, or County, respectively, where such offence shall be committed, who are hereby authorized to hear and determine all offences contrary to the above Resolve; which Fine shall be deposited in the hands of the Overseers of the Poor of the City, Borough, or Township, where the offence is committed, for the use of the poor of such place.

**Resolved 2.** That the Commander-in-Chief, or the officer commanding a detachment, or any post in this Colony, have power, and he is hereby authorized, to administer an oath or affirmation to any person or persons, to the truth of any information or intelligence such person or persons may give relative to the Publick, Military, or Naval service.

**Resolved 3.** That there shall be erected, and constantly held, in the City of *Philadelphia*, a Court of Justice, by such able and discreet person as shall be appointed, from time to time, by the Assembly, and commissioned under the hand and seal of their Speaker for that purpose, whose business it shall be to take cognisance of, and try the justice of, any capture or captures of any Vessel or Vessels that shall be made by any person or persons, in pursuance of the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, and brought into the Port of *Philadelphia* aforesaid; and the Judge, so commissioned to hold said Court as aforesaid, shall have power, at all times, to issue his warrant or warrants to the Marshal of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, hereafter to be appointed by the Committee of Safety, which they are hereby empowered to do, commanding him to summon twelve honest and lawful men of the County of *Philadelphia* aforesaid, to appear before the said Judge at such place and time as he shall appoint; and the said Marshal is required to execute said warrant, and make return thereof, as in and by the same he shall be authorized and directed.

**Resolved 4.** That when any person or persons shall take and bring into any port in this Colony any Vessel or Vessels that have been offending or employed by the enemy, contrary to the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, such person or persons so taking or bringing in such Vessel, shall immediately make out a bill in writing, therein giving a full and ample account of the time and manner of the caption of said Vessel, and the employment she was in when so taken, and of the persons who were aiding and assisting in taking her, to the best of his knowledge, at the time of her caption, and shall deliver the same to the Judge who shall have jurisdiction of the port aforesaid, with all the papers that may be found on board such Vessel, to the intent that the Jury may have the benefit of evidence therefrom arising; and the Judge, to whom said bill shall be delivered, shall immediately issue his warrant or warrants, as aforesaid, to the said Marshal, commanding him, in manner aforesaid, to return twelve good and lawful men to try the truth of any facts alleged in such bill; which Jury shall be sworn or affirmed to return and give a true verdict upon the said bill, according to evidence; and if it shall appear to said Judge, by said verdict, that such Vessel had been employed or offending as aforesaid, he shall condemn said

Vessel, Cargo, and appurtenances, and order them to be sold at publick vendue, and shall order the charges of said trial and condemnation to be paid out of the money such Vessel and Cargo shall sell for, into the hands of *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., the Treasurer of this Colony, or such other Treasurer as the Assembly shall appoint, and shall order the residue thereof to be delivered to the captors, their agents or attorneys, for the use and benefit of such captors and others concerned therein. And if two or more Vessels, the commanders whereof shall be properly commissioned, shall jointly take such Vessel, the money arising from the sale thereof, her Cargo and appurtenances, after payment of all charges as aforesaid, shall be divided between the captors, in proportion to their men. And the said Judge, before whom any such trial and condemnation as is aforesaid mentioned shall be had, shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to make out his precept, under his hand and seal, directed to the said Marshal, requiring him to sell such Vessel, Cargo, and appurtenances, and to pay thereout the charges of trial, condemnation, and sale, to the Treasurer aforesaid, and to deliver the residue to the captors and persons concerned as aforesaid.

**Resolved 5.** That there shall be paid to the Judge, Jurors, Marshal, and Clerk, out of the publick Treasury, such Fees as have been heretofore paid in the Port of *Philadelphia*, in like cases, or shall hereafter be established.

**Resolved 6.** That when any such bill shall be delivered to such Judge, he shall cause notification thereof, and the name (if known) and description of the Vessel so brought in, with the day set for the trial thereon, in at least two of the publick newspapers printed at *Philadelphia*, fifteen days before the time set for the trial, that the owner of such Vessel, or any person concerned, may appear and show cause, if any they have, why such Vessel, with her Cargo and appurtenances, should not be condemned as aforesaid.

**Resolved 7.** That the process and proceeding upon any Vessel that shall be retaken from the enemy by any person or persons, shall be in the same manner as is herein provided for other Vessels; and to be sold and disposed of in manner aforesaid, for the benefit, and to the uses directed by the Congress aforesaid, in cases of recaptures.

**Resolved 8.** That in all cases an appeal shall be allowed to the Congress, or such person as they shall appoint for the hearing and trying appeals, provided the appeals be demanded within five days after definitive sentence, and such appeal be lodged with the Secretary of Congress within forty days afterwards; and provided the party appealing shall give security to prosecute the said appeal to effect. And in case of the death of the Secretary during the recess of Congress, then the said appeal to be lodged in Congress within twenty days after the meeting thereof.

**Resolved 9.** That the Judge of such Court shall appoint an able Clerk, who shall keep a true and fair record of all the proceedings of said Court, and shall be duly sworn or affirmed to act in the said office with truth and fidelity; and his attestations shall be received as evidence.

**Resolved 10.** That the depositions of the witnesses in any of the cases aforesaid, shall be taken before the Judge aforesaid, and filed in the Clerk's Office; and that the same shall be, at all times, admitted in evidence, in case of the death or absence of the witness; and that the same depositions shall and may be taken *ex parte*, on such notice being given to the adverse party as the said Judge shall direct and appoint.

And whereas it is necessary to ascertain, impartially, the number of Inhabitants of this, as well as the other United Colonies, in order to fix the quota of Taxes to be by them respectively raised and paid, towards sinking the moneys issued by the Continental Congress for the support and defence of the said Colonies:

**Resolved, therefore, 11.** That the Assessors of the several Wards of the City of *Philadelphia*, and of the Boroughs, Districts, and Townships in the Counties of this Province, respectively, having first taken an oath or affirmation for that purpose, shall make diligent search and inquiry, and thereupon make a fair and just return of the number of Inhabitants of all ages and sexes (including Negroes and Mulattoes) in their respective Boroughs, Districts, Wards, and Townships, distinguishing their several ages and sexes, according to a printed list to be furnished them by the Commissioners for that purpose, and shall deliver the same completed on or



before the 1st day of *December* next, to the Commissioners of the respective Counties, who shall forthwith transmit the same to the Assembly. And if any Assessor shall neglect or refuse to perform the duty aforesaid, the Commissioners of the respective Counties, or any two of them, are hereby required and enjoined to fine him in any sum not exceeding ten Pounds, which shall be levied and recovered in the same manner as is directed by the laws of this Province for levying and recovering Fines imposed on Assessors refusing or neglecting to perform the duties therein required of them, to be paid into the hands of the respective County Treasurers, to be by them delivered to the same person, and applied to the same use, as the other moneys directed to be levied by the Resolves of this House; and in case of neglect or refusal as aforesaid, the said Commissioners, or any two of them, are hereby authorized and required to appoint another fit and capable person in the place of him so neglecting or refusing, who is hereby empowered to perform the duties enjoined by the foregoing Resolve.

And whereas it is necessary to prevent the arresting of Continental or Colonial Soldiers for small debts:

*Resolved* 12. That no such Soldier shall be arrested or imprisoned at the suit of any creditor, unless the said creditor make oath or affirmation, that the said Soldier is justly indebted to him in the sum of thirty-five Dollars over and above all discounts; and that the estate of such Soldier shall not be liable to attachment at the suit, or for the benefit of all or any of his creditors, unless their debts, in the whole, on being ascertained by their oaths or affirmations, shall amount to more than one hundred and fifty Dollars.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

—  
Wednesday, March 27, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Brown* be added to the Committee appointed to settle the Accounts of the several Battalions of Associators in this Province.

The House resumed the consideration of the Petition from the Inhabitants of the Town of *Reading*, for building Barracks in the said Town; and, after some debate,

*Ordered*, That the said Petition lie on the table.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Miles* be, and he is hereby, empowered to procure, on rent, such empty Houses in the Borough of *Chester* and *Marcus-Hook* as he shall judge necessary to accommodate the Troops, in the service of this Province, that may be stationed in those parts; and that he be allowed to make such alterations and repairs to the said Houses as shall appear absolutely necessary.

The Petition of *James Patton* and *John Allen*, of *Cumberland* County, was, on motion, again read; and, after some debate, ordered to lie on the table.

The House again took up the Resolutions of the Committee appointed to consider of the best mode of encouraging the culture of Flax in this Province; and having spent some time therein, referred the same to further consideration.

—  
Thursday, March 28, 1776.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a Letter of the 26th instant, from *Mark Bird*, Esq., Chairman of the *Berks* County Committee, enclosing a Letter to the said Committee from *Richard Tea*, one of the Commissioners for the County aforesaid, representing that his colleagues, *Samuel High* and *Michael Bright*, have absolutely refused to act as Commissioners in carrying into execution the Resolves of Assembly respecting the Military Association.

Referred to the Committee appointed to revise the Military Rules and Regulations.

—  
Post Meridian.

The House resumed the consideration of the Letter from the Committee of Safety, of the 13th instant; and, after some debate thereon,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Roberts*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Jacobs*, and Mr. *Ross*, be a Committee to settle the rates to be allowed for the entertainment of Troops marching through this Province, and the hire of Carriages employed in transporting Provisions, Baggage, and Military Stores, for the use of such Troops.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That *James Sutor* be, and he is hereby, appointed an Ensign in the Battalion of Musketmen, in place of *Hezekiah Davis*, in the Continental service.

The House, taking into consideration the resignation of *Jacob Levan*, *Daniel Topham*, and *John Hough*, appointed a First Lieutenant, Third Lieutenant, and Ensign, in the *Pennsylvania* Forces,

*Resolved*, That *Daniel Topham* be, and he is hereby, appointed a First Lieutenant in the said Forces, in place of *Jacob Levan* aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Abner Davis* be, and he is hereby, appointed a Third Lieutenant in the said Forces, in place of *Daniel Topham* aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Joseph Davis* be, and he is hereby, appointed an Ensign in the said Forces, in place of *John Hough* aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to view the Machines constructed by *John Marshall*, reported, "That, in obedience to the order of the House, they had examined the several machines and implements in the House of Employment, made by the said *Marshall*, for carrying on the manufacture of Thread, particularly his curious machine for twisting, which appeared to them so well contrived for expediting the said business, that they are of opinion he well deserves a reward from the publick."

The Committee appointed to settle the rank of the Captains and Subalterns in the several Battalions of the *Pennsylvania* Forces, presented a written Report thereon, which was read, and is as follows, viz:

#### OFFICERS OF THE RIFLE REGIMENT.

##### Captains of the First Battalion.

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 <i>Lewis Farmer</i> ,  | 4 <i>Philip Albright</i> , |
| 2 <i>Richard Brown</i> , | 5 <i>Henry Shade</i> ,     |
| 3 <i>Andrew Long</i> ,   | 6 <i>Caspar Weitzell</i> . |

##### Captains of the Second Battalion.

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <i>John Murrow</i> ,     | 4 <i>Joseph Irvine</i> ,      |
| 2 <i>William Peoples</i> , | 5 <i>Peter Grubb</i> , Jun.,  |
| 3 <i>James Marshall</i> ,  | 6 <i>Henry Chreist</i> , Jun. |

##### First Lieutenants.

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 <i>Thomas B. Bowen</i> , | 7 <i>John Thompson</i> ,    |
| 2 <i>Matthew Scott</i> ,   | 8 <i>John Clark</i> ,       |
| 3 <i>William Gray</i> ,    | 9 <i>John Davis</i> ,       |
| 4 <i>James F. Moore</i> ,  | 10 <i>John Young</i> ,      |
| 5 <i>John Spear</i> ,      | 11 <i>Edward Thompson</i> , |
| 6 <i>John Stoner</i> ,     | 12 <i>Daniel Topham</i> .   |

##### Second Lieutenants.

- |                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <i>George Wert</i> ,    | 7 <i>Jost Treisbach</i> ,     |
| 2 <i>John Perrin</i> ,    | 8 <i>James Hamilton</i> ,     |
| 3 <i>John Robb</i> ,      | 9 <i>Joseph Finley</i> ,      |
| 4 <i>John Carpenter</i> , | 10 <i>William McPherson</i> , |
| 5 <i>John Carnagan</i> ,  | 11 <i>Jacob Maise</i> ,       |
| 6 <i>John Burns</i> ,     | 12 <i>Thomas Gourley</i> .    |

##### Third Lieutenants.

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 <i>Joseph Jacquet</i> , | 7 <i>Abraham Smith</i> ,    |
| 2 <i>William Barnit</i> , | 8 <i>Jacob Stake</i> ,      |
| 3 <i>Thomas Boyd</i> ,    | 9 <i>Charles Taylor</i> ,   |
| 4 <i>John Dungan</i> ,    | 10 <i>Robert Campbell</i> , |
| 5 <i>David Sloan</i> ,    | 11 <i>George Grant</i> ,    |
| 6 <i>Stephen Hanna</i> ,  | 12 <i>Abner Davis</i> .     |

#### OFFICERS OF THE MUSKET BATTALION.

##### Captains.

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <i>Patrick Anderson</i> , | 5 <i>Thomas Herbert</i> ,     |
| 2 <i>Peter Z. Lloyd</i> ,   | 6 <i>Abraham Dehuff</i> ,     |
| 3 <i>Francis Murray</i> ,   | 7 <i>John Nice</i> ,          |
| 4 <i>Abraham Marshall</i> , | 8 <i>Joseph Howell</i> , Jun. |

##### Lieutenants.

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 <i>Walter Finney</i> ,    | 5 <i>Joseph McClellan</i> , |
| 2 <i>Matthias Weidman</i> , | 6 <i>Robert Caldwell</i> ,  |
| 3 <i>Morton Garret</i> ,    | 7 <i>Barnard Ward</i> ,     |
| 4 <i>John Davis</i> ,       | 8 <i>Peter Shaffner</i> .   |

##### Ensigns.

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 <i>James Lang</i> ,         | 5 <i>James Sutor</i> ,     |
| 2 <i>William Henderson</i> ,  | 6 <i>Henry Valentine</i> , |
| 3 <i>Alex. Huston</i> , Jun., | 7 <i>Michael App</i> ,     |
| 4 <i>John Kirk</i> ,          | 8 <i>Joseph Davis</i> .    |

Your Committee beg leave to report, that they have settled the rank of the Regiment of Riflemen, consisting of two Battalions, and the Battalion of Musketry, as follows, viz:

*First.* The Officers to rank according to the number endorsed on their respective commissions.

*Secondly.* The Officers of the First Battalion of Riflemen to take rank of the Officers of the Second Battalion, where their commissions have the same number endorsed.

*Thirdly.* The Officers of the Regiment of Riflemen to take rank where the Officers of the Musketry are of the same number.

*Fourthly.* All promotions to go and be made by seniority in the particular Battalion where a vacancy happens.

All which is submitted to the House by

MICHAEL SWOOPE,	SAMUEL MILES,
JOHN MONTGOMERY,	DAVID RITTENHOUSE,
GEORGE TAYLOR,	WILLIAM RODMAN,
BARNARD DOUGHERTY,	CHARLES HUMPHREYS,
SAMUEL HUNTER,	GEORGE ROSS.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Captain *Joseph Shaw*, *Josiah Hart*, and *William Roberts*, who have been brought before a Committee of this House to rectify errors committed in the settlement of their respective accounts of military expenses, do forthwith pay the fees arising to the Sergeant-at-Arms, and the allowance to the several Witnesses who have attended on the occasion.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk of this House do tax the Bills to be respectively paid by the said *Joseph Shaw*, *Josiah Hart*, and *William Roberts*, and that they be served with copies of the same by the said Witnesses, who are hereby authorized to demand payment.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 29, 1776.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That *Mr. Miles*, *Mr. Reed*, and *Mr. Ross*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a draft of Rules and Regulations for the government of the *Pennsylvania Forces*.

*Mr. Parker*, in behalf of the Committees appointed to strike the several sums of thirty-five and eighty thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, pursuant to Resolutions of the late and present House of Assembly, produced at the table the receipts of *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, for the said several sums, in Bills of Credit aforesaid, to him paid as directed by the said Resolutions.

The same Member also produced six unsigned extra sheets of the said thirty-five, and three of the eighty thousand Pounds, printed to supply any accidental loss during the signing and numbering of the said Bills; which extra sheets being examined, were burned by order of the House, in the presence of the Members.

The Committee, to whom the several Memorials from the County Committees, and Petitions from the Officers and Privates of the Military Association, together with the Rules and Articles for the better government thereof, were referred for consideration and amendment, presented a Report thereon in writing, which was read by order, and referred to further consideration.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

The House took into consideration the Resolution laid before them from the honourable Continental Congress of the 14th instant, together with a later Resolve of the same body, in the words following, viz:

"Whereas in the execution of the Resolve of Congress of the 14th of *March*, respecting the disarming disaffected persons, many Fire-Arms may be taken which may not be fit for use to arm any of the Troops mentioned therein:

"Therefore *Resolved*, That all the Fire-Arms so taken, being appraised according to said Resolve, none of them shall be paid for but those that are fit for the use of such Troops, or that may conveniently be so made; and the remainder shall be safely kept by the Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety, for the owners, to be delivered to them when the Congress shall direct."

And, after a debate of considerable length, adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 30, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

And resuming the consideration of the Resolutions of Congress before them last night, after further debate thereon,

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Hillegas*, *Mr. Reed*, *Mr. Brown*, *Mr. Bartholomew*, *Mr. Grubb*, *Mr. Montgomery*, *Mr. Taylor*, *Mr. Dougherty*, and *Mr. Hunter*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a draft of Resolves directing the mode of disarming disaffected persons, and procuring Arms from other inhabitants of this Province, pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions of Congress.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

An Account of expenses incurred by raising a Troop of Horse in *Westmoreland County*, amounting to £ . . . . , was laid before the House; and, after some debate, referred to the Committee appointed to settle the Accounts of Battalion expenses.

A Member produced at the table an Account of sundry goods, amounting to ninety-three Pounds ten Shillings, furnished by *Joseph Spear* to *George Croghan*, Esq., to be given to the hostages left by the *Delawares* and *Six Nation Indians*, to evince their sincere desire of preserving peace with this Province, when war was commenced between the *Shawanese* and *Virginians*; and, also, to the Deputies sent with speeches.

Which Account being read, and appearing irregular, was ordered to lie on the table.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to consider the Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in this Province, together with the objections made to the same by the Officers and Privates of the said Association; and, after some time spent therein, adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Post Meridian.

The House proceeded in the consideration of the Report of the Committee upon the Rules and Regulations, &c.; and having made some progress therein, adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

The Committee appointed to settle the rates to be allowed for the entertainment of Troops marching in and through this Province, and the hire of Carriages employed in transporting Provisions, Baggage, and Military Stores for the use of such Troops, reported an essay for that purpose, which was read by order, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That there shall be allowed and paid to every Innholder, or other person, who shall furnish Provision to Troops marching in and through this Province, the sum of six Pence for each Meal, with one pint of Cider or Small-Beer, that shall be by them so furnished to any soldier of the United Colonies, or in the pay of this Province, or to any Associator, when called into actual service, and no more.

*Resolved*, That there shall be paid fifteen Shillings per diem, and no more, for every Wagon or Cart, with a Driver, (the said Driver maintaining himself and horses, and the load of each Wagon or Cart not exceeding two thousand weight,) that shall be employed in transporting Provisions, Baggage, and Military Stores, for the use of Troops in the pay of the United Colonies, or of this Province, or of Associators, when called into actual service.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a draft of Rules and Regulations for the government of the *Pennsylvania Forces*, reported, "That they had examined the Rules and Regulations made by the honourable Congress for the government of the Continental Forces, and recommend that the same be adopted for the government of the Forces of this Province."

The House again took up the Report of the Committee upon Rules and Regulations, and having made further progress therein, adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That all Commissions to Officers of the several Battalions of Associators in this Province, be issued and signed by the Speaker of the Assembly for the time being.

*Resolved*, That all Battalions now formed, as well as those hereafter to be formed, in the City of *Philadelphia*, are desired to make returns of their Officers, with their respective ranks, to the Committee for the said City; and the Battalions in the several Counties are desired to make returns in like manner to their respective Committees, which Committees are desired to certify such returns with the respective rank of each Battalion in their Counties, to the Assembly of this Province, or, in the recess of the House, to the Speaker thereof, that Commissions may be issued for every Officer, agreeably to the above Resolve.

*Resolved*, That the twenty-fourth Article of the Rules and Regulations, published at the last sitting of Assembly, directing Military Commissions to be issued by the Committee of Safety, be, and the same is hereby declared void.

A Petition from *William Scout*, of the Manor of *Moreland*, was presented to the House, and read, setting forth, That the Petitioner, agreeable to the directions of the House, had waited on Captain *Josiah Hart*, and requested him to pay the account allowed by the Committee to the Petitioner, for his services as Fugleman to the Company of the said *Hart*, and that the Captain had absolutely refused payment of the same.

The House taking the foregoing Petition immediately into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the said *Josiah Hart* be forthwith brought to the Bar of the House by the Sergeant-at-Arms, to answer for his contempt of the order of the House.

And a Warrant for that purpose being made out at the table, and signed by the Speaker, was delivered to the Sergeant-at-Arms.

A Petition from Messrs. *Owen Biddle* and *Benjamin Rush*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, That the Petitioners, having the Publick Works erected for the making Saltpetre in the said City, under their care and direction, before the 25th day of *November* last, when, by a resolve of the honourable House, they took the said works under their management, and appointed a Committee to superintend the same, had, over and above the publick money put into their hands, expended divers sums of their own money, and contracted sundry debts for that service, as will appear by an account exhibited with their Petition; and there being no provision made for payment thereof, the Petitioners pray the honourable House will be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and direct the disbursements and contracts aforesaid, to be paid in such manner as they, in their wisdom, shall judge proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from a considerable number of Inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, respecting the setting Negro Slaves at liberty, was presented to the House, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, April 4, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Reed*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Pearson*, and Mr. *Ross*, be a Committee to collect and consider the several Resolutions of Congress relative to the *Wyoming* dispute, together with the Petitions, Complaints, and Affidavits that have been laid before this House by the parties, and report a state of the said dispute to the House at their next sitting.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to bring in a draft of Rules and Articles for the government of the *Pennsylvania* Forces; and finding that those formed for the Continental Troops, and recommended by the Committee, will require material alterations,

*Ordered*, That the same Committee do prepare and report a draft of such alterations of the Continental Articles, as may be proper for the Troops in pay of this Province.

The House again took up the Report of the Committee upon the Petitions of the Officers and Privates of the Military Association in this Province, together with the Rules and Regulations of the House for the better government of the said Association; and having nearly gone through the same, adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, April 5, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded in the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in this Province; and having adopted sundry alterations proposed by the Committee, the said Rules and Regulations were transcribed accordingly, and are as follows, viz:

*Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in PENNSYLVANIA.*

*First*. All officers chosen or appointed in the Battalions that were formed before the 1st day of *October* last, in the City of *Philadelphia*, the District of *Southwark*, and the Townships of the *Northern-Liberties*, *Moyamensing*, and *Passyunk*, to take rank or precedence of all other officers of equal dignity, chosen or appointed in any other part of the Province.

*Second*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Philadelphia* County, to take rank of all officers of equal dignity chosen or appointed in any other County.

*Third*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Bucks* County, to take rank of all officers of equal dignity, chosen or appointed in any other than the City and County of *Philadelphia*, the District of *Southwark*, and the Townships of the *Northern-Liberties*, *Moyamensing*, and *Passyunk*.

*Fourth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Chester* County, to take rank of all officers of equal dignity, chosen or appointed in any other than *Bucks* and *Philadelphia* Counties, and *Philadelphia* City, the District of *Southwark*, and Townships of the *Northern-Liberties*, *Moyamensing*, and *Passyunk*.

*Fifth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Lancaster* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity, chosen or appointed in any other than *Chester*, *Bucks*, and *Philadelphia* Counties, and the City of *Philadelphia*, the District of *Southwark*, and Townships of the *Northern-Liberties*, *Moyamensing*, and *Passyunk*.

*Sixth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *York* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity, in any other than *Lancaster*, *Chester*, *Bucks*, and *Philadelphia* Counties, *Philadelphia* City, the District of *Southwark*, and Townships of the *Northern-Liberties*, *Moyamensing*, and *Passyunk*.

*Seventh*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Cumberland* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity in the junior Counties of *Berks*, *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*.

*Eighth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Berks* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity in the Counties of *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*.

*Ninth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Northampton* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity in *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland* Counties.

*Tenth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Bedford* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity in *Northumberland* and *Westmoreland* Counties.

*Eleventh*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Northumberland* County, to rank before officers of equal dignity in *Westmoreland* County.

*Twelfth*. All officers chosen or appointed before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid, in *Westmoreland*, the youngest, or last made County in this Province, to yield up rank or precedence to all officers of equal dignity chosen or appointed in every other County in this Province before the said 1st day of *October*, as aforesaid.

*Thirteenth*. Where commissions of equal dignity, in different Counties, bear the same date, precedence to be determined by seniority of Counties; but where they are in the same County, by the rank of the Battalion.

*Fourteenth*. The Colonels chosen or appointed in the City of *Philadelphia*, the District of *Southwark*, and the

Townships of the *Northern-Liberties*, *Moyamensing*, and *Passyunk*, having already determined their ranks with respect to each other by lot, their and the other Field-Officers' commissions will be dated according to the lot so drawn.

*Fifteenth.* The Colonels chosen or appointed in every County before the said 1st day of *October* are to determine their rank with respect to each other (where not already done) by lot, and commissions for them and their respective Field-Officers will be dated accordingly.

*Sixteenth.* The Captains in every Battalion to determine their rank in Battalion (where not already settled) by lot, and their commissions, with those of their Lieutenants and Ensigns, will be dated accordingly.

*Seventeenth.* All officers chosen or appointed after the said 1st day of *October*, to have their commissions dated at the time of such choice or appointment, and to take rank according to said dates.

*Eighteenth.* All Battalions to be completed as soon as possible, and (except Battalions of Riflemen) to consist of at least six Companies of not less than forty, and not more than seventy-six Privates each, and to have for officers a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, two Majors, a Standard-Bearer, Adjutant, Sergeant-Major, a Drum and Fife-Major; and the officers of each Company to consist of a Captain, two Lieutenants, one or two Ensigns, four Sergeants, four Corporals, a Drummer and Fifer; except the Light-Infantry Companies, which, instead of two Lieutenants and two Ensigns, are to have four Lieutenants, the two youngest of which are to rank as Ensigns.

*Nineteenth.* All Battalions of Riflemen shall consist of at least six Companies, of not less than forty, nor more than fifty-six Privates each, and have for officers a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and two Majors; and the officers of each Company shall be a Captain, two First Lieutenants, and two Second Lieutenants, (who shall rank as Ensigns,) a Fifer, or Hornblower, and as many Sergeants and Corporals as may be found necessary; the Sergeants, Corporals, and Fifers, or Hornblowers, to be appointed by the Field-Officers.

Every officer and private of a Rifle Company shall furnish himself with a good rifle-gun, a powder-horn, a charger, a bullet-screw, twelve flints, a strong pouch or bag that will hold four pounds of ball, and such other accoutrements as may be proper for a Rifleman.

*Twentieth.* The Standard-Bearer of each Battalion to rank as eldest Lieutenant of the Battalion.

*Twenty-first.* All national distinctions in dress or name to be avoided, it being proper that we should now be united in this General Association for defending our liberties and properties under the sole denomination of *Americans*.

*Twenty-second.* No Field-Officers to have Companies.

*Twenty-third.* For the better order and government of Companies which may be raised after the completion of the several Battalions already formed in the City and Counties, such Companies are not to be admitted as independent, but are to be annexed to the most convenient Battalion, until a sufficient number of Companies are raised to form a new Battalion; and no number of Associators are to be considered as a Company, unless they consist of at least forty privates; but it is recommended that, till that number be completed, the Associators join the most convenient Company, and exercise and do duty with such Company.

*Twenty-fourth.* That all commissions to officers of the several Battalions of Associators in this Province, be issued and signed by the Speaker of the Assembly for the time being. That all Battalions now formed, as well as those hereafter to be formed in the City of *Philadelphia*, be desired to make returns of their officers, with their respective ranks, to the Committee for the said City; and the Battalions in the several Counties are desired to make returns, in like manner, to their respective Committees; which Committees are desired to certify such returns, with the respective rank of each Battalion in their Counties, to the Assembly of this Province, or, in the recess of the House, to the Speaker thereof, that commissions may be issued for every officer, as above directed.

*Twenty-fifth.* Every Associator (except Riflemen) is required to furnish himself with a good and sufficient firelock fit for actual service, a bayonet fitted thereto, steel-ramrod, worm, priming-wire and brush, a cartridge-box that will contain twenty-three rounds of cartridges, twelve flints, a knap-

sack, a sufficient powder-horn, and a pouch at the bottom of his cartridge-box, or a strong bag that will hold four pounds of ball.

*Twenty-sixth.* The Commissioners and Assessors of the several Counties within this Province shall deliver the firelocks, bayonets, cartridge-boxes, and knapsacks directed to be provided by the Resolutions of the late House of Assembly, to the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions in their respective Counties, in due proportions, according to the number of men in each Battalion, for the use of such Associators in their Battalions as are unable to supply themselves, taking receipts for the same, which they shall immediately transmit to the Committee of Safety, having first entered the accounts of the same in their respective Minute Books; and the said commanding officers shall be accountable for the delivery of such arms and accoutrements, unless lost in actual service, whenever they shall be called upon by the Assembly or Committee of Safety.

*Twenty-seventh.* That the publick arms delivered to Associators be not subject to any distress for rent or execution for debt; that any Associator who shall sell such arms, or by any means defraud the publick thereof, or endeavour so to do, shall forfeit six pounds, and be held up to publick infamy and disgrace; and any person who shall detain, buy, or exchange such arms, knowing them to be publick property, shall forfeit ten pounds, and be held up in like manner.

*Twenty-eighth.* Every Associator is required to attend constantly, with his arms and accoutrements in good order, on the last *Monday* in the month of *February*; the last two *Mondays* in the month of *March*; the last three *Mondays* in the month of *April*; the four *Mondays* in the month of *May*; the first two *Mondays* in the month of *June*; the last *Monday* in the month of *July*; the first three *Mondays* in the month of *August*; the last three *Mondays* in the month of *September*; and the second *Monday* in the month of *October*, at the places appointed by their commanding officers, to be trained and exercised in Companies or Battalions, as the officers shall direct.

And it is also recommended to such Associators as are not sufficiently expert in the exercise, to meet as frequently as they conveniently can, at other times, to perfect themselves in the same. It is also directed, that the commanding officers respectively shall give due notice to the Associators of the places and hours of meeting, either in Companies or Battalion; and if the Associators are prevented from meeting on any of the days herein appointed, by the inclemency of the weather, they are to meet on the next fair day.

*Twenty-ninth.* No Company or Battalion shall meet at a Tavern on any of the days of exercise; nor shall march to any Tavern before they are discharged.

*Thirtieth.* The Associators, on days of exercise, may be detained under arms, on duty in the field, any time not exceeding six hours, provided they are not kept above three hours under arms at any one time, without allowing them a proper time to refresh themselves.

*Thirty-first.* The Sergeant or Clerk of any Company, to be for this purpose appointed by the Captain, Lieutenants, and Ensigns of the Company, is required, at the end of one hour after the time appointed for the meeting of the Company or Battalion, to call over the Muster-Roll of the Company, noting those who are absent, and that day to make return, in writing, to the Captain of such absentees; and all persons so absent at the time of calling over the roll, are to be liable to the fines hereafter mentioned in the articles for non-attendance.

*Thirty-second.* The Captain of every Company, as soon as he is supplied by the publick with powder and lead for the purpose, is to take especial care that twenty-three rounds of cartridges are properly made up, and suited to the bore of each firelock respectively belonging to his Company, and shall keep all the cartridges that are so made up in some dry and convenient place, with the name of the private affixed for whose firelock they are fitted, ready to be delivered out when occasion requires.

*Thirty-third.* Adjutants, Drummers, and Fifers, shall receive the following pay for every day of service they attend their respective Battalions or Companies by order of the commanding officer: An Adjutant, seven shillings and six pence; a Drummer, three shillings; a Fifer, three shil-

lings; the Drum-Major and Fife-Major of every Battalion shall receive each a sum not exceeding fifteen shillings per week, and be continued in pay as long as the Colonels of the several Battalions shall think necessary; and it is required, that such Drum-Majors and Fife-Majors when not in service on days of exercise, shall be diligently employed in instructing a proper number of persons for Drummers and Fifers of the several Battalions. That, instead of an Adjutant on pay, there be a Sergeant-Major to each Battalion of the City of *Philadelphia*, who shall receive a sum not exceeding eight dollars per month, and be continued in pay as long as the Colonels of the several Battalions shall think necessary, provided the same be not extended beyond the second *Monday* in *October* next.

*Thirty-fourth.* All officers and soldiers of the Association, when employed on military watch and ward, or when called into actual service, in case of an invasion or insurrection, or imminent danger of either, by this House of Assembly, or, in their recess, by the Committee of Safety, shall, while on such watch, or in such service, be entitled to and receive the same pay that the officers and soldiers of the Continental Troops receive.

*Thirty-fifth.* If any officer or soldier, not labouring under any infirmity incapacitating him to serve, shall, when so called into actual service, refuse to appear and march with his arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, or (if a soldier) shall refuse to provide a suitable person well clothed, armed, and accoutred, to march in his stead, such person to be approved by the commanding officer of the Battalion; or if any officer or soldier, having entered on such service, shall depart without leave of such commanding officer, he shall be held up to the publick as a coward and betrayer of his country; provided always, that no Associator be detained in actual service longer than two months at one time, without his free consent.

*Thirty-sixth.* If any Associator, so called into actual service, shall leave a family not of ability to maintain themselves in his absence, the Overseers of the Poor, with the concurrence of one Justice of the Peace of the City or County where such Associator did reside, shall immediately make provision by way of out-pension for the maintenance of such family; and a true and proper account being kept thereof shall be returned to the Assembly, in order that the same may be made a Provincial expense, and paid accordingly.

*Thirty-seventh.* When any of the Associators shall be so called into actual service, the Commissioners of the respective Counties, or any one of them, shall immediately provide such carriages as may be necessary for their accommodation, at the expense of the publick.

*Thirty-eighth.* As there may happen occasions wherein it may be necessary to call out a part of the Associators to actual, though temporary, service, and not the whole body, and it would be inconvenient and burdensome, if, upon every alarm, where the assistance of part only may be wanted, the whole should come together, or a much greater number than the occasion required,—it is recommended, that orders may issue from the Assembly, or, in their recess, the Committee of Safety, to the Colonels, either to march their whole Battalion, or to send to an appointed rendezvous one or more Companies, as they may be wanted; and, in the latter case, such Company to be formed by drafts out of the Companies, and to be commanded by an officer out of each Company, on the tour of duty, each Company serving on such calls, in its turn, and for such proportion of time as shall make the burden nearly equal; and if the Associators who are called forth, are not all provided with good arms, it is recommended to all those who have such, and are not called out, to lend the same for that occasion, at the risk of the publick.

*Thirty-ninth.* The Field-Officers of every Battalion shall appoint some person in each Company of their respective Battalions, in whom they can confide, and the officers in every Troop of Horse and Company of Artillery, shall, in like manner, choose some person in their Troop or Company respectively, whose names shall be returned by the said officers respectively to the County Treasurers for the Provincial taxes in their several Counties; which persons so appointed shall, from time to time, collect all fines incurred by the Associators for non-attendance, and shall severally pay the same to the said County Treasurers respectively, first deducting a commission of five per cent. for their trou-

ble, which said County Treasurers, respectively, shall pay the same to *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, Treasurer, after deducting a commission of one per cent. for their trouble; and then the said moneys shall be appropriated in the following manner: 1st. To the support and relief of such poor Associators as, being called out to actual service, shall be maimed and wounded therein, so as to be in any respect unable to support themselves or families. 2d. For the support and relief of the widows and children of such poor Associators as, being called into actual service, shall be killed therein. The surplus of said moneys to be applied as this or any future Assembly shall direct. And the said *Michael Hillegas* shall be allowed for his trouble herein, five shillings for every one hundred pounds so received and paid by him. It is directed, that the said Collectors shall account with the officers who severally appointed them, as often as such officers shall require them so to do; and the said officers shall, in due time, transmit the accounts of the said Collectors to the respective County Treasurers for the Provincial taxes.

*Lastly.* This House having drawn up the following Articles of Agreement for all the Associators in the Province, they do earnestly recommend the same to be adopted, signed, and agreed to, by all the said Associators, in order that one general system may prevail in *Pennsylvania*.

#### *Articles of Association in PENNSYLVANIA.*

We, the Officers and Soldiers engaged in the present Association for the defence of *American* liberty, being fully sensible that the strength and security of any body of men acting together, consists in just regularity, due subordination, and exact obedience to command, without which no individual can have that confidence in the support of those about him that is so necessary to give firmness and resolution to the whole, do voluntarily and freely, after consideration of the following Articles, adopt the same as the Rules and Regulations by which we agree and resolve to be governed in all our Military concerns and operations, until the same, or any of them, shall be changed or dissolved by the Assembly of this Province, or a happy reconciliation shall take place between *Great Britain* and the Colonies:

1. If any officer make use of any profane oath or execration when on duty, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence, the sum of five shillings; and if a non-commissioned officer, or soldier, be thus guilty of cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay for each and every such offence, the sum of one shilling.

2. Any officer or soldier who shall refuse to obey the lawful orders of his superior officer, may be suspended from doing duty on that day, and shall, upon being convicted thereof before a Regimental Court of Associators, make such concessions as said Court shall direct.

3. Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, join in, or promote, any disturbance in the Battalion, Troop, or Company, to which he belongs, or in any other Battalion, Troop, or Company, shall be fined or censured, according to the nature of the offence, by the judgment of a General or Regimental Court of Associators.

4. Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, shall, upon a conviction before a General or Regimental Court of Associators, be dismissed, and shall be deemed thereby disgraced as unworthy the company of freemen.

5. Any commanding or other officer who shall strike any Associator when on duty, shall, upon conviction before a General Court of Associators, suffer such punishment as the said Court shall inflict.

6. Any officer or soldier who shall make use of insolent, provoking, or indecent language, while on duty, shall suffer such censure or fine as shall be inflicted by a General or Regimental Court of Associators, according to the nature of the offence.

7. If any officer or soldier shall think himself injured by his Colonel, or the commanding officer of the Battalion, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused redress, he may complain to the General or Commander-in-Chief of the *Pennsylvania* Associators, or to the Colonel of any other Battalion, who shall summon a General Court of Associators, that justice may be done.



8. If any inferior officer or soldier shall think himself injured by his Captain, or other superior officer, in the Battalion, Troop, or Company to which he belongs, he may complain to the commanding officer of the Battalion, who shall summon a Regimental Court of Associators for the doing justice according to the nature of the case.

9. No officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing with his arms and accoutrements, on any of the days appointed by the Assembly for exercising, to the place of parade, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness, or some other evident necessity, of which the commanding officer of said Battalion shall judge; or shall go from the place of parade or rendezvous without leave from the said commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed, on penalty of three shillings and six pence.

10. Any officer or soldier found drunk when under arms, shall be suspended from doing duty in the Battalion, Company, or Troop, on that day, and be fined, or censured, at the discretion of a General or Regimental Court of Associators.

11. Whatever sentinel shall be found sleeping or drunk on his post, or shall leave it before he is regularly relieved, shall suffer such penalty or disgrace as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court of Associators.

12. Whatever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a General Court of Associators, of behaving in a scandalous or infamous manner, unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be dismissed from the Association with disgrace.

13. Every non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall be convicted at a Regimental Court of Associators of having carelessly lost, wilfully spoiled or wasted, any ammunition, arms, or accoutrements, belonging to this Province, shall be dismissed his Battalion, Troop, or Company, as an unworthy member, and be prosecuted as the law directs.

14. All disorders and neglects which officers or soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of the good order and military discipline of the Association of this Colony, are to be taken cognizance of by a General or Regimental Court of Associators, according to the nature and degree of the offence; and such officers or soldiers shall be fined or censured, at the discretion of the Court.

15. That, on the first meeting of every Company after subscribing these Articles of Association, and from thence forward, on the first meeting of every Company, after the last *Monday* in *February*, annually, there shall be chosen by the non-commissioned officers and privates out of each Company in the respective Battalions, two persons who are entitled to vote for Members of Assembly, whose duty and office shall be, for the year following, to sit and join with the officers in Courts of Association, which persons so chosen shall be styled Court-Associators.

16. Every General Court of Associators shall consist of thirteen members, six of whom shall be commissioned officers under the rank of Field-Officers, and six Court-Associators, who shall be drawn by lot out of the whole number for the Battalion; and these twelve are to choose a President, who shall be a Field-Officer, and have a casting voice.

17. Every Regimental Court of Associators shall be composed of seven members—three officers, three Court-Associators, and a President, who is to be a Captain, and to be chosen by the six, and also to have a casting voice.

18. In all Courts of Associators, not less than two-thirds of the members must agree in every sentence for inflicting penalties, or for disgracing any Associator; otherwise he shall be acquitted.

19. The President of each and every Court of Associators, whether General or Regimental, shall require all witnesses, in order to the trial of offenders, to declare on oath or affirmation, that the evidence they shall give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; and the members of all Courts of Associators shall take an oath, or affirmation, which the President is required to administer to the other members, and the next in rank is required to administer to him, that they will give judgment with impartiality.

20. All non-commissioned officers, drummers, fifers, or others, that shall be employed and receive pay in any of the Battalions, Companies, or Troops, shall subscribe these Rules and Regulations, and be subject to such fines, to be deducted from their pay, and to such penalties as a Regimental Court

of Associators shall think proper, upon being convicted of having transgressed any of these regulations.

21. All Associators called as witnesses in any case before a Court of Associators, who shall refuse to attend and give evidence, shall be censured or fined, at the discretion of the Court.

22. No officer or soldier being charged with transgressing these rules, shall be suffered to do duty in the Battalion, Company, or Troop to which he belongs, until he has had his trial by a Court of Associators, and every person so charged shall be tried as soon as a Court of Associators can be conveniently assembled.

23. The officers and soldiers of every Company of Artillery, or other Company, Troop, or party, that is or shall be annexed to any Battalion, shall be subject to the command of the Colonel, or commanding officer of said Battalion, and the officers shall sit as members of Courts of Associators in the same manner as the officers of any other Company.

24. No penalty shall be inflicted at the discretion of a Court of Associators, other than degrading, cashiering, or fining; the fines for the officers not to exceed three pounds, and the fine for a non-commissioned officer, or soldier, not to exceed twelve shillings for one fault.

25. The Field-Officers of each and every Battalion shall appoint a person in every Company, to receive such fines as may arise within the same, for breach of any of these articles, (except for non-attendance;) and the commissioned officers of the Company shall, with the approbation of the Field-Officers, direct those fines to be applied to the relief of the necessitous soldiers belonging to that Company, and the overplus, if any, to other necessary expenses of the Company; and such person shall account with the Field-Officers, as often as required for all such fines received, and the application thereof.

26. The General, or Commander-in-Chief of this Association for the time being, shall have full power of pardoning or mitigating any censures or penalties ordered to be inflicted for the breach of any of these articles, by any General Court of Associators; and every offender, convicted as aforesaid by any Regimental Court of Associators, may be pardoned, or have his penalties mitigated by the Colonel or commanding officer of the Battalion, excepting only where such censures or penalties are directed as satisfaction for injuries received by one officer or soldier from another.

27. Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or other person, who, having subscribed these articles, shall refuse to make such concessions, pay such fines, or, in any other matter, refuse to comply with the judgment of any Court of Associators, shall be dismissed the service, and returned to the Commissioners of the County, who shall charge and proceed against him as a Non-Associator, and he shall further be deemed unfriendly to the liberties of *America*.

28. Upon the determination of any point by a Regimental Court of Associators, if the officer or soldier concerned on either side thinks himself still aggrieved, he may appeal to a General Court of Associators; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal appears groundless and vexatious, the person so appealing shall be censured, at the discretion of the said General Court.

29. Upon the death, resignation, promotion, or other removal of a Field-Officer, Standard-Bearer, or Adjutant, the officers of the Battalion shall choose a person in his place; and upon the death, resignation, promotion, or other removal of an officer or Court-Associator from a Troop or Company, such vacancy is to be filled by the person such Troop or Company shall elect.

30. No officer or soldier shall be tried a second time for the same offence, except in case of appeal.

31. That when any officers or soldiers of the Association in this Province, shall be called into actual service by the Assembly, or Committee of Safety, in recess of Assembly, they shall be subject to all the rules and articles made by the Assembly at this sitting, for regulating and governing the Troops in the pay of this Province, until they are joined to and in service with Continental Troops; and then they shall be subject to all the rules and articles already made by the honourable Congress for the government of the Continental Troops. *Provided always*, That no officer or soldier of the said Association shall, after such junction, be tried by any Court-Martial, unless such Court be

wholly composed of officers of the said Association, if a sufficient number can be had.

32. No commissioned, non-commissioned officer, or private, shall withdraw himself from the Company to which he belongs, without a discharge from the commanding officer of the Battalion, nor shall such person be received into any other Company without such discharge.

In testimony of our approbation and consent to be governed by these Regulations, which have been deliberately read to, or carefully perused by us, we have hereunto set our hands.

*Resolutions directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators.*

1. The Assessors of the several Townships, Boroughs, Wards, and Districts, within this Province, who have not performed the said service, are required, on or before the 25th day of *May* next ensuing, to make, in writing, and deliver an exact list of the names and surnames of every male white person capable of bearing arms, between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, (Ministers of the Gospel of all denominations, Schoolmasters in actual employ, and Servants purchased *bona fide* and for a valuable consideration, only excepted,) residing in such Township, Borough, Ward, or District, to the Commissioners of the County, chosen by virtue of the act for raising of County Rates and Levies.

2. If any Assessor shall neglect or refuse to perform the duty aforesaid, the Commissioners of the respective Counties, or any two of them, are hereby required and enjoined to fine him in any sum not exceeding ten Pounds, unless such Assessor's refusal proceeds from conscientious motives; and such fine shall be levied and recovered in the same manner as is directed by the laws of this Province for levying and recovering fines imposed on Assessors refusing or neglecting to perform the duties therein required of them, to be paid into the hands of the respective County Treasurers, to be by them delivered to the same person, and applied to the same use, as the other moneys directed to be levied by the Resolves of this House in their present sitting.

3. The Commissioners of the respective Counties, or any two of them, are hereby required and enjoined to appoint some proper person to make out the list aforesaid, in the place of the Assessor so refusing or neglecting; which person, so appointed, shall make out and return such list to the Commissioners on or before the 1st day of *May* next ensuing.

4. Every Assessor, or person appointed in his place as aforesaid, shall, before he begins to make out the lists aforesaid, take an oath or affirmation, which any Magistrate of the County is hereby required and enjoined to administer, without fee or reward, "That he will go to the place or places of abode of all and every person and persons residing within his Township, Borough, Ward, or District, and make a faithful and diligent inquiry of, and endeavour, by all other lawful ways and means in his power, to procure a true and exact account and list of the names and surnames of all male white persons capable of bearing arms, who are between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, residing within his Township, Borough, Ward, or District, and will make a return of such account or list (if an Assessor) to the Commissioners of the County, respectively, in which he resides, on or before the twenty-fifth day of *May* next ensuing, or (if a person appointed in the place of an Assessor) on or before the 1st day of *June* next ensuing."

5. Every Assessor, or other person appointed and acting in the place of an Assessor, as aforesaid, shall receive for his trouble in making out and returning such lists, the sum of four Shillings for every day he shall be employed in that service.

6. If any dispute shall arise concerning the age of any Non-Associator, the same shall be determined before the Commissioners of the County, or any two of them, by oath or affirmation of the person whose age is in question; which oath or affirmation the said Commissioners, or any of them, is hereby required to administer, or by any other proper evidence.

7. The Captains of every Company are required and enjoined, on or before the 15th day of *June* next ensuing, to deliver, under his hand, to the Colonel of the Battalion to which he belongs, a copy of the Articles of Association, signed by the Associators of his Company, therein mention-

ing the County and the Township, Borough, Ward, or District in which each of the said Associators resides, which the Colonel shall carefully keep, and therefrom shall immediately make out and return, on or before the 25th day of the same month, a fair duplicate to the Commissioners aforesaid of the respective Counties in which the said Associators, respectively, reside.

8. The said Commissioners, or any two of them, are required, on or before the 1st day of *July* next ensuing, to meet together, and cause their Clerks to make out fair lists of the names and surnames of all persons mentioned in the duplicates returned to them as aforesaid, with their places of abode, who appear by the duplicates returned by the Colonels not to have signed the Articles of Association; and thereupon the said Commissioners are required to charge every such person not associating, over and above the rates and assessments set upon him by virtue of the laws of this Province, the sum of three Pounds ten Shillings, on the lists made out by their orders as aforesaid.

9. If any Apprentice is willing to associate, and his Master or Mistress will not permit him so to do, or detains him from the parade on any of the days of exercise herein appointed, such Master or Mistress shall be liable to the payment of three Shillings and six Pence for each time he or she shall detain his or her said Apprentice; and if any Apprentice of suitable age shall neglect or refuse to appear on any of the said days of exercise, not being detained by his said Master or Mistress, such Apprentice, if of estate, shall, by his Guardian, pay such penalty.

10. If any Commissioner shall neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties required of him by these resolutions, such Commissioner shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten Pounds for every such offence, unless such refusal proceeds from conscientious motives; such fine to be recovered, levied, and applied in the same manner, by the same persons, and for the same uses, as the fines arising from the delinquency of the Assessors; and in such case, the Prothonotaries of the several Counties of this Province, respectively, or their immediate Deputies, are hereby enjoined, by and with the concurrence of any two Magistrates of said County, to appoint some suitable and proper person in the place and stead of such Commissioner so refusing or neglecting as aforesaid; which person, so appointed, shall have the same power and authority, and perform the several duties hereby required of the said Commissioner; or, on failure thereof, shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten Pounds, to be applied as aforesaid; and the said Prothonotary and Justices shall proceed to appoint another, and so as often as it shall become necessary.

11. If any person charged by the Commissioners as a Non-Associator, shall, at the day of appeal, produce to the Commissioners a certificate from the Commanding Officer of any Battalion, Troop of Horse, or Company of Artillery, that he has become an Associator in such Battalion, Troop, or Company, the Commissioners, or any two of them, shall make an allowance in favour of such person of three Shillings and six Pence for each of the days of exercise appointed by this House, after such person became an Associator, on which he attended his Battalion, Troop, or Company, or has been fined for non-attendance.

12. If any person charged by the Commissioners as a Non-Associator, shall die before the day of appeal, or if, before that day, an accommodation shall be made between *Great Britain* and the Colonies of this Continent, and, in consequence thereof, the Military Association in this Province shall be dissolved; in either of those cases, the Commissioners, or any two of them, shall make an abatement in the assessment charged as aforesaid, of three Shillings and six Pence for each of the days of exercise aforesaid, after the death of such Non-Associator, or the dissolution of the Association.

13. If any Non-Associator, or the Parent, Guardian, Master, or Mistress of any Non-Associator, between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one years, or any other Non-Associator, shall think him or herself aggrieved by the assessment aforesaid, he or she may appeal to the Commissioners of the County wherein he or she resides, who, or any two of them, shall meet together on the 10th day of *October* next ensuing, and so, from day to day, as long as may be necessary, and at such place or places as the Commissioners, or any two of them, shall appoint; of which days and places of meeting they shall cause the Collectors to give

due notice to the inhabitants, and then and there the said Commissioners, or any two of them, shall hear such appeals as may be made to them, and may discharge such assessment, or lower the same, as to them, on consideration of inability of person or estate only, shall appear just and equitable.

14. The said Commissioners of the respective Counties, or any two of them, within ten days after hearing and determining the appeals made to them, shall rectify and adjust the lists returned to them as aforesaid, and the assessments thereon, and deliver to the Treasurers of the respective Counties a true account of the sums total which every Collector shall be charged with, in pursuance of these Resolves; and shall cause their Clerks to make out and deliver fair duplicates thereof to the respective Collectors of the Townships, Boroughs, Wards, and Districts within their respective Counties, who shall collect the said sums, keeping exact and separate accounts of the sums so charged on Non-Associators, and shall pay the same into the hands of the respective County Treasurers, who shall pay the same into the hands of *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, to be applied to the same purposes as the fines and penalties collected from the Association are limited and directed. And all persons shall be liable to the payment of the said sums, in the same manner, and the Collectors shall have the same powers, and shall proceed in collecting and levying the said sums, and shall be accountable in the same manner, as is directed by the Act intituled "An Act for raising County Rates and Levies."

15. The allowances to the Collectors of such assessments, and to the Treasurers, respectively, shall be the same with those appointed and directed in the collection of fines from Associators for non-attendance.

16. The Treasurers of the respective Counties, before they enter on the duties hereby required of them, shall give the like security, for the faithful discharge of their office, to the Commissioners of their several Counties, that they are now obliged by the laws of this Province to give for the due payment of Provincial Taxes.

17. All and every person and persons who are required or enjoined by these Resolutions, or any of them, to discharge or perform any of the offices or duties herein before mentioned, are hereby further earnestly and solemnly required and enjoined, with all diligence and fidelity, strenuously to exert themselves in discharging and performing such offices and duties, and every part thereof, as they regard the freedom, security, and happiness of their country.

Whereas a number of spirited *Germans*, and other foreigners, not entitled to the privileges of freemen of this Province, have cheerfully associated in its defence, and shown a readiness to expose their lives therefor, if necessary:

*Resolved, therefore*, That every such person producing a certificate, under the hand and seal of the commanding officer of any Battalion in the Military Association of this Province, signifying that such person has signed the Articles of the Association, and served pursuant thereto, and, in case of an invasion or alarm, has, upon his own account, gone forth into actual service, such person shall be, and is hereby, recommended to the special notice and encouragement of this and any future Assembly, in order to his being put in the same condition, and entitled to the same rights and privileges, as natural-born subjects within this Province now are.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety procure a sufficient number of complete copies of the "Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in *Pennsylvania*," "The Articles of the said Association," and the "Resolutions directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators in *Pennsylvania*," as amended at this sitting, to be immediately printed in the *English* and *German* languages, and transmitted to the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions, and to the Commissioners of the several Counties in this Province.

The Committee appointed last night to bring in a draft of Rules and Articles for the Troops in the pay of this Province, agreeable to the alterations directed by the House, reported an essay for that purpose; which being read and agreed to, the same was transcribed by order, and follows in these words, viz:

#### *Rules and Articles for the government of PENNSYLVANIA Forces.*

Whereas, the inhabitants of this Province are under an indispensable necessity of raising an Armed Force for their

immediate security and protection, and to repel any hostile attacks which may be made upon them: for the due regulating and governing whereof,

*Resolved*, That the following Rules and Articles be attended to, obeyed, and observed, by such Troops as are or may be raised, and in the pay of this Province:

*Article 1.* It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers diligently to attend divine service; and all officers and soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a Court-Martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the President; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit one-sixth of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined twenty-four hours; and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay, in like manner; which money, so forfeited, shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

*Article 2.* Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing, he shall forfeit and pay, for each and every offence, the sum of four shillings, lawful money.

*Article 3.* Any officer or soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the Commander-in-Chief of the said forces, or shall speak false words tending to his or their hurt or dishonour, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 4.* Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, or join, in any mutiny or sedition in the regiment, troop, or company to which he belongs, or in any other regiment, troop, or company of the said forces, either by land or sea, or in any party, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a General Court-Martial shall direct.

*Article 5.* Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who, being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress the same, or, coming to the knowledge of any mutiny, or intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to the commanding officer, shall be punished by order of a General Court-Martial according to the nature of his offence.

*Article 6.* Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superior officer, or draw, or offer to draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful commands of his superior officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 7.* Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall desert, or, without leave of his commanding officer, absent himself from the troop or company to which he belongs, or from any detachment of the same, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 8.* Whatsoever officer or soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier to desert, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 9.* Any officer or soldier who shall desert to the enemy, and afterwards be taken, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a General Court-Martial shall direct.

*Article 10.* All officers, of what condition soever, shall have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another regiment, troop, or company, and either order officers to be arrested, or non-commissioned officers or soldiers to be confined and imprisoned, till their proper superior officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whoever shall refuse to obey such officer, (though of an inferior rank,) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 11.* No officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, nor shall presume to send a challenge to any person to fight a duel; and whoever shall knowingly or willingly suffer any person to go forth to fight a duel, or shall second, promote, or carry

any challenge, shall be deemed as a principal; and whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall also be considered as a challenger; and all such offenders, in any of these, or such like cases, shall be punished at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 12.* Every officer commanding in quarters, or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders as may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command. If, upon any complaint being made to him of officers or soldiers beating, or otherwise ill-treating any person, or of committing any kind of riot, to the disquieting of the inhabitants of this Continent, he, the said commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as the offender's wages shall enable him or them, shall, upon due proof thereof, be punished as ordered by a General Court-Martial, in such manner as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

*Article 13.* If any officer shall think himself wronged by his Colonel, or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the Commander-in-Chief of the said forces, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into said complaint and see that justice be done.

*Article 14.* If any inferior officer or soldier shall think himself wronged by his Captain or other officer commanding the troop or company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding officer of the regiment, who is hereby required to summon a Regimental Court-Martial for the doing justice to the complainant; from which Regimental Court-Martial, either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a General Court-Martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the General Court-Martial.

*Article 15.* All publick stores taken in the enemy's camp or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing, or provisions, shall be secured for the use of this Province. And all commissioned officers found guilty, by a General Court-Martial, of embezzling the same, or any of them, shall forfeit all his pay, be *ipso facto* cashiered, and deemed unfit for further service as an officer. And all non-commissioned officers and soldiers convicted before a Regimental Court-Martial of stealing or embezzling the same, if a non-commissioned officer, shall be reduced to the ranks, and punished with whipping, not less than fifteen nor more than thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of the Court-Martial; if a private soldier, with the same punishment.

*Article 16.* Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be convicted, at a Regimental Court-Martial, of having sold, or designedly, or through neglect, wasted the ammunition, arms, or provisions, or other military stores, delivered out to him to be employed in the service of this Province, shall, if an officer, be reduced to a private sentinel; and if a private soldier, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court-Martial.

*Article 17.* All commissioned officers found guilty by a General Court-Martial of any fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his pay, be *ipso facto* cashiered, and deemed unfit for further service as an officer.

*Article 18.* All non-commissioned officers and soldiers convicted before a Regimental Court-Martial of stealing, embezzling, or destroying ammunition, provisions, tools, or anything belonging to the publick stores,—if a non-commissioned officer, to be reduced to the ranks, and punished with whipping, not less than fifteen nor more than thirty-nine lashes, at the discretion of the Court-Martial; if a private soldier, with the same corporal punishment.

*Article 19.* All non-commissioned officers and soldiers who shall be found one mile from the camp, without leave in writing from their commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him, or them, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

*Article 20.* Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat; in default of which, he shall be punished, according to the nature of his offence, by order of the commanding officer.

*Article 21.* No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quar-

ters, or camp, without leave from the commanding officer of the regiment, upon penalty, if an officer, of being mulcted one month's pay for the first offence, and cashiered for the second; if a non-commissioned officer, or soldier, of being confined seven days on bread and water for the first offence, and the same punishment, and a forfeiture of a week's pay for the second.

*Article 22.* No officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing at the time fixed to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by the commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness, or some other evident necessity, or shall go from the said place of rendezvous, or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

*Article 23.* Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered with infamy; any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending, shall be sentenced to be whipped not less than twenty nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence.

*Article 24.* Whatsoever officer or soldier, placed as a sentinel, shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved,—if a commissioned officer, shall be cashiered with infamy; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall be sentenced to be whipped, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence.

*Article 25.* Any person belonging to the said troops, who, by discharging of fire-arms, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp or quarters, shall suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 26.* Any officer or soldier, who, without urgent necessity, or without leave of his superior officer, shall quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a Regimental Court-Martial.

*Article 27.* If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colours in time of an engagement, to go in search of plunder, he shall, if a commissioned officer, be cashiered with infamy, and forfeit all share of plunder; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be whipped, not less than twenty, nor more than thirty-nine lashes, according to the nature of the offence, and forfeit all share of plunder taken from the enemy.

*Article 28.* No officer or soldier shall do violence, or offer any insult, or abuse, to any person who shall bring provisions or other necessities to the camp or quarters of the forces of this Province; any officer or soldier so offending shall, upon complaint being made to the commanding officer, suffer such punishment as shall be ordered by a Regimental Court-Martial.

*Article 29.* Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, or shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like, shall suffer death immediately.

*Article 30.* In all cases where a commissioned officer is cashiered for cowardice or fraud, it be added in the punishment, that the crime, name, and place of abode, and punishment of the delinquent be published in the newspapers of this Province; after which it shall be deemed scandalous in any officer to associate with him.

*Article 31.* Any person belonging to the said troops, who shall make known the watchword to any person who is not entitled to receive it, according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watchword different from what he received, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 32.* All persons convicted of holding a treacherous correspondence with, or giving intelligence to the enemy, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as a General Court-Martial shall think proper.

*Article 33.* Whosoever, belonging to the troops of this Province, shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer such punishment as by a General Court-Martial shall be ordered.

*Article 34.* If any commander of any post, intrenchment, or fortress, shall be compelled by the officers or sol-



diers under his command to give it up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officer, non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as may be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 35.* All officers and soldiers who shall wilfully, or through negligence, disobey any general or special orders, shall be punished at the discretion of a Regimental Court-Martial, where the offence is against a Regimental order; and at the discretion of a General Court-Martial, where the offence is against an order given from the Commander-in-Chief, or the commander of any detachment or post, and such General Court-Martial can be had.

*Article 36.* All sutlers, and retailers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever, serving with the said troops in the field, though not enlisted soldiers, are to be subject to these articles, rules and regulations.

*Article 37.* No General Court-Martial shall consist of a less number than thirteen, none of whom shall be under the degree of a commissioned officer, and the President shall be a Field-Officer; and the President of each and every Court-Martial, whether General or Regimental, shall have power to administer an oath to every witness, in order to the trial of offenders. And the members of all Courts-Martial shall be duly sworn by the President; and the next in rank on the Court-Martial shall administer the oath to the President.

*Article 38.* The members, both of General and Regimental Courts-Martial, shall, when belonging to different corps, take the same rank which they hold in the Army; but when Courts-Martial shall be composed of officers of one corps, they shall take their ranks according to their commissions by which they are mustered in the said corps.

*Article 39.* All the members of a Court-Martial are to behave with calmness, decency, and impartiality; and in giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest or lowest in commission.

*Article 40.* No Field-Officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a Captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on, excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and three in the afternoon; except in cases which require an immediate example.

*Article 41.* The commissioned officers of every regiment may, by the appointment of their Colonel, or commanding officer, hold Regimental Courts-Martial for the inquiring into such disputes or criminal matters as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporal punishments for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding officer (not being a member of the Court-Martial) shall have confirmed the same.

*Article 42.* No Regimental Court-Martial shall consist of less than five officers, excepting in cases where that number cannot be conveniently assembled, when three may be sufficient, who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices; which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding officer, not being a member of the Court-Martial.

*Article 43.* Every officer commanding in any fort, castle, barrack, or elsewhere, where the corps under his command consists of detachments from different regiments, or of independent companies, may assemble Courts-Martial for the trial of offenders, in the same manner as if they were Regimental; whose sentence is not to be executed till it shall be confirmed by the commanding officer.

*Article 44.* No person whatsoever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of a Court-Martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot, so as to disturb their proceedings, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said Court-Martial.

*Article 45.* To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a Court-Martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by proper authority.

*Article 46.* No officer or soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a Court-Martial can be conveniently assembled.

*Article 47.* No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall refuse to receive, or keep, any prisoner committed to his charge by an officer belonging to the said forces; which officer shall, at the same time, deliver an account, in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

*Article 48.* No officer commanding a guard, or provost-marshal, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 49.* Every officer, or provost-marshal, to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give, in writing, to the Colonel of the Regiment to whom the prisoner belongs, (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said Regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own corps,) or to the Commander-in-Chief, their names, crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a General Court-Martial.

*Article 50.* And if any officer under an arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superior power, he shall be cashiered for it.

*Article 51.* Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a General Court-Martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner—such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman—shall be discharged from the service.

*Article 52.* All officers, conductors, gunners, matrosses, drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the Artillery of this Province, shall be governed by the aforesaid rules and articles; and shall be subject to be tried by Courts-Martial in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the Provincial Troops.

*Article 53.* For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own corps, the Courts-Martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a sufficient number of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the officers of Artillery shall sit in Courts-Martial with the officers of the other corps.

*Article 54.* All crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects which officers and soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the articles of war, are to be taken cognizance of by a General or Regimental Court-Martial, according to the nature and degree of the offence, and to be punished at their discretion.

*Article 55.* That no persons shall be sentenced by a Court-Martial to suffer death, except in the cases expressly mentioned in the foregoing articles; nor shall any punishment be inflicted at the discretion of a Court-Martial other than degrading, cashiering, drumming out of the Army, whipping not exceeding thirty-nine lashes; fine not exceeding two months' pay of the offender; imprisonment not exceeding one month.

*Article 56.* The Field-Officers of each and every Regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such Regiment to receive all such fines as may arise within the same for any breach of any of the foregoing articles; and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such Regiment; and such person shall account with such officer for all fines received, and the application thereof.

*Article 57.* All members sitting in Courts-Martial shall be sworn, or affirmed, by the President of said courts; which President shall himself be sworn, or affirmed, by the officer in said court next in rank. The oath, or affirmation, to be administered previous to their proceeding to the trial of any offender, in form following, viz: "You, A B, do swear, (or affirm,) that you will well and truly try, and impartially determine, the cause of the prisoner now to be tried, according to the rules for regulating the troops of this Province."

*Article 58.* All persons called to give evidence in any case before a Court-Martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal at the discretion of



such Court-Martial. The oath, or affirmation, to be administered in the following form, viz: "You swear, or affirm, the evidence you shall give in the case now in hearing shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth."

**Article 59.** Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon notice given to him by the Commissary of the Musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop, or company, under his command, in the next convenient place for their being mustered, on penalty of his being cashiered and mulcted of his pay.

**Article 60.** Every Colonel, or other Field-Officer, or officer commanding any corps to which there is no Field-Officer, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers and soldiers in such numbers, and for so long a time, as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no non-commissioned officer or soldier shall, by leave of his Captain, or inferior officer commanding the troop, or company, (his Field-Officer not being present,) be absent above twenty days in six months; nor shall more than two private-men be absent at the same time from their troop, or company, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it; of which occasion the Field-Officer present with, and commanding the regiment, or independent corps, is to be judge.

**Article 61.** At every muster, the commanding officer of each regiment, troop, or company, there present, shall give to the Mustermaster certificates, signed by himself, signifying how long such officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who shall not appear at the said muster, have been absent, and the reason of their absence; which reasons, and the time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster-rolls opposite to the names of such absentees; and the Surgeons, or their Mates, shall, at the same time, give to the Mustermaster a certificate, signed by them, signifying the state of health, or sickness, of those under their care; and the said certificates shall, together with the muster-rolls, be, by the said Mustermaster, transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief of said troops, and to this or any future Assembly, or, in their recess, to the Committee of Safety, at least once a month; on failure whereof, the Mustermaster so offending shall be discharged from the service.

**Article 62.** Every officer who shall be convicted before a General Court-Martial of having signed a false certificate relating to the absence of either officer, non-commissioned officer, or private soldier; and every Surgeon, or Mate, convicted of signing a false certificate relating to the health, or sickness of those under his care, shall be cashiered.

**Article 63.** Every officer who shall, knowingly, make a false muster of man or horse, and every officer or Commissary who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow, the signing of the muster-rolls wherein such false muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof, by two witnesses, before a General Court-Martial, be cashiered, and, moreover, forfeit all such pay as may be due to him at the time of conviction of such offence.

**Article 64.** Any Commissary who shall be convicted of having taken any gift, or gratuity, on the mustering any regiment, troop, or company, or on the signing the muster-rolls, shall be displaced from his office, and forfeit his pay, as in the preceding article.

**Article 65.** Any officer who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier who is, at other times, accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and shall suffer accordingly.

**Article 66.** Every officer who shall, knowingly, make a false return to the Commander-in-Chief of the said forces, or to any superior officer authorized to call for such returns, of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison, under his command, or of arms, ammunition, clothing, or other stores thereunto belonging, shall, by a Court-Martial, be cashiered.

**Article 67.** The commanding officer of every regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison, in the service aforesaid, shall, in the beginning of every month, remit to the Commander-in-Chief of said forces an exact return of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company, or garrison, under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and time of, their absence. Whoever shall be convicted of having, through neglect or design, omitted sending such re-

turns, shall be punished, according to the nature of his crime, by the judgment of a General Court-Martial.

**Article 68.** No Sutler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquors or victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveille, or upon *Sundays* during divine service or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

**Article 69.** All officers commanding in the camp, or in any forts, barracks, or garrisons, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to suttle shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions at a reasonable price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

**Article 70.** No officers commanding in any camp, garrisons, forts, or barracks, shall either themselves exact exorbitant prices for houses or stalls let out to Suttlers, or shall connive at the like exactions in others; nor lay any duty or impositions upon, or be interested in, the sale of such victuals, liquors, or other necessities of life, which are brought into the camp, garrison, fort, or barracks, for the use of the soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

**Article 71.** That the Commander-in-Chief of said troops, for the time being, shall have full power of pardoning, or mitigating, any of the punishments ordered to be inflicted for any of the offences mentioned in the foregoing articles; and every offender, convicted as aforesaid by any Regimental Court-Martial, may be pardoned, or have his punishment mitigated by the officer commanding the regiment.

**Article 72.** When any commissioned officer shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of this Province, the Major of the regiment, or the officer doing the Major's duty in his absence, shall immediately secure all his effects or equipage then in camp or quarters; and shall, before the next Regimental Court-Martial, make an inventory thereof, and forthwith transmit the same to the Clerk of the Assembly of this Province, to the end that his executors or administrators may, after payment of his debts in quarters, and interment, receive the overplus, if any be, to his or their use.

**Article 73.** When any non-commissioned officer or private soldier shall happen to die, or be killed in the service of this Province, the then commanding officer of the troop or company shall, in the presence of two other commissioned officers, take an account of whatever effects he dies possessed of, and transmit the same, as in the case above provided for, in order that the same may be secured for and paid to their respective representatives.

**Article 74.** All officers and soldiers, of every battalion, troop, or company, in the forces raised in this Province, when joined to and in service with the Continental Troops, shall be subject to the Rules and Articles made by the honourable Congress for the government of said troops.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That every Officer in the Troops now raising for the service of this Province, shall, at the time he shall receive his Commission, before some Justice of the Peace, take an oath, or affirmation, in the following words, to wit:

"I, *A B*, hereby subjecting myself to such rules and articles as are or shall be made or directed by the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, for regulating and governing the troops ordered to be raised by them, do solemnly . . . . that I will well and truly execute the office mentioned in my commission, according to the best of my ability; that I will faithfully obey the present and any Assembly of this Colony, and, in their recess, any Committee of Safety by them appointed for the time being, and, in pursuance of their direction and command, such officers as are or shall be placed in authority over me; that I will, to the utmost of my power, defend the rights and liberties of this Province, and of *America* in general, and will oppose and resist any force or enemies that shall act or be employed against them; and that I will disband and lay down my arms whenever I shall be ordered so to do by the Assembly of this Colony, or, in their recess, by such Committee of Safety. So help me *God*."

A Certificate whereof shall be endorsed on the Commissions of the said Officers, by the Magistrates administering the same.

*Resolved*, That every Officer already appointed, commissioned, and in the pay of this Province, shall, on or before the first day of *May* next, take the Oath or Affirmation aforesaid, a Certificate of which shall be endorsed and certified on the back of the Commission of such Officer.

*Resolved*, That any Officer neglecting or refusing to take the said Oath or Affirmation, shall be *ipso facto* cashiered.

*Resolved*, That the Justices of the Peace to whom application shall be made to administer the Oaths or Affirmations to Officers and Soldiers in the service of this Province, shall administer and certify the same without fee or reward.

Upon motion, the Petition of Messrs. *Owen Biddle* and *Benjamin Rush* was again read; and, after some debate, referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a ration for the *Pennsylvania* Forces shall consist of one pound of Beef, or three-quarters of a pound of Pork, or one pound of Mutton, per man per day; one pound of Flour or Bread per man per day; three pints of Peas or Beans, at six Shillings per bushel, per man per week, or vegetables equivalent thereto; half a pint of Rice, or one pound of *Indian* Meal, per man per week; one pint of Milk per man per day; one quart of small Beer per man per day, or nine gallons of Molasses for one hundred men per week; one gill of Vinegar per man per week; three pounds of Candles for one hundred men per week, for Guards; twenty-four pounds of soft or eight pounds of hard Soap, for one hundred men per week.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That *George Ross*, Esq., of the County of *Lancaster*, be, and he is hereby, appointed Judge of the Court of Admiralty lately instituted in this Province, pursuant to the recommendation of the honourable Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Marshal of the said Court of Admiralty, directed to be appointed by the Committee of Safety, shall receive his commission from the Speaker of this House.

The Committee appointed to inquire who first introduced in this Province the Spinning Machine claimed by *Christopher Tully* and *Joseph Hague*, reported, "That, upon examination, they find the said machine was made and used in this Province by both the persons above named nearly at the same time, but unknown to each other; and that the Committee think they are therefore alike deserving of reward from the publick, the machine being really useful, as it despatches business much faster than the common spinning-wheel."

The House adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, April 6, 1776.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to essay a draft of Resolutions directing the mode of disarming disaffected persons, and procuring the Arms of Non-Associators in this Province; which being gone through, and after some alterations agreed to, was transcribed by order, and is as follows, viz:

Whereas the honourable the Continental Congress did lately recommend to the several Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, and Committees of Safety of the several United Colonies, to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, for the defence of these Colonies, by Arms, against the hostile attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and such Arms, having been duly appraised, to be applied to the arming the Continental Troops raised in this Colony, the Troops raised in its own special defence, and the residue for the use of the Associators; the said appraisement to be paid by the Congress, Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees of Safety, respectively, as the said Arms should be appropriated:

And by a further Resolve it was declared, that the appraisement of the Arms of disaffected persons, so taken as above, should not be paid unless for such Arms as were fit for the use of the Troops, or could be conveniently made so; but that all defective Arms should be safely kept by the Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, and Committees of Safety, to be delivered to the owners when the Congress should direct:

The House, taking into consideration the said recommendations, and the very great difficulty of procuring Arms to put into the hands of Continental and Provincial Troops, and the Associators within this Province, for the defence of the liberties of *America*,

Therefore *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended by this House to all well-affected Non-Associators who are

possessed of good Arms, to deliver them to the Collectors hereafter directed to be chosen, as they regard the freedom, safety, and prosperity of their country.

*Resolved*, That the Freeholders and Freemen of every Township, Borough, Ward, and District, within this Province, qualified to vote for Members of Assembly, shall respectively meet together at some convenient place within their several Townships, Boroughs, Wards, and Districts, on the 25th day of this month, and then and there choose, by ballot, three persons for Collectors of Arms; which persons, so chosen, shall meet the persons chosen by the next two adjoining Townships, Boroughs, Wards, or Districts; and the said persons, or a majority of them, shall collect and receive all such Arms of Non-Associators as are fit for use, or can be conveniently made so, within their respective Townships, Boroughs, Wards, and Districts, and shall appraise, or cause the said Arms to be appraised, according to the true and real value, which they shall pay to the owners, and then shall deposite the said Arms in some dry, safe, and convenient place, in the several Townships, Boroughs, Wards, and Districts, subject to the orders of Assembly, or, in their recess, of the Committee of Safety.

*Resolved*, That the said persons so chosen, or a majority of them, shall disarm all disaffected persons before described, and shall appraise, or cause the Arms taken from them to be appraised as aforesaid; and shall pay to the owners the value of such Arms as are fit for use, or that can be conveniently made so, depositing all the Arms in the manner before-mentioned.

*Resolved*, That if any Townships, Boroughs, Wards, or Districts, shall neglect or refuse to choose such persons as aforesaid; or if the persons so chosen shall neglect or refuse to perform the duties hereby required of them—in such case, the Committee of Inspection and Observation, in each County respectively, shall immediately proceed to carry the foregoing recommendation of Congress effectually into execution.

*Resolved*, That the persons so chosen shall immediately make returns of all Arms fit for use, or that can conveniently be made so, which they shall take, collect, or receive, with the value thereof, to the Assembly, or in their recess to the Committee of Safety, who may draw orders for the amount thereof, in favour of such persons, on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, who is hereby required to pay the same out of the moneys directed to be emitted by this House.

The House adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Post Meridian.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That an Agent be appointed to provide necessary Clothing and Accoutrements for the Troops ordered to be raised for the service of this Province, the expense to be deducted out of the pay of such Troops; that such Agent be allowed two and a half per cent. for his trouble, and that he make no other profit or emolument whatever, by contracts with the tradesmen he may employ, or in any other manner whatsoever.

*Resolved*, That *Matthias Slough*, of *Lancaster*, Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed Agent for the purpose aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the said Agent supply every Private, in pay of this Province, with a good Blanket, at the expense of the Province.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety may draw orders on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of the said *Matthias Slough*, for such sums of money as they, from time to time, shall judge necessary.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That *Mr. Hillegas*, *Mr. Parker*, and *Mr. Rittenhouse*, be added to the Committee of Safety.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That *Mr. Reed* be added to the Committee appointed to revise and correct the Minutes of this House, previous to the publication thereof.

The House, taking into consideration that the publick service will require the issuing a further sum of Money in Bills of Credit, before the time of their next meeting,

*Resolved*, That the sum of eighty-five thousand Pounds be forthwith struck in Bills of Credit, for answering the present exigencies of this Province.

*Ordered*, That *Mr. Dickinson*, *Mr. Hillegas*, *Mr. Reed*, and *Mr. Rittenhouse*, be a Committee to prepare and bring

in a draft of Resolves for striking the said eighty-five thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit.

The Committee for Battalion expenses reporting to the House that Captain *Josiah Hart*, in pursuance of the order to the Sergeant-at-Arms, had attended the Committee, and paid all the expenses incurred by his late misconduct,

*Ordered*, That the said *Hart* be dismissed, without appearing at the bar of the House.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That the several Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*, relative to the setting Negro Slaves at liberty, be referred to further consideration at the next meeting of the House.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in Resolves for striking the sum of eighty-five thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, reported a draft for that purpose; which being considered and agreed to, was transcribed, and is as follows, viz:

*Resolved*, That Bills of Credit, to the value of eighty-five thousand Pounds, shall, on or before the 20th day of *May* next, be prepared and printed on good strong paper, under the care and direction of *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, Esquires, or any three of them, the charge of which shall be defrayed out of the Bills hereby to be emitted; which Bills shall be made and prepared in the manner and form following, viz:

..... according to the Resolves of the Assembly of *Pennsylvania* of the 6th day of *April*, in the sixteenth year of the reign of his Majesty *George* the Third: Dated at *Philadelphia*, the 25th day of *April*, Anno Domini 1776.

And the said Bills shall have such like escutcheons and devices as the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them shall think proper; each of which Bills shall be of the several and respective denominations following, and no other, viz:

- 54,545 of the same bills of the sum of three Pence.
- 54,546 of the same bills of the sum of four Pence.
- 54,546 of the same bills of the sum of six Pence.
- 54,545 of the same bills of the sum of nine Pence.
- 28,572 of the same bills of the sum of one Shilling.
- 28,571 of the same bills of the sum of one Shilling and six Pence.
- 28,572 of the same bills of the sum of two Shillings.
- 28,571 of the same bills of the sum of two Shillings and six Pence.
- 14,000 of the same bills of the sum of ten Shillings.
- 14,000 of the same bills of the sum of twenty Shillings.
- 14,000 of the same bills of the sum of thirty Shillings.
- 14,000 of the same bills of the sum of forty Shillings.

And the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them, shall use their best care, attention, and diligence during the printing of the said Bills, that the number and amount thereof according to the respective denominations aforesaid, be not exceeded, nor any clandestine or fraudulent practice be used by the Printer, his Servants, or others concerned therein.

*Resolved*, That, for perfecting the said Bills, all and every of them under the denomination of one Shilling, shall be signed by one of the persons hereafter named: all and every of them of the denomination of one Shilling to half a Crown, inclusive, shall be signed by two of the persons hereafter named; and all the rest of the said Bills shall be signed by three of the persons hereafter named; that is to say, *Benjamin Betterton*, *William Smith*, Broker, *Joseph Redman*, *William Crispin*, *William Kenly*, *William Clifton*, *Josiah Hewes*, *Andrew Tybout*, *George Douglass*, *Charles Moore*, *Thomas Moore*, *Abel Evans*, *Peter Thompson*, *Samuel Cadwallader Morris*, *Cornelius Barnes*, *Sketchly Morton*, *Elisha Price*, and *Hugh Lloyd*, Gentlemen, who are hereby nominated and appointed to be signers of the said Bills, and shall, before they receive or sign any of the said Bills, take an oath or affirmation to the following effect, viz:

"That they shall well and truly sign and number all the Bills of Credit that shall come to their hands for that purpose; and the same, when so signed and numbered, will deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them."

*Resolved*, That, for avoiding the danger of embezzlement or misapplication of any of the said Bills of Credit,

the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them, after the said Bills are printed, shall deliver them to the said signers, to be signed and numbered by parcels, for which the said signers, or some of them, shall give their receipt: that is to say, two thousand Pounds value in the said Bills, at one time, and so, from time to time, until all the said Bills of Credit shall be signed and numbered in such manner, that not more than the sum of two thousand Pounds shall remain in such signers' hands at any one time; of all which said Bills of Credit, so delivered to be signed, a true account shall be kept by the signers, who, upon their redelivery of each or any parcel of the said Bills by them signed and numbered shall take the receipt of the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them, to charge them before any Committee of Assembly to be appointed for that purpose. And each of the said signers shall have and receive ten Shillings for every thousand of the said Bills by them signed and numbered, and each of the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, shall have and receive for their trouble the sum of ten Shillings per diem; and the Treasurer hereafter appointed for receiving and paying the said Bills of Credit, shall have and receive five Shillings for every hundred Pounds, and no more, to be paid out of the Bills of Credit hereby ordered to be emitted.

*Resolved*, That, after the said Bills shall be signed, numbered, and perfected, the said *George Gray*, *Joseph Parker*, *William Rodman*, and *Isaac Pearson*, or any three of them, shall deliver them to *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., who is hereby appointed Treasurer for that purpose, and take his receipt or receipts for the same, who shall pay off and discharge, out of the said Bills of Credit, all such Drafts and Certificates as shall be made by order of the Assembly or the Committee of Safety of this Province.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer aforesaid shall give bond, with two sufficient sureties, to *John Morton*, Esq., in the sum of ten thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him.

And for the more certain paying, redeeming, discharging, and sinking the said Bills of Credit hereby emitted,

*Resolved*, That a Tax shall be raised and levied, by the respective Commissioners and Assessors of the several Counties within this Province, on the same persons and property, in the same proportion, and in the same manner and mode as the Provincial Tax, by the laws now in force, is raised, levied, and recovered, and shall be paid by the respective County Treasurers to the Treasurer for the time appointed, or to be appointed for that purpose; which said Tax shall commence immediately sinking the thirty-five thousand Pounds issued by the Resolutions of the late Assembly, on the 30th day of *June* last, and of the eighty thousand Pounds heretofore issued by this House; which Tax, for the purpose aforesaid, the several Commissioners and Assessors are enjoined and required to raise, levy, and recover, and cause to be paid to the Treasurer aforesaid, as they regard the freedom, welfare, and safety of their country.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurer appointed as aforesaid, or his successor, shall yearly, and every year, pay into the hands of the Committees of Assembly appointed to settle the Publick Accounts, all such sum and sums of money in the Bills of Credit of the thirty-five thousand Pounds emitted as aforesaid, and of the eighty thousand Pounds heretofore emitted by this House, and of the eighty-five thousand Pounds hereby to be emitted; which sums so paid, the said Committees are hereby enjoined and required to burn, sink, and destroy. And the said Treasurer, when required, shall also lay his Accounts before the Assembly, or the said Committees, for their inspection and settlement.

Upon motion, the House resumed the consideration of the Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*; and after a debate of considerable length, the question being called for, and put by the Speaker, whether the House will alter the instructions given at their last sitting to the Delegates for this Province in Congress?

Carried in the negative by a great majority.

The House adjourned to *Monday*, the 20th of *May* next, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

## PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, March 1, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *Henry Wyndkoop*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Montgomery*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*.

Upon application of *John Nixon*, for a sum of Money for the Committee of Accounts:

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for ten thousand Pounds.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Govett* purchase for the use of this Committee the following Military Books, viz: *Sim's Military Guide*, *Robinson's Treatise of Gunnery*, *La Petite Guerre*.

The time of the present Contractor for supplying the men on board the Armed Boats with Provisions being nearly expired,

*Ordered*, That the following Advertisement be published in the papers of this City:

"In Committee of Safety.

"All persons who are willing to supply the officers and men employed in the Naval Armament and Artillery of this Province, with the following Rations, viz: for each man per week, seven pounds of bread, or six pounds of flour, one-fourth at least to be in flour, if required; ten pounds of beef, mutton, or pork; the value of six pence in roots and vegetables; a sufficient proportion of salt and vinegar; three pints and a half of rum, or beer in proportion; are desired to send in their proposals to this Committee, on or before the 8th day of *March*, instant. The contract to commence on the 11th instant, and continue in force for three months, if the men are not sooner discharged."

*Mr. Nixon* reports that the Bill sent *Colonel Miffin*, the 30th *November* last, is returned, the Colonel having had an interview with *Major Small*, who informed the Bill could not be paid, as *Mr. Franks*, of this City, had directions to furnish the Officers taken prisoners with money; therefore *Mr. Nixon* is desired to return the Bill to *Mr. Symes*.

*Morgan Bustead*, not having performed any part of his Contract, with respect to his engagements with this Board, for the casting of Cannon,

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That his written Agreement be put into the hands of a Lawyer, in order to his being prosecuted for damages.

In Committee of Safety, March 2, 1776.

Present: *Barnard Dougherty*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Miles*, *Owen Biddle*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds be lent to *Jacob Lorch*, to enable him to erect a Powder-Mill, he having given bond, with security, for the same, to the Committee of Accounts.

*Resolved*, That *John Brice* be appointed First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Warren*.

The Committee of Correspondence of *Bedford County*, having drawn an Order on this Board for the payment of one hundred and sixty-one pounds of Powder, and one hundred and eighteen pounds of Lead, purchased by them,

*Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Miles* and *Wister*, for forty Pounds three Shillings and three Pence, the amount of said Powder and Lead; and that the same be taken proper care of by the Committee of Correspondence of said County, till the further orders of this Board.

*Resolved*, That this Board lend one hundred Fire-locks to *Colonel Shea*, to exercise his men. In case any of them should be damaged, the Colonel is to have them repaired at his own cost, and to deliver them to the order of this Board, on demand.

Agreeable to which Resolve, an Order was sent to *Mr. Towers* to deliver the said Fire-locks.

*Abel Morris*, having resigned his Commission as Ensign in the Second Battalion of *Pennsylvania Troops*, in the service of the United Colonies,

*Resolved*, That *George Ross* be appointed Ensign in said Battalion, in the place of said *Abel Morris*.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. David Rittenhouse*, the Engineer to this Board, be desired to make experiments in rifling Cannon and Musket Balls at the expense of this Board; and to this end, that he be allowed to employ any person or persons under him for that purpose; and that *Robert Towers*, Commissary, shall deliver to the order of *Mr. Rittenhouse* sufficient Ammunition for that purpose.

*Matthias Keely*, having engaged with *Colonel Miles* to make one hundred Fire-locks for the use of this Province, and having delivered thirty-one Fire-locks to *Mr. Towers*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in his favour, for seventy-five Pounds, towards the payment of said Fire-locks.

*Resolved*, That *Colonel Hockley* be desired to see all the Muskets made by *Matthias Keely & Co.*, by order of this Board, proven with the weight of Powder equal to the weight of the Ball, and cause the Muskets so proven to be stamped with the letters PP.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *Matthias Keely* as much Powder as will prove one hundred Fire-locks, making by him for the use of this Province.

This day the Congress sent the following Resolve to this Committee:

"In Congress, February 26, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety for *Pennsylvania*, agreeable to the offer made by them of their service, of which the Congress have a proper sense, be authorized to distribute the Officers (prisoners in *Lancaster*) in such places within the Province of *Pennsylvania*, as to that Committee shall seem most proper, taking their parole; which if they refuse to give, the said Committee are empowered and directed to confine them; and that in executing this resolve, the said Committee have a regard to the resolution heretofore made by the Congress with respect to Prisoners and their residence.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*CHARLES THOMSON*, Secretary."

In Committee of Safety, March 4, 1776.

Present: *George Ross*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *John Nixon*, *George Gray*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Barnard Dougherty*, *Michael Swoope*, *Robert White*.

Upon application of the Commissioners of *Northampton County*, for a sum of money for the payment of Fire-locks, &c., making in that County for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of *Peter Katheline*, for three hundred Pounds, for the use aforesaid.

Upon application of *Oswell Eve*, for the payment of his Account for Powder delivered to *Mr. Towers*, Commissary, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Mr. John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for seventy-nine Pounds twelve Shillings and six Pence, being the amount of the same.

Upon application of *Jacob Baldwin* and *Thomas Palmer*, for the payment of their Accounts for repairing Fire-locks belonging to *Captain Le Marr's* and *Captain Jenkins's* Companies, in the First Battalion of *Pennsylvania Troops*, in the service of the United Colonies, by order of the Board two Orders were drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*—one in favour of *Jacob Baldwin*, for four Pounds twelve Shillings; the other in favour of *Thomas Palmer*, for twenty-five Pounds nineteen Shillings and three Pence.

Upon application of *Colonel Slough* for the payment of *George Eberly's* Account for subsisting *John Brooks* in the Jail of *Lancaster County*, confined there by order of this Board, an Order was drawn on *Mr. John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for eight Pounds, being the amount of said Account, and in favour of said *Slough*; which sum is directed to be charged to the Continental Congress.

Lieutenants *Thompson* and *Webb* appeared before the Committee, and gave information that a *Captain Henry Yelberton Price* had frequented the places of rendezvous of the crews belonging to the Armed Boats; that by words he endeavoured to discourage the service; that he had declared

himself a Tory and inimical to the *American* cause; that he damned the Congress, and wished that the wagons carrying the Powder for the Continental service were blown up.

And the said *Henry Yelverton Price* appearing before the Committee, and having the said charge made known to him, did not deny the same.

*Resolved*, That it would be unsafe to permit the said *Henry Yelverton Price* to go at large;

Therefore *Resolved*, That he be committed to the Jail of the City and County of *Philadelphia*.

Agreeable thereto, *Thomas Dewees*, Jailor of this County, was commanded to receive into his custody, and to keep him safely confined until he is discharged by this Board.

Upon motion, the following Order was drawn and signed by the Chairman:

In Committee of Safety, March 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Please to deliver to *Peter De Haven* any number of gun-locks he may find necessary for the use of *Lewis Prahl*, Gunsmith, (Mr. *De Haven* to be answerable for the same,) and to deduct the price of the locks out of the moneys that may become due to the said *Lewis* for his work.

By order of the Committee:

GEORGE ROSS, *Chairman*.

To Major *Meredith*, Captain *Wilcocks*, and Captain *Peters*.

Upon application of *Robert Towers*, for the payment of eight Fire-locks, purchased by him for the use of this Province, and for the payment of his bill for sundry expenditures on account of this Board, by order of the Board two Orders were drawn in his favour on Messrs. *Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts—one for twenty-four Pounds one Shilling, the other for thirteen Pounds nine Shillings and eight Pence, being the amount of said two Accounts.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, makes the following report:

That he delivered to *Samuel Park*, per order of this Board, 100 pounds of Brass.

That he delivered to Captain *Proctor* 169 Cannon Cartridges, 73 Fire-locks, 1 four-pound Cannon, 1 Carriage and Limber, 1 pair of Trail Ropes, 1 Rammer and Sponge, 1 Wad-hook and Ladle.

That he delivered in exchange of one and a half pounds of Saltpetre, six ounces of Gunpowder and five Shillings seven and a half Pence in cash.

That he delivered to *Thomas Afflick* 100 pounds of Brass, per order of the Board; to *Matthias Keely* 6 pounds of Gunpowder.

That he received from *Jacob Scoggin* one and a half pounds of Saltpetre.

That he received from *Oswell Eve* eight casks of battle Powder, weight  $187\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; nine casks of common Powder, weight 225 pounds.

In Committee of Safety, March 5, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Mitchell* be appointed Master to the Naval Armaments, and the Artillery of this Province, he having offered to do the business gratis.

*Thomas Aply* produced his Account for subsisting Soldiers in Jail confined by order of Congress, which was certified to be just by the Chairman.

*William Brown*, Captain of Marines, received his Commission this day, and dated the 16th of *February* last.

In Committee of Safety, March 6, 1776.

Present: *John Cadwallader*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *George Clymer*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*.

By order of the Board, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *White* twelve pieces of Sail-Cloth.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Brown* be ordered to raise fifty able-bodied men, for the Marine service of this Province.

That he be careful to enlist none but healthy men, not under sixteen years of age.

That he be allowed ten Shillings per man, in lieu of his recruiting expenses, and ten Shillings per week for the subsistence of each recruit, until they are provided for by the Commissary.

That he pay the greatest attention to the behaviour of the men while in quarters, and see their quarters discharged at least once every week.

That no bought Indented Servants, or Apprentices, be enlisted without the consent of their Masters in writing.

That the Company consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, two Sergeants, two Corporals, one Fife, one Drum, and fifty Privates.

That a sum not exceeding twenty Shillings be advanced to each recruit.

That two hundred Pounds be advanced him for the recruiting service.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *William Brown*, for the sum of two hundred Pounds, which is directed to be charged to his Company of Marines, for the recruiting service.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Roberdeau* be desired to apply to Congress for the Powder supplied them by this Board.

*Resolved*, That *Joseph Wilson* be appointed First Lieutenant to the Armed Boat *Congress*, in the room of ——— *Mitchell*, appointed the 16th of *February* last, he never having appeared to receive his Commission.

That the following gentlemen be appointed Second Lieutenants to the different Armed Boats opposite their names, viz: *James Fletcher*, to the Armed Boat *Washington*; *Henry Martin*, to the Armed Boat *Dickinson*; *James Carson*, to the Armed Boat *Chatham*; *Philip Buck*, to the Armed Boat *Congress*; *John Wilson*, to the Armed Boat *Ranger*; *Adam Boyd*, to the Armed Boat *Burke*; *James Brown*, to the Armed Boat *Camden*; *William Lysle*, to the Armed Boat *Bull-Dog*; *Nicholas Fitzsimmons*, to the Armed Boat *Warren*; *Robert Pomeroy*, to the Armed Boat *Hancock*; *Samuel Snowden*, to the Armed Boat *Franklin*; *James Johnson*, to the Armed Boat *Experiment*; *Laughlin McNeill*, to the Armed Boat *Effingham*.

Adjourned to six o'clock.

Agreeable to adjournment the following Members met: *James Mease*, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *George Clymer*.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Reed* be appointed second in command in the Naval Armaments of this Province, and Captain of the Armed Ship now building by direction of this Board.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, purchase or make two ton of Buck-Shot.

*Resolved*, That a survey be made of the Channel between *Reedy-Point* and the *Pea-Patch*.

*Resolved*, That Major *Meredith*, Captain *Wilcocks*, Captain *Peters*, and Mr. *Peter De Haven*, be appointed to superintend and conduct the Provincial Manufactory of Gun-locks in this City, and they are empowered to contract for a convenient situation, and to erect all works necessary for carrying on the said Manufactory in the most beneficial manner to the publick; and further, to contract for the making Fire-Arms, and see that the Artificers who have already contracted in this City for that purpose, perform their engagements faithfully; and the Board will supply them with such sums of money as the business shall require.

*Resolved*, That the Commodore be desired to employ an experienced Pilot, and send him with all possible despatch, with two discreet and capable Officers, in two of the Armed Boats, down the river to *Reedy-Point*, to sound the narrowest part of the Channel there, and take an accurate survey of the depth and breadth of the said Channel, with the various soundings across the same, for the information of this Board.

In Committee of Safety, March 7, 1776.

Present: *John Cadwallader*, *James Mease*, *Robert White*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*.



At a special meeting of the Committee,  
Present: *Alexander Wilcocks*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*,  
*George Clymer*, *James Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel*  
*Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

Upon application of *James Christie*, for the payment of two Fire-locks detained by *Robert Towers*, Commissary, as Provincial arms,

*Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for five Pounds, the value of the said arms. Which was accordingly done.

A Letter was this day written to the Committee of *Chester* County, recommending the Associators to be properly armed and furnished with Ammunition out of the publick stock.

*Resolved*, That the Commodore order down to-morrow to *Fort-Island*, three of the Armed Boats that are in most readiness, where they are to remain till they are relieved by others. While they are down the river, the men are to be quartered at the *Pest-House*, in the rooms not occupied by Captain *Proctor's* Company, until sufficient Barracks on *Fort-Island* are built.

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In Committee of Safety, March 8, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*.

It being represented by the Commodore that Pilot-Boats can be employed to more advantage in sounding the channel at *Reedy-Point* than the Armed Boats, and that he can employ skilful persons to effect that service, without sending any of the Officers of the Boats,

It is *Resolved*, That the Commodore hire Pilot-Boats, and employ such skilful and trusty persons to do the business as he shall judge proper, and send them down immediately.

The Congress sent the following Resolves to this Committee, viz:

“In Congress, February 23, 1776.

“*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to return to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* the Arms borrowed of them for the use of the Continent.

“In Congress, March 6, 1776.

“*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to return to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* the Powder borrowed of them.

“Extract from the Minutes:

“*CHARLES THOMSON*, Secretary.”

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, apply to the Secret Committee of Congress for the Powder and Arms mentioned in the above Resolves.

The present scarcity of Blankets lays the Committee of Safety under the necessity of applying to the patriotick inhabitants for the supply of the Artillery Company raised for the defence of this Province.

Therefore, it is *Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Proctor* shall apply to such House-keepers as will be likely to spare any supernumerary Blankets which they may have, for the use of the said Company, and this Board will allow them a reasonable price for the same.

And it is further *Resolved*, That Captain *Proctor* do return to this Board the names of the persons from whom he collects any Blankets, with the number which he shall collect, and their value, which in the whole is not to exceed one hundred.

*Resolved*, That the Paymaster stop out of the pay of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates in Captain *Proctor's* Company, three Dollars per month for their Clothing, and pay the same to the tradesman who has furnished the said Clothing, he producing his account settled and approved by Captain *Proctor*.

Upon application of Mr. *Robert Morris*, for the payment of sundry Merchandise shipped by the Committee for importing Powder, Arms, &c., for the use of this Province, on board the Brig *Dolphin*, *John Poole*, Master, by order of the Board, an order was drawn on Mr. *James Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for two thousand and thirty-eight Pounds three Shillings seven and a half Pence,

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in favour of *Robert Morris*, Esq., being the amount of the invoice of said goods.

Adjourned to six o'clock.

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Agreeable to adjournment, the following Members met: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Nicholas Fairlamb*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Mease*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *George Clymer*.

*Resolved*, That this Board give each of the men of the Artillery a Hat of seven Shillings and six Pence value, including binding.

The Secret Committee of Congress having applied to this Board to lend the Arms intended by Congress to replace those lent some time past, did, after deliberation, resolve, that the Secret Committee be informed that the season of the year is now arrived when all our vessels for the defence of the River should take their stations, and they are greatly unprovided with Arms; that the Association is in a deplorable situation from the like cause, and the Province in general extremely stripped of Arms to supply the neighbouring Colonies; and that these are the principal reasons which influence the determination of this Board, and such as they hope will be allowed to have weight with the Secret Committee.

WILLIAM GOVETT, Secretary.

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In Committee of Safety, March 9, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Cadwallader*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*.

Upon application of *John Shea*, for a sum of Money for the use of his Battalion in the service of the United Colonies, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for five hundred Pounds, for the use aforesaid.

Upon application of Captain *John Wilcocks*, for a sum of Money for the use of the Committee appointed to direct the Manufactory of Gun-Locks, &c., by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Mr. *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for three hundred Pounds, in their favour.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *Robert White*, or his order, sixteen pieces of light Sail-Cloth.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Samuel Davidson* be appointed to the command of the Floating Battery.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Towers* cause to be made forty thousand Musket-Cartridges, for the use of this Province.

Upon application of *Mordecai Davis*, appointed by the Committee of *Chester* County to receive and pay for the Saltpetre manufactured in that County, Mr. *Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver him one quarter-cask of Gunpowder towards the payment of what Saltpetre he may receive.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Mitchell* be appointed Commissary of Provisions to the Artillery and the Naval Armaments of this Province, and that he be allowed six Shillings per week per man, he supplying them with such Provisions as is set forth in an advertisement from this Board of the 1st instant, to commence the 11th instant, and continue to the 11th June.

*Resolved*, That Captain *William Richards*, Captain *Nathaniel Falconer*, and Captain *Thomas Reed*, be fully empowered to fix Signals for giving alarms, at *Cape-Henlopen*, and at such other places on either side of the Bay and River *Delaware* as they shall judge proper, and also to engage for Men and Horses to be in readiness to convey intelligence by land, and to do everything necessary to effect the said service, and draw orders on this Board for such sums as shall be requisite to carry the same into execution.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the following Resolves of Congress be entered on the Minutes of this Board:

“In Congress, February 23, 1776.

“*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to

return to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* the Arms borrowed of them for the use of the Continent.

"March 6, 1776.—*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to return to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* the Powder borrowed of them.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

In Committee of Safety, March 11, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *George Clymer*, *John Cadwallader*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Michael Swoope*, *Barnard Dougherty*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, makes the following report:

That he delivered Captain *Eyres* four ounces Saltpetre, one pound Sulphur; to Captain *Henderson* one pair Pistols; to — *Parker* one roll Sheet-Lead; to *Benjamin Town* two hundred pounds Brass; to *James Wallace* two hundred and fifty-four pounds Powder.

That he received from *Elias Botner* six Budge-Barrels; from *William Paul* two hundred and fifty-eight pounds Brass; from *Robert Mane* thirty-six Ramrods; from *Rudolph Neuff* thirty-one Wheel and fifteen Handbarrows; from *George James* twenty pounds Buck-Shot, cost ten Shillings; from *Alexander Todd* fifty-six pounds Buck-Shot, cost twenty-seven Shillings and six Pence; from Saltpetre Works thirty-eight and three-fourths pounds Saltpetre; from *John Wilcocks*, on account of this Board, fifty half-barrels, one hundred and fourteen quarter-barrels (weight five thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight pounds) Gunpowder; from Messrs. *Bayard & Co.* one hundred and one pounds Lead-Ball.

In Committee of Safety, March 12, 1776.

Present: *James Biddle*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *James Mease*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Ross*, *Barnard Dougherty*, *George Clymer*.

Whereas, the Keeper of the common Jail of the City of *Philadelphia* hath made complaint to this Board that certain prisoners in the said Jail, committed as enemies to this country, have raised a dangerous riot, assaulted the Jailer and Turnkey, and now stand on their defence, and threaten to break the Jail and release all the prisoners: These are to require you forthwith to repair to the said Jail, with a sufficient party of your men, and assist the Sheriff and Jailer to secure the said rioters, for which this shall be your warrant.

JAMES BIDDLE, *Chairman*.

Directed to Captain *Thomas Procter*.

By order of the Board the following Letter was this day written, signed by the Chairman, and delivered to Colonel *John Shea*:

The Committee request you would order a guard of a Non-Commissioned Officer and six Privates, at the Jail of this city, for the protection thereof, as there are many prisoners confined there by order of Congress, who have assaulted the Jailer, and threaten to break the Jail; they also request you would order a guard on the powder at the Powder-House, and cannon at the State-House, and another on the Fire-Rafts and Magazine at the lower end of the town.

Doctor *Bond* having informed this Board that it is necessary for Powder being burned in the Work-House of this City for purifying the air, *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to *Thomas Apty*, two pounds of Powder.

Upon application of the Assembly by *Joseph Parker*, Esq., for ten pounds of Powder and forty pounds of Lead, as a gift to some friendly *Indians* now in this City, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver said Powder and Lead to Mr. *Parker*, or his order.

*Edward Chamberlain* this day resigned his appointment of Master-at-Arms and Armourer of the Armed Boats.

In Committee of Safety, March 13, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Robert White*, *George Clymer*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

*Andrew Stohl*, a person who has purchased a number of

Arms in the Townships of *Coshioppen* and *Limerick*, informs this Board that they are detained by the Committees of Inspection in said Townships; said *Stohl* having offered to sell the said Arms to this Committee, it was recommended to said Committees of Inspection to send the said Arms to *Robert Towers*, Commissary.

Upon application of *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., for a sum of Money for paying the men employed on board the Armed Boats, &c., by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of Mr. *Nesbitt*, for fifteen hundred Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the Officers in this City, who are prisoners of war, are desired forthwith to repair to the several places allotted for their residence by Congress; and that such Officers be furnished with a copy of this Resolve.

*Resolved*, That *Arthur Donaldson* be employed to launch the Chevaux-de-Frise built at *Gloucester*, and that he be fully authorized to procure anything for the purpose, hire persons under him on the best and cheapest terms, and that he draw on this Board for the expense.

*Resolved*, That *John Cobourn* be employed to take the Chevaux-de-Frise, when launched at *Gloucester*, and sink them in their proper places near *Fort-Island*; and that he be authorized to procure anything for the purpose, hire persons under him on the best and cheapest terms, and that he draw on this Board for the expense.

Adjourned to five o'clock.

Agreeable to adjournment, the following Members met: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

*Resolved*, That all good and able Seamen who shall enlist in the service of this Province, to be employed in the Naval Armaments thereof, shall receive seven Dollars per month and two Dollars bounty, which bounty is to be paid one month after their enlistment; and the said Seamen to be continued in the said service until discharged by this Board.

That those able-bodied Seamen that are at present in the service, shall receive seven Dollars per month, to commence the 15th instant.

Mr. *Nixon* having occasion to leave the Board, Mr. *Samuel Howell* was unanimously chosen Chairman.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Forrest* be appointed Captain of a Company of Marines to be raised for the service of this Province to be employed on board the Floating Battery.

*Resolved*, That all able Landsmen who shall enter into the service of this Province on board the Naval Armaments thereof, be paid two Dollars as a bounty.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Rice* be applied to, to assist in taking down and sinking the Chevaux-de-Frise; and that he attend this Board to-morrow morning.

*Resolved*, That five small Guard Boats be built on the same construction with the one already built.

In Committee of Safety, March 14, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Mease*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

In consequence of an Order drawn by *Francis Wade* on this Board, for the payment of the Rations of Captains *Montgomery*, *Davidson*, *Alexander Eyres*, *Henderson*, and *Boyer*, amounting to sixty-six Pounds nine Shillings and four Pence, an Order was drawn on the Committee of Accounts for said sum, and directed to be charged to said *Wade's* account.

Upon application of *John Fox*, for the payment of his Bill for repairing Fire-locks belonging to Captains *Allen*, *Willis*, *Williams*, and *Jones's* Companies, belonging to Colonel *De Haas's* Battalion, in the service of the United Colonies, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, for ninety-four Pounds eleven Shillings and eleven Pence, being the amount of said Accounts.

Upon motion, the following Advertisement was directed to be published in the different Newspapers of this City:

"All persons that can give information to this Committee of Sulphur Ore, in this or any neighbouring Colony, are desired to give speedy intelligence; and this Board will receive proposals from any person or persons that are willing to engage in procuring Sulphur for the publick use."

*Resolved*, That the Commodore shall send such Officers as he shall think proper to recruit Seamen and able-bodied Landsmen, for the Naval service of this Province, to such places as he shall judge most likely to get Recruits.

That the Recruiting Officers be allowed twenty Shillings per week, each, for their expenses, and ten Shillings per man for every Recruit, in lieu of all recruiting charges, and ten Shillings per week for each man's subsistence, until they are brought to this City, and supplied by the Commissary; and that each Officer be furnished with a copy of these Resolves of this Committee relative to the Pay and Bounty of the men.

*Resolved*, That, agreeable to authority delegated to this Board by Congress, one half of the Officers, prisoners of war, who are, or have been by any former order, stationed in the Borough of *Lancaster*, be removed to the Town of *Carlisle*, and the other half removed to the Town of *York*; and that the Committee of *Lancaster* take order in this matter, and have full authority to make the arrangement according to their best judgment.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Roberdeau* draw up a Letter to the Committee of *Lancaster*, *Cumberland*, and *York* Counties, on this subject, and furnish them with the Resolution of Congress and this Board, respecting the disposition of the Officers ordered to be removed agreeable to the Resolution of this day; also, with a form of the Parole said Officers are to take.

In Committee of Safety, March 15, 1776.

Present: *James Biddle*, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Robert White*, *John Nixon*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *James Mease*, *Alexander Wilcocks*.

Mr. *Thomas Holland* having resigned his appointment in the Fourth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the service of the United Colonies,

*Resolved*, That *Michael Ryan* be appointed Adjutant to the Fourth Battalion, in the place of the said *Holland*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary be directed to deliver to Captains *Richards*, *Falconer*, and *Reed*, the Committee appointed by this Board for fixing Signals, such Guns, Ammunition, and Implements, as they shall require for that service.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *John Cobourn*, for one hundred and fifty Pounds, he being employed in sinking the *Chevaux-de-Frise*.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *John Rice*, for one hundred and fifty Pounds, he being employed in sinking the *Chevaux-de-Frise*.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Reed* be employed to take the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, when launched, at *Gloucester*, and sink them in their proper places, near *Fort-Island*; and that he be authorized to procure anything for the purpose, hire persons under him on the best and cheapest terms, and that he draw on this Board for the expense.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Proctor*, of the Artillery, be allowed twenty-three and two-thirds Dollars per month.

By order of the Board *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., was directed to settle with Captain *Proctor*, and pay him twenty-six and two-thirds Dollars per month, for his own pay, from the date of his commission to the 1st instant; and, also, two months' pay of two Sergeants at ten Dollars, two Corporals at nine Dollars, and twenty-three Privates at six Dollars, per month, from the 1st of *January* to the 29th of *February*, inclusive.

Upon application of Colonel *Shea*, for some Fire-locks for the use of the Troops under his command, for mounting the necessary Guard of this City, by order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Shea* twenty-four Fire-locks for the said purpose, taking his receipt for the same, to be returned in good order on demand.

Upon application of *James Chapman* and *John Vandegrift*, of *Bucks* County, for the payment of Arms, &c., to be furnished that County for the use of the Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of said *Vandegrift*, one of the Assessors, for five hundred Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the Commodore require every Captain of the Armed Boats immediately to furnish this Board with the Indents which they lately produced to Mr. *Nixon* and Captain *White*, and for that purpose send down to the Captains at *Liberty-Island*.

Colonel *Shea* this day reported to the Board that Captain *Melchior* declined accepting of the commission of Captain, lately granted to him, in the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion.

Adjourned to six o'clock.

Agreeable to adjournment the following Members met: *James Biddle*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

Upon application made to this Board, by the Colonels of the several Battalions of this City, for the use of the Arms and Accoutrements now in the possession of the Commissary,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary distribute two hundred and fifteen Provincial Arms, now under his care, and a like number of Cartridge-boxes and Bayonet-belts, equally between the four Battalions in this City, taking receipts of their several Colonels for the same; and the Colonels are requested to deliver them to their several Captains, for the use of their several Companies; which Arms and Accoutrements are to be returned to the Captains, and kept in a proper place, immediately after they are discharged from duty, that they may be always ready to be delivered to the order of this Board.

In Committee of Safety, March 16, 1776.

Present: *James Mease*, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Robert White*, *John Nixon*.

*Lewis Nicola*, Barrackmaster, was this day directed to deliver Colonel *St. Clair*, and the other Officers of the Battalions, what necessities they may want, belonging to this Province, that are under his care at the Barracks, taking receipts for the same.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Forrest* be ordered to raise thirty able-bodied men for the Marine service of this Province.

That he be allowed ten Shillings per man, in lieu of his recruiting expenses, and ten Shillings per week for the subsistence for each Recruit, until they are provided for by the Commissary.

That he pay the greatest attention to the behaviour of the men while in quarters, and see their quarters discharged at least once in every week.

That no bought indented Servants or Apprentices be enlisted without the consent of their Masters, in writing.

That the Company consist of one Captain, two Non-Commissioned Officers, and thirty Privates.

That a sum not exceeding twenty Shillings be advanced to each Recruit.

That fifty Pounds be advanced Captain *Forrest* for the recruiting service.

That the pay of the Privates be six Dollars per month, and to continue in the service of this Province until discharged by the Assembly or this Committee.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of Captain *Thomas Forrest*, for fifty Pounds, which is directed to be charged him for recruiting a Company of Marines.

Upon application of Colonel *Anthony Wayne*, for a sum of Money for the use of his Battalion, in the service of the United Colonies, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for two thousand Pounds, for the use aforesaid, in favour of Colonel *Wayne*.

Upon application of Colonel *Robert Magau*, for a sum of Money for the use of his Battalion, in the service of the

United Colonies, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for two thousand Pounds, for the use aforesaid, in favour of Colonel *Magau*.

*Resolved*, That the Commodore or Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Armaments of this Province be allowed sixty Dollars per month, and six rations of Provisions per day.

That the second in command of the Naval Armaments of this Province be allowed ten Pounds per month, and three rations of Provisions per day.

That the First Lieutenants on board the Provincial Ship be allowed seventeen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

That the Second Lieutenants on board said Ship be allowed sixteen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions.

That the Third Lieutenants on board said Ship be allowed fourteen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions, and to rank with the Second Lieutenants of the Armed Boats.

That the Master of the Provincial Ship be allowed sixteen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

That the Mates and Carpenters of the said Ship be allowed fourteen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

That the Gunners and Boatswains of said Ship be allowed twelve Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

That the Midshipmen on board said Ship be allowed ten Dollars per month.

That the Surgeons to the said Ship be allowed twenty-five Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

That the Surgeon's Mate to the said Ship be allowed eighteen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

Mr. *Johnston Smith* having acquainted this Board that he has purchased, agreeable to permission of this Board, of Mr. *Innes*, some time past, a number of Fire-Arms, for the use of the Colony of *Virginia*, and that he is apprehensive the Committees of the different Counties will not suffer him to take the said Arms to this City without permission from this Board,

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Committees of Inspection and Observation of the different Counties be requested to suffer Mr. *Smith* to send the Arms to *Virginia* that he has purchased previous to the date hereof.

*Resolved*, That Commodore *Caldwell* give directions to the Officers of the Boats, for the Chevaux-de-Frise, now sunk at *Fort-Island*, to be examined, and make report of their situation to this Board by *Sunday* next.

Mr. *Thomas Bidwell* proposes to refine Crude Sulphur upon the following terms, viz: To erect Furnaces proper for that purpose at his own expense; to be allowed twenty Shillings per hundred weight for good Sulphur; this Board to advance him twenty-five Pounds for that purpose, which he is to repay at the expiration of one year, provided he be fully employed during that time, otherwise this Board to pay so much of the expense of said works as will amount to the said twenty-five Pounds; and, in the latter case, the said works to be the property of the said Board; that this Board be at the charge of sending the Crude Sulphur to the works, and taking it away when refined.

*Resolved*, That this Board agree to the above proposals of Mr. *Bidwell* for refining Crude Sulphur, and that he immediately erect the proposed works.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Thomas Bidwell*, for twenty-five Pounds, being so much advanced him to erect works for the refining of Crude Sulphur.

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In Committee of Safety, March 18, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *James Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*, *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Barnard Dougherty*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

Upon application of Captain *Enion Williams*, for the pay-

ment of fifteen Fire-locks, purchased by him for the use of his Company of Associators of this City, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for forty-seven Pounds seventeen Shillings, being the cost of said Arms.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Forrest* be allowed a Drummer and Fifer to his Company of Marines, to be employed on board the Floating Battery.

Mr. *Nixon* having occasion to leave this Board, Mr. *Alexander Wilcocks* was appointed Chairman.

*Resolved*, That the Committees of the different Counties of this Province be requested to furnish the persons who may be appointed to review and pass the Recruits raising for the service of this Province, with so much Powder and Lead as may be necessary to prove them to be marksmen, not exceeding two rounds each man.

*Resolved*, That *Jacob Meyers*, employed as Armourer in the service of this Province at *Fort-Island*, be allowed six Pounds per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

*Resolved*, That Commodore *Caldwell* order Capt. *Alexander* and Lieutenant *Hennessey* on the Recruiting service to *New-York*, agreeable to the instructions of this Board.

—  
In Committee of Safety, March 19, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of *Charles Alexander*, for one hundred and fifty Pounds, being so much advanced him for recruiting Seamen to be employed in the Naval Armaments of this Province.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *Francis Wade*, for three hundred and fifty Pounds.

Upon application of the Commissioners of *Lancaster* County, for a sum of Money towards the payment of Arms and Accoutrements making in that County, for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, Treasurer, for three hundred Pounds, in favour of *William Bowman*, one of the said Commissioners, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, deliver to Captain *Loxley*, for the use of his Artillery Company, what necessaries he may want to complete his Company for actual service.

*Resolved*, That the wages of the Pilots employed in the service of this Province be ten Pounds per month, to commence the 21st, and continue for one month.

*Resolved*, That *John Hennessey*, Lieutenant of one of the Armed Boats, be appointed First Lieutenant to the Floating Battery.

*Resolved*, That *William Bradford* be desired to print one thousand of the Rules, Regulations, and Articles of Association, agreeable to a resolve of the Assembly.

The Committee having taken into consideration the situation of the several Battalions in this City, with respect to their Ammunition and Arms:

*Resolved*, That the Colonels of the several Battalions be requested to call in all the Ammunition now in the hands of the Associators, and deliver it to the Commissary; and the Commissary is hereby directed to deliver twenty-three rounds of new Cartridges to every Associator in the several Battalions who have Fire-locks fit for service; which Cartridges the Associators are to deliver to their respective Captains, to be put up in bundles, and marked with the names of the several Associators. The Commissary is to examine the Arms of every Associator before he delivers out the Ammunition, and take lists of such Arms as he thinks ought to be proved, and return said lists to the Colonels of the several Battalions, who are to acquaint the owners of said Arms that they cannot be supplied with Ammunition until their Fire-locks are proved by the Commissary, who is directed to stamp every Fire-lock with the number of balls each will take to the Pound.

In Committee of Safety, March 20, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*.

Upon application of Captain *Falconer* for a sum of Money for the use of the Committee appointed to fix Signals, &c., in the Bay and River *Delaware*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *Nathaniel Falconer*, for three hundred Pounds.

Resolved, That Captain *Leeson Simmons* be joined to the Committee for fixing Signals in the Bay and River *Delaware*.

Resolved, That *Francis Feauss* be appointed First Lieutenant to the Provincial Ship-of-War.

That *Edward Yorke* be appointed Second Lieutenant to the said Provincial Ship.

In Committee of Safety, March 21, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Mease*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

Resolved, That the following mentioned Officers on board the Provincial Ship be allowed the pay as affixed to their respective stations:

	Per Month.		Per Month.
First Clerk, - -	10 Dollars.	Steward, - - -	10 Dollars.
Second Clerk, -	8 Dollars.	Steward's Mate, -	8 Dollars.
Quartermasters,	8 Dollars.	Cook, - - - -	8 Dollars.
Quarter-Gunners,	8 Dollars.	Carpenter's Mate,	12 Dollars.
Gunner's Mate,	8 Dollars.	Boatswain's Mate,	8 Dollars.

Resolved, That Mr. *John Mitchell* be appointed Master to the Provincial Armed Ship.

That *Joseph Greenway* be appointed Third Lieutenant to the Provincial Armed Ship.

In Committee of Safety, March 22, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*.

Agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, of the 13th of *February* last, this Board granted the following Certificate:

In Committee of Safety, March 22, 1776.

Messrs. *Knight & Green* having engaged with, and being empowered by this Committee, to import from *North-Carolina* six hundred barrels of Naval Stores for the use of this Province, this certifies that they have given the proper security required in this case by the resolution of Congress of the 13th *February* last.

Resolved, That *Hercules Courtney* be appointed Second Lieutenant to the Artillery.

In Committee of Safety, March 23, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Alexander Wilcox*, *George Clymer*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

Resolved, That *James Maul* leave his station at the mouth of the River to attend this Board as speedily as possible, and that Captains *Richards*, *Falconer*, and *Simmons*, be desired to have his place supplied immediately by another Pilot of sufficient ability and industry.

Resolved, That *James Morrison* be appointed Lieutenant of Marines in the service of this Province.

Resolved, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* and Mr. *Alexander Wilcocks* be a Committee to agree with *William Henry* for making two hundred Rifles.

Resolved, That Mr. *Nixon* be requested to order Timber suitable for the Carriages of thirty 24-pounders and ten 32-pounders.

In Committee of Safety, March 25, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *Robert White*, *Samuel Miles*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Michael Swoope*, *George Clymer*, *George Taylor*, *Barnard Dougherty*, *Samuel Morris*, Junior, *Samuel Hunter*, *John Montgomery*, *James Mease*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

Upon requisition of the Marine Committee of Congress for thirty stand of Arms, or two Wall-Pieces and twenty-six Muskets, for the fitting out the Brigantine *Lexington* for the protection of the trade of this coast, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary; was directed to deliver said number of Arms to Captain *Barry*, or his order.

Upon application of Dr. *Harris* for a quantity of Saltpetre to manufacture into Gunpowder, agreeable to an engagement with him and this Board, by order of the Committee an Order was delivered him on *Robert Towers* for twenty hundred pounds of Saltpetre.

Resolved, That Mr. *James Mease* be empowered to take out of the hands of Mr. *Smith*, a Custom-House Officer, all the Fire-arms that may be found in his possession, and report his proceedings to this Board.

Resolved, That Mr. *Nathaniel Donnell* be appointed Second Lieutenant to the Company of Matrosses raised in this Province, and commanded by Captain *Bernard Romans*, in the service of the United Colonies.

By order of the Board *Thomas Dewees*, Jailer, was directed to discharge *Henry Yelverton Price* from confinement, he paying his own expenses; and Mr. *Dewees* to inform him that he is to leave this city within three days, and to acquaint him that he will be recommitted if found here after that time.

Resolved, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *McNeal*, Captain *Miles*, Mr. *O. Biddle*, and Mr. *Clymer*, be a Committee to fix on proper places upon the River *Delaware* for erecting Fortifications.

In Committee of Safety, March 26, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*.

Upon application of *John Pollard* and *Jacob Arfield* for the payment of their Accounts for Bayonets, and repairing Fire-Arms, for Captains *Harmer's*, *Jones's*, and *Le Marr's* Companies, in Colonel *De Haas's* Battalion, by order of the Board two Orders were drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell* for the amount of the said Accounts, one in favour of *John Pollard* for two Pounds eleven Shillings and one Penny, and the other in favour of *Jacob Arfield*, for nineteen Pounds nine Shillings and six Pence.

Resolved, That *William Gamble* be appointed Captain to the *Etna* Fire-Ship.

That *William Greenway* be appointed Captain to one of the tier of Fire-Rafis.

Resolved, That the Provincial Ship-of-War be called the *Montgomery*.

That the floating Battery be called the *Arnold*.

Resolved, That the Letter received from the Committee of *Westmoreland* County, offering their services in an expedition to *Detroit*, be handed by Mr. *Wilcocks* to Mr. *Wilson*, in order to its being laid before Congress.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of Mr. *Peter De Haven*, for one hundred and fifty Pounds, being for the use of the Commissioners and Assessors of this County, for the payment of Fire-Arms making for the use of this County.

Resolved, That Mr. *O. Biddle* and Mr. *Clymer* employ *Arthur Donaldson* to build two Piers, to sink for fixing the Boom for obstructing the navigation of the passage at *Fort-Island*.

The Committee of *Westmoreland* County having made a requisition to this Board, for the defence of the same, this Board wrote Letters to the Committees of *Bedford* and *Cumberland* Counties, requesting them, in case the inhabitants of *Westmoreland* were attacked by an enemy, to spare them the necessary Powder belonging to the publick for their defence, and immediately to inform this Board of the quantity spared.

At a special meeting of the Committee of Safety, at the Coffee-House, the following Members present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*, *John Cadwallader*, *Barnard Dougherty*, *Owen Biddle*, *Robert White*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.



Mr. *Nixon* laid before the Board a Letter sent, by express, from *Henry Fisher*, dated *Lewestown*, Monday evening, seven o'clock, acquainting this Committee that a Sloop-of-War was then coming in to *Lewes Road* with a small Tender, and that there was reason to believe they would proceed up the Bay.

The Committee sent for the Commodore, and ordered him to send four of the Armed Boats, well fitted and manned, immediately down the river, as far, if necessary, as *Reedy-Island*, and to direct the Commanding Officer, and other Officers of the said Boats, to act in concert with, and by the advice of, Captain *Barry*, of the Brigantine *Lexington*, (in the Continental service,) and exert their utmost endeavours to take, or destroy, all such Vessels of the enemy as they shall find in the River *Delaware*.

The Committee also sent an express to Captain *Proctor*, or the Commanding Officer of the Artillery Company at *Liberty-Island*, with the above intelligence, and ordered him to keep a good look-out, to prevent surprise, and be fully prepared to oppose the enemy if they should attempt to come up the river.

In Committee of Safety, March 27, 1776.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety, present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *James Mease*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Andrew Allen*, *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to furnish Captain *Dougherty's* Boat with thirteen 32-pound Cannon Cartridges, with Ball.

Resolved, That *Henry Fisher* be allowed, for his services from the 16th of *September* last, and as long as this Board may have occasion to employ him, the sum of ten Pounds per month.

Upon application of *William Montgomery*, (who acquaints this Board that he is appointed by the Committee of *Chester* County to receive and pay for the Saltpetre made in that County,) by order of the Board *Mordecai Davis* was directed to deliver Mr. *Montgomery* twelve pounds of Powder, out of a quarter-cask delivered him some time past for the purpose aforesaid.

In Committee of Safety, March 28, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *John Cadwallader*, *Samuel Miles*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*, *Nicholas Fairlamb*.

Upon application of Mr. *Peter De Haven* (one of the Assessors of this County) for a sum of Money for the payment of Fire-locks making for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of said *De Haven*, for three hundred and fifty Pounds for the purposes aforesaid.

Upon application of Captain *Thomas Proctor* for a sum of Money for the payment of the subsistence of the Artillery, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour, on *John M. Nesbitt*, Paymaster, for four hundred Pounds for said purposes.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *Robert White* nine pieces of Sail-Cloth for the use of the Provincial Ship.

Mr. *Nixon* having occasion to leave the Board, Mr. *James Biddle* was chosen President.

Mr. *Mease* reports that he could not find any Arms in the possession of Mr. *Smith*, the Custom-House Officer.

*Robert Towers* reports his having received and delivered the following articles:

Delivered, by order of this Board, to *Joseph Parker* 10 lbs. of Powder, 42 lbs. of Lead; to *Thomas Apty* 2 lbs. of Powder; to *Mordecai Davis*, of *Chester* County, 37 stand of Arms, 1 quarter-barrel of Powder; to Captain *Barry*, of Brig *Lexington*, (on account of Congress,) 5 lbs. of Saltpetre, 13 Dutch Fire-locks, 2 Wall-Pieces, 5 Bayonets, 8 Scabbards, 48 Musket-Cartridges, 2 Budge-Barrels.

Received from Mr. *Poultney* 192 Shovels, 14 Spades; *Samuel Mease* 33 lbs. of Saltpetre; Mr. *Ross* 10.1.11 roll Brimstone; Mr. *Craig*, (purchased by Committee of Inspection,) 41.2.21 of ditto; *Samuel Garrigues*, Sen., 8.3.19 of ditto; Mr. *Stenwitz* 15.1.15 of ditto; *Charles Ludwick* 2.3.17 of ditto; *Biddle & De Haven* 31½ lbs. of Saltpetre;

*Samuel Corry* 5.11½ oz. of ditto; *George Warner* 10 lbs. of ditto; *Titus Matlack* 29 lbs. of ditto; *William A. Ryerson* 2½ lbs. of ditto; *Enion Williams* 96 lbs. of Lead, 19½ lbs. of Powder; Mr. *Horner* 1 Pistol; *Thomas Palmer* 2 Pistols; Colonel *St. Clair* 18 Muskets; 13 ditto, lock-part gone; 13 ditto, no locks; 72 Gun-Barrels, 102 Bayonets.

Delivered to *Nicholas Hicks* 12 Wheelbarrows, 8 Handbarrows, 24 Shovels, 18 Spades. Delivered towards payment of Saltpetre, to *Samuel Corry*, 1½ lbs. of Gunpowder; to *George Warner* 2½ lbs. of ditto; to *Matlack* 7 lbs. of ditto; to *W. A. Ryerson* 10 oz. of ditto. Delivered, to make Cartridges for Signal Guns, 112 lbs. of ditto.

In Committee of Safety, March 29, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Mease*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*.

Resolved, That *Thomas Barr* be appointed Lieutenant Fire-Worker to Captain *Romans's* Company of Artillery, in the service of the United Colonies.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Robert Towers*, for fifty Pounds; which was directed to be charged to his account.

The Order (agreeable to a Resolve of Congress of the 21st instant) was handed this Board, this day, for twelve thousand Dollars, in favour of this Committee, and drawn on Messrs. *George Clymer* and *Michael Hillegas*, Esquires, Paymasters; which was, by order of the Board, endorsed to, and delivered to Messrs. *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, being for the purpose of paying for Arms to be purchased by the different Committees of this Province for the use of Congress.

Upon application of Colonel *Wayne* for a sum of Money for the use of the Committee of *Chester* County, for purchasing Arms on account of Congress, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for five hundred Dollars, in favour of said Committee.

Upon application of Captain *Thomas Houston* for a sum of Money for the Recruiting service, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Mr. *J. M. Nesbitt* for fifteen Pounds, in his favour, for the purposes aforesaid.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of *Walter Ming*, for seven Shillings and six Pence, for three Scabbards for Captain *Davis's* Company, of Colonel *De Haas's* Battalion.

In Committee of Safety, March 30, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Miles*, *George Ross*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Robert White*, *George Clymer*.

Upon application of *John Wilcocks* for a sum of Money for the use of the Committee appointed to direct the manufacturing of Gun-locks, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in favour of Captain *Wilcocks*, on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, for five hundred Pounds.

Resolved, That Colonel *Samuel Miles* be empowered to purchase Rifles for the use of this Province.

Messrs. *Samuel Potts* and *Thomas Rutter* having engaged with this Board to cast a number of Cannon for the use of this Province, and requiring a sum of Money, as an advance, for putting their works in proper order, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in their favour, for the sum of one thousand Pounds.

The following Advertisement was ordered to be published in the different Papers of this City, viz:

"Resolved, That this Committee will give forty-five Shillings for every hundred gross weight of good merchantable Brimstone, of the produce and manufacture of this Commonwealth, that shall be delivered to Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, in this City, within six months from this time."

Resolved, That Mr. *Howell*, Mr. *Nixon*, and Captain *White*, be a Committee to look out for two Vessels most proper for sinking in the passage between the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, and make report of their proceedings to this Board.

A Letter was this day written to the Committee of Lancaster County, informing them that this Board have occasion for three hundred Rifles, and request they would apply to the Gunsmiths that have made the Muskets for the use of that County on the subject.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Morris* be requested to purchase a sufficient number of logs for building two Piers for fixing the Boom to, for obstructing the navigation.

That Captain *White* and Mr. *Morris* contract with some persons to build the said two Piers.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel McKinzie* be appointed Surgeon to the Second Battalion of Pennsylvania Troops in the service of the United Colonies.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of Lieutenant *Hennessey*, for four Pounds ten Shillings, for Wagon-hire, in bringing Seamen from *Brunswick* to this City.

Upon application of the Committee of Newcastle County for some nine-pound Cannon Shot, by order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver four hundred, provided there is so many in his hands. At the same time he was directed to deliver to Captain *Pryor* two pounds of Gunpowder.

In Committee of Safety, March 31, 1776.

At a special meeting of the Committee at the Coffee-House,

Present: *James Biddle*, *John Nixon*, *Owen Biddle*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Joseph Reed*, *Thomas Wharton*, *Samuel Morris*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

Whereas Captain *William Bradford* and Captain *Thomas Pryor* report to this Board that *Angus McBean* made application yesterday to *Nehemiah Maul* for his Pilot-boat to go on board the Man-of-War, now in our bay, with assurance that he had the consent of this Committee, and that he (*McBean*) did guaranty said boat in the sum of one hundred and thirty Pounds in case he should be detained by the Man-of-War:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Houston* immediately proceed down the River and remand the said Boat, *McBean* and *Davidson*, who are passengers on board, that they may answer to this Board for their conduct.

In Committee of Safety, April 1, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Barnard Dougherty*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Junior.

*Resolved*, That *Nicholas Fitzsimmons* be appointed Third Lieutenant to the Floating Battery.

Mr. *Barnard Dougherty* having represented it as impracticable for the Commissioners and Assessors of Bedford County, from their great distance, to contract with Workmen for making the number of Muskets as ordered by Assembly,

*Resolved*, That he be authorized to contract with Workmen in any of the back Counties for completing the number of Arms as ordered aforesaid, and that he draw on this Board for the payment of the same.

Mr. *McBean* being brought before this Board, and charged with endeavouring to go on board one of the King's Ships, in Delaware-Bay, contrary to the direction of this Committee, upon application to them for that purpose,—upon hearing his defence, and fully examining and considering the same,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *McBean's* proceeding down the River on his said design might have happened through a misapprehension of the verbal answer given by this Board upon his said application, as only implying a refusal to grant him their authority for that purpose, from which he inferred that he was at liberty to attempt it without such authority if he could effect it; and although this Committee are of opinion that his said design was ill-judged, and might have been attended with dangerous consequences, yet it does not appear that there is any ground to charge Mr. *McBean* with any evil intention to the prejudice of this country.

By order of the Board an order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of *John Handlyn*, for eighteen Pounds five Shillings and ten Pence, being the amount of his Account for repairing Fire-locks belonging to Captain *Jones's* Company, and for repairing Fire-locks left by Colonel *De Haas's* Battalion, and since delivered to Colonel *Wayne* and others.

Adjourned to five o'clock.

At a meeting of the Committee of Safety agreeable to adjournment,

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *George Clymer*.

In Committee of Safety, April 2, 1776.

Present: *James Mease*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*.

Upon application of *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., for a sum of Money for the payment of the wages of the Officers and Men employed in the Naval Armaments of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of said *Nesbitt*, for two thousand Pounds.

*Resolved*, That Major *Meredith*, Captain *Peters*, Mr. *John Wilcocks*, and Mr. *De Haven*, be empowered to contract with ——— *Tomlinson* for making publick the art of boring and grinding Gun-barrels, and instructing such persons as they shall require to be taught that art, and to give him a premium of fifty Pounds for communicating the same.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Proctor* one barrel of Gunpowder for the use of the Artillery.

The Congress having sent to this Board, by Mr. *Wilson*, an information, in writing, against *Samuel Sample*, an inhabitant of *Pittsburgh*, supposing him to have some connections with Dr. *Connolly*, a prisoner in the Jail of this County, dangerous to the safety of *America*, and requesting this Board to take such steps as they think best for the publick service,—this Board did, in consequence of said request, send a letter this day by express to the Committee of Cumberland County, (enclosing a copy of the said intelligence and Resolve of Congress relative thereto,) desiring they would use their utmost endeavours to stop the said *Sample*, with his servant and a boy he took with him, and examine their clothes, saddles, &c., for any letter they may have; and if he, the said *Sample*, his servant, or boy, is found to have in their possession any letters or papers inimical to the liberties of *America*, that the letters or papers be sent immediately to this Committee, and their persons be detained in safe custody until the further orders of this Board.

In Committee of Safety, April 2, 1776.

At a special meeting this evening,

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Owen Biddle*, *Andrew Allen*, *Samuel Miles*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Nixon*, Mr. *Mease*, and Mr. *Roberdeau*, be desired to look out for a small Vessel, proper to fit out as a cruiser in the Bay of Delaware against the Ministerial Armed Tenders, now obstructing the commerce of this Province, and that they make report of their proceedings as soon as possible to this Board.

In Committee of Safety, April 3, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *James Mease*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*.

*Resolved*, That the Letter received of *Henry Fisher*, of *Lewes*, be immediately sent to the Delegates of this Province, to be laid before the Congress; and the said Delegates be requested to represent it as the sense of this Committee, that if two or more fast-sailing Vessels, of small draft of water, were properly equipped, they might protect the

trade of this and the neighbouring Colonies in the Bay of *Delaware*, now infested with Tenders and small Armed Vessels of the enemy, and secure the supplies of military stores expected from abroad; to apply to the Congress to take speedy measures for that purpose; and also to suggest the propriety of ordering back to this port the several outward-bound Vessels now lying in the river, and employing the Seamen in this service until the trade of the bay is more secure.

*Resolved*, That six rooms in the new Jail be supplied with strong Doors on the outside of the iron doors to said rooms, more effectually to prevent communications with prisoners ordered to be kept in close custody, separate from the other prisoners in said Jail; and that Colonel *Roberdeau* be requested to see this Resolve carried into execution.

In Committee of Safety, April 4, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Howell*, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Alexander Wilcocks*.

Upon application of Captain *Falconer* for some Arms and Ammunition for the use of the Pilot-boat stationed at *Bombay-Hook*, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver five Muskets, ten rounds of Powder and Ball, and eight swivel Shot.

Upon application of *Matthias Keeler* for some Money towards the payment of Fire-locks making by him for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour for fifty Pounds.

*Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *Matthias Keeler* fifty-six Musket-balls for proving Fire-locks making by him for the use of this Province.

*Resolved*, That the Officers of the Armed Boats be instructed not to suffer any Pilot-boat or Pilot (except those employed by this Committee to navigate from *Chester* to this City) to pass down the River below the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, without producing a permit, in writing, from this Board or the Committee.

In Committee of Safety, April 6, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer*, Chairman, *James Mease*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*.

The Cannon Committee drew an Order on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *Mr. Old*, for one hundred Pounds.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Rice* and *Mr. A. Donaldson* be desired immediately to construct two *Chevaux-de-Frise*, for the purpose of stopping the passage between the *Chevaux-de-Frise* now sunk, and that they be made in such form that they may float when properly loaded for sinking.

*Resolved*, That Captain *John Hazlewood* be empowered to nominate some discreet and judicious persons to assist some other person to be appointed by the Captain of *Mr. Vernon's* Brigantine, to appraise and value the said Brigantine; and the Committee of Fire-Rafts are hereby authorized to take the said Vessel at the valuation of the said appraisers, and to fit her for a Fire-Vessel for the defence of our River.

Upon application of Colonel *Roberdeau*, for a quantity of Shot for the use of two Privateers fitting out at this port, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver *Philip Moore* three hundred pounds of different kinds of Shot, taking a receipt for the same.

*Resolved*, That *Charles Lawrence* be appointed Captain of one tier of Fire-Rafts.

In Committee of Safety, April 8, 1776.

Present: *Joseph Reed*, Chairman, *James Mease*, *John Nixon*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*.

*Resolved*, That *John M. Fatridge* be appointed Second Lieutenant to the Floating Battery.

*Resolved*, That the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers on board the Floating Battery have the same wages with those of the same rank on board the Provincial Ship-of-War.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Howell* and *Mr. Wharton* be a Committee to settle all Accounts of Arms purchased by the Captains of the Companies of Associators of the different Battalions of this Province, agreeable to a Resolve of this Board of the 23d of *January* last.

In Committee of Safety, April 9, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Robert White*, *Joseph Parker*, *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Mease*.

Upon application of *George Taylor*, Esq., for a quarter-cask of Powder for the use of the Commissioners and Assessors of *Northampton* County, to prove the Fire-locks making for the use of this Province, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver a quarter-cask for that purpose.

In consequence of an Order drawn by *Isaac Levan*, Jun., (one of the persons appointed by the Committee of *Berks* to purchase Arms for the use of the Province,) for nineteen Pounds twelve Shillings, in favour of *Dr. Potts*, for nine Muskets, it appearing that they are Provincial Arms, and that the above is the price of repairing, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for said sum of nineteen Pounds twelve Shillings, and the Arms are ordered to be delivered to Captain *Herbert*, of *Berks* County, who is in the service of this Province.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of *William Forbes*, for the use of *Henry Fisher*, of *Lewestown*, for sixty Pounds.

The following Order of Assembly was this day delivered at the Board by *Mr. Parker*:

"In Assembly, April 6, 1776.

"Upon motion, *Ordered*, That *Mr. Hillegas*, *Mr. Parker*, and *Mr. Rittenhouse*, be added to the Committee of Safety."

In Committee of Safety, April 10, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *James Mease*, *Samuel Howell*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Miles*, *Joseph Parker*, *James Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, *Joseph Reed*, *Michael Hillegas*.

Upon application of *Mr. James Wallace*, for a sum of Money for the payment of Fire-locks purchased in *Bucks* County, by order of this Board, for account of Congress, and for some Powder and Ball for proving the same, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Mr. John Nixon*, *James Mease*, and *Thomas Wharton*, for one hundred Pounds; and an Order to *Robert Towers* for fifty Balls, with directions to *Mr. Wallace* to use the Powder in his possession which he received for the payment of Saltpetre, keeping an account of the quantity he may use for that purpose.

The following Resolves of Assembly were this day delivered to the Board by Colonel *Miles*:

"In Assembly, April 6, 1776.

"Upon motion, *Resolved*, That an Agent be appointed to provide necessary Clothing and Accoutrements, at prime cost, for the Troops ordered to be raised for the service of this Province, the expense to be deducted out of the pay of such Troops; that such Agent be allowed two and a half per cent. for his trouble, and that he make no other profit or emolument whatever by contracts with the tradesmen he may employ, or in any other manner.

"*Resolved*, That *Matthias Slough*, Esq., of *Lancaster*, be, and he is hereby, appointed Agent for the purpose aforesaid.

"That the Committee of Safety may draw Orders on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of the said *Matthias Slough*, for such sums of Money as they from time to time shall judge necessary.

"Extract from the Journals:

"*CHARLES MOORE*, Clerk of Assembly."

Upon application of *Matthias Slough*, Esq., for a sum of Money for the payment of Clothing and Accoutrements for

the Troops to be raised for the service of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, in favour of said *Slough*, for three thousand Pounds, for the purposes aforesaid.

Upon application of Colonel *Miles*, for a sum of Money for the use of Colonel *Samuel Atlee*, for the Recruiting service of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of said *Atlee*, for five hundred Pounds.

The Assembly having recommended to this Board to appoint a proper person Marshal to the Court of Admiralty for this Province, the Board, having considered the applications of the different candidates, do resolve, that Mr. *Matthew Clarkson* be, and he is hereby, appointed Marshal to the Court of Admiralty for this Province.

Mr. *Peter De Haven* was this day desired by letter to apply to Mr. *Fraily*, of *Germantown*, to purchase the Arms in his possession that are or can be made fit for the service of this Province.

Mr. *Towers*, Commissary, was directed to apply to Mr. *Adam Foulke*, to view and purchase the Arms he bought of *Andreas Stall*, provided they are fit for the service of this Province; and, also, to inspect and take an account of all other Fire-Arms in possession of said *Foulke*, and make report of the number and quantity to this Board.

In Committee of Safety, April 11, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Parker*, *Samuel Morris*, Esq.

Upon application of *Joseph Fox*, Esq., one of the Commissioners of this County, for a sum of Money for the use of the Commissioners and Assessors, for the payment of Knapsacks, Fire-locks, &c., made for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in favour of said *Fox*, on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., for one thousand Pounds, for the use aforesaid.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *John Nixon*, *James Mease*, and *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., the Committee of Accounts, for ten thousand Pounds.

Resolved, That Mr. *David Rittenhouse* be added to the Cannon Committee of this Board, in order to assist and carry into execution the different resolves of this Committee respecting the procuring and casting Cannon for the use of this Province.

Mr. *Nixon* having occasion to leave the Board, Mr. *James Mease* was chosen Chairman.

Letters were written this day, and signed by Mr. *Mease*, to the Committees of *Lancaster* and *Berks* Counties, requesting they would furnish Captain *A. Dashauff* and Captain *Thomas Herbert*, with Fire-locks, Bayonets, and Accoutrements, out of those made by virtue of a resolve of Assembly in *June* last, being for the use of their Companies in the service of this Province.

In Committee of Safety, April 12, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Joseph Parker*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Michael Hillegas*, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*.

Upon application of *John Cobourn*, for a sum of Money towards the payment of men employed in sinking the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in his favour, for two hundred Pounds.

The Congress sent the following Resolve to this Board, which is ordered to be entered on the Minutes of this Committee:

"In Congress, April 11, 1776.

"Resolved, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to provide proper Barracks, or Quarters, for such of the Continental Troops as may from time to time be in the City of *Philadelphia*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

Captain *Alexander* requesting to be dismissed from his present service, being offered the command of the Vessel in

the Continental service, to be employed in the protection of our trade,

Resolved, (for the above reasons,) That his request be granted.

Captain *Hazelwood* having applied for a sum of Money for the service of the Fire-Rafts, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in his favour, for one hundred Pounds.

In Committee of Safety, April 13, 1776.

Present: *Owen Biddle*, Chairman, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Robert White*, *Joseph Parker*, *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Miles*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

The Commodore, or commanding Officer at *Fort-Island*, was this day directed to suffer all river Vessels, not having Pilots on board, to pass the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, and was a few days since directed not to suffer any sea Vessel to pass without a permit from this Board.

Upon representation of Colonel *Miles*, that there is not a sufficient number of Houses, or other Buildings, in or about the Towns of *Chester* and *Marcus-Hook* to quarter the Troops now raising for the defence of this Province,

Resolved, That Colonel *Miles* do procure, for the use of the said Troops, one hundred good Tents, on the most reasonable terms in his power.

Upon application of Colonel *Slough*, for the payment of two hundred and sixty-one pounds of Saltpetre, manufactured by him in this Province, by order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver him fifty pounds of Powder, and an Order on the Committee of Accounts for fifty-two Pounds fifteen Shillings, in favour of said *Slough*, which Powder and Cash is the amount of said Saltpetre.

Upon application of Mr. *Britton*, for the payment of fifteen Fire-locks, purchased by him and Captain *Williams*, which were delivered Mr. *Towers* for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Captain *Williams*, for fifty-one Pounds eight Shillings and six Pence, being the amount of the same.

Resolved, That Doctor *Matthew McHenry* be, and he is hereby, appointed Surgeon to the Provincial Ship *Montgomery*.

As it is found necessary that a Powder Magazine be built for the use of this Province, capable of holding one thousand barrels of Gunpowder,

Resolved, That Mr. *Isaac Coates* and Mr. *William Moulder* be empowered to contract with persons for materials for building said Magazine, and to employ suitable Workmen; and that they draw Orders on the Committee of Accounts for the expenses of the same.

That they be requested to prepare a Plan of the same, and lay it before this Board for their consideration.

The following Resolves of Congress, received this day, were ordered to be entered on the Minutes of this Board:

"In Congress, April 11, 1776.

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety of the United Colonies, to use their best endeavours in communicating to foreign nations the Resolutions of Congress relative to Trade."

"In Congress, April 12, 1776.

"Resolved, That the Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, of the Colonies, respectively, in which Prisoners are, or shall choose, or be appointed to reside, be empowered to remove such Prisoners from place to place, within the same Colonies, as often as to such Assemblies, Conventions, Committees, or Councils of Safety, respectively, it shall seem proper, having regard to the former Resolutions of Congress concerning Prisoners.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

"In Congress, April 9, 1776.

"Resolved, That a list of the Prisoners of War in each Colony be made out and transmitted to the House of Assembly, Convention, Council, or Committee of Safety, of such Colonies, respectively; and that they be authorized and requested to cause a strict observance of the terms on

which such Prisoners have been enlarged; and, also, to take especial care that none of those confined by order of Congress be suffered to escape; and, also, that the allowance to each Prisoner be punctually paid by the President of the Convention, or of the Council, or Committee of Safety, of the Colony in which he resides; and where there are no Conventions, by the Speakers of Assembly; which said Presidents, or Speakers, are hereby authorized, from time to time, to draw for the sums advanced in pursuance of this Resolution, upon the President of the Congress.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*"

In Committee of Safety, April 15, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*, *Michael Hillegas*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *James Biddle*.

Captain *Pitt* has permission from this Board to hire any Seamen confined in Jail by order of this Committee.

Upon application of *Joseph Collier*, for the payment of fifty Cartridge Boxes, Bayonet Belts, and Scabbards, made for the use, and certified by the Commissioners of *Berks* County, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of said *Collier*, for thirty-six Pounds five Shillings.

Upon application of Colonel *Roberdeau*, for Pilots to carry down the Privateer Sloops *Congress* and *Chance*,

*Resolved*, That a Pilot be allowed the Sloop *Congress*, provided the Captain of her will promise and engage to go down the *Cape-May* channel, and land his Pilot there.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Young* and Mr. *Adam Foulke* be empowered to purchase all such good Fire-arms as shall be offered to them for the use of this Committee, on the best terms they can, not exceeding the value that shall be put on them by the Commissary; and that this Board will allow them five per cent. for their trouble.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, apply to Mr. *John Young* and Mr. *Adam Foulke*, for one hundred and thirty Muskets, now in their possession, for the use of this Committee.

That this Board allow the said *Young* and *Foulke* five per cent. on the amount of the first cost of the said Muskets.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *Daniel Joy* five hundred pounds of Gunpowder, for proving Cannon made by Mr. *Old*, at the *Reading* Furnace; and to deliver Mr. *Lusk* two pounds of Gunpowder.

In Committee of Safety, April 16, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *Joseph Parker*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

*Resolved*, That *Jacob Hans* be, and he is hereby, appointed Captain to one tier of Fire-Rafts.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* and Mr. *Parker* be a Committee to prepare a plan for a Powder Magazine, and to lay out the ground upon which it is to be built.

Upon application of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, for the payment of three hundred and one pounds eight ounces of Saltpetre, manufactured at the Provincial Works in this City, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Biddle*, for seventy-five Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence, being the amount of said Saltpetre.

#### COMMITTEES.

COMMITTEE FOR IMPORTING POWDER, ARMS, ETC.: *Robert Morris*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Robert White*.

COMMITTEE OF ACCOUNTS: *John Nixon*, *Thomas Wharton*, *James Mease*, *Samuel Howell*.

COMMITTEE FOR PROVIDING PIKES AND INTRENCHING TOOLS: *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Owen Biddle*.

CANNON COMMITTEE: *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Howell*, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Cadwallader*.

FIRE-RAFT COMMITTEE: *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Biddle*.

FLOATING BATTERY COMMITTEE: *Samuel Howell*, *Robert White*, *George Clymer*.

SHIP COMMITTEE: *Robert White*, *John Nixon*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., Mr. *Howell*, Mr. *Clymer*.

CHEVAUX-DE-FRISE COMMITTEE: *Robert White*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun.

FORT-ISLAND COMMITTEE: *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Miles*.

POWDER-HOUSE COMMITTEE: *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Samuel Miles*, *James Mease*.

POWDER COMMITTEE OUT OF DOORS: *Isaac Coats*, *William Moulder*.

COMMITTEE FOR BUILDING TWO GALLEYS FOR THE BAY SERVICE: *Samuel Howell*, *Owen Biddle*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.

COMMITTEE OUT OF DOORS FOR PROVIDING FIRE-LOCKS TO SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKMEN IN GUNLOCK MANUFACTORY: *Samuel Meredith*, *Richard Peters*, *John Wilcocks*, *Peter De Haven*.

BARRACK COMMITTEE, FORT-ISLAND: *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

ARMED BOAT COMMITTEE: *Robert White*, *John Nixon*.

COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER DEFENCES: *George Clymer*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Miles*, Mr. *McNeill*.

COMMITTEE FOR FITTING OUT TWO OF THE ARMED BOATS: *James Mease*, *Samuel Howell*.

COMMITTEE FOR FITTING OUT FOUR GUARD BOATS TO CRUISE AT CAPE-MAY: Mr. *Nixon*, Mr. *White*.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on the Committee of Safety, in favour of *William Rush*, for twelve Pounds five Shillings, being the amount of four Fire-locks, purchased by him, and delivered the Commissary, for the use of this Province.

In Committee of Safety, April 17, 1776.

Present: *Robert Morris*, Vice-President, *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Parker*, *George Clymer*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *David Rittenhouse*, *George Gray*, *John Nixon*.

*Richard Bogar*, Commander of an Armed Vessel taken by Captain *Barry*, and *John Draper*, another officer of the said Vessel, being brought to this City, as Prisoners, were agreed to be enlarged on their separately signing the following Parole, which they agreed to, and signed accordingly:

"I, *Richard Bogar*, the second, and *John Draper*, being prisoners in the United American Colonies, and enlarged upon our parole, do, upon the honour of gentlemen and officers, promise that we will not go farther than two miles from *Germantown*, where we are ordered to reside, without leave of the Committee of Safety of the Province of *Pennsylvania*, or of the Continental Congress; and that we will not bear arms against the said Colonies, nor carry on any political correspondence whatever on the subject of the dispute between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, nor give any intelligence to any person whatever relative to *American* affairs, so long as we remain prisoners.

"Signed (separately) by

"*RICHARD BOGAR*,  
"*JOHN DRAPER.*"

The Vice-President having occasion to leave the Board, Mr. *Alexander Wilcocks* was appointed Chairman.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *Rush* and Dr. *Duffield* be appointed to receive all Medicines belonging to this Province, for which they are to give receipts, to be accountable for the same.

*Edward Molay*, a prisoner of war in the Jail of this City, having made oath that he will not bear Arms against the United American Colonies, is ordered to be set at liberty.

Upon application of *Caleb Davis*, for a sum of Money for the payment of Fire-locks, &c., made in *Chester* County for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, for one thousand five hundred Pounds, in favour of the Commissioners and Assessors of said County.

Upon application of *Caleb Davis*, for a sum of Money for the payment of Saltpetre purchased by directions of this Board in *Chester* County, and for some Powder for the same purpose, by order of the Board an Order was drawn



on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of said *Davis*, for one hundred Pounds; and an Order on *Robert Towers*, Commissary, for two quarter-casks of Gunpowder for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the Officers, prisoners of war at *Reading*, be removed from that Town to the Town of *Lebanon*, in *Lancaster County*; and that the Committee of the Town of *Reading* be desired to cause the said removal to be effected, and to draw on this Board for the charges that shall be incurred in executing the same; and that the Committee of the Town of *Lebanon* be desired to provide quarters for the said Prisoners, and to take their parole, and see that the same be faithfully observed.

*Resolved*, That the Mariners taken prisoners by Captain *Barry*, and brought to this City, be suffered to go at large upon their promising not to bear Arms against the *American Colonies*, and not to leave this City without the consent of this Committee, or of Mr. *Allen Moore*, (who is appointed to take care of them,) and that they will appear before the said *Allen Moore* once every day.

Upon application of Captain *Thomas Forrest*, for a sum of Money to purchase clothing for his Marine Company, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., for thirty Pounds, in favour of said *Forrest*, for which he is to be accountable to said *Nesbitt*.

In Committee of Safety, April 18, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Chairman, *Robert White*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Parker*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Howell*, *Samuel Miles*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for one hundred and seventy Pounds eighteen Shillings and one Penny, being the amount of his Account for Medicines ordered by this Committee some time past, which were received by Dr. *Rush*.

The following Resolve of Congress was this day delivered to this Committee, and ordered to be entered on the Minutes:

"In Congress, April 17, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of the Province of *Pennsylvania* be requested to permit *John Young*, Jun., and *Johnston Smith* to carry to *Virginia* all such Arms as they have purchased, or shall purchase, in *Pennsylvania*, for the use of the Continental Army in the said Colony of *Virginia*, before the 1st day of *May* next, at such price as the said Committee shall regulate, not to exceed one thousand stand in the whole.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*CHARLES THOMSON*, Secretary."

In consequence of the above Resolve of Congress, *John Young* has liberty to purchase as many Fire-locks as will complete the said one thousand stand, provided he complete the number before the 1st day of *May*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *David Rittenhouse* be added to the *Fort-Island* Committee.

In Committee of Safety, April 19, 1776.

Present: *James Biddle*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Joseph Parker*, *Samuel Howell*, *John Nixon*.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Captain *Thomas Forster*, for the use of his Marine Company on board the Floating Battery, thirty Fire-locks, with twenty-three rounds of Cartridges.

The Sub-Committee appointed to consider what further defences are necessary for the River, agree in opinion that a Floating Battery, of a similar, or nearly similar construction with the one now in service, be immediately built, not doubting but the Committee, from their different contracts, will be speedily supplied with a sufficient number of suitable Cannon to mount thereon.

The Board, taking the above Report of the Sub-Committee into consideration, do resolve that a Floating Battery be immediately built, under the direction of *Samuel Howell*, *Robert White*, and *George Clymer*, a Committee hereby appointed for the purpose,

A Letter was this day written, by order of the Board, to Dr. *Charles Burrell*, of *Germantown*, acquainting him that Lieutenant *Bogar* and Mr. *John Draper*, two prisoners on their parole, were going to reside at *Germantown*, and that their allowance was fifteen Shillings each, per week, which would be paid by this Board.

In Committee of Safety, April 20, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *George Clymer*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Howell*, *Joseph Parker*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*.

In Committee of Safety, April 22, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *George Clymer*, *Robert White*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *John Cadwallader*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Joseph Parker*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *James Mease*.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *Nathaniel Falconer* half a barrel of Gunpowder, for the use of the signal guns at *Lewestown*.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Captain *Brown* twenty-six Fire-locks, Cartridge-boxes, and Bayonet-belts, for the use of his Company of Marines.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on the Committee of Accounts for forty-five Shillings, payable to *Adener Baldwin* and *Benjamin Low*, two men who deserted from Lord *Dunmore*, being so much given them to assist them to go to *New-Brunswick*, to their families.

*Resolved*, That *William* and *Thomas Bradford* print two thousand *English*, and that *Henry Miller* print three hundred *German*, Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in *Pennsylvania*, the Articles of Association, and the Resolutions directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators in *Pennsylvania*, agreeably to the resolution of the Assembly at their last session.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Towers*, Commissary, reserve twenty-one Fire-locks for Captain *Brown*, exclusive of the order for twenty-six delivered this day; and that he deliver, in equal proportions, to Colonel *Dickinson*, Colonel *Roberdeau*, Colonel *Cadwallader*, and Colonel *McKean*, the remainder of the Fire-locks which he has in his possession belonging to this Province, taking receipts for the same.

In Committee of Safety, April 23, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *John Cadwallader*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Joseph Parker*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Howell*.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Mr. *Bidwell* one ton of Crude Sulphur for refining.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on the Committee of Accounts for three hundred Pounds, in favour of Captain *Richards* or Captain *Falconer*, for the use of the Alarm Committee, the expenditure of which they are to be accountable for.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, (for account of the Powder-Mill building by order of Congress,) for five hundred and fifty Pounds, the expenditure of which Captain *Cowperthwaite* and Mr. *Clement Biddle* is to be accountable for.

Upon application of Colonel *Miles*, for a sum of Money for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions under his command, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for one thousand Pounds.

In Committee of Safety, April 24, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Samuel Howell*, *George Clymer*, *James Biddle*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Samuel Miles*, *David Rittenhouse*.

*Resolved*, That Dr. *Duffield* and Dr. *Rush* have the superintendence and direction of the Hospital and Pest-House, and have full power to fit the same for the reception of the Sick, to provide Nurses and all necessaries and utensils that

shall be wanting, and contract with Mr. *McClush* for furnishing the Sick with Fire-wood and Provisions, and attending them upon the terms he formerly undertook the same.

Upon application of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for some light Sail-Cloth for making Tents, for the use of the Troops in the service of this Province, by order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver what Sail-Cloth he has, belonging to the Province, (of No. 8,) for the use aforesaid.

—  
In Committee of Safety, April 25, 1776.

Present: *James Biddle, Owen Biddle, Daniel Roberdeau, Samuel Howell, Joseph Parker.*

—  
In Committee of Safety, April 26, 1776.

Present: *George Clymer, Owen Biddle, James Biddle, Samuel Howell, George Ross, John Cadwallader, Samuel Morris, Jun.*

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Robert Towers*, to deliver Captain *Hazlewood* six hundred weight of Brimstone, and one other Order to deliver *Peter De Haven*, for the use of *Lewis Pahl*, one hundred pounds of Brass, for mounting the Fire-locks making by him for the use of this Province.

Upon application of *Robert Towers*, for the payment of two Accounts for Fire-locks, Saltpetre, &c., purchased and paid for by him, by order of the Board two Orders were drawn on the Committee of Accounts, in his favour, amounting to one hundred and sixty Pounds thirteen Shillings four and a half Pence.

A Memorial was this day signed and sent to Congress, soliciting that honourable body for a few pieces of the heaviest Cannon taken, by Commodore *Hopkins* at *Providence*.

Letters were this day written to the Committees of *Cumberland, York, and Northampton* Counties, requesting they would each send to the Commissary in this City fifty-six Fire-locks, Bayonets, and Accoutrements, out of the number made in said Counties, for the use of this Province; the said Arms are requested for the arming the Battalion of Musketry raising for the immediate defence of this Province.

*Resolved*, That a Powder Magazine be built on the ground belonging to the Powder-Mill of Congress at *French-Creek*, and that *Clement Biddle* and *Joseph Cowperthwait* procure materials, and employ proper persons to carry this resolve into execution.

Upon application of *Ludwig Fohur*, for the payment of his Account for Fire-locks purchased of him by Captain *Jones*, and for the repairs of sundry others for his and Captain *Dorsey's* Companies, in Colonel *De Haas's* Battalion, in the service of the United Colonies, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, in favour of said *Fohur*, for ninety-three Pounds eleven Shillings and one Penny, being the amount of said Accounts.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Colonel *Hart*, for twenty-five Pounds two Shillings and six Pence, being the amount of ten Fire-locks purchased by *Henry Wynkoop*, in *Bucks* County, which sum is to be charged to the amount of Arms purchased for account of Congress.

Upon application of Lieutenant-Colonel *Caleb Parry*, for a sum of Money for the use of the Musket Battalion in the service of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of said *Parry*, for two hundred and fifty Pounds.

—  
In Committee of Safety, April 27, 1776.

Present: *Samuel Howell, George Gray, John Cadwallader, Daniel Roberdeau, Joseph Parker, James Biddle, James Mease, Samuel Miles.*

*Resolved*, That it is necessary Lieutenant *Boger* and Mr. *John Draper* attend in this City on *Monday* next, in order to be examined in the Court of Admiralty, and that they return to their station at *Germantown* as soon as they are dismissed by the said Court.

*Resolved*, That the Rev. *David Jones* be, and he is hereby, appointed Chaplain to Colonel *Shea* and Colonel

*Wayne's* Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the service of the United Colonies.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq. and others, the Committee of Accounts, in favour of Colonel *Hart*, for the use of *Henry Wynkoop*, for seven Pounds fifteen Shillings, being the amount of three Fire-locks purchased by him, which is to be charged to the Arms bought on account of Congress.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *Samuel Miles*, or his order, what Intrenching Tools he may have occasion for, taking receipts for the same; and to Captain *Samuel Morris* one quarter-cask of Gunpowder, for the use of the Light-Horse.

—  
In Committee of Safety, April 29, 1776.

Present: *Alexander Wilcocks*, Chairman, *George Clymer, Samuel Howell, Owen Biddle, John Cadwallader, Joseph Parker, Thomas Wharton, John Nixon.*

Upon application of Captain *N. Falconer*, for two Swivels on board one of the Guard-Boats, by order of the Board Captain *Hazlewood* was directed to deliver them for the use of the Congress.

In consequence of the intelligence received that the *Roe-buck* Man-of-War is aground upon *Brandywine*, Captain *Reed* was ordered with the Provincial Ship *Montgomery* to proceed down the river and bay, and join the Commodore, who is already on his way with the Armed Boats, in order to take or destroy her. Captain *Reed* was also ordered to make up his complement of Seamen out of the Floating Battery, and to take a detachment of Captain *Proctor's* Artillery.

—  
In Committee of Safety, April 30, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *John Cadwallader, Daniel Roberdeau, Owen Biddle, George Gray, James Mease, George Clymer, Samuel Howell, Joseph Parker, Thomas Wharton, Jun., Samuel Morris, Jun.*

A Letter was this day written to the Commodore, acquainting him that this Board had directed Mr. *James Mease* and Mr. *Samuel Morris* to inquire into the cause of the Armed Boats returning; and if those gentlemen should think proper to order them down again, the Commodore is to proceed back until he is fully satisfied that the *Roe-buck* has got off.

—  
In Committee of Safety, May 1, 1776.

Present: *John Cadwallader*, Chairman, *James Mease, Samuel Miles, Owen Biddle, George Clymer, Joseph Parker, Samuel Howell, Alexander Wilcocks, Samuel Morris, Junior.*

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Reed* be appointed Clerk to the Commissary of Stores and Barrackmaster at *Fort-Island*, and that he be allowed five Pounds per month for his services, to commence at the time of his being first employed at the Fort.

Upon application of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for Medicines for the use of three Battalions of *Pennsylvania* Land Forces, by order of the Board Dr. *Rush* and Dr. *Duffield* were required to furnish the Surgeons of the said Battalions with the necessary Drugs and Medicines.

The Sisterhood of *Bethlehem* having presented this Board with a quantity of Linen rags for the benefit of such as may be wounded in the service of their country,

*Resolved*, That this instance of their humanity be thankfully acknowledged.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Howell* and Mr. *Mease* be a Committee to inquire if two of the Armed Boats can be fitted out in order to go down to the Bay of *Delaware*, to be there stationed for the protection of the Commerce of this Province; and if they find that it is practicable to fit or alter two for that purpose, that they employ proper persons to carry the same into execution.

By Order of the Board the following Notice was ordered to be published in the Papers:

"All persons who are now Prisoners on parole in the different parts of this Province are strictly enjoined not to leave the District that has been appointed for their resi-

dence without the written permission of this Board; and all Prisoners who come into this City by the license of the Congress are directed, upon their arrival, immediately to

communicate such license to this Committee; and if any Prisoners shall be found trespassing against this order, their persons will be immediately seized and imprisoned."

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. CHARLES BEATTY AND BAKER JOHNSON.

[No. 100.]

Annapolis, April 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Sixty pounds currency were sent by Mr. Ford, the 23d January, by order of our Board, to Mr. Thomas Johnson, at Fredericktown, and, in his absence, to you, to be expended in the purchase of gun-locks for the use of the Province; but as we have not heard anything from him or you upon the subject, and are in very great want of that article, we desire you will inform us how many were bought, and where they are; or if there have not been any purchased, whether there is a probability of applying the money to that use in your County.

We are, &c.

To Messrs. Charles Beatty and Baker Johnson.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO TALBOT COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 101.]

Annapolis, April 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of an information we received that there were one or two barrels of bullets, and a quantity of gun-flints belonging to this Province, in the possession of Mr. Leeds, we wrote to you the 14th February, requesting that you would make inquiry into that matter, and if you found it true, that you would take them under your care, and send them to the Council of Safety by the first safe conveyance; but as we have not received any answer to our letter, we presume it must have miscarried, and therefore we send you this, and beg that you will immediately examine into the truth of the above information.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for Talbot County.

HENRY FISHER TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Lewes, April 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On Monday evening last a man-of-war and her tender came within the pitch of our cape, and anchored, as you have been informed by last express. The pilot-boat stationed near Lewes-Creek's mouth, did not discover the signal at the Light-House, nor see the ship that evening, as it was near dark before she came to the pitch of the cape; and when the alarm-guns were fired the people on board the boats, although they heard them very plainly, imagined, as they said, that we were cleaning the guns with a proof charge.

Tuesday morning the man-of-war's boat took my pilot-boat, the wind being light and northerly, and ebb tide. But before they boarded her the hands in the pilot-boat left her, and rowed on shore at the Broad-Kill in their skiff. The same day the man-of-war, with her tenders and boats, took a small sloop, then lying in the road, belonging to Egg-Harbour, in ballast, the people of whom left her first in their boat. They also took two other small sloops from Philadelphia—one to Sinepuxent, the other to North-Carolina; and on Wednesday sent them on shore in their own small boats. Stripped and scuttled the aforesaid three sloops, and set them adrift. By these people we learned that it was Captain Hammond, of the King's ship the *Roe-buck*, of forty-five guns.

They made another tender of the pilot-boat; sent her out, took a *New-England* sloop bound to Philadelphia for corn; and that night, lying too near the cape, the hand at the helm falling asleep let the pilot-boat run on the beach, when the Third Lieutenant, their pilot, and two sailors, left her, went on the cape, and were taken on Thursday by our men. We stripped the pilot-boat of everything of value, and found ten muskets and five pistols, which had been thrown over the side where the boat lies. On Friday and Saturday they took nothing. On Friday the sloop *Hornet* appeared near Indian-River, and sent on shore and got a pilot, but we have not seen her since; and the same evening the brig *Captain Barry* came down under Cape-

May, and on Sunday morning went out. The ship and tender put out to sea also after the brig, but returned on Sunday evening into the road. We have been day and night on guard, both on the cape and at Lewes and Pilot-town.

The several companies of Militia from all parts of the country who live within twenty, or five-and-twenty miles of Lewes, came in as soon as they could be expected, seemed all unanimous and hearty in the cause, determined to defend their country. There have been near one thousand men in at times the last week, so that we were obliged to discharge many of them, not having occasion for half the number. We prevailed on those who lived at a distance to leave some of the best of their arms, (for numbers of them want fire-locks,) which are not to be purchased.

On Saturday last Captain Pope's Company, of the Delaware Battalion of regular soldiers, came down from Kent, all well equipped. How long the ship intends to stay we cannot learn. If anything material should happen I shall endeavour to let you know it.

I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

HENRY FISHER.

To the Committee of Safety of Philadelphia.

P. S. From what I can learn from the prisoners that we have got, you may daily expect several large ships; therefore, I hope that you may be upon your guard, as, from what I can learn, they are to come up your river. The Lieutenant and other prisoners will be sent up to you tomorrow by land, or else it shall cost me a fall.

HENRY FISHER.

Lewestown, April 2, 1776—four o'clock.

To the Gentlemen that keep the Stage-horses:

You are required to let the bearer (Mr. Samuel Edwards) have them; as he is one of the stationed pilots, therefore can relate matters more particular than I can write.

HENRY FISHER.

CEDAR-CREEK, April 2, 1776—six o'clock.

THOMAS EVANS.

DOVER, Tuesday, ten minutes after nine o'clock, arrived; despatched at ten o'clock, April 2.

BATTILL.

CANTVILLE BRIDGE, Tuesday, fifty-two minutes after one; despatched ten minutes after two.

MATTHEW DELANY.

WILMINGTON, Tuesday, thirty-eight minutes after seven o'clock, arrived express, and despatched fifty-five minutes after seven o'clock, April 2, 1776.

THOMAS KEAN.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, April 3, 1776.

Resolved, That the Letter received from Henry Fisher, of Lewes, be immediately sent to the Delegates of this Province, to be laid before the Congress; and the said Delegates be requested to represent it as the sense of the Committee, that if two or more fast-sailing Vessels, of small draft of water, were properly equipped, they might protect the trade of this and the neighbouring Colonies in the Bay of Delaware, now infested with Tenders and small Armed Vessels of the enemy, and secure the supplies of Military Stores expected from abroad, and to apply to the Congress to take speedy measures for that purpose; and also to suggest the propriety of ordering back to this port the several outward-bound Vessels now lying on the Rivers, and employing the Seamen in this service until the trade of the Bay is more secure.

Extract from the Minutes:

WILLIAM GOVETT, Secretary.

VALENTINE STANDLEY TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

April 1, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Extremely sorry am I to think, that so near a relation as Mr. Richard Standley is to

me, should have so far sunk himself beneath the dignity of a man, as to chose rather to throw up his commission than fight in this so glorious a cause. I now humbly beg leave (for the honour of the family, as well as that of myself) to retrieve his spotted and blemished character, by offering myself as a candidate for that or any other office you may think me capable of. Should I meet with your approbation, my highest ambition will be to honour my station.

VALENTINE STANDLEY.

To the Honourable Continental Congress.

JOHN ADAMS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer of this letter (*Francis Dana*, Esq., of *Cambridge*) is a gentleman of family, fortune, and education, returned in the last packet from *London*, where he has been about a year. He has ever maintained an excellent character in his country, and a warm friendship for the *American* cause. He returns to share with his friends in their dangers and their triumphs. I have done myself the honour to give him this letter for the sake of introducing him to your acquaintance, as he has frequently expressed to me a desire to embrace the first opportunity of paying his respects to a character so highly esteemed, and so justly admired throughout all *Europe* as well as *America*. Mr. *Dana* will satisfy you that we have no reason to expect peace from *Britain*.

I congratulate you, sir, as well as all the friends of mankind, on the reduction of *Boston*—an event which appeared to me of so great and decisive importance, that the next morning after the arrival of the news, I did myself the honour to move for the thanks of Congress to your Excellency, and that a medal of gold should be struck in commemoration of it. Congress have been pleased to appoint me, with two other gentlemen, to prepare a device. I should be very happy to have your Excellency's sentiments concerning a proper one.

I have the honour to be, with very great respect, sir, your most obedient and affectionate servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

To General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL CHARLES LEE.

Philadelphia, April 1, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having appointed Mr. *Dohicky Arundel* Captain of an Artillery Company in the Continental service, and directed him to repair to the Southern Department, and there to put himself under your command, I have it in charge from that body to inform you that you are directed to set on foot the raising a Company of Artillery. This you will endeavour to accomplish as early as possible, being sensible the service calls for such a company, that we may be the better enabled to defend ourselves and annoy our enemies.

The Convention, or Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, to whom I write by this conveyance, are requested to appoint the other officers of the said company.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Major-General *Lee*.

I have paid Captain *Arundel* sixty dollars, which you will please to have stopped out of his pay.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, April 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Dohicky Arundel*, being appointed a Captain of an Artillery Company in the Continental service, and directed to repair to the Southern Department, to put himself under the command of General *Lee*, who is directed to set on foot the raising such a company, I have it in charge from Congress to inform you, that it is recommended to you to appoint the other officers in the said Artillery Company.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Convention or Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

SAMUEL TUCKER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Trenton, April 2, 1776.

SIR: Since writing last, I find we shall have considerable difficulty in getting entertainment at *Mount-Holly* for the officers and soldiers now prisoners in this town. Two of the officers, viz: Mr. *Cleveland* and Mr. *Shuttlesworth*, have been there, and complain of the quarters, and are very desirous that they may be removed to *Burlington*, where all may be well provided for; which, as our Committee of Safety meets on *Monday* next at *New-Brunswick*, I shall lay before them, and hope Congress will have no objection to their being quartered in *Burlington*, as I find the *New-Yorkers* have taken every place in *Boundbrook*, which I passed through last *Saturday*, and many have moved from *Philadelphia* to *Mount-Holly*, as I am informed.

Enclosed you have a return of the First and Second Battalions, which Mr. *Lowrey* informed me you wanted. As the several officers received their commissions, the date of passing muster, &c., in the First Battalion was transacted, in part, by Mr. *Fisher*, the Vice-President of our Convention, who has not yet informed me so minutely as I could have wished.

Our Committee of Safety have directed me to send you the enclosed list of wearing apparel, said to be lost or stolen on the road from *Chambly*, laid before the Committee by order of Major *Stopford*, as improper for them to determine upon.

I have the pleasure to inform you that I saw part of our Militia pass *Brunswick Ferry* on *Saturday* morning last, on their way to *New-York*.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL TUCKER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

*The First Battalion NEW-JERSEY Troops*, Lord STIRLING Colonel; now WILLIAM WINDS, Esq.

First Captain, *Joseph Morris*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *Daniel Baldwin*; Second Lieutenant, *Daniel Brown*; Ensign, *Matthias Halsted*. Received 8th November, 1775, per *Elias Dayton*, Esquire. Commissions dated 4th December, 1775, per S. T.

Second Captain, *Silas Howell*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *John Mercer*; Second Lieutenant, *Richard Johnson*; Ensign, *Cyrus Dehard*. Received 14th November, 1775, per *Elias Dayton*, Esquire. Commissions dated 4th December, 1775, per S. T.

Third Captain, *John Conway*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *Lewis Johnson Costigin*; Second Lieutenant, *Peter Voorhies*; Ensign, *Francis Costigin*. Received 21st November, 1775. Commissions filled up the 4th December, per S. T.

Fourth Captain, *John Polhemus*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *John Vananglin*; Second Lieutenant, *Samuel Axford*; Ensign, *William Sickels*. Received 22d November, 1775. Commissions filled up 25th November, 1775, per S. T.

Fifth Captain, *Joseph Meeker*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *Yellas Mead*; Second Lieutenant, *Archibald Dallas*; Ensign, *George Ross*, the third. Received 9th December, 1775, per *Elias Dayton*, Esquire. Commissioned 10th December, 1775, per S. T.

Sixth Captain, *Andrew McMyer*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *Isaac Morrison*; Second Lieut. *Alexander Clough*; Ensign, *Jacob Piatt*. Received 15th December, 1775, per *Elias Dayton*, Esq. Commissioned 16th December, 1775, per S. T.

Seventh Captain, *Daniel Piatt*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *Hendrick Fisher*, Jun.; Second Lieutenant, *John Flahavin*; Ensign, *John Robertson*. Commissioned by *Hendrick Fisher*, Vice-President of the Provincial Convention.

Eighth Captain, *Elias Longstreet*, Esquire; First Lieutenant, *Hortenes Schanck*; Second Lieutenant, *John Holmes*; Ensign, *Abraham Lane*. Gave commissions by order of Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds*, 9th February, 1776.

*Second Battalion of NEW-JERSEY Troops*, commanded by Colonel MAXWELL; Lieut. Colonel, ISRAEL SHREVE; Major, DAVID RAY.

First Captain, *William Faulkner*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *James Dillon*; Second Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Bowman*;

Ensign, *John Sparks*. Received 11th November, 1775, per *Joseph Ellis*, Esq. Commissions filled up 12th November, 1775, per *S. T.*

Second Captain, *Joseph Braerly*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *Thomas Yard*; Second Lieutenant, *Jonathan Phillips*; Ensign, *Thomas Ryerson*. Received 20th November, 1775, per *John Mehelm*, Esq. Commissions filled up 21st November, 1775, per *S. T.*

Third Captain, *James Lawrey*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *John Hollingshead*; Second Lieutenant, *James Ashmore*; Ensign, *Samuel Hendry*. Received 27th November, 1775, per *John Mehelm*, Esq. Commissions filled up 28th November, 1775, per *S. T.*

Fourth Captain, *William Shute*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *Henry Freese*; Second Lieutenant, *Jeremiah Smith*; Ensign, *William Panet*. Received 29th November, 1775, per *Joseph Ellis*, Esq. Commissions filled up 29th November, 1775, per *S. T.*

Fifth Captain, *Richard Howell*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *John Noble Cumming*; Second Lieutenant, *Seth Bowman*; Ensign, *Samuel Naglee*. Received 29th November, 1775, per *Joseph Ellis*, Esq. Commissions dated 30th November, 1775, per *S. T.*

Sixth Captain, *John Budd Scott*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *James Maxwell*; Second Lieutenant, *John Higgins*; Ensign, *Francis Dulloss*. Received 9th December, 1775, per *John Mehelm*, Esq. Commissions dated 11th December, 1775, per *S. T.*

Seventh Captain, *Joseph Stout*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *Samuel Reading*; Second Lieutenant, *Ephraim Anderson*; Ensign, *Aaron Lane*, Jun. Received the 18th December, 1775, per *John Mehelm*, Esq. Commissions dated 18th December, 1775, per *S. T.*

Eighth Captain, *Archibald Shaw*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *Henry Luce*; Second Lieutenant, *William Helm*; Ensign, *George Reynolds*. Received 25th December, 1775, per *John Mehelm*, Esq. Commissions dated 25th December, 1775, per *S. T.*

#### NEW-BRUNSWICK (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Observation for the South Ward of *New-Brunswick*, County of *Middlesex*, *New-Jersey*, the 1st day of *April*, 1776:

Whereas *William Steele*, an inhabitant of this Ward, having heretofore been cited to appear before this Committee in consequence of a charge exhibited against him, that he had not subscribed the Provincial Association, and had, in the most publick manner, set himself against the measures taken for the defence and security of the just rights and privileges of *America*, did refuse to appear, and did, moreover, by letter, insult this Committee in the most haughty and insolent terms, for which they were under the necessity of ordering him arrested and confined; and whereas the said *William Steele*, having, in the most solemn manner, by word and writing, engaged and obligated himself to use all means, by a quiet, peaceable, and orderly behaviour, to convince his country and this Committee of his better intentions towards the cause of publick freedom, hath, notwithstanding, disregarded his engagements, violated his obligations, and persisted, by misrepresentations, artifice, and treachery, to discourage and dispirit his neighbours from taking an active and cordial part in behalf of their suffering, oppressed, and bleeding country, and to speak in opprobrious terms of this Committee, and to show himself, in his general conduct, disaffected and opposed to the liberties of his country;—this Committee, therefore, in conscientious discharge of their duty, and the trust reposed in them by their constituents, do publish and hold up to the world as an unworthy member of the community, and an inveterate, obstinate, incorrigible enemy to his country, the said *William Steele*; and do hereby express their belief and expectation, that all persons in whose hearts the sentiments of justice, honour, virtue, and patriotism, have any place and influence, will discountenance, avoid, condemn, and have no connection or intercourse whatever with the said *William Steele*; to the end that he may feel the sad effects of rising up against the rights of human nature, and that others who may, perhaps, have it in their power to do more prejudice to their country, may see and fear, and avoid the

rock on which he has split; for, weak and unimportant as he is, this Committee are not at all apprehensive he will ever be able to effect the mischief to which his heart would prompt him. And this Committee do resolve and declare, for the satisfaction of their countrymen, that if what they have done is found insufficient to reclaim the said *William Steele*, they will then proceed to take such further steps in discharge of their duty as the circumstances of the case may require.

Signed by order of the Committee:

ABRAHAM TERHUNE, Clerk.  
J. WETHERILL, Chairman.

#### LORD STIRLING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, April 1, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I am honoured with your letter of the 24th. Brigadier-General *Heath* arrived here on *Saturday* last with the five regiments that marched from camp with him. The Riflemen came in a day or two before. The *Connecticut* Militia, detached by Governour *Trumbull*, are also chiefly arrived. These, with what are constantly coming in from the westward, will put us on such a footing as to numbers, that I think we have little to fear from General *Howe*, should he attempt anything in this quarter. *Staten-Island* is still open to their invasion, and I should be glad we were so possessed of it that we could prevent their making any lodgment in it. For this purpose I will endeavour to get General *Heath's* leave to go over there on *Wednesday* next, to set the Militia of *New-Jersey* at work on it. I shall only add, that I could wish General *Howe* would come here in preference to any other spot in *America*, as I believe it would now be of least detriment to the *American* cause; besides, then I should have the honour of serving under your immediate command.

I am, very sincerely, your devoted, humble servant,

STIRLING.

To General *Washington*.

#### To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the City of NEW-YORK.

The humble Petition of ABNER BRIGGS sheweth:

Whereas your Petitioner, some time past, did apply to this Congress for leave to export a cargo of provisions to the Island of *Nantucket*, for the use of the inhabitants thereof, which was accordingly granted him on conditions that he bring a certificate of the performance of the said conditions: your Petitioner, therefore, agreeable thereto, now waits upon this honourable body with the said certificate; and humbly prays for leave to purchase another cargo of provisions, as the inhabitants of *Nantucket* are greatly distressed. From the Selectmen of which said place, he hath a permit, specifying the quantity and articles that are most necessary, and certifying that the same are wanted absolutely for the use and consumption of the said inhabitants of *Nantucket*. Your Petitioner, since his arrival, understands that pork and beef are prohibited for exportation, and prays he may have liberty to purchase an equivalent in any other sort of provisions or produce.

April, 1776.

#### To the Honourable Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK:

GENTLEMEN: Whereas your Petitioner, being very desirous of serving his country against the arbitrary and lawless attempts of a designing Ministry to banish freedom from this once happy and free land, and erect the standard of despotism in its stead,—and as your Petitioner has ever been distinguished as a hearty friend and well-wisher to the *American* cause, and is now actually in the service as a Sergeant, in Captain *Johnson's* Company, of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, and a native of this city, of parents ever distinguished as friends to the privileges of this city, and to the *American* cause in general—(when your Petitioner entered the service, it was in expectation of being promoted; but finding that impracticable without the assistance of this honourable Congress)—he has thought proper, with the advice of his friends, to make this humble application; praying that your Honours may be pleased to



appoint him to such vacant commission that may happen, as your Honours, in wisdom, may think fit.

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, shall every pray, &c.

ISAAC RYCKMAN, JUN.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

COLONEL HASBROUCK TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I herewithin enclose you a return made to me respecting the choice of an Ensign to Captain *Jacob Concklin's* Company, where they have, by a plurality of voices, elected *John Crowel* Ensign to the aforesaid company, in lieu and stead of one *Roger Barton*, who was first elected and commissioned, but since has acted inimical to the good cause we are contending for with our mother country, by inlisting in the Ministerial service, and is now confined in jail. I therefore pray that you will favour the aforesaid *Crowel* with a commission as Ensign, as soon as possible; and am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JOHN HASBROUCK.

CHARLES SMITH TO CAPTAIN VANDEPUT.

Bridewell, Monday, April 1, 1776.

SIR: I take this opportunity of doing myself the honour of acquainting you with my disagreeable situation, having been a close prisoner ever since I have been in *New-York*. I must do the *New-England* people justice, under whose care I have been, that they behaved extremely well. Since their departure, the *Yorkers* took possession of the barracks, kept me much closer confined, and on *Saturday* afternoon gave me three days' allowance that was due, of pork and bread only, and conducted me safe to *Bridewell*. Since, I understand, my allowance is to be five pence sterling per day—*Bridewell* allowance. I am beholden to the goodness of the jailer for my bed and blanket, or else I believe I might perish.

I shall not, sir, trouble you with a detail of all my misfortunes, as they are in no wise pleasant, but take the liberty to subscribe myself, your obedient servant,

CHARLES SMITH.

To Captain *Vandeput*, of his Majesty's Ship *Asia*.

P. S. King *Sears*, on my first arrival, called me rascal, and pushed me on to jail with his sword. As to the sailors, I am sorry to inform you they are gone to *Philadelphia* to go on board the privateer.

GENERAL HEATH TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 1, 1776.

SIR: A sloop is arrived here from *Albany*, with a number of women and children and baggage, taken at *St. John's*, and sent here by General *Schuyler*, in their way to *New-Brunswick*. The Captain of the sloop is fearful of going to *New-Brunswick*, as, in his way back, he may be stopped and detained by the men-of-war. It will be proper, therefore, to obtain from Captain *Vandeput* a free pass for the sloop to and from *Brunswick*, which, no doubt, he will readily grant, as it obtains every convenience for those prisoners, who must otherwise undergo a fatiguing march by land; and I must beg the favour of your Committee of Safety to take the management of this matter.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

W. HEATH, *Brigadier-General*.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

COLONEL HAZEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Montreal, April 1, 1776.

SIR: General *Wooster* left this place for *Quebeck*, the 27th last month. He has honoured me, though unequal to the task, with the command of this District. I shall, therefore, to the utmost of my abilities, do for the best; and I conceive it my duty, as well as inclination, to inform you of every material circumstance as they occur to me, as well as to give you a particular account, from time to time, of this important District; and perhaps it may not be thought amiss

if I add my own ideas of the whole country, and affairs in general. You are not unacquainted with the friendly disposition of the *Canadians* when General *Montgomery* first penetrated into the country. The ready assistance which they gave on all occasions, by men, carriages, or provisions, was most remarkable, even when he was before *Quebeck*; many Parishes offered their service in the reduction of that fortress, which was at that time thought unnecessary. But his most unfortunate fate, added to other incidents, has caused such a change in their disposition, that we no longer look upon them as friends, but, on the contrary, waiting an opportunity to join our enemies. That no observations of my own may remain obscure, I beg leave to observe, that I think the clergy (or guardians of the souls, and conductors of the bodies) of these enthusiasts have been neglected, perhaps in some instances ill used. Be that as it will, they are unanimous, though privately, against our cause; and I have too much reason to fear many of them, with other people of some consequence, have carried on a correspondence the whole winter with General *Carleton* in *Quebeck*, and are now plotting our destruction. The peasantry in general have been ill used; they have in some instances been dragooned, with the point of the bayonet, to furnish wood for the garrison, at a lower rate than the current price; carriages, and many other articles furnished, for which certificates were given, not legible and without signature—the one half of consequence rejected by the Quartermaster-General. It is true, they have been promised payment, from time to time; yet they look upon such promises as vague, their labour and property lost, and the Congress and the United Colonies as bankrupt; and (what is a more material point) they have not seen sufficient force in the country to protect them. These matters furnish very strong arguments to be made use of by our enemies.

To take a view of our little Army here, I have pretty good information that our strength in camp before *Quebeck* did not, on the 18th of *March*, much exceed that of the day after General *Montgomery's* fall. General *Arnold* had at that time about four hundred men in a small-pox Hospital. Neither order nor subordination prevails, and of course shortly no soldiers. On the 15th of this month, those who wintered in the country are free, and, in my opinion, neither art, craft, nor money, will prevail on any of them to reinlist to serve in *Canada*. Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment, consisting of about two hundred, will be free on the same day; very few, if any of them, will re-engage. Of my intended regiment I have about two hundred and fifty. The want of money obliges me to stop; where I shall remain until matters take a change, if ever, in our favour, as not a man more will now engage, and those which I have inlisted will go to the right about in case the *Canadians* in general join against us; at least such is my opinion. With respect to the better sort of people, both *French* and *English*, seven-eighths are Tories, who would wish to see our throats cut, and perhaps would readily assist in doing it.

The taking of *Quebeck* is altogether casual. The keeping of the country, according to the present appearance of affairs, is totally against us. No preparation has, is, or can be made to guard the river, for a very good reason—no money or men of skill to do it; the whole country left without any other kind of law than that of the arbitrary and despotick power of the sword in the hands of the several commanding officers—too frequently abused in all cases of this nature.

You may remember, sir, in a conversation with you, at *Albany*, I urged the necessity of sending immediately to *Canada*, able Generals, a respectable Army, a Committee of Congress, a suitable supply of hard cash, a printer, &c. Indeed, I had before represented those measures in person to Congress—at least to the Committee of Congress—and we have since been flattered, from time to time, with one or all those essentials.

The Savages hereabouts are cool; they keep aloof from us; we are to expect little or no friendship from them, and, indeed, little or no precaution has been taken for that purpose. It is expected by some that numbers will come from the interior country, and fall on our frontiers, early in the spring.

Enclosed I transmit you extracts from some private letters, which accidentally came to hand from the camp before *Quebeck*. I believe the contents, as the news has come to

town several ways. The *Canadians* taking up arms so early against us is of the most important consequence. We have brought about ourselves, by mismanagement, what Governour *Carleton* himself could never effect.

Having endeavoured to lay before you a true state of facts as they occur to me, if I have done my duty thereby, I shall be happy; if I have exceeded, I beg you will impute it to pure zeal in my country's cause, and the ardent desire I have, on all occasions, to contribute all in my power for the interests of the United Colonies. And should you be of opinion that any of my remarks are worthy the attention of Congress, you will please to communicate them.

I am, sir, with true respect, your most obedient servant,  
MOSES HAZEN.

To Major-General *Philip Schuyler*.

Head-Quarters, before *Quebeck*, March 26, 1776.

The contents of your last favour I have not time to answer by this conveyance. This is only to give you some idea of some late interesting transactions.

The Priests in two or three Parishes below *Point-Levi* having been brought to Head-Quarters some weeks since, on account of their diabolical conduct, and were released on solemn promises of amendment, have, in conjunction with a party sent from town, imbodyed several hundred *Canadians*, and, it is said, have two twelve-pounders. Against this body, our men from the Point (two hundred in all) marched yesterday morning, engaged the enemy, took thirty prisoners; how many killed cannot learn. We had one man wounded. This was not the enemy's main body. This account is, as I am informed, from Major *Dubois*, who commanded on the occasion. *Aaron Platt* and *Philadelphia Hughes* were in the party. We impatiently wait the issue of this affair, as much depends on it. One hundred and fifty *Jerseymen* and *Pennsylvanians* are to march for *Point-Levi* this day. I have only time to add that I am, &c.,

GERSHOM MOTT.

To Captain *Goforth*, commanding at *Three-Rivers*.

Camp before *Quebeck*, March 26, 1776.

I have just time to let you know that I and my family arrived at Head-Quarters on *Saturday*, 23d instant, in good health. I am informed that five hundred *Canadians*, and a few Regulars from the garrison, have assembled together, twelve leagues below *Quebeck*, with two twelve-pounders, and are getting more formidable every day; and have intercepted some provisions of ours. We have sent a party of men after them, to take their standard and bring it to Head-Quarters. For my part I dread the consequence, as our own party does not amount to one hundred men. God (and he only) can determine our fate. I think we have sent one gondola and some armed batteaus in order to intercept an armed schooner from *Quebeck*; and they are cutting more out of the ice—I mean the Regulars.

Excuse haste. I know your prudence will know how to handle this dangerous news.

JOHN BROGDEN.

To Captain *Goforth*, commanding at *Three-Rivers*.

P. S. Nothing shall escape my notice to you of all that passes; and if you think me worth your notice, let me have your opinion. Thanks be to God, this moment, as I was concluding this letter, news came in that Major *Dubois* had sent a letter to General *Arnold* that our men met with the advanced party of the enemy, killed and wounded a good many, and took thirty prisoners, and routed the rest, and are advancing to the main body. A party of one hundred and fifty men is gone to reinforce our party. We expect further news very soon. If we carry our point, I think *Quebeck* will soon be our own.

J. B.

#### EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER OF CAPTAIN GOFORTH.

Reports are various with respect to *Indians*. Some say five thousand are coming down to cut off *Montreal*; others say they are to pass *Montreal*, come to *Three-Rivers*, and hasten to *Quebeck* to the relief of their father, (*Carleton*.) who is now confined within the walls, and must be relieved, or they will lose all their trade. Whether reality or fiction, time will soon discover. Should have written to the General before

now about some flagrant abuses that have been committed by the private soldiers on their march to *Quebeck*, had I not expected to have had the honour to receive him at this place before now. A Priest's house has been entered with great violence, and his watch plundered from him. At another house they run in debt about twenty shillings, (*English*.) and, because the man wanted to be paid, run him through the neck with a bayonet. Women and children have been terrified, and forced, with the point of the bayonet, to furnish horses for private soldiers without any prospect of pay. I have not had it in my power to discover the offenders, but have issued a proclamation. Captain *Stout*, of the *Jersey Forces*, left with me a silver tablespoon, which he thinks was taken by one of his men from some inhabitants of *Montreal*. Please to advertise, that the owners, sending the marks, may have it again.

#### CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Monday, April 1, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That fifteen Men, heretofore allowed to guard the coast of the Town of *Lyme*, in this Colony, under Lieutenant *Lee Lay*, be augmented to thirty, (Officers included,) with three Sergeants, and to be posted at different places on said coast, by the advice and direction of his Honour the Deputy-Governour.

*Voted*, That the number of Men in Colonel *Gurdon Saltonstall's* Company, in the Colony service, at *New-London*, be augmented to ninety, by enlistment.

*Voted*, That two Companies, of ninety Men each, (Officers included,) be raised or drafted out of the Militia, to go to *New-London*, for the Colony service at *New-London Harbour*; and that one of these Companies shall be raised out of the Third Regiment, and the other out of the Eighth Regiment of Militia in this Colony, and be officered out of the Officers of their respective Regiments, with a Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign to each Company, observing the same rank they sustain in the Militia.

*Voted*, That the Colonels, or Commanding Officers of the First, Fifth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Nineteenth, Twenty-First, and Twenty-Second Regiments, in this Colony, be directed, forthwith, to draft out one-quarter of their Men in their respective Regiments, (exclusive of those who are enlisted into the Continental service for the current year,) and see that they are completely equipped with Arms and Accoutrements, and two pounds of Ball to each man, fit for his Gun, and six Flints, and to hold themselves in readiness to march, on the shortest notice, for defence of any invaded place or places in this or the neighbouring Colonies; and that the Colonels, or Commanding Officers of the Third, Eighth, and Twentieth Regiments, draft out, or detach, one-third part of their Men, (exclusive of those enlisted in the Continental service for the current year,) and see that they are equipped and held in readiness in the same manner, and for the same purpose, aforementioned; and that one Company to be raised in the Third Regiment, and one Company to be raised in the Eighth Regiment, in manner aforesaid, be immediately employed at the Colony Works at *New-London*; and their pay, wages, and allowance, when in actual service, is to be the same as the Troops in the Continental Army.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table for three hundred and fifty Pounds, in favour of Captain *Uriah Haydon*, to enable him to carry on the building of the Colony Ship at *Saybrook*, and render his Account when required. [An Order was drawn April 2, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Ephraim Bill*, for three hundred and fifty Pounds.]

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table for two hundred Pounds, in favour of Captain *Ephraim Bill*, to enable him to promote the building and rigging of the Colony Ship at *Saybrook*, and render his Account when required. [An Order was drawn accordingly, April 2, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Ephraim Bill*, for the sum of two hundred Pounds.]

*Voted*, That Captain *Richard Dickinson*, of *Saybrook*, be ordered to deliver up the several articles in his hands and custody that did belong to the Brig *Minerva*, lately commanded by Captain *Giles Hall*, to Captain *Ephraim Bill*, taking his receipt for the same when delivered. [An Order was given accordingly April 2, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Bill*.]

Captain *Seth Harding*, of the Colony Brig *Defence*, was complained of to this Board for being guilty of intemperance. Upon which he appeared; and the evidence on both sides was fully heard and considered by his Honour the Governor and this Council, but they cannot find cause to remove him.

*Voted*, That Mr. *James Tilley* be desired to purchase two tons of Flax for the use of the Colony Ship, for cordage.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table for five hundred Pounds, in favour of Colonel *Joshua Porter*, of *Salisbury*, to enable him to carry on the Colony Works at the Furnace at *Salisbury*, and render his Account when required.

*Voted*, That the Selectmen in the Towns in the County of *New-London*, on the east of *Connecticut River*, and the Selectmen of the Towns in the County of *Windham*, and the Selectmen of the Towns of *East-Haddam* and *Colchester*, be directed to collect the Saltpetre (that has been, or may be manufactured in their several Towns) from the manufacturers, according to the direction of the late Act of this Colony in that behalf, and deliver the same to Colonel *Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esquires, taking their receipts for the same.

*Voted*, That Captain *John McCleave* is appointed Captain of the Row-Galley *Whiting*, building in *New-Haven*, and that he take the charge and command of her accordingly.

*Voted*, That *Israel Bishop* is appointed Lieutenant of the Row-Galley *Whiting*, now building in *New-Haven*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table in favour of Mr. *Job Winslow*, for three hundred Pounds, for the purpose of building the Row-Galley at *East-Haddam*. [An Order was drawn April 2, 1776, and delivered to Mr. *Job Winslow*, for three hundred Pounds.]

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Jonathan Lester*, for two hundred Pounds, for the purpose of building the Row-Galley at *Norwich*. [An Order was drawn April 2, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Lester*, for two hundred Pounds.]

*Voted*, That Captain *Josiah Burnham*, of *Lyme*, is appointed Master of the Brig *Defence*, under command of Captain *Harding*.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 10, 1776, and referred to the Committee of the Whole.]

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, April 1, 1776.

SIR: This letter will be delivered you by *Jonathan Eddy*, Esq., the gentleman from *Nova-Scotia*, who I mentioned to you in mine of the 27th ultimo. He seemed desirous of waiting on the honourable Congress, in order to lay before them the state of publick affairs and situation of the inhabitants of that Province; and as it might be in his power to communicate many things personally, which could not be so well done by letter, I encouraged him in his design, and have advanced him fifty dollars to defray his expenses. The *Acadian* accompanies him; and as they seem to be solid, judicious men, I beg leave to recommend them both to the notice of Congress.

And am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, April 1, 1776.

SIR: An express arrived here this morning with a letter from Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, of which the enclosed is a copy. In consequence of this important intelligence, I immediately despatched an express after General *Sullivan*, who is on his march to *Norwich* with six regiments, and ordered him to file off to *Providence*, if he should be so desired by Governour *Cooke*, to whom I have written on the subject.

General *Greene* was to have marched this morning with five more regiments, by way of *Providence*. I have ordered him to hasten his march for that place, and hope to collect a force there sufficient to prevent the enemy from effecting their purpose.

Whether this movement be only a feint, to draw our attention from their principal object, or not, is at present impossible to determine. I momentarily expect further intelligence from Governour *Cooke*. If the alarm should be well-grounded, I shall hasten to *Providence*, and make the necessary dispositions for their reception. I beg you to assure the honourable Congress I shall exert myself to the utmost to frustrate the designs of the enemy.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

Providence, March 31, 1776.—Five o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I am to inform your Excellency that I have this moment an express from *Newport*, informing me that a ship-of-war hath arrived in the harbour of *Newport*, and that twenty-seven ships, undoubtedly having the Ministerial Troops on board, are within *Seconet Point*. Upon this most alarming occasion, when we have not more than four hundred soldiers upon *Rhode-Island*, and not above seven or eight hundred more in the whole Colony, (besides the Militia, not more than half armed,) I must use the most pressing instances with your Excellency, to forward sufficient succors to the Colony with all possible despatch. I am about issuing the necessary orders for calling the whole Militia together, and taking other proper measures.

I am your Excellency's most obedient servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, Cambridge.

Providence, March 31, 1776.—Five o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I have just received an express from Colonel *Belcher*, of the Regiment of Militia on *Rhode-Island*, that one ship-of-war hath got into the harbour of *Newport*, and that twenty-seven more, undoubtedly having the Ministerial Troops on board, are within *Seconet Point*, within a few hours sail of *Newport*. As they are undoubtedly destined for this Colony, I must urge the necessity of your altering your route, and marching into this Colony to oppose the enemy. The absolute necessity of this step will justify you.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To the Commanding Officer of the four Regiments of the Continental Troops, on their march to *New-York*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 28, 1776.

(Parole, *Cumberland*.)

(Countersign, *Gloucester*.)

General *Sullivan*, with the six Regiments mentioned in the General Orders of the 23d instant, are to march tomorrow morning, at sunrise. The Quartermaster-General, or his Assistant, will provide nine teams for each Regiment, and the Adjutant-General will deliver the route and orders to General *Sullivan*.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 29, 1776.

(Parole, *Carolina*.)

(Countersign, *Lee*.)

*Varnum's*, *Hitchcock's*, *Little's*, *Read's*, and *Bailey's* Regiments, to march on Monday morning, at sunrise. Brigadier-General *Greene* will take the command of this Brigade. Deputy Quartermaster-General *Parke* will provide the necessary teams, and the Commissary-General will deliver the provisions for the march. The Adjutant-General

will give the marching orders to the Colonels commanding the divisions.

The Field-Officers of Regiments and Captains of Companies will be answerable for any damage done to the Barracks, upon their men's removing out; therefore it behooves them to see no wanton destruction is committed, as they will be charged with a sum sufficient to pay for repairing the mischief done.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 30, 1776.

(Parole, *Deetham*.)

(Countersign, *Putnam*.)

A detachment from the Regiment of Artillery to be ready to march on *Monday* morning, with the Brigade under Brigadier-General *Greene*.

The Colonels commanding the Regiments of this Brigade may each of them receive a warrant for five hundred Pounds, lawful money, upon application at Head-Quarters.

A General Court-Martial to sit *Monday* morning, in *Boston*, in the Court-House, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, March 31, 1776.

(Parole, *Moore*.)

(Countersign, *Neuborn*.)

*Larned's*, *Parsons's*, *Huntington's*, *Ward's*, and *Wylls's* Regiments, are to march at sunrise next *Thursday* morning; the whole to be commanded by Brigadier-General *Spencer*. The remainder of the Regiment of Artillery, (except the Company that is to remain in *Boston*.) with such pieces of artillery and stores as Colonel *Knox* shall think necessary, are to march with the above Brigade. The Quartermaster-General's Assistant to pay particular attention to the providing the teams for the Regiments, and the Artillery above-mentioned. The commanding Officers of these five Regiments may each of them have a warrant for five hundred Pounds, upon application at Head-Quarters, and they are to credit the Pay Abstract, for the month of *February*, for that sum.

All the Ammunition, and other articles which have been delivered to the Regiments of Militia, out of the Continental Stores, are to be carefully returned, or the value will be deducted out of the Pay Abstract. The Assistant Quartermaster-General and Commissary of Stores are to take care that this order be fulfilled.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, April 1, 1776.

(Parole, *Chester*.)

(Countersign, *Ohio*.)

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

Cambridge, April 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your letter of the 15th ultimo contained a very unfavourable account of the *Carolinas*; but I am glad to find, by the subsequent one, that the prospect brightens, and that Mr. *Martin's* first attempt has met with its deserved success. The old proverb, of "the first blow being half the battle," cannot better apply than in these instances; the spirits of the vanquished being depressed in proportion as the victors get elated. I am glad to find my camp equipage in such forwardness. I shall expect to meet it, and I hope you, at *New-York*, for which place I am preparing to set out on *Thursday* or *Friday* next.

The accounts brought by Mr. *Temple*, of the favourable disposition in the Ministry to accommodate matters, does not correspond with their speeches in Parliament. How, then, does he account for their inconsistency? If the Commissioners do not come over with full and ample powers to treat with Congress, I sincerely wish they may never put their feet on *American* ground, as it must be self-evident, in the other case, that they will come over with insidious intentions to distract, divide, and create as much confusion as possible. How, then, can any man (let his passion for reconciliation be ever so strong) be so blinded and misled as to embrace a measure evidently designed for his destruction? No man does, no man can wish the restoration of peace more fervently than I do; but I hope, whenever made, it will be upon such terms as will reflect honour upon the councils and wisdom of *America*. With you, I think a change in the *American* representation necessary. Frequent appeals to the people can be attended with no bad, but may have very salutary effects. My countrymen, I know, from

their form of Government and steady attachment heretofore to royalty, will come reluctantly into the idea of independence; but time and persecution bring many wonderful things to pass; and, by private letters which I have lately received from *Virginia*, I find "Common Sense" is working a powerful change there in the minds of many men.

The four thousand men destined for *Boston* on the 5th, (if the Ministerialists had attempted our works on *Dorchester-Heights*, or the lines at *Roxbury*.) were to have been headed by General *Putnam*. But he would have had pretty easy work of it, as his motions were to have been regulated by signals, and those signals by appearances. He was not to have made the attempt unless the town had been drained, or very considerably weakened in its force.

I am, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Cambridge, April 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of a letter I received from Governour *Cooke*, to the contents of which I refer you.

General *Greene* will march with his Brigade, this day, for *Providence*; and if I find that the enemy are at *Rhode-Island*, I will soon join him. Governour *Cooke* will forward this to you, and will inform you whether this alarm is well-founded or not. If it is, you must repair to *Providence* with the troops under your command. If it is not, you will proceed on your march to *New-York*.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Sullivan*.

ADDRESS OF THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF BOSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The Selectmen of *Boston*, in behalf of themselves and fellow-citizens, with all grateful respect, congratulate your Excellency on the success of your military operations in the recovery of this town from an enemy, collected from the once respected *Britons*, who, in this instance, are characterized by malice and fraud, rapine and plunder, in every trace left behind them.

Happy are we, that this acquisition has been made with so little effusion of human blood, which, next to the Divine favour, permit us to ascribe to your Excellency's wisdom, evidenced in every part of the long besiegement.

If it be possible to enhance the noble feelings of that person who, from the most affluent enjoyments, could throw himself into the hardships of a camp to save his country, uncertain of success, it is then possible this victory will heighten your Excellency's happiness, when you consider you have not only saved a large, elegant, and once populous city, from total destruction, but relieved the few wretched inhabitants from all the horrors of a besieged town, from the insults and abuses of a disgraced and chagrined army, and restored many inhabitants to their quiet habitations, who had fled for safety to the bosom of their country.

May your Excellency live to see the just rights of *America* settled on a firm basis, which felicity we sincerely wish you; and, at a later period, may that felicity be changed into happiness eternal.

JOHN SCOLLAY,  
TIMOTHY NEWELL,  
THOMAS MARSHALL,  
SAMUEL AUSTIN,  
OLIVER WENDELL,  
JOHN PITTS,

Selectmen of *Boston*.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General of the United Forces in *America*.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN: Your congratulations on the success of the *American* arms, gives me the greatest pleasure.

I most sincerely rejoice with you on your being once more in the quiet possession of your former habitations; and (what greatly adds to my happiness) that this desirable event has been effected with so little effusion of human blood.

I am exceedingly obliged by the good opinion you are pleased to entertain of my conduct. Your virtuous efforts

in the cause of freedom, and the unparalleled fortitude with which you have sustained the greatest of all human calamities, justly entitle you to the grateful remembrance of your *American* brethren; and I heartily pray that the hand of tyranny may never more disturb your repose; and that every blessing of a kind Providence may give happiness and prosperity to the Town of *Boston*.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Selectmen and Citizens of *Boston*.

#### NARRATIVE OF CAPTAIN DANIEL LUNT.

On the 25th of *February* last, on my homeward bound passage from *Point-à-Petre*, on *Grand Terre*, about two leagues distant from *Cape-Ann*, I fell in with and was taken by the *Lively* sloop-of-war, and was carried into *Boston*; the next day I was put on board the *Renown*, — *Banks*, commander. As we came on board, Captain *Banks* ordered us, with what bundles of clothes, bedding, &c., we had with us, on the quarter-deck; then called for and ordered the Second Lieutenant and Master-at-Arms to search our beds, overhaul all our bundles of clothes, to see if there was any money amongst them; then turning to us, said, I will search you myself, and that well, too, you scoundrels. Whilst they were opening and searching our bundles, agreeable to Captain *Banks's* directions they began their searches upon us, under his immediate inspection, by stripping off our clothes, and critically searching every place in the linings, and left no place unsearched where a farthing might be concealed, and continued the whole time breathing out slaughter and death upon us, for no crime, or supposed crime, unless our being born in *America* can be esteemed such. After getting through with this branch of his inhuman and unnatural procedure, and robbing me of fourteen johannes, and Captain *Ephraim Little* of about one hundred more, he called for and delivered us up to the Boatswain, with an express injunction to take us to the main deck, and see to it that we were kept constantly at hard labour; adding, if we made the least difficulty about complying with this his command, the Boatswain must inform him, and he would order us immediately to be flogged. His commands in this matter were strictly complied with. We (I mean all the Masters of *American* vessels who have of late unfortunately fallen into their hands) were constantly kept at the hardest and most ignominious services on board, and were from day to day loaded with curses and reproaches from the principal officers; and that whilst there was constantly a ready compliance with his unrighteous and inhuman commands, and as though it were not a sufficient punishment for having been born in *America*, and not found in arms against our country, to be reduced from comfortable circumstances, our families robbed of all means of subsistence, and we pillaged of the last farthing which might serve to supply our present necessary expenses, or replace our clothing, of which we were in a great measure robbed. We are commanded and constantly insulted, without reply, by men far inferior to those formerly under our command, having the breath of hell continually flaming about our ears, and this unequal to vent the malignity of their souls, informing us our torments were to be perpetual, by assuring us we should never again set our feet on *American* ground. Thus they continued tormenting us, till by these devices, and being constantly kept on short allowance, several of our people judged themselves excusable in yielding to their solicitations, by entering on board their ships. We who refused were sent on board an *East-Indian*, with an assurance of being sent to that country, and there kept at hard service during the remainder of our lives. Being worn out by continued fatigue and constant reproaches, I grew sick of a life not worth enjoying. I resolved to attempt an escape at all hazards, and in the night, between the 20th and 21st of *March* last, finding the watch on deck asleep, I cut away a boat from alongside, and got ashore on *Point-Shirley*; and am influenced to publish this narrative, not only that the truth might appear, but at the earnest desire, and in consequence of an agreement of a number of *American* ship-masters, who still labour under these distressing circumstances.

DANIEL LUNT.

Newburyport, April 1, 1776.

N. B. In consequence of an agreement with my brethren whilst under this more than *Egyptian* bondage, whoever of

us should be fortunate enough to make his escape, was to proceed immediately to Head-Quarters, and give General *Washington* an account of the matter; but by the many hardships I endured whilst under the control of these deserters from the infernal pit, I was so far reduced as to be by no means able to comply with this part of our agreement; and since I have got home, I have been for the most part confined to my house, and not able to write, which may apologize for my neglecting this publication so long. Let not the friends of those now in their hands fear more severity from this publication falling into the hands of our enemies; greater severity is impossible. Our friends in their hands will find a sure asylum in death, which they will at any one day meet with pleasure. Will not *God* avenge our righteous cause?

P. S. In justice to Captain *Bishop*, commander of the *Lively*, I would inform the publick that I was treated with kindness and humanity all the time I was with him.

In Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, }  
Newburyport, April 19, 1776. }

Voted, That the several Printers on the Continent be, and hereby are, desired to publish the foregoing Narrative of Captain *Daniel Lunt*. And we do hereby certify, that the said Captain *Lunt* was born and brought up among us, and is esteemed a man of truth, and we think full credit may be paid to the said Narrative.

By order of the Committee:

JONATHAN TITCOMB, *Chairman*.

GEORGE MASON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Virginia, Gunston Hall, April 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We have just received the welcome news of your having, with so much address and success, dislodged the Ministerial Troops, and taken possession of the town of *Boston*. I congratulate you most heartily upon this glorious and important event—an event which will render General *Washington's* name immortal in the annals of *America*, endear his memory to the latest posterity, and entitle him to those thanks which Heaven appointed as the reward of publick virtue.

It is the common opinion here that we shall have a visit from General *Howe* in some of the Middle or Southern Colonies; but it does not seem well-founded. I am very unable to judge of military affairs; but it appears to me that if General *Howe* acts the part of a wise man and an experienced officer, he will not venture a sickly, worn-out, disgusted, and disgraced Army, in a country where he must meet immediate opposition, and where any misfortune might produce a mutiny or general desertion. I think it much more probable that he will retire to *Halifax*, give his troops a little time, by ease and refreshment, to recover their spirits, and be in readiness, as soon as the season permits, to relieve *Quebeck*; keeping some ships-of-war cruising off *Boston* harbour, to protect and direct the transports which may arrive. *New-York*, or any of the Northern United Provinces are too near *Cambridge*; for, if he could not maintain the advantageous and strongly fortified post of *Boston*, what reasonable hope has he of gaining and maintaining a new one, in the face of a superior Army?

You will perhaps smile at these speculative and idle suggestions upon a subject which will probably be reduced to a certainty, one way or other, long before this reaches your hands; but when I am conversing with you, the many agreeable hours we have spent together recur upon my mind. I fancy myself under your hospitable roof at *Mount Vernon*, and lay aside reserve. May *God* grant us a return of those halcyon days, when every man may sit down at his ease under the shade of his own vine and his own fig-tree, and enjoy the sweets of domestic life! Or, if this is too much, may he be pleased to inspire us with spirit and resolution to bear our present and future sufferings becoming men determined to transmit to our posterity, unimpaired, the blessings we have received from our ancestors.

Colonel *Caswell's* victory in *North-Carolina*, and the military spirit which it has raised, will be an obstacle to any attempts in that quarter. *Maryland* and *Virginia* are at present rather unprepared, but their strength is daily increasing. The late levies here have been made with sur-



prising rapidity, and the seven new regiments are already in a manner complete, except as to arms, in which they are very deficient; but arms are coming in, in small quantities, from different parts of the country, and a very considerable manufactory is established at *Fredericksburgh*. Large ventures have been lately made for military stores; for which purpose we are now loading a ship for *Europe*, with tobacco, at *Alexandria*. Her cargo is all on float, and I hope to have her under sailing in a few days. Notwithstanding the natural plenty of provisions in this Colony, I am very apprehensive of a great scarcity of beef and pork among our troops this summer, occasioned by the people's not expecting a market, until the slaughter season was past. I find it extremely difficult to lay in a stock for about three hundred men, in the Marine department of this river.

Ill health, and a certain listlessness inseparable from it, have prevented my writing to you so often as I would otherwise have done; but I trust to your friendship to excuse it. The same cause disabled me from attending the Committee of Safety this winter, and induced me to entreat the Convention to leave me out of it. I continue to correspond constantly with that Board, and I hope am no less usefully employed—thinking it, in such times as these are, every man's duty to contribute his mite to the publick service. I have, in conjunction with Mr. Dalton, the charge of providing and equipping armed vessels for the protection of this river. The thing is new to me, but I must endeavour to improve by experience. I am much obliged to the Board for joining Mr. Dalton with me. He is a steady diligent man, and without such assistance I could not have undertaken it. We are building two row-galleys, which are in considerable forwardness; and have purchased three sloops for cruisers, two of them being only from forty to fifty tons burden, are to mount eight carriage-guns each, three and four-pounders; they are not yet fitted up, and we are exceedingly puzzled to get cannon for them. The other, the *American Congress*, is a fine stout vessel, of about one hundred and ten tons burden, and has such an easy draft of water as will enable her to run into most of the creeks, or small harbours, if she meets with a vessel of superior force. She mounts fourteen carriage-guns, six and four-pounders, though we have thoughts of mounting two nine-pounders upon her main beam, if we find her able, as we think she is, to bear them; her guns are mounted, and to be tried tomorrow. We have twenty barrels of powder, and about a ton of shot ready—more is making; swivels we have not yet been able to procure, but she may make a tolerable shift without, until they can be furnished. We have got some small-arms, and are taking every method to increase them, and hope to be fully supplied in about a week more. Her company of marines is raised, and have been for some time exercised to the use of the great guns. Her complement of marines and seamen is to be ninety-six men. We are exerting ourselves to the utmost, and hope to have her on her station in less than a fortnight, and that the other vessels will quickly follow her, and be able to protect the inhabitants of this river from the piratical attempts of all the enemy's cutters, tenders, and small craft.

Immediately upon receipt of your former letters, I applied to some of the *Maryland* Committees, as well as those on this side; in consequence of which, the several most convenient places on this river were sounded, and thoroughly examined; but effectual batteries were found, in our present circumstances, impracticable. Mr. Lund Washington tells me he sent you the drafts and soundings taken upon this occasion. A regiment, commanded by Colonel Mercer, of *Fredericksburgh*, is stationed on this part of the river, and I hope we shall be tolerably safe, unless a push is made here with a large body of men. I think we have some reason to hope the Ministry will bungle away another summer, relying partly upon force, and partly upon fraud and negotiation.

The family here join with me in presenting their best compliments to yourself and lady, as well as to Mr. Custis and his. If in any of your affairs here I can render you any acceptable service, I beg you will use that freedom with which I wish you to command, dear, sir, your affectionate and obedient servant,

GEORGE MASON.

To His Excellency General Washington, Head-Quarters, at Boston.

#### JOHN DALTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Alexandria, April 2, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a letter for a gentleman over the Bay. As I have often experienced letters wet, and letters which I have sent by post to that part of the country have miscarried, I am induced to take the liberty to enclose this to you, requesting the favour of you to forward it, by some safe conveyance, the freedom of which I hope you will excuse.

We find it difficult the fitting out the cruising vessels here; the scarcity of sail duck and proper sized cannon plague us much in getting; indeed, am apprehensive we shall not be able to procure light duck for the small sails, and must endeavour to make up the deficiency from old sails, rather than none. The two row-galleys go on very well, and will soon be built, though I am apprehensive of being at a loss for heavy cannon: our choice would be one eighteen-pounder, the other twenty-four. Colonel Mason and myself in particular, and the community at large, thought ourselves highly obliged by the kind indulgence of your Committee of Safety, in lending us ten barrels of powder; it happened just as we had got it down. One ton came from *Philadelphia* for us; that we immediately returned in the same order.

I am, with regard, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN DALTON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, *John Henderson*, came from *Point-Comfort*, in an oyster boat, and another vessel with corn; and having no permit from any Committee in *Virginia*, we have detained his boat agreeable to your order, until he produce one. He thinks it necessary to make application to your honourable Board for a release, and has desired a line from our Committee to inform you of his situation.

Per order of the Committee:

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX, Deputy-Chairman.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

Annapolis, April 2, 1776.

[No. 102.]

GENTLEMEN: We have heretofore written you with regard to the station of Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Company. Not receiving any answer, we expected the station allotted him at *Leonardtoun* would have been agreeable to you and him, and, indeed, to everybody else, as being the most central place, and from whence the company might march on short notice to any part of the County. He informed us by his letter of the 18th of *March*, "that he is positive that it is the opinion of every gentleman in the County that the troops should be stationed at or near the mouth of *Patuxent* and *Potomack*;" which we are surprised at. This would not only divide the company, but leave a very great extent of country along the water in a manner defenceless. What is to become of *Wicomico*, *Clement's* and *Briton's Bay*, and all down to the mouth of the *St. Mary's* River, in case the men-of-war should pass unnoticed in the night, or in foggy hazy weather? When the company gets well disciplined, perhaps some of them may be stationed to advantage at or near the mouth of *Patuxent*. We think best to keep them together at present, till further advanced in military knowledge, and that *Leonardtoun* is the proper station. Should you think otherwise, we should be glad to know your reasons, that we may concur with you. We wish to harmonize in everything that is for the good of the country.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *St. Mary's* County.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN THOMAS.

Annapolis, April 2, 1776.

[No. 103.]

SIR: Yours of the 18th ultimo we only received the 30th. We cannot conceive that any letter that we wrote to you can justify the inference you have drawn, that, if your station is to be at *Leonardtoun*, your Company is to defend that place only. It was preferred, because it

was more central than any other in the County, that you might be within a day's march of any part of it. But if the Committee of Observation should be of opinion that any other station is more convenient, we shall readily confirm and order you to it; or if they should be of opinion that your Company should be divided, and stationed at the mouth of the *Patuxent* and Point *Look-Out*, we shall concur with them, when we know their reasons for it, if we approve of them. But we presume that, let your station be where it may, you will nevertheless march to any other part of the County, whenever its defence requires it. And why you should want positive orders to do your duty, we cannot conceive; if you take care to walk within the line of it, you need not be under any great difficulty to excuse yourself to the people of *St. Mary's*, or the publick in general, or to justify yourself to the whole world. Our care has and shall be as diffusive and extensive all over the Province as its funds and our abilities will allow, and, therefore, we are not under the least apprehension but that our endeavours will meet with the approbation of our constituents.

We sent you by Lieutenant *Stewart* one hundred and fifty pounds. If that sum is short of what ought to have been sent, you have only to make up your accounts to the 3d of this month, and every shilling that will be due to that day shall be paid. We are determined to have vouchers for whatever sums of money we may pay of the publick stock, and, therefore, you will excuse us in not advancing large sums in gross.

We are surprised that the contractor has not employed some persons before this to furnish your Company with its rations. Surely he will soon do it; in the mean time, you must do as well as you can towards supplying them.

We expect to receive hats and breeches every day. We ordered two and a half barrels of powder to you from *Charles County*, which we suppose you have received. Lieutenant *Stewart* had fifty muskets and bayonets delivered to him, with one hundred cartouch-boxes, &c., and as soon as we get more arms, you shall have your proportion.

We are, &c.

To Captain *John Allen Thomas*.

#### MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Archibald Buchanan* could not take the money as he expected, and promised. Mr. *Ringgold* collected and brought up here one hundred and sixty pounds seventeen shillings and six pence. It has been delivered into the Treasury. Besides the change for that sum, we have delivered four thousand dollars to Mr. *Ringgold*, who sets out in a few days. He will take with him the rest of the money, and we hope the plates and the paper may be sent off about the same time.

We have nothing that can be depended on as to the extent of the powers the Conventions are to be invested with. Whilst we are in suspense on this head, we think no step of consequence could be prudently taken; and, therefore, do not expect our Convention will continue long, or go fully into business. We could wish, if agreeable to them, that there might be an adjournment till about the 20th of *May*, with a continuance of the present existing powers, if they think proper.

We shall be obliged to you if you will cause affidavits to be made, and transmitted to us, of the time of the capture and recapture of *Hudson's* ship, that we may get the salvage (the quantum of which depends on the time she was in possession of the tender) ascertained and paid. We were desired to let the claim which we made of salvage, rest till the event of another effort was known. We hope the ship is now out of the bay.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN. R. ALEXANDER,  
WILLIAM PACA, T. STONE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 2, 1776.

SIR: It gives me the most sensible pleasure to convey to you, by order of Congress, the only tribute which a free

people will ever consent to pay—the tribute of thanks and gratitude to their friends and benefactors.

The disinterested and patriotick principles which led you to the field, have also led you to glory; and it affords no little consolation to your countrymen to reflect, that, as a peculiar greatness of mind induced you to decline any compensation for serving them, except the pleasure of promoting their happiness, they may, without your permission, bestow upon you the largest share of their affections and esteem.

Those pages in the annals of *America*, will record your title to a conspicuous place in the temple of fame, which shall inform posterity that, under your directions, an undisciplined band of husbandmen, in the course of a few months, became soldiers; and that the desolation meditated against the country by a brave army of veterans, commanded by the most experienced Generals, but employed by bad men, in the worst of causes, was, by the fortitude of your troops, and the address of their officers, next to the kind interposition of Providence, confined for near a year within such narrow limits as scarcely to admit more room than was necessary for the encampments and fortifications they lately abandoned.

Accept, therefore, sir, the thanks of the United Colonies, unanimously declared by their Delegates to be due to you, and the brave officers and troops under your command; and be pleased to communicate to them this distinguished mark of the approbation of their country.

The Congress have ordered a golden medal, adapted to the occasion, to be struck, and, when finished, to be presented to you.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

#### COMMITTEE OF PRIVATES OF THE ASSOCIATORS TO PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your constant and unwearied application to the duties of your very important station, and your earnest endeavours to serve your country, and prevent the cruel attempts of interested persons to distress us, while they call for our gratitude and approbation, and strongly solicit us to lay no unnecessary burden upon you, yet give us the pleasing assurance that you will omit no means in your power effectually to remove our present distresses.

The scarcity of materials, the difficulty of procuring manufacturers, and the prospect we have before us of being obliged to neglect matters of great importance, and principally to attend to warlike defence, all point out the necessity of making timely provision against our future demands. For what by monopolizing in some instances, and a real scarcity in others, the country begins already to suffer, and the poor are exceedingly distressed. And if the case is so now, in the very opening of the spring, what will it be a few months hence, when the season for importation is wholly over. It becomes us, while we are wielding the sword of self-defence against an inhuman invader, to take effectual care that we distress not ourselves by unnecessary difficulties. It is not in our power to provide effectually against the necessities of the people, without some foreign trade. The scarcity of almost every species of goods which we have been accustomed to look upon as necessary to clothing and support, the consequent high price of them, and, above all, the small remaining demand for the produce of this country, which is now entirely cut off by the Prohibitory bill, all conspire to distress and discourage the people; and while it is of advantage to none but a few adventurous merchants, who run great hazards to serve us, and certain monopolizers, (whose prosperity arises from the miseries of mankind,) it can only be effectually removed by opening a free trade.

It is unnecessary to point out any particular instances to this Committee. The universal complaints of both town and country are well known to every one whose ears are not stopped by the prospect of private emolument arising from our necessities. Foreseeing the many calamities which must follow a neglect of the measure, we earnestly request you, gentlemen, either directly to apply to the honourable Continental Congress, in the name of the inhabitants of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, whom you represent, praying

them to take every measure necessary to open and secure an immediate trade with such countries as can supply us with what we most stand in need of, and to export the produce of this country; or by some means or other, to procure an application from the city at large on this head, as to you may seem best calculated to answer the purpose. We view it as a matter of very great consequence, seeing were there ever so much money struck for the publick exigencies, while the country is debarred of the means of handling it through the want of a market for their produce, it can be of very little advantage to them, and will in the end affect its value. And while every mode of introducing gold and silver is totally cut off, and we stand in need of so many articles which must be procured by paying in specie, we are not only in danger of a scarcity of such articles, but also of having our currency depreciated; as it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to support its credit without introducing real cash into the country nearly in the same proportion to the sums we are obliged to strike. It is now in our power to provide against these evils; we therefore entreat you to fall on some effectual means for the purpose, and to take such measures as will for the future prevent forestalling, and oblige the present monopolizers to sell their stock on hand at the generous prices you have allowed them; and in doing of this, you may rest assured of our strenuous support. We are happy in assuring you that, as far as we have an opportunity of conversing with our fellow-citizens, it is what they greatly desire, and that it can meet with no opposition except from disaffected persons. We beg leave to conclude with thanking you in the warmest manner for the memorial you have sent into the House of Assembly to induce them to rescind their instructions to our Delegates in Congress, as we are persuaded that, from the delicate situation of our affairs, any instructions which may prevent them from uniting with a majority of the Colonies, must be of very dangerous consequence.

Signed on behalf of the Committee of Privates.

WILLIAM ADCOCK, *President*.

To the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

*Moved*, That a vote of thanks be given to the Committee of Inspection for the steps they have taken to prevent the monopolizing and too high price of Goods, and to assure them that this Committee will support them as far as in their power in every measure for the publick safety and welfare.

*Moved*, That Messrs. *Simpson* and *Shubart* be a Committee to deliver this vote to the Committee of Inspection

WILLIAM ADCOCK, *President*.

A true copy from the Minutes:

JAMES CANNON, *Clerk*.

#### CHESTER COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Chester, April 2, 1776.

Information being lodged with this Committee that a certain *Abel Green*, of this County, had expressed himself in terms inimical to *America*, and against the measures adopted for the protection of the liberties of these Colonies,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Green* be immediately sent for to appear before this Committee.

Mr. *Green* attended accordingly, and made the following concessions, viz:

"Whereas, I, the subscriber, have expressed myself in terms inimical to *American* liberty, derogatory to the Continental Congress, and injurious to the character of the Committee of *Chester County*; but being now conscious of my error, do thus publicly acknowledge my fault, and do solemnly promise to avoid in future all ungenerous reflections upon, or opposition to, such measures as are or may be adopted for the protection of the liberties of these Colonies.

"Witness my hand, this 3d day of *April*, 1776.

"ABEL GREEN."

Extract from the Minutes:

CALEB DAVIS, *Secretary*.

#### REPRESENTATION TO COLONEL JOHN STARK, FROM THE OFFICERS OF HIS REGIMENT.

New-York, April 2, 1776.

SIR: We, the officers of your regiment, are continually importuned by the rank and file for cash, which we have

often promised, and as often disappointed them of, owing to the failure of payment agreeable to the encouragement in General Orders issued from Head-Quarters last fall. We have, however, so flattered the men with a prospect of immediately receiving their wages, or at least a part thereof, that we have got them (though not without difficulty) to this place, where both they and we are in want of the necessities of life, for want of that money which is justly due to us, and which, in our present situation, we cannot comfortably subsist without. We therefore pray you would represent to his Honour the General our pitiable case, and endeavour that some money may be procured, or that we may be disbanded from that service, which we should leave with the greatest reluctance, and, from Revolution principles, would willingly risk our lives in.

We are, with great respect to you, sir, and our other Field-Officers, your obedient humble servants,

GEORGE REID,	MICHAEL McCLEARY,
SYLVANUS WALKER,	ROBERT BARNETT,
JOSHUA ABBOTT,	JESSE KAN,
ELISHA WOODBURY,	HENRY JENKINSON,
SAMUEL RICHARDS,	ABIEL CHANDLER,
AMOS MORRILL,	JOHN PATTIN,
THOMAS HARDY,	TIMOTHY BLAKE,
JOSEPH SOPER,	EPHRAIM COLBY,
DANIEL LIVERMORE,	THOMAS RICHARD.

To Colonel *John Stark*.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 2, 1776.

SIR: It appears necessary that some persons who, it is said, are aiding and assisting our unnatural enemies with provisions, and even recruits, should be detected and secured. I therefore request that, with the greatest secrecy, you would furnish me by eleven o'clock this day with three or four guides, well knowing the houses and persons of one Justice *Hulet* and *Thomas Cornel*, of *Rockaway*, (*Long-Island*;) *Isaac Denton*, of *Hog-Island Inlet*, and one Lieutenant *Thomas Hulet*, whose place of abode I do not know.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

#### ALBANY COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany Committee-Chamber, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Of the four battalions intended to be raised for the defence of this Colony, five companies are now recruiting in this City and County. But the officers of those companies meet with great difficulties in completing their respective complements of men, through want of cash. As we have understood that certain sums have been allotted for this necessary service, we therefore apply to you to take this matter into consideration, and transmit to the Colonel of the battalion (if known) or to the General, or this Committee, the money you deem necessary for this service.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*.

#### COLONEL NICOLL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Fort Constitution, April 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This day Captain *Harmanus Cuyler* stopped here, laden with peas; and, by my order, had one hundred bushels taken out for the use of this and the other fortifications in the Highlands, and have given him my receipt for them. Gentlemen, as necessity has no law, I hope you will not blame me. And as you are well acquainted with the state of this garrison, where we have a number of people sick, and no vegetables, to prevent mutinies, desertions, and for the good of the cause, by the advice of the Commissioners and officers, I have done it, and hope you will be pleased to order them paid for, and my receipt taken up.

I am, gentlemen, with great esteem, your humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To the *New-York Congress*.

## GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 15th April, 1776, and referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, Mr. S. Adams.]

Albany, April 2, 1776.

SIR: After an absence of five days, I yesterday returned from the northward. Nine of the cannon are arrived at *Fort George*, the remaining five will reach it on this day or to-morrow.

The weather is now become much more moderate, so that I hope the troops, who are daily filing off from hence, will meet with little, if any, detention at *Lake-George*.

General *Thomas* arrived here on *Thursday*, and will move in a very few days. As the season is so far advanced that it might be possible for the enemy to reinforce *Quebeck* before he could reach it, unless he goes by water, we have both concluded that it will be most prudent to take as many batteaus as may be necessary to convey the troops, baggage, artillery, and stores, down the *Sorrel* and *St. Lawrence*: besides the despatch which this will give, it will relieve the men from the almost insuperable fatigue of a march of two hundred miles, in roads that will be extremely deep, and also save the heavy expense of the land transportation; nor can he do without a number of batteaus in the *St. Lawrence*, to bring provisions from *Chambly*. For all this service, about seventy batteaus may suffice, and we shall then have about an equal number left in the lakes—a number much too small, under the situation that our affairs will, in all probability, soon be in in *Canada*; for I can hardly doubt but that the enemy will send a very formidable body of troops into *Canada*, and the greater in proportion as they can have little or no hopes of aid from the *Canadians*; nor, indeed, do I expect that we shall have much from them. At all events, it would be imprudent to depend upon it; and, therefore, I most heartily wish to see a respectable body of troops immediately sent into *Canada*, in addition to those which Congress have destined to that service, which are so very incomplete that General *Thomas* will not have above five thousand men, exclusive of *Canadians*; and one thousand at least of these will be occupied in garrisoning *Montreal*, *St. John's*, &c., and in bringing on the provisions to the Army from *Chambly*. Five regiments would not be too many; for in that country our entire dependence must be on the soldiery; whereas, in these Colonies our armies can be almost instantaneously augmented out of the Militia, who will readily run to arms here; but I am confident that, should General *Thomas* call on me in an hour of distress for assistance, I should not be able to procure three hundred Militia to go into *Canada*. Permit me to suggest that, should Congress be convinced of the necessity of complying with my wish, some of the troops lately arrived at *New-York* from *Boston* might be sent by water. The four regiments raising in this Colony, if the terms of their enlistment were out of the question, would nevertheless be improper, as I do not suppose they will be completed in less than three weeks, if so soon, and after all will be most miserably armed. In this view of things, I have ordered thirty more batteaus to be constructed.

Enclose you, sir, a copy of a letter from Mr. *Deane*. I agree that a meeting with the *Caughnawagas* may be attended with happy effects; but as we shall in all probability have a conference with the *Six Nations* as soon as they have concluded their meeting at *Onondaga*, I shall, for the present, defer saying anything on the subject to him.

I also enclose copies of sundry affidavits that have been sent me from *Tryon County*. Though I am well aware that the *Mohawks* are, in general, unfriendly to us, yet I cannot imagine that there is any just cause of fear from the *Indians* in general. I am the more induced to this conclusion from the silence of Mr. *Deane* and Mr. *Kirkland*. I shall, however, keep a watchful eye, that we may not experience the disgrace and calamity of a surprise. As soon as I received General *Washington's* letters, advising me of the precipitate retreat of the Ministerial Army from *Boston*, I sent a message to the *Six Nations*, of which you have a copy enclosed. The indefatigable industry of the Tories, who pervert every account, made it necessary that I should invite a few of them, that they might have ocular demonstration of what I asserted respecting our armies. I have great hopes that this account, which they will receive whilst in conference at *Onondaga*, will have a good effect on their deliberations.

As I have heard nothing more of the pork General *Lee* ordered to be sent here, I have requested General *Thompson* to send me five hundred barrels, as what will suffice until I can have the determination of Congress respecting the pork I wrote for some time since.

I am, sir, with the most unfeigned esteem and respect, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

Oneida, March 10, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the honour to address my last to you, which informed that Mr. *Butler*, in his late interview with the *Six Nations*, had spoken to them of nothing but peace, I have been fully persuaded that the information which the people of this place received respecting that interview, was not to be depended on; and that the *Oneidas*, on account of their well-known attachment to the Colonists, are not at present very likely to be rightly informed. There is now a large party of *Onondagas* and *Quigogas* in this town, who came down on pretence of condoling the death of the *Cagg*. After the ceremonies of condolence were finished, the *Quigoga* Sachem, in a long and very spirited speech, reproved the *Oneidas* for their late conduct in several instances; particularly their paying less attention to the ancient Council-fire at *Onondaga* than that lately rekindled at *Albany*; adding, that the people who conversed with them at the latter Council-fire, were very deceitful, and if ever they should overcome the King's Troops, would directly turn their force against the *Indians*. He observed that the white people were not to be depended on, but that their *Indian* allies to the westward, with whose disposition he was well acquainted, were ready for their assistance. His manner of expression seemed to raise a jealousy in the minds of our friends here, that some plan was formed to the westward, into the secret of which they had not been admitted. He likewise reproved them for their design of sending for Mr. *Butler*, in which he accused them of an inclination to intermeddle in the present quarrel; to which the *Oneidas* replied, that they had suspended that matter till they should see whether it met with the approbation of the whole confederacy, which would determine their conduct in the affair. They thanked their brethren for their care not to let them violate the firm agreement lately made with their brethren of the thirteen United Colonies, to maintain the strictest neutrality in the present dispute; and assured them that, though they had interested themselves in behalf of some of their old friends and neighbours who had involved themselves in trouble on account of the part they had acted against the liberties of the country, yet for the future that they would not do it again, in any, even the least instance, but would maintain the most punctilious neutrality. Observing further, that they thought it very likely that Sir *John*, on account of the deceitful part he had acted since his late engagements at *Johnstown*, would soon be removed; and should such a thing happen they hoped that none of the *Six Nations* would take the least notice of it, but let the white people conduct their own affairs as they pleased. But what offended the *Quigogas* most was, the conduct of the *Oneidas* in delivering up the hatchet, in which affair they accused them of acting without the concurrence of the rest of the confederacy, and contrary to a firm agreement, which they said had been made, to deliver it up to the party who gave it. They at the same time informed the *Oneidas* that they were then on their way to *Albany*, to recover the hatchet, with a view to deliver it up to Mr. *Butler*, and desired them to depute a number of their warriors to accompany them on the same errand. The *Oneidas*, in reply, not only explained, and justified their conduct in that affair, refused to send a deputation of their people with them, but also requested them to prevent those suspicions and jealousies which such a step would unavoidably create in the minds of their brethren, the Colonists, by immediately returning home. The disputes between the parties ran very high; at length, however, after much altercation and debate, the *Quigogas* agreed to return back, which they did with evident symptoms of disaffection and disgust.

The *Oneidas* look upon *Niagara* as the place from whence proceeds the cause of this sudden and unexpected change in the minds of their brethren; and some, in private

conversation, declare it as their opinion that the capture of that fort is the only thing that will unite the minds of the *Indians* in their friendship to the Colonies. Several expresses have passed this place from Sir John Johnson to *Niagara* since the capitulation at *Johnstown*;—the first very soon after the above-mentioned transaction, who, when they passed this place, pretended they were only going to the *Seneca* country after horses; but, on their arrival at *Onondaga*, declared they were sent express by Sir John with a letter to Mr. *Butler*. The others passed this place within a few days after the return of the *Oneidas*, who were down at *Albany* on the affair respecting Colonel *Butler*, and, as I have since heard, conveyed letters to Mr. *Butler* from Sir John and some others. In short, the *Mohawks* are frequently passing and repassing, without any other apparent business than that of carriers to and from *Niagara*. A large party of the *Senecas* are already arrived at the central Council-House, and deputations from the several tribes in *Canada* are daily expected at the same place. One of the *Quigoga* Chiefs, who appears friendly to the country, and is a particular friend of Mr. *Kirkland*, has just now been here, and informs that about “one hundred *Senecas* have lately met Mr. *Butler*, at *Niagara*; that Mr. *Butler* told them that the Colonists had shut up the passes into the country, and assured them that the *Indians* would be undone, unless some way could be opened to admit Mr. *Johnson* into the country upon his return in the spring; and that he requested their assistance to do it, which they had promised to give him.” He further informs, “that, upon the return of the party, three of their principal men, who had not been down, and were displeased at what their people had done, were set out for *Niagara* to see Mr. *Butler*.” The principal Sachem of the *Tuscaroras* is lately dead. The *Oneidas* and *Tuscaroras*, therefore, cannot attend the grand meeting till his funeral obsequies are performed.

I would beg the favour of a line. The *Indians* are very hungry for news. I hardly need suggest, sir, that a word of encouragement to our friends in this place would, at this time, strengthen their friendship, and induce them to persevere in that line of friendly conduct which they have hitherto invariably pursued since the commencement of the present disputes.

I am, sir, with much respect, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JAMES DEANE.

To General *Schuyler*.

Oneida, March 18, 1776.

SIR: Some of the Sachems of this place were with me last evening, and desired me to write your Honour as followeth:

“BROTHER: It is with great pleasure we now inform you of the success of the message sent last summer from *Albany* to our brethren of *Caughnawaga*, and the seven tribes in *Canada*. They have at length arose from their seats, and directed their faces towards our central Council-House, and several days since entered our doors. Some of the *Senecas* now in *Canada* insisted upon their going directly to *Onondaga*; but they refused, alleging as a reason, upon their arrival, that they chose to come first to us, because we were of one heart and one mind with themselves, and as our people were sent to call them, they thought proper to follow the steps of our messengers, and to be led by us to the Council-House of the *Six Nations*. We are extremely glad to find such a disposition in our brethren, and are in constant expectation of a message from *Onondaga* to call us to the meeting; and we heartily wish for the Divine assistance to enable us to maintain peace and harmony in this quarter.

“Our brethren from *Canada* determine, after the meeting, to take the most direct course home, unless you should send and desire an interview with them at *Albany*. The Sachems and warriors at this place are all in health and peace, and take this opportunity to present our respects to you and *Ojagegti*, alias Mr. *Douw*.”

Thus far the Sachems.

The *Canadian Indians*, I believe, sir, have a desire to visit your Honour in their way home, had they but an invitation; and perhaps an interview with them might be improved to very good purpose, especially as the hatchets

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(which the humane Mr. *Johnson* dispersed among them) are still in their hands, and some of their people are considerably influenced by the *Senecas*, who have ever been unfriendly to the Colonies.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
JAMES DEANE.

To General *Schuyler*.

#### The Testimony of GODFREY SHEW.

TRYON COUNTY:

Personally appeared before me, *Jellis Fonda*, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Quorum for said County, *Godfrey Shew*, and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, depose and saith:

That, on or about the 4th day of *March* instant, he, the deponent, was at his dwelling-house at *Sacondaga*, in company with three of the *Mohawk Indians*, when he, the deponent, heard them say that in about six weeks' time he, the deponent, would see a fine dance among the *Yankees*. Then the deponent replied, What will you do with them? The said *Indians* gave for answer, that they would kill, scalp, and burn them, the said *Yankees*. The deponent said, You will not hurt me and my family, will you? The *Indians* replied, No; we will give you notice time enough to go away. At the same time, *Squire Collins* was passing by with some of the *New-England* people in a sled, about a hundred yards distant, when the deponent saw one of the *Indians* cock his rifle and bring it up to his face, at the same time swearing he would shoot the said *Collins* through the left eye. Then the deponent took hold of the rifle and held it from his face; and when they went away, they shook hands with the deponent, and declared they would give him timely notice.

The deponent further saith, That he asked the *Indians* how strong they were. The said *Indians* informed the deponent that Colonel *Croghan* was coming with the *Cherokees* by the way of *Niagara* and *Fort Stanwix*, and would kill and burn the people from that place to *Schenectady*. Further saith not the deponent.

GODFREY SHEW.

*Caughnawaga*, March 25th, 1776: Sworn before

JELLIS FONDA, Justice.

He said the *Indian's* name was *David*, a *Mohawk*.

#### The Testimony of FANNY KELLY and POLLY CONNER.

TRYON COUNTY:

Personally appeared before me, *Jellis Fonda*, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Quorum for said County, *Fanny Kelly* and *Polly Conner*, and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, depose and saith:

That, on or about the 17th day of *March* instant, were at the house of *Thomas Harris*, at *Sacondaga*, and one of the *Mohawk Indians* being present, viz: *Joseph McEllesson*, when the said *Joseph* advised the said *Fanny Kelly* not to go to *Stone-Arabia*; and that *Stone-Arabia* and *Canajoharie* would be cut off and burned as soon as the snow was gone. And the said *Joseph* further informed the deponent that one of the heads of the *Onondagas* was killed at *Canada*, otherwise all would have been well; but now it was all over. And the said *Joseph* further said that he had killed two *Yankees*, and that he had told General *Schuyler* of it, and was not afraid to tell anybody of it. Further saith not.

FANNY <sup>her</sup> KELLY.  
mark.

POLLY <sup>her</sup> CONNER.  
mark.

*Caughnawaga*, March 25th, 1776: Sworn before me,  
JELLIS FONDA, Justice.

#### The Testimony of Captain HENRY HANSON.

TRYON COUNTY:

Personally appeared before me, *Jellis Fonda*, Esq., one of his Majesty's Justices of the Quorum for said County, Captain *Henry Hanson*, of the *Mohawk's* country, and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, depose and saith:

That on or about the 10th day of *March* instant, one of the *Mohawk Indians* (*Hoonce Dowick* by name) asked



the deponent if he was not afraid. The deponent said, For what? The said *David* said, as soon as the leaves come out, the foreign *Indians* would come down and cut off the *Mohawk* River. And the deponent further saith: That he heard a *Mohawk* squaw say, she wished all the *Indians* were as true to the country as she and her son, and then there would be no disturbance. Further saith not.

HENDRICK HANSEN.

*Caughnawaga, March 25th, 1776: Sworn before me,  
JELLIS FONDA, Justice.*

*The Testimony of ABRAHAM DAVID QUACKENBOSS.*

TRYON COUNTY:

Personally appeared before me, *Jellis Fonda*, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for said County, *Abraham D. Quackenboss*, and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, depose and saith:

That on the 24th day of *March* instant, he, the deponent, being at his dwelling-house at *Caughnawaga*, in company with *David*, a *Mohawk* Indian, he, said *David*, asked the deponent whether *Adonijah Stansbury* was a Whig or a Tory. The deponent said, He is a Whig. "Aye," says *David*, "you are all glad now, but in less than two months' time you will be sorry." The said *David* further informed the deponent, that *Abraham*, one of the *Mohawk* chiefs, was gone to a treaty at *Onondaga*; and that he, the said *Abraham*, gave orders to them, the said *Mohawks*, to stay at home, and not to go a hunting until he returned; and the said *David* said they should know what to do when he returned.

ABRAHAM QUACKENBOSS.

*Caughnawaga, 25th March, 1776: Sworn before me,  
JELLIS FONDA, Justice.*

*General SCHUYLER's Message to the SIX NATIONS, in consequence of the Enemy being driven out of BOSTON.*

Brothers, Sachems, and Warriors of the SIX NATIONS:

I have heretofore promised that when I received any news of consequence, I should let you know it. I rejoice, therefore, that an opportunity offers to acquaint you that the Army of our enemies, which has so long kept possession of our town of *Boston*, has lately been driven out of it. Our enemy, knowing that we were loth to knock down so fine and large a town as *Boston*, especially as the houses in it belonged to our friends, thought themselves very secure until towards the latter part of winter, when they were informed that we intended to attack them; at which they were so much frightened that, in order to prevent it, they spread the small-pox through every part of the town, well knowing that the greatest part of our Army had never had it. This barbarous act so exasperated our Army, that they were resolved to drive such a wicked set away, although they should be obliged to burn the town; and therefore our chief warrior, *Washington*, on the 4th of this month, ordered his warriors to begin a cannonade, and to take possession of a place from whence he could more easily annoy the enemy; which he did, without opposition, as they were afraid to come out and fight him. No sooner had he erected batteries on this place, and brought our cannon there, which was on the 16th day of the month, but the enemy immediately went on board their ships, and ran away to sea on the 17th. But they went off in such a hurry that they left thirty large pieces of cannon, two mortars, a great many shot and shells, all the fine horses which they brought from *England* to mount their soldiers on to ride through our country, twenty thousand bushels of wheat, a great quantity of salt, and a great many other things. Thus, brothers, has the great *God* blessed our arms, and relieved the town of *Boston* from its oppressors.

Brothers, it is probable that these runaways will attempt to land on some other part of this great Island. We wish they may; for, wherever they go, they will meet a sufficient number of our warriors to withstand them. We have ten thousand men now at *New-York*.

Brothers, the King's evil counsellors, finding that they could not get warriors enough of their own in all *England* to fight us, applied to the *Russians* for twenty thousand men, to join them. When the *French* King heard this, he sent his Ambassador to *England*, to tell the King's evil counsel-

lors, that if they carried any *Russians* to the great Island of *America*, he would send his warriors to oppose them and assist us; for that we were a good and a brave people, who only fought for our liberties, and he would not see us oppressed.

Thus, brothers, all goes well with us. The *French* King, who was formerly our enemy, is now our friend. He has already seven thousand warriors at *Martinico*. These may be easily brought here. But we believe we shall not want them, as we have men enough, great guns in plenty, and a sufficient quantity of powder and ball.

Brothers, I have formerly told you that you will never find us false or liars. I know that some of our enemies will send to you to contradict what I have said; but you can tell such people that I have invited you, as I now most sincerely do, to send two or three Sachems, or warriors, that have had the small-pox, to *Boston* and to *New-York*, to see with their own eyes, and be convinced of the truth.

Brothers, if you send any, I will take care that they shall be accommodated in the best manner, both going and coming, and whilst they stay there; and I doubt not but when these return, you will treat all liars as they deserve, and will have greater reasons than ever to rejoice that you have such good and such powerful brethren as the inhabitants of the Colonies.

Brothers, accept my best wishes for your health and your prosperity; and be assured you will be a happy people whilst you remain in love and friendship with us, and that I will do my utmost to make you love me as much as I do you.

Brothers of the *Oneida* Nation: I desire that you will send this speech forward to the other brothers of the *Six Nations*.

*From the Rev. Mr. KIRKLAND to General SCHUYLER.*

*Oneida, March 12, 1776.*

SIR: I am sorry to tell you the face of things among the Western Tribes of the Confederacy begins to change, and appears different from what our expectations promised at the last treaty, held in *Albany*. It is very evident their minds are poisoned by some enemy to the liberties of the Colonies. Such vile and iniquitous sentiments as these are still propagated and prevail among the Western Tribes, viz: "That the white people, particularly the *Americans*, are in nature treacherous and deceitful; have no true friendship for the *Indians*; and are not to be depended on for aid and protection. Should they conquer in the present contest, no sooner have they obtained victory but they will turn about and fall upon the *Indians*."

This, indeed, is no new, but the very same old tune which Colonel *Johnson* played so long upon, although he confined it chiefly to *New-England* and *Virginia*. One might think it would have become threadbare before this time. I am certain I have heard the governing notes, upon the same key, for several years past; but some one, it seems, has lately trumped it up so high, that it sounds very briskly in a savage ear.

Mr. *Deane* has given your Honour, in his letter of yesterday, a general account of what has lately taken place here in a meeting with the *Onondagas* and *Cayugas*. The *Oneidas*, in this affair, manifested an unshaken friendship for the Colonies, and a firm attachment to the Council-fire at *Albany*. Many of the *Indians* have observed to me, that they never knew debates so warm, and contention so fierce, to have happened between these two brothers (the *Oneidas* and *Cayugas*) since the commencement of their union. The disputes continued with great spirit for three days, successively, before the *Oneidas* prevailed.

By Mr. *Deane's* letter, your Honour will find that a correspondence has been carried on for some time past, and is still continued, between *Johnstown* and *Niagara*; and some of the *Mohawks* become news-carriers and propagators of injurious false reports among the upper nations. The pretended friendship and boasted fidelity of those *Mohawks* seem to turn out mere delusion and perfidy, at least in the most of them; and no marvel, they have so long been made use of as mere tools of State, and accustomed to such hackneyed service. We cannot expect to find in them even the remains of a principle of honour and virtue.

The *Onondaga* chiefs informed Mr. *Deane* that one *Wil-*

liam, a natural son of the late Sir William, is now at *Onondaga*, the central Council-House, waiting for the result of the approaching meeting to be held there; that he was sent to said place by Colonel Butler, with orders to return immediately to *Niagara*, upon the breaking up of the Council.

Some of our most judicious and warm friends of the tribe have, in private conversation, expressed their fears of what might take place among the Western Tribes the ensuing spring, by means of Colonel Butler; and give it as their opinion, that your Honour will not be able to preserve, any long time, the union and friendship of the *Six Nations*, without the reduction of a certain post at the westward. However, they seem to think the result of the Grand Council at *Onondaga* will determine the expediency of such a measure.

Upon a third request of the *Oneidas*, in publick council, the *Cayugas* promised them that they would return, or at least proceed no farther than the *German Flats*, for some articles of trade; but some of their chiefs, at their departure, said they should go as far as the *Mohawks*, if not to *Albany*. Could the *Oneidas* believe they still persisted in their design of recalling Johnson's axe, Mr. Deane says they would send an express to General Schuyler, earnestly requesting the axe might not be delivered to them on any terms whatever.

There are various conjectures, if Mr. Butler can prevail with the *Senecas*, and some other remote tribes, to take up the hatchet, where it will be sent. Some say, upon the back parts of *Virginia*; others say at *Canada*, to open a passage for Mr. Johnson's return. Some of the *Mohawks* have affirmed that Mr. Johnson will return by way of *New-York*; and if there should be a passage, only two feet, he will beat his way through.

The *Oneidas* put great confidence in Mr. Deane, as your Honour's Deputy, and admit him into their cabinet councils. Had he not been on the spot at this juncture, to strengthen and encourage the *Oneidas*, and remove objections, the *Cayugas* would probably have carried the day; and had they brought back the axe, it is thought our frontiers would have felt it before many months.

The deputation from *Caughnawaga* and adjacent villages have just now arrived. Mr. Deane would have mentioned it, but his letter is sealed. They say they met with some *Senecas* at the village called *Onoskwikisne*, about thirty miles south of *Caughnawaga*, who told them they must proceed directly for the Central Council-fire, and not enter the territories of the *Oneidas*, for they were *Bostonians*. The delegation said they would first go to those by whom they were immediately invited, viz: the *Oneidas*—giving this further reason, that they were of one heart.

A certain paper your Honour committed to my care, when at *Albany*, cannot be forwarded at present.

Your Honour will be pleased not to disclose Mr. Deane's name or mine to the *Indians*, as having communicated such intelligence, at this juncture; for it would very much prejudice the *Senecas* and *Cayugas* against the *Oneidas*, as well as weaken our interest among them. A word to the wise is sufficient.

That your Honour may enjoy health, be long preserved, and, under God, be made an extensive blessing to the United Colonies, is the prayer of, sir, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

SAMUEL KIRKLAND.

To the Honourable Philip Schuyler, Esq.

P. S. The *Caughnawagas* bring very favourable accounts of the situation of affairs at *Quebeck*. Mr. Deane has been several hours in council with them, but cannot write anything further by this conveyance.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lebanon, April 2, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered to you by Captain Noah Phelps. He is a gentleman who, as a principal, was concerned in the important seizure of the Northern Fortresses the last spring. After the reduction of those posts, he was employed as a volunteer in other important services before *St. John's*, and in *Canada*, where, for some time, by direction of General Montgomery, he acted as contractor for the Army, until he had the misfortune to fall grievously sick,

whereby he suffered the loss of his business, and incurred heavy expenses. His absence at the time of our appointments has occasioned his being hitherto unemployed in such manner as I could wish. His own abilities, joined to his services already done, I think render him worthy of publick notice. The Military Department is his choice.

I am, with truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN BEALL.

[No. 104.]

Annapolis, April 3, 1776.

SIR: You have our consent to discharge Mr. James Warren. We think he is entitled to pay. We are, &c.

To Captain Rezin Beall.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 105.]

Annapolis, April 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You have done perfectly right in detaining Mr. Henderson. If he is friendly to *America*, he could have easily got a permit from the Committee of the County wherein he resides. As he has not done it, we think he ought to be at the expense of obtaining a certificate of his character before his boats are released.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for Baltimore County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO FREDERICK COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 106.]

Annapolis, April 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We enclose you the judgment of our Board against Robert Gassaway, whom we were induced to treat with moderation, as he discovered a good deal of sorrow and contrition for his offences, which appeared to us to be, in a great measure, the effect of passion.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of Frederick County.

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, April 3, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from Congress to direct that, upon the application of Silas Deane, Esq., you furnish him with a guard of twenty men, under a proper officer, to proceed with him to the Capes, from thence to be returned. You will therefore comply with this requisition immediately on his application.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Officer commanding the Continental Troops, or the Officer commanding where this letter shall be produced.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMANDING OFFICER IN DELAWARE.

Philadelphia, April 3, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to direct that, immediately upon receipt hereof, you order two companies of the Continental Troops under your command to march to *Lewestown*, there to do duty, and promote the service of the Continent, until the further order of Congress.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Officer commanding the Battalion of Continental Troops in Delaware Government.

MASSACHUSETTS DELEGATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

Philadelphia, April 3, 1776.

SIR: The Congress being informed, by a letter from General Washington, that two thousand of the Continental Troops at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury* are deficient in fire-arms, and that he has not been able to purchase the same from the inhabitants, or obtain them from the Assemblies of the *New-England* Colonies, have directed the General to make,

returns to the Assemblies of the number of men inlisted in their respective Colonies that are destitute of arms, and to dismiss from the service such of them as cannot be thus supplied. In consequence of this, the Delegates from *Massachusetts-Bay* think it their duty to write to your Honour on the subject, and, through you, to inform the honourable Assembly, that, for the better regulating the Army, and promoting the means of defence, the United Colonies are divided into districts, or departments, and are to supply with fire-arms the Continental Troops that shall be raised by them, respectively, and be in want thereof. The Eastern District consists of the Northeastern Colonies, who, during the whole of this conflict, have discovered the firmest attachment to *American* liberty, and the warmest zeal and ardour in its defence. Should they, at any time, fail in this, or neglect to supply their quotas of men and arms, they must, in consequence thereof, be the greatest sufferers, and may confer on themselves the censure of the rest of the Continent. We are fully persuaded that the late difficulties in raising men and procuring arms in the Eastern District are justly chargeable on the mode adopted for establishing the Army at *Cambridge*; but we hope for a different regulation in future, and shall use our utmost endeavours that, in any new levies of men, the General Assemblies may have the direction of the same, subject to the control of Congress.

We think it necessary to inform the honourable Assembly that, in some of the Colonies, all persons whatever are prohibited from purchasing or selling fire-arms to be carried from the same. The safety of the Eastern District may possibly require the like protection. We rejoice at the success attending the measures of the *Massachusetts-Bay* for promoting the manufacturing of military stores, and think that a steady perseverance in the same plan is the wisest mode that the Colonies can adopt for a permanent establishment of their rights and liberties. We therefore hope that diligent inquiry will be made for all the manufacturers of fire-arms in the Colony who, from want of means, or other circumstances, are unemployed in this business, and that publick works will be erected for them, with suitable encouragement to engage them in the service. We sincerely congratulate your honourable Assembly on the happy recovery of *Boston* from our enemies, and are fully assured that this opportunity of fortifying the harbour will be successfully improved, and thereby an asylum secured for the ships-of-war and other navigation of the Continent. We presume that General *Washington* will see the necessity of such a measure, and order some of the cannon brought from *Ticonderoga* to be appropriated to this purpose. But should it otherwise happen, we think there can be no objection to the Assembly's taking such of the cannon and carriages at *Cambridge* as they have supplied, and deducting from their accounts against the Continent the charge of any part thereof which they may have made in said accounts, more especially as *New-York* is better supplied with cannon than *New-England*; and the reason there is to expect another visit from the enemy in that quarter, renders every precaution necessary to receive them.

We have the honour to be, sir, with great respect, your most obedient and very humble servants,

JOHN HANCOCK,  
SAMUEL ADAMS,  
JOHN ADAMS,  
ROBERT T. PAINE,  
ELBRIDGE GERRY.

To the Honourable President of the Council of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

#### GENERAL HEATH TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

City of New-York, April 3, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Having at present the honour to command the Army in the service of the United Colonies in *North-America* now quartered in this city, five regiments of which are lately arrived from the camp near *Boston*, whose necessities and complaints are so great as to make it my duty to crave relief from the honourable Continental Congress. These regiments were reluctant to leave the camp before they had received their pay; but the Treasury being bare, they could not have it. They suffered much on the road for want of money, and would have suffered more had they not been relieved by their officers, who spent all their money to

relieve their men. Since their arrival in this city, their wants increase. Enclosed I send you the complaints of one regiment. Other Colonels acquaint me that they are discouraged. Three months' pay is due. I have been obliged to borrow a month's pay for three of the rifle companies. I have written to his Excellency General *Washington* on the subject, and am advised by Doctor *Franklin* to write immediately to the honourable Congress. I do, therefore, most earnestly request that you would please to lay the matter before Congress, and that the most speedy relief may be granted.

Colonel *Mifflin* arrived in this city on yesterday, with his lady. The Delegates from Congress, going for *Canada*, sailed in the afternoon with a fair wind. I have in this city, by the return of yesterday, five thousand two hundred and ten men, exclusive of the city Militia. We are fortifying the city as fast as possible. Governour *Tryon* having begun to throw up a work on a small Island in the harbour, about half a mile from the *Asia* man-of-war, I determined to drive him from every part of terra firma. Major *De Hart*, of the *New-Jersey* Battalion, offered, with two hundred men of that regiment, to dislodge them; accordingly, about twelve o'clock last night, they embarked on board several boats, and a little after one landed on the Island. The men were all on board the ships; but near forty women and children were in a house on the Island. They fired all the buildings, saving a cottage, in which they left the distressed women and children. They defaced the work, and brought off the intrenching tools. It is said near one hundred recruits, from *Long-Island*, have joined *Tryon*; but whether this be certain or not, I cannot tell.

My best respects to my worthy friends, Messrs. *Adams*, *Paine*, and *Gerry*; and believe me, with the greatest respect, to be your most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

#### CAPTAIN DAVIS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Easthampton, April 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your warrant was handed me. I have endeavoured to inlist the men agreeable to the instructions contained therein. But as no time is limited for the men's inlistment, it much retards the business; and a very great uneasiness arises in the minds of some very good men, who would gladly enter the service, on account of the wages being reduced; and it is reported among them, that the wages given at *Connecticut* is the same this year as it was the last. If it had not been for the objections above, I should by this time have filled my company. The number I have inlisted is about seventy, and hope soon to complete the whole. I am your humble servant to command,

JOHN DAVIS.

To the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, of *New-York*.

#### NATHANIEL FORDHAM TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Sag-Harbour, East end of Long-Island, April 3, 1776.

Pursuant to a vote of the County Committee, held at our County-Hall, in *Suffolk* County, on the 27th of *March*, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, being appointed a sub-Committee to examine the contents of all the cannon within our respective Districts, and make return of said contents to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, with a petition for a supply of ammunition and other warlike stores, suitable for the enclosed list of cannon, which we have examined agreeable to orders.

This petition humbly sheweth, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that we are much exposed to the ravages of the Ministerial Army, and look upon it highly necessary that we have a publick stock or quantity of ammunition, and other warlike stores, together with orders for mounting the enclosed number of cannon on proper carriages; and as the Ministerial Troops seem at this present juncture to be on the move, cannot tell how soon we may be invaded; therefore beg your speedy answer; which shall be gratefully acknowledged by your humble servants,

NATHAN FORDHAM, }  
BURNET MILLER, } Sub-Committee.  
THOMAS YOUNGS, }

To the Chairman of the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO PRESIDENT OF NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, April 3, 1776.

SIR: I have been informed that Mr. John Williams has reported to Congress that Colonel Warner's Regiment left Canada because I neglected to forward the clothing sent to me by order of Congress for that battalion. I wish the gentleman had spared his censure till he was convinced his tale was founded in truth. If he is a member of your House, be pleased to desire the Secretary to deliver him the enclosed; if not, commit it to the flames, for I know not where to direct to him.

The clothing, tents, &c., which came consigned to my care, were either delivered out here, or immediately sent forward to Fort George. My orders from General Schuyler were, to deliver such articles as I had in store to the troops who were on their march, paying no regard to what corps they were directed, unless they were in Albany, and stood in need of them. This order, I suppose, (for it was none of my business to inquire,) was given because the troops were exceedingly wanted at that time at St. John's. If I had not complied, I should not only have been guilty of a breach of orders, but, perhaps, the cause of that fortress not being reduced. This would have been a sufficient justification for my delivering the clothing sent for the Green Mountain Boys, to another regiment, who stood in need of them; though I had not an opportunity of doing this, for Mr. Curtenius did not ship them till the 18th of October. They were not detained, as alleged, but sent forward to Fort George, the 31st of the same month, unopened.

Captain Heman Allen's Company was the only one, belonging to that battalion, which went through this city, and they marched from this the 10th of September—six weeks before I received the clothing. If Mr. Williams had applied to me, and been made acquainted with these circumstances, I believe he would have spared his reflection. As the accusation was made to your House, I hope I shall not be deemed troublesome in stating the fact, to obliterate any prejudice which misrepresentation may have caused in the minds of the members.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your very humble servant,  
WALTER LIVINGSTON, Deputy Com'y General.  
To Colonel Woodhull.

LOSSES OF THE INHABITANTS OF RHODE-ISLAND.

Account of the Losses sustained by Inhabitants of RHODE-ISLAND, by the destruction of their Property, by the BRITISH, in 1775 and 1776.

Abstract of the several persons' Accounts, duly attested, that have had their property taken, burnt, or otherwise destroyed, by the Ministerial Ships-of-War; collected by the subscribers, by order of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, and transmitted to the most honourable the Continental Congress at Philadelphia.

1775—June. Samuel and William Vernon's Brigantine Royal Charlotte, from Jamaica, loaded with rum and sugar, taken by James Wallace, of the Rose, and sent to Boston, valued at £2,350 sterling, is, lawful money, - - - - -	£3,133	6	8
October 3d. Champlin & Ross, their Sloop Nova-Scotia, robbed of stores, by James Wallace, - - - - -	170	8	0
November 15th. Moses Seixas, robbed of a Negro, by ditto, - - - - -	75	0	0
	£3,378	14	8

JAMESTOWN burnt by WALLACE, and the Fleet under his command, DECEMBER 10, 1775. Sufferers as follow:

John Howland, house, barn, &c., burnt, -	£604	15	3
Benjamin Barker, furniture, &c., &c., -	90	2	5
Richard Bush, furniture, provisions, &c., -	125	13	10½
Stephen Bennington, furniture and stock, -	46	13	8
John Gardner, house, barn, stock, &c., &c., - - - - -	450	10	0
John Martin, (shot by Wallace himself,) furniture, stock, &c., &c., - - - - -	355	11	2

James Carr, house, &c., &c., - - - -	92	14	0
Joseph Clark, two dwelling-houses, barn, crib, &c., &c., - - - - -	590	0	0
Mary Franklin, house, furniture, &c., -	399	7	4
Gershom Franklin, house, - - - - -	150	0	0
Thomas Fowler, furniture, stock, &c., &c.,	412	7	9
Benjamin Nichol, sundries, - - - - -	13	17	6
Niles Helm, furniture, &c., - - - - -	75	12	4
Benjamin Elery, two dwelling-houses, barn and stores, - - - - -	501	3	4
Samuel Slocum, house, furniture, &c., -	320	4	0
William Greenman, furniture, &c., - -	34	15	6
Samuel Tenel, house, furniture, &c., - -	248	19	2½
Abel Franklin, furniture, &c., - - - - -	13	12	6
Samuel Archer, furniture, &c., - - - -	47	6	8
John Bennington, furniture, &c., - - -	50	1	0
Daniel Underwood, dwelling-house, work-house, furniture, &c., &c., - - - - -	195	17	0
Damaries Fowler, furniture, - - - - -	34	5	9
Benjamin Terrel, furniture, - - - - -	45	19	1
Sylvester Fowler, furniture, - - - - -	28	3	5
Wager Hull, dwelling-house, - - - - -	400	0	0
Christopher Fowler, furniture, &c., - -	61	9	6
Mary Hull, dwelling-house and furniture,	289	7	6
Hazard Knowles, sundries, - - - - -	8	5	
	£5,636	14	9

Loss sustained on the Island of PRUDENCE, by JAMES WALLACE and his Fleet, at several times, viz:

1775—June 8. Ebenezer Materson, sundries, by a tender, - - - - -	£6	10	10
November 17. John Shelden, furniture, &c., by a tender, - - - - -	61	13	10½
1776—January 12. William, John, and Nathaniel Fairbanks, furniture, burnt by James Wallace and his fleet, - - - -	86	16	4
Williams Allen, house, &c., - - - - -	74	3	8
Joshua Allen, furniture, &c., - - - - -	8	14	0
Ebenezer Allen, house, crib, provisions, &c.,	170	14	9
Estate of John Tillinghast, deceased, three dwelling-houses, crib, barn, &c., - -	624	0	0
John Allen, house damaged, and provisions,	21	12	0
Samuel Littlefield, sundries, - - - - -	6	0	0
Job Durfey, robbed of stock on Hog-Island, - - - - -	92	8	4½
Christopher Durfey, robbed of stock on Hog-Island, - - - - -	82	15	6½
Silas Niles, robbed of stock on Point Judith, - - - - -	30	12	0
1775—October 2. John Oldfield and Robert Binney, Schooner Bedford, robbed by Captain Ayscough, of the Swan, -	53	6	0
1776—January. Mary Easton, widow, robbed of clothing and furniture out of the Sloop, John Warren master, in the river, by Captain Ayscough, - - - -	70	4	9
Abigail and Sarah Sweet, of clothing, furniture, &c., out of said Sloop, by Ayscough, - - - - -	40	7	0
March 23. Thomas Earl and John Stadner, of Newport, owners of the Sloop Betsy, burnt at Virginia, by the Otter sloop-of-war and tender, - - - - -	300	0	0
February, Samuel and William Vernon, and James Tanner, owners of the Brigantine Venus, one hundred and seventy tons burden, burnt in the harbour of Newport, by the Bomb Brigantine and tender sent by Wallace, valued, - - - - -	1,333	6	8
Samuel and William Vernon, sundry goods on board her, - - - - -	44	3	6
Lucy Lawton, furniture, clothing, &c., destroyed by Wallace, at Prudence, January 12, - - - - -	21	11	0
	£12,194	9	8½

In obedience to the order of the General Assembly, we have collected the foregoing accounts of losses sustained by inhabitants of this State. Many others have been sufferers,

and notified by several advertisements, but have neglected bringing them in.

WILLIAM VERNON,  
JOHN G. WANTON.

STAMFORD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Inspection for the Town of *Stamford*, on the 3d day of *April*, 1776:

*Munson Jarvis* and *David Picket* being cited before the Committee for signing a seditious paper, the import of which was that they would assist the King and his vile minions in their wicked, oppressive schemes to enslave the *American* Colonies; and tending to discourage any military preparations to repel the hostile measures of a corrupt Administration; and likewise tending to dissuade persons from observing or regarding the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress,—they appeared, and acknowledged they had signed the paper above referred to, and were voted guilty of the crime alleged against them by the Committee.

Mr. *Jarvis* exhibited a confession, declaring himself sorry for what he had done, and promised “to adhere and abide by all the recommendations and resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, so far as he was not hindered by a religious tie of conscience.”

Mr. *Picket* likewise offered a confession, professing himself sorry for his mistake, desiring it might be overlooked, and promised “to conduct himself agreeable to the good and wholesome laws and rules that are in being now in the Colonies, which are or may be for the good of his country.”

Upon being asked what they meant by the reserve of “a religious tie of conscience,” and the “laws and rules that are in being now in the Colonies, which are or may be for the good of the country,” they declared that they could not join with the country in pursuing the measures adopted by the Congress in defence of the just rights and privileges of the United Colonies; which, taken in conjunction with their written confession, and what they further offered upon the occasion, was deemed an insufficient satisfaction for their offence.

It was therefore voted by the Committee, that they should be advertised as enemies to their country; and we hereby recommend it to all persons to break off all commerce and dealing with them, and to treat them agreeable to the resolve of the Congress for those who are declared enemies to their country.

A true copy from the Minutes. Attest:

JOHN HAIGHT, JUN., *Committee Clerk*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Cambridge, April 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I this day received your favour of the 27th ultimo, with a letter from General *Arnold*.

The enemy have quitted this harbour last week. We have no certain account of their destination. It is generally thought they have gone to *Halifax*. If this should prove true, it is probable they will attempt to penetrate into *Canada* when the communication by the river *St. Lawrence* is open.

By a late letter I received from Congress, I have it in command from them to detach four Battalions into *Canada*, as soon as I shall be of opinion that the safety of *New-York* and the eastern service will permit; of which I cannot be a proper judge until I have a certain account of the place where the enemy are retreated to.

I have despatched two Companies of Artillery, two thirteen-inch mortars, and military stores, (a list of which you have enclosed,) to the Army before *Quebeck*, in the last week; and if I can spare the four Battalions, or more, they will go from *New-York*, to which place the greater part of the troops are gone from hence. I shall set out to-morrow, and will be very happy to see you there after my arrival, if you can be spared from your present station, which I am sensible is a very important one.

I have no hopes of procuring the hard money I gave you expectation of. The possessors of it are not of late accustomed to a paper currency, and keep their gold and silver close.

Captain *Lamb* is appointed Second Major in the Regi-

ment of Artillery commanded by Colonel *Henry Knox*. This promotion I thought due to his merit and bravery.

I am, with great esteem, dear sir, yours, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, April 3, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 27th *February* is come to hand. I much fear you will be much disappointed in the number of troops you expected in that month, as the lakes were impassable.

Major-General *Thomas* will, long before you receive this, have informed you of the success of our operations here. The enemy quitted this harbour last week. We have no certain accounts of their destination. It is generally believed they are gone to *Halifax*. If true, it is probable they will attempt to penetrate *Canada* on the opening of the *St. Lawrence*. I hope, before that happens, you will be in full possession of *Quebeck*, and have its avenues well secured, upon which depends the fate of this campaign in those parts.

I have despatched two companies of Colonel *Knox's* Regiment of Artillery to you, from hence, and two mortars, &c., as you will see at foot hereof. If anything else is wanting that cannot be had in *Canada*, and in my power to send, they shall be forwarded with all possible expedition, upon my being informed thereof.

The chief part of the troops are marched from hence towards *New-York*. I will set off to-morrow. If the enemy will not find us full employment, and it is necessary, you may expect a detachment from thence to your assistance.

I am very sorry that the gentlemen of *New-York*, and other officers, should think themselves neglected in the new arrangement. It is true that I reserved places in this Army for those officers who went from hence under your command. The Congress have since informed me that they would be provided for in the Army raised for *Canada*. I was not acquainted with the gentlemen who complain, nor with their circumstances. There is little doubt but their merits will be rewarded in due time.

I am very sensible of the many difficulties you have had to encounter. Your conduct under them does you great honour. As General *Thomas* will take the burden off your shoulders, I hope you will soon gather strength sufficient to assist in finishing the important work you have, with so much glory to yourself and service to your country, hitherto conducted.

As I am informed that there is a furnace somewhere near you, where shells and shot of any size can be cast, I would recommend to General *Thomas* to have what quantity of each that may be wanting, immediately prepared. The roads are so very bad that it is impossible to send you any great number of these necessary articles from hence.

I have appointed Captain *Lamb*, who is a prisoner in *Quebeck*, to be Second Major in the Regiment of Artillery, commanded by Colonel *Henry Knox*.

The gentlemen of this family return you their compliments; and I remain yours,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Arnold*.

P. S. My best wishes and compliments attend General *Thomas*.

ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO MAJOR-GENERAL WARD.

General *Ward* will comply with any requisitions of the General Court or Council, respecting the troops, if not incompatible with any order received from me, or which may be sent him from Congress.

The stores of every kind, provisions and military, are to be drawn together and sufficiently guarded. Those at *Beverly*, with the vessels, are also to be protected.

If it should be found more convenient to have the Regiments quartered in the barracks at *Roxbury*, and it should be agreeable to the General Court or Council, I shall have no objection to it. Some men should be kept upon *Bunker's Hill*, and should be employed in levelling the lower lines of that work next to *Prospect* or *Winter Hill*.

All the troops are to be employed in completing such works as are already begun, and such as may be resolved



on by the General Court or Council, for defence of the harbour, &c.

Colonel *Gridley* will be left to construct and see to the execution of these works. An exact account to be taken, and valuation made, of all the materials which are used in these works, and to be ready if and when it shall be called for.

The work upon *Beacon Hill* should be repaired, and, in my opinion, be made strong, as it commands *Fort Hill* and all lower works, and would endanger the loss of them if it should be possessed by the enemy.

All the lines upon *Boston Neck* ought, in my judgment, to be demolished, as it is a defence against the country, and no security to the town. So ought those flushes on the west of *Boston*.

No time should be lost in fixing with the General Court or Council upon proper signals for alarming the country upon the appearance of a fleet. For the purpose of gaining as much time as possible, I think the alarm ought to be given from *Cape-Anne* or *Marblehead*, and forwarded by agreed signals to *Boston*, and thence into the country. This matter should not be delayed.

A guard should be kept over the Powder Magazine, which I think will be safer in *Boston*. The powder should be often shifted. A Commissary or Conductor of Artillery Stores will be left, who is to deliver nothing without your or the commanding officer's order.

Mr. *Parke* will continue here till the affairs of that department are arranged, and some person fixed upon to do the duties of that office; and the Commissary of Provisions will do the like in his.

Mr. *Warren* will probably continue here till some regulation is adopted. In his hands money will be left to answer the pay of the troops and contingent expenses of this department, which may be drawn for by your warrant. But with respect to accounts and transactions of which you have had no knowledge, let them be specially reported, and paid by particular order.

All captures made by the Continental Armed Vessels are to be immediately libelled in the Court of Admiralty of the District where carried to.

All officers, soldiers, and men-of-war's men, are considered as prisoners; the former to be sent and confined to some town, upon their paroles; the others sent to such jails as the General Court shall direct.

No condemned property to be sold till the day of sale is three times advertised in the papers (with an enumeration of the cargo) of *Boston*, *Cambridge*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester*, and a special report thereof made to you, that if anything is wanted in the Commissary's or Quartermaster's Department, they may be notified thereof.

Every possible method is to be used for the preservation of the Barracks. If any of them are wanted for any of the new works, they may be taken after valuation thereof.

The vessels which were left in *Boston* by the enemy, some with and some without cargoes, (and which, I am told, various claims are laid to,) must not be delivered up, unless the person claiming will give some surety to abide the determination of Congress respecting them. In that case, an exact inventory to be taken, in order to ascertain the value.

The wheat left by the King's Troops is to be attended to, that no hurt comes to it. It ought either to be sold or converted into flour, for the use of the Army. The Quartermaster and Commissary may be consulted on this head.

The Regiments should be kept as much together as possible, for the purpose of disciplining the men when they are not upon fatigue duty. Discourage the granting of furloughs but in cases of necessity. Keep the officers and men strictly to their duty, and in all things consult frugality as much as possible.

In all matters not particularly specified in the foregoing instructions, your own judgment, prudence, and discretion, must be your guide. You will take care to advise me, by every opportunity, of your proceedings, and of every transaction, of a publick nature, that you may think worth communicating.

The flat-bottomed boats, whale boats, and floating batteries, are to be continued in the care of Captain *Sylvanus Drew*. They must be hauled into a convenient place of safety, and proper care taken to prevent their being de-

stroyed, or suffering damage from the heat of the weather. Their oars, paddles, &c., are to be put into some safe store.

All officers and seamen, taken in transport vessels employed in the enemy's service, are to be released, on condition that they give a very strict parole not to act against the *American Colonies* during the present contest.

Yours, &c.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*.

#### ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLONEL HENRY KNOX, COMMANDING THE REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

It being of the utmost importance to the publick service that the main body of the Regiment of Artillery, together with the field-cannon, ammunition, stores, &c., should, as speedily as possible, be assembled at *New-York*, I have thought proper to give you the following orders and instructions:

The Legislature of this Colony having determined to assemble three hundred teams upon the Common in *Cambridge*, between this day and *Saturday* next, you will order the Commissary of Ordnance Stores, with the Conductors of Artillery, to be properly assisted in loading all the ammunition and ordnance stores into the teams allotted for the service of the Artillery.

You will send a Conductor, with every Brigade of thirty teams, to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, whom you will order to receive and obey such directions as the commanding officer at *Norwich* shall think proper to give.

In loading the teams at *Cambridge*, you will take particular care to direct the stores and ammunition, that will be first in demand at the general rendezvous, to be first sent forward; such as the fixed ammunition, the powder, musket-balls, buck-shot, laboratory stores, empty paper cannon-cartridges, flints, fuses, &c., &c. The heavy stores, (shot and shells,) not so immediately in request, may be sent the last, according as, upon the best information, you shall see proper to give directions.

The covered wagons, taken from the enemy, should carry all the powder that is to go from hence, and the tumbrils the fixed ammunition. With these it is my orders you send Mr. Commissary *Cheever*, in whose care and guidance it is proper to place your confidence for their security and preservation.

All the remaining field-artillery and brass mortars should march with the two remaining companies to *Norwich*, where they will find my orders for their further proceedings.

As soon as the whole of the artillery, ammunition, stores, &c., directed by the instructions to be sent forward, are upon the march, you will yourself proceed to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*; and having seen everything before you from thence, you are then, with all despatch, to proceed to *New-York*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Burbeck* should, without any delay, go the most direct road thither, and, as soon as Lieutenant-Colonel *Mason* is able to travel, he must follow.

Your Quartermaster should march with the two companies to-morrow; and your Adjutant you will do well to keep with yourself, to carry such orders as you shall at any time think necessary to give.

From the great variety of the stores and duties in your department, there is no such thing as giving all and every minute direction, necessary to be given upon this occasion. Trusting in your zeal, diligence, and ability, I remain confident of every exertion in your power for the publick service.

Given at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, this 3d day of *April*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Henry Knox*.

#### ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR JOHN PARKE, ESQ., ASSISTANT QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

It being found necessary for the publick service that the Quartermaster-General, Colonel *Thomas Mifflin*, should be despatched to *New-York*, and the command in his department devolving on you, be it your care to see that the Clerks, Commissaries, Wagonmasters, Armourers, Artificers, and the servants of the publick of every denomination within

your inspection, are diligent in executing your commands and forwarding the publick service.

As a number of wagons will this day be sent by the Legislature of this Province, for the purpose of transporting stores, &c., to *Norwich*, those intended for the Quartermaster-General you will direct to be loaded with the articles first in request upon the Army's assembling at their general rendezvous: such as camp equipage, intrenching tools, cooking utensils, &c., with all the articles now in store belonging to the various branches of the Quartermaster-General's Department. A Wagonmaster and some of the clerks must accompany those teams to *Norwich*, and see that everything sent from hence is faithfully delivered there.

As some teamsters have lately dropped their lading upon the road at *Waltham*, you will order Wagonmaster *Goddard* to see it sent forward immediately, and be very strict, for the future, that every teamster is made answerable for the load he receives, by your ordering a clerk to enter in a book the teamster's name, place of abode, and bill of lading. A copy of the bill of lading must also be given to the teamster, upon the back of which the receiver of his load at *Norwich* should be directed to write the certificate for the payment; and unless a teamster can produce such certificate of delivery, he is not to receive any money for his services.

When all the stores in your department, directed to be carried from hence to *New-York*, are sent forward, and the necessary directions given to the person who remains as Assistant Quartermaster-General to the Troops in this District, you will then, without delay, proceed to *New-York*, by the way of *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*. Upon your arrival at *Norwich*, you will see that all the stores are sent before you from thence; and, upon your being certain that it is effected, you cannot get too soon to *New-York*, where you will report your whole proceedings to Colonel *Mifflin*, and produce and settle your accounts with him.

Depending much upon your diligence, activity, and fidelity, I rest satisfied that no part of the publick service, committed to your care and guidance, will be, in the least, neglected.

Given at Head-Quarters, in *Cambridge*, this 3d day of *April*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *John Parke*, Esq., &c.

#### ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOCTOR JOHN MORGAN, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE HOSPITAL.

As the grand Continental Army immediately under the command of his Excellency General *Washington* will, as soon as it is practicable, be assembled at *New-York*, you are, with all convenient speed, to remove the General Hospital to that city.

As the sick in the different houses cannot be removed, but must be attended until they are able to march, you will leave such Surgeons, Surgeons' Mates, Apothecary, and attendants, under the direction of ——— as are necessary for the care of the sick now in the General Hospital.

The medicines, stores, bedding, &c., not immediately wanted in the General Hospital, should be loaded in carts, that will be provided next *Saturday*, by the Assistant Quartermaster-General, and sent, under the care of a proper officer, or officers, of the Hospital, to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*. Upon their arrival there, they will find his Excellency's orders how, and in what manner, to proceed from thence, whether by land or by water.

The medicines ordered, upon his Excellency's application, by the honourable the General Court of this Province, to be taken out of the town of *Boston*, should be sent with the first of the Hospital stores that go to *Norwich*, a careful person having orders to take charge of the same.

The fixing and completing the Regimental medicine-chests, according to your plan lately proposed, had better be deferred until your arrival at *New-York*, when that may be set about under your inspection.

As the removing the General Hospital must be attended with such a variety of duty and attention, I must refrain from giving more particular directions, leaving a latitude to your experience and knowledge in your profession to govern and direct all your motions.

Before you leave *Cambridge*, it will be necessary to see a proper Regimental medicine-chest provided and delivered

to each of the Surgeons of the four Regiments left in garrison there under the immediate command of Major-General *Ward*; also, a chest for Colonel *Glover's* Regiment, on command at *Beverly*.

Reposing entire confidence in your care, diligence, and zeal for the service, I remain satisfied of your best exertions for the publick benefit.

Given at *Cambridge*, Head-Quarters, 3d day of *April*, 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Doctor *John Morgan*.

#### COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

The Council are informed that there are a number of cannon on *Castle-Island*, which have been no further injured by our enemies than having been spiked up; and as they may be immediately wanted for the defence of this Colony, the Council recommend to the honourable House that they take the earliest opportunity to employ some suitable persons to unspike the touch-holes; and that garrison-carriages and other necessary implements be provided for them, that they may be fit for use.

In the name, and by order of the Council:

JAMES OTIS, President.

To the Honourable Council and the Honourable House of Representatives, now sitting at *WATERTOWN*.

The Petition of the Selectmen of *PROVINCETOWN*, in behalf of said Town, humbly sheweth:

That on the 28th day of *March* last a sloop appearing near the shore on the back of said town, and to be in distress; on going on board, found her to be from *Boston*, with five men on board, and twenty-five women and children, in the most miserable condition. It seems they were bound for *Halifax*; but, having neither seamen nor water on board, they were unable to proceed on their intended voyage. And as we have reason to believe them to be some of those vermin which have been so destructive to the peace and good order of the Colony, we communicate their names to your Honours, viz: *Robert Campbell*,\* *Peter Harris*, *Patrick Trutt*, *Daniel Wissel*, and the famous *Jolly Allen*, late of *Boston*. Said sloop's cargo consists of household goods, wearing apparel, and casks of delph and glassware.

And we humbly pray your Honours to give such directions as you shall think proper with the present vessel and goods now in our hands; and, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

NEHEMIAH NICKERSON,  
STEPHEN ATWOOD,  
SOLOMON COOK.

Provincetown, April 3, 1776.

#### COLONEL ANDREW REED TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Boothbay, April 3, 1776.

I beg leave to inform your Honours, that *James Cargil*, whom the honourable Court last year appointed a Colonel in the County of *Lincoln*, on the 23d day of *March* last

\**TRURO*, April 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE THE HONOURABLE COURT: I beg leave to inform your Honours I have a sloop on shore at *Cape-Cod*, put in there in distress, having thirty souls on board, and not one drop of water.

It was with the utmost difficulty I got clear of the fleet, without the loss of the sloop, as my intention was to part them, to put into some port to repair, and to proceed to the Province of *New-York*. I beg such directions as may enable me to dispose of the passengers and secure my property. Should it be suggested that I may be an enemy to my country, I can produce proper testimony, if required, I have not acted any part in favour of the Ministerial Troops; but my intention is, by means of the sloop, to be useful to my country, and provide for my family.

I should have been glad to have had it in my power to make myself better known, but cannot at present, as I am illy able to hold a pen, having frozen my fingers for want of help on board.

I beg leave to subscribe myself a friend, ROBERT CAMPBELL.

Th enames of the persons that arrived at this place on board the Sloop *Sally*, 28th *March*, 1776: *Robert Campbell*, Master; *Peter Harris*, *Patrick Prout*, *Daniel Wisel*, wife and child; *Jolly Allen*, wife and his seven children; *Sally Bradford*, servant maid; *Lilla Coppinger*, belonging to Mr. *Allen's* family; Mrs. *Eleanor Barry*, and her five children; Mrs. *Nancy Crowfoot* and child; Mrs. *Joanna James* and her son; Mrs. *Dolly Stone*, *Mary Barrett*, and *Elizabeth Winslow*—thirty persons in number.

came to this town of *Boothbay*, and, in my presence and hearing, began to rail at the Reverend *John Murray*, calling said Mr. *Murray* a liar and mischief-maker; then found fault with the *Regulating bill*, calling it a *Tory bill*; then proceeded to damn the *General Court*. In the next place, said *Cargil* (as far as his words could) damned all officers who had taken commissions under said honourable Court, in particular Colonel *William Jones* and myself, for reasons to me unknown; nor were his speeches in private, but in public company. Therefore, pray your Honours to give some directions concerning said *Cargil*, as his language may lead many weak minds out of the path of duty.

These are, gentlemen, from your most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW REED, Colonel.

Halifax, Nova-Scotia, April 3, 1776.

The first division of the Fleet and Transports from *Boston* (containing chiefly the inhabitants, &c.) arrived here yesterday, after a passage of only six days; and the second division (containing the Troops) arrived this day, after a passage of only four days. They have little or no provisions, nor can this place supply them with any; neither are there conveniences on shore for this unexpected body of people.

It is fortunate for the King's Troops that the Provincials did not attack this place last summer, which they certainly intended; but General *Preble*, who was to have commanded the expedition, and had actually embarked one thousand five hundred *New-England* Troops in a large number of *Marblehead* Schooners for that purpose, hearing that the small-pox was very prevalent here at that time, the scheme was laid aside. The *New-England* people are incredibly afraid of the small-pox.

JOHN PAGE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, April 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have this moment received the enclosed packet, and forward it to you with all possible despatch. Its importance will be known by the following extract of the letter which enclosed it to us, dated *Newbern*, March 30, 1776:

"GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty to enclose to your care a packet from *South-Carolina*, containing despatches of the utmost importance to the Colonies, which I am directed by the Committee of Safety of that Province to send on to the Committee of Safety of the District of *Newbern*, requesting that you, gentlemen, will immediately forward it, by express, to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and desire them to forward it, by express, to the Committee of Safety of *Maryland*, and to request that Committee to forward it, with the utmost expedition, to *Philadelphia*. I have given you their request in their own words, which will, no doubt, induce you to comply with their request." Signed "*Cornelius Harnett*," and addressed to the Committee of Safety of *Newbern* District.

For and by order of the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN PAGE, V. P.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### PLAN OF THE AMERICAN COMPACT.

New-York, April 4, 1776.

The capital subject of conversation throughout *America*, for these few weeks past, hath been excited by a pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, the author of which endeavours to show the necessity of our final separation from *Great Britain*, as our rights and privileges cannot be properly secured by any mode of reconciliation whatever. None of the answers given to this ingenious pamphlet have sketched out any plan of settlement by which it might appear that our rights and freedom would be fully secured, though again united and harmonized with *Britain*. That such a compact or settlement is practicable, I think, ought to be made apparent to the people of *America* before they can be convinced of the propriety of reconciliation; and unless this can be effected, I never wish to see the union; preferring, beyond all comparison, the toils and dangers of erecting a

free and independent fabrick, to the delusive promises of freedom, pregnant with the principles of servitude and oppression. But I think such a compact or act of Parliament may be framed as will secure to *Americans* the right of freedom, at the same time that it removes from them the horrors of war and the desolations with which even victory must be attended. I think no considerate person will deny that our truly honourable Congress were of opinion such a compact could be formed when they petitioned the King, addressed the people of *Britain*, and prayed to the Father of Peace for reconciliation with *Great Britain*, as the greatest blessing these Colonies could enjoy. If such a settlement, in the opinion of the Congress, could so lately have been framed, I think no good reason can be given why it cannot now be effected, since the same wise and salutary regulations which, six months ago, would have secured us against the inroads of tyranny, and the designs of a wicked Ministry, must, at this day, answer the same important purposes. What were the articles of this compact, which our Congress must have thought would be sufficient to secure our liberties, I do not know. It is impossible, therefore, for me to relate them; but sufficient it is, for the purpose of destroying the foundation of independency, to delineate the outlines of a compact which would reconcile us to *Great Britain*, and, at the same time, secure and preserve our rights and privileges. Such a general plan, or groundwork, is here offered to the publick for their consideration.

1. The *British* Parliament shall have no power to tax the Colonies.

2. The Parliament shall not intermeddle with the internal police of the Colonies. Let *Britain* provide for her own internal government, and the Colonies for theirs. By this clause, all disputes about invasion of charters, rights of trial by jury, manufactures of the Colonies, &c., will be rooted up at one stroke.

3. The Crown shall appoint the officers of Government in the Colonies during good behaviour, and the people of the Colonies pay them. By this means the officers become equally dependant upon Crown and people, as they always ought to be.

4. The Parliament shall have the regulation of our trade; but, lest they may lay heavy duties upon articles of our trade, under pretence of regulating it, and so raise a revenue out of the Colonies, they should have no right to the duties, but they should go to, and be for the benefit of, that Colony from which they were raised, to contribute in paying that Colony's taxes, &c.

5. As it is necessary there should be some general power to superintend and regulate the interest of the Colonies as connected with, and interfering with each other, which no Provincial Legislature is competent to; and as it would be dangerous to give the *British* Parliament that power, lest tyranny might enter in at so indefinite a passage, there should be a General Convention, consisting of Deputies from the several Colony Assemblies, or from the people, whose business should be to regulate the posts, the general currency, and the proportion of the forces of the Colonies, and all other matters in which the separate Colony Legislatures have not sufficient authority, and which are not contrary to the right herein allowed to the *British* Parliament. One special business of this Convention should be, to keep a vigilant and careful watch over the designs and transactions of the *British* Ministry and Parliament, that so, by an early watchword, it may prevent tyranny in its embryo. But, as absolute power might, in time, be assumed by this Congress were it without any check, its acts, therefore, should go home for the Royal assent; the Crown to have no power to reject them, or the Provincial acts, unless done within three years after passing here.

6. For our security against the introduction of *British* Troops to enslave us in times of tranquillity, when we had forgot the use of arms, a perpetual standing Militia bill should form part of the compact, by which means the people of the Colonies would keep up their martial spirit, and always be prepared against the attack of arbitrary power. But as it would be useful, in case of sudden invasion, to have a small number of troops at all times ready to repel such invasion, the King should have a right to send a certain limited number—for instance, ten or twelve thousand—upon the Continent, whose immediate exertions might be sufficient to prevent an enemy until the Militia could be

assembled and brought up. Whoever asserts that ten or twelve thousand soldiers would be sufficient to control the Militia of this Continent, consisting of five hundred thousand brave men, pays but a despicable compliment to the spirit and ability of *Americans*. More than this stipulated number the Crown should not send, without the consent of the General Convention, or Congress.

7. In order to prevent bribery and corruption from sapping the foundation of the goodly fabrick, the compact should contain these three clauses, viz: That the Colonies should choose their Representatives and Convention every two years; that they should choose them by ballot; and that no officer or pensionary of the Crown should be elected.

8. As these Colonies would be protected by the power of *Britain*, and would receive all the duties arising from the regulation of trade, the Colonies should stipulate to allow them eight per cent. upon all merchandises imported from foreign countries. This would be the easiest of all methods for raising this sum. It would be paid invisibly, and we should even then be gainers, since we should receive a profit of twelve per cent. upon such foreign commodities. If the exigencies of the State should, at any time, require a further grant, the same should be obtained freely, by way of requisition.

These are the outlines of the compact of reconciliation, by which, it is apparent, our freedom may be amply secured. No doubt many additions may be made to it by the wisdom of our venerable Congress, and the observations of my countrymen. And since an honourable and secure harmony may again be established between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, who would prefer the horrors of war, the ruin of commerce, the destruction of private peace and happiness, and the loss of thousands of our countrymen in battle, to the blessings of peace and tranquillity, the enjoyment of plenty and abundance, the preservation of the lives of our fellow-creatures—and all these in the full possession of liberty? And for what are we to encounter all these evils and untried ways, which, like all novel experiments, must be attended with innumerable difficulties if they should happen to prove successful, and with dismal consequences should they miscarry? It is a form of Government which Baron *Montesquieu*, and the best writers on the subject, have shown to be attended with many mischiefs and imperfections, while they pass high encomiums on the excellency of the *British* Constitution. But why should I dwell upon the dangers of this scheme? The Continental Congress have never lisped the least desire for independency or republicanism. All their publications breathe another spirit; and in their justice, wisdom, and virtue, I can freely confide for a restoration of peace and tranquillity upon just and honourable conditions.

AN ENGLISH AMERICAN.

GENERAL PUTNAM TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, April 4, 1776.

SIR: Since my arrival at this place I have had abundant reason to be convinced that the Army here is in the highest need of an immediate supply of cash. I therefore now send Major *Sherburne* to *Philadelphia*, and I hope the Congress will despatch him as soon as possible, with at least three hundred thousand dollars for that purpose.

I am, with great regard and esteem, your most humble servant,

ISRAEL PUTNAM.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

ULSTER COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

Whereas the Provincial Congress have recommended that a number of Powder-Mills be immediately built within this Colony, with certain encouragements to such persons as will undertake to erect the same, provided such persons be recommended by the Committee of the County where such mills are to be erected; and application having been made to us, the Members of the Committee of the County of *Ulster*, by *Henry Wisner*, Junior, Esq., and Major *Moses Phillips*, both of the said County, for our recommendation of them as proper persons to build and carry on one of the Powder-Mills ordered by said resolutions, we, therefore, do humbly recommend the said *Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esq., and Major *Phillips*, in copartnership, as proper persons (having

the convenience of a good stream, &c.) to erect one of said mills, and carry on the business of manufacturing Gunpowder, according to the direction of the Congress.

By order of the Committee, this 4th day of *April*, 1776.

JOHANNES HARDENBERGH, *Chairman*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL THOMPSON.

Albany, April 4, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Since I wrote you this morning, I have received advice from *Tryon* County that some of the *Indian* tribes have unfriendly intentions towards us. This will oblige me to call out a body of Minute-men; and as I am altogether destitute of powder and ball, you will please to forward a ton of the former with all possible despatch, and as much of the latter as can be spared.

Will you be so good as to request the *New-York* Congress that the sailors may be sent up without delay.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General *Thompson*.

WILLIAM McDERMOTT TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

April 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Not having had the honour of an answer from you to a letter of the 29th ultimo, which I took the liberty of subscribing my name to, induces me to a second application, which I flatter myself you will be kind enough to admit before your respectable House.

I have been a prisoner under close confinement near five weeks—for what, I am an utter stranger; therefore, shall esteem it a favour if you will be kind enough to order me before you, as I am fully conscious of my innocence of any charge against me, if any is laid before you.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

J. WATERS, JUNIOR, TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, April 1, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We have just received intelligence that twenty-one vessels were yesterday seen off *Newport, Rhode-Island*; that several had come up. The particulars your Honour will receive from Colonel *Saltonstall*. I have thought it my duty to acquaint you with the state of the fortresses: that upon *Groton* is carried up in part, and shall be completed with all possible despatch; that upon *Shaw's Neck* is not so far forward as I could wish. I have improved every moment since your Honour's departure to get it forward, and shall, if possible, complete a battery, which may contain a few cannon, (if we have them,) this week.

I could most ardently wish, upon this pressing necessity, to have more hands employed, which would much expedite the work; but in this case your Honour will be pleased to be mindful of working materials; and as they cannot be immediately ready, will be pleased to direct how I shall obtain them. You will be pleased to be explicit in any orders you may send me. I shall endeavour punctually to obey them.

I am your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

JOSI. WATERS, JUN.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, in *Lebanon*.

COLONEL SALTONSTALL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, nine o'clock, A. M., April 1, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: This moment Mr. *Adam Babcock* came in, (from *Westerly* this morning,) and advises that he there saw an order issued by Colonel *Noyes* to the several Militia Captains under his command, (dated twelve o'clock last night,) to march immediately to *Newport*, having received an express from Colonel *Henry Babcock*, at *Newport*, dated yesterday noon, advising that twenty-one ships had just arrived there, but did not say from whence they came. The Colonel at *Newport* says the ships are in the offing, and the express adds that four of the ships were got abreast *Newport*—some of the fleet standing in on the east side the

Island, the others directly for the harbour. This I thought it my duty to advise your Honour of by express.

The two plans of fortifications that I showed your Honour, I left undesignated upon your desk; not supposing they would be of any advantage to you, and as they perhaps may be of some advantage here, I should be pleased to have them again, when you please.

I intended to have made a few observations on the plan for the Neck, viz: That to finish the work as it now stands, and described by the picket line, as it is much more extensive than the other, and the proposed one for ten heavy cannon, (in each case,) will be much more expensive than that proposed by the other plan—indeed, to remove the materials already used, to the other proposed work, will be fifty per cent. less than to proceed as the works are now begun. If the fort is to be enclosed, the first works will be vastly more expensive than necessary. It was ever my opinion to have the turret line east and west. Should, in future days, it be thought necessary to make a regular fort, with bastions, I conceive the corners of the plan are well calculated to be made into bastions; and if the fort should be thought best to be a square, it is only to extend the diameter north and south, so as to be equal to the east and west diameter; and if the barracks were sunk six feet under the surface, (as in the grand barracks,) the parapet would cover them from a cannon-shot; and if the fort should be made square, it would admit of a handsome parade between the barracks and platform.

I am, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,  
G. SALTONSTALL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

COLONEL SALTONSTALL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, April 4, 1776, eight o'clock, A. M.

HONOURABLE SIR: Yesterday at six o'clock, P. M., Captain *Henry Billings* delivered me your Honour's orders of the 2d instant, to detach one-third of the Third Regiment in this Colony, to hold themselves in readiness for service at a minute's warning, &c.; and the vote of the Governour and Council of Safety, dated 1st instant, directing me to augment the company under my command to ninety men, to defend this and the neighbouring places from any invasion by the fleet your Honour supposed, by the intelligence received, were at *Newport*. The various accounts from *Newport*, since *Tuesday* noon, made it probable the account of a fleet being arrived there was premature, and last evening the post came in from thence and confirmed the matter that no fleet had been there, as your Honour was informed by express from Governour *Cooke*. The post tells me two men made oath, before Colonel *Babcock*, they saw a fleet, which I conclude was the foundation of Governour *Cooke's* intelligence. Enclosed you have the *Newport* paper, by which you will see that no ship but the *Nautilus* (of sixteen guns) had arrived there, and the accounts of the fleet were only report.

Matters relative to said fleet being thus situated, thought it my duty to send this express to your Honour for further orders. As to detaching one-third the regiment, and augmenting the company to ninety, and as it would be attended with no small expense to the Colony, and the occasion for so doing arose from an erroneous information your Honour and Council of Safety had received, shall therefore omit issuing any orders in the premises, until the express returns; and if, in so doing, omit immediately executing your Honour's orders, hope for forgiveness, and that you will attribute my conduct to a zeal for the Colony's interest, by avoiding a considerable expense that would unavoidably accrue if the orders received from your Honour were instantly executed.

The Honourable *Samuel Ward* died at *Philadelphia* the 31st ultimo. My friend at *Philadelphia*, the 28th ultimo, writes, "our fleet is at *South-Carolina*." I heartily congratulate your Honour on the success of the *American* Troops to the southward against *Regulators* and *Tories*. General *Heath*, with the troops, arrived at *New-York* *Saturday* afternoon.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

G. SALTONSTALL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL SALTONSTALL.

Lebanon, April 4, 1776, two o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I have your favour of this morning before me. Your company to be augmented to ninety men was intended had no misinformation been received. The addition of one company from your regiment, and another from Colonel *Coit*, for the service at *Mamacock* and *Winthrop's Point*, will not forward those works with more expedition than is desirable. The failure of the plan for Minute-men renders the detachment now ordered necessary for the security of the harbour and defence of the town of *New-London*. I have not authority to counteract the order of the Governour and Council, and think it best not to call them together on the occasion; although I approve of your zeal for the Colony's interest, and of your useful hints for avoiding expenses. You will please to go on to execute the orders you have received. How soon the enemy may enter the harbour, make the attack, and attempt to land, or burn the town, is uncertain. Readiness to receive them is the best preventive remedy. I hope the works will be forwarded with prudence, diligence, and attention, and that we shall obtain a loan of cannon from *New-York* to be planted in them. I have desired Governour *Griswold* to come through *New-London* on *Monday* next, that he may be able to inform of every circumstance needful to be attended to. The Council meet next *Tuesday*. I received from Governour *Cooke* a letter of the 2d instant, at evening, informing of the mistake concerning the fleet. I have nothing material that is new. I have enclosed the two maps you left on my table.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Saltonstall*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 15. Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, Mr. S. Adams.]  
Cambridge, April 4, 1776.

SIR: I was honoured with your favours of the 21st and 25th ultimo, on the 2d instant, the former by Mr. *Hanson*, and the latter by *Fessenden*.

I heartily wish the money had arrived sooner, that the Militia might have been paid as soon as their time of service expired. The disappointment has given them great uneasiness, and they are gone home much dissatisfied. Nor have I been without severe complaints from the other troops on the same account. When I get to *New-York*, I hope a sufficient sum will be there ready to pay every claim.

It is not in my power to make a report of the deficiency of arms in compliance with the direction of Congress at this time, as some of the regiments are at, and most of the others on their march to, *New-York*; nor do I know that it would answer any good purpose if it were, having made repeated applications to the several Assemblies and Conventions upon the subject, and constantly received for answer that they would afford us relief.

When I arrive at *New-York*, I shall, in pursuance of the order of Congress, detach four battalions to *Canada*, if the situation of affairs will admit of it, and shall be extremely happy if they and the troops already there can effect the important end of their going.

In my letter of the 1st instant, per post, I enclosed you a copy of a letter from Governour *Cooke*, advising me of the arrival of a ship-of-war, &c., at and near the harbour of *Newport*. I have now the pleasure to inform you that the report was entirely premature, and without any foundation. You have a copy of his letter of the 1st instant to this effect. I wish the alarm had never been given. It occasioned General *Sullivan* and his brigade to make an unnecessary and inconvenient diversion from their route.

Enclosed is a copy of an account presented by the honourable General Court, of powder furnished the Continental Army by this Colony. From the account, it appears that part of it was supplied before the Army was under my command, and therefore I know nothing of it, but have not the smallest doubt of the justice of the charge. I shall leave about two hundred barrels of this article with Major-General *Ward*, out of which Congress will direct him to make a return, if they think proper, and also repayment of what may have been furnished by the other Governments.



A proclamation of General *Howe*, issued a few days before his departure from town, having fallen into my hands, I have enclosed you a copy, which probably has been the occasion of large quantities of goods being carried away; and the removal of many persons, which otherwise would not have happened.

Colonel *Warren*, Paymaster-General, finding the Army likely to be removed from hence, informed me the other day, that the situation of his affairs and engagements in the business of the Colony are such as to prevent him from personally attending the Army, and offered, in case it should be required, to resign. This was rather embarrassing. To me it appears indispensably necessary that the Paymaster-General, with his books, should be at or near Head-Quarters. Indeed, it is usual for the head of every department in the Army, however dispersed that Army may be, to be with the Commanding-General, keeping deputies in the smaller departments. On the other hand, Colonel *Warren's* merit and attachment to the cause are such, that I could do nothing less than desire (as some money must be left for the pay and contingent charges of the Army which will remain here) he would wait here till Congress shall be pleased to give their sentiments upon the matter, sending, in the mean time, some person in whom he could confide with the money, (but little of which there will be to carry, though great the demands, as nine of the regiments which have marched to *New-York* have only received five hundred pounds each, towards their pay for the months of *February* and *March*, and six others not one farthing.) I hope, therefore, this matter will be considered by Congress, and the result transmitted me as soon as done.

I would also mention to Congress that the Militia Regiments, which were last called upon, in making up their abstracts, charged pay—the officers from the time they received orders to raise companies, and the privates from the time they respectively engaged to come, or were called upon; though they did not march for a considerable time after, some not within three, four, to twenty days, and during all which they remained at home about their own private affairs, without doing anything else than preparing for the march, as they say by way of plea. This appeared to me so exceedingly unreasonable, and so contrary to justice, that the publick should pay for a longer time than from the day of their march to that of their return, that I ordered the abstracts to be made out accordingly, and refused to give warrants on any other terms. They say that the inlisting orders which went out from their Governments, give them the pay they claim. The fact may be that something in these may seem to authorize it. But I must submit it to Congress, and wish for their decision whether the Continent must pay it.

I am, with great esteem, sir, your most humble servant,  
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. I shall set off to-day.

G. W.

Providence, April 1, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday wrote your Excellency that I had information, by express, from *Newport*, that a large part of the Ministerial Fleet and Army were near that harbour. Since which, by the intelligence I have further received, I am inclined to believe that the Fleet was not seen as was reported. The alarm was given upon the following occasion: Three of the soldiers being upon a rising ground, near the town, were positive they saw a fleet within *Seconet Point*, and counted distinctly twenty-one sail. Immediately upon this, the Sheriff of the County of *Newport* despatched an express with the information. One of the Ensigns also says that three large ships were seen off the Light-House from *Conanicut* yesterday, at eleven o'clock, A. M. After having taken all the measures that appeared necessary to collect a sufficient force to oppose the enemy, I sent a person in whom I could confide to *Newport*, who has just returned, and informs me that it seems to be the general opinion that no fleet was descried, but that the persons were deceived by the weather, which was very thick and foggy, and has so continued ever since. I think it my duty to acquaint your Excellency of this by my son, who goes express; and am, with great esteem and respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, April 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Hartford*.)

(Countersign, *Kingsbridge*.)

General *Ward* to send a Regiment to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, out of *Boston*, to relieve Colonel *Larned's* Regiment upon *Dorchester-Heights*. Colonel *Larned's* Regiment to prepare to march on *Thursday* morning.

Head-Quarters, Cambridge, April 3, 1776.

(Parole, *Liverpool*.)

(Countersign, *Exeter*.)

The Brigade under the command of Brigadier-General *Spencer* to march to-morrow morning at sunrise. Carriages will be provided this afternoon by the Assistant Quartermaster-General; and the Adjutant-General will send the marching orders to the Colonels commanding Divisions.

General *Spencer* will receive his orders this afternoon at five o'clock, at Head-Quarters.

#### GENERAL WASHINGTON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Cambridge, April 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 26th ultimo came to my hands last night, by the post; but as I am upon the point of setting out for *New-York*, (by the way of *Providence* and *Norwich*.) I can do little more than acknowledge the receipt of it, and thank you for the proceedings and ordinances of the *Virginia* Convention, which came safely to hand.

At present the lakes are in an impassable state, neither being clear of ice, nor covered with such as will admit of transportation; at present, also, our troops are at different stages, on their march from hence to *New-York*; nor is it possible for me, till I get there, (as the Congress have annexed conditions to my sending the four battalions to *Canada*.) to tell whether they can be spared or not, as I am unacquainted with the number of men or strength of the works at that place. No time shall be lost in forwarding three battalions, if there is a possibility of doing it with safety, as no person can be more sensible of the importance of securing *Canada* than I am. A letter of the 27th ultimo, from General *Schuyler*, informs me that there are many men now stopped at *Albany* on account of the state the ice is in on the lakes.

I thank you for your friendly congratulations on the retreat of the King's Troops from *Boston*. It was really a flight. Their embarkation was so precipitate, their loading so confused, (after making greater havock of the King's stores than *Dunbar* did upon *Braddock's* defeat, which made so much noise,) that it took them eleven days to fit their transports, adjust the loads of them, and take in water from the Islands in *Nantasket Road*, after they had fallen down there. The coast is now clear of them, except the *Renown*, (a fifty-gun ship,) and one or two frigates, which remain here for the protection of such transports as shall be bound to this port.

I pray you to make my best wishes acceptable to the good Doctor, his lady, and family, &c.; and believe me to be, as I really am, dear sir, your affectionate and obedient humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Richard Henry Lee*.

#### GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Williamsburgh, April 5, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I most sincerely congratulate you, I congratulate the publick, on the great and glorious event of your possession of *Boston*. It will be a most bright page in the annals of *America*, and a most abominable black one in those of the *Beldam Britain*. Go on, my dear General, crown yourself with glory, and establish the liberties and lustre of your country on a foundation more permanent than the Capitol Rock. My situation is just as I expected. I am afraid that I shall make a shabby figure, without any real demerits of my own. I am like a dog in a dancing-school—I know not where to turn myself, where to fix myself. The circumstances of the country, intersected by navigable rivers; the uncertainty of the enemy's designs and motions, who can fly in an instant to any spot they chose with their canvass wings, throw me, or would have thrown *Julius Caesar*, into this inevitable dilemma. I may possibly

be in the North, when (as *Richard* says) I should serve my Sovereign in the West. I can only act from surmise, and have a very good chance of surmising wrong. I am sorry to grate your ears with a truth, but must at all events assure you, that the Provincial Congress of *New-York* are angels of decision when compared with your countrymen—the Committee of Safety assembled at *Williamsburgh*. *Page*, *Lee*, *Mercer*, and *Payne*, are, indeed, exceptions; but from *Pendleton*, *Bland*, the Treasurer, & Co., libera nos Domine.

I shall not trouble you with a detail of the Army, ordnance, and stores, but compendiously say, that the regiments in general are very complete in numbers, the men (those that I have seen) fine; but a most horrid deficiency of arms—no intrenching tools, no guns (although the Province is pretty well stocked) meet for service. Had I only eight eighteen-pounders I would immediately, at all events, take post on *Craney-Island*, by which measure I should drive out the enemy, and exclude them from the finest and most advantageous port in *America*. I have ordered, with this view, the artificers to work night and day. If I succeed, I shall come in for a sprig of laurel. This essential measure might have been effected long ago, but for the same apathy and oblique squinting towards what the milk-and-water people call Reconciliation.

The prodigiously flattering prospect opened by the appointment of Commissioners were strong arguments against the expense of gun-carriages and intrenching tools. But this is not all; they have distributed their troops in so ingenious a manner as to render every active offensive operation impossible; an equal number of their battalions are stationed on the different necks. They say, very acutely, that as the expense is equal, the security ought to be equal. I cannot help persuading myself that their object will be to take possession of *Williamsburgh*; not only from its temptingly advantageous situation—commanding, in a great measure, two fine rivers, and a country abundant in all the necessaries for an army—but the possession of the Capital would give an air of dignity and decided superiority to their arms, which, in this slave country, where dominion is founded on opinion, is a circumstance of the utmost importance. Perhaps I may be mistaken; but the surmise is not irrational. I have called three regiments down the country.

You will excuse, my dear General, the blots and scratches of this letter, for the post is just going out; by the next I will inform you of the steps we have taken for the security of this place. I have been desired to recommend Colonel *Grayson*, as a man of extraordinary merit. He sets out soon to make application to the Congress for an establishment. If we have, as we must, a Continental Hospital in the Southern Department, Dr. *McChurg*, I suppose, will be the man to direct it. I need not mention his qualifications, they are so well known. I beg you will make somebody write to me from time to time; indeed, I think I may modestly insist on Mr. *Palfrey's* pen being employed often in this service. Adieu, dear General. Yours most respectfully and sincerely,

CHARLES LEE.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

*Williamsburgh*, April 5, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I congratulate the publick and you, one of her best members, on the late glorious event—the flight of the tyrant cut-throats from *Boston*; although I do not know whether it is a matter of congratulation, for it appears to me that, as our affairs grow more prosperous, the namby-pambys of the Senatorial part of the Continent (great and small) grow more timid and hysterical. I am sorry to say it, but your Committee of Safety seem to be as desperately and incurably infected with this epidemical malady as the Provincial Congress of *Maryland*, or the quondam Assembly of *Pennsylvania*. Your brother, Mr. *Page*, *Payne*, and, I believe, *Mercer*, are indeed exceptions. If you could be spared from the Congress, your presence might inspire vigour and wisdom. Their economy is of a piece with their wisdom and valour; to save money, we have no carriages to our guns; to save money, we have no blankets for our men, who are, from want of this essential, dying by dozens at *Suffolk*. Had I gun-carriages, I could flatter myself with almost a certainty of driving the pirates, and shutting them out forever from the harbour of *Norfolk*.

I have, however, ordered them to be made with all possible expedition, and then shall attempt this capital stroke. My command (from the circumstances of the country being intersected by navigable waters, and the enemy being supplied with canvass to fly to any spot they choose) is disagreeable. I may make a very shabby figure, without any real demerits of my own. I know not where to turn, or where to fix myself. I may, as *Richard* the Third says, be in the West, when I should serve my Sovereign in the North. I can only act from surmises, and I may surmise wrong; but I must venture, and take my measures accordingly. I am apt to think that *Williamsburgh* and *York* will be their object; the possession of the first is not only most temptingly advantageous from its command of the two rivers and a most abundant country, but its being a Capital, the possession would give an air of dignity and decided superiority to their arms, which, in a slave country, is of the utmost importance. Your dominion over the blacks is founded on opinion; if this opinion falls, your authority is lost. On this principle I am drawing down some battalions, and shall, when I can provide intrenching tools, work for the security of these places.

For *God's* sake, why do you dandle in the Congress so strangely? Why do you not at once declare yourselves a separate independent State? I am much obliged to you for keeping my letter in your hands, and am happy that the stigma was not levelled at me. Appropos, will you move, as my command is separate, and scarcely any letters are addressed to me (even those not written by the members of the Congress) which do not relate to publick business, that, whilst I continue in this separate command, they shall be frank, for the expense is very considerable. I wish you would cuff Dr. *Rush* for not writing. I expect and insist upon it.

A Colonel *Grayson* (with whom, I suppose, you are acquainted) will be soon with the Congress, to make application for some military establishment. I am desired to recommend him as a man of extraordinary merit. We must have a Continental Hospital in the Southern Department; Dr. *McChurg* is, I am told, very well qualified to be at the head of it. My little *German* Engineer is (as the *New-Englanders* say) a nice man; but I wish I knew what pay and rank you intend him; I have hitherto supported him myself, but shall send in a bill for his nourishment. Adieu, my dear Senator.

Yours, and your brother's, most affectionately,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *Richard Henry Lee*.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

St. Eustatia, April 5, 1776.

MR. PRESIDENT: I ought to make an apology for the liberty I take in addressing you; but I have no occasion for any other than the sincerity of my intention. By you, sir, I mean to address the Congress, in order to inform them that, about two months ago, I was at *Paris*, and that the common conversation there was on the subject of *American* affairs.

It is believed that you will apply to the Court of *France* for their assistance, by which applications the *English* Minister would learn your designs. For this purpose he has attached to his interests a good many *French* at *Paris*, who are pretended friends of *America*, and who speak loudly of the justice of your cause, and wish it well. The *English* Minister hopes that you will apply to these men to transact your affairs, and, of consequence, that they will fall into bad hands.

Perhaps you will ask how I came by this knowledge. I cannot well inform you of this to the bottom; all that I would say to you is, that, as I have had conversation with them, I have sounded them on the subject, and am sure that what I have said is true. But, sir, I know what will accomplish your ends—that *Americans* only be employed with the management of your affairs; men faithful, honest, and intelligent, and who can speak *French*; for Gallick faith is at present almost as proverbial as Punick faith used to be.

I have nothing further to say at present. I am a friend to the cause of *America*; and am, with great sincerity, Mr. President, your very humble and obedient servant,

LE F.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE TO CAPTAIN PHILLIPS.

Baltimore, April 5, 1776.

SIR: You will please to purchase whatever turpentine may be necessary for the use of the gun-carriages now preparing; and in case any person who has it refuses to sell it to you, you must take it, and the price thereof shall be allowed by the Committee for the use of the publick.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., *Chairman.*To Captain *James Phillips*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAINS KENT AND HENRY.

[No. 107.]

Annapolis, April 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your Minute Companies are to be paid off agreeable to the enclosed list. We are, &c.

To Captains *Kent* and *Henry*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM HINDMAN.

[No. 108.]

Annapolis, April 5, 1776.

SIR: We request you will keep the enclosed letter until Captains *Kent* and *Henry* apply or send for it. We are, &c.

To *William Hindman, Esq.*

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 109.]

Annapolis, April 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have your favours of the 26th of *March*, and the 2d of this month, and are pleased with the assurances Messrs. *Willing & Morris* give us, that we may shortly expect the powder they agreed to supply us with. Those gentlemen should recollect that our money was advanced in confidence that their contract would long ago have been fully complied with. We shall be much obliged if you will let us know the exact number of the chests of arms that were sent us by them. As we are not in immediate want, we would not have you borrow the ton of powder you mention of the Congress; but as we fear we shall be in great want of duck for our tents, could the Congress spare us any of the light kind, and fit for making tents, we would willingly take it in exchange for part of that belonging to us, which you disposed of to them. Mr. *Duvall* has appointed Mr. *Gerrard Hopkins*, of *Baltimore* town, to act as his deputy, who will take care of whatever is sent to that place for the use of the publick.

We shall communicate to the gentlemen of the Convention, when they meet, your sentiments on the expediency of an adjournment; and shall have the affidavits made out you desire for ascertaining the time *Hudson's* ship was in possession of the tenders. She left *Patapsco River* ten or twelve days ago, and, as we have heard nothing of her since, hope she is out of the bay by this time. We are, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

P. S. *Saturday* morning, *April 6*.—We are sorry to inform you that we have this instant received intelligence that *Hudson's* ship was taken last *Wednesday* morning, by two tenders belonging to the *Otter*. We are apprehensive that we have likewise lost one of our Provincial vessels.

HENRY FISHER TO PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Lewestown, April 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Last night, at ten o'clock, I received your letter, dated *April 3*, per express, with a letter from Captain *Faulkner*, with a signal for Captain *Barry*, which I shall take great care shall be answered. We have had a guard of thirty men at the Light-House, to protect the signal. Captain *Watkins* has been sent on shore this morning in a small boat, with four other men, by whom I learn that they have got a pilot (*James Jones*;) and, from all that I can collect, as soon as their fleet arrives, they design up your river. We have this morning sent off Lieutenant *Ball* to *Dover*; and I desire that you would send down for him, and have him secured, as he is very active on board, and, being here so long, he has got more intelligence than I could wish. The ship is now coming to sail, and, from all appearances, is going out on a cruise, as she has done several times. Pray send me some powder for signal guns, at the false Cape, to

alarm your vessels standing in, as we keep up a guard there night and day, of twenty-four men, some of whom are pilots.

I am, with due respect, your humble servant,

HENRY FISHER.

To the Committee of Safety, at *Philadelphia*.

CAPTAIN BRICE (A PRISONER) TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, April 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The following is a state of my case and situation, which I beg leave to lay before you. At the giving up of *Fort Chambly*, (and some time before it,) I was in such bad health, which rendered me incapable of crossing the lake; on my disorder continuing, I applied to General *Montgomery* for leave to winter in *Canada*, which he readily complied with. I fixed on *Montreal*, being a place most likely to get advice. I remained the winter, until the 7th of last month, when all the prisoners were ordered off. At my arrival at *Albany*, I applied to General *Schuyler* for leave to go to *Philadelphia*; he told me, on my coming to *Brunswick* the Committee there would let me and every officer go to whatever place we chose. On my acquainting the Committee with what the General said, their answer was, that they had no such authority from Congress, under whom they were to act; the consequence of which is, I am here stopped until the pleasure of the Congress is known. Therefore, beg leave to assure you, it is from no other motive whatever my requesting your leave to go to *Philadelphia*, but entirely for the advice of an able physician, as my complaints still remain with me. Having had so great an account from Colonel *Zedtwitz*, of Doctor *Kuhn's* knowledge, I humbly beg leave to solicit your permission in letting me go to *Philadelphia*. If I am so happy as to obtain it, after getting the Doctor's advice and instruction, and you think it necessary to move me, I shall cheerfully submit.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

ARTHUR HILL BRICE,

*Captain of Seventh Reg't Foot, or Royal Fusileers.*

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 5, 1776.

The Soldiers are strictly enjoined to retire to their Barracks and Quarters at tattoo beating, and remain there until the reveille is beat.

Necessity obliges the General to desire the inhabitants of the city to observe the same rule, as no person will be permitted to pass any sentry after this night, without the countersign. The inhabitants, where business requires it, may know the countersign, by applying to any of the Brigade Majors.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 8, 1776.

The General informs the inhabitants, that it is become absolutely necessary that all communication between the Ministerial fleet and shore should immediately be stopped; for that purpose has given positive orders the ships should no longer be furnished with provisions. Any inhabitant or others, who shall be taken, that have been on board (after the publishing of this order) or near any of the ships, or going on board, will be considered as enemies, and treated accordingly.

All boats are to sail from *Beekman's Slip*. Captain *James Aher* is appointed Inspector, and will give permits for oystermen. It is expected, and ordered that none attempt going without a pass.

ISRAEL PUTNAM,

*Major-General in the Continental Army, and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in New-York.*

JEREMIAH CLARK TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Orange County, April 5, 1776.

MR. CHAIRMAN, SIR: By certain gentlemen that lately left *New-York*, I am informed that the four battalions to be raised for the defence of this Colony, are not yet full; and although the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange* have raised their full allotment of men, yet there seem to be numbers that are

willing to enlist in the service, if there were proper officers appointed. Lieutenant *William Roe*, of this County, (a man of a good character,) has signified his willingness to serve as Captain, if he could be favoured with a warrant for enlisting men. I do not think there is any reason to doubt of his military abilities; and if there should yet be a vacancy, I suppose he would raise a company as soon as any man within the compass of my acquaintance. Your prudence will direct.

I am, sir, in haste, your most humble servant,  
JEREMIAH CLARK.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

P. S. The bearer hereof, *David Mandeville*, Jun., he has proposed for his First Lieutenant—a young man of a good character in *Ulster* County.

MR. CHAIRMAN, SIR: The gentlemen abovementioned are men of undoubted character, by information; from, sir, your humble servant,  
ELIHU MARVIN.

RETURN OF THE FIRST REGIMENT IN SUFFOLK COUNTY,  
(NEW-YORK,) APRIL 5, 1776.

Field and Staff Officers: *William Floyd*, Colonel; *Gilbert Potter*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jeffrey Smith* and *Jesse Brush* Majors; *Phillips Rod*, Adjutant; *John Rod*, Quartermaster.

CAPTAINS' NAMES.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Clerks.	Drummers.	Fifers.	Privates.	Total.
<i>Samuel Johnson</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	102	117
<i>Ebenezer Miller</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	56	71
<i>Nathan Rose</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	98	113
<i>William Brewster</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	67	82
<i>P. Gileus Smith</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	67	82
<i>Joshua Rogers</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	101	114
<i>Epenetus Conckling</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	85	99
<i>Joel Scudder</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	51	65
<i>John Buffet</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	38	52
<i>Plot Vail</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	44	59
<i>Gilbert Carle</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	41	56
<i>Benajah Strong</i> .....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	23	38
<i>Daniel Roe's Minute Company</i> ..	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	1	61	76*
Total.....	13	26	13	52	52	13	13	13	834	1024

\* Whose time is expired, and now returned to the Militia.

Total 1030, including Field and Staff Officers.

The Minutemen, and those enlisted, and to be enlisted into the Continental service, to be taken from the above.

The Regiment is about two-thirds furnished with bayonets, and the others are getting them as fast as they can have them made. They are furnished with half a pound of powder, and two pounds of ball, per man; and a magazine in the Regiment is to furnish them with about as much more when it shall be wanted. They are pretty industrious in fixing their accoutrements, and I hope in a short time they will be tolerably well prepared.

WILLIAM FLOYD.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, of *New-York*.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Council-Chamber, April 5, 1776.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

As a considerable number of our enemy's ships continue to parade in *Boston* Harbour and the Bay, so as to obstruct all such assistance in wood, fish, and other provisions, &c., as the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* might otherwise receive by water; and which also prevents such a survey of said harbour as the Court intended, previous to their taking any determinate measures to their erecting the most effectual fortifications for its defence; it is therefore earnestly recommended to your immediate consideration, whether one thousand men might not be employed to the best advantage, grounded on the partial survey already made, by taking post at the same instant at *Long-Island*, *Pettick's Island*, and *Nantasket*; they being furnished with suitable cannon, ammunition, tents, or barracks, provisions, boats, &c.; such men (if not to be spared from the Continental Troops now

under the direction of the Court) to be raised and embodied immediately, upon the same pay with those raised for the defence of the sea-coasts, with such further encouragement as may be thought proper for every armed vessel of our enemy taken or destroyed by them.

In the name, and by order of the Council:

JAMES OTIS, *President*.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF VIRGINIA.

Williamsburgh, April 6, 1776.

MY COUNTRYMEN: Since our enemies talk of offering to us terms of accommodation, and propose, as a foundation for treaty, the good favour shown to their own officers and soldiers in *Boston* and its environs, in granting them liberty to eat potatoes and fish, I said it would be but fair to state our demands on the opposite column. Before our dissensions were carried to such a height, and our injuries multiplied to such an enormous degree, for the sake of peace, and to get as well rid as we could of their insolence, we only required them to repeal all the acts they had thought proper to add to the Constitution since the year 1763. But can any *American*, with patience, think of suffering them to commit what ravages they please; and, when they feel their power too weak to accomplish all their iniquitous projects, then to make up the difference upon their own terms? Can we condescend to accept of a peace, that, however proper it might have been a few years ago, in our present circumstances can have no colour of equity? Reflect what an enormous expense the Colonies have incurred, how many losses they have sustained by this dispute, that, in all reason, ought to be defrayed by the aggressors against the publick peace, who have committed the depredations, and occasioned the expense. I am too remote from the centre of intelligence to be able to make an exact estimate of the injuries we have suffered during this war. I shall enumerate some of the capital articles, such as have come under every man's observation; and that, when collected and arranged together, will amount to a sum which will, perhaps, surprise common newspaper readers, who have never taken the trouble of computing it. To begin with the largest sum: I think they are very justly chargeable with the loss of our trade, and of all the profits that annually accrued from it. These, if I mistake not, have been generally estimated at a round sum of four millions per annum—a loss which we in this Colony most sensibly feel, in the almost total want of cash; our staple becomes a useless lumber; all our other merchantable commodities reduced to half price; and three hundred and fifty thousand slaves rendered incapable of doing us any essential service.

Our next considerable loss is the destruction of the towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown*, and their neighbourhood, which, with the other losses of the inhabitants, we may fairly compute at one million and fifty thousand pounds. To reduce these to particulars, the burning of about one thousand houses, valued very moderately, is one hundred and fifty thousand pounds; and for the defacing of the rest, and destruction of merchandise, &c., we may reckon double that sum; and the expense of thirty thousand inhabitants driven from their habitations, to subsist as they can in the country; because it makes no difference in the publick loss whether they support themselves out of their own private fortunes, or are provided for by common charity; these, I say, we cannot rate at less, upon an average, than twenty pounds per man, annually, which makes a charge of six hundred thousand pounds; and the whole amount is one million and fifty thousand pounds, as above. But, to put off all objection, let us rate it at a million, which will be due to us at the beginning of *May* instant.

Next to this we may place the burning of *Norfolk* and some small towns in *New-England*. The damage may be estimated at four hundred thousand pounds; and other incidental charges for piracies, robberies, and sheep-stealing, (which, by-the-by, would have been reckoned felony in *England*.) at fifty thousand.

Add to these the expenses of the war, which I know no better way of estimating than from the bills of credit that have been emitted for the supporting of it; and which, in our present circumstances, must unavoidably be so much publick loss, when this money comes to be redeemed. This sum is pretty easily come at. The Congress have issued

three millions of dollars; the Convention of this Colony three hundred and fifty thousand pounds; and all the other Colonies together, at least one million and fifty thousand pounds. To bring these different estimates together into one sum:

For the loss of trade, - - - - -	£4,000,000
Destruction of <i>Boston</i> , <i>Charlestown</i> , &c., - - - - -	1,000,000
Burning <i>Norfolk</i> , &c., - - - - -	400,000
Incidental charges, by theft, &c., - - - - -	50,000
Continental bills of credit, nearly - - - - -	1,000,000
<i>Virginia</i> do., - - - - -	350,000
The other Colonies do., - - - - -	1,050,000
	<hr/>
	£7,850,000

Almost eight millions of pounds, or considerably above twenty millions of dollars, Continental currency. And in this reckoning I have not mentioned the whole estates of the proprietors of *Boston* and other towns, that will, probably, be forever lost to their right owners; nor the expenses attending the removal of the inhabitants of this and other Colonies near the sea-coasts and harbours into the remoter parts of the country; and all the other computations are made with the greatest moderation—lower by far than our real loss: so that the whole may be reckoned at twenty-four millions of dollars, the best common standard of reckoning for the whole Continent. What a prodigious sum for the United States of *America* to give up for the sake of a peace, that, very probably, itself would be one of the greatest misfortunes! For the Government of *Britain*, ashamed to be baffled in their favourite project, would, doubtless, employ all the wicked arts of policy, of bribery, corruption, places, and pensions, in which they are well skilled—unhappy arts that have already brought that nation to the brink of ruin—that they might steal from us, too, what they were unable to wrest by open violence. Who, with the spirit of a man, that is able to level a gun, will submit to such a mortifying degradation, and to a loss of a very large proportion of all the property in the country?

The state of the controversy is very different now from what it was a few years ago, before we had taken arms in our own defence, and before the whole course of Government was removed out of its usual channel. And measures that might have been wise and prudent then, would now carry on their face the most glaring impropriety. I trust in *God*, that the guardians of the publick interests of the Continent will have wisdom and integrity enough not to betray us. But, relying on their virtue as much as it deserves, it will be a useful expedient to keep alive the flame of liberty and publick spirit among the people at large, never to neglect the exercise of the undoubted prerogative of freemen to instruct their Representatives; and every wise and honest man among them will take a pleasure in hearing the opinion and advice of his countrymen. It will give them confidence and alacrity in planning wise and decisive measures, when they know they are also the voice of the publick, and when they hear you engaging to support them, in the execution of them, with your lives and fortunes. Instruct your Representatives, therefore, to agree to no peace, or even truce, with *Great Britain*, without an entire reimbursement of all losses, and the absolute and unconditional repeal of all the acts of the *British* Parliament injurious to the legislation or commerce of *America*, as well before as since the year 1763; or, if their poverty or their pride will not comply with the first of these conditions, till they acknowledge us to be a free and independent Republick. Many to whom this language is new, may, at first, be startled at the name of an independent Republick, and be ready to represent to themselves that the expenses of maintaining a long and important war will exceed the disadvantages of submitting to some partial and mutilated accommodation. But let these persons point out to you any other alternative than independence or submission. For it is impossible for us to make any other concessions without yielding to the whole of their demands. We have not armed from one end of the Continent to the other, and expended so many millions, merely to drown a chest of tea, but to oppose the dangerous authority the *English* House of Representatives has usurped, pretending a right to bind us in all cases whatever; which, if we admit, either in whole or in part, immediately draws after it an endless train of miseries. Shall we, then, after reluctantly so effectually against this yoke of oppression, be con-

tented now, almost in the midst of our success, to receive it entire on our necks, rather than separate from a country to which we have so long been supposed to be in a state of subjection, when we ought only to have been considered in a state of alliance? For this must be the necessary effect of an accommodation on any other principles than those I have laid down. Their proposition is so invidious that every single part involves in it every other. And if we think to swallow any of them with safety, we shall only be undeceived by being fairly and effectually choked by the whole group. Where is the wisdom of this squeamishness about independence pretended by the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, or by any other Assembly or Convention on the Continent? There appears to be moderation in it, indeed; but it is the moderation of a *Spaniel* dog, that grows more tame in proportion to the ill usage he receives. And for the expenses we are likely to incur by the war, what proportion will they bear to the enormous sums that will be necessary to gratify half a million of starving villains, who cannot be provided with pensions enough in *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, to glut their voracity? What proportion will they bear to the enormous sums that will be expended to enable some of the meanest wretches of the species among ourselves, to roll in state over all the cultivated lands in the country; to impose new quit-rents; to ransack land offices; to annul patents and grants of lands; to apply immense quantities to their own use; and to exact exorbitant fees for permitting the proper owners to enjoy the rest? What if we should be obliged to encumber ourselves with double the load of our present expenses? A few years of free and universal trade would enable us to redeem it all; as well as the losses we have sustained, or are likely to sustain by their piracies, robberies, thefts, plunders, assassinations, or murders.

The proof of this shall be the subject of another paper.

A PLANTER.

#### GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 18, 1776, and referred to Mr. Réed, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Braxton.]

Williamsburgh, April 6, 1776.

SIR: As the curtain is now, in a great measure, drawn up, by the happy interception of the letters from the Secretary of State to Governour *Eden*, which will be transmitted to the Congress by the Committee of Safety from this place, you will perceive, sir, that we, of all Provinces, should not be deficient in the important article of powder. I submit it, therefore, to your prudence, whether it will not be necessary immediately to add a few tons to our present stock. I find myself a good deal distressed for artillerymen and officers. I apprehend General *Washington* could now, without inconvenience, spare us a company from the main Army. The Regiments are here complete in numbers, the men fine, and the officers, by all I can learn, good, but horribly deficient in arms, shoes, and blankets. The deficiency of arms, I know, is general, therefore I shall not venture to apply for them; but if blankets could possibly be procured, a multitude of lives would be saved, for the night dews in this country are very destructive. The want of gun-carriages prevents my taking a certain post, the possession of which would be, in my opinion, worth a victory, in all its forms. I have ordered the artificers to work night and day, and hope it may not be too late. When I have given the instructions, and taken the measures which I think necessary for the security of this place and *York*, which, most probably, will be the enemy's object, I shall set out for *North-Carolina*, which, we have reason to think, will be the first scene of their diabolical operations. You will excuse, sir, the blots and shortness of this letter, as the express waits.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To His Excellency *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

#### GENERAL LEE TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE.

Williamsburgh, April 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I know not to whom I can address this most important note with so much propriety and assurance of success, as to yourself. The crisis will not admit of ceremony and procrastination. I shall, therefore, irregularly address



you in the language, and with the spirit, of one bold, determined, free citizen to another, and conjure you, as you value the liberties and rights of the community of which you are a member, not to lose a moment, and, in my name, (if my name is of consequence enough,) to direct the commanding officer of your troops at *Annapolis* immediately to seize the person of Governour *Eden*. The sin and blame be on my head. I will answer for all to the Congress. The justice and necessity of the measure will be best explained by the packet transmitted to you by the Committee of Safety from this place.

God Almighty give us wisdom and vigour in this hour of trial.

Adieu, dear sir. Yours, most sincerely,

CHARLES LEE.

To *Samuel Purviance*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee, *Baltimore*.

GENERAL LEWIS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 18, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, April 6, 1776.

SIR: I with pleasure embrace this first opportunity that has offered, of returning the honourable Continental Congress my unfeigned thanks for the mark of distinction they have conferred on me, in promoting me to so honourable, a rank in their service. Gratitude to them, and the real regard I have for the interest of my country, are motives sufficient to occasion the utmost exertion of my poor abilities, which I promise most heartily and faithfully, and wish it may be in my power to demonstrate, by actions becoming my rank, the real sentiments of my heart.

Men sufficient for the completion of the regiments are inlisted; but as several companies have not reached their places of destination, all the commissions are not given out; therefore I cannot at present give the officers' names, rank, and dates of commissions; but it shall be done as soon as in my power.

I am, honourable sir, your most devoted, most obedient, and very humble servant,

ANDREW LEWIS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

E. JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for *Calvert* County, at the Court-House, in *Prince Fredericktown*, on *Saturday*, the 6th of *April*, 1776, were present eight Members, Mr. *Benjamin Mackall* in the chair.

Resolved, That the Council of Safety be informed that this Committee have received a barrel of Gunpowder, said to contain ninety-three and three-quarter pounds, and a parcel of Lead Shot, said to weigh four hundred ninety-five and a half pounds, from the Committee of *Charles* County; that they have collected from individuals Powder and Lead and Flints, to the amount of thirteen Pounds currency, which they distributed amongst the Militia of this County at the different alarms.

Signed by order:

E. JOHNSON, Clerk.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

ROBERT MORRIS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, April 6, 1776.

Our friend *Lee* has taken possession of the Palace at *Williamsburgh*, which I fancy will not be much approved by the gentlemen of that country. However, he will soon be called to *North-Carolina*, if it be true that *Clinton* has effected a landing with fifteen hundred men at *Wilmington*, and thrown up intrenchments there. In short, the scene thickens, and if our enemies can find men, we may expect to be attacked in all quarters; but to do this, they must certainly have recourse to foreigners, as they cannot meet success in the recruiting service in any of the three Kingdoms.

Where the plague are these Commissioners? If they are to come, what is it that detains them? It is time we should be on a certainty, and know positively whether the liberties of *America* can be established and secured by reconciliation, or whether we must totally renounce connection with *Great*

*Britain*, and fight our way to a total independence. Whilst we continue thus firmly united among ourselves, there is no doubt but either of these points may be carried; but it seems to me we shall quarrel about which of these roads is best to pursue, unless the Commissioners appear soon, and lead us into the first path. Therefore, I wish them to come, dreading nothing so much as even an appearance of division amongst ourselves.

I am, &c.,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To General *Gates*.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Philadelphia, April 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have just time to send you by the post a newspaper, in which is inserted the resolves of Congress for opening of *American* Ports to all nations except such as are subject to the King of *Great Britain*. It is a matter of importance that these resolves should be published in all the papers, and sent to every part of *Europe* and the *West-Indies* not inimical to the Colonies. I doubt not the Committee of Correspondence, or other suitable persons, will be desired by the honourable Court to attend to such a measure, and cause the same to be republished in the foreign papers.

I hope by the next post to send some blank commissions and instructions for letters of marque, and the resolves of Congress relative thereto, they being now in the press.

I remain, sir, respectfully, your very humble servant,

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq., or, in his absence, *William Cooper*, Esq., Speaker of the honourable House of Representatives, *Massachusetts-Bay*.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF PHILADELPHIA.

If ever there was or can be a question that ought to engage the serious attention of every man whose lot is cast in this *American* land, it is that now agitated, viz: In what shape we shall hereafter exist as a people? Whether we shall preserve the ancient forms of Government, which have led us to our present rank and importance in the world, or explore the dark and untrodden way of Independence and Republicanism? I hope it will not be objected to me, that I have connected the idea of separation from *Great Britain* with that of erecting a Republick in *America*. I have in this followed the author of *Common Sense*; and, indeed, it can hardly be supposed, nor has it been suggested, that, when we set up for ourselves, we shall immediately again set up for a Kingly Government. Our new legislators would persuade us, that when these Colonies have shaken off the *British* yoke, they will calmly sit down with one heart and one voice, to form themselves into a great Republick. They will be governed by the pure dictates of wisdom, and influenced by a love of liberty in framing their new constitution. Passion and prejudice will have no hand in it. Ancient grudges and dislikes, clashing interests and religious discords, will be done away. Thus assembled, and thus disposed, who can doubt but that they will rear up a fabrick upon the ruins of the *English* form of Government, that shall be the admiration of the world, and endure forever? That men do, or at least affect to believe, this will be the case, I have no more doubt than that it certainly would not happen accordingly.

However, as it is but common prudence to consider an evil before we devise a remedy, let us take a view of the state of these Colonies before the existence of our present disputes; and I will venture to affirm that political liberty never existed in greater perfection than here. Some abuses, indeed, we had reason to be uneasy under; but they were rather complained of as establishing precedents for future violations, than as severely felt. The consequence, then, is plain, that redress of these grievances, and security from future ones, should be the objects of this contest. But whence (it will be asked) shall we procure this security? I answer, from solemn compact, mutual interest, and length of time. *Great Britain*, by this dispute, will be taught that her true interest lies in a friendly connection with us; and a few years hence a similar attempt will be impracticable, from our increase of numbers and strength.

But the most singular argument urged to reconcile us to

this intended political change, is drawn from the imperfection of the *English* Constitution—a Constitution, till this Utopian started up, the admiration of the world, and which, at this moment, gives birth to the only freemen in the habitable globe! It would be improper in this place to enter fully into a vindication of the mixed form of the *English* Constitution, and it is extraordinary, that one who has lived under it, should want any other guide than his own consciousness.

It is the language of our lawyers, that a King of *England* is absolute in doing good, but he has no power to do wrong. This we have seen exemplified in the history of the *Stuarts*, who, with as much inclination to be despotick as any Princes on earth, found the attempt fatal to their family. The same may be said of the other parts of the Constitution; and unless there is a conspiracy of the whole to subvert its liberty, it must ever remain unshaken. Why may not such a conspiracy take place in a Republick, as well as in a mixed Monarchy? The temptation is equally great, and the road to it much easier, where one body is to be brought into it, than three.

I would refer the reader to Judge *Blackstone's* Commentaries, and shall only cite from him the following observations: "Here, then, is lodged the sovereignty of the *British* Constitution, and lodged as beneficially as it is possible for society. For, in no other shape could we be as certain of finding the three great qualities of Government so happily united. If the supreme power were lodged in any one of the three branches, separately, we must be exposed to the inconveniences of either absolute Monarchy, Aristocracy, or Democracy, and so want two of the three principal ingredients of good policy—either virtue, wisdom, or power. But the constitutional Government of this Island is so admirably tempered and compounded, that nothing can endanger or hurt it, but destroying the equilibrium of power between one branch of the Legislature and the rest. Herein consists the true excellence of the *English* Constitution, that all the parts of it form a mutual check upon each other. In all tyrannical Governments, the supreme magistracy, or the right of making and enforcing laws, is vested in one and the same person; and wherever these two powers are united, there can be no public liberty. In *England*, this supreme power is divided into two branches; the one legislative, to wit: the Parliament; the other executive, consisting of the King alone. The total union of them would be productive of tyranny."

When the reader has perused the book from whence these extracts are taken, he must decide for himself which of the two is of most authority, Judge *Blackstone* or the author of *Common Sense*.

What is there, either in theory or experience, that can make us in love with a Commonwealth? It will be said, that the good of the people being the object of Government, the whole administration of it should be in their hands. But this does not follow; for if the happiness of the people is better promoted by leaving but part in their hands, that mode is most eligible. For instance, if the laws which the people make will be better observed by entrusting the execution of them to a Magistrate, or Magistrates, who are not immediately accountable to, and do not stand in awe of the populace, certainly it is the wisest method. That this is the case, both reason and fact verify. Where popular opinions and prejudices interfere in the execution of laws, what Magistrate, depending on the breath of the people, would dare to adhere to the letter of the law, and render himself obnoxious to the prevailing party, and consequently part with his office? This observation is equally true in fact. The worst Judges I have ever seen, are those who have some favour to ask of the people. An elective Judge is a monster in Government. Without some other constitutional aid, in vain would the feeble hand of justice endeavour to support the balance against a powerful prevailing faction. I should much doubt if justice is better administered in *Rhode-Island* than some of the monarchical Colonies, or even in *Westminster-Hall*.

I believe history, ancient or modern, will make few Republicans. He that reads the state of the *Grecian* or *Roman* Republicks, what doth he read, but scenes of domestic violence and rapine, war and bloodshed? Even the virtue of individuals could not preserve them from crumbling to pieces. Like ill-constructed machines set in motion, they

perished by their own instability and unwieldiness. Nor will the Commonwealths of our own times excite our envy. I know of but two pure Democracies in the world, viz: *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*. Those of *Holland*, *Switzerland*, and *Italy*, are Aristocracies—of all tyrannies the least supportable. If any one chooses to turn panygerist, and declaim in praise of the two I have mentioned, I have no objection.

But it must be acknowledged that the *English* Constitution, like all other human systems, is in some parts imperfect, and open to corruption. The unequal representation by means of Boroughs, and the length of Parliaments, have made them less amenable to the people, and introduced a system of venality. How long this poison will operate before the vitals are affected, or whether the soundness of the Constitution will one day throw it off, time must discover. In this happy land of *Pennsylvania*, we have imitated its excellencies without its defects. Our mode of representation being uniform and equal, the election from year to year, and the right of our Assemblies to sit on their own adjournments, not subject to dissolution or prorogation, have corrected the errors of the *British* Government, and made this the most perfect and happiest in the known world. But should we, in an evil hour, barter it for an uncertainty, or a certainty of having a much worse, it would be madness in the extreme. I flatter myself the good people of this Province will seriously take the consideration of this great question to heart; that they will not shrink back from the contest, but, with their usual good sense, assert their attachment to their ancient happy Constitution.

When attempts are made to plunge us into anarchy, and rob us of that equal liberty under which this Province has so signally flourished; when the Constitution itself is threatened with dissolution, because its guardians have instructed our Delegates to preserve it sacred, it is criminal to be silent. But the spirit of the friends to the Constitution was up, and, by a timely zeal in supporting our Assembly, the attempt was crushed in its shell.

As the complexion of this Province will be known by our conduct, on the 1st day of *May*, I hope we shall exercise that great constitutional right as becomes freemen attached inviolably to their form of Government. The weight we have in the *American* scale makes it an object of the last importance, too great to be sported away in compliance with the designs or dreams of modern lawgivers.

CIVIS.

GENERAL HEATH TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

City of New-York, April 6, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Murray* applies to me for an approbation of your permit to go on board the ship *Dutchess of Gordon*. As by the permit it appears that he is restricted only relative to the fortifications, I cannot, consistent with my duty, consent to his going on board, unless under greater restrictions.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

JACOB CONCKLIN TO COLONEL HASBROUCK.

April 6, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I send you the proceedings of a choice in my company, performed this day, under the inspection of Captain *Drake*, of the *New-Marlborough* Precinct, and myself, by which you will see that *John Crowell*, by a plurality of voices, is chosen Ensign. And I have good reasons to believe him to be a true friend to the *American* cause, and I think will exert himself on all occasions to defend his bleeding country. I should be glad his commission could be sent for him immediately.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JACOB CONCKLIN.

To Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrouck*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT MONTREAL, DATED APRIL 6, 1776.

By a gentleman from *Quebeck*, we have the following advices, which may be depended on: A number of *Can-*

dians, at the instigation of their Priests, arose with a design to cut off our guards at *Point-Levi*. A party under Major *Dubois* attacked their advance guard, killed seven, wounded five, and took about fifty prisoners, twenty-five of which arrived here last evening. General *Wooster* arrived before *Quebeck* on *Monday* last. The battery opened at *Point-Levi* on *Tuesday* morning. One of Captain *Lamb's* Company made his escape from *Quebeck*, and informs that the soldiers and prisoners are at an allowance of three ounces of pork per day. A *Canadian*, who brought letters from *Carleton* to the inhabitants, is made prisoner, and says (which he offers to swear to) that the inhabitants, as well as soldiers, have risen in a body and gone to *Carleton*, and that he promised, if he did not get assistance in fourteen days, to deliver up the town.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY BEFORE QUEBECK, DATED APRIL 6, 1776.

Our battery at *Point-Levi* has been firing some days. The mortar-battery on the heights is not quite finished; and in two days we will have another battery at the *Little-River*. We have had a prodigious quantity of snow this winter; the tops of fences just begin to appear, and I suppose that in a few days the roads will be impassable. I shall continue as long as there is a probability of the town's being taken. We are discouraged at General *Lee's* not coming; however, General *Wooster* has arrived. We ought to have at least ten thousand men more here, in case of troops arriving; otherwise, the *Canadians* who have assisted us will be ruined. This Province is the key of *America*.

INFORMATION FROM CANADA.

*Pelton* left *Quebeck* 6th of *April*.

A *Canadian* went into *Quebeck* about the 17th of *March*, at night; he came out with packets, supposed commissions and despatches, to *Senior*, at *Island Crane*, to raise a party out of the guard at *Point-Levi*.

That sixty or seventy people joined their people; that seven were killed and four wounded; that thirty-eight prisoners were taken—twenty-five brought to *Montreal*; that the river was not frozen over at *Quebeck*; that the *Canadians* are very hearty in our cause; that he does not know that they understand the controversy.

That they put their prisoners to a short allowance; that *McLean* wrote to *Campbell* that they had the same allowance as garrison.

One of *Lamb's* men escaped—went into the bomb-proof in the yard—jumped over the wall, and over the city wall—said he had heard of *Lamb*, that he had lost left eye. Twenty-five hundred troops there—snow deep when he came away.

Met, 16th or 17th *April*, fourteen or fifteen boats—got to *St. John's* the large cannon (four thirty-twos, one twenty-four, and one eighteen) taken at *Ticonderoga*—General *Thomas* between *Crown-Point* and *Ticonderoga*—men healthy—one man a little wounded.

Fresh provisions and wood plenty—battery at *Point-Levi* began to play 3d *April* (four twelve-pounders—now three)—a bomb-battery on the *Heights of Abraham*—snow seven feet deep—*Mott* well—*Hughes* with him—*Gano* well—*Goforth* very fat at *Three-Rivers*—not more than a company there—*Goforth* more respected and feared than any man there—heard at camp troops left *Boston* 3d *April*.

*Canadians* expect vessels from 4th to 10th *May*, this year 20th *May*; that General *Schuyler* is driving with great spirit—has seen nothing like him.

*Nicholson* at *Quebeck* when he came away—*Arnold* recruiting—*Clinton* well. Must storm—three hundred and fifty men all—blockade. *Carleton* twelve or fourteen hundred.

Met General *Thomas*, 21st *April*, between *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*. General *Wooster* paid his men in hard money at *Montreal*—*Yorkers* paid in paper, before *Quebeck*—that they are very cautious how any recommendations are given to *New-York* officers—*Nicholson* appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the *Canada* Regiment.

To *William Paulling*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

ISRAEL DICKINSON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Stockbridge, April 6, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: On the 4th instant *Timothy Edwards*, Esq., one of this Committee, received a letter from two respectable gentlemen in *Lanesborough*, members of their late Committee, requesting his advice upon important political matters, a copy of which we have obtained of him, and herewith send. Upon the recommendation of the Selectmen and Committee of this town, he went there yesterday to give his advice. On his return, about four o'clock, P. M., in the road against the house of Colonel *Jonathan Smith*, five men attempted to stop him by violence—one laying hold of his coat, another his horse's bridle. He disengaged himself from the latter by striking him a heavy blow with a loaded whip; from the other, by the speed of his horse. About forty rods forward, three others appeared also in the road, with an apparent design to stop him. One placed himself on one side with a club; another of them on the other side, who made a violent stroke at Mr. *Edwards* with a hoe, which fell upon his horse's withers, at the same time calling *Tory*. Of enormities of this kind we think it our duty to give you the earliest notice.

We are your Honour's most respectful, obedient, humble servants,

SAMUEL BROWN, JUN.,  
ASA BEMENT,  
ERASTUS SARGEANT,

Committee of the Town of Stockbridge.

To the Honourable President of the Council of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Tenth Article in the Warrant for the *March* Meeting in *Pittsfield* is, "To see if the Town will direct their Committee what method to take to recover pay for handling persons that appeared to be inimical to their country, for time back and future."

On which Article the Town voted as follows, viz:

*Voted*, That this Town determine that said Committee, consisting, or having consisted, of who they may, are one and the same, from their first appointment to this day; and that all their transactions and determinations ought to be considered as the actions and proceedings of an adjourned court. Consequently, all matters and things that have not been finally determined, still have a day with them; and that, if there be any matters or things before them that are not yet determined upon, they (the Committee as it now stands) have as full power and authority to act upon as ever they had; and if any persons have, upon trial, appeared inimical to their country, or hereafter, on trial, may appear so, they are hereby empowered, so far as our united influence can support them, to tax such persons for their time therein expended on trial, and all other necessary charges; and, on refusal, to be committed to the common Jail, or otherwise confined, till paid; and in all other respects to deal with them, as to punishment, according to the directions of the Continental Congress, Provincial Congress, or General Assembly.

*Voted*, That if the said Committee shall apprehend any person or persons, and convene before them, whom they suspect to be inimical to their country, or to be guilty of any other misdemeanors, and, upon trial, are found innocent, in that case the said Committee have no pay for their time lost.

*Voted*, That if any complaint shall be brought before the said Committee by any person or persons, and if any complaint so brought be supported, then the offender be ordered by said Committee to pay all costs; and if the offender shall refuse to comply in paying the cost, then the offender shall be ordered to confinement in the common Jail, or elsewhere, until he comply and pay the costs, together with the commitment and charges thereof; and in case any complainant shall not support his complaint, said complainant shall be holden to pay the costs; and, upon his refusal, shall be committed as above-mentioned.

The foregoing is a true copy of the Tenth Article in the Warrant for the *March* Meeting in the Town of *Pittsfield*, for the year 1776, and of the Proceedings and Votes of the Town upon said Article.

Attest: ISRAEL DICKINSON, Town Clerk.

March 28, 1776.

Whereas a majority of the gentlemen belonging to the Committee of Correspondence of this County, at their Convention, holden at *Stockbridge*, on the 14th and 15th days of *December*, current, did vote and resolve that they would come into some method whereby the inhabitants of this County shall recommend and nominate to the Council suitable persons to be appointed Judges of the Inferior Court in this County:

2d. That they would not recommend it to the inhabitants of said County to support the Government formed and established within this Colony, agreeable to the recommendation of the Continental Congress, and to assist and support the several Executive Officers in the execution of their offices:

3d. That this Convention recommend it to the Freeholders, and other inhabitants qualified, of the several Towns within this County, that they meet in their respective Towns, Districts, and Plantations, some time before the 1st day of *January* next; in which meeting they bring in to the Moderator thereof their votes, or ballots, for four persons who, in their esteem, should be commissioned to sustain the offices of Judges of the Pleas for the County; which ballots, or votes, so brought in, shall, in the presence of the Selectmen and Clerk of each respective Town, be enclosed and sealed and subscribed to a Committee appointed by the several Towns and Districts and Plantations in the County, to sort and count the same; which Committee shall meet on the 2d *Tuesday* of *January* next, at the house of *Samuel Goodrich*, Innholder, in *Lenox*, and then and there shall sort, count, and discover the persons thus nominated by the people; which persons thus chosen by the greatest number of votes shall be, by said Committee, represented to the honourable Council Board, praying that the same may be commissioned to exercise the office of Judges of the County: provided that, if it should so happen that a greater number than four persons should have an equal number of votes, then, and in that case, it is submitted to the honourable Council, that they exercise their pleasure in appointing, out of said number nominated, which four shall officiate:

4th. *Voted*, That this body do not approve of any civil officer not nominated by the Representatives of the County.

Which Votes and Resolutions we, the subscribers, (being likewise of the Committee of Correspondence,) dissented from and disapproved of—*First*, Because we imagine that they are directly opposed to the present civil Constitution of this Colony, which has been taken up by the people in consequence of, and agreeable to, the advice of the Continental Congress; *Secondly*, They tend to dissolve all Government, and introduce dissension, anarchy, and confusion, among the people; for when we deviate from the established rules, we are lost in the boundless field of uncertainty and disorder. Therefore, that we may evidence to the people of the several Towns from whence we came, and to all other good people, our great desire for order and good government, our firm adherence to the Resolves of the Continental Congress and the present Constitution of this Colony, agreeable to said Resolves, and an abhorrence of all anarchy and disorder, we hereby manifest our disapprobation of the Votes and Resolves of said Committee of Correspondence aforesaid.

*Stockbridge*, December 15, 1775.

JOHN ASHLEY,	}	<i>Committee of Sheffield.</i>
THEODORE SEDGWICK,		
MARK HOPKINS,	}	<i>Committee of Great Barrington.</i>
BENEDICT DEAREY,		
WILLIAM BROWN,	}	<i>Committee of Alford.</i>
JOHN HURLEAT,		
ELEAZER BARRITT,	}	<i>Committee of Tyringham.</i>
GILES JACKSON,		
BENJAMIN WARREN,	}	<i>Committee of New-Marlborough.</i>
JABEZ WARD,		
ELIJAH BROWN,	}	<i>Committee of Richmond.</i>
JOSEPH RAYMOND,		
SAMUEL BROWN, JUN.,	}	<i>Committee of Stockbridge.</i>
JAH. WOODBRIDGE,		
ERASTUS SERGEANT,	}	<i>Committee of West-Stockbridge.</i>
ELISHA HOOPER,		

At a legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Stockbridge*, held on the 22d day of *December*, A. D. 1775, *Voted*, That this Town do hold the Votes and Resolves

of the Convention of the Committees of Correspondence for the County of *Berkshire*, held at *Stockbridge*, on the 14th and 15th days of *December* last, in abhorrence and detestation.

2dly. *Voted*, That the Town do fully concur with the Protest of the several Committees of Correspondence against the Votes and Resolves of said Convention.

Attest: JAH. WOODBRIDGE, *Town Clerk.*

*Richmond*, December 21, 1775.

The Inhabitants of the Town of *Richmond*, at a regular meeting, did unanimously concur with their Committee in protesting against the Vote of the Committees of Correspondence, at their Convention in *Stockbridge*, on the 14th and 15th days of *December*, current.

Attest: JOHN MASON, *Town Clerk.*

*Lanesborough*, April 3, 1776.

SIR: Permit us to crave your attention, and, if worthy, your advice and assistance, in our present disturbed circumstances in this town, which, briefly as possible, we mean herein to relate; which if we may not lay before you in your judicial capacity, we pray and hope you will attend to as a friend to justice, regularity, and our Continental cause. We have, with the first exertions, manifested a disposition and readiness to adopt all probable measures to assist and support the just cause of *America*; which our opponents cannot deny, as we were not behind them in any approved measure, as covenanting and adhering to the Continental Congress, the Congress and Council, and House of Representatives of this Colony, and did, and will still, give obedience to the same; which we hope will be manifested on proper occasions. But as some individuals, (we suppose very few,) from sinister designs of self-interest and preferment, though neither qualified nor worthy, have opposed the honourable Continental Congress, and the honourable Council and House of Representatives of this Province, and obtained a considerable number of adherents to join in obstructing the Courts of Justice, and the officers thereof, in the execution of their office; such adherents being, generally, misled zealots, or such as were not of an honest disposition with respect to paying their just debts; which proceedings, we apprehend, may be of baneful consequences to our country's cause; and as the northern part of this County, and this town in particular, are liable to be suspected of being chargeable with such disorderly, illegal, and unjustifiable proceedings, which, we fear, may infect not only this County, but this Province and Continent, by opening a door for anarchy, and every disorder consequent thereto; and as we have, on every opportunity, as far as we perceived any expediency, testified our disapprobation of such gross irregularities, we are yet steadily disposed to continue so to do, and, if possible, to exculpate ourselves, and we presume, the large majority of this town might also be exculpated, as also, to the best of our intelligence, the greatest part of the northern part of this County, especially all persons of understanding, interest, and honesty, and such as have proved themselves steady friends to the just cause of *America*. And, presuming that our local circumstances have afforded us opportunity to observe the general progress and present state of our disorders, and that it might be of public utility to give proper information, and, if possible, to exculpate ourselves, and others who are innocent, we take this opportunity to inform you of such particulars as we can sufficiently prove. Many particulars that might be proper to insert, we must omit for brevity, unless upon some future occasion it might be, by you or others, advised or counted necessary. If you think these hints may be serviceable, we stand ready to manifest them in a publick manner; and, first, it may be proper to observe, that Ensign (now Colonel) *Jonathan Smith*, being delegated by us to Congress, and to the House of Representatives, was pretty generally received by us as a warm friend to liberty; but immediately upon the nomination of Judges, Justices, &c., for this County, he frequently and warmly declaimed and harangued against said nomination and appointment, declaring that the persons so nominated were enemies to their country, and had obtained their nominations clandestinely; that they were very obnoxious to this County, as being of arbitrary principles friends to the late Government, and extortive in their prac-

tices and in their offices, and that they were not to be tolerated to officiate; which conduct of said Mr. *Smith* was not only observed, but approved by many who were conversant with him. Mr. *Smith*, finding that our Committee of Correspondence were generally, though not entirely, approvers of this conduct, he procured meeting after meeting of said Committee, called Conventions of the Committees of the northern towns of the County, at *Lenox*, *Pittsfield*, and elsewhere, wherein his conduct and adherents occasioned considerable disturbance. But it was generally supposed he acted disinterestedly, only aiming at the interest of the country and County; till, upon trial of making a nomination for Judges amongst ourselves, we found Mr. *Smith* could find weighty objections against any we could nominate. Then we began to perceive the cause of his exertions was for his own advancement to a seat that very lately there would not, perhaps, have been ten persons in the County would have counted him either qualified for or worthy of. Notwithstanding, there are a few who adhere to him; amongst whom we fear there are few of ability or integrity. On the 23d of *February* last, in the evening, there were assembled, we suppose, upwards of thirty persons at our Town-House, generally at his motion, when he, in a harangue of a considerable length, declaimed against the appointment of the Judges, &c., and insisted that they would not be allowed to officiate; though that he (Mr. *Smith*) would not be instrumental in breaking up the Courts; but declared that he had rather submit to Lord *North* than consent to have them officiate. The consequence may be observed on this Convention at *Pittsfield*, and their resolves. Our town was so far alarmed at the irregularity of said Convention, that several resolved, previous to our meeting, to make a choice of new officers, at least to change *Smith* and his adherents. But Mr. *Smith* and others hearing thereof, they entered the meeting in a passionate and tumultuous manner, accusing all who durst oppose them of being Tories, which alarmed a great many. Notwithstanding his opposers had their choice of a Moderator by proxy, yet he and his friends would allow of no business being done till they agreed to nominate each party by turns. The law was, by them, disclaimed. Orders from the Assembly for choosing a Committee by proxy must not be performed, they fearing their numbers; and now those who were known to be opposed to *Smith*, &c., are characterized by him, &c., as the worst of Tories.

Dear sir, your advice is humbly requested by us in this situation; and if the foregoing information may be of service, we are able to prove it. But if there is anything further we can, in justice, do, we are ready to do it; but if we must be passive with our superiors, we would be glad of a word of direction to, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

MILES POWELL,  
FRANCIS GILTEAU.

To *Timothy Edwards*, Esq., *Stockbridge*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LONDON, DATED APRIL 7, 1776.

Lord *Howe* has at length agreed to command the fleet, and will sail in about ten days in the *Eagle*, line-of-battle-ship, of sixty-four guns. The whole of the armament that he brings, however formidable in appearance, will be very inadequate to the business, if the Provincials act with their usual spirit and prudence; that is, if they occupy good posts, intrench well, avoid a general action but upon great and sure advantage, harass the march, and intercept the convoys. All this their superior knowledge of the country will enable them to do, so as to distress, if not destroy, the invading Army.

The Regulars trust to their artillery, of which more has been shipped off, three times over, than ever went out of this Kingdom before. All this will embarrass their motions, and may retard all their movements, by proper precaution on the part of the Provincials.

As the Landgrave of *Hesse* is a notoriously dishonest man, it is probable the troops he furnishes will be the worst he has. The *British* troops are mostly new raised, and therefore, in discipline, will be inferior to the *Americans*. It is conceived, too, that if proper offers are made to the *German*s, they will desert in great numbers.

Not one of the ships-of-war has more than a third seamen—the rest are landmen; therefore, if the Provincial vessels attack any of them, it will not be surprising if they succeed. Such is the terror entertained of the service at land, that the officers of the Guards, now going, are clothed like the common men, that they may be in less danger; and it is supposed the whole Army will follow their example. Their apprehensions went so far as to make them talk of wearing breastplates.

The Provincials, with proper attention, may be greatly superior in cavalry, as there are but three *British* regiments, (and those light,) and one *German*. The *Americans*, both men and horse, being accustomed to ride through the woods, will have an infinite advantage in forced marches, beating up quarters, and cutting off convoys.

There are a thousand wagons and three thousand draft-horses sent for the artillery and baggage, which will cost them near two hundred thousand pounds, and may soon be destroyed by proper attention. The expense of this armament you may well conceive will be enormous. Six millions are already voted, and it is computed that full six more will be required. The extraordinaries only, of last year, exceeded eight hundred thousand pounds. If they do not succeed this campaign, which they will not be able to commence till *July*, all men agree that this country cannot support it longer, either in men or money.

Every nerve is now stretched, and every resource exhausted. Lord *George Germaine* therefore gives it out as encouragement, that the *Americans* will lay down their arms without a struggle; and that he has received the most humble offers from the Congress; but as he will not treat, he sends this armament to ensure an unconditional submission, of which he is secure. You may depend upon this language coming immediately from his lips.

The Corporation of *London* have voted the freedom of the city, in a gold box, to Dr. *Price*, for a pamphlet in defence of *America*; and petitioned the Throne for a declaration of the definitive terms intended to be granted to the Colonies. The King's answer was, that when they laid down their arms and submitted, he should think of mercy. The Colonies will therefore see that their safety depends solely on their firmness, unanimity, and prudence. It is no longer in their option to be independent or connected with this country, as before. Independency or slavery is the only alternative.

The whole of this armament may be expected by the latter end of *July*, as they will sail in *May*. Such is the rage against *America*, that the Administration are determined, at every hazard, to make one desperate push. The whole empire is put into the hazard, with the sole hope of enslaving a part; which the firmness and unanimity of the Colonies will, under *God*, infallibly disappoint.

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF MARYLAND.

Williamsburgh, April 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We could not suffer a moment to pass before we transmitted the enclosed copies of intercepted letters addressed by the Secretary of State to the Governour of your Province, which open the schemes of Administration to us in a more explicit manner than any intelligence that we have heretofore been able to procure. We have also enclosed copies of the same letters to the Chairman of the Committee of Safety at *Baltimore*, and have desired him to transmit copies of them to the Congress, with all possible despatch.

I am, for and by order of the Committee, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOHN PAGE, Vice-President.

To the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN BARRY TO MARINE COMMITTEE.

In sight of the Capes of Virginia, April 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the pleasure to acquaint you that, at one o'clock, P. M., this day, I fell in with the sloop *Edward*, belonging to the *Liverpool* frigate. She engaged us near two glasses. They killed two of our men, and wounded two more. We shattered her in a terrible manner, as you will see. We killed and wounded several of her crew. I shall give you a particular account of the powder and



arms taken out of her, as well as my proceedings in general.\*

I have the happiness to acquaint you that all our people behaved with much courage.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOHN BARRY.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., or any of the Marine Committee.

GENERAL PUTNAM TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 7, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here on *Wednesday* evening last, having his Excellency General *Washington's* orders to take the command of the forces in this city, and to erect such works as I should think necessary for its defence; in which we are now busily employed. After getting the works in such forwardness as will be prudent to leave, I propose immediately to take possession of *Governour's Island*, which I think a very important post. Should the enemy arrive here, and get post there, it will not be possible to save the city, nor could we dislodge them without great loss.

The enclosed letter I received by express from *Fort Constitution*, last evening, which I should have immediately forwarded on to you, had the contents been such as required it; but as the fleet have not arrived, (which was the supposition of the gentleman who wrote it,) I thought it needless to forward it on by express.

*Friday*: Arrived at the *Narrows* a small ship of eighteen or twenty guns. Sent her boat immediately on board the *Dutchess of Gordon*. Soon after which the *Governour*, in the *Dutchess*, sailed; where bound we know not.

This morning she sent her boat to the watering-place for water. The day before, I had detached three companies of the Rifle Battalion to *Staten Island*, with orders to scour the shores. A midshipman and ten sailors were in her. She was fired upon, and lost two men. The riflemen took the rest prisoners, and hauled up the boat. The ship immediately began a heavy fire, and slightly wounded one man; since which, the ship has fallen down below the *Narrows*.

As hostilities are now commenced in this Province, I have thought fit to order no more provisions to be sent the men-of-war.

Enclosed is an extract of a letter received by the post, the contents of which I thought necessary to acquaint you with.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ISRAEL PUTNAM.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress.

On board the Rhode-Island Packet, off Constitution Fort, }  
April 5, 1776. }

SIR: We this evening arrived here, and, from curiosity, Mr. *Chase* and Mr. *Carroll* went ashore, and found the state of the fort as follows: Three Companies of Minute-men, (Captain *Moffat's*, Captain *Raymond's*, and Captain *Woshon's*), consisting of five Lieutenants, six sergeants, eight corporals, two drummers, one fifer, and one hundred and two privates. Mr. *Seth Marvin*, First Lieutenant of Captain *Moffat's* Company, has now the command.

On the south bastion are thirteen six-pounders and one nine-pounder, mounted; and on the east bastion are seven nine-pounders and one six-pounder, mounted. There are eighty-one quarter-barrels and one whole barrel of powder. About one half of the privates are armed, and about ten bayonets among them. In the block-house are eight double-fortified four-pounders, mounted. The fort, on the land side, is entirely open. There is not one gunner or artillery-man in the fort. Nothing but pork, beef, and flour; no vegetables. No Barrackmaster. The Minute-men work about six hours in the day, and that with great reluctance.

We are informed, by Captain *Bedlow*, that at *Pooplophen's Kill* there are one hundred and eighty troops, under

\* PHILADELPHIA, April 11, 1776.—This morning arrived a sloop, (mounting six three-pounders and eight or ten swivels,) late a tender, belonging to the *Liverpool* man-of-war, and commanded by a Lieutenant *Boucher*, of said ship, having thirty-five picked men on board, who, on *Saturday* last, off the Capes of *Virginia*, fell in with Captain *Barry*, of the Continental brig called the *Lexington*. A battle ensued, which was continued desperately for one hour and twenty minutes, when the tender struck.

the command of Lieutenant *Lee*; that six thirty-two-pounders, and all necessaries for cannon, except powder, arrived there on the 3d instant.

The fortifications directed by Congress on the 15th of *February*, and laid out by Mr. *Smith*, remain wholly neglected.

Hearing of the arrival of part of the fleet at the *Hook*, we thought it proper to give you this information by express. You will be pleased to communicate the substance of the above to Congress.

We are, sir, your obedient servants,

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
SAMUEL CHASE,  
CHARLES CARROLL  
of *Carrollton*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM EDMUND QUINCY TO COLONEL MIFFLIN, DATED STOUGHTONHAM, APRIL 1, 1776.

A Captain and two seamen, that were taken by the men-of-war, deserted on *Friday* from the fleet. They say the first division, consisting of the *Fowey* and *Nautilus*, with sixty-eight transports, sailed for *Halifax* last *Monday*. The second division, Admiral *Shulldham*, in the *Chatham*, the *Centurion*, and the *Lively*, with sixty-two transports, sailed *Thursday*. From all they could learn, they were bound to the southward, not half manned, and had been at short allowance fourteen days.

The *Renoun*, of fifty guns, the *Senegal*, of twenty-eight guns, and the *Hope*, of sixteen guns, moved from their station in *King's Road*, off the Light-House, for fear of our fire-rafts; but it is determined they shall put to sea speedily.

The *Niger* sailed *Friday*, with six transports, for *Halifax*. Had it not been for six transports that came from *Halifax* with fresh provisions, killed a month ago, they could not have gone to sea for some time, unless forced by our fire-rafts, under the command of Major *Tupper*.

It is said, by a vessel from *London* to the fleet, that fifty sail of merchantmen, loaded, were bound to *Boston*. It is to be hoped that Captain *Manly* will give some account of them.

The whole that sailed, Mr. *Nutton* says, had not three weeks' provision left. I hope the *Philadelphia* Fleet will speak with those gone southward.

A large mortar (thirteen and a half inch) was fished up near Mr. *Row's* wharf; where was also discovered, at low water, a great quantity of shot, shells, &c.

BURNETT MILLER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Easthampton, April 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: An opportunity presenting, we embrace it to acquaint you that our guard at *Montauk*, about sunset yesterday, saw a number of vessels to the southward of *Block-Island*, and this morning, being foggy, saw nothing of them; until, about nine o'clock, the fog cleared off in part, when they saw thirteen vessels between *Fisher's Island* and *Gardiner's Island*, but could not tell what sort of vessels they were, by reason of thick air. We saw this afternoon about eight or nine vessels, all together, off, against this town, standing to the eastward; but the fog came on, and saw no more of them. They have fired single cannon by spells, all this afternoon, from both quarters, and supposed they fired in order to keep the vessels together, the fog being very thick.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee of *Easthampton*:

BURNETT MILLER, *Chairman*.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, April 7, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: The regiments destined for *Canada* arrived here very incomplete. Sickness and desertion have still reduced them much more, so that our Army in *Canada* will fall greatly short of what was intended. I have, therefore, applied to Congress for a reinforcement, (as you will perceive by the enclosed,) not knowing that they had requested your Excellency to detach four regiments, of which I was only informed this morning by the gentlemen Com-

missioners, who then arrived. May I take the liberty, my dear General, to urge the necessity of their being speedily sent. I believe the route by the way of *New-York* will be as speedy as any, and give more ease to the soldiers, as they can be conveyed from thence to this place in sloops.

General *Thomas* leaves here to-morrow, and I shall accompany him to *Ticonderoga*.

I am, my dear General, with every sentiment of esteem and affection, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL THOMAS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, April 7, 1776.

SIR: I arrived at *Albany* in five days after I left the camp at *Roxbury*, at which place I have been detained to this time, by reason of the lake's being impassable. The troops here and at *Lake George* are about eleven hundred, and I hear some few are at *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*—prevented going forward, as the lakes are partly blocked up. What number are in *Canada* I cannot ascertain, but am sensible from the best intelligence, will be much short of an equal number, as I find the regiments are very incomplete. General *Schuyler* thinks they will be much short of five thousand; and should the Ministerial Troops there be reinforced, and *Quebeck* remain in their hands, so small a number must be thought to be inadequate for the defence of that quarter. Your Excellency will judge whether a reinforcement will not be necessary. The last intelligence from *Canada* was about the 25th of *March*, at which time things there remained in *statu quo*.

Doctor *Franklin* and others, of the Committee of Congress, arrived here this morning. As the weather this day or two is moderate, I am in hopes the lake may be passed in a few days. I determine to set off for the lake to-morrow.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To General *Washington*.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO PRESIDENT OF NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Albany, April 7, 1776.

SIR: By intelligence from *York*, I am informed that Major-General *Lee* has ordered four thousand barrels of pork from *Connecticut* to *New-York*, for the Army in *Canada*. I have long been in expectation of that pork arriving here. There is no pork to be purchased in *Canada*, and a large Army gone thither, which has induced General *Schuyler* (notwithstanding General *Wooster* has appointed contractors to furnish the Army under his command) to order me to write to *New-York*, to have the four thousand barrels sent up immediately; and if they are not arrived at *New-York*, to have other pork sent instead thereof, and to be replaced out of that which is ordered by General *Lee*. I know of nobody or person to whom I can apply for assistance, in this critical situation, that can give such effectual relief, as your House. I must, therefore, entreat you, sir, to request the House to give such orders as will be the means of forwarding the pork with the utmost despatch. Could I have learnt who was ordered to ship the pork from *New-York*, I should not have troubled the Congress. As the service requires despatch, I hope the Congress will deem it a reasonable excuse for my troubling them.

I am, sir, with esteem, your very humble servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON, *Deputy Com'y General*.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq.

WINTHROP SARGENT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Gloucester, April 7, 1776.

SIR: The bearer of this has under his guard a number of prisoners and Tories, taken by Commodore *Manly* and Captain *Waters*. The prize is sent to *Portsmouth*. I make no doubt you have had an account of the capture before this reaches your Excellency. Their names you have below. There are two women and some children left here, which are not able to travel. Should be glad your Excellency

would send me an answer to what I wrote you last about Captain *Watts's* goods, and what I am to do with the prisoners, for I have thirty here now upon expense.

I remain your humble servant,

WINTHROP SARGENT, *Agent*.

P. S. Since I wrote the above, Captain *Tucker* has carried the prisoners to *Marblehead*, whence they will be sent to Head-Quarters. Will not carry the women and children, for fear of the small-pox; so I am forced to provide for them here. Should be glad of your order in regard to the above.

Prisoners names: *Caleb Whitten*, bad man, *John Hill*, *Arthur Spencer*, *Caleb Whitten*, Jun., *Joseph Hillen*, *John Whitten*, *William King*, *Duke Barters*, *John Burres*, *William McKenney*, *James Youling*.

Yours, &c.,

W. S.

EDMUND PENDLETON TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Caroline, April 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On *Friday* last General *Lee* arrived safe in *Williamsburgh*, in a very rainy day, and much fatigued. We consider him as a valuable acquisition, and esteem it a favour in Congress to spare him to this department, where most people here think the gentry who found *Boston* too hot for them, will come, and be joined by the much-talked-of powerful force from *Europe*. However, I am not of that opinion, and think they either mean a descent upon some other part of *New-England* they like better, or, perhaps, by dividing our Army, may purpose to return to *Boston* with greater advantage, or else to go to *Halifax*, and wait for the season to go up to *Quebeck*. General *Lee* thinks if they come here, they will certainly make *Williamsburgh* their object; and on that supposition he is going to intrench it. I hear, since I came away, he has ordered all the battalions from their stations to that place, which has made the people in town very happy, but I fear will be very alarming to other parts, particularly the Northern Neck, who were before uneasy on the appearance of tenders in *Potomack* and *Rappahannock*.

It was mentioned in Committee before I came away, it would be proper to request our Delegates to transmit all publick proceedings of Congress, to be laid before the Convention at their meeting. They will probably have written on the subject, but I mention it lest they should from hurry overlook it.

I have seen your resolves about reprisals. Is it considered as a law we are now to execute, by granting commissions? or must we wait for a confirmation by our Convention? Elections are coming on. It seems Colonel *Francis* and Mr. *Carter* are left out, by the bulk of the freeholders being absent, and not expecting a contest.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

EDMUND PENDLETON.

To *Richard Henry Lee*, Esq., at *Philadelphia*.

JOSEPH BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Bladensburg, April 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 29th ultimo I received yesterday. I have examined the powder according to your request, and find there are twenty-six barrels of coarse powder, including one that was brought on board the vessel, and four barrels and twenty kegs of fine powder, though there seems to be something of a mixture throughout the whole.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH BEALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COLONEL HASLETT TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 9th April, 1776. Referred to the Committee on Prisoners.]

SIR: I am honoured with your letter of the 3d of *April*, and beg leave to inform you that, being well acquainted with the defenceless situation of the County of *Sussex*, on the first information of the *Rocbuck's* being in the road of *Lewes*, two companies of the battalion under my command were directed to do duty there, where they still continue.

The Council of Safety for this Government ordered the Militia arms of this County into the hands of the Continen-

tal Troops for the purpose of training; but I forbade them to be carried out of it. I have ventured on my own risk to send them, but know not how soon the Council will order them to be returned. I beg leave to inform you that the spirit of the troops is high, and hope their ardor in the generous struggle will produce its proper effects, provided they can be supplied with arms, which there is no probability of our being able to procure in this place.

The commanding officer at *Lewes* has sent up to Headquarters the Third Lieutenant of the man-of-war, and three soldiers, who were put on board the alarm pilot there, by them taken, and fitted out for a tender. On *Wednesday*, the 27th ultimo, cruising to the southward of the Cape, they sent all their men on board a *Plymouth* sloop they had made prize of, except the Lieutenant and three others. About four o'clock, next morning, the helmsman falling asleep, Providence steered the boat ashore, and they were soon after taken.

The Lieutenant informs us that the *Roebuck* left *England* last *September*, bound to *Halifax*, where she wintered, commanded by Captain *Hammond*. She carries forty-four eighteen and nine-pounders, mounted, and can mount ten more. I propose to keep the officers and men here under guard till the Congress is pleased to direct in what manner they shall be disposed of.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

JOHN HASLETT, *Colonel*.

To the Honourable Colonel *Hancock*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

Philadelphia, April 8, 1776.

SIR: On *Saturday* I received a letter from General *Heath* requesting that some money might be sent to *New-York* for the use of the troops, which I immediately laid before Congress, and was authorized to forward one hundred thousand dollars; which I have accordingly sent by Captain *Nathaniel Faulkner*; and as I am uninformed whether the Paymaster is arrived at *New-York*, I have directed Mr. *Faulkner* to deliver the money to you. If the Paymaster is with you, please to order it to his care, for the use of the troops; if not, you will order the money to be improved for the payment of the troops under your command.

Please to acquaint General *Heath* that I received his letter, but have not time to write him now. You will please to forward me a receipt for the money.

Last evening I had the honour of your letter by Major *Sherburne*, desiring that three hundred thousand dollars may be sent for the use of the troops. As the Congress does not meet this day, I have judged it best to detain Major *Sherburne* here until I know the determination of Congress, which I shall know to-morrow, and whatever further sum they order I will despatch by Major *Sherburne*. In the mean time I have thought it most proper to send forward, by Captain *Faulkner*, the one hundred thousand dollars, as that sum may be improved until the other arrives.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Putnam*, Commanding the Continental Troops at *New-York*.

RICHARD BUTLER TO COLONEL JAMES WILSON.

Fort Pitt, April 8, 1776.

SIR: I send this by express to inform you that *Kiosola*, and two other *Indians*, messengers from Colonel *Butler*, the King's Agent at *Niagara*, and the Commandant of the *Six Nations*, with a letter to Captain *McKee*, and a message to *Kiosola*, arrived there the 3d instant; a copy of which I send enclosed. *Kiosola* delivered the wampum he received, with a speech from the *Six Nations*, desiring his attendance at a treaty to be held at *Niagara*, and one from Colonel *Butler* and the commandant, to the same purport. He seemed determined to go, although he asked Captain *Neville's* and my advice; and as we saw it would be of no use to attempt to stop him, we thought it best to send him off pleased; therefore delivered him a small speech, (No. 1.)

and one as from yourself and the other Commissioners, (No. 2;) and as I had an opportunity to the *Delawares*, I sent them the speech, No. 3; all which I hope will meet your approbation. I considered that it would be best that the strange *Indians* should have a good opinion of us, therefore made them welcome, and sent them well pleased away, at as small an expense as possible. *Kiosola* desires me to inform you that he has but one heart, and that he will say or do nothing contrary to his engagements last fall; and that he does not doubt of preserving peace, as by what he hears from the *Six Nations* they mean no other. The *Onondaga* man (one of the messengers) says, that after *Montreal* was reduced, there came a great quantity of goods round by the north side of *Lake Ontario*, in a great many periaugurs to *Niagara*, and that great presents will be made there to the *Indians*. There are but few *Indians* come here from any quarter, and I think they would know their own importance, and expect their friendship shall be purchased as well as courted; yet, with prudent management, I believe they may be kept quiet at no very great expense.

The *Indians* are not a little alarmed, *Kiosola* tells me, at the exorbitant price of goods, that our traders charge them, and the great scarcity of ammunition and goods. They say, that at the treaty last fall here, we were to be one people; but that it seems as if we meant to take advantage of them by the times, and advising them to have nothing to do in taking part with those that could and would supply them reasonably if applied to; that they think it very odd at this time, when their relationship is desired, that these advantages should be taken to extort on them, when they could be supplied by the northward people at the usual terms; and he positively desired to know the reason, and when it might be expected to be remedied, that he might inform the people that might ask him. I gave him the following answers:

Friend *Kiosola*, it is true, it is hard just now; but our great men have your welfare at heart as well as ours, and will remedy that inconveniency as soon as possible—I hope between this and fall. The reason is this: we used to buy our goods from the people in *England*; but the present dispute hinders us from that now; but the people of *Canada* bought a great deal of goods from them last year, and have not yet sold them all; and we bought none, therefore are scarce; and for the future neither the *Canadians* nor us will buy any more *English* goods till these disputes are settled; but have sent to *France* and other parts, and that I am of opinion against fall they will be both plentifully and reasonably supplied, and I hope they would not be uneasy.

I inquired his reasons for not proceeding with the big belt last fall. He says he was disappointed by Captain *Pipe*, who was to have met him at the *Moravian Town*, as Mr. *Gibson* told him, but did not; then, he says, Mr. *Gibson* promised to send two of the *Delawares* from *Neucomer's Town* to him at the *Wyandot Town*, to go with him; but after his waiting there ten days, and seeing no likelihood of their coming, he thought it too difficult to attempt alone, and resolved on coming back. He says he called some of the *Wyandots* together, and charged them to be careful of their young men, and see that they did no mischief; and that he sent a message by a *Wyandot* man to the western tribes to inform them that there had been a Council here, and that what was said was very good; and that the messenger was to go by the *Picts*, and then to the Northern tribes, and relate what he was charged with. I then told him that the accounts that went to *Philadelphia* were, that he was stopped, and that the Northern tribes had threatened to cut the big belt in pieces if he offered to proceed; all which, he says, is false, and that they said nothing of the kind, but seemed quite well pleased. I then asked how Mr. *Gibson* came to be threatened by *Logan*. He says it was a report that came to the *Wyandot Town* by a *Mingo* man, and he thought it might be so; therefore had word sent to Mr. *Gibson* for fear, and that he might take care.

I called on Mr. *McKee* the 1st ultimo, and informed him that I had accounts of two messengers from *Niagara*, and that they had letters which I supposed must be for him; which I expected to be informed of on their arrival, and their embassy, and the contents of the letters, so far as they respected the good of the United Colonies; which he promised I should. On their arrival, Mr. *McKee* went to Colo-

nel Croghan's, and there received his letter and the other messages already mentioned. Mr. Croghan, being chairman of the Committee, wrote to Mr. Thomas Smallman and Mr. John Campbell, to call on Mr. McKee to see his letter, and take his parole that he would not leave the neighbourhood of Pittsburgh till the next meeting of the Committee, which is to be on the 16th instant. It was shown to me, and my attendance desired, with Captain Neville to be present. We all attended, and Mr. Smallman gave Mr. McKee the letter from the Chairman. And on Mr. Smallman's demanding Mr. McKee's letter, he immediately complied, and gave it. It was read by Mr. Smallman, Campbell, and myself. His parole was then demanded, as above, which he complied with, and I forbade his sending any despatches, or doing any business with the Indians, without my knowledge, before Captain Neville, Messrs. Smallman and Grayson; which he promised also not to do. Mr. McKee observed that the spring business is now on, and his presence necessary at his farm; he expected he would be allowed to go to and from it till then, which was allowed by both Messrs. Campbell and Smallman. I cannot help reflecting a little on the proceedings against that gentleman, who really behaved very well on the occasion; for after they had agreed that he might go to and from his farm, on his parole, Mr. Campbell made a verbal demand the next morning of his parole in writing, which Mr. McKee looked upon as an unbecoming demand, as they had agreed to each other's demands and requests the day before, and that it had some design rather to offend, or put Mr. McKee to take measures (by straining their authority) that are quite unnecessary, if they proceed in a decent manner; and their taking those ill-marked steps may not have the effect that true friends to their country would wish; we therefore told Mr. Campbell that, when the Committee called on him in writing, he must answer them in writing also. I cannot help thinking there is more ill-nature than is necessary shown to that gentleman, as he is detained here ever since. I look upon it a little impolitick hindering him to speak to these Indians at this time, as there might still be some of the Committee or myself present, where anything might be said with safety, as a speech might be preconcerted that would save all appearances of our suspicion of their intending any harm, at the same time that proper care would be taken that they should do none. And I must say, in justice to Mr. McKee, that I have not seen one act that discovered an inimical intention to this country, as he might have done mischief, had he been so inclined, and gone where he would be caressed for it. Sir, this is not my single opinion, but of several respectable inhabitants of this country; and further, that he has been much more quiet than some others that would fain be thought great friends now. I cannot but think, sir, that Mr. McKee should have been prohibited doing any Indian business long ago, as it was reasonable to think that as long as he was not, there would be some directions to him, if but to try his attachment, and it would have kept those northward messengers from amongst our Indians, who are set a stir by any speech from any quarter.

April 9th.—This day Mr. John Gibson arrived with several Shawnees, to whom Captain Neville spoke, and informed them that to-morrow he would receive the white prisoners and the slaves. For other accounts relative to them, I refer you to Mr. Gibson, who writes by this express, which I have detained four days for his coming. I intend to address them to the same purport that I have the Delawares, as soon as Mr. Gibson has done the business with them.

Sir, there has been a survey made by Colonel William Crawford, of the long island, about four miles below this place, in the Ohio, for John Marvie and Charles Syms, Esqrs., and Captain John Neville, which is a direct breach of the treaty of Fort Stanwix, and the treaty here last fall; and the consequences are much dreaded by many people of these parts, as it is a precedent that will be apt to be followed by many; and that it will furnish the officers of the Crown, now going to treat with the Indians, with arguments that may tend much to the dishonour and disadvantage of the Colonies, as we should be punctual in observing our treaties with them, if we expect they should with us. I thought it my duty to acquaint you of it, that such steps may be taken as you may think proper to direct, to prevent any further proceedings of the kind, or any mischief that might

follow; as I am sure that John Montour will paint it to our disadvantage on his return, as he claims it by virtue of his father's claim as an Indian, and it has been often talked of by Custologa, Captain Pipe, and other Indians. When an attempt was made to improve it by some white man, and John Montour proposed selling his right of it, they said it was not to sell it, that Montour was allowed to improve it, but, as an Indian, he might settle it, or any other part of their land.

Dear sir, I am obliged to renew the request of a little ammunition, as I find that all messengers expect a little, by way of provision for their return home. Captain Neville has let me have a little for the Onondaga and Mohawk men; and if I should refuse them, it not only implies a distrust, but exposes our poverty. As to other things, I can still get, though high. A smith is very much wanted. I hope you will be so kind as to give me directions, per return of this express, concerning these matters. I hope, sir, you will not take amiss my reminding you that a strict attention to Indian affairs is absolutely necessary, as the peace of the frontier country depends on their being quiet; and to the contrary, if we should be disturbed or driven, we must then oppress the interior part, that is too much distressed already. I have sent, some time past, for George Allen, and expect him every day. As soon as he receives his present, I shall take the first opportunity to inform you and the Assembly of it.

I have just called on Mr. Gibson, and informed him of my having your authority for superseding him; and when he had done the business that he had with these Indians, (which I understood is on account of the Virginia Commissioners,) it was your directions to me to let him know he was to do no more Indian business here. He then told me he would set off to Philadelphia, and would take these despatches; but thinking he would probably be detained some days on the road, and for other reasons, I thought it most prudent to send the express, as these matters ought to be laid before you as early as possible.

Dear sir, I hope you will be so kind as to give my most respectful compliments to Doctor Franklin; and be assured that I will use my utmost endeavours for the service of the Colonies.

I am, sir, with all due respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD BUTLER,  
Agent and Interpreter.

To Colonel James Wilson.

P. S. I am sorry to inform you that party spirit prevails here as much as ever; and, indeed, through the country in general. I could say much more on this subject, but as I am convinced of your friendship, I am determined to do my duty, and say nothing about these matters, as I know how they stand in your opinion, as well the authors of the disputes as the abettors.

Kiosola talks of visiting the honourable the Congress, if agreeable, this summer. Shall be glad to know if so.

R. B.

COLONEL JOHN BUTLER TO ALEXANDER MCKEE.

Niagara, February 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you the 20th ultimo, acquainting you I was glad of the opportunity to inform you I was appointed to the care and charge of the Indian Department, in Colonel Johnson's absence. He has desired me to write you to meet me here at this place; and it is Colonel Caldwell's orders, and mine, that you attend a meeting we propose to hold at Niagara the beginning of next May. Your knowledge in the Indian affairs; your hitherto undoubted zeal for his Majesty's service, and the duty you owe to Government, makes your presence absolutely necessary at this place on or before the time above-mentioned; and as I now understand the Indian, who was to carry the same, has not proceeded to you, have hired an Onondaga Indian to carry this on purpose; by whose return I will expect your answer; in which I expect you will be kind enough to inform of anything worth notice that you may know respecting the proceedings of the Rebels your way. We have nothing worth notice to mention to you, only the reduction of Montreal by the Rebels, the particulars of which you must, long ere now,

have been informed of. Please make my compliments to Colonel Croghan.

I remain, dear sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN BUTLER.

To Mr. Alexander McKee, Deputy Agent of Indian Affairs, Fort Pitt.

P. S. I have much more to say to you than the compass of this paper will admit of; but must defer it, on account of the precariousness of the times, until I have the pleasure of seeing you; and will expect you will give an invitation to a few of the Chiefs in your neighbourhood to attend the meeting at the time appointed. The bearer has orders to give notice to all the *Indians* he may see.

J. B.

The above is a true copy, taken by

RICHARD BUTLER.

[No. 1.]

*Speech to KIOSOLA.*

BROTHER: As you are called on by your nation, and by the head-men of *Niagara*, we think it very right that you go to hear what they have to say, as it is highly proper that men of sense should be at such meetings; and, as you know the sense of your brethren there last fall, and their charge to you, and all the tribes that were present, to hearken to no speeches that tend to disturb the peace of the country, we hope you will not forget it; and that you will stop your ears to anything contrary from either one party or the other; and as we expect to hear from the great Council-fire at *Philadelphia*, we hope to see you soon back there again. We also think it very proper that you take the great belt and speech with you, and show it to the *Six Nations*, and the Northern tribes that will be there, and explain to them fully, that they may know the sentiments of the United Colonies; and that, at this return, we will be glad to know their opinion.

RICHARD BUTLER, Agent and Interpreter.

[No. 2.]

*Speech to KIOSOLA.*

BROTHER: The Commissioners for the thirteen United Colonies, being assured of your sincerity as a friend to the publick, in general, and your just intention of keeping peace amongst the different tribes of *Indians*, and with your brethren of these Colonies, they express a desire that you will not be prevailed upon to take any part with either one party or another, that might tend to break the bonds of friendship that now subsists between us and the *Six Nations*, and the tribes to the northward and westward; and that you will use your endeavours, as a friend to both us and them, to continue in that path of peace and friendship that has been walked in so many years. Your brothers at the great Council-fire at *Philadelphia* have sent you, by me, this small token of their regard for you, and hope you will wear it, and remember them; and they will expect to see you as soon as convenient again, and renew the ties of friendship between them and you, and the whole of their brethren. There will be messengers sent to the different tribes, when they want to meet them.

RICHARD BUTLER, Agent and Interpreter.

[No. 3.]

*Speech to the DELAWARES.*

BROTHERS: I take this opportunity to inform you that your old brothers at the great Council-fire at *Philadelphia*, for the Thirteen United Colonies, have appointed me to reside at *Pittsburgh*, to take care of the Council-fire that they made for them and you to smoke by, at this place, last fall, where you may always come in safety and peace.

I am, also, to receive your speeches, and deliver you theirs; therefore, anything you want to relate to your old brothers at the great Council-fire, I will send it to them carefully. I am desired to inform you that they expect you will hold fast the great belt of peace and friendship that you both took hold of last fall, and that you will not let it slip out of your hands, but consider us and you as one people; and that you will not hearken to any speech that the Commandants of either *Detroit* or *Niagara* may send amongst you by either *Englishman*, *Frenchman*, or *Indian*, as they only mean to deceive you; but that you will sit still and enjoy peace.

You may depend that your old brothers will supply you with goods and ammunition plentifully, and on reasonable

terms, very soon, as they have your welfare at heart as well as their own; and when you want to hear from the great Council-fire, or to inform them of anything, your messengers shall always be treated with friendship, when they come here on any publick business.

Your old brothers at the great Council-fire expect to hear how the people of your nation, that were not present, like what was said to the heads of the tribes here last fall, and hope their opinion of it is good, and that their hearts are as disposed to peace and friendship as ours.

RICHARD BUTLER.

COMMITTEE OF WEST-AUGUSTA TO PENNSYLVANIA DELEGATES.

[Read April 22, 1776.]

Fort Pitt, or West-Augusta, April 9, 1776.

Present: Major Thomas Smallman, Mr. John Campbell, Mr. John Gibson, and Mr. Joshua Wright.

Major Smallman communicated to the Committee a letter he had received from Colonel Croghan; also, a letter, dated February 29th, from Colonel Butler, at *Niagara*, Agent for the Indian Affairs in that department, to Alexander McKee, Esq., the Agent at this place; by which it appears that a treaty was intended to be held in behalf of the Ministry the beginning of next month, at *Niagara*; and that Colonel Butler and Colonel Caldwell ordered Captain McKee's attendance and assistance in that behalf:

It is, therefore, *Resolved*, That Mr. Alexander McKee be required to give his parole, in writing, that he will not transact any business with the *Indians* in behalf of the Crown or Ministry; that he will not, directly or indirectly, correspond with any of the Crown or Ministerial officers, nor leave the neighbourhood of *Fort Pitt*, without the consent of the Committee of *West-Augusta*; and, on his refusal to do so, that he be committed a close prisoner till the General Congress be acquainted, and direct what further is to be done.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the above Resolve, a copy of Mr. McKee's Parole, and a copy of Colonel John Butler's Letter to Captain McKee, be sent to the Delegates of this Colony in Congress.

A true copy: THOMAS SMALLMAN, Chairman.

ALEXANDER MCKEE'S Parole.

WEST-AUGUSTA:

I, Alexander McKee, Deputy Agent for the Indian Affairs for the District of *Fort Pitt*, do hereby promise and engage that I will not transact any business with the *Indians* on behalf of the Crown or Ministry; that I will not, directly or indirectly, correspond with any of the Crown or Ministerial officers, nor leave the neighbourhood of *Fort Pitt*, without the consent of the Committee of *West-Augusta*.

Given under my hand, at *Pittsburgh*, this ninth day of April, 1776.

A. MCKEE,

Deputy Agent for Indian Affairs.

A true copy: THOMAS SMALLMAN, Chairman.

CAPTAIN STEPHENSON TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

Staten-Island, April 8, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Yesterday, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, the ship *Savage*, and the *James*, a pilot-boat, came up the Sound, under cover of a thick fog, to the watering-place on this Island. Each sent a boat, with eleven men, to take in water; of which I received intelligence, and prepared to attack them. They received information of our approach, and a signal gun was fired for their retreat, which they endeavoured to effect under cover of a brisk and almost constant fire from the *Savage*; but being closely pursued, were obliged to leave behind them one standard, one musket, one boat, twenty-seven iron-bound barrels, one cable, anchor and buoy, one speaking trumpet, one iron pot, and two watch-coats; ten men were taken prisoners in the boat and in the water, attempting to make their escape, (one of whom is wounded;) one man being shot, fell into the water, and two others fell on board, of which we are confident; many were wounded; but as I cannot inform you with certainty, you will please refer to four deserters, who came ashore last night from the *Phoenix*, for better information.

Two boys belonging to *New-York*, who went on board



the *Black-Joke* on *Saturday*, and were towed in their canoe by the *James* to the watering-place yesterday morning, and landed, are suspected to be the persons who gave the ship's crew notice that the riflemen were approaching, and are, therefore, made prisoners; they inform that Messrs. *Weatherhead* and *Wallace*, of *New-York*, frequently go on board the *Phoenix*, from *Long-Island*. I have undertaken to send *Darby Doyle*, as a prisoner, for selling provisions to, and holding correspondence with the enemy.

I have the pleasure to inform your Honour, that the officers and soldiers under my command behaved in the late little skirmish with a spirit and conduct becoming advocates for liberty. I am to acknowledge myself obliged to Captain *Rawlings*, his officers and men, for the assistance they prepared to lend us, by crossing the river, in the most expeditious manner. A list of the prisoners will be delivered by Lieutenant *Finley*, to whom I beg leave to refer your Honour for further particulars.

I have the pleasure to subscribe myself your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

HUGH STEPHENSON.

JOHN BLACKLER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Esopus, April 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I looked on the discharge which you were so kind as to send to the Committee of Safety here, as sufficient to enable me to seek for my living on any part of the Continent; but find to the contrary, as they have insisted on my proceeding to *New-York*. I willingly complied with your orders; as such, flatter myself I shall be so happy as to receive by the bearer a discharge, as I am still a prisoner, only with the liberty of the town.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your very humble servant,

JOHN BLACKLER.

To the Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

THOMAS WICKES TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Huntington, April 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have just received intelligence that a fleet of thirty sail of square-rigged vessels have been seen off between *Cray-Neck* and *Eaton's Neck*; and we thought it best to send you the earliest intelligence. We shall watch their motions, and as soon as we can discover their motions, we shall send you further intelligence. We are mustering our Militia, and shall do the best in our power.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants,

THOMAS WICKES, *Chairman*.

P. S. About seven o'clock in the evening we received the intelligence.

JOHN LLOYD TO JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

Queen's Village, April 8, 1776.

SIR: As the affairs of my uncle, *Henry Lloyd*, Esq., respecting his estate, have come to my care, his particular situation renders it necessary that something should be done that his interest may not go to destruction; which I should be glad to prevent, by affording all the assistance in my power, provided I can do it with safety to myself. My uncle, you know, sir, is under the censure of the publick, and so far considered an unfriendly man to his country, as, I think, renders it unsafe for any one to transact business for him without the permission of the higher powers in this matter. I take the liberty of asking your advice respecting the propriety of applying to the Provincial Congress for consent in this affair. At the same time, should be obliged for your opinion how far I may engage in these matters, until I can obtain full power to act. Our situation is as much exposed to the enemy as any in the Sound, and I think this circumstance alone will be an argument that something should be done with his interest, especially stock, which I propose selling if leave can be obtained. If my ideas of this matter should agree with yours, I should be much obliged if you would write to Mr. *Treadwell*, who, I suppose, is now at Congress, and request the favour of him to lay the matter before the House as soon as he thinks proper. I should be glad it might be soon.

I am your very humble servant,

JOHN LLOYD, JUN.

To *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq.

GENERAL THOMAS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 16, 1776.]

Albany, April 8, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 6th of *March*, with the directions of Congress to proceed to *Canada*. In consequence of which I left *Roxbury* the 22d, for *Albany*, where I arrived the 28th. I have been detained on account of the lakes being impassable; but am in hopes boats may pass in a few days. I shall take the very first opportunity.

I am sorry to find the troops so backward; I understand many of the regiments are very incomplete as to number, especially those of *New-York* and *New-England*. I cannot find the whole, which may be expected to form the Army in *Canada*, will amount to five thousand, while I expect *Montreal*, and the posts on our way, will require near one thousand; and should a reinforcement of the enemy arrive before we get possession of *Quebeck*, considering the smallness of our number, some disagreeable consequence must ensue. For *Canada*, we cannot expect to be able to call in any assistance from the inhabitants, as in the other Colonies, on any emergency. I hope the Congress will take this matter into consideration, whether the number mentioned is sufficient to resist the force that our enemy will be likely to send that way. I am not at present able to make any regular return of the state of the Army in that quarter, but shall, as soon as it possibly can be done. I understand by General *Schuyler*, that he has made some representation to Congress on this matter; therefore shall, on my part, pursue every measure that is in my power for the good of the common cause.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

RIDGEFIELD (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

Ridgefield, April 8, 1776.

*Josiah Stebbins*, *Benjamin Hoyt*, *Thomas Smith*, *John Dauchy*, *Ebenezer Smith*, *Ezekiel Wilson*, and *Ebenezer Sherwood*, of the Township of *Ridgefield*, in the County of *Fairfield*, and Colony of *Connecticut*, were brought before the Committee of said Township, as being suspected of being inimical to the liberties of *America*; and, upon examination, it appeared to the Committee that they are inimical to the liberties of *America*; and all persons are hereby desired to have no more dealings or commerce with them; otherwise they will be held up as inimical, and dealt with accordingly.

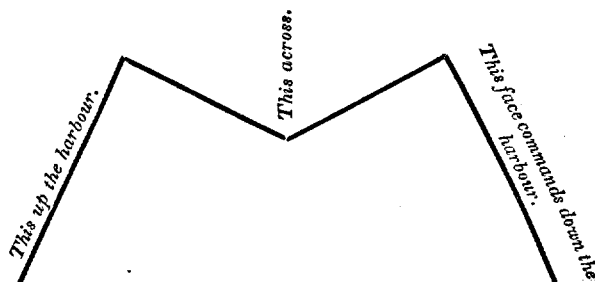
By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL OLMSTED, *Chairman*.

J. WATERS, JUN., TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, April 8, 1776.

Agreeable to your Honour's desire, I have hereto subjoined a sketch of the outline of the first work we propose completing on *Shaw's Neck*. I think it advisable to have these completed forthwith, and shall accordingly endeavour to accomplish the same. Five hundred men might be employed to advantage. It may be well to have a number of single platforms immediately completed, as, should we afterwards choose a full platform, these will not come amiss. We employ about fifty men per day on the works.



The whole when completed will be so far towards completing the general plan.

I am your Honour's most obedient servant,

J. WATERS, JUN.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

## ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 16, 1776.]

Ship Alfred, New-London Harbour, April 9, 1776.

SIR: When I put to sea, the 17th *February*, from *Cape-Henlopen*, we had many sick; and four of the vessels had a large number on board with the small-pox. The *Hornet* and *Wasp* joined me two days before. The wind came at northeast, which made it unsafe to lie there. The wind, after we got out, came on to blow hard. I did not think we were in a condition to keep on a cold coast, and appointed our rendezvous at *Abaca*, one of the *Bahama Islands*. The second night, we lost the *Hornet* and *Fly*.

I arrived at the rendezvous, in order to wait for them fifteen days, agreeable to orders. I then formed an expedition against *New-Providence*, which I put in execution the 3d of *March*, by landing two hundred marines; under the command of Captain *Nicholas*, and fifty sailors, under the command of Lieutenant *Weaver*, of the *Cabot*, who was well acquainted there. The same day, they took possession of a small fort of seventeen pieces of cannon, without any opposition, save five guns, which were fired at them without doing any damage.

I received, that evening, an account that they had two hundred and odd men in the main fort, all inhabitants. I then caused a manifesto to be published, the purport of which was, that the inhabitants and their property should be safe, if they did not oppose me in taking possession of the fort and King's stores; which had the desired effect, for the inhabitants left the fort almost alone.

Captain *Nicholas* sent, by my orders, to the Governour for the keys of the fort, which were delivered, and the troops marched directly in, where we found the several warlike stores, agreeable to the inventory enclosed. But the Governour sent one hundred and fifty barrels of powder off, in a small sloop, the night before. I have all the stores on board the fleet, and a large sloop that I found there, and which I have promised the owner to send back, and pay him hire for.

The *Fly* joined us at *Providence*, and gave an account that he got foul of the *Hornet*, and carried away the boom and head of her mast; and I hear since, she has got into some port of *South-Carolina*.

I have taken the Governour, *Montfort Browne*; the Lieutenant-Governour, who is a half-pay officer; and Mr. *Thomas Irving*, who is a Counsellor and Collector of his Majesty's Quit-Rents in *South-Carolina*; and it appears, by the Court Calendar, that he is also Inspector-General of his Majesty's Customs for *North-America*.

Since we came out, we have lost company with the *Wasp*. The 4th instant, we fell in with, on east end of *Long-Island*, and took the schooner commanded by young *Wallace*, of six carriage-guns and eight swivels; and on the 5th, took the bomb brig, of eight guns and two howitzers, ten swivels and forty-eight hands, well found with all sorts of stores, arms, powder, &c. The 6th, in the morning, fell in with the *Glasgow* and her tender, and engaged her near three hours. We lost six men killed, and many wounded. The *Cabot* had four men killed, and seven wounded; the Captain is among the latter. The *Columbus* had one man who lost his arm. We received a considerable damage in our ship; but the greatest was in having our wheel-ropes and blocks shot away, which gave the *Glasgow* time to make sail, which I did not think proper to follow, as it would have brought on an action with the whole of their fleet; and as I had upwards of thirty of our best seamen on board the prizes, and some that were on board had got too much liquor out of the prizes to be fit for duty, thought it most prudent to give over the chase, and secure our prizes; and got nothing but the *Glasgow's* tender, and arrived here the 7th, with all the fleet.

Amongst the dead are Mr. *Sinclair Seymour*, master of the *Cabot*, a good officer; Lieutenant *Wilson*, of the *Cabot*, and Lieutenant *Fitzpatrick*, of the *Alfred*. The officers all behaved well on board the *Alfred*; but too much praise cannot be given to the officers of the *Cabot*, who gave and sustained the whole fire, for some considerable time, within pistol-shot.

I expect to leave this place in three or four days; and as General *Washington* is expected here every minute, if he will give me leave to enlist some of his men, shall be able to get away sooner.

I hear that, since the action, the fleet is gone from *New-port*; but whether they intend to return again, I cannot tell; but if I can get the fleet well manned, shall be able to give a more intelligent account.

I have now on board eighty pieces of heavy sail-duck, which I purchased at *New-Providence*, and have drawn bills on the Treasurers for.

I am, with great respect, your humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

*Inventory of Stores, &c., taken at FORT MONTAGUE,*  
MARCH 3, 1776.

17 cannon, from 9 to 36-pounders; 1240 round shot; 121 shells; 81 iron trucks, for carriages; 22 copper hoops; 2 copper powder-measures; 1 worm; 1 ladle; some old iron, copper, and lead.

*Stores taken at FORT NASSAU, MARCH 4, 1776.*

71 cannon, from 9 to 32-pounders; 15 mortars, from 4 to 11 inches diameter, and beds for ditto; 5337 shells; 9831 round, and 165 chain and double-headed shot; 140 hand grenadoes; 816 fuses or false fires; 99 sponges, rammers, and worms; 46 copper ladles; 407 copper hoops; 5 copper powder-measures; 220 iron trucks, for carriages; 3 bells; 24 casks of powder; a quantity of match-rope, not weighed; 2 double blocks, with brass sheafs; 1 scale beam; 1 hammer; 3 tanned hides; 2 boxes of tallow candles; 4 barrels of bread; 4 barrels of flour; 4 barrels of beef; part of a cask of spirits; 1 sun-dial; and 1 *English* flag.

## ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ship Alfred, at New-London, April 8, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Enclosed you have an inventory of stores taken out of the two forts at *New-Providence*. I have also the Governour, a Counsellor, (who is a half-pay officer,) and the Surveyor-General of the Customs for *North-America*, on board. I shall be glad of your directions how to dispose of them, as they are gentlemen that I think ought to be well treated as prisoners.

I have likewise seventy odd prisoners, taken out of the bomb brig, the schooner, and the *Glasgow's* tender, which shall be glad of your directions respecting them.

If you should see General *Washington*, shall be glad to get permission to enlist some of his soldiers, as I am very short-handed.

I have a number of heavy cannon, taken out of the forts. If you should have occasion for any of them, you will please give directions accordingly.

I am, with great respect, sir, your very humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

## COLONEL SALTONSTALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-London, April 8, 1776, two o'clock, P. M.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Commodore *Hopkins*, with the fleet and prizes, came this morning into this harbour; and waiting on him aboard the *Alfred*, he desired me to write your Excellency, and ask the favour that he might enlist, out of your troops, one hundred and fifty or two hundred seamen; and if that number of seamen is not to be had, complete the number with landsmen, to man the fleet, as he is badly manned, and has more than fifty invalids.

As to the number of ships in the fleet, and prizes, and the late engagement, I must beg leave to refer your Excellency to the bearer, Mr. *James Price*, who has been on board the Commodore, and can, *viva voce*, give you a fuller account than I can now write.

The Commodore has brought his Excellency *Montfort Browne*, Esq., Governour of *New-Providence*, *Thomas Irving*, Esq., a gentleman of the Council for *South-Carolina*, and Receiver of the King's Quit-Rents, and *James Babidge*, Esq., Secretary of *New-Providence*, and a half-pay

officer, (who are on their parole of honour on shore,) and about seventy prisoners.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

G. SALTONSTALL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Enclosed you have an inventory of stores taken at *New-Province*.

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER TO THE PRINTER OF  
THE MARYLAND GAZETTE.

MR. GREEN: A report having been circulated through different parts of this Province that a letter of mine to *Hugh Hamersley*, Esquire, by Mr. *Robert Buchanan*, and opened at *Philadelphia* by Colonel *McKean*, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection of that city, contained sentiments different from those I had openly avowed; to remove every impression that such malicious reports may have made, and to prevent their further circulation, you will be pleased to give the enclosed copy of the letter referred to, with the annexed certificate, a place in your paper, and thereby oblige your humble servant,

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Annapolis, April 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Herewith you will receive my agency accounts, from the 29th of *September*, 1773, to the 29th of *September*, 1774; also, second sets of bills for eight hundred and twenty-two pounds fourteen shillings and two pence, and two hundred and thirty-three pounds two shillings and nine pence.

The money that I lodged in your hands must be carried to the Proprietary accounts. I have charged him and his guardians with it, in consequence of my letter to you on that subject.

The official charge exhibited against me,\* (from Lord *Suffolk's* office, I presume,) does not deserve an answer. However, as you seem to be under an apprehension that the Proprietary interest may suffer from the part I have acted, you have a copy of a letter from Governour *Eden* to me, wherein you will perceive that some of the charges are refuted, and the others accounted for. You know that I have openly and avowedly opposed the Parliamentary right of altering charters and levying money in *America*, without the consent of its inhabitants; but I have nevertheless done everything in my power to prevent the dissolution of the old Government, and to keep things together as much as possible, hoping thereby to have been instrumental in bringing about a reconciliation; but I fear the Ministry, by late acts of Parliament, have rendered it very difficult now to be accomplished; though I confess that it is so much the interest of both countries to be united, that I am not entirely destitute of hope that it may yet be brought about. If this is not effected, both countries will be ruined.

Captain *Squire*, in the *Otter* sloop, with two tenders, lately invaded this Province, took several vessels, and burnt one off this city. Our misfortunes were afflicting enough before; but to add insult to them, required great fortitude to bear.

I am, with great truth, dear sir, your affectionate friend, and obedient humble servant,

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Your letter of the 3d of *September* was the last that I received from you.

Philadelphia, May 3, 1776.

At the request of Mr. *Jenifer*, I went with him to Mr. *McKean*, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection of this city, to inquire for a packet directed to *Hugh Hamersley*, Esq., *Spring-Gardens*, *Westminster*, under the care of Mr. *Robert Buchanan*, which the Committee had taken into their

\* ABSTRACT OF A LETTER FROM H. HAMERSLEY.

JULY 30, 1775.—Little would be my pretensions to the friendship and regard I profess, were I to conceal the information given to the guardians, not from the Governour or his adherents, but officially here, "that you are at present one of the warmest Patriots in the Province; that General *Lee* (who is considered as in actual rebellion) was lodged, and lived with you in his late visit to *Maryland*; that you voted for the Delegates to the Congress, and went to *Philadelphia* to attend their motions." In the present critical situation of *American* charters, I wish you would enable me to refute the charge.

possession for inspection. Mr. *McKean* informed Mr. *Jenifer* that the packet was opened by him in the presence of several members of the Committee, in which was a letter to Mr. *Hamersley*; that he read said letter, and then sealed it with his own seal, and that no other person read the said letter. Mr. *Jenifer* then said that he would have written a line on the back of the packet, directing it to be sealed again and forwarded, if he had expected that it would have been opened, as it contained nothing that could give offence. Upon which Mr. *McKean* assured Mr. *Jenifer*, that there was nothing in the letter that would not do him honour anywhere.

At Mr. *Jenifer's* request, I opened the above-mentioned packet and letter to Mr. *Hamersley*, and certify that the above is a true copy, taken by me.

JOHN CADWALLADER.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Baltimore, April 9, 1776.

SIR: At the request of General *Lee*, I directed a friend at *Fredericktown* to supply any money which might be wanted by Captain *Grier*, commander of a detachment belonging to the General, on their march to *Virginia*, which money he told me the Congress would reimburse. My friend Colonel *Beatty* supplied Captain *Grier* with fifty pounds, pursuant to my order, the receipt for which I have enclosed to my friend Mr. *Daniel Stuart*, who is concerned with me in the superintendence of the frigate building here, and I have directed him to call on you for orders where to receive the money.

I am informed that Captain *Grier's* Company being seized by the small-pox, he was obliged to leave about fifty of them at *Yorktown* to be inoculated. I shall direct a friend there to supply anything they want, unless some other provision is made for the purpose; and shall be glad to know where I may apply for reimbursement, without giving you unnecessary trouble.

I am, with great respect, sir, your very humble servant,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GERARD HOPKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You desired I would inform you how the forty-three barrels of powder came to the possession of Mr. *McLure*, and whether the powder which came from *Philadelphia* was imported or manufactured in *Pennsylvania*. I am sorry it is not in my power to render you a proper account. The powder received from Mr. *McLure* is, from the best information I can get, thirty-four barrels—came from *Philadelphia*, which was imported. The remainder of the forty-three was bought here by the Committee, and now for the Province. The other seventy barrels came from *Philadelphia*, without any account therewith; and I cannot get any information from the Committee here. The people who brought it could not give any account, only that it was put in their care from *Bushtown*. Captain *Tibbet* was here a few days ago, and he informed me eighteen and a half barrels of the seventy were some he brought; and he further said the other was imported.

I have received some osnaburgh and hessing rolls, from *Lux & Bowly*, and also twelve large rolls of lead.

I informed the Council of the quality of the powder. I also informed them of one hundred and nineteen pieces hessing, instead of one hundred and forty-nine. I note what you say in regard to the receipts and deliveries.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

GERARD HOPKINS.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

THOMAS SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Chestertown, April 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Veazey*, as well as some other of the independent Captains on this shore, are very uneasy that they are not yet furnished with any arms or ammunition, more especially as they understand the troops on the *West-Shore* are generally well armed, and provided with

clothes. I am surprised that the arms, &c., which the Council determined before I left them to order from *Baltimore* to this place, for the use of the *Eastern-Shore*, are not yet arrived. I am fearful some accident has happened to them. I have been told that the Militia on this shore begin to be dissatisfied that they have not some proportion of ammunition sent them. I hope there is some on its way before now.

Since my return home, I have purchased of the gunsmith in this town ten rifles, at five pounds each, which will be ready to be delivered in two or three days, and ten more may be had in about two weeks more. I have also bought eighty pair of shoes for the troops, at seven shillings and nine pence per pair; and if the Council would have me to contract for the two hundred pair which was talked about, I can do it at ten shillings, and not under—of this they will please to write me. Captain *Veazey* has bought as much cloth in the County as will make eighty suits, and hopes to get as much more as will clothe his whole company. If the Council should not have procured blankets enough for the troops, some may be had in this County. Mr. *Cummings* has not yet sent an ounce of provision for the company quartered at this place, notwithstanding his promises.

I propose joining the Council the last of next week, and hope my attendance will not be wanted before; if it should, they will please write to me. My long absence from home makes my stay in the County for some time very necessary; but if the publick business calls, I will obey; and am, gentlemen, with the greatest regard and respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS SMITH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore Town, April 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since my return I have made inquiry, and found a person a professed stocker of guns, who will immediately finish your number of guns at fifteen shillings each; it is the customary price. The gunsmiths, as yet, do very little work, and I see no probability of my company being armed by them these three months. I shall be much obliged if you will permit me to fit the Province arms I now have. I shall not want more than fifteen or sixteen.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and obliged servant,

SAMUEL SMITH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM LUX.

[No. 110.] Annapolis, April 9, 1776.

SIR: Be pleased to send us immediately, in Captain *Nicholson's* small tender, all the spare blankets, and two-third parts of the linens imported in the *Wild-Duck*, Captain *Tibbet*. Show this to Captain *Nicholson*, and he will in consequence of it despatch his tender with them.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *William Lux*, *Baltimore*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF VIRGINIA.

[No. 111.] Annapolis, seven o'clock, April 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have, agreeable to the request in yours of the 4th instant, forwarded the packet received by *Samuel Solomon*, to the Honourable *John Hancock*, by an express. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 112.] Annapolis, April 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We this moment received the enclosed, which we have forwarded by express. You will be pleased to acknowledge the time that it is delivered, and oblige, gentlemen, your, &c.

To the Delegates of *Maryland*, in Congress.

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer (*Thomas Rhoads*) is hired on purpose to carry our paper (fifty-one reams) to *Annapolis*, for which we have advanced part of the price, and are to pay the rest on his return. We chose to send the paper by land at once, to avoid all hazard, and prevent every disappointment. The plates are not yet done. Mr. *Rittenhouse* now promises they shall be done by next *Saturday*; and as the Assembly is adjourned, we hope he will fulfil his promise. They shall be forwarded by the post, or some safe hand, as soon as done.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.,

T. STONE,

R. ALEXANDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation, April 9, 1776.

Whereas the Continental Congress did lately resolve, "That if any person shall be so lost to all virtue and regard for this country, as to refuse the Bills of Credit emitted by the authority of Congress, or should obstruct or discourage the currency thereof, and be convicted by the Committee of the City, County, or District, where he should reside, such person should be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of this country, and be precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies:"

And whereas, *Townsend Speakman*, Druggist, of this city, being charged with a breach of this resolve, in refusing to receive the above Bills of Credit in payment, appeared before the Committee for the City and Liberties, acknowledged the truth of the charge, and alleged, in his defence, scruples of conscience thereupon, as being money emitted for the purpose of war:

The Committee, pursuant to the trust reposed in them, proceeded to consider the charge and defence, and were of opinion, that if such allegation was true, yet, as the Congress have made no exception, and as such conduct tends to subvert the most essential rights and liberties of their fellow-citizens, and, by destroying the means of defence, to expose their lives and properties to unavoidable ruin, it ought not to be admitted. But it appears by his own acknowledgment, that he has heretofore received, and does continue to receive, Bills of Credit emitted in this and the neighbouring Provinces, though frequently issued for the purpose of war; therefore, such objection is not well founded, nor the present pretence consistent with his former conduct. This Committee, therefore, (the party having declared he did not mean to appeal to any other Board,) do unanimously hold up to the world the said *Townsend Speakman* as an enemy to his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

Ordered, That the above be published.

Extract from the Minutes:

J. B. SMITH, Secretary.

LETTER II.—TO CATO.

Philadelphia, April 9, 1776.

Before I enter on the more immediate purpose of this letter, I think it necessary, once for all, to endeavour to settle, as clearly as I can, the following point, viz: How far personality is concerned in any political debate. The general maxim is, that measures, and not men, is the thing in question; and the maxim is undeniably just when rightly understood. *Cato*, as a refuge for himself, hath quoted the author of *Common Sense*, who, in his preface, says: "That the object for attention is the doctrine itself, not the man;" that is, not the rank or condition of the man; for whether he is with those whose fortune is already made, or with those whose fortune is yet to make, or among those who seldom think or care whether they make any, is a matter wholly out of the question, and entirely confined to himself. But the political characters, political dependencies, and political connections of men, being of a publick nature, differ exceedingly from the circumstances of private life; and they are, in many instances, so nearly related to the measures they propose, that, to prevent our being deceived by the last, we must be acquainted with the first. A total igno-

rance of men lays us under the danger of mistaking plausibility for principle. Could the wolf bleat like the lamb, the stock would soon be enticed into ruin; wherefore, to prevent the mischief, he ought to be seen as well as heard. There never was, nor ever will be, nor ever ought to be, any important political debate carried on, in which a total separation, in all cases, between men and measures, could be admitted with sufficient safety. When hypocrisy shall be banished from the earth, the knowledge of men will be unnecessary, because their measures cannot then be fraudulent; but until that time comes, (which never will come,) they ought, under proper limitations, to go together. We have already too much secrecy in some things, and too little in others. Were men more known, and measures more concealed, we should have fewer hypocrites, and more security.

As the chief design of these letters is to detect and expose the falsehoods and fallacious reasonings of *Cato*, he must not expect, when detected, to be treated like one who had debated fairly; for I will be bold to say, and to prove, that a grosser violation of truth and reason scarcely ever came from the pen of a writer; and the explanations which he hath endeavoured to impose on the passages which he hath quoted from *Common Sense*, are such as never existed in the mind of the author; nor can they be drawn from the words themselves. Neither must *Cato* expect to be spared where his carelessness of expression, and visible want of compassion and sentiment, shall give occasion to raise any moral or philosophical reflection thereon. These things being premised, I now proceed to review the latter part of *Cato's* second letter.

In this place, *Cato* begins his first attack on *Common Sense*; but as he only discovers his ill-will, and neither offers any arguments against it, nor makes any quotation from it, I should, in this place, pass him by, were it not for the following strange assertion: "If little notice," says *Cato*, (little opposition he means) "has yet been taken of the publications concerning Independence, it is neither owing to the popularity of the doctrine, the unanswerable nature of the arguments, nor the fear of opposing them, as the vanity of the author would suggest." As *Cato* hath given us the negative reasons, he ought to have given us the real ones; for as he positively tells what it was not owing to, he undoubtedly knows what it was owing to, that he delayed his answers so long; but instead of telling us that, (which, perhaps, is not proper to be told,) he flies from the argument with the following plump declaration: "Nine-tenths of the people of *Pennsylvania* (says he) yet abhor the doctrine." But stop, *Cato*! Not quite so fast, friend. If this be true, how came they, so late as the 2d of *March* last, to elect, for a Burgess of this city, a gentleman of known independent principles, and one of the very few to whom the author of *Common Sense* showed some part thereof while in manuscript? *Cato* is just as unfortunate in the following paragraph: "Those," says he, "who made the appeal, (that is, published the pamphlet,) have but little cause to triumph in its success. Of this they seem sensible, and, like true quacks, are constantly pestering us with additional doses, till the stomachs of their patients begin wholly to revolt." It is *Cato's* hard fate to be always detected; for perhaps there never was a pamphlet, since the use of letters was known, about which so little pains were taken, and of which so great a number went off in so short a time—I am certain that I am within compass when I say one hundred and twenty thousand. The book was turned upon the world like an orphan, to shift for itself. No plan was formed to support it; neither hath the author ever published a syllable on the subject from that time till after the appearance of *Cato's* fourth letter. Wherefore, what *Cato* says of additional doses administered by the author, is an absolute falsity. Besides which, it comes with an ill-grace from one who frequently publishes two letters in a week, and often puts them both into one paper. *Cato* here, *Cato* there, look where you will.

At the distance of a few lines from the above quotations, *Cato* presents us with a retrospective view of our former state, in which, says he, "we considered our connection with *Great Britain* as our chief happiness. We flourished, grew rich and populous to a degree not to be paralleled in history." This assertion is truly of the legerdmain kind, appearing, at once, both right and wrong. All writers on

*Cato's* side have used the same argument, and conceived themselves invincible. Nevertheless, a single expression, properly placed, dissolves the charm, for the cheat lies in putting the consequence for the cause; for had we not flourished, the connection had never existed, or never been regarded: and this is fully proved by the neglect shown to the first settlers, who had every difficulty to struggle with, unnoticed and unassisted by the *British Court*.

*Cato* proceeds very industriously to sum up the former declarations of Congress and other publick bodies, (some of which were made upwards of a year ago,) to prove that the doctrine of Independence hath no sanction from them. To this I shall give *Cato* one general answer, which is, that, had he produced a thousand more such authorities, they would now amount to nothing. They are out of date. Times and things are altered. The true character of the King was but little known among the body of the people a year ago; willing to believe him good, they fondly called him so, but have since found that *Cato's* Royal Sovereign is a Royal Savage.

*Cato* hath introduced the above-mentioned long quotation of authorities against Independency with the following curious preface: "Nor have many weeks (says he) yet elapsed since the first open proposition for Independence was published to the world. By what men of consequence this scheme is supported, or whether by any, may possibly be the subject of future inquiry. Certainly it hath no countenance from the Congress, to whose sentiments we look up with reverence. On the contrary, it is directly repugnant to every declaration of that respectable body." Now, *Cato*, thou hast nailed thyself with a witness! Directly repugnant to every declaration of that respectable body! Mind that, *Cato*, and mark what follows. It appears, by an extract from the resolves of the Congress, printed in the front of the Oration delivered by Dr. *Smith* in honour of that brave man, General *Montgomery*, that he (the Doctor) was appointed by that honourable body to compose and deliver the same, in the execution of which, the Orator exclaimed loudly against the doctrine of Independence; but when a motion was afterwards made in Congress (according to former usage) to return the Orator thanks, and request a copy for the press, the motion was rejected from every part of the House, and thrown out without a division.

I now proceed to *Cato's* third letter, in the opening of which he deserts the subject of Independence, and renews his attack on the Committee. *Cato's* manner of writing has as much order in it as the motion of a squirrel. He frequently writes as if he knew not what to write next, just as the other; and jumps about only because he cannot stand still. Though I am sometimes angry with him for his unprincipled method of writing and reasoning, I cannot help laughing at him, at other times, for his want of ingenuity—an instance of which he gives us in kindly warning us against "the foul pages of interested writers, and strangers intermeddling in our affairs." Were I to reply seriously, my answer would be this: Thou seemest, then, ignorant, *Cato*, of that ancient and numerous order which are related to each other in all and every part of the globe—with whom the kindred is not formed by place or accident, but in principle and sentiment. A freeman, *Cato*, is a stranger nowhere; a slave, everywhere. But were I disposed to answer merrily, I should tell him that, as his notions of friendship were so very narrow and local, he obliges me to understand that, when he addresses the people with the tender title of "My dear Countrymen," (which frequently occurs in his letters,) he particularly means the long list of *Macks* published in *Donald MacDonald's* commission.

In this letter *Cato* recommends the pamphlet called *Plain Truth*—a performance which hath withered away like a sickly, unnoticed weed, and which even its advocates are displeased at, and the author ashamed to own. About the middle of this third letter *Cato* gives notice of his being ready to take the field: "I now proceed (says he) to give my reasons." How *Cato* hath managed the attack, we are now to examine; and the first remark I shall offer on his conduct, is, that he has most unluckily entered the list on the wrong side, and discharged his first fire among the Tories. In order to prove this, I shall give the paragraph entire. "Agriculture and commerce (says *Cato*) have hitherto been the happy employments by which these Middle Colonies have risen into wealth and importance. By them the face



of the country has been changed from a barren wilderness into the hospitable abodes of peace and plenty. Without them we had either never existed as *Americans*, or existed only as savages; the oaks would still have possessed their native spots of earth, and never have appeared in the form of ships and houses. What are now well-cultivated fields, or flourishing cities, would have remained only the solitary haunts of wild beasts, or of men equally wild." The reader cannot help perceiving that, through this whole paragraph, our connection with *Britain* is left entirely out of the question, and our present greatness attributed to internal causes—agriculture and commerce. This is a strange way, *Cato*, of overturning *Common Sense*, which says: "I challenge the warmest advocate for reconciliation to show a single advantage which this Continent can reap by being connected with *Great Britain*. I repeat (says he) the challenge. Not a single advantage is derived. Our corn will fetch its price in any market in *Europe*, and our imported goods must be paid for, buy them where we will." *Cato* introduces his next paragraph with saying, "That much of our former felicity was owing to the protection of *England*, is not to be denied." Yes, *Cato*, I deny it wholly, and for the following clear and simple reasons, viz: that our being connected with, and submitting to be protected by her, made, and will still make, all her enemies our enemies; or, as *Common Sense* says, sets us at variance with nations who would otherwise seek our friendship, and against whom we have neither anger nor complaint.

The following passage is so glaringly absurd, that I shall make but a short comment upon it: "And if, hereafter, (says *Cato*,) in the fulness of time, it shall be necessary to separate from the land that gave birth to (some of) our ancestors, it will be in a state of perfect manhood, when we can fully wield our own arms, and protect our commerce and coasts by our own fleets." But how are we to come by fleets, *Cato*, while *Britain* hath the government of the Continent? unless we are to suppose—as you have hinted in the former paragraph—that our oaks are to grow into ships, and to be launched, self-built, from their "native spots of earth." It is *Cato's* misfortune, as a writer, not to distinguish justly between magick and imagination; while, on the other hand, there are many passages in his letters so seriously and deliberately false, that nothing but the most hardened effrontery, and a cast of mind bordering upon impiety, would have uttered. He frequently forces me out of the common track of civil language, in order to do him justice; moderation and temper being really unequal to the task of exposing him.

*Cato*, unless he meant to destroy the ground he stood upon, ought not to have let the following paragraph be seen: "If our present difference (says he) can be accommodated, there is scarce a probability that *Britain* will ever renew her late fatal system of policy, or attempt again to employ force against us." How came *Cato* to admit the probability of our being brought again into the same bloody and expensive situation? But it is worth remarking, that those who write without principle, cannot help sometimes blundering upon truth. Then there is no real security, *Cato*, in this reconciliation of yours on constitutional principles? It still amounts to nothing; and, after all this expense of life and wealth, we are to rest at last upon hope, hazard, and uncertainty. Why, then, by all that is sacred, "it is time to part."

But *Cato*, after admitting the probability of our being brought again into the same situation, proceeds to tell us how we are to conduct ourselves in the second quarrel—and that is, by the very same method we have done the present one, viz: to expend millions of treasure, and thousands of lives, in order to patch up a second reunion, that the way may be open for a third quarrel; and in this endless and chequered round of blood and treacherous peace hath *Cato* disposed of the Continent of *America*. That I may not be thought to do *Cato* injustice, I have quoted the whole passage: "But should *Britain* be so infatuated (says he) at any future period as to think of subjugating us, either by the arts of corruption, or oppressive exertions of power, can we entertain a doubt but we shall again, with a virtue equal to the present, and with the weapons of defence in our hands, when necessary, convince her that we are willing, by a constitutional connection with her, to afford and receive reciprocal benefits; but although subjects of the same King, we

will not consent to be her slaves." Come hither, ye little ones, whom the poisonous hand of *Cato* is rearing for destruction, and remember the page that warns ye of your ruin!

*Cato*, in many of his expressions, discovers all that calm command over the passions and feelings which always distinguishes the man who hath expelled them from his heart. Of this careless kind is the before-mentioned phrase. "Our present differences," and the same unpardonable negligence is conveyed in the following one: "Although I consider her (says he) as having, in her late conduct towards us, acted the part of a cruel step-dame." Wonderful sensibility, indeed! All the havoc and desolation of unnatural war; the destruction of thousands; the burning and depopulating of towns and cities; the ruin and separation of friends and families, are just sufficient to extort from *Cato* this one calous confession. But the cold and creeping soul of *Cato* is a stranger to the manly powers of sympathetic sorrow. He moves not, nor can he move, in so pure an element. Accustomed to lick the hand that hath made him visible, and to breathe the gross atmosphere of servile and sordid dependance, his soul would now starve on virtue, and suffocate in the clear region of disinterested friendship.

Surely, when *Cato* sat down to write he either did not expect to be called to an account, or was totally regardless of reputation; otherwise, he would not have endeavoured to persuade the publick that the doctrine of Independence was broached, in a kind of seditious manner, at a time "when (says he) some gleams of reconciliation began first to break in upon us." Come forth, *Cato*, and prove the assertion. Where do these gleams of reconciliation spring from? Are they to be found in the King's Speech?—in the Address of either House of Parliament?—or in the Act which lets loose a whole kennel of pirates upon our property, and commissions another set to insult, with pardons, the very men whom their own measures had sought to ruin? Either prove the assertion, *Cato*, or take the reward of it; for it is the part of an incendiary to endeavour, with specious falsehoods, to mislead the credulity of unwary readers. *Cato* likewise says: "That, while we continue united, and renounce all thoughts of Independence, we have the utmost assurance of obtaining a full redress of our grievances, and an ample security against any future violation of our just rights." If *Cato* means to insinuate that we have received such an assurance, let him read the conclusion of the preceding paragraph again. The same answer will serve for both.

Perhaps, when we recollect the long and unabated cruelty of the *British* Court towards us, and remember the many prayers which we have put up, both to them and for them, the following piece of declamation of *Cato* can hardly be equalled, either for absurdity or insanity: "If we now affect Independence, (says he,) we must be considered as a faithless people in the sight of all mankind, and could scarcely expect the confidence of any nation upon earth, or look up to Heaven for its approving sentence." Art thou mad, *Cato*, or art thou foolish? or art thou both? or art thou worse than both? In this passage, thou hast fairly gone beyond me. I have not language to bring thee back. Thou art safely intrenched, indeed! Rest, therefore, in thy stronghold till he who fortified thee in it shall come and fetch thee out.

*Cato* seems to be possessed of that Jesuitical cunning which always endeavours to disgrace what it cannot disprove; and this he sometimes effects by unfairly introducing our terms into his arguments, and thereby begets a monster, which he sends round the country for a show, and tells the good people that the name of it is Independence. Of this character are several passages in his fourth and fifth letters, particularly where he quotes the term "foreign assistance," which he ungenerously explains into a surrender of the Continent to *France* and *Spain*. Such an unfair and sophistical reasoner doth not deserve the civility of good manners. He creates, likewise, the same confusion by frequently using the word peace for union, and thereby charges us falsely by representing us as being determined to "reject all propositions of peace." Whereas our wish is peace, but not reunion; and though we would gladly listen to the former, we are determined to resist every proposal for the latter, come from where it will; being fully persuaded that, in the present state of affairs, separation of Governments is the only and best thing that can be done for both countries.

The following case is unjustly put: "There never was a war (says *Cato*) so implacable, even among States naturally rivals and enemies, or among Savages themselves, as not to have peace for its object as well as end." But was there ever a war, *Cato*, which had union for its object? No. What *Cato* means by States naturally rivals and enemies, I shall not inquire into; but this I know, (for myself at least,) that it was not in the power of *France* or *Spain*, or all the other powers in *Europe*, to have given such a wound, or raised up such a mortal hatred, as *Britain* hath done. We feel the same kind of undescribed anger at her conduct as we would at the sight of an animal devouring its young; and this particular species of anger is not generated in the transitory temper of the man, but in the chaste, undefiled womb of nature.

*Cato*, towards the conclusion of his third letter, (at which place I shall leave him for the present,) compares the state of *Britain* and *America* to the quarrels of lovers, and from thence infers a probability that our affections will be renewed thereby. This I cannot help looking on as one of the most unnatural and distorted similes that can be drawn. Come hither, ye that are lovers, or ye that have been lovers, and decide the controversy between us! What comparison is there between the soft murmurs of a heart mourning in secret and the loud horrors of war—between the silent tears of pensive sorrow and rivers of wasted blood—between the sweet strife of affection and the bitter strife of death—between the curable calamities of pettish lovers and the sad sight of a thousand slain? "Get thee behind me," *Cato*, for thou hast not the feelings of a man.

THE FORESTER.

#### CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Jonathan Lester*, for one hundred Pounds, for the purpose of building the Row-Galley at *Norwich*. An Order was drawn April 9, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Lester*, for one hundred Pounds.

Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Gave an Order on *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., to deliver to Captain *Seth Harding* eight of the several Guns, and fifteen hundred pounds of Powder, and four hundred Swivel Shot, in part of what he, the said *Shaw*, has provided for the Colony, and take receipt accordingly. Order delivered to Captain *Bartram*.

Gave an Order to Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, to deliver to Captain *Seth Harding*, of the Brig *Defence*, one hundred of the six-pound Shot in his hands, that belong to this Colony, and take receipt. Order delivered to Captain *Bartram*.

N. B. Mr. *Ebenezer Bartram's* Commission, as a Lieutenant of the Brig *Defence*, bears date 3d of *March*, 1776.

Mr. *Samuel Smedley's* Commission, as Second Lieutenant on board the Brig *Defence*, bears date the 10th of *March*, 1776.

Mr. *Joseph Squire's* Commission, as Lieutenant of Marines of the Brig *Defence*, bears date the 10th of *April*, 1776.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Samuel Smedley* is promoted to be Second Lieutenant of the Brig *Defence*.

*Voted*, That Mr. *Joseph Squire* be, and he is hereby, appointed Lieutenant of Marines on board the Brig *Defence*.

*Voted*, That Orders be given to Captain *Harding*, to proceed up the Sound with the Brig *Defence*, as far as *Stamford*, if need be, to enlist men on board said Brig, and to take in some Shot at *New-Haven*, and return with all convenient speed to *New-London*. Orders delivered to Captain *Bartram*, 10th of *April*, 1776.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table for two hundred Pounds, in favour of Captain *Seth Harding*, for the use of

the Brig *Defence*, and to render his Account. Order drawn April 10, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Bartram*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table, for two hundred and fifty Pounds, in favour of Captain *Edward Mott*, for the Pay and Wages of the Company under his command, and to render his Account. Order drawn April 10, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Bartram*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table, for two hundred and fifty Pounds, in favour of Captain *John Ely*, for Pay and Wages of the Company under his command, and to render his Account. Order drawn April 10, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Bartram*.

*Voted*, That the Men to be enlisted on board the Row-Galley *Whiting*, shall be enlisted to be held in service until the 1st day of *December*, 1776, unless discharged sooner by proper authority.

*Voted*, To draw an Order on the Pay-Table, in favour of *William Greenough*, and the rest of the Committee for fitting out the Brig *Defence*, and building the Row-Galley *Whiting*, for the sum of seven hundred Pounds, and to render his Account. Order drawn 10th of *April*, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Rice*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Committee of Pay-Table, for four hundred Pounds, in favour of Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, as a Commissary, to furnish the Brig *Defence* with Provisions, &c.; and to render his Account. Order was drawn April 10, and delivered to Captain *Rice*.

Passed an Account of *Daniel Lyman*, Esq., on which this Board allows the sum of nine Pounds two Shillings and two Pence, for supporting. Order drawn April 10, 1776, and delivered to Captain *Rice*.

*Voted*, That Captain *James Rice*, of *New-Haven*, is joined with Captain *Isaac Sears*, *William Greenough*, and *Michael Todd*, as a Committee for fitting out the Brig *Defence*, and building the Row-Galley *Whiting*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table, in favour of *Nathaniel Minor*, Esq., for one hundred and fifty Pounds, as he is Commissary to the Troops at the Fort at *Long-Point*, in *Stonington*, and for him to render his Account. An Order was drawn April 10, 1776, and delivered to Mr. *Nathaniel Gallup*.

*Voted*, That Captain *Hezekiah Bissell* and Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Jun., be appointed a Committee to repair to *New-London*, and consult with Commodore *Hopkins* about what measures to be taken in disposing of the Continental Prisoners in his custody; and, also, to apply to the Commodore for some Cannon, of different sizes, to mount the Forts at *New-London* and *Groton*, for the present, consulting with the Commanding-Officers and Engineer in those Forts about the number and sizes of the Cannon wanted; also, for Cannon suitable and sufficient for three Row-Galleys.

*Voted*, That the Committee for taking care of the Prisoners at *Salisbury*, may, at their discretion, remove the Prisoners in *Salisbury* to any other place in *Litchfield* County, as they shall judge most convenient.

*Voted*, To allow a small Bill, in favour of Mr. *Stephen Barker*, of *Norwich*, for some Iron Work done by him for the Colony, to the amount of fifteen Shillings; and that an Order be drawn accordingly. Order given out April 10, 1776, and delivered to Mr. *Barker*.

#### JONATHAN GLOVER TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Marblehead, April 9, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Committee of Correspondence have, this day, received from Captain *Samuel Tucker*, commanding one of the Continental armed vessels, twenty-two persons, who were in the brigantine lately taken by Captain *John Manly*, from *Boston*, bound to *Halifax*; among whom are four soldiers, with their wives and children; one *Caleb Wheaton*, (who, from his own account, has heretofore been esteemed inimical to his country,) with his three sons, and a number of others; who, in the course of their examination, have not been able to acquit themselves to their country, in our esteem; for the particulars of which, we beg leave to refer you to the worthy bearer, *Azor Orne*, Esq., one of the Committee, who attended the examination. The Committee have made comfortable provision for the entertainment of the above persons, and desire your Honours' directions what further steps they

shall take with them ; and are, with respect, your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN GLOVER, *Chairman.*

To the Honourable Council for the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay.*

ROBERT COOK TO COLONEL KNOX.

Grafton, April 9, 1776.

WORTHY SIR: I am at great difficulty about the teams and their loading at present, and last night likewise in shifting them, the which I did with three of them, and the three fresh teams that I got then are already tired, and say that they cannot go any farther than *Sutton*, which is six miles from hence, and there I expect to find them all to-morrow morning, and all of them wanting to have their teams shifted; and you may depend that they cannot go farther, for I have had a survey of all their cattle, by all the Selectmen of this town, and their Representative; and they say they cannot go on, their cattle are so much galled and lame. I am informed by the Selectmen that there are many teams in this town, but they cannot get any of them to go forward with a load, not even so far as *Sutton*; and in the whole town can get but one team, and he is gone forward; and there are three now remaining; and how to get them any farther I know not, without a special order from you or the General Court, to impress any of them that can be found, and the order to continue in force until they arrive at *Norwich*. The bearer hereof is one of the teamsters, who I thought proper to despatch, and he will inform you of more particulars.

Waiting your answer, I remain, sir, with impatience, your very humble servant,

ROBERT COOK.

To *Henry Knox*, Esq., Colonel of Artillery, or to *Ezekiel Cheever*, Esq., Commissary of Artillery, at *Cambridge*.

P. S. I hope you will satisfy this man for coming to you, which he desires.

ADDRESS OF THE MINISTERS AND ELDERS OF THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF GLASGOW AND AYR.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Provincial Synod of *Glasgow* and *Ayr*, beg leave to approach your Throne, professing, in the sincerest manner, our warm affection and inviolable loyalty to your Majesty, and our gratitude to Heaven for the liberty, peace, and happiness we and our people enjoy under your Government.

Blessed, as *British* subjects, with a Constitution the admiration of neighbouring States, which has been in several respects improved under your reign; protected by wise and equal laws in the enjoyment, not only of our civil rights, but our religious blessings; we would be unworthy of these high privileges, if we were not thankful for them to the God of Heaven, and did not also feel a constant gratitude to your Majesty, whom we consider as his Minister, raised up for our good, as the protector, guardian, and father of a great people.

Penetrated as we are with these sentiments, it has been matter of much grief to us that the spirit of Rebellion has been prevailing, and still continues to prevail in your *American* Colonies; and that the gentle measures pursued by your Majesty and your Parliament to suppress it, have hitherto been attended with so little success.

We are grieved that any of your subjects should be so infatuated as to deprive themselves of the real liberty, protection, and happiness they have long enjoyed under constitutional authority, and subject themselves to all the miseries of a democratical tyranny. We regret that they should receive any encouragement from the spirit of faction at home, and be flattered with ideas of liberty, which appear to us inconsistent with subjection to law, and subversive of all regular Government.

We have long seen with pleasure how averse your Majesty has been to draw the sword, and arm the nation even in support of law and legal authority, which have been insulted and trampled upon in your *American* Dominions. These insults you have borne with a patience and lenity unexampled in any former reign. We can easily enter into

the distress which your benevolent and compassionate heart must feel for the miseries which these deluded men have drawn upon themselves, and still more for the lives of your brave subjects which may be sacrificed before peace and order can be re-established.

We should judge ourselves wanting in duty to your Majesty, and in justice to the people under our care, did we not embrace the present opportunity of assuring your Majesty of their fidelity and affection to your Majesty's person and Government, their zealous attachment to our happy Constitution, and abhorrence of the present Rebellion. To inculcate on the people of our respective congregations the principles and duties of Christianity, a reverence for the laws of their country, and an affectionate attachment to the best of Sovereigns, ever has been, and we trust ever shall be, our sincere and active endeavour.

We implore the Supreme Disposer of all events, that he would, in his great mercy, shorten these dire calamities; that he would direct your councils, favour your schemes in the course of his Providence, and crown with success your generous designs for restoring and establishing liberty, harmony, and happiness, in every part of your extensive Empire.

May it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders met in this Provincial Synod of *Glasgow* and *Ayr*.

Signed in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment,

JAMES BAILLIE, *Moderator.*

Glasgow, April 10, 1776.

JOHN STEVENSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Copper-Mine, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When you met at *Baltimore* last *March*, I presented you with a memorial, informing you that eighteen hands at my mine were idle for want of gunpowder; and that the *Baltimore* Committee had taken two hundred pounds out of the publick magazine, which I had purchased last fall, and which has greatly impeded the carrying on my works at the Copper-Mine. You were then pleased to take my case into consideration, and grant me some relief. However, since that, I had procured one hundred pounds of powder, at a very great expense and charge, in *Philadelphia*, which, coming down in the packet, with sundry other things for the Committee, they likewise seized, and will not deliver up. What I have to request of the honourable the Council of Safety is, either to order my last hundred pounds of powder to be returned me, or, if the publick safety requires it should not be given up, to order me money to replace the same quantity. I have purchased very good powder, manufactured in the country, at ten shillings per pound, and can be supplied with a sufficient quantity to carry on my works at that price, and not under. The powder I have experienced to be of as good quality as any imported from *Europe*; therefore I flatter myself you will take it into your consideration either to order me the powder or money.

Your compliance will very much oblige, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOHN STEVENSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

WILLIAM LUX TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Baltimore, April 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have just received your favour of the 6th, and am much pleased that our Committee are able to justify their conduct to your satisfaction. I believe they all mean to do right; but it is quite necessary to keep them within bounds, because their zeal will sometimes outstrip their prudence. I intend coming down the last of the week, or the beginning of the next, with the account of the *Defence*, and will then bring the schooner's accounts, so far as I am concerned.

Mr. *Hollingsworth* has not got any clover-seed; the flaxseed, oil, and lead, you shall have by the very first conveyance. I am afraid hackles cannot be got; but I will try. I must beg you to send by Mr. *Chase* eight hundred pounds. Mr. *Alexander* has never come down, and I must pay off all the ship's accounts before I come down.

I hear the Convention is adjourned; if so, I wish to know. We have got three of the eighteen-pounders down;

six more were to set off yesterday. Mr. *Hughes* has drawn on me for the carriage, and hopes you will place some money in my hands for that purpose. I have paid thirty pounds for these three, and wrote to him to send an order on the Council, as I imagine they would indulge him, when they saw him exerting himself.

Mr. *Trumbull* tells me you have appointed Captain *Nicholson* Agent and Paymaster of the *Defence*. Please let me know; and whether we are to be any further concerned in furnishing anything on the ship's account, as we may close it finally.

I wish the account in the papers of the surrender of *Quebeck* could be true; but it will come presently. I have been hard at it, disputing the point of independency, two to one against me.

I wish you health and happiness; and am, honourable sir, your obliged obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*

P. S. You must excuse half a sheet of paper these times.

JAMES HINDMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot Court-House, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I was in *Annapolis* you were kind enough to promise me fifty stand of arms. If you think it safe, shall be much obliged to you to send them over by the *Miles River* Packet, with the accoutrements necessary for them. I shall be able, I am in hopes, to get thirty or forty blankets, and hope you will spare me as many as you can. I am very anxious to get to my station. Pots and camp-kettles please to send me at the same time; hats you also promised me; and cloth, if you have any to spare, as many of my people are very bare of clothes, and begin to grumble about not having them. In our present situation, it is impossible to keep the company all together, as many of them cannot get their board nearer than seven or eight miles, which makes it impossible for them to meet as regularly as they ought; for which reason am very desirous of getting arms and blankets, to remove to my station.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES HINDMAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

HENRY SCOTT AND OTHERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Bladensburg, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As we would not willingly interfere with any person's private character, unless obliged so to do, on a matter of the utmost importance, which, in the present case, we are under the necessity of doing, so far as it is consistent with our opinions and safety; yet far be it from us, and sorry, indeed, should we be to do the smallest injustice to any person whatever, nor will we, in any respect, condescend to it. We are apprehensive that Mr. *William Hamilton* may be appointed Captain, in place of Captain *Andrew Beall*, by the recommendation of Colonel *Joshua Beall*, through prejudice to our late Captain, who would not condescend to serve as Captain under him. There has been great confusion in our company since our Captain resigned, and it will be much more so if *Hamilton* should be appointed Captain, as a great majority of the company are determined not to serve under him—he not being a proper person, in any respect whatever, for that office; and sensible we are that, in the event of his being appointed, (should it so happen,) a company inferior to none in the Province, in the Militia, must inevitably come to nothing, wholly from the dislike of his filling that station. We, therefore, hope and entreat your Honours not to be the cause of destroying so good a company, which you might innocently be induced to do by the recommendations of the Colonel; but we trust that you will take the matter into your serious consideration, and reflect that we are a free people, and have a right to the choice of our own officers, under whom we are to risk our lives and fortunes with theirs, which we will most cheerfully and readily do, whenever called upon, provided we have officers agreeable, and such only we will obey. We therefore pray your Honours would gratify us, in granting a commission to Mr. *Andrew Beall, Jun.*, as our Captain, in place of his father—a young man that we choose, in pre-

ference to any man in the company, and who is balloted in by a great majority, having thirty odd votes out of fifty, and there were four candidates. And we further entreat you to give us the liberty of choosing our other officers, which will give great satisfaction to the whole company.

We are, for ourselves, and in behalf of the rest of the company, with much respect, gentlemen, your very obedient servants,

JOSIAS RAY,

JAMES RAY,

ALEXANDER CROFFORD,

THOMAS CROFFORD,

JOSIAH GORDON,

THOMAS TILLY, JUN.,

WILLIAM MATTHEWS,

JOHN BEALL,

THOMAS BEALL,

SAMUEL BRASHEARS, JUN.,

HENRY SCOTT,

GEORGE PEIRCE,

JAMES FERGUSON, JUN.,

WILLIAM BROWN, JUN.,

THOMAS BROWN,

JEREMIAH MOORE,

IGNATIUS WILSON,

JOHN TILLY,

JOHN WILLSON,

HENRY PURDY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

*The Petition of WILLIAM HAMILTON sheweth:*

That your Petitioner has undoubted reasons to believe that there are methods carrying on by some to exclude him from the post as Captain, where he now is First Lieutenant, of the company of Militia that Captain *Beall* has resigned. He (in order to get his son, *Andrew Beall, Jun.*, who was Second Lieutenant, appointed in his place, and from his expectations of being appointed Major) resigned, and solicited the company to recommend his son (who is yet a youth) as Captain over your Petitioner.

And your Petitioner hath proper credentials to produce to your honourable Board, if required, of his being in the Provincial service nine years the last war, at the reduction of *Quebeck*, &c. Your Petitioner, therefore, hopes your Honours will be pleased to appoint him to the post as Captain, as, by rotation, he humbly thinks he is entitled to. And, in duty bound, will, &c.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 113.]

Annapolis, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In consequence of a letter received by Mr. *James Tilghman*, from *Edward Tilghman, Esquire*, we send you the Association papers of your County, transmitted to the last Convention. Be pleased to return them to us as soon as you have done with them. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's County*.

COLONEL HASLETT TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 11, 1776.]

Dover, April 10, 1776.

SIR: The officer who commands the detachment of the *Delaware* Battalion, at *Lewes*, has written me a circumstantial account of an engagement between them and a tender of the *Roebuck* man-of-war, a transcript of which I have the honour to enclose you.

The Chairman of the Council of Safety, for that County, very earnestly requests that another company may be sent there, with arms and accoutrements, in aid of that detachment, one-half of which is every day on duty. On mentioning this request to General *Rodney*, one of our *Kent* Council of Safety, I have reason to believe it will be granted by them, on a promise of returning those arms (the property of the County) whenever the Council shall think the interest of the community calls for them. Having anticipated the order of Congress, with respect to the two companies now at *Lewes*, I hope my directing another to the same duty will receive your approbation.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

JOHN HASLETT.

To the Honourable Colonel *Hancock*.

*Extract of a Letter from the Commanding Officer at LEWES, dated APRIL 9th, 1776.*

On Sunday, 7th April, an express came from the Light-House Guard, to *Lewes*, with intelligence that Captain

*Field*, who commanded a schooner sent by the Council of that County to *Eustatia* for powder, had just arrived, and demanded assistance to unload her. I gave orders for the troops to march, as soon as boats could be had to ferry them across the creek, which the inhabitants procured with amazing despatch. We then marched, with the utmost expedition, to reinforce our guard, which had taken post by the schooner, to assist in discharging her cargo—mostly coarse linens. She then lay seven or eight miles to the southward of our cape. At the time of our arrival, the tender, making sail, bore down upon the schooner: on observing this, the men immediately ran her on shore. Our troops were out-gone by the tender, though they marched at the rate of seven miles per hour. Just before our arrival, the tender gave our guard a broadside with swivels and musketry, which they returned. On our junction, a constant fire was kept up for some time, till we perceived the distance too great. We then left off firing, and unloaded the schooner, though several hundred shots were fired at us to prevent it. Our people picked up many of their balls rolling in the sand. The tender despatched one of the barges to the ship for assistance, who made sail immediately, but was soon obliged to come to anchor, for fear of running on the *Hen-and-Chickens*. About the time the ship turned the cape, the tender anchored within musket-shot of the schooner, and kept up a continual fire with her swivels. We had, by this time, got the swivels in the schooner loaded with grape-shot, and a constant fire, for two hours, was kept up on both sides. We undoubtedly wounded their men, for we perceived some to fall, and others run to their assistance. They made several efforts to purchase their anchor, which were prevented by our fire; but at last they succeeded. Fortunately, however, one of our swivels cut their halyards, and down came their mainsail, which obliged them to anchor once more. At last, the wind shifting, they had a boat to tow them off. We then turned our fire on the boat, where two men were seen to fall; the barge, returning from the ship, joined to tow them out. Our men escaped unhurt. The Militia officers, at *Lewes*, acted with a spirit which does honour to their country.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER VI.

Philadelphia, April 10, 1776.

In the conclusion of my last letter, I charged the author of *Common Sense* with perverting the Scripture, in his account of the origin of the *Jewish* Monarchy. I proceed to offer some remarks in support of that charge.

“Monarchy,” says he, (meaning, probably, the institution of Monarchy,) “is ranked in Scripture as one of the sins of the *Jews*, for which a curse in reserve is denounced against them. The history of that transaction”—either the transaction of Monarchy, or the transaction of denouncing a curse in reserve—“is worth attending to.”

This confused proposition he endeavours to establish by a commentary upon first *Samuel*, chapter 8, full as far-fetched and ridiculous, as he will probably say mine is upon the prophecy of *Mount-Seir*. But this matter must be treated more seriously, for the sake of a country in which (*God* be thanked) the Scriptures are read, and regarded with that reverence which is due to a revelation from Heaven. I must, therefore, endeavour to rescue out of our author's hands that portion of the sacred history which he has converted into a libel against the civil Constitution of *Great Britain*; and show in what sense the passage has been universally received, as well by the *Jews* themselves as by commentators, venerable for their piety and learning, in every Christian country.

The *Jews* were long privileged with a peculiar form of Government, called a Theocracy, under which the “Almighty either stirred up some person, by an immediate signification of his will, to be their Judge, or, when there was none, ruled their proceedings himself, by Urim and Thummim, directing what course they were to follow in the public concerns of the nation.”\*

But they were of an ungovernable temper, fond of pomp as well as dominion over their neighbours; and being disgusted with the misconduct of *Samuel's* sons, whom, in his old age, he had made his assistant Judges over *Israel*, they came to him, and entreated him to appoint a King, who

might rule their nation, and avenge them of the *Philistines*. *Samuel*, deeply afflicted at the impious design they entertained of rejecting the divine Government, prays the Almighty for direction, who authorizes him to hearken to their voice, “for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, (says *God*,) that I should not reign over them.” He also instructs *Samuel* to enter a solemn protest against them for their folly and ingratitude, in preferring a human to a divine Government; and to show them the manner of the King that shall reign over them, since they desired a King to judge them like all the nations.

Now, all the nations which they knew, were ruled by Kings, whose arbitrary will stood in the place of law; and it appears also that the *Jews*, since the day that they were brought out of *Egypt*, had still retained a particular hankering after the customs of that country. The Almighty, therefore, by his prophet, not only signifies his displeasure against all such arbitrary rulers, but against every people who would impiously and foolishly prefer such a Government to one immediately under himself, where, in his providence, he might think fit to appoint such an one. And so far I have no difference with our author. But *Samuel* proceeds further to reason with the *Jews*, and, in the twelfth chapter, reminds them of the many deliverances which *God* had given them by the hands of their Judges—*Moses*, *Jephthah*, *Gideon*, &c., having with a strong hand brought them out of *Egypt*; having subdued the *Assyrians*, *Ammonites*, *Moabites*, and *Philistines* before them; and that, for all this, they preferred a Government even after the most corrupt models, to his just and righteous Government. And to convince them still further of their folly and ingratitude, the prophet appeals to a signal which he would give them from Heaven. He accordingly calls down an uncommon storm in the midst of harvest, and the astonished multitude cry out, “We have added to our sins this evil to ask us a King.”

Here our author erects his standard, and here he compliments himself with the mockery of triumph. “These portions of Scripture (says he, in all the assurance of infallibility) are direct and positive. They admit of no equivocal construction. That the Almighty hath here entered his protest against Monarchical Government is true, or the Scripture is false.” But I will take the liberty to say, that the Scripture is true, and that this author's inference is horribly false; nay, further, that from the whole spirit of the passage, as well as the reason of things, it is to be inferred that the Almighty would have as strongly expressed his displeasure against the *Jews*, had they rejected his Government for one of their own appointment, whether it had been monarchical or democratical—to be administered by one man or a thousand men.

The author had said before, that *Samuel* did not show the manner of any “particular King, but the general manner of the Kings of the earth, whom *Israel* was so eagerly copying after.” If he means to confine himself to these Kings, I have given them to him, to make the best of them. But if he means to argue from particulars to generals, and to make the old Prophet extend his protest against all future Monarchical Governments, such as were to subsist some thousands of years afterwards, however limited and mixed, particularly that of *Great Britain*, (which must certainly be our author's meaning, or he proves nothing to his purpose;) I say, then, if this be his meaning, I cannot so easily part with him; for in this lies our whole difference; and the particular case of the *Jews* cannot be applied to any other nation in this instance, as none else were ever in similar circumstances.

*Acherley*, in his *Britannick Constitutions*, (and I think our author borrows some of his principles where they can serve his purpose,) says expressly, “that the nations round about *Israel* invested their Kings with absolute power; and that it is a wild imagination to say that the *Israelitish* Kings, who were but copies (of these Kings) should, either in their election or power, be a pattern to *Great Britain*.” “There cannot be found either in the *Old* or *New Testament*, any particular description of the race of men, which are or ever were Kings of this nation.” How, then, can there be a Scripture protest against a race of men who are not even described in Scripture? Mark that,\* *Common Sense*.

\* “Mark that, *Cato*,” is a favourite expression of our author in the character of the *Forester*.

\* *Lowth's Commentaries*.



Let me add one authority more, from a commentator at least as good as our author, and who, nevertheless, flatly contradicts him—I mean the celebrated *Grotius*. He tells us that *Samuel*, in this passage, does not speak of what our author calls the “general manner of Kings,” or the just and honest right of a King to do such things; because his right is otherwise described elsewhere, as shall be shown. The prophet only speaks of such a right as the Kings round about *Israel* had acquired, which was not a true right; for such is not the signification of the original word *Mishpat*; but such an action as (being founded in might and violence) hath the *effectum juris*, or comes in the place of right.

*Grotius*, I fear, is too learned for us inferior writers (*Scriptores minorum gentium*) to follow him in this place. But *Sidney* (that great martyr to liberty) adopts the same explanation. “*Samuel’s* words (says he) are acknowledged by all interpreters who were not malicious or mad, to be a dissuasion of the *Jews* from their wicked purpose; not a description of what a King might justly do, by virtue of his office, but what those, who should be set up against *God* and his law, would do when they should have the power in their hands.”

Both *Grotius* and *Sidney* are well warranted in this interpretation, not only by the *Hebrew* text, but other clear passages of Scripture, and particularly the seventeenth chapter of *Deuteronomy*, where, with the approbation of Heaven, the duty of a good King is described and limited. The *Jews* commonly understood this chapter as containing an absolute promise from Heaven of a Royal Government, and a sufficient authority for the request made to *Samuel* more than three hundred years afterwards. Others understood it conditionally,—that if they did reject the Divine Government, and set up one of their own appointment, *God* would permit them; but their King should be chosen in the manner, and with the qualifications in that chapter described. All this, however, they disregarded when they asked an arbitrary King, like those of their neighbouring nations; and therefore, it is demonstratively certain that *Samuel*, in entering his protest against such Kings, did not protest against Kings or Monarchical Governments generally. Either this remark is true, or one part of Scripture is a direct contradiction to the other. But let the passage to which I refer speak for itself:

“When thou art come unto the land which the Lord thy *God* giveth thee, and shall say, I will set a King over me, like as all the nations that are about me; thou shalt in anywise set him King over thee whom the Lord thy *God* shall choose, one from among thy brethren, not a stranger,” &c. It is further directed, that he shall not be given to covetousness, nor multiply horses, nor wives to himself, nor greatly multiply to himself gold and silver. That when he shall sit upon the throne of his Kingdom he shall write a copy of the law in his book; (which it was understood he was to do with his own hand.) That this book shall be with him, (or always carried about him,) and he shall read therein all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his *God*, to keep the words of the law, and make it the rule of his Government, as well as private life. If he does this, *God* promises a blessing on his Government, to prolong his days in his Kingdom, he, and his children, in the midst of *Israel*. Does not this smell strongly of Monarchy, and even of hereditary Monarchy? Is not some sort of approbation, yea and a blessing, promised to both, when religiously administered, notwithstanding all that this writer has said to the contrary?

But he has not the candour to compare Scripture with Scripture; nor does he give a single passage complete, and connected with the parts necessary to explain it,—a clear proof that other craft may be employed as well as King-craft and Priest-craft, in “withholding the Scripture from the people,” even in Protestant countries. Had our author proceeded a little farther, or given the passages complete as he went along, it would have appeared that, notwithstanding the just displeasure of the Almighty, and his protest against the *Jews* for throwing off his righteous Government, yet as mercy and forgiveness are his chief delight, and he knows that there is no perfection in man, the matter was pretty amicably settled at last, and the Divine countenance was given to the establishment of Monarchy, even in the person of *Saul*. *God* himself directed his election and

appointment; and to prepare him for his office, gave him another heart, and also the spirit of prophecy.

As to the thunder-storm, in which our author exults, as an absolute disapprobation of all Monarchical Government, it was no more than a sign called for by *Samuel*, to convince the people that he spoke in the name of the Lord. But what did he speak in the verses immediately preceding? Not, surely, that *God* had a particular quarrel with Monarchical Government, as such, and that “blood would attend it;” but rather the contrary—that since the *Jews* would still insist upon a Government of their own appointment, the Almighty would yet give them a blessing under that very form, upon condition of their obedience to his law. “If ye will fear the Lord and serve him, and obey his voice, &c., then shall both ye, and also the King that reigneth over you, continue following the Lord;” to which duty of following the Lord a blessing is always promised in Scripture. “But if you will not obey, &c., the hand of the Lord shall be against you.” So it would have been for disobedience had they not asked a King! And, immediately after the thunder-storm, *Samuel* confirms this doctrine, and comforts the people: “Fear not, (said he,) although you have thus sinned, the Lord will not forsake his people. As for me, *God* forbid that I should sin against the Lord, and cease to pray for you. But I will instruct you in the good and right way.” Thus, it seems, a good and right way was yet to be found under Monarchical Government. From all which it is plain, that the Almighty had now pardoned the *Jews*; and the Prophet follows the example, promising still to proceed in the discharge of his duty among them, as a people yet in covenant with *God*. But, as I hinted before, it did not suit our author’s purpose to take notice of such passages as these; and he has been guilty of still as great a perversion of Scripture concerning *David*, whom *God* undeniably approved of, and appointed to monarchal rule.

“The high encomium given to *David*, takes no notice of him officially as a King, but only as a man after *God’s* own heart.” I know the poor equivocation which the author has here in reserve to offer, for his saying that this character was not given to *David* officially as a King, but as a man. It is true, that when *Samuel* first applied the character to *David*, he had not yet entered on his office; but when it was predicted that the Kingdom should not be continued in the family of *Saul*, because he had violated the law, and intruded himself into the Priest’s duty, which did not belong to him, the Prophet tells him that “the Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart,” with the express design of making him the successor of *Saul*, on account of his excellent and God-like disposition. “The Lord hath commanded him (this man after his own heart) to be Captain over his people, because thou (*Saul*) hath not kept that which the Lord commanded thee.” That one man is here rejected from being a King, because of his disobedience to *God*, and another chosen as his successor, because of his goodness of heart and regard to religion, “is true, or Scripture is false.” But one greater than *Samuel*, even *St. Paul*, puts this beyond all doubt, and appropriates the encomium to *David*, not merely as a King elect, but one actually exercising the office. “When he had removed him, (says the Apostle, meaning *Saul*,) he raised up unto them *David* to be their King, to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found *David*, the son of *Jesse*, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will,” namely, in his character of a King.

Numerous are the passages of Scripture which might be brought to show that the Almighty approved of *David* officially as a King, on account of his publick virtues, and that a Divine blessing was given to the Jewish Monarchy, under his direction. The reader may consult 2 *Samuel*, v. 10, 12, viii, 16; *Psalms* lxxviii, 70, 71, 72; *Psalms* lxxxix, 20, 23.

I have now done with our author on this head, and can return one of his polite expressions—“I despise him,” equally as a perverter of Scripture, and of the fundamental principles of mixed Government. I am threatened with being “hunted from every lane and lurking hole.” Hunt on. I skulk in no such places, but keep the open streets. “Wait a little,” say others, “*Cato* will soon be found tripping, and stumbling upon Tory doctrine, the divine right of Kings, non-resistance, and the like.” Well, gentlemen, wait patiently till it so happens; but let me, in the mean time, have fair play. I claim it of the publick, as being

engaged in a cause which is of the utmost importance to them as well as to myself; and while I handle it decently I can rely on their candour. I have got over what some may have viewed as the most thorny part of my way; and, upon the whole matter, I contend for this: That where a people are left to choose their own forms of Government, as has been the case of all the world for some thousand years, there is no particular denunciation of *God's* displeasure against any form, whether monarchical or democratical, under which such a people may think their civil happiness best secured, and their duty to *God* best performed.

*Acherley* shall again shelter me in this conclusion, which is the main purport of the present letter: "*Jesus Christ* left all the potentates of this world and their subjects to decide their several rights by the temporal laws of each nation; and never intimated what form of Government was most convenient or eligible." This directly contradicts our author, who says that the Almighty has entered his protest against the particular form of Monarchy. Yet *Acherley* was a good Whig, and desired to leave Scripture out of the institution of modern Governments. It might be well for the author of *Common Sense* to follow the example in his future works, without stirring up an old dispute, of which our fathers were long since wearied.

It has been asked, why does not *Cato* come to the point? he is but yet in the suburbs. Softly, gentlemen. If this be true, why do you, who are in the citadel, make such a noise, and betray such fears? Can you not let me pursue the siege in my own way? I really thought that if I could sap or overturn your foundations, the aerial part of your fabrick would tumble to the ground. You call on me to show my plan. I have done it; and mentioned as such, a safe return to a connection with our ancient friends and kindred, accompanied with all the advantages we have formerly experienced, and perhaps more; which, I trust, are things yet practicable; or, if it should prove otherwise, we can lose nothing by the exercise of deliberation and wisdom in the mean while. But what have you done? Although it was incumbent on you to have shown the advantages of your plan to the great and respectable number of good men who will always be averse to changes, except in the last necessity; although you ought to resolve their honest doubts concerning their future safety and peace, which have been plentifully thrown out to you; in short, although you ought to have counted the cost of your work, and have tried to reconcile with your design a multitude of interests, commercial, political, and economical,—you have only entertained us with some loose declamations upon abuses in the *English* Government; and shocked us, for want of better arguments, by a perversion of things sacred; filling the papers with personal invectives and calumnies against all who cannot swallow, at a venture, every crude notion which you may cook up as the politicks of the day. This will as little agree with the stomachs of others as with mine; although I have declared that, when the last necessity comes, I have no expedient in view but to take my chance with you, for better and for worse.

CATO.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

Philadelphia, April 10, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your letter, I laid the application before the Congress, who were pleased, in addition to the one hundred thousand dollars sent by Captain *Faulkner*, on *Monday* last, to order two hundred thousand more, which I have the pleasure of forwarding by Major *Sherburne*.

Should the Paymaster be at *New-York*, please to order it to his care, for the use of the troops; if not, you will order the money to be improved for the same purpose, and send a receipt for it.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Putnam*, at *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It is necessary, in conducting the warlike operations on the part of *America*, to meet our enemy on every ground, and to defend ourselves in the best manner

we can, against all attempts, in whatever shape, to deprive us of either liberty or property.

So far are the *British* Ministry from showing the least relaxation in their barbarous schemes of reducing the *American* Colonies to slavery, that they have passed an act to seize and confiscate our property wherever found on the high seas. In consequence of this measure, the Congress have come to a resolution of fitting out letters of marque and reprisal; the commission, instructions, and bond, preparatory to which, I have the honour to enclose you; and am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Convention of *New-York*.

ADRIAN BANCKER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Richmond County, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This day the Chairman of the Committee of this County waited on me, and informed me that *Cornelius Van Wagenen*, Esq., who was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia here, has declined accepting his commission, on account of his ill state of health; which has involved them in some difficulty, and makes a new arrangement of Field-Officers necessary; which they have completed, as per enclosed list. And as a little alteration in the commissions may make them sufficient, I send them herewith, as also a Lieutenant's commission for *Samuel Holmes*, in the south quarter, who has absolutely refused serving; wherefore they have chosen a *William Lake* to be First Lieutenant in his stead, under Captain *William Scoby*.

Being rendered incapable of travelling, by the sciatica, causes me to take this method, by letter, to apply to you, instead of waiting on you in person, as duty and inclination would have prompted me. And as next *Tuesday* is the day appointed for the choice of Deputies, to sit in the ensuing Provincial Congress, it will save trouble to deliver the commissions at that meeting, if they can be conveniently sent in time. I am of opinion that the safest way is per stage, which sets off from *Paulus Hook* on *Monday* morning, at dawn of day.

I am, with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ADRIAN BANCKER.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

P. S. *Past eight o'clock, in the evening*.—Just now, Mr. *Lawrence* sent me a letter he received from Mr. *Benson*, requiring that our County should be represented, to-morrow morning, in the Committee of Safety; and as I am utterly incapable of travelling, I have pressed him, by a few lines, to give attendance, which I hope he will comply with.

Return of Officers of the Militia of RICHMOND County.

*Abraham Jones*, Esq., First Colonel, continues.

*Cornelius Corsen*, Esq., Second Colonel.

*Jacob Mersereau*, Esq., First Major.

*Cornelius Cortelyou*, Esq., Second Major.

*Benjamin Parker*, Esq., Adjutant.

*Harmanus Garrison*, Esq., Quartermaster, continues.

*Samuel Holmes* having refused, *William Lake* appointed in his stead as First Lieutenant.

SAMUEL BUELL TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Huntington, April 10, 1776.

SIR: After a cordial salutation, these will inform you that I left *Easthampton* on *Monday* morning, after nine o'clock. No further discoveries were made of the fleets mentioned in the Committee's letter, unless that considerable number of shipping made a harbour at *Fisher's Island* on *Lord's day* evening. These, I suppose, are what we call *Wallace's* fleet. Those seen at sea, *Sunday* afternoon, perhaps were from the *West-Indies* or *Boston*. By their clustering in together, and frequent firing, it seems they were collecting their scattered fleet. We, sir, at the east end of *Long-Island*, are certainly much exposed to ravages and plundering, by the hand of violence. Whether we do not greatly need a regiment or two at the east end, must be submitted to your superior wisdom.

I am, sir, in great haste and much respect, your obliged friend and servant,

SAMUEL BUELL.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

CAPTAIN HULBERT TO JOHN MCKESSON.

New-York, April 10, 1776.

SIR: As Captain Cooper, the bearer, is waiting, in order to get a permit to take on board a load of provisions; and the Committee of Safety not yet making a House, he requests of me to inform you of his character. The gentleman belongs to *Southampton*, and has, to my knowledge, been employed in the publick service, to carry provisions from this to the eastward for our Army. And whilst I acted as a Committee-man for the town of *Southampton*, he always appeared to act for the publick good; and I give it as a private opinion, that he will act with prudence and caution, if he should be permitted by your House to take on board provisions for the distressed inhabitants at *Dartmouth*, or the eastern parts, &c. If you can in any way assist him in getting a permit, should take it as a peculiar favour, although it is no concern of mine, only to oblige, as far as I can, in my small sphere, every honest man to serve himself and country, &c.

I am, sir, your humble servant, JOHN HULBERT.  
To Mr. McKesson.

JONATHAN LANDON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Little Nine Partners, April 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with the request of the Committee of Safety, I applied to Mr. *Moses Harris*, who undertook to make discovery of some lead mines in the *Nine Partners*. Mr. *McDonald* and myself accompanied him to a limestone-kill, where, about twenty years since, a company of adventurers had sunk several shafts or pits, in quest of copper, as I am informed. Mr. *McDonald* made several trials and discoveries, both of lead and copper, and has drawn a report, the truth of which, as far as I could judge, may be depended on. We also applied to one Mr. *Fish*, on whose land Mr. *Harris* has made an advantageous discovery of lead, for leave to dig, but he would not gratify us; so that Mr. *Harris's* chief discovery was not explored by Mr. *McDonald*.

I am told the mines are now the property of a company; and that some of the family of the late Colonel *Horsman*, a Mr. *Bogart*, and *Tiebout*, of *New-York*, are some of them, of whom it is probable the Committee may be informed of every particular.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,  
JONATHAN LANDON.  
To the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-York*.

COLONEL NICOLL TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Fort Constitution, April 10, 1776.

SIR: I understand there are some new regiments to be raised in this Province. I have been some months in the service, and am still willing to be continued, if your body should think me a proper person. Enclosed you have a recommendation from Mr. *Wisner*, which he gave me to the Congress. After I received it, I understood that there had been so many applications that I thought it not worth my while to apply. If there should be any new regiments to be raised, I would be much obliged to you to mention my name to Congress, and make such use of the enclosed as you shall think fit.

From your humble servant, ISAAC NICOLL.  
To John McKesson, Esq.

GENERAL WOOSTER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 4, 1776.]

Holland-House, before Quebec, April 10, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here about a week ago; and General *Arnold*, by his desire, sets off this morning to supply my place at *Montreal*.

By a return of the state of the Army, which General *Arnold* sent, about ten days since, to Mr. *Deane*, you will see what we have to rely upon. Our situation is truly very disagreeable. We have between two and three thousand mouths to fill, and not many more than half the number of men to do duty; and many of them expect to leave us the 15th instant. We are erecting two or three batteries; but our powder and artillery stores are so trifling, that I rather

imagine no great results ought to be expected from them. Troops come in to our assistance but slowly; and a great part of those who have arrived have been but of very little service, on account of the small-pox.

In making out the arrangement of officers for the two regiments directed to be raised out of the broken corps in *Canada*, I promised them to write to the honourable Congress, to exchange them for two other regiments from the Colonies, which might be sent into this country, and their places in the Colonies be supplied by the two regiments raised here. As the troops who will compose these regiments have undergone great hardships, and have been from home near a twelvemonth, (which is much longer than they expected,) I think their request a reasonable one, and could wish to have it complied with.

I am, sir, with the greatest esteem and respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WOOSTER.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE CAPTAIN OF MARINES,  
ON BOARD THE SHIP ALFRED, DATED AT NEW-LONDON,  
APRIL 10, 1776.

Before this comes to hand, I make no doubt you will have heard of our arrival in this port, and of our engagement with the *Glasgow* man-of-war; but as I intend giving you an account of our cruise, must beg your patience for a while respecting that matter. The 17th of *February*, left *Cape-Henlopen*, and after a very pleasant passage of fifteen days, came to anchor off the Island of *Abaca*, about seventeen leagues distance from *New-Providence*, where we brought to several small vessels belonging to *Providence*, which gave the Commodore an opportunity of inquiring into the state of the Island, as to its defence; and found it very well supplied with warlike stores, and an object worthy of our attention, as it was not sufficiently manned to give us opposition. The vessels we then had in our possession were detained as transports, to carry the Marines over to *Providence*. We embarked, and made sail on *Saturday* evening, *March 2*, and on *Sunday*, at two o'clock, landed all our men (two hundred and seventy in number) under my command at the east end of the Island, at a place called *New-Guinea*. The inhabitants were very much alarmed at our appearance, and supposed us to be *Spaniards*, but were soon undeceived after our landing. Just as I had formed the men, I received a message from the Governour, desiring to know what our intentions were. I sent him for answer, to take possession of all the warlike stores on the Island belonging to the Crown, but had no design of touching the property or hurting the persons of any of the inhabitants, unless in our defence. As soon as the messenger was gone, I marched forward to take possession of *Fort Montague*, a fortification built of stone, about half way between our landing place and the town. As we approached the fort, (within about a mile, having a deep cove to go round, with a prodigious thicket on one side and the water on the other, entirely open to their view,) they fired three twelve-pound shot, which made us halt, and consult what was best to be done; we then thought it more prudent to send a flag to let them know what our designs were in coming there. We soon received an answer, letting us know that it was by the Governour's orders that they fired. They spiked up the cannon and abandoned the fort, and retired to the fort within the town. I then marched and took possession of it, in which were found seventeen pieces of cannon, (thirty-two, eighteen, and twelve pounders,) and not much damaged; they were spiked with nails and spikes, which are easily taken out. I thought it necessary to stay all night, and refresh my men, who were fatigued, being on board the small vessels, not having a convenience either to sleep or cook in. The next morning by daylight we marched forward to the town, to take possession of the Governour's house, which stands on an eminence, with two four-pounders, which commands the garrison and town. On our march I met an express from the Governour, to the same purport as the first. I sent him the same answer as before. The messenger then told me I might march into the town, and if I thought proper, into the fort, without interruption; on which I marched into town. I then drafted a guard, and went up to the Governour's, and demanded the keys of the

fort, which were given to me immediately, and then took possession of *Fort Nassau*. In it there were forty cannon mounted, and well located for our reception, with round, langridge, and canister shot. All this was accomplished without firing a single shot from our side. We found in this fort a great quantity of shot and shells, with fifteen brass mortars; but the grand article, powder, the Governour sent off the night before, viz: one hundred and fifty casks. Immediately after we were in the fort, I sent for the Governour, and made him prisoner until the Commodore arrived, which was soon after. We remained at *Providence* till we got all the stores on board the fleet, and then took our departure, the 17th of *March*. We have brought with us from *Providence* the Governour, his Secretary, and one Mr. *Irving*, Receiver-General of his Majesty's Customs, who belongs to *South-Carolina*.

On the 4th instant, we made the east end of *Long-Island*, and discovered the *Columbus* (who had parted with us the night before) to windward, with a schooner of six guns, one of Captain *Wallace's* tenders, which she had taken that morning. We made *Block-Island* in the afternoon, when the Commodore ordered the brig to stand in for *Rhode-Island*, to see if any more of the fleet were out, and join us the next morning; which was accordingly done, but without seeing any vessel except a *New-York* sloop, which Captain *Biddle* brought to the fleet, and after her papers were examined, she was released. At daylight we discovered a brigantine to leeward; we made sail, and soon came up with her, and, after a few shots, took her. She proved to be a bomb brigantine belonging to *Wallace's* fleet, mounting eight guns and two howitzers, commanded by one *Snead*, a Lieutenant in the Navy. We continued to cruise all day within sight of *Block-Island*, and in the evening took a brigantine and sloop from *New-York*, and have brought them into port with us, not being satisfied as to their clearances. At sunset we were twelve sail in all, and had a very pleasant evening. At twelve o'clock went to bed, and at half past one was awakened by the cry of "all hands to quarters." We were soon ready for action; the main body of my company, with my First Lieutenant, was placed in the barge on the main-deck, the remaining part, with my Second Lieutenant and myself, on the quarter-deck. We soon discovered a large ship standing directly for us. The *Cabot* was foremost of the fleet, our ship close after, not more than one hundred yards behind, but to windward withal. When the brigantine came close up, she was hailed by the ship, which we then learned was the *Glasgow* man-of-war; the brigantine immediately fired her broadside, and instantly received a return of twofold, which, owing to the weight of metal, damaged her so much in her hull and rigging, as obliged her to retire for a while to refit. Our ship then came up, (not having it in our power to fire a shot before without hurting the brigantine,) and engaged her side by side for three glasses, as hot as possibly could be on both sides. The first broadside she fired, my Second Lieutenant fell dead close by my side; he was shot by a musket-ball through the head. In him I have lost a worthy officer, sincere friend and companion, that was beloved by all the ship's company. Unfortunately for us, our tiller-rope and main-brace were shot away soon after the firing began, which caused the ship to broach to, and gave the enemy an opportunity of raking fore and aft. The battle continued till daylight, at which time the *Glasgow* made all the sail she could crowd, and stood in for *Newport*; and our rigging was so much hurt, that we could not make sail in time to come up with her again. At sunrise, the Commodore made the signal to give over the chase, he not thinking it prudent to risk our prizes near the land, lest the whole fleet should come out of the harbour. The *Glasgow* continued firing signal guns the whole day after.

In the action I lost three of my people out of twelve that were on the quarter-deck, and two others, who were in the barge, were slightly wounded. Captain *Hopkins*, of the *Cabot*, is wounded, his Master killed, and the Second Lieutenant of Marines wounded, and since dead. Upon the whole, it was a very hot engagement, in which our ship and the brig were much damaged; but we have this consolation, that the enemy is full as badly off; for by several expresses from *Rhode-Island*, we are assured that it was with much difficulty she got into port, both pumps going. We are now, thank *God*, in harbour, and shall stay some time to refit.

GEORGE DASHIELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

April 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I took the liberty, some time since, of informing you of a Company of Militia, in the First Battalion of this Province, being dissatisfied with the appointment of their commissioned officers, whereupon the Captain (*George Wailes*) resigned his commission, and the company elected by ballot their officers, a certificate of which was transmitted to the Council; but in answer, I was informed that the Council did not think it regular to issue new commissions until those issued by Convention were returned to them. I beg leave to inform you, that upon Captain *Wailes's* resignation, he delivered me his commission, and that I have by some means or other misplaced it, and have not been able to lay my hands on it since. But as Mr. *Wailes* is not in possession of the commission issued by Convention, I hope its not being returned to the Council will be no obstacle to their issuing a new one for the gentleman who was returned in the certificate. Mr. *Wilson*, who was appointed Ensign to that company, has likewise resigned; his commission I have enclosed.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE DASHIELL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN HINDMAN.

[No. 114.]

Annapolis, April 11, 1776.

SIR: We shall send the arms and ammunition to *Chester-town* to-morrow, or the day following, with directions to Messrs. *Smith* and *Hands* (who are now there) to distribute them agreeable to our instructions, and to see that no preference is given therein. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Hindman*.

JOHN GIBSON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, April 11, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour to receive your letter of this day, informing me the honourable Congress had appointed me Auditor-General of the Publick Accounts, with a salary of one thousand sixty-six and two-thirds dollars per annum.

I beg leave to thank you and that honourable body for the honour they have conferred upon me; and accepting of the charge, to assure the Congress my best abilities shall be exerted in their service, in this and every other of their commands.

I have the honour to be, with the most profound respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN GIBSON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lancaster, April 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The officers of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments, with those of the Royal Emigrants, and Captain *Chace*, of the Navy, having been lately removed from hence by order of the Committee of Safety, under the direction of the honourable the Congress, to the towns of *York* and *Carlisle*, in this Province, without having it in their power (as we have reason to believe in respect to some of them) to discharge the moneys due for their lodgings and diet at the house where they lodged and messed in this town; and the persons who have demands against those gentlemen for these articles, having laid their accounts before this Committee, and requested the assistance of the Committee in procuring them their moneys, we are obliged to trouble the honourable the Congress with a state of the demands and accounts of these persons, and request their direction in the matter, that these creditors of the officers (some of whom, especially those whose claims are the greatest, are not in the most easy circumstances) may have their demands adjusted and paid.

This Committee, gentlemen, are in some sort interested in this affair. The officers, when brought to this town by Captain *Mott*, were placed by him in the houses of Messrs. *Matthias Slough* and *Adam Reigart*, whose accounts, we understand, have been transmitted to Congress, and are

therefore not taken notice of here. After those gentlemen had entertained and provided for the officers a considerable time, they found it very inconvenient, and requested their removal. The officers took great pains to provide themselves with lodgings and accommodations, but without success. The gentleman with whom they were first placed, at length absolutely refused to provide for them any longer, and applied to the Committee to relieve them. The officers in this situation likewise addressed the Committee, representing the difficulties they were subjected to, every moment in expectation of being turned out of doors, and having notice that no more provisions would be dressed for them. To gentlemen in that delicate situation, though enemies, we could not avoid rendering every service in our power. We made interest with some of the inhabitants to afford them private lodgings, with firewood and candles, at their private houses, where they lodged and breakfasted, attended by their own servants; and as it was inconvenient for private families to dress dinners and suppers for them, we prevailed upon Mr. John Jordan (whose demand is the most considerable) to mess them at his house; and though we did not absolutely engage for the payment of their demands, yet we assured them of our influence in procuring them satisfaction, in case the officers should be unable to pay them. We have the greatest reason to believe these assurances from us were their principal inducement to entertain those gentlemen. They now resort to us, and we must look up to the honourable the Congress.

We must do that justice to the officers of the Seventh Regiment, to mention that none of these demands relate to that corps, except the trifling sum of six pounds ten shillings due Michael Bartgis, and part of the demand of Weitzell and Moore, for Captain Newmarch and Lieutenant Hughes, and that the residue is entirely for the lodgings and accommodations of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment and Emigrants.

The Committee have been highly honoured, and very happy in the testimonials they have received of the approbation of Congress, respecting their former conduct towards the officers and soldiers prisoners here. We could not be idle spectators of the distresses these gentlemen were reduced to. We could not, as a Committee, avoid taking notice of their application; neither could we place them in a situation which would have been less expensive, without treating them in a manner different from that recommended to us by the honourable the Congress, who, we hope, will suffer our conduct in the present case to pass without censure, and order in what manner these people's demands are to be satisfied.

We beg leave to ask if the former resolve of Congress, permitting the officers to come at times from their places of residence to Lancaster, for the purpose of settling with and paying their men, and giving the necessary receipts for their rations, is to be deemed still in force; and whether, upon application of the soldiers for shoes, or any necessary clothing, (those applications now becoming frequent,) this Committee shall provide them at the Continental expense.

We shall steadily persist in carrying into execution every resolve of the honourable the Congress, and be strictly attentive to their directions and recommendations.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servants,

J. YEATES, Chairman.

To the Honourable John Hancock, Esq.

State of the demands of sundry persons in LANCASTER, who have Accounts against the Officers of the SEVENTH and TWENTY-SIXTH Regiments, ROYAL EMIGRANTS, and Captain CHACE, of the Navy, late prisoners at LANCASTER, now removed to YORK and CARLISLE; referred to in the Letter from the Committee of LANCASTER County to the honourable the Continental Congress, of APRIL 11, 1776:

John Jordan's demand for diet, &c., being the Mess-House of the Twenty-Sixth and Emigrants, - - - - -	£168	3	10
For a cord of wood for Captain Livingston, - - - - -	0	14	0
Caleb Coope's demand for a room, fire, candles, &c., for Captain Livingston, of the Twenty-Sixth, - - - - -	2	14	0

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

Henry Helm's demand for room, fire, candles, &c., for Lieutenant Thompson, of the Twenty-Sixth, - - - - -	£2	7	9
Eberhart Michael's demand for a room, fire, candles, &c., for Lieutenant Thomas, of the Twenty-Sixth, - - - - -	4	2	0
Michael Bartgis's demand for a room, fire, candles, &c., for Lieutenants Despart, of the Seventh, and — Andre, of the Seventh, - - - - -	6	10	0
Paul Weitzell's demand for a room, fire, candles, &c., for Captain Strong, of the Twenty-Sixth, and Lieutenant Hughes, of the Seventh, - - - - -	6	10	7
Adam Reigart's demand for a room, fire, candles, &c., for Ensign Gordon, of the Twenty-Sixth, - - - - -	3	18	9
George Moore's demand for a room, fire, candles, &c., for Captain Newmarch, of the Seventh, - - - - -	5	2	0

Certified by order of the Committee:

J. YEATES, Chairman.

COMMISSION FOR A PRIVATEER.

IN CONGRESS.—The Delegates of the United Colonies of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, RHODE-ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, NEW-YORK, NEW-JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, the Counties of NEW-CASTLE, KENT and SUSSEX on DELAWARE, MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, NORTH-CAROLINA, SOUTH-CAROLINA, and GEORGIA:

To all to whom these presents shall come, send greeting:  
Know ye,

That we have granted, and by these presents do grant, license and authority to John Adams, Mariner, commander of the sloop called Chance, of the burden of forty-five tons, or thereabouts, belonging to Joseph Dean, Philip Moore & Co., of Philadelphia, in the County of Philadelphia, mounting four guns, and navigated with forty-five men, to fit out and set forth the said sloop, in a warlike manner, and by and with the said sloop, and the crew thereof, by force of arms, to attack, seize, and take the ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of Great Britain, or any of them, with their tackle, apparel, furniture, and loading, on the high seas, or between high water and low water mark, and to bring the same into some convenient Ports in the Colonies, in order that the Courts, which are or shall be appointed to hear and determine causes, civil and maritime, may proceed in due form to condemn the said captures, if they be judged lawful prizes; the said Joseph Dean & Co. having given bond, with sufficient security, that nothing be done by said commander, or any of the officers, mariners, or company thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the usage and customs of civilized nations, and the instructions, (a copy of which is herewith delivered to him.) And we will and require all our officers whatever to give succour and assistance to the said commander in the premises. This commission shall continue in force until the Congress shall issue orders to the contrary.

Dated at Philadelphia, April 11, 1776.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, President.  
JOHN ADAMS.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER VII.

Philadelphia, April 11, 1776.

The author of Common Sense does not trust wholly to his Scripture doctrines for the demolition of Monarchical Government; and, indeed, how could he? For he seems only to have begun his study of the Bible "since the fatal 19th of April, 1775." Before that period, as he eloquently tells us, "no man was a warmer wisher to reconciliation (with Monarchical Government) than himself." It may be proper, then, to take some notice of what he offers by way of argument against Monarchy, and particularly the hereditary kind.

"If hereditary successions," says he, (meaning succession to Monarchical Government,) "did insure a race of good men, it would have the seal of Divine authority." Thus



we find him, with his own hand, affixing the seal of Heaven to what he has before told us the Devil invented, and the Almighty entered his protest against. A strange inconsistency, as well as heterodoxy! For, if Monarchy be from hell, and reprobated by Heaven, how can a succession to it be sanctified by the authority of everlasting goodness?

He finds another curious argument against the *English* Monarchy, in particular, by tracing it to the rascally original of a *French* Bastard. Yet, in the estimation of many, this will prove as little against the institution itself, as it would prove against this author's arguments, or mine, in the present controversy, if both of us were discovered, not only to have sprung from bastards, but to be such ourselves. The family escutcheon that is without a blot, must be but of very fresh date. The rest of his arguments appear nothing better than these, even where he displays his whole force, in laying before us the materials of the *English* Constitution, under different heads.

"First. The remains of Monarchal tyranny, in the person of the King. Secondly. The remains of Aristocratical tyranny, in the persons of the Peers. Thirdly. The new Republican materials, in the persons of the Commons." These, he intimates, may be virtuous; but he should have made them as tyrannical as the others, so far as these Colonies are concerned; else what are we contending for against them?

Alas! what more than *Augean* labour have I undertaken, in attempting to answer a writer, who, under the specious name of *Common Sense*, is constantly dealing out paradoxes, and setting himself up, not only in contradiction to the sober sentiments of the wisest of mankind, but often in contradiction to himself? Can any man expect credit who will gravely assert that a people, long famed for wisdom and love of liberty, would have employed themselves for a thousand years in compounding and rearing up a Constitution out of the materials of the different simple forms of Government, and, all the while, have selected nothing but the tyrannical remains of each? To reason with such a writer would be lost labour. Some assertions are too absurd for the possibility of refutation. The rules of logic cannot lay hold of them.

In such a case, the best answer that can be given is, to lay before the reader a true account of the *English* Constitution, the praises of which have adorned and filled the volumes of the greatest men in our own and other countries. In this part of my work, therefore, I shall have little more to do than to copy them; and as the sentiments of foreigners may be deemed more impartial than our own, I shall take one of the greatest of them—the illustrious *Montesquieu*—for my chief guide. But as this truly enlightened genius, with the dignity of a profound lawgiver, delivers himself almost in the concise style of aphorisms, that he may be more useful to men whose clear and comprehensive understanding renders them fit for the like office themselves, in the service of their country, I shall endeavour to convey the substance of his doctrines, in the most familiar style, retaining, as far as I am able, his sense and spirit. I shall likewise venture sometimes to make a few additions, either for illustration, or to bring his general principles more closely home to the *English* Constitution.

There is certainly something too venerable in a fabric built up with so much care by our ancestors, cemented with so much blood, and to which they have adhered for so many ages, to be lightly given up, upon the partial representations, or general invectives of any writer, or number of writers, arguing from the abuse of things against the use of them. We would not lock ourselves out of an old habitation, till we had provided a new and better one; nor part with a common friend upon the passionate accusations of an avowed enemy, without hearing what he could say in his defence, and giving him a fair trial. For, at this rate, we could have nothing of the least stability or permanency upon earth; and our whole lives would be employed in making and unmaking, building up and pulling down, without ever reaping the smallest fruit of our labours.

The author of *Common Sense* stands singular in his rage for condemning the *English* Constitution in the lump, and the administration of it from the beginning. The immortal *Sydney* himself gives it a different character, and speaks with reverence of the wisdom of our ancestors. "They evidently appear, (says he,) not only to have intended well, but

to have taken a right course to accomplish what they intended. This had effect as long as the cause continued; and the only fault which can be ascribed to that which they established is, that it has not proved to be perpetual, which is no more than may be justly said of the best human Constitutions that ever have been in the world. If we will be just to our ancestors it will become us, in our time, rather to pursue what we know they intended, and by new Constitutions to repair the breaches made upon the old, than to accuse them of defects that will forever attend the actions of men."

*Montesquieu* himself, in the cool moments of philosophical reflection, unbiased by local prejudices, and remote, both in time and place; from the scenes he describes, has given us an instructive lesson on this head. "A very droll spectacle (says he) it was in the last century, to behold the impotent efforts the *English* made for the establishment of Democracy or Republican Government. The spirit of one faction was suppressed only by that of a succeeding faction. The Government was continually changing. The people, amazed at so many revolutions, sought everywhere for a Democracy, without being able to find it anywhere. At length, after a series of tumultuary motions and violent shocks, they were obliged to have recourse to that very Government which they had so odiously proscribed."

Every Government, in order to be complete, must have within itself the power of preserving its being, as well as pursuing its well-being. And such a power necessarily implies three things: 1st, Legislation, or the making laws and regulations for the good of the community; 2d, The execution of these laws; 3dly, The judging when they are duly executed, and punishing offenders. The great object of the whole is political liberty, which *Montesquieu* defines, "that tranquillity or peace of mind arising from the opinion each person has of his safety. In order to have this liberty, it is requisite that the Government be so constituted, as one man need not be afraid of another,"\* either in respect of his person or property. Every man's own feelings can tell him that this is a true definition.

But the union of these three powers—the Legislative, the Executive, and Judicial, in one man, or any number of men, is not liberty, but tyranny complete; because there can be no safety for individuals in such a case, unless goodness were always united with power; which is not to be looked for, except under the perfect government of Heaven. "It is a mistake, (says the great Mr. *Locke*,) to think that this fault (the abuse of power) is proper only to Monarchies. Other forms of Government are liable to it as well as that; for wherever the power that is put into any hands for the government of the people, and the preservation of their properties, is applied to other ends, and made use of to impoverish, harass, or subdue them to the arbitrary and irregular commands of those that have it, there it presently becomes tyranny, whether those that use it are one or many. Thus we read of thirty tyrants at *Athens*, as well as one at *Syracuse*; and the intolerable dominion of the *Decemviri*, or ten men at *Rome*, was nothing better. Wherever law ends tyranny begins."

Even the union of but any two of these powers, the Legislative and Executive for example, in one man, or body of men, would leave no chance for liberty; because they who make the laws, being also to execute them, they would be led to frame oppressive laws for the sake of the power and wealth which they might derive to themselves by carrying such laws into execution.

Again, there is no liberty if the power of judging be not separated from both the other powers. For where the same persons who make the laws are either to execute them, or to judge of their execution, the life and liberty of the subject are wholly at their mercy. These principles are general, and they may now be applied to particular examples.

"In *Turkey* these three powers are united in the *Sultan's* person, and therefore the subjects groan under the weight of a most frightful oppression."

"In the Republics of *Italy*, where these three powers are united in a standing body of Magistrates, there is less liberty than in our Monarchies;" meaning those of *France*, *Spain*, &c. "Their Government is obliged to have recourse to as violent measures for its support as even that of the *Turks*." What a situation must the poor subject be in,

\* *Montesquieu*, B. XI. ch. 6.

in these Republicks! The same Magistrates, as a body, are absolute in everything. By having the execution of the laws, they possess whatever powers they are pleased to give themselves in making them. They may plunder the State without control; for they, first of all, in the character of lawgivers, appoint what taxes they please; and, being also the executors of the laws, these taxes come into their own hands, and may be put into their own pockets. Being likewise themselves judges, amidst all these oppressions, no man can have a remedy against them, and "every private citizen may be ruined by their particular decisions. Although in such a State there is no external pomp (such as arbitrary Princes have) that indicates tyranny or despotick sway," yet the people know it by a surer mark—"they feel it every moment." Even at *Venice*, where the power of the Magistracy is said to be somewhat softened, by having different tribunals erected, which temper each other, there is still this mischief, "that these tribunals are composed of Magistrates all belonging to the same body, which constitutes almost one and the same power," unaccountable to any other.

These three powers ought, then, for the preservation of liberty, to be lodged in separate bodies, and made to control each other. *Montesquieu* adds, that for the greater safety, the judicial power ought not to be given to a standing Senate; but that the judges should be of the same station as the accused; or, in other words, their peers—amenable to the law; only its mouth, and guided wholly by its decisions; that, in criminal cases especially, it is proper the person accused should have the privilege of choosing, in some measure, his judges, (that is, in our Constitution, a Jury,) in concurrence with the law, or at least he should have a right to except against so great a number that the remainder may be deemed his own choice.

The application of these general doctrines to the *English* Constitution, the corruptions that have crept into it, with the power left in the people for bringing it back to its first principles, and rendering it safer for us than any other we can probably substitute in its room, are important subjects, and too copious to be discussed in this letter. CATO.

#### GLOUCESTER COUNTY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation, }  
April 11, 1776. }

Whereas the Continental Congress did lately resolve, "That if any person shall be so lost to all virtue and regard for this country as to refuse to receive the Bills of Credit emitted by the authority of Congress, or should obstruct or discourage the currency thereof, and be convicted by the Committee of the City, County, or District, where he should reside, such person should be deemed, published, and treated as an enemy of this country, and be precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies:" And whereas *Lucas Gibbs*, of the Township of *Deptford*, in the County of *Gloucester*, Blacksmith, being charged with a breach of this resolve, in refusing to receive the above Bills of Credit, and the said *Lucas Gibbs* appearing before the Committee of the County aforesaid, and being charged with said breach, acknowledged the same, and alleged, in his defence, scruples of conscience thereupon, as being money emitted for the purpose of carrying on war against Government:

The Committee, pursuant to the trust reposed in them, proceeded to consider the charge and defence; were of opinion, that as such charge appears to be true, and there being no exception made by Congress, and as such conduct tends to subvert the most essential rights and liberties of their fellow-citizens, and the freedom of *America*, and, by destroying the means of defence, to expose their lives and properties to unavoidable ruin, it ought not to be admitted. And it appearing, by his own acknowledgment, that he has heretofore received, and still continues to receive Bills of Credit emitted in this and the neighbouring Provinces, though frequently issued for the purpose of war, his objection being ill-founded, and the present pretence inconsistent with his former conduct; this Committee do unanimously hold up to the world the said *Lucas Gibbs* as an enemy to his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these Colonies.

By order of the Committee: JOSEPH HUGG, Clerk.

#### TO THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK.

When we remember that there is no principle in divinity or morality, in law or physick, but what has been controverted by some from interest or prejudice, and that with some plausibility, we need not be greatly surprised to find, that notwithstanding the very general approbation which *Common Sense* and Independence have met with in these Colonies, some few should rise up and oppose them. What plainer dictate of reason, than that the mother and child are akin? Yet there have been learned, ingenious lawyers, who have argued against this with as much plausibleness as to persuade Courts that they were not akin, and to give a decision against it. What is more evident in religion, morality, and politicks, than that corruption and bribery are not for the good of the nation, and that it is very destructive for placemen and pensioners to have seats in Parliament? But though it has been often attempted to exclude them, yet it has always been negatived. It is the interest of the Court, and these Court members, to allow them, and therefore reason and good policy are not regarded. Such *Americans* as depend upon, or have expectations from the *British* Court, most certainly will be against separation, since, as *Demetrius* of old (a man who understood himself well) observed, with great propriety, "by this we have our wealth."

It is supposed, not without reason, that some of the most zealous opposers of *Common Sense* are secret enemies to this country—Tories in disguise, who, finding that toryism is become obnoxious, have chosen dependance as a more advantageous post from which they may, with greater reputation and success, promote divisions, and defeat all the measures the Colonies have concerted. Hence it is observed, that all who were suspected to be Tories are now fierce for reconciliation, and pretend to be dreadfully afraid at the mention of Independence. They have changed their ground, but not their principles. Others are influenced by motives not so unfriendly to their country, viz: ignorance and custom; as multitudes in Popish countries are prejudiced against Protestants and reformation.

The *British* Constitution has been mightily extolled. But by whom? By Court Bishops and their dependants; by Court lawyers and their dependants; by placemen and pensioners. "For by this we have our wealth." But notwithstanding all the praises which such gentry, the great leaders of the nation, have lavished upon the *British* Constitution, any person of candour, who shall examine it with impartiality, must soon be convinced that it is far from deserving any great commendation. To pass over the great imperfections of Kingly Government and hereditary succession, and the enormous expense which Courts require to support their extravagance, to the great oppression of the industrious poor; what right from Scripture, or reason, has the King to assume the arrogant title of Head of the Church, and to act in that capacity, when it often happens that he is not qualified to be a member of the Church? Was it not the most absurd thing in the world that King *James* the Second, a professed Papist, should be the head of the Protestant Church of *England*, to which he was the most determined enemy? or that an infant, or a woman, should be invested with this prerogative? According to the custom, (derived not from reason, but from the feudal tenures,) the lands descend to the eldest sons, who may indulge themselves in the greatest profusion, while all the rest of the children are left to shift for themselves. *God* Almighty is no respecter of persons; but the *British* Constitution gives to some to wallow in luxury to destroy themselves, and forces the greater part to live in poverty. And hence innumerable robberies and executions, which have scarce made their appearance in the Colonies, except imported from the *British* Constitution.

These mighty landed gentlemen are entitled by birth, to all generations, be they ever so worthless, to a seat in the House of Lords. When they are brought up in luxury, pride, and ambition, they are excellently qualified, no doubt, to be legislators. Yet such is this boasted Constitution, that legislators they must be, though they should know no more about law and right than about *Arabick* or fluxions. To the Lords Temporal there are added the Lords Spiritual, or the Bishops. But what reason is there for clergymen to have seats in Parliament? Are there not secular gentlemen enough to regulate the civil state of the Kingdom, without obliging the clergy to leave their proper func-

tions to attend upon business inconsistent with their proper calling? The dependance of the clergy on the Crown gives great weight to the King, and helps to enslave the people, since they have been known to preach up non-resistance and passive obedience, for the sake of preferment.

And as to the House of Commons, who are to represent the people, they are chosen by a small pitiful handful of the inhabitants. Much the greater part of the men of property have no right to vote for members of Parliament. The poor beggarly Boroughs send a great part of the members of the House of Commons. This is *British* Constitution, but as contrary to reason as light is to darkness, and utterly inconsistent with all good Government. Where, then, is the divine excellence of the *British* Constitution?

However, the administration upon the Constitution is still worse. The votes of the electors are bought by the candidates. By this the poor beggarly electors, many of them, have their principal support; they depend upon the sale of their votes for their subsistence. And as the members buy their seats at a vast expense, they sell it to the Minister for as high a price as they can. Reason and conscience have had but little business in Parliament these fifty years. Money determines all. Thus bribery and corruption, places and pensions, have subverted any good principles and designs of the Constitution, and reduced the State to an enormous mass of folly and wickedness, jumbled together, ready to fall into dreadful and irrecoverable ruin.

Such as are for reconciliation with *Great Britain* perhaps impose upon themselves and others, by viewing the professed principles of the Constitution, or some of them, merely in theory, abstract from the present administration. But this is a most disingenuous method. They should take a full view of the whole fabrick, and then they would find a most unequal representation in the House of Commons, septennial Parliaments, and a House of Lords fit for —, and that such principles as are calculated for the good of the State, are generally subverted by the long wicked administration upon them. Now, if the Colonies should be reunited to *Great Britain*, it must be to her as she is now at present, where the electors are bought, and the majority of the Commons are kept in pay by the Minister, and all places of honour and profit are conferred, not according to men's merit, by their wisdom and bravery, but as they vote, where the nation's money is expended by millions to pervert reason and support the Minister. Now, what advantage can it be to *America* to be united to such a prodigious mass of corruption, and be subject to the will of a Prime Minister, to learn from him the arts of corruption and bribery, of oppression and cruelty, to be taxed or murdered, according to his whim or caprice? We have been grievously oppressed; we have begged and prayed for relief. To what purpose? We might, we should certainly prevail, if we had more money than the Minister, and could secure more votes than he; but no hopes of redress without this. The experience of twelve years confirms this.

The appeal has been made from petitions to arms. This renders the arguments for continuing dependant, frivolous, and, indeed, ridiculous. What do arguments avail against plain facts? Upon whom do the Continental forces at *Boston*, *New-York*, and the *Carolinas*, depend? Upon whom do our armed vessels depend? Can any person be hardy enough to assert that they depend on his Majesty, are commissioned or employed by him, or are acting by his authority? Upon whom do the Continental Bills, that pass current in the country, depend? By whom are they emitted? If we can be weak enough to be persuaded out of our senses, and to think that we are still dependant, would it be possible to persuade the *British* Ministry of this, unless we had the *Spanish* mines to bribe and blind them? They were jealous of this long ago, and often declared we were aiming at independency, before there were any thoughts of it among us, or any appearances of it. But they must be as foolish as they are wicked, if they should believe that we are dependant on *Great Britain* now, when we have openly raised fleets and armies against her. Will they believe empty professions in opposition to such incontestible facts? No. They look upon us to be independent, and will reduce us to subjection if they can, just all one as if we had explicitly declared it. So that we have no reason to hope for any kind treatment from them by our connection, if any yet remains. But, by declaring independence, say the objectors, we shall

lose our friends in the House of Commons. And what then? They may be sincere and zealous in our cause, but they have not been able to do us any good; nor they never will be able to do us any good, since the Minister, having the disposal of places and pensions, and the national purse, can always secure a majority to vote for and support his measures. The whole strength of the nation is exerted as much against us as if we had not one friend in Parliament. We shall then at worst lose the friendship of those who are unable to help us. We are, then, obliged to them for their good-will, and wish them well. If they are generous friends, they will consider our necessity, and still exert themselves in our favour; but if they should forsake us, we shall lose nothing. Now, the great thing in question is, whether we shall ruin ourselves for the sake of their unavailing friendship?

*Great Britain* cannot find money enough to supply her hungry courtiers and their dependants, but has been forced to lay a tax upon us. She has lost, it is said, twenty-seven millions by this unnatural war. Where will she find millions to repair the damages done to *Boston*, *Charlestown*, *Falmouth*, *Norfolk*? Where a fund to pay the millions emitted by the Congress, on our reconciliation? Have we any reason to expect she would be able or willing to refund to us all these just damages? Not the least. Upon the scheme of dependance we must put up with our losses, and bear our expenses, which must ruin the country. But if we renounce all connection with *Britain* forever, unless upon the plan of common trade, as with other nations, we can then seize upon the unoccupied lands, and sell them, which will procure a sufficient fund to answer every purpose we can desire, and set us free from slavery and taxation to all generations. But without this, we have no funds, and the necessary consequence must be, that the credit of our paper currency will sink, and we shall be beggared and ruined. Independence is the only thing that can save us.

Other nations, if we prove cowardly after all the pretences we have made, will think there is no danger in attacking us. We may depend upon it, they will put in for a share of the trade by force, or by planting Colonies. They did not know the importance of *America* before, but now it is held up to view to all the Courts of *Europe*, and carefully studied. Some of them will be ready to become our allies for a share of our trade. But if we slight that offer, and obstinately adhere to *Britain*, they will doubtless resent our conduct, and put in their claims the first fair opportunity. Dependance on *Britain* will keep our country in a perpetual state of war. But let us assert Independence and Freedom with an open and manly boldness, and we shall be a safe and happy State.

New-York, April 11, 1776.

#### CAPTAIN BILLINGS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, April 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The day I left *New-York* we got (with our sloop) as far as one Mrs. *Striker's*, a widow, about seven miles from the city, where we came to anchor, waiting for wind and tide. Going on shore, some of our people went to the barn, where was a negro man at work, and, in their play, they discovered a gun curiously secreted under the floor of the barn. They came and informed me of the same, when I went, with sundry gentlemen, to view the place. I made a discovery of a second, crowded under the floor, and hid by a quantity of hay crowded in after the guns. I examined the negro, and found him to equivocate. I then went and conversed with Mrs. *Striker* on what I had discovered; but could get no satisfaction, further than that one Mr. *Steple* borrowed the guns, viz: one from Mr. *Walton*, and the other from Mr. *Delancy*; and she (Mrs. *Striker*) heard Mr. *Steple* order his servant to convey them home. But the servant declares that his master ordered him to hide them in the barn. I consulted Captain *Rosekrans* and Mr. *Brinckerhoff*, whose sentiments (with mine) were, that I should take the guns with me to *Fort Montgomery*, which I have done; and shall keep them until further directions from your honourable House. This Mr. *Steple* was absent at the time; some of my men affirm they saw him run at the sight of our frocks; but I left a billet, informing him of what I had done, and my determination of acquainting the Congress. They are good arms—one a King's arm, and

the other a fowling-piece. Will be obliged for direction what further to do. Meantime, I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW BILLINGS.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO COLONEL CURTENIUS.

Albany Committee-Chamber, April 11, 1776.

SIR: When we received your letter, we made the necessary inquiry, and find the enumerated articles extremely scarce, and not to be had at the prices you have set. However, we can inform you that Messrs. *Henry, McClallen, & Henry*, merchants in this city, have imported from *Canada*, this winter, a sufficient quantity of woollen cloth (blue, gray, and brown) to clothe two regiments; and also a good many bales of brown *Russia*, and *Scotch* sheeting, and osnaburghs. They have also a sufficient number of blankets, from two and a half points to four points. If the whole is taken, they promise to sell them at a reasonable advance. We would, therefore, advise you (as the prices of the above articles will exceed what you mention in your letter) to send up, or authorize some person to agree with them.

With respect to the guns you mention, we can inform you that the General has had out people to purchase all that could be found. The stockings are not to be had here. Would therefore advise you to send into *Connecticut* for them. We are, sir, your humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., *Chairman*.

To Colonel *Curtenius*.

P. S. We want none of the articles mentioned, but the *Russia* sheeting and blankets. The last article is limited by the Continental Congress to sixteen shillings per pair. Query. Whether the Province will pay what they cost more.

COLONEL SALTONSTALL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, April 11, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: The Captains in the Third Regiment are inlisting and detaching one-third of their several companies, and shall soon be able to make returns of the companies to be formed, according to order. Am in doubt how to understand the following clause in your Honour's orders of the 2d instant: "And appoint them one Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign, to each company, observing the ranks which they now sustain in the Regiment." Whether it is intended according to seniority of their several commissions, or that I may appoint such as are now Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns, at discretion, without special regard to the dates of their several commissions. Should esteem it a favour to be particularly directed in this matter. I do not apprehend the soldiers in the *New-London* companies will now amount to more than about two hundred and eighty men; and in *Lyme*, about two hundred and thirty; consequently, more than two companies will not be raised. The company under my command, stationed in this town, is augmenting with all possible despatch.

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

G. SALTONSTALL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

Newport, Rhode-Island, Monday, April 15, 1776.

Thursday last, towards night, the Ship *Scarborough*, of twenty guns, a transport ship of two hundred tons and sixteen guns, a brig loaded with provisions, and a sloop loaded with salt, came into this bay, and anchored between *Goat-Island* and *Conanicut*. In the evening, two row-galleys, commanded by Captains *Grimes* and *Hyer*, with a number of volunteers from the Army on this Island, took the brig and sloop. After which, a battery at the north part of this town, a battery at *Brenton's Point*, and the galleys, played so briskly upon the ships, that they were soon obliged to move out of the reach of the batteries, and went under *Conanicut*. Captain *Hyer*, in one of the galleys, lay within musket-shot of the *Scarborough*, firing upon her, while Captain *Grimes* boarded and sent off the brig and sloop. The *Scarborough* did the galley some damage in her hull and rigging, and the musketry from her tops wounded one of Captain *Hyer's*

people very badly, which was all the injury received on the *American* side. This bold action, of taking two vessels close under the stern of a twenty-gun ship, may possibly convince our enemies that the *Yankees* are not such dastards as the Tories in this country have represented them.

There were seventeen hands taken in the above vessels, who inform that the ships were from *Georgia*, the transport having on board one hundred and forty soldiers; that the *Scarborough* was commanded by Captain *Barclay*, and had on board Sir *James Wright*, Governour of *Georgia*, his family, and some other Tories of that place. That the brig was from *Philadelphia*, taken going into *Georgia*; that the sloop was from some of the Islands, commanded by Captain *Gregory Cozzens*, of this place, and taken near *Georgia*; that they were bound to *Boston*, and had parted with several other prizes, one of which (a sloop) arrived here on *Saturday*, and anchored between the two ships.

*Saturday* night and yesterday morning, a battery at *Conanicut* so disturbed the quiet of the *Scarborough*, the transport ship, and the sloop, that they took advantage of a fair wind and pushed to sea; but, as they passed the mouth of the harbour, a battery on the east side, near *Castle-Hill*, hulled the *Scarborough* twice, and sent one eighteen-pounder through the sloop. The *Scarborough* returned a very heavy fire on both the batteries, without doing the least damage. Our bay is now free from Pirates.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO CAPTAIN SAMUEL MCKAY, (A PRISONER.)

New-Haven, April 11, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 9th instant, and could wish that it was in my power, consistently with the duty I owe to my country, to grant you the relief you desire. I have made repeated applications to General *Howe* for an exchange of prisoners, but he has not thought proper to return me any answer. It has been in his power to set you at liberty; and if you are still continued a prisoner, the blame must lie entirely upon him.

The situation of your family is indeed distressing; but such is the event of war; it is far from being singular. The brave Colonel *Allen*, an officer of rank, has been torn from his dearest connexions, sent to *England* in irons, and is now confined to the most servile drudgery on board one of the King's ships. Your treatment, sir, and that of the other officers taken in arms against the liberties of *America*, has been very different; for the truth of this I appeal to your own feelings. Whenever it is in my power to release you by a mutual exchange, I shall do it with the greatest pleasure; and am, sir, your most obedient servant.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, April 11, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform your Excellency that Colonel *Glover* applied to me for a warrant upon the Paymaster-General, to pay those men who are in the service of the Continent, on board the Continental privateers just arrived from a cruise; but I did not think myself authorized, by your instructions, to grant a warrant. He informed me the men would not be induced to go out again, unless they received their pay. I therefore directed him to supply the places of such men as might leave the privateers, out of his regiment, until I could receive your directions in the matter.

The agent for the privateers, at *Beverley*, Captain *Bartlett*, has likewise applied for the same purpose. I must, therefore, beg the favour of your particular directions relative to the above-mentioned applications.

I have not been able to collect any material intelligence from the people taken on board the transport which Commodore *Manly* sent into *Portsmouth*. The general account they give is, that the enemy are going to *Quebeck* as soon as the river opens.

A fifty gun-ship, with three transports, lies in *Nantasket Road*. A man who made his escape from the ship informs, that the officers on board said they were to be there until the transports arrived, which are expected from *Europe*, and then to follow the fleet.

I am, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

## DOCTOR MORGAN TO A COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, April 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It gives me much concern to hear that the intention of General *Washington*, and his orders to me to take possession of the shop, medicines, and utensils, &c., belonging to *Sylvester Gardner* and *William Perkins*, late of *Boston*, for the use of the Continental Army, and the resolves of the honourable House of Representatives and Council of this Province, should seem to interfere with your commands. I would willingly hope that, before any step is taken to counteract the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and the resolves of the Legislature of this Colony at large, I may be favoured with a conference with you—and I shall gladly meet with you when and wherever you are pleased to appoint—to explain to you the General's intention with respect to Doctor *Gardner's* shop, and the reasons on which his orders are founded. I imagine it will be no difficult matter to convince gentlemen of your weight, character, and integrity, as well as importance in the community, of the propriety of so general an order. As his Excellency General *Washington* ever made it the rule of his conduct to support the civil authority, and not to infringe it in a single instance, I flatter myself you will be very tender how you offer any insult to his orders, by explaining away the spirit and intention of them, which proceeded solely from what he esteemed the essential interests of the Army. Under his authority I now act. It is by his direction I have taken charge of the shops of Messrs. *Gardner* and *Perkins*, which he intended I should possess myself of. I mean to leave an approved list in your hands of what I take; and to obligate myself for the payment of every article I take into my custody, whenever I am called upon authoritatively so to do; but it is by no means my intention to relinquish a single article comprehended within my orders, that I think will be of service to the Army. If I leave any particulars behind, which are found in Doctor *Gardner's* or Doctor *Perkins's* shops, (as I, doubtless, shall many,) it will be from a consideration of their not being wanted for the use of the Army. But I flatter myself the gentlemen of the Committee, acting on a liberal plan, will not take on themselves (but leave it to one appointed for the purpose) to judge of this matter; and whilst they keep in view that the cause in which the Army is employed, is not merely a Provincial concern, but comprehends the interests of the United Colonies, and consider the recent benefits which the inhabitants of *Boston* have derived from the good order and discipline of the Army, and their being well supplied with everything necessary to them, as such, (in what relates to the sick is no inconsiderable part,) I am confident they will not suffer the misrepresentations of individuals (perhaps interested in the advice they give) to deprive the Army of all the advantages that may accrue from being furnished with the most ample provision of hospital stores, and which they must have, from whatever quarter they can be got, be the expense whatever it may. I doubt not, on being favoured with a conference with you on this head, every misapprehension will be effectually cleared up to our mutual satisfaction. If not, I have only to acquaint you that I must remain here till I receive fresh orders from the General, whether to recede from his instructions or not.

I remain, with the utmost deference and respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To the Committee of the General Court, now sitting at *Boston*.

## INDEPENDENCE IN NORTH-CAROLINA.

In Congress, North-Carolina, April 12, 1776.

The Select Committee, to take into consideration the usurpations and violences attempted and committed by the King and Parliament of *Britain* against *America*, and the further measures to be taken for frustrating the same, and for the better defence of this Province, reported as follows, to wit:

It appears to your Committee that, pursuant to the plan concerted by the *British* Ministry for subjugating *America*, the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* have usurped a power over the persons and properties of the People, unlimited and uncontrolled; and, disregarding their humble

petitions for peace, liberty, and safety, have made divers legislative acts denouncing war, famine, and every species of calamity against the Continent in general.

That *British* Fleets and Armies have been, and still are, daily employed in destroying the people, and committing the most horrid devastations on the country.

That Governours in different Colonies have declared protection to slaves who should imbrue their hands in the blood of their masters.

That the ships belonging to *America* are declared prizes of war, and many of them have been violently seized and confiscated.

In consequence of all which, multitudes of the people have been destroyed, or from easy circumstances reduced to the most lamentable distress.

And whereas the moderation hitherto manifested by the United Colonies, and their sincere desire to be reconciled to the mother country on constitutional principles, have procured no mitigation of the aforesaid wrongs and usurpations, and no hopes remain of obtaining redress by those means alone which have been hitherto tried, your Committee are of opinion that the House should enter into the following resolve:

*Resolved*, That the Delegates for this Colony in the Continental Congress be empowered to concur with the Delegates of the other Colonies in declaring Independency, and forming foreign alliances, reserving to this Colony the sole and exclusive right of forming a Constitution and Laws for this Colony, and of appointing Delegates, from time to time, (under the direction of a general representation thereof,) to meet the Delegates of the other Colonies for such purposes as shall be hereafter pointed out.

The Congress, taking the same into consideration, unanimously concurred therewith.

By order: JAMES GREEN, JUN., *Secretary*.

## TO MR. ALEXANDER PURDIE.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, April 12, 1776.

The independence of the Colonies daily becomes more and more a topick of very anxious disquisition. The subject appears, in general, to lie under the difficulties of being misrepresented by our enemies, and misunderstood by some amongst ourselves. Without flattering myself that the following remarks will remove either, I shall be obliged by your inserting them.

It may, with certainty, be affirmed, that, among the ends which the Colonies (from *South-Carolina* to *New-York*, inclusively) had in view when they began the present contest, independence held no place; and that the *New-England* Governments, if they had it in view at all, considered it as a remote and contingent object. The terrors of immediate oppression engrossed our minds too fully to leave much room for ambition. Admitting this fact with regard to *New-England*, (of which, however, I know no proof,) it was not the effect of a seditious character in the people, but of a consciousness that, by their union and populousness, they approached more nearly than any single Colony to that period of power, when independence would have become a natural event, and dependance a political absurdity. That the Colonies were proceeding pretty rapidly to such a period of power, seems to be a point acknowledged by all dispassionate reasoners on both sides. The King's Ministers, indeed, have induced him to believe, and to tell his Parliament, that our professions of attachment and loyalty were meant only to amuse, while we were meditating a general revolt. The heart of an *American* tells him that the charge is erroneous, and the single external evidence of our having begun the war with so scanty a provision for its support, will prove it so to all the unprejudiced world. In truth, these professions were founded in such deep-rooted attachments, that even now, when our lives and properties are the sport and prey of every tender's motley crew that can catch them, many of our brethren shudder at the name of Independence.

The use of words, without settling their determinate meaning, often occasions disputes with men whose sentiments in reality exactly correspond. This appears to be particularly the case in the present question.

In many, the name of Independence is accompanied with the terrifying ideas of an everlasting separation from *Great*



*Britain*, of the destruction of the finest Constitution in the world, as the phrase is, and of the substitution of Republican Governments in the Colonies. Then follows a dreadful train of domestic convulsions in each Republick; of jealousies, dissensions, wars, and all their attendant miseries, in the neighbouring Republicks; in which form of Government they seem to imagine that nature breeds

All monstrous, all prodigious things,  
Abominable, unutterable, and worse  
Than fables yet have feigned, or fear conceived—  
Gorgons, and hydras, and chimeras dire!

Under the pressure of real calamities, which, if actually felt, cannot be exceeded, do men find comfort in the contemplation of those that are imaginary; and which, were we sure they would befall us, might claim our preference by being remote.

Others, with the ideas of the former, connect some dark mysterious scheme for tricking us into independence, to which most of our Continental measures, however speciously introduced, are supposed to be ultimately subservient. These men, my friends, are enemies to harmony. The motions of their spirits are dark and dull; and whatever be their professions or condition, let them not be trusted.

Of a much more numerous and respectable class are those who think that our opposition is founded in a virtuous determination to defend our liberty against a tyranny instant and impending; that no sacrifice, no suffering, should divert us from the necessary means of effecting so important a purpose; that if, in the course of events, a declaration of independence should become essential to our safety, we should instantly adopt the measure, considering it not as a primary object of the war, but, in a secondary view, as a means of conducting it successfully. Now, I verily believe this is all that nine-tenths of the Congress mean, notwithstanding that the presses of *Philadelphia* have lately brought forth *Common Sense*, *Montgomery's Ghost*, and other frightful forms, to the no small terror of many of his Majesty's liege subjects.

Without attempting to prove that these fears are much of the same puerile cast as those with which the armour of an heroic and affectionate parent impressed the son of *Hector*, I shall endeavour to show that the propriety of speedily declaring a temporary independence, at least, may be derived from a circumstance more generally interesting and solid than from the machinations of the Congress.

It is confessed, on all hands, that we cannot continue the war with very prosperous hopes, unless we can be supplied from foreign countries with warlike stores, (with many necessities of which the restrictions on *British* trade deprive us,) and unless some market be furnished for the productions of our labours. Accordingly, men expect with impatience the freedom of exportation, when this trade may be pushed to the utmost extent. But, alas! in the small essays we have already made, we have found foreigners reserved and cold. They will tell us, "In justice to your veracity, we must believe that you will be cordially reconciled to *Great Britain* so soon as certain acts of Parliament shall be repealed. Now, as she cannot carry on a vigorous war without you, she must either sit a silent spectator of our triumph, and of her own ruin, or repeal the acts, and, in conjunction with you, take vengeance for our friendly intentions, before we have received any advantage from them. We cannot, therefore, hazard so much with so precarious a prospect of an equivalent. We insist not that you should declare an everlasting separation from *Great Britain*, and thereby cut off all prospect of an honourable renewal of old friendships; but that you will, with the freedom, solemnity, and good faith of sovereign States, enter into a treaty of commerce for a certain time, and into a treaty of neutrality, at least, should our efforts to serve you produce a rupture with that power."

A commerce thus established would be beneficial and honourable. Such manly and vigorous conduct would render us respectable to foreigners, and formidable to our enemies. But if we can only venture to steal a foreign trade, I can see nothing but disappointment, disgrace, and contempt, from all quarters. In the one case, the malice of our enemies will be awed into moderation by the increase of our power; in the other, by its decline they may enjoy, uncontrolled by any other passion, the rich prospect of a revenge insatiable. Here, however, independence steps in

to terrify us. For my part, I see no terror in it; but in an unconditional dependance, which seems, at present, our only alternative, I see a thousand. It wears, indeed, the rugged aspect of virtue; but, like the shield of *Pallas*, it petrifies alone the timid and the base. It is the invincible guardian of the brave and virtuous.

I fancy that many qualms on this subject would be overcome, if men would more thoroughly consider how very far we have already proceeded in effecting independence; and that many who have engaged in this business are irrevocably destined to the cord, whatever vain hopes they may entertain of drawing out a few strands from it, by an ill-timed and dangerous moderation. I apprehend that independence could in no way be more explicitly announced than by dissolving the Government on which it depended, and forming one with which it is utterly incompatible. "Besides the overturning from without, Governments are dissolved from within, when the Legislature is altered," are the words of Mr. *Locke*. We have not only altered the Legislature, but exercised the judicial, the executive, and every other power of independent sovereignty, except the least considerable one—of negotiating with foreign States. Why have we so unanimously and cheerfully assumed the greater acts of sovereignty, and yet hesitate about the lesser? If the absolute necessity of commencing the contest directed us, insensibly, to the former, why tremble when the necessity of continuing it as 'absolutely directs us to the latter? I am at a loss to give an answer, except that we shall be obliged to call ourselves (what, for some months, we have really been) independent. In this dread sound our terror seems to be comprehended. And shall we, by silent stealth, draw all its good effects, and shamefully deny our benefactor? I confess this conduct resembles more the dark guilt of rebellion, than the manly candour of a righteous resistance. While Congresses, Conventions, Councils of Safety, Military arrangements, Courts of Admiralty, County Committee Courts, Colonial Sheriffs, &c., are fresh in their memory, will our enemies believe us when we tell them we meant not to be independent? So mean a subterfuge would serve only to add the insolent lash of contempt to the scourge they have prepared for us.

The expectation of peace and reconciliation still fosters the irresolution of some men. The vague, unauthenticated hints of peace, (which were the harbingers of my Lord *North's* olive-branch,) divided our councils, and enervated our preparations for defence. This, it might have been thought, would have furnished us, and on no very reasonable terms, with the wisdom of experience; but some, under an infatuation without example, are now deluded with an artifice of the same kind. We fondly expect Commissioners of peace. The King, on the contrary, tells us expressly, that he shall send them to receive the submissions of the penitent Rebels, and that they shall be accompanied with a very respectable force. This very respectable, very humane, and peace-compelling force, is neither more nor less than all which they could at present muster for our destruction. One of his servants tells us we may obtain anything by a constitutional application; while another, in his presence, (who has the sole power of enabling us to try the experiment, should we incline,) refuses by his concurrence to make it possible. And could this be done by the author of a late pathetick letter? It is adding insult to injury with a vengeance.\*

Their smiles are not to be trusted, and their resentment should not be dreaded; the treachery of the first is not less formidable than the effects of the last.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

A. B.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PETERSBURGH, VIRGINIA,  
DATED APRIL 12, 1776.

In my way through *Virginia*, I found the inhabitants warm for independence. I spent last evening with Mr. —, from *South-Carolina*. He tells me that the people there have no expectation of ever being reconciled with *Britain* again but only as a foreign State. They have formed a Government for themselves. *John Rutledge*, Esq., is appointed President, with all the powers that are vested in the Governour. From several letters I have received

\* General *Clinton* and Lord *Dunmore*, in their late conference with Colonel *Corbin*.

from *North-Carolina* since that Convention met, I find they are for independence, as they either have, or intend to repeal the instructions that were given to their Delegates, and to leave them at liberty to vote, upon every occasion, as they may think best. Mr. — was some little time at *Halifax*. He says they are quite spirited and unanimous; indeed, I hear nothing praised but *Common Sense* and Independence. The people of *North-Carolina* are making great preparations, and say they are determined to die hard.

I assure you, my good sir, the vehemence of the Southern Colonies will require all the coolness of the Northern ones to moderate their zeal. I suspected, when I was with you, that, whenever they were urged, they would go to great lengths.

GENERAL CHARLES LEE TO RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Williamsburgh, April 12, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I am much pleased with the appointment of the Congress, of the two Engineers, and not less so with the artillery establishment; but, at the same time, am a good deal dissatisfied by an omission of the Provincial Congress of *Virginia*, in not having mentioned a Company of Artillery, which they had already raised, and at the head of which a Captain *Innis* was placed. You perhaps know him. He was formerly usher of the *German* school here; is a man of extraordinary virtue, good sense, and knowledge. The thought of discharging such men is extremely disagreeable. I hope some means may be devised of providing for him in a manner adequate to his merit. If a Commissary of Ordnance is to be an established office, it would suit him. There is, I understand, to be, likewise, a Commissary of Musters. I would beg leave to recommend a Mr. *Archer*, who has a most unexceptionable character, and lost his all—his household goods and slaves—in the destruction of *Norfolk*. These sufferers have certainly (when qualified for the discharge of their duty) the first and most solid claim to the favour of the Congress. As I can have no jobs in view, as I have no predilections or connexions, I shall make no scruples of appointing to act, and intreating the Congress to confirm my appointments.

I have myself no doubt that the first attempt of the tyrant's mercenaries will be on *Virginia*. My opinion of your troops and officers is, thank *God*, so good, as to put me entirely at my ease with respect to action corps to corps. I only wish your Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety had taken some precautions for the security of your great navigable rivers against their piratical inundations, and, in my opinion, nothing could be easier effected. Perhaps I may differ from the generality of seafaring people; but, as they have their prejudices, and are, like other professions, a *servum pecus*, I shall not give up my opinion. I would, then, propose fitting your rivers with twelve or eighteen oared boats, mounting a six-pounder at the head of each, fortifying the sides with occasional mantlets, musket-proof, and manning them with stout volunteers, whose principle should be boarding. I am mistaken, when we are sufficiently provided with fleets of this kind, if a single tender will show itself in your rivers. I have already, for experiment sake, sent out one boat, armed and principled in this manner, on a cruise, and expect with impatience the issue. The men have their cutlasses and pistols, and seem to taste the project. I shall order twenty for each great river. The expense is trifling; and the spirit—the very principle of coming to close quarters—will inspire naturally the people with confidence in their own force and valour.

Another great point I seem in a fair way of obtaining: the conciliating your soldiers to the use of spears. We had a battalion out this day. Two companies, of the strongest and tallest, were armed with this weapon. They were formed something like the *Triarii* of the *Romans*, in the rear of the battalions, occasionally either to throw themselves into the intervals of the line, or to form a third, second, or front rank, in close order. It has a fine effect to the eye; and the men, in general, seemed convinced of the utility of the arrangement. In two days I shall visit *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and *Kemp's Landing*.

Yours, affectionately,

CHARLES LEE.

To *Richard Henry Lee*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD HARRISON.

[No. 115.]

Annapolis, April 12, 1776.

SIR: By Captain *Kell* we send you a cargo of flour, which we hope will get safe to hand, and meet with a good market. As to the species of returns, we have heretofore written you fully. We have nothing to add at present, only that you would please to observe that our bay is so full of men-of-war and tenders, that we are of opinion that, whatever returns you send, should be in small vessels, that sail well, and may occasionally run into some of the inlets on the seaboard side of *Worcester* County, or come in close under *Cape-Charles*. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Richard Harrison*, *Martinico*.

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 12, 1776, nine o'clock at night.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 9th instant was delivered to us this day at twelve o'clock; and we immediately handed the packet enclosed to the President. It contained the act of Parliament for restraining the trade of the Colonies, passed in *December* last, and which was received here in the beginning of *February*. Our friends in *South-Carolina* supposed we might not have received the act, and therefore sent the first copy they received.

There having been an arrival of powder lately, on account of the Congress, we (just before the receipt of your letter) borrowed a ton, and shall send it to *Chestertown*, to wait your order in the distribution thereof. Every other Colony has been supplied from the Continental magazine, and this was spared to us without hesitation.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

T. STONE,

T. JOHNSON, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE, ETC.

Philadelphia, April 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: While the *British* Ministry are taking every step that cruelty and revenge can dictate for the destruction of *American* liberty, it is incumbent on these United Colonies to exert their utmost efforts to defeat them. Happily for our country, their military operations have not been attended with that success which they so sanguinely expected. This circumstance, however, far from abating their rage against us, has had the effect constantly produced by disappointed passions; it has roused them to make new exertions of power against us; and we now behold *American* property, by a late act of Parliament, made legal plunder. Such a train of rapine and violence can be equalled only by the spirit with which it is likely to be executed. Having authorized the seizure of vessels belonging to these Colonies wherever found upon the high seas, there is too much reason to apprehend the execution of the edict (which we may expect in its greatest extent) will, for a time, prove a severe clog to the trade of *America*. Under these circumstances, the Congress, in hopes of checking, in some degree, an evil which they cannot, at present, remove, and acting on the same principle of self-preservation and retaliation which they have hitherto adopted, have been induced to come into sundry resolutions relative to the fitting out letters of marque and reprisal. The trade of *America* is an object of so much consequence, and the protection of it so necessary, that I make no doubt of your giving all the encouragement in your power to any measures that may be deemed expedient for its security and existence.

I herewith transmit bonds, commissions, and instructions, which the Congress has thought proper to request the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees of Safety, to make use of on the occasion.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Honourable Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.

[Same to the Honourable Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*; Assembly of *Rhode-Island*; Assembly of *Connecticut*; and Convention of *Virginia*.]

COLONEL WHIPPLE TO MESHECH WEARE.

Philadelphia, April 12, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have some papers containing the late resolutions of Congress. Blank commissions, &c., will be forwarded by the President. I hope Colonel *Bartlett* will soon be here; I expect he will set out before this reaches you. If the accounts cannot be got ready, a petition from the General Court, or, if they are not sitting, from the Committee representing the exertions of the Colony in the common cause, and the disadvantages of emitting such large sums in Colonial bills, will have a very good effect, and, I am inclined to think, would obtain a grant of about two-thirds the sum the Colony is in advance.

Congress have been so exceedingly engaged, I have not been able to call their attention to the report of the Committee on the application of your Committee, but hope I shall very soon be able to transmit their determination.

I am, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*.

SAMUEL GALE TO JOHN McKESSON.

Fairfield, April 12, 1776.

SIR: On the 23d ultimo, I was informed by a private hand, that your body had resolved on my release, and on the illegality of my imprisonment. Whether their proceedings have or have not arrived here, is to me unknown. Though Mr. *Burr* used to call on me often at first, and though I cannot help mentioning his civility when Mrs. *Gale* was here, yet he seems much altered of late. He has not called on me since the 12th of *March*, notwithstanding he has been in the house almost every day. Whether this alteration be owing to false tale-bearers here, or to some ill-disposed person in *New-York*, or to what other cause, I know not. It has been hinted to me, that he may perhaps think me not sufficiently humble for a close prisoner. I must acknowledge that an illegal detention, even within the walls of a loathsome prison, though in a strange country, without friends, and with but very little money, has not, nor cannot, lead me to degrade the dignity of a freeman; neither can I (notwithstanding the hint) ever believe that Mr. *Burr* would expect it.

I had an opportunity of sending to you by another private hand, in a few hours after the departure of the former, by whom I informed you of my then remaining in this loathsome den, where I still continue; as also of my labouring under a fit of illness, which has since much increased, and still exists, though I have found myself much better these last three or four days than for some time before.

In this intolerable place, the wind, when cold, fairly chills every vein in my body. The smoke, when there is a fire, not only blinds, but nearly suffocates me; and the continued smell of the room has, I fear, tended to rot my very vitals. In the morning I have perpetually a sickness at the stomach; about noon comes on a fever, which, in about three hours, is succeeded by an ague, sometimes more, and sometimes less violent. Every of these intolerable tortures were so inexpressibly increased by the excessive weather of *Saturday*, the 30th ultimo, that they introduced thoughts and extorted expressions too wild to mention in cooler moments.

I have applied to two different attorneys for a *habeas corpus*, that the nature of my detention might be inquired into; but, to my entire astonishment, they informed me that that writ never issued in this Government, nor was there any law of the Colony that could administer relief. What, then, in the name of Heaven, is to be done?

I am strangely mistaken if it has not ever heretofore been looked upon as the essential right of a free people, that every individual should enjoy unmolested the liberty of doing and saying whatever was not prohibited by some law or rule prescribed. I also conceive that the greatest severity which reasonable creatures could, with any degree of colour, inflict on any offender, were the penalties which they had previously affixed to his crime. I recollect no rule, nor (though I have inquired as well of Mr. *Burr*, who detains me, as of others) can I find any published by any man, or body of men, that I have broken. Nay, the whole that is, or can be, laid to my charge, appears by one of the addresses of the Congress in 1774, to have been at that time

an undoubted right, inherent in every freeman; and it will doubtless be granted that there must be a law, before there can be any transgression.

Yet, behold a freeborn *Briton*, who has ever maintained a good reputation among all ranks and conditions of men within the circle of his knowledge, seized in his own house, without knowing by whom, or by whose authority; dragged away by a Militia force from the bosom of his family, and from the city of his abode, without ever seeing or knowing his accusers, and without being examined, or admitted to make any defence; carried, a stranger, to a strange land, from whose inhabitants he can expect no kind of friendship, and whose laws afford him neither hearing or relief, there (like a felon of the degree of a shoeblack) locked up in a loathsome prison of less than five yards square, afflicted with cold, with smoke, and with unwholesome smells, in addition to a sickness under which he labours; in this situation remaining, capable only to enumerate the days and months of his oppression, and so (in all appearance) likely to remain, till death shall thus complete its slow approaches, inch by inch.

Let Heaven and earth bear witness, while the generous man and the brave, of what nation or language, rank or condition, denomination or party soever, shall lay his hand upon his soul and answer, Are not these things intolerable? Especially let him answer, after finding them to be directly contrary to all publick laws, resolves, and orders, both ancient and modern, and still continued, notwithstanding his release, and the illegality of his being taken has been long since determined on by a resolve of that body which holds the supreme rule of the Province to which he belongs, and from whence he was forcibly taken!

What in the world can these persecutions mean? Or, what can they be intended to produce? An alteration of faith? I shall ever hold myself open to conviction, and when I am convinced of any error, I shall frankly acknowledge it. But if this be a specimen of modern freedom, you would doubtless consider me a hypocrite of the first magnitude, should I tell you that I preferred it before the ancient system. Is it meant to secure the safety or exchange of prisoners? Such notions must have been founded in error or mistake; nor could they ever be produced but by a roundabout application through the channel of the civil officers; for neither of his Majesty's states, military or maritime, know anything of my ever being in existence; at least, if they do, it is totally without my knowledge or application. Or is it (as appears to me most likely) that some of my persecutors want to dip their hands in the blood of a martyr? If so, it would, in my opinion, be far less criminal, both in the sight of *God* and man, for them to let it flow in decent streams, than thus (with dastardly meanness) to drag it from me drop by drop.

Though I conceive it a duty incumbent on every man to use his endeavours for the preservation of his life, yet (I believe you knew it before these unhappy times came on; if not, Mr. *Kelly*, or Mr. *Wells*, can tell you) I never viewed death through so horrible a medium as some men do, and I have lately learned to consider it as a matter of relief, rather than as a punishment. To leave the wife of my bosom a disconsolate widow, and the babes of my loins without a helper, is doubtless an unhappy reflection; but I am of opinion that a single stroke, however violent, would, in the end, be less grief to those I leave behind me, than a continuation of that suspense and anxiety of mind with which they are now totally overwhelmed. However, as a duty which I owe to my Maker, I am led again to demand my life, liberty, and safety, at the hands of those who hold the governing reins of the Province of *New-York*, to which I belong; before whom I shall take it as a further favour in you, to lay this letter immediately on its coming to your hands.

Should any imprudent or offensive expressions be contained in this, or either of my other letters, I doubt not but your knowledge of my former treatment will lead your candour to consider them, not as any intentional offence, but as a matter flowing from that fountain of unmerited oppression, whose streams have continually washed over me, without intermission, for more than a twelve-month past. On this consideration, I would beg the liberty of going one step farther, and mentioning, that though I ever heartily wished for a more permanent and happy political arrangement between my native land and this, than has hitherto subsisted,

yet, early in the unhappy contest, I (as well as thousands besides) conceived an important danger, that a new-raised military would, in time, wrest the sceptre from the hands of those who were intended to control it, and rule the inhabitants of the land solely by the force of arms, without their approbation or direction in the least; thereby depriving the reputable citizen and the industrious husbandman, that had at any time fallen within the compass of any of their displeasure, of the benefit of every law from whence any relief might come. Methinks I now view that dreadful morn already dawned! Let it not be said that I see clearly.

The sensible and the generous, whose sentiments are uncontracted, of whatsoever party or denomination they may be, will cease to wonder that persons who were heavily laden with this conception should hold opinions something different from those, who (though they would all equally detest so direful a production) considered its pregnancy as a mere visionary fable that existed not.

Whether this was a natural or a false conception; whether it has or has not arrived beyond the state of embryo, and acquired the motions of a living fœtus, every man must judge for himself. Let it never be said that it has arrived at a perfect birth!

Fatal experience has given me but too much reason to suppose its being already born; nor can anything short of an immediate release convince me to the contrary. If I am wrong, I should be heartily glad to be convinced of my error, and (as I said before) I shall then frankly acknowledge it. Should this be the case, I would beg the favour of you to despatch a person hither on purpose; for I cannot place much faith in receiving anything by the post, being fully of opinion that you have not been so long silent. I should also be glad he would bring a spare horse with him, as horses are not easily to be hired here.

I cannot conclude without saying that, however erroneous my opinions, or however imprudent my revealing them may have been, few, if any, have ever held more sincere wishes for the real welfare of this, and every other part of his Majesty's dominions, than myself.

I must repeat my thanks to you for the trouble you have taken; and should a continuance of this unhappy season lead you, or any of your acquaintances, into a disagreeable situation, you and they may rely on receiving every relief that can flow through any channel, by means of the application of, sir, your most obedient servant,

S. GALE.

To John McKesson, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, New-York.

PAROLE OF GOVERNOUR BROWNE, ETC., PRISONERS TAKEN  
BY ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Colony of Connecticut, Port of New-London, }  
April 12, 1776. }

We, *Montfort Browne*, Esq., Governour of *New-Providence*, *Thomas Irving*, Esq., and *James Babbidge*,\* prisoners in the power of the Governour and Council of Safety for the Colony of *Connecticut*, being delivered to them by the Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet of the United Colonies in *America*, having been kindly treated and protected by them, and enlarged on parole, do hereby solemnly promise and engage, on the honour of gentlemen, that we will not bear arms against the Colonies of *America*, in any manner whatever, for the space of twelve months, or until we may be exchanged; nor will we, during that time, take any measures to give intelligence to the *British* Ministry, or Ministerial Army or Navy, or to any person or persons whatever, relative to *American* affairs; but will proceed, with all convenient expedition, to the town of *Windham*, in this Colony, and peaceably abide within the limits of said township, and submit ourselves to the further directions of the said Governour and his Council of Safety; that we will not, directly or indirectly, attempt to procure any person or persons to rescue us; and that we will not go on board any *British* ship-of-war during the continuance of our engagement not to bear arms.

JAMES BABIDGE,  
THOMAS IRVING.

\* *New-London*, April 19, 1776.—Wednesday last, *Montfort Browne*, Esq., Governour of *New-Providence*, *Mr. Babbidge*, Secretary of that Province, *Mr. Irving*, one of the Council of *South-Carolina*, and a number of other prisoners, brought in by *Commodore Hopkins*, were carried from hence to *Windham*, under an escort.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 22, 1776.]

Fort George, April 12, 1776.

SIR: The troops that arrived too late at *Albany* to cross the lakes on the ice are now at this post and *Fort Edward*, impatiently waiting for the lakes to become navigable. I hope a day or two will effect it. All is in readiness to move immediately the cannon are embarked, and all such stores as are not perishable.

General *Thomas* is seven miles from this place, where I have advised him to remain until the lakes open, as we have scarcely room to lay down at this place. The gentlemen Committee remain at *Saratoga* for the same reason.

The originals of the enclosed papers are this moment come to hand by the *Canada* post. The intelligence they contain is so interesting that I send this by express, and have also written to General *Washington*, repeating my wish that a reinforcement may be immediately sent up.

I have been long apprehensive that the imprudent conduct of our troops would create a disgust to our cause in the *Canadians*; it even hurts it in this Colony, as I have before taken the liberty to observe to you; nor will it be remedied without a stricter discipline prevails, nor even then unless severer punishments could be inflicted than the present military law allows of.

We have had a severe snow-storm this day, which is clearing up with a high northwest wind, which may probably break the ice.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. General *Washington* informs me that he cannot procure any hard cash.

Montreal, March 16, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed to you by *Mr. Blake*, in whose favour I have taken the liberty to draw upon you one order of the 13th instant, for three hundred and ninety-four pounds fifteen shillings and three pence, lawful money, which is for blankets, &c., purchased for the use of the troops; and one order of the 16th instant, for four hundred and seventy-one pounds eighteen shillings and nine pence, lawful money, in cash, borrowed of him for the use of the Army, and which we have had for some time, without interest. He has been very friendly to us, and granted us every assistance in his power. I therefore recommend him to your notice. He will tell you the reasons we have to apprehend that there is mischief contriving by the King's Troops, and the inhabitants, traders, and savages, in and about *Detroit*.

Many of our friends in this town, from a number of circumstances, are of opinion that those men, who I informed you of in my last had made their escape from this place, took with them a considerable sum of money. We are informed by some Savages that they left *Legolet* last Monday for *Niagara* and *Detroit*; and it is thought if a party went off immediately by the way of the *Mohawk River* that they might be taken. After being fully informed by *Mr. Blake*, perhaps you will think it will be necessary to make a diversion that way as early as possible; for should a large number come down to this town, while the bulk of our Army are at *Quebeck*, they may give us trouble.

I have made a calculation of what powder we have in this country, and find there is not more than sixty rounds for six thousand men, supposing we had no use for cannon. I am afraid that it will be so difficult to pass the lakes in a little time, that unless the men are hurried, our numbers will fall greatly short of what were expected.

Your favour of the 6th instant I have received, and am very sorry that the whole of the provisions, cannon, artillery, stores, &c., which were designed for this country, could not be sent forward. I hardly know what we shall do. Our money is already gone. Hope there is some upon the road. The Deputy Paymaster is still here. He sent some time ago fifteen thousand dollars, in paper, to *Quebeck*; but I believe that he has not a sufficiency to pay off the Army by him. I expected to have gone to *Quebeck* myself before this time, but the troops coming in so slowly, and there has been so much to do here, that, as yet, it has been impossible. I am glad to hear that General *Lee* is on his road. Hope to see him in this Province in a few days.

If you can possibly be spared from *New-York*, I think it of the greatest importance to our operations in this country that you remain at *Albany* till we can be remitted and supplied with necessities; am, therefore, exceeding glad to hear that you intend it. •

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,  
DAVID WOOSTER.

Head-Quarters, before Quebec, March 26, 1776.

The contents of your last favour I have not time to answer by this conveyance. This is only to give you some idea of some late interesting transactions.

The Priests in two or three Parishes below *Point-Levi* having been brought to Head-Quarters some weeks since, on account of their diabolical conduct, and were released on solemn promises of amendment, have, in conjunction with a party sent from town, imbodyed several hundred *Canadians*, and, it is said, have two twelve-pounders. Against this body, our men from the Point (two hundred in all) marched yesterday morning, engaged the enemy, took thirty prisoners; how many killed cannot learn. We had one man wounded. This was not the enemy's main body. This account is, as I am informed, from Major *Dubois*, who commanded on the occasion. *Aaron Platt* and *Philadelphia Hughes* were in the party. We impatiently wait the issue of this affair, as much depends on it. One hundred and fifty *Jerseymen* and *Pennsylvanians* are to march for *Point-Levi* this day. I have only time to add that I am, &c.,  
GERSHOM MOTT.

To Captain *Goforth*, commanding at *Three-Rivers*.

Head-Quarters, Montreal, April 1, 1776.

SIR: General *Wooster* left this place for *Quebeck*, the 27th last month. He has honoured me, though unequal to the task, with the command of this District. I shall, therefore, to the utmost of my abilities, do for the best; and I conceive it my duty, as well as inclination, to inform you of every material circumstance as they occur to me, as well as to give you a particular account, from time to time, of this important district; and perhaps it may not be thought amiss if I add my own ideas of the whole country, and affairs in general. You are not unacquainted with the friendly disposition of the *Canadians* when General *Montgomery* first penetrated into the country. The ready assistance which they gave on all occasions, by men, carriages, or provisions, was most remarkable; even when he was before *Quebeck*, many Parishes offered their service in the reduction of that fortress, which was at that time thought unnecessary. But his most unfortunate fate, added to other incidents, has caused such a change in their disposition, that we are no more to look upon them as friends, but, on the contrary, waiting an opportunity to join our enemies. That no observations of my own may remain obscure, I beg leave to observe, that I think the clergy (or guardians of the souls, and conductors of the bodies) of these enthusiasts have been neglected, perhaps in some instances ill used. Be that as it will, they are unanimous, though privately, against our cause; and I have too much reason to fear many of them, with other people of some consequence, have carried on a correspondence the whole winter with General *Carleton* in *Quebeck*, and are now plotting our destruction. The peasantry in general have been ill used; they have in some instances been dragooned, with the point of the bayonet, to furnish wood for the garrison, at a lower rate than the current price; carriages, and many other articles furnished, for which certificates were given, not legible and without signature—the one half of consequence rejected by the Quartermaster-General. It is true, they have been promised payment, from time to time; yet they look upon such promises as vague, their labour and property lost, and the Congress and the United Colonies as bankrupt; and (what is a more material point) they have not seen sufficient force in the country to protect them. These matters furnish very strong arguments to be made use of by our enemies.

To take a view of our little Army here, I have pretty good information that our strength in camp before *Quebeck* did not, on the 18th of *March*, much exceed that on the day after General *Montgomery's* fall. General *Arnold* had at that time about four hundred men in a small-pox Hospital. Neither order nor subordination prevails, and of course shortly

no soldiers. On the 15th of this month, those who wintered in the country are free, and, in my opinion, neither art, craft, nor money, will prevail on many of them to reinlist to serve in *Canada*. Colonel *Livingston's* Regiment, consisting of about two hundred, will be free on the same day; very few, of them, if any, will re-engage. Of my intended regiment I have about two hundred and fifty. The want of money obliges me to stop; where I shall remain until matters take a change, if ever, in our favour, as not a man more will now engage, and those which I have enlisted will go to the right about in case the *Canadians* in general join against us; at least such is my opinion. With respect to the better sort of people, both *French* and *English*, seven-eighths are Tories, who would wish to see our throats cut, and perhaps would readily assist in doing it.

The taking of *Quebeck* is altogether casual. The keeping of the country, according to the present appearance of affairs, is totally against us. No preparation has been, or can be made to guard the river, for a very good reason—no money or men of skill to do it; the whole country left without any other kind of law than that of the arbitrary and despotick power of the sword in the hands of the several commanding officers—too frequently abused in all cases of this nature.

You may remember, sir, in a conversation with you, at *Albany*, I urged the necessity of sending immediately to *Canada* able Generals, a respectable Army, a Committee of Congress, a suitable supply of hard cash, a printer, &c. Indeed, I had before represented those measures in person to Congress—at least to the Committee of Congress—and we have since been flattered, from time to time, with one or all those essentials.

The Savages hereabouts are cool; they keep aloof from us; we are to expect little or no friendship from them, and, indeed, little or no precaution has been taken for that purpose. It is excepted by some that numbers will come from the interior country, and fall on our frontiers, early in the spring.

Enclosed I transmit you extracts from some private letters, which accidentally came to hand from the camp before *Quebeck*. I believe the contents, as the news has come to town several ways. The *Canadians* taking up arms so early against us is of the most important consequence. We have brought about ourselves, by mismanagement, what Governour *Carleton* himself could never effect.

Having endeavoured to lay before you a true state of facts as they occur to me, if I have done my duty thereby, I shall be happy; if I have exceeded, I beg you will impute it to pure zeal in my country's cause, and the ardent desire I have, on all occasions, to contribute all in my power for the interests of the United Colonies. And should you be of opinion that any of my remarks are worthy the attention of Congress, you will please to communicate them.

I am, sir, with true respect, your most obedient servant,  
MOSES HAZEN.

To Major-General *Philip Schuyler*.

Camp before Quebec, March 26, 1776.

I have just time to let you know that I and my family arrived at Head-Quarters on *Saturday*, 23d instant, in good health. I am informed that five hundred *Canadians*, and a few Regulars from the garrison, have assembled together, twelve leagues below *Quebeck*, with two twelve-pounders, and are getting more formidable every day; and have intercepted some provisions of ours. We have sent a party of men after them, to take their standard (which they have erected) and bring it to Head-Quarters. For my part I dread the consequence, as our party does not amount to one hundred men. *God* (and he only) can determine our fate. I think we have sent one gondola and some armed batteaus in order to intercept an armed schooner from *Quebeck*; and they are cutting more out of the ice—I mean the Regulars.

Excuse haste. I know your prudence will know how to handle this dangerous news.  
JOHN BROGDEN.

To Captain *Goforth*, commanding at *Three-Rivers*.

P. S. Nothing shall escape my notice to you of all that passes; and if you think me worth your notice, let me have your opinion. Thanks be to *God*, this moment, as I was concluding this letter, news came in that Major *Dubois* had sent a letter to General *Arnold* that our men met with the advanced party of the enemy, killed and wounded a



good many, and took thirty prisoners, and routed the rest, and are advancing to the main body. A party of one hundred and fifty men is gone to reinforce our party. We expect further news very soon. If we carry our point, I think *Quebeck* will soon be our own. J. B.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER OF CAPTAIN GOFORTH.

Reports are various with respect to *Indians*. Some say five thousand are coming down to cut off *Montreal*; others say they are to pass *Montreal*, come to *Three-Rivers*, and hasten to *Quebeck* to the relief of their father, (*Carleton*), who is now confined within the walls, and must be relieved, or they will lose all their trade. Whether reality or fiction, time will soon discover. Should have written to the General before now about some flagrant abuses that have been committed by the private soldiers on their march to *Quebeck*, had I not expected to have had the honour to receive him at this place before now. A Priest's house has been entered with great violence, and his watch plundered from him. At another house they run in debt about twenty shillings, (*English*), and because the man wanted to be paid, run him through the neck with a bayonet. Women and children have been terrified, and forced, with the point of the bayonet, to furnish horses for private soldiers without any prospect of pay. I have not had it in my power to discover the offenders, but have issued a proclamation. Captain *Stoup*, of the *Jersey* Forces, left with me a silver tablespoon, which he thinks was taken by one of his men from some inhabitant of *Montreal*. Please to advertise it, that the owner, sending the marks, may have it again.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL THOMPSON.

Fort George, April 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I enclose you a letter from General *Washington*, which I have taken the liberty to leave open for your perusal. Should he not have reached *New-York*, you will please seal and forward it to him, by express, wherever he may be; as also that of Mr. *Hancock*. If there is a possibility of sparing troops from *New-York*, they will certainly be sent. I wish you, therefore, to detain all the vessels you can to transport them to *Albany*, until the return of your expresses from Congress or the General, excepting such as may be employed in transporting provisions, which must be sent up with all possible despatch; together with two or three tons of powder, if it can be spared.

I am informed that the garrisons at the posts in the Highlands are very weak. If so, you will please to send a reinforcement, under the command of an active officer.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Brigadier-General *Thompson*, or Officer commanding at *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort George, April 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I had the honour to receive your favour of the 3d instant, by *Bennet*, who overtook me on my way to this place. All is in readiness to move, as soon as the lakes open, which, I hope, will be in a day or two. General *Thomas* is here, six companies of *Burrell's* Regiment from *Connecticut*, two companies of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, and three of the *New-Jersey*. The remainder of these corps are gone on, whereof two companies are about forty-five miles below *Crown-Point*; the rest have reached *Canada*. We have also here two companies of *Van Schaick's*, of this Colony; and five companies of the Second *Pennsylvania* Battalion are at *Fort-Edward*, waiting for the lake to open, as I have no quarters for them at this place. The remainder of *Van Schaick's* are not yet raised; and two companies of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion are on their way from *New-York*.

I should be extremely happy, my dear General, to pay my devoirs to you at *New-York*, but I do not see a possibility of quitting this quarter, without risking all in *Canada*; unless some other General Officer should relieve me, I shall, therefore, presume to remain, unless I receive your further orders.

Four o'clock, P. M.—This moment the post from *Canada* is arrived. I enclose you copies of all the papers I received. The intelligence they afford is so alarming, that I beg leave

to repeat my wish that a considerable body of troops should be immediately sent up.

I have stopped the courier at this place, and he goes back immediately to advise our friends in *Canada* that the troops now here will soon be in *Canada*; and I have presumed to add, that they will be followed by three or four thousand more. This intelligence will keep up their spirits, and intimidate our enemies.

I have heretofore observed to your Excellency that I had never received a return of the Army in *Canada*. I am, on that account, still incapable of letting you know the strength of our Army there. I am equally in the dark with respect to the arrangement made in officering the two regiments that were to be raised out of the troops that wintered there.

The provisions at these posts is very trifling. None of what General *Lee* has contracted for, is come to *Albany*; and, unless a speedy supply is sent up, our troops in *Canada* must suffer. I have written on this subject to General *Thompson*, before I left *Albany*; and although I make not the least doubt but that he will forward it, if he can, yet I beg leave to mention it, lest he should forget to mention it on the arrival of his superior officer at *New-York*.

I am seized with a copious scorbutick eruption, which I have frequently experienced, and imagined it threw off some other more disagreeable disorder. I believe it will not confine me, or prevent me from doing my duty.

I am, dear General, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, April 12, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform your Excellency that Colonel *Warren*, the Paymaster-General, acquaints me he has not money enough left in the Treasury (since what was drawn for the Commissary and Quartermaster) to pay the five regiments which remain here for the month of *March*.

Mr. Quartermaster *Parke* had a warrant for five thousand five hundred pounds twelve shillings, and Mr. Commissary *Avery* had a warrant for four thousand five hundred pounds, to defray the expenses in their several departments; and they both assured me that they could not do with less.

Your Excellency will be pleased to give the necessary directions with respect to a supply of money.

I am, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL WARD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 23, 1776.]

Boston, April 12, 1776.

SIR: Some time since, I wrote you, requesting leave to resign my command in the Army, on account of my ill state of health, and desiring some person might be appointed in my place; but, as yet, have had no answer.

I must renew my request, for the same reason. I cannot be content to continue in office, when I am conscious I am not able to do the duties of the same; for I think it would be dishonourable.

Devoutly praying for the Divine blessing on our righteous cause, I subscribe myself your most obedient and very humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. Dr. *Tucker*, and about twenty-four men, the day before yesterday, in whaleboats, near *Cohasset*, took one of the enemy's vessels, two hundred tons burden, laden with rum, valued at six thousand pounds sterling, and carried her into *Cohasset*.

COLONEL KNOX TO COLONEL BURBECK.

Cambridge, April 12, 1776.

SIR: In the written instructions which his Excellency General *Washington* was pleased to give to me, it is expressly ordered that you are to go immediately for *New-York* by the most direct road.

You will, therefore, set out as soon as possible, and proceed, with the utmost expedition, for that place.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

HENRY KNOX.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *William Burbeck*.

## COLONEL BURBECK TO COLONEL KNOX.

Cambridge, April 12, 1776.

SIR: I see, by your instructions from his Excellency, I am ordered to *New-York* directly. When I came out of *Boston*, the Provincial Congress voted me one hundred and fifty pounds during the war, and four shillings sterling a day for life. It would be ungenerous for me to leave their service, as they have provided so well for me. If I leave their service, the four shillings a day is lost to me. As I am advanced in years, I am unwilling to part with it.

I am not able to set out directly to *New-York*, because I am finishing the drafts for cannon, mortars, and carriages, for the Province.

I hope, sir, the above will excuse me for not complying with your orders.

Your humble servant,  
To Colonel *Henry Knox*.

WILLIAM BURBECK.

## DECLARATION BY THE INHABITANTS OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
April 12, 1776. }

To the *Selectmen* of . . . . .

In order to carry the underwritten Resolve of the honourable Continental Congress into execution, you are requested to desire all Males, above twenty-one years of age, (Lunatics, Idiots, and Negroes excepted,) to sign the Declaration on this paper; and, when so done, to make return thereof, together with the name, or names, of all who shall refuse to sign the same, to the General Assembly, or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

M. WEARE, *Chairman*.

"In Congress, March 14, 1776.

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety, of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed, within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend, by Arms, the United Colonies, against the hostile attempts of the *British Fleets* and Armies.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

In consequence of the above Resolution of the Continental Congress, and to show our determination in joining our *American* brethren in defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the inhabitants of the United Colonies:

We, the subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage, and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our power, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, with arms, oppose the hostile proceedings of the *British Fleets* and Armies against the United *American* Colonies.

## SIGNERS IN AMHERST.

Nahum Baldwin,	James Leeton,	Israel Town, Jun.,
Moses Nichols,	Benjamin Hopkins,	William Taylor,
William Bradford,	Jacob Curtice,	Jonathan Lund,
Josiah Crosby,	Jacob Curtice, Jun.,	Isaac Wright,
Peter Woodbury,	Jonathan Taylor,	Benj. Kendrick,
Thomas Burns,	Josiah Dodge,	Josiah Kidder,
Robert Means,	William Codman,	William Peacock,
Nathan Jones,	Silas Cummings,	Joseph Peirce,
Henry Codmon,	Ananias Wallaste,	David Duncle,
Peter Robertson,	Joseph Steel, Jun.,	John Kendall, Jun.,
Jonathan Smith,	Timothy Nichols,	Isaac How,
John Burns,	Benj. Hopkins, Jun.,	Jacob Blodgett,
Stephen Walker,	Ebenezer Hopkins,	Adam Patterson,
Samuel Harris,	John Burns,	Josiah Sawyer,
David Hildreth,	Benj. Hutchinson,	George Burns,
Ephraim Booker,	John Seetown,	John Burns, Jun.,
Henry Kimball,	William Wilkins,	Joseph Rollings,
William Low,	Francis Louvjoy,	Isaac Holt,
Samuel Stanley,	John Cochran,	Joseph Cugin,
Jonathan Grimes,	James Gilmoure,	John Roby,
Amos Flint,	Josiah Sawyerice,	John Twiss,
William Read,	Jonathan Twiss,	James McKeene,
Joseph Steel,	Richard Hughes,	Thos. Wakefield, Jr.,
William Odell,	John Hartshorn,	Ebenezer Holt, Jun.,
Joseph Bouttell,	Nathan Jones, Jun.,	Jonathan Lampson,
Timothy Smith,	Amos Flint, Jun.,	Ephraim Abbott,
Thomas Cuvrell,	Samuel Steward,	Moses Kimball,
Ephraim Hildreth,	Nathan Hutchinson,	Samuel Taylor,
Nathan Kendall,	Robert Read,	Allen Goodridge,
Benjamin Day,	Samuel Hale,	Thomas Averall, Jr.,
Reuben Boutter,	Archelaus Town,	Francis Elliot,
Ebenezer Kea,	Darius Abbot,	Elisha Tilton,
Kendal Boutwell's,	Joseph Gould,	Nathan Fuller,
Oliver Carlton,	Jonathan Sawyer,	John Duncle,
Hezekiah Louvjoy,	Samson Crosby,	Amos Green,
Enos Bradford,	Nathaniel Barret,	James Hartshorn,
Thomas Towne,	Nath. Hutchinson, Jr.	John Washer,
Daniel Stephen,	John Grines,	David Green,

Phinehas Upham,	Joseph Boutell,	Stephen Burnam,
John Shepard, Jun.,	Reuben Holt,	Abner Hutchinson,
Simpson Steward,	Michael Keel,	David True,
Samuel Gennis,	Joseph Prince,	Israel Town,
Dimond Mussey,	Abijah Wilkins,	John Bradford,
Moses Barron,	Thomas Weston,	Joseph Dunkley,
Benjamin Merrill,	John Averial,	Ebenezer Everil,
Jonathan Lyon,	William Lamson,	Elisha Hutchinson,
William Hogg,	John Cole,	Joseph Farnum,
John Mitchell,	Israel Weston,	Amos Strickney,
John Louvjoy,	Nathan Cole,	Joseph Wallace,
Jacob Louvjoy,	Thomas Towoe,	Jacob Smith,
Jacob Hildreth,	Joshua Wright,	Ezekiel Weston,
Samuel Henry,	Joshua Wilkins,	Nathan Cleaves,
John Patterson,	Thomas Clark,	Joel Howe,
Joseph Prince, Jun.,	Lemuel Winchester,	Stephen Peabody,
William Fisk, Jun.,	Daniel Smith,	William Odell, Jun.,
William Fisk,	Isaac Smith,	Ebenezer Temple,
Bartholomew Dodge,	Nathan Flint,	Ephraim French,
William Small,	John Dawson,	Benjamin Dodge,
Joseph Small,	James Woodbury,	James Gage,
William Small, Jun.,	Benjamin Temple,	Wm. Millondy, Jun.,
Ebenezer Hutchinson,	Joseph Langdell,	Ebenezer Weston,
John Harwood,	Richard Ward,	Richard Gould,
John Tuck,	Nathaniel Haseltine,	Samuel Blaisdell,
William Peabody, Jr.,	Stephen Farnum,	Solomon Kittridge,
Jona. Wilkins, Jun.,	William Wallace,	Timothy Hill,
John Seecombe,	Robert Parker,	John Wilkins.
Jacob Stanaly,	Andrew Bradford,	
William Peabody.		

Total—197

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, or the General Assembly thereof:

Pursuant to the request on this paper from the Committee of Safety, &c., to us directed, we have invited those persons therein mentioned, to sign the Declaration on this paper, &c.; and all that have seen it have signed, except *Joshua Atherton*, Esq., *Mr. Daniel Campbell*, *Mr. Samuel Dodge*, and Colonel *John Shepard*.

THOMAS WAKEFIELD,  
REUBEN MUSSEY,  
SAMUEL WILKINS, } *Selectmen of Amherst.*

## SIGNERS IN ALLENSTOWN.

Josiah Allen,	George Dugan,	Samuel Webster,
John Hayes,	Benjamin Methers,	Charles Moy,
Jacob Gay,	Andrew Burten,	Ichabod Clark,
David Knox,	Samuel Webster,	Joseph Dennett,
John Leonard,	John Bunten,	Ichabod Johnson,
Samuel Smith,	Harlin Sargent,	Samuel Davis,
Samuel Kinsen,	William Knox,	Samuel Fisk.

Refused to sign, *Edhall Burgen*.

## SIGNERS IN ALSTEAD.

Abraham Brown,	John Wait,	Lemuel Crane,
Abalom Kingsbery,	Abraham Brown, Jr.,	Joel Burrughs,
Henry Rumrill,	Simon Brooks,	John Hill,
John Slade,	William Simons,	Job Thompson,
Joseph Hatck,	Russell Shephard,	Nathaniel Watts,
Edward Waldo,	Frederick Wordner,	Moses Hale,
John Burrong, Jun.,	Jonathan Shepherd,	Nathan Mack,
Simon Basely, Jun.,	Daniel Waldo,	Thomas Walton,
Samuel Kidder,	Josiah Cook,	Daniel Burrughs,
Simoon Shepherd,	Beulah Waldo,	Zebulon Chandler,
Nathan L. Rust,	Amaziah Grover,	Philip Wordner,
Joel Chandler,	Ephraim Brigham,	Samuel Royce,
Phinehas Hatch,	Simon Rumrill,	Jon. Shepard, Jun.,
Joshua Shepard,	Amos Gale,	Elias Brown,
Jacob Wardner,	Oliver Shepard,	Joseph Brown,
Nathaniel Shepherd,	Aristides Hustis,	Isaac Lyon,
Nathaniel Cooper,	John Axtell,	Giles Marvin,
Gideon Delano,	John Plumbry,	Solomon Prentiss,
Silas King,	John Hadernner,	Nath. S. Prentiss,
Jason Wait,	John Burrughs,	Andrew Beckwith,
Aaron Lyon,	Joseph Mack,	Nathan Fay.
Thomas Kidder,	Timothy Burrughs,	
Abel Beckwith,		

Total—66

To the Honourable the General Assembly of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

This may certify your Honours, that *Simon Baxter*, *Samuel Chandler*, *John Thomson*, and *Samuel Miller*, have refused to sign the within Association Agreement. Certified by us,

ABRAHAM BROWN,  
ABSALOM KINGSBURY,  
SIMON BROOK, } *Selectmen of Alstead.*

## SIGNERS IN ACWORTH.

Ephraim Kiges,	William Clark,	John Moore,
Henry Silsby,	Lasell Silsby,	James Rogers,
Samuel Smith,	Dean Carlton,	Jedediah Smith,
Thomas Putnam,	John Willson,	Edward Keys,
John Rogers,	James McClure,	Mehuman Sibbens,
Samuel Silsby,	James Wallace,	Perish Richardson,
William Keyes,	Jonathan Silsby,	Thomas Nott,
William Markham,	Alexander Houston,	Christopher Eayrs,
Samuel Harper,	Julius Silsby,	John Duncan,
John Willson,	Willoughby Willard,	Henry Silsby, Jun.
George Duncan,	Joseph Chatterton,	

Acworth—32.

HENRY SILSBY,  
THOMAS PUTNAM, } *Selectmen of Acworth.*

## SIGNERS IN LEMPSTER.

Oliver Booth,	Asaph Brainard,	Frederick Abell,
William Carey,	Timothy Nichols,	Thos. Schopel, Jun.,
Joseph Wood,	Shubael Brainard,	Samuel Rand, Jun.,
David Wiley,	Allen Willey,	Silas Bingham,
Phineas Abette,	Jabez Beckwith,	Freegrace Booth,
Reuben Bingham,	Elijah Frink,	John Perkins,
Elijah Bingham,	Thomas Schopel,	William Story,
Samuel Nichols,	Benjamin Abell,	Uzel Hurd.
Uriah Brainard,		

Lempster—25.

WILLIAM CARY, }  
ELIJAH BINGHAM, } *Selectmen of Lempster.*

## SIGNERS IN UNITY.

Nathaniel Hunton,	Richard Brown,	Abner Chase,
Amos Chase,	Caleb Huntoon,	Abraham Sandborn,
Moses Ghinston,	David Weed,	Moses Gray,
Jacob Smith,	Samuel Huntoon,	David Weed, Jun.,
Charles Huntoon,	Elijah Weed,	Andrew Glidden,
Daniel Moody,	Nathaniel Lad,	John Lad,
Philip Huntoon,	Abner Currier,	John Huntoon,
Josiah Moody,	Samuel Weed,	Richard Meady.
Simeon Gidden,	Joseph Gliden,	

Unity—26.

DAVID WEED, }  
NATHANIEL HUNTON, } *Selectmen of Unity.*

The names of those persons who refused to sign the within Declaration: *Jonathan Glidden, Samuel Judkins, Richard Glidden, James Ladd.*—4 who refused.

## SIGNERS IN ATKINSON.

Ezekiel Belknap,	Asa Haseltine,	Reuben Mills,
Stephen Page,	Joseph Little,	Joseph Chandler,
Asa Page,	Thomas Little,	Daniel Richards,
John Johnson,	Dudley Bailey,	Joseph Whinakot,
Ebenezer Eaton,	Joseph Hale,	Benjamin Philbrick,
Benj. Emery, Jun.,	Ebenezer Green,	Jonathan Page, Jun.,
Benjamin Emery,	John Currier,	Thomas Whitaker,
Joseph French,	William Bailey,	Bradley Richards,
James Noyes,	Samuel V. Webster,	Moses Belknap,
Enoch Noyes,	James Bailey,	Benjamin Richards,
Jones Poor,	William Webster,	David Atwood,
Joseph Knight,	Joseph Webster,	John Dow,
Jeremiah Poor,	John Webster,	Stephen Page,
Nathaniel Peabody,	Amos Page,	Nathaniel Cogswell,
John Webster,	Moses Page,	Tristram Knight,
Humph. Noyes, Jun.,	James Merrell,	Israel Webster,
Jesse Page,	Joshua Knight,	Benjamin Stone,
Zeph. Knight, Jun.,	Benj. Philbrick, Jun.,	Samuel Noyes,
William Sawyer,	John Knight,	John Knight, 3d,
Daniel Gorger,	Joshua Emery,	Humphrey Noyes,
Nathaniel Noyes,	John Atwood,	Joseph Noyes,
Moses Greenough,	Daniel Page,	Abel Merrill, Jun.,
Jonathan Blake,	Moses Emery,	John Merrill,
Stephen Peabody,	Enoch Knight,	Samuel Little,
Daniel Poor,	James Dow,	Jesse Sawyer,
Thomas Noyes,	John Clement,	Amos Mills,
Stephen Dole,	John Dow, Jun.,	Benjamin Hale,
John Knight, Jun.,	John Ingalls,	Jonathan Palmer,
John Webster, Jun.,	Eldad Ingalls,	Joseph Palmer,
Stephen Noyes,	Ebenezer Parker,	Jonathan Whitecker,
Jonathan Sawyer,	Stephen Dole, Jun.,	Oliver Sawyer.
James Little,	John Kelly,	

This certifies that, in consequence of the foregoing requisition of the honourable Committee of Safety for said State, all the males of twenty-one years of age and upwards, belonging to *Atkinson*, in the State aforesaid, (Lunatics, Idiots, and Negroes excepted,) have freely and voluntarily subscribed their respective names to the foregoing Declaration.

NATHANIEL PEABODY, }  
JESSE PAGE, } *Selectmen of Atkinson.*

State of New-Hampshire,  
Atkinson, September 26, 1776. }

## SIGNERS IN BARNSTEAD.

Samuel Pitman,	Winthrop Smart,	Timothy Davis,
Jonathan Bunker,	John Hawkins,	Hatewill Nutter,
Thomas Snell,	Isaac Hawkins,	Jonathan Emerson,
Dependance Colbath,	Nathaniel Pease,	Benjamin Emerson,
John Elliot,	John Bickford,	Samuel Drew,
John Furbur,	Benjamin Edgerly,	John Mudget,
John Nelson,	John Mugate,	Joseph Bryant,
Joseph Bunker,	John Samborn,	Joseph Mugate,
Joseph Sanborn,	Daniel Jacobs,	Benjamin Brown,
Richard Sincler,	Daniel Bickford,	Edward Sanborn,
Benjamin Nutter,	John Tasker,	Samuel Stephens,
Stephen Pickrell,	John Sanborn,	Dodefon Bunker.
William Lord,		

## SIGNERS IN BARRINGTON.

John Hill,	John Cate,	William Lake, Jun.,
Joshua Felker,	John Hall,	William Babb,
Silas Drew,	Joshua Haseper,	Samuel Fose,
George Waterhouse,	Ralph Hall,	William Gray,
Benjamin Bobb,	Nathaniel Robert,	Thomas Scruten,
Michael Felker,	James Tuttle, Jun.,	Elijah Sene,
William Cate, Jun.,	William Hays,	John Daniel,
Charles Danielson,	Jacob Daniel,	Joseph Hall,
John Laighen,	Stephen Foss,	Solomon Hall,
Timothy Perkins,	Elisha Blaake,	John Carter,
Joseph Daniel, Jun.,	Richard Babb,	Thomas Howard,
David Tenny,	Micajah Otes,	Charles Felker,

John Church,	George Parsshley,	Mark E. Ayers,
Solomon Young,	Nicholas Boower,	Jacob Daniel,
Isaac Hall,	John Waterhouse,	Abijah Pinkhay,
Reuben Davis,	Francis Winkley,	John Arlen,
Edward Carter,	Isaac Waldron,	Peter Young,
Joshua Otes,	Jacob Clark,	Aaron Waldron,
Jeremiah Foss,	Samuel Stiles,	John Garlen, Jun.,
James Foss,	Mark Foss, Jun.,	Nat. Berry,
John Kingman,	Nathaniel Foss,	Ephraim Foss,
Hezekiah Hayes,	Mark Foss,	Solomon Cate,
Hinkson Marden,	George Seward,	Samuel Brewster,
James Marden,	Ephraim Daniel,	Ephraim Holmes,
Gideon Loughton,	Jon. Montgomery,	Thomas Foss,
Tim. Waterhouse,	Samuel Hayes,	Eleazer Young,
Daniel Rowell,	Simon Fork,	Benjamin Perl,
Hinkson Foss,	Samuel Perkins,	Joseph Young,
Isaiah Felker,	Samuel Buzzel,	John Garland,
Winthrop Young,	John Young,	Benjamin Hayes,
Paul Young,	Garben Smith,	Daniel Brewster,
Nathaniel Church,	James Leighton,	John Parsely,
John Drew,	Stephen Otes,	John Rabb,
James Church,	Joseph Hayes,	Jethro Lock,
Jeremiah Gray,	Nicholas Otes,	William Yongs,
James Danielson,	John Blake,	Noah Holmes,
Paul Hayes,	Richard Barclay,	Stephen Berry,
Thomas How,	Thomas Buzzel,	Benjamin Young,
William How,	John Berry,	Samuel Berry,
Paul Otes,	Ephm. Holmes, Jun.,	James Row,
Clement Daniel,	Solomon Foss,	Joshua Hooper,
Joshua Holmes,	James Gray,	John Dickinson,
Nicholas Brock,	Elijah Cloutman,	Joseph Perrey,
Stephen Young,	William Ham,	James Perrey,
Ebenezer Kielle,	George Ham,	John Montgomery,
John Willey,	Harvey Sevey,	Benjamin Hall, Jun.,
Isaac Willey,	Elijah Otes,	Perry Hicks,
William Lock,	Joseph Cate,	James Wodes,
Nathan Foss, Jun.,	George Berry,	Albe Dennie,
Samuel Winkly,	George Foss,	Samuel Wales,
Simeon Harbed,	James Hayes,	Charles Brimford,
John Caverly,	John Melee,	Peletiah Daniels,
James Dawes,	Jacob Shepherd,	William Dame,
Josiah Brown,	Ebenezer Spencer,	Thomas Rawlings,
Samuel Foss, Jun.,	Dudley Davis,	David Rollings,
John Ham,	Timothy Gluson,	John Shurburn,
Philip Caverly,	Wm. Daniel, Jun.,	Ebenezer Jackson,
Levi Danielson,	Isaac Murbum,	Obadiah Drew,
Reuben Gray,	Josiah Wagon,	Ebenezer Young,
John Gray,	James Durgen,	John Foye, Jun.,
Samuel Gray,	Abraham Allis,	Isaac Young,
Joseph Daniel,	John Reness,	Edmund Evens,
Jabez Smith,	Stephen Housely,	Isaac Loughton,
Joseph Woodman,	John Boody,	Benjamin Bufford,
John Brownson,	Isaac Rinds,	William Runnel,
Joseph Brown,	Robert Bamford,	Daniel Delan.
Thomas Fisher,		

To the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the  
Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

This may certify that the Association paper has been carried through this town, and these men refuse to sign whose names follow: *Jeremiah Tibbets, David Drew, Jonathan Clark, Daniel Clark, Samuel Williams, John Buzzel, Richard Swain, William Durgin, Thomas Caverly, John Caveno, Jonathan Swain, Elijah Tuttel.*

WILLIAM CATE, JUN., }  
SILAS DREW, } *Selectmen of Barrington.*  
JOHN KINGMAN,  
Barrington, September 3, 1776.

## SIGNERS IN BEDFORD.

John Wallace, Jun.,	Samuel Vose,	James Patterson,
James Caldwell,	William White,	Matthew McDuffie,
William Caldwell,	Joseph Wallace,	Thos. MacLaughlin,
James Matthes,	John McKinney,	Benjamin Smith,
John Harrison,	Asa Barnes,	Zachariah Chandler,
John Aiken,	Samuel Tirril, Jun.,	John Moor,
Adam Dickey,	William Kennedy,	James Wallace,
Matthew Patten,	Robert Morrel,	James Mardin,
John Goffe,	Andrew Walker,	John Goffe, Jun.,
Daniel Moor,	Nathaniel Patterson,	John Riddle,
John Moor, Jun.,	Robert Mathes,	Samuel Patten,
Daniel Moor, Jun.,	James Vose,	John Boies,
Thomas Matthews,	George Conway,	James Lien,
Robert Giffin,	Hugh Campbell,	John Bell,
John Burns,	James McAllister,	John Wallace,
Robert Burns,	John McLaughlin,	Robert Walker,
William Burns,	John Gardner,	James Walker,
John Brien,	Amaziah Pollard,	Patrick Larkin,
William Moore,	James Steel,	John Hillery,
James Moore,	James Aiken,	William McCleary,
James Houston,	Whitfield Gillmore,	Joseph Bell,
Hugh Orr,	James Smith,	Samuel Fugard,
Barnabas Ram,	John Orr,	Thos. Vicker Vose,
John McIntosh,	Lt. John Moor,	James Caines,
Jacob McQuaid,	Joseph Houston,	Samuel Patten,
James Westlier,	David Moor,	Richard McAllester,
John Little,	James Gillmor,	John Smith,
Thomas Galt,	William Moor,	James Little,
Thomas Boice,	David McCleray,	Stephen Franck.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, to be convened at EXETER, in said Colony, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th instant:

Pursuant to the within precept, we have taken pains to know the minds of the inhabitants of the Town of *Bedford*,

with respect to the within obligation, and find none unwilling to sign the same, except the Rev. *John Houstons*, who declines signing the said obligation, for the following reasons, viz: *Firstly*. Because he did not apprehend that the honourable Committee meant that Ministers should take up arms, as being inconsistent with their Ministerial charge. *Secondly*. Because he was already confined to the County of *Hillsborough*, therefore, he thinks he ought to be set at liberty, before he should sign the said obligation. *Thirdly*. Because there are three men belonging to his family; already inlisted in the Continental Army.

JOHN GOFFE, }  
JOHN ORR, } *Selectmen.*

Bedford, June 4, 1776.

SIGNERS IN BOSCAWEN.

Joseph Hoyt,	Jesse Flanders, Jun.,	John Stevens,
Moses Call,	Wm. Danford, Jun.,	Samuel Ames,
Moses Morse,	Samuel Coser,	Thomas Coser,
Jesse Flanders,	Jonathan Coser,	Jonathan Atkinson,
Moses Burbank,	Stephen Gerrish,	Samuel Clifford,
John Flanders,	Samuel Burbank,	Peter Kimball,
Daniel Noyes,	Moses Jakeman,	John Hale,
Daniel Clark,	Enoch Gerrish,	Robert Elliot,
Benjamin Day,	John Morrill,	James French,
Nathan Corser,	Silas Call,	Samuel Danford,
Joseph Atkinson,	Joseph Gerrish,	Benjamin Jackman,
Robie Morrill,	Michael Sargent,	Joseph Muzzy,
Moses Burbank, Jun.,	Thomas Bedel,	Samuel Muzzy,
Thomas Gordon,	Simon Jackman,	Isaac Noyes,
Samuel Atkinson,	William Alrick,	Peter R. Stevens,
Jeremiah Hidden,	Moses Call,	William Danford,
Caleb Merrill,	David Burbank,	John Isley,
Daniel Peterson,	Simon Atkinson,	Peter Coffin,
Benjamin Couch,	Timothy Eastman,	Oliver Fowler,
Jacob Flanders,	Joseph Pearson,	John Bowly,
John Knowlton,	Joseph Flanders,	John Bowly, Jun.,
Eben. Hielden,	F. Lewles,	John Corser, Jun.,
Henry Gerrish,	John Couch,	Nicholas Elliot,
Daniel Shepard,	Edward Chadwick,	Capt. Stephen Griffin,
Isaac Pearson,	Moses Morris, Jun.,	Nathaniel Atkinson,
Winthrop Carter,	Moses Maariel,	Enoch Little,
Samuel Davis,	Samuel Jackman,	Nathan Davis,
Benjamin Rolfe,	Daniel Richards,	Joseph Bean,
Ezekiel Harpy,	David Corser,	John Fowler,
John Elliot, Jun.,	Asa Corser,	George Jackman,
Thomas Eliot,	John Corser,	Samuel Agaton,
John Muzzay,	Edward Gaget,	John Urann,
John Jackson,	John Manuel,	Geo. Jackman, Jun.,
James Garief,	Bitfield Plummer,	Cutting Noyes,
Enos Flanders,	David Carter,	John Elliot,
Jedediah Danford,	Nathaniel Gookin,	Joseph Eastman.

To the Hon. Council and House of Representatives for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, or Committee of Safety:

This may certify that the within Declaration has been offered to the inhabitants of *Boscawen*, and unanimously signed, excepting one, viz: *Aaron Flanders* refused to sign the same.

GEORGE JACKMAN, JUN., }  
CUTTING NOYES, } *Selectmen.*  
JOHN ELLIOT.

June 3, 1776.

SIGNERS IN BOW.

Ephraim Foster,	Joseph Rogers,	Simeon Heath,
John Bryant,	Ralph Cross,	Nathaniel Canies,
Benjamin Bean,	Anthony Mannail,	John Brown,
James Busel,	Timothy Doe,	Paltiah Clement,
John Carr,	Samuel Dow,	Richard Clough, Jun.,
Stephen Eastman,	Elisha Clough,	Henry Hamphill,
David Carr,	Elisha Clough, Jun.,	Joseph Baker,
John Grushe,	Thomas Hardy,	Samuel Welch,
Jonathan Clement,	Edward Carlton,	William Robertson,
Solomon Heath,	Samuel Rogers, Jun.,	Aaron Noyes,
Edward Russell,	Aaron Kinsman,	John Noyes,
David Foster,	Renben Currier,	James Reddell,
David Elliot,	Richard Clough,	John Garven,
John Colby,	John Robertson,	James Garven,
Abraham Colby,	James Moor,	Patrick Garven,
Willeby Colby,	Leonard Harriman,	Lion. Hemphill,
Elijah Colby,	John Sullaway,	John Moon,
Joseph Rogers, Jun.,	Enoch Noyes,	Samuel Alexander,
Jonathan Clough,	Ephraim Moor,	Samuel Welch, Jun.,
Samuel Wingate,	Benjamin Noyes,	Jacob Stockbridge.
Amasa Dow,		

Errors excepted: SAMUEL ROGERS.

I not being satisfied.

Errors excepted: WILLIAM ROGERS.

We, the subscribers, in obedience to the within, have shown the paper to all and every person that are not excepted, and that are not in the service, that belong to said Town of *Bow*; all of whom have voluntarily signed the same.

EPHRAIM FOSTER, }  
JOHN BRYANT, } *Selectmen of Bow.*  
BENJAMIN NOYES,

Bow, September 3, 1776.

SIGNERS IN BRENTWOOD.

Samuel Dudley,	George Vesay,	John Shaw,
Hawley Marshall,	Nicholas Smith,	Daniel Dearborn,
Jedediah Robinson,	Richard York,	Abraham Drake,
Samuel Dudly,	Lemuel Johnson,	Moses Cheney,
Samuel Learitt,	John Phubrick,	Samuel Dudley,
Jonathan Robinson,	Thomas Peabody,	Joseph Smith,
Stephen M. Creighton,	John Dudley,	Richard Whiteher,
Samuel Colcord,	Daniel Leavitt,	Samuel Truke,
Josiah Dudley,	Jeremiah Ellsworth,	Jonathan Dow,
Dudley Robinson,	Eliphalet Thing,	Winthrop Marston,
David Robinson,	Samuel Thing,	Samuel Marston,
Daniel Ward,	Dudly Thing,	Benjamin Pulsifer,
Jonathan Quimby,	Samuel Ellsworth,	John Gorden,
John Bennet,	Aaron Ellsworth,	Thomas Leavitt,
John Wilson,	Josiah Thing,	Labey Smith,
Nicholas Mudget,	Levi Morrill,	Dudly Kimball,
John Thing,	Ebenezer Colcord,	Samuel Harper,
Gilman Robinson,	Daniel Clark,	John Carr, Jun.,
Winthrop Dudley,	Edward West,	Simon Morgain,
Samuel Mormal,	Joseph Wadleigh, Jr.,	John Carn,
John Dudley, Jun.,	Edward Stevens,	Moses Lyford,
Alex. Gordon Smith,	Nathaniel Stevens,	Timothy Gove,
Samuel Clark,	Nehemiah West,	John Thing,
John Philbrick,	Nathaniel Gilman,	Samuel Lock,
John Bennet, Jun.,	Ebenezer Stevens,	James Robinson,
Humphrey Wilson,	Joseph Wadleigh,	Alexander Robards,
Darby Kelly,	James Dudley,	Sander Robards, Jun.,
Job Judkins,	Chase Smith,	Nicholas Lollof,
Porter Kimball,	Edward Pillsbery,	Thomas Roberts,
Joseph Shaw,	James Nickal,	Josiah Hook,
Moses Folsom,	Abner Barbank,	Daniel Torry,
Jonathan Shaw,	Riley Lyford,	Robert Smith,
Abraham Morrill,	David Barbank,	Reuben Smith,
Abel Morrill,	Nathaniel Chase,	Joshua Smith,
Jonathan Veasey,	Thomas Gordon,	Nicholas Hardie,
Benjamin Fifield,	Zadok Samborn,	Ebenezer Colcord, Jr.,
James Marston,	William Morrill,	Danson Dudley,
John Abbot,	John Quimby,	Scribner Gordon,
Joseph Edgerly,	Jonathan Sleeper, Jr.,	Ebenezer Chase,
Nathan Prescott,	Joseph Jewell,	Benjamin Robards,
Peter Thing,	Elisha Sanborn, Jun.,	Joseph Johnson,
Nathaniel Thing,	Francis Brown,	David Dollof,
Richard Tandy,	Isaac Witcher,	John Dollof,
Simon Gilman,	Elisha Sanborn,	Samuel Robards,
Bartholomew Thing,	William Graves,	Daniel Sanborn, Jun.,
Robert Rowe,	William Graves, Jun.,	Daniel Sanborn,
Jonathan Thing,	Jno. Scribner Harper,	Edward Sanborn,
Samuel Shaw,	Jonathan Cater,	John Woodbury,
Nathaniel Trask,	Jonathan Taylor, Jr.,	Nathaniel Graves,
Jonathan Hodgshun,	Aretas Rowe,	Stephen Fifield,
Daniel Wormall,	Nathaniel Clark,	Moses Lacy,
Richard Foss,	John Truke,	Joseph Sanborn,
Jonathan Weed,	James Findeler,	Jonathan Gorden.

Pursuant to this writ to us, we have desired all males, as directed, to sign to this Declaration, and find that *James Been, Jeremiah Been, Richard Been, Jun., Samuel Dudley, Jun., Samuel Stevens, David Clifford, Thomas Smith, Levi Been, Richard Been, Samuel Clifford, Antipasse Gilman, William Been, Joseph Greeley, William Stevens, Moses Magoon, Jonathan Sleeper, Joshua Been, and Jeremiah Rowe*, refuse to sign to this Declaration.

EBENEZER COLICK, }  
JAMES ROBINSON, } *Selectmen of Brentwood.*  
JEDEDIAH ROBINSON,

SIGNERS IN CANTERBURY.

Thomas Clough,	Richard Hanes,	William Hancock,
Ezekiel Morrill,	James Shepard,	Reuben Kezer,
Archelaus Moore,	Archibald Miles,	Jacob Hath,
John Moor,	James Gipson,	John Roen,
Abiel Foster,	James Glines,	Abner Miles,
Sargent Morrill,	William Gault,	Nathaniel Perkins,
Jonathan Young,	David McCrilles,	David Blancherd,
James Tart,	Benjamin Johnson,	Samuel Clinip,
Obediah Clough,	Daniel Foster,	James Blanchard,
Joseph Durgin,	John Lyford,	Richard Gliner,
Williams Glines, Jr.,	Elmanath Ran,	William Dyer,
James Ames,	Benjamin Woodman,	Shubael Dearborn,
Benjamin Heath,	Jonathan Forrester,	Nathaniel Dearborn,
David Morrill,	Aaron Sergeant,	David Morrison,
Joshua Boienton,	Benjamin Sanburn,	Nehemiah Clough,
Samuel Colby,	John Bean,	Benjamin Blanchard,
Thomas Gilman,	Caleb Heath,	Richard Blanchard,
Jeremiah Hackett,	Gideon Bartlett,	David Norris,
Ephraim Carter,	Joseph Pallet,	Edward Blanchard,
Abner Hoyt,	Nathaniel Pallet,	John Gibson,
Richard Ellison,	Samuel Weeks,	James Lind. Perkins,
Jeremiah Clough,	Simon Simon,	Thomas Perkins,
Benjamin Richards, 3d.	Tams Molony,	Peter Hanaford,
Jonathan Blanchard,	John McDaniel,	Benjamin Collins,
Samuel Nudd,	Jeremiah McDaniel,	John Forest,
Joshua Weeks,	Laben Morrill,	John Forest, Jun.,
Jonathan West,	Asa Foster,	William Forrest,
William Moor,	Simon Ames,	Nathaniel Witcher,
Nathaniel Glines,	John Molony,	Reuben Witcher,
Benjamin Simson,	Robert Hastings,	William Sanborn,
Thomas Hoyt,	John Robinson,	Gideon Sawyer,
David Ames,	Simeon Robinson,	Ebenezer Kimball,
John Moores, Jun.,	Joseph Call,	Joth Simons,
Barnard Stiles,	Nathan Guile,	Simon Stevens,
Samuel Haines,	Jesse Cross,	William Simons,
John Sanborn,	John Cross,	Benjamin Witcher,
Nathaniel Moore,	Stephen Cross,	Jeremiah Ladd,

Joseph Sanborn,  
Dennis Fletcher,  
Henry Clough,  
Walter Haines,  
William Miles,  
Eli Simons,

Thomas Foss,  
Leavitt Clough,  
Josiah Miles,  
Benj. Blanchard, Jun.,  
David Forster,  
Timothy Foss,

John Foss,  
Samuel Griffith,  
Oliver Haines,  
Edmond Aley,  
Thomas Clough, Jun.

Henry Hall,  
Peter Hall,  
Samuel Jacks,  
Simon Barry,  
Thomas Follanbe,  
James Shiria,  
William Shiria,  
Hugh Shirley,  
Samuel Robie,  
James Richardson,  
Ebenezer Dearborn,  
John Gross,  
William Brown,  
William Willett,  
Ephraim Sargent,  
Winthrop Sargent,  
John Karr,  
William Mills,  
Robert Grahames,  
John Grimes,  
John Mills,  
Nathaniel Sweetser,  
Samuel McPerson,  
Robert Dickey,  
Parker Morse,  
Josiah Morse,  
Edmund Sleeper,  
Joseph Morse,  
Joseph Blanchard,  
Abner Hills,  
Jabez French,

Isaac Hills,  
James Randell,  
John Lane,  
Daniel Dolbeer,  
John Butterfield,  
John Lane, Jun.,  
Jonathan Norton,  
Joseph Norton,  
Jonathan Berry,  
Joseph Smith,  
John Sevey,  
Ealel Berry,  
Benjamin Hills,  
David Richardson,  
Bradbury Carr,  
Joseph Carr,  
Charles Moore, Jun.,  
Benjamin Currier,  
Mark Carr,  
Thos. Fowler, Jun.,  
James Wetherspoon,  
Daniel Wetherspoon,  
Mansfield McAffe,  
Hugh McAffe,  
Samuel Akin,  
Robert Patten,  
Samuel Cromby,  
William Miller,  
Hugh Miller,  
Thomas McMaster,

William Gilrist,  
David Dickey,  
Robert Dinsmore,  
Benjamin Perce,  
Samuel Peirce,  
Barnard Brickett,  
Joseph Hills,  
David Underhill,  
Jonathan Emery,  
Hezekiah Underhill,  
Jonathan Underhill,  
Isaac Town,  
John Carr,  
John Burley,  
Joseph Hall,  
Joseph Clark,  
Edward Prissen,  
Cornelius Morgan,  
Samuel Worthen,  
Edmund Eliot,  
Paul Healy,  
Moses Underhill,  
Jacob Derby,  
James Hidden,  
Samuel Davis,  
John Quimby,  
Robert Gordon,  
William Brown,  
Francis Carr,  
Timothy Carr.

## SIGNERS IN CLAREMONT.

Thomas Goodwin,  
Joseph York,  
Matthias Stone,  
Jacob Rice,  
William Osgood,  
Asa Jones,  
John Spencer,  
Lemuel Hubbard,  
Christopher York,  
David Bates,  
T. Sterne,  
Barnabas Ellis,  
Joel Roys,  
Joseph Hubbard,  
Amasa Fuller,  
Jer. Spencer,  
Patrick Fields,  
Gideon Lewis,  
Seth Lewis,  
Josiah Stevens,  
John Kilborn,  
John Peake,  
John West,

Samuel Tuttle,  
Stephen Hige,  
Charles Higbe,  
Edward Goodwin,  
Ephraim French,  
Joseph Ives,  
Elihu Stevens, Jun.,  
Ichabod Hitchcock,  
Ebenezer Dudley,  
Daniel Carter,  
Josiah Rich,  
Oliver Ellsworth,  
Jonathan Perkin,  
David Kich,  
Ebenezer Washburn,  
Bill Barns,  
John Adkins,  
Amaziah Knights,  
John Goss,  
Ezra Jones,  
William Sims,  
David Adkins,

Timothy Adkins,  
David Answorth,  
Nathaniel Goss,  
Joel Matthews,  
Oliver Tuttle,  
Amos Conant,  
Samuel Ashley,  
John Sprague,  
Adam Alden,  
James Alden,  
David Lind,  
Oliver Ashley,  
Eleazer Clark,  
Eleazer Clark, Jun.,  
Moses Spafford,  
Benjamin Townes,  
Samuel Lewis,  
Abner Matthews,  
Jonas Striand,  
Beriah Murry,  
Thomas Duston,  
Timothy Duston.

In compliance to the above Declaration, we have shown the Declaration to all the inhabitants of this Town, and the associate are those who have signed to this paper.

MATTHIAS STONE, } *Selectmen.*  
ASA JONES, }

Claremont, May 30, 1776.

N. B. These are the names of those who have actually taken up arms, and are now in the Continental Army :

Lt. Col. Joseph Wait,	Peter Fuller,	Henry Stephens,
Lieut. Joseph Taylor,	Reuben Spencer,	Jonathan York,
Ensign Thos. Jones,	Gershom York,	Joseph York, Jun.,
S. Abn'r Matthews, Jr.	Benj. Townes, Jun.,	The Rev. Augustus
James Gooden,	David Loynds, Jun.,	Hibbard, Chaplain,
Jonathan Fuller,	Charles Loynds,	&c.

The names of those who refuse to sign the Declaration :

John Thomas,	Ebenezer Judd, Jun.,	David Dodge,
Captain Benj. Brooks,	Lieut. Benj. Tayler,	Samuel Thomas,
Barnabas Brooks,	Timothy Granis,	Amos Cole,
Capt. Benj. Sumner,	Hezekiah Roys,	Ebenezer Edson,
Rev. Kanna Cosset,	Asa Leat,	Benjamin Peterson,
Cornelius Brook,	Benjamin Leat,	Benj. Brooks, Jun.,
Samuel Cole, Esq.,	Ebenezer Judd,	Daniel Warner, Jr.,
Daniel Warner,	Thomas Steal,	Dr. William Sumner,
Levi Warner,	Amos Snow,	Ebenezer Roys,
William Coy,	John Hitchcock,	Joseph Norton.
Enoch Judd,		

## SIGNERS IN CHESTER.

John Crawford,	John Underhill,	Isaac Forse,
William Lock,	James Pearce,	Isaac Forse, Jun.,
Samuel Blunt,	William White,	Jonathan Forsaith,
William Flood,	Nathan Fitts,	Thomas Wason,
Daniel Greenough,	James Duntap,	Robert Wilson,
Robert McKinley,	Nathan Webster, Jun.,	William Wilson,
Mat. Forsith, Jun.,	John Haseltine,	James Wason,
Edward Robie,	Peter Dearben,	Charles Moore,
Edward Robie, Jun.,	Peter Haseltine,	Samuel Moore,
Archibald McRafie,	Nathaniel Blaisdel,	David Fuller,
John Webster,	Ebenezer Basford,	Benjamin Hoyt,
Samuel Emerson,	Conjamine True,	John Hoyt,
Stephen Morse,	Samuel Hasseltine,	Joseph McClellan,
Daniel Webster,	Simon Bayley,	Stephen Marden,
Stephen Dearben,	M. Underhill, Jun.,	John Pain,
Adam Wilson,	John Underhill, Jun.,	Joseph Knowles,
Robert Calf,	Stephen Hale,	Amos Pain,
Gabriel Harriman,	Richard Hasseltine,	Nathan Norton,
Nathan Morse,	Moses Hasseltine,	Samuel Brown,
Henry Morse,	Jonathan Dearborn,	John Knowles,
Joseph Linn,	David Foss,	John Knowles, Jun.,
Moses Hills,	Isaac Blaisdel,	Nathan Knowles,
Jonathan Hall,	Josiah Hall,	Joshua Prescott,
Stephen Leafken,	Pearson Richardson,	Joseph Long,
Ebenezer Townsend,	Samuel Kingsword,	James Wilton,
Nathaniel Gidden,	Samuel Wilson,	Nathan Webster,
Wilks West,	Bracket Towle,	James Waddell,
Caleb Hall,	Anthony Town,	Amos Merrill,
Wills Chase,	Benjamin Melucen,	Josiah Bradly,
Moody Chase,	Parker Carr,	Francis Towl,
Stephen Merrill,	Samuel Morss,	Jacob Hills,
Alex. Wetherspoon,	David Carrier,	Thomas Hasseltine,
Robert Craig,	John Rowe,	Benjamin Hasseltine,
James Aiken,	John Dearborn,	Jabez Hoyt,
James Rankens,	Jotham Colby,	Benjamin Fullern,
Nathaniel S. Stickney,	William Masten,	Samuel Jones,
Edmund Stickney,	Benjamin Hills,	John Tolford,
David Wetherspoon,	Samuel Hill,	Hugh Tolford,
Peter Akin,	Ezekiel Worthen,	John Robie,
John Grimes,	John Shackford, Jun.,	Gideon Rowel,
Matthew Thompson,	Aaron Townsend,	John Conlby,
Ruise Ram Underhill,	Theodore Shackford,	Samuel Rowell,
Joseph Dearborn,	Daniel Richardson,	Samuel Forster,
Daniel Page,	Moses Richardson,	John Willson,

To the Honourable Committee of Safety or General Assembly of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

As soon as ever we received your directions, requesting us to desire all the males in this town to sign to a Declaration, (Lunaticks, &c., excepted,) in obedience thereto, we immediately proceeded to give publick notice of your intentions, and otherwise, as we thought would have the most effectual tendency to have put into execution, in order that we might make a return by the Representative; but having so short a time to accomplish the matter, in so great a town, and being unwilling to omit anything relating to our duty, and which might be for the benefit of the whole, we solemnly deliberated upon the matter, asked the advice of our Representative, and others of safety and steadiness; and as we were not limited to a certain time to make a return, we purpose to make one as soon as it may be done with convenience; so rest your humble servants,

EPHRAIM BALDWIN, } *Selectmen of Chesterfield.*  
MICHAEL CRESEY, }  
SAMUEL HILDRETH, }

## SIGNERS IN CHESTERFIELD.

Abraham Wood,	James Wheeler,	Daniel Farr,
Simon Davis,	Zenas Fairbank,	Amasa Coburn,
Isaac Davis,	Nathan Beshon,	Thomas Harris,
John Snow,	Isaac Hildreth,	Duglas Robins,
Oliver Cobleigh,	Israel Johnson,	Hallowell Merrill,
Jonathan Farewell,	James Robertson,	Shrebiah Fay,
Oliver Farewell,	Elisha Rockwood,	Thomas Daby,
Silas Thompson,	Daniel Cobleigh,	Stephen Metcalf,
William Farewell,	Aaron Fan,	Martin Warner,
Nathan Davis,	Peter Wheeler,	David Stoddert,
Warren Snow,	Moses Ellis,	Samuel Peacock,
Ebenezer Streeter,	Ephraim Hubbard,	John Peacock,
William Thomas,	Amos Davis,	Ephraim Baldwin,
Daniel Baldwin,	John White,	Michael Cresey,
William Simonds,	Nathan Metcalf,	Samuel Hildreth,
Joseph Smith,	John Bishop,	Moses Smith, Jun.,
Amos Smith,	Jonathan Cobleigh,	William Shores,
Jonathan Furr, 4th,	Nathan Thomas,	David Stone,
Jonathan Furr, 3d,	Zur Evans,	John Grandy,
Thomas Furr,	Abel Emons,	John Grandy, Jun.,
Benjamin Hudson,	William Fancet,	Ebenezer Gail,
Moses Smith,	William Robertson,	Sylvanus Battey,
Josiah Streeter,	Ith. Chamberlain,	Ebenezer Farr,
William Woodcock,	Edward Hildreth,	Increase Daniels,
Jonathan Cobleigh,	Caleb Johnson,	Abner Abbee,
Jonas Stearns,	Joney Davis,	Abijah Starns,
Samuel Fairbank,	Amos Streeter,	Matthew Gray,
Jonathan Furr, 2d,	Enoch Streeter,	Ebenezer Taft,
Josiah Lamb,	Abner Johnson,	William Hildreth,
Samuel Walker,	John Prat,	John Richardson,
Archibald Robertson,	Kimball Carlton,	Daniel Kinison,
Andrew Coburn,	Nathaniel Bingham,	James Reed,
Lawrence Walton,	Theodore Bingham,	John Ellis,
Phineas Brown,	Abel Ray,	Joel Whitney,
John Sanderson,	John Pierce,	David Harr,
William Fisher,	Samuel Fair,	James Maryfield,
Jona. Hildreth, Jun.,	Benjamin Coburn,	Oliver Hubbard,
James Wheeler, Jun.,	Nehemiah Merrill,	Michael Woodcalf,
Josiah Hastings,	Ephraim Farr,	Charles Johnson,
Andrew Hastings,	Isaac Farr,	Amos Hubbard,
Noah Emmons,	Samuel Farr, Jun.,	Jonathan Farr,
Jonathan Coley,	John Haskell,	Benjamin Smith,
Ephraim Wheeler,	Ezekiel Powers,	Samuel Fletcher,
John Cobleigh,	Silas Wood,	Patrick McMichael,
Joseph Higgins,	Obediah Morrill,	Abraham Farr,
James McElroy,	William Henry,	Abijah Kingsbury.
Joseph Wheeler,		

In obedience to the within Declaration, that we received



from your Honours, we proceeded according to your directions; and the persons whose names are underwritten, are those that refuse to sign to the Declaration on your paper:

Captain J. Hildreth,	Joseph Prentice,	Elisha Walton,
Lieut. E. Whiting,	Ephraim Whitney,	Ezekiel Earl,
Eleazer Pomeroy,	Eben. Fletcher, Jun.,	Silas Bennett,
Ebenezer Hervey,	Samuel D. Converse,	Job King.
Ebenezer Cooper.		

EPHRAIM BALDWIN,  
MOSES SMITH, JUN., } *Selectmen*  
MICHAEL CRESEY, } *of*  
EPHRAIM HUBBARD, } *Chesterfield.*  
SAMUEL HILDRETH.

Chesterfield, June 12, 1776.

**SIGNERS IN CONCORD.**

Reuben Trimbald,  
 John Kimball,  
 Thomas Sickney,  
 Peter Green,  
 Tim Walker, Jun.,  
 Benjamin Emery,  
 John Bradley,  
 Nathan Chandler,  
 Aaron Stevens,  
 James Walker,  
 Robert Davis,  
 Benjamin Hanaford,  
 Daniel Gale,  
 David Hall,  
 Simon Danforth,  
 Nathaniel Abbot,  
 Nathaniel Rolfe,  
 Stephen Greenleaf,  
 Samuel Thompson,  
 John Gage,  
 Moses Eastman, Jun.,  
 Jacob Carter,  
 John Towle,  
 Levi Ross,  
 Jeremiah Clidde,  
 Peter Green, Jun.,  
 Amos Abbot,  
 Timothy Bradley,  
 Ephraim Farnum,  
 Cornelius Johnson,  
 Philip Eastman,  
 Daniel Abbot,  
 Richard Flanders,  
 Joseph Farnum,  
 Richard Hasletine,  
 Joseph Hall, Jun.,  
 Benjamin Fifield,  
 Reuben Abbot,  
 Lot Colby,  
 Jonathan Eastman,  
 Daniel Chase,  
 David George,  
 John Sternes,  
 John Virgin,  
 Phineas Stevens,  
 Jabez Abbot,  
 Benjamin Abbott,  
 Ebenezer Hall,  
 Henry Martin,  
 Timothy Simonds,  
 William Fifield,  
 Reuben Abbot, Jun.,  
 Samuel Butters,

Timothy Walker,  
 Henry Beck,  
 Benjamin Rolfe,  
 John Steen,  
 Moses Eastman,  
 Oliver Hoyt,  
 Theodore Farnum,  
 Ebenezer Farnum,  
 Ephraim Farnum,  
 Moses Eastman,  
 Chandler Lovejoy,  
 Samuel Hinkson,  
 Caleb Buswell,  
 Richard Eastman,  
 Solomon Gage,  
 Ezekiel Dimond, Jun.,  
 Amos Abbot, Jun.,  
 William Coffin,  
 Joseph Abbott,  
 Jonathan Merrill,  
 James Mitchell,  
 Ezra Cater,  
 Asa Kimball,  
 Jonathan Emerson,  
 Tim. Bradley, Jun.,  
 Joseph Eastman,  
 Phineas Virgin,  
 William Currier,  
 Ebenezer Simond,  
 Daniel Stickney,  
 Josiah Farnum, Jun.,  
 Elisha Moody,  
 Benjamin Farnum,  
 Jacob Green,  
 Benjamin Eastman,  
 Ebenezer Virgin,  
 Ephraim Potter,  
 Edward Abbott,  
 Eph. Farnum, Jun.,  
 Jonathan Stickney,  
 William Virgin,  
 Obadiah Hall,  
 George Abbot,  
 Josiah Farnum,  
 Joseph Farnum, Jun.,  
 Stephen Kimball,  
 Daniel Hall,  
 Abner Flanders,  
 Nathan Abbot,  
 Jesse Abbot,  
 Isaac Abbot,  
 Ephraim Abbot,

Stephen Abbot,  
 George Abbot, Jun.,  
 Stephen Farnum,  
 Daniel Farnum,  
 Daniel Kidder,  
 Philip Carigain,  
 Daniel Carter,  
 Joseph Clough,  
 Richard Harbert,  
 Gordon Hutchens,  
 James Hazeltine,  
 William Hazeltine,  
 John Chase,  
 Simon Trumbel,  
 John Shute,  
 Jacob Shute,  
 Joseph Hall,  
 John Trumbull,  
 Joseph Colby,  
 Ephraim Fisk,  
 Nathaniel Green,  
 Thomas Wilson,  
 Isaac Walker,  
 Ezra Badger,  
 Richard Flanders,  
 Timothy Chambers,  
 Ezekiel Dimond,  
 Joseph Hazeltine,  
 Phineas Kimball,  
 Robert Ambros,  
 Benjamin Sweat,  
 Abiel Blanchard,  
 Benjamin Elliot,  
 James Stevens,  
 Joseph Eastman, Jun.,  
 Richard Potter,  
 Timothy Simonds,  
 Philip Kimball,  
 Timothy Kimball,  
 John Farnum,  
 Ezekiel Cater,  
 Richard Flood,  
 Henry Lovejoy,  
 Lemuel Tucker,  
 Jacob Goodwin,  
 George Graham,  
 Jeremiah Wheeler,  
 Zephaniah Pattee,  
 Zebediah Farnum,  
 Samuel Goodwin,  
 Abner Farnum,  
 Thomas Eaton.

### SIGNERS IN CONWAY AND LOCATIONS.

John Osgood,	Joseph Odell,	William White,
Enoch Webster,	Benjamin Farnum,	Thomas Chadburn,
John Dollof, Jun.,	Ebenezer Burbank,	Joseph Thompson,
William Merrill,	Thomas Russell,	Abraham Colby,
Leonard Harriman,	Timothy Walker,	Joseph Colby,
James Huntress,	Benoni Cory,	John Pendexter,
Enoch Merrill,	Thomas King,	Humphrey Emery,
Jeremiah Farrington,	Jeremiah Page,	Humph. Emery, Jun.,
John Dollof,	Ebenezer Farnum,	Nathaniel Harriman,
Andrew Hamilton,	Robert Harrold,	Enoch Emery,
Jacob Walden,	John Wilson,	Anthony Emery,
Hugh Sterling,	Jedediah Spinney,	Vere Royse,
Richard Eastman,	Abiel Lovejoy,	Benjamin Copp,
Ezekiel Walker,	David Page,	Stephen Coffin,
James Harrold,	Benjamin Osgood,	Richard Jackman,
William Knox,	Barnes Hazeltine,	Josiah Dollof,
Abiathar Eastman,	Thomas Merrill,	Christopher Huntress,
Thos. Merrill, Jun.,	Joshua Heath,	Nathaniel Smith.
Amos Merrill,		

*To the General Assembly or Committee of Safety of the  
Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:*

We have, agreeable to the within request, desired every man that is twenty-one years of age, within this town and the locations adjoining, to set their names to the within instrument, (excluding such as were ordered to be imbodyed in the request,) and every man has accordingly signed.

DAVID PAGE,  
JOSHUA HEATH, } *Selectmen.*

Conway, June 9, 1776.

FOURTH SERIES, VOL. v.

### SIGNERS IN DEERFIELD.

Timothy Upham,  
Eliphelet Smith,  
Stephen Batchelder,  
Simon Marston,  
John McGrillis,  
John Dam,  
Thomas Rand,  
Abraham True,  
Benjamin Sanborn,  
James Page,  
Isaac Shepherd,  
Adonijah Fellows,  
Samuel Cate,  
Thomas Moulton,  
Richard Jenness,  
Jacob Longfellow,  
Jeremiah Casman,  
John Avery,  
George Wallis,  
Aaron Rawlings,  
David Hindwick,  
Robert Hellese,  
Dalton Simpson,  
Stephen Chase,  
Moses Chase,  
John Simpson,  
Josiah Chase,  
Daniel Currier,  
Benjamin Stevens,  
Benjamin French,  
Wadeigh Ham,  
Samuel Gilman,  
Henry Tucker,  
Eliph. Grifteen, Jun.,  
Daniel Page,  
H. Thompson,  
John Godfree,  
James Mason,  
Andrew Freese,  
Thomas Leavitt,  
Enoch Robie,  
Samuel Perkins,  
Joseph Kinnison,  
James Griffin,  
Jno Batchelder, Jun.,  
Edward Dearborn,  
S. Batchelder, Jun.,

Increase Batchelder,  
Nathaniel Green,  
John Luey,  
Benjamin Batchelder,  
Levi Dame,  
Peter Mason,  
Thomas Robie,  
Jonathan Blue,  
Theophilus Griffin,  
Joseph March,  
Eliphelet Faiffen,  
Joshua Veazey,  
George Searey,  
James Langley,  
Dominick Griffin,  
Robert Merrill,  
Francis Batchelder,  
Abiel Bartlet,  
Samuel Hardy,  
Nathaniel Osgood,  
Gideon Ham,  
Nathan Griffeens,  
Samuel Hobbs,  
Andrew Nealy,  
John Cram,  
John Griffeens,  
Joseph Graves,  
Enoch French,  
Peter Sanborn,  
Ebenezer Tilton,  
William Smith,  
Nathan Batchelder,  
John Matlon,  
James Brown,  
David Jewett,  
Zebulon King,  
Joseph Hilton,  
Samuel Hoyt,  
Joseph Hoyt,  
John Thirstin,  
Benjamin Folsom,  
Tristram Sanborn,  
Joseph Cram,  
Joel Cram,  
Jesse Prescott,  
Josiah Smith,

David Robinson,  
Levi Harvey,  
Joseph Young,  
James Young,  
Jonathan Robinson,  
John Robinson,  
John Merrill,  
John Jones,  
Sanborn Cram,  
David Batchelder,  
Jedediah Prescott,  
Jonah Prescott,  
John Mead,  
Samuel Pulsfer,  
Joshua Leavitt,  
Ezekiel Gilman,  
William Mors,  
Benjamin Bere,  
Thomas Jenness,  
Joseph Currier,  
Joseph Judkins,  
Joshua French,  
Benjamin Judkins,  
Daniel Ladd,  
Joshua Young,  
Nathaniel Philbrick,  
Jonathan Watson,  
Jonathan Philbrick,  
Simon Batchelder,  
Ephraim Batchelder,  
Moses Bernard,  
Jonathan Judkins,  
Abraham Prescott,  
Samuel Prescott,  
Jonathan McCluer,  
Samuel McCluer,  
Jeddo Webster,  
Thomas Blasdell,  
Cotton Haines,  
John Pearson,  
Nat. Batchelder, 3d,  
Joseph Wallis,  
Phineas Tilton,  
Timothy Gowing,  
John Philbrick,  
Nathan Philbrick.

*To the Honourable the General Assembly, or a Committee  
of Safety, for this Colony:*

GENTLEMEN: We have complied with your request, in desiring all males to sign the Declaration on this paper, excepting a few who were gone out of the Parish.

The men who refuse to sign are those whose names are here underwritten.

Capt. John Roberson,	Nehemiah Cram,	Nathaniel Folsom,
Lieut. Nath. Meloon,	John Easman,	John Prescott,
Moses Marshall,	Ephraim Brown,	Samuel Winslow,
Joseph Merrill,	John Bartlett,	Aseph Merrill,
Dr. Jonathan Hill,	Ebenezer Alliene,	Benjamin Ladd,
Josiah Sanborn,	Jeremiah Glidden,	Nathaniel Robenson.
William Turrell,	Daniel Marston,	

NATHAN SANBORN, }  
BENJAMIN PAGE, } *Selectmen.*  
ROBERT PAGE, }

Deerfield, June 20, 1776.

### SIGNERS IN DEERING.

Bond Little,	Elias Hassall,	Bray Wilkins,
Ephraim Abbott,	Francis Grimes,	Timothy Wyman,
Benjamin Bradford,	Samuel Patten,	Jonathan Wyman,
John Willey,	John Sherian,	Tim. Wyman, Jun.,
William McKeen,	Abraham Gove,	Thomas Grimes,
Samuel Chaudler,	Alexander Hogg,	Joseph Willis,
Ninian Akin,	William Aikin,	Robert Mills,
John Bayls,	William Forsith,	Ephraim Clark,
Joseph Wakefield,	Thomas Aikin,	Alexander Robinson,
William Robertson,	David Willson,	Joseph Robinson,
Ebenezer Blood,	John Lyon,	William Bradford.

A return of the men's names that refuse to sign the within writing: *John Bartlett* and *Jonathan Straw*.

BENJAMIN BRADFORD, *Selectman.*

### SIGNERS IN DERRYFIELD.

John Hall,	Benjamin Cranbie,	John Ray,
William Parkham,	David Starret,	Moses Merrill,
Thomas Newman,	Ezekiel Stevens,	Nathaniel Boyd,
Ebenezer Stevens,	John Parham,	John Russ,
David Merrill,	William Nutt,	Robert Clark,
Daniel Hall,	Benjamin Baker,	Samuel Stark,
William McClintock,	John Harvey,	Joseph George,
John Dickey,	William Parham,	Jesse Baker,
John Goffe,	George Greaham,	James Gorman,
John Rand,	Simon Lull,	James McWright,
Samuel Moor,	William Gambell,	John Griffen,
Robert Cunningham,	James Peirse,	Moses Crombey,
Alex. MacMurphy,	Abraham Merrill,	Joseph Griffin,
Samuel Boyd,	Abraham Merrill,	Joseph Farmer,
Charles Emerson,	Jonathan Merrill,	Hugh Thomson.
Michael McClinto,		

Colony of New-Hampshire, Derryfield, June 1, 1776.

To the Hon. MESHECH WEARE, Chairman:

This is to certify that we, the subscribers, have presented the within Declaration to the inhabitants of said Town, and they have all signed said Declaration who we, in our judgment, thought had a right to sign the same.

Certified by us, &c. DAVID STARRET, }  
EZEKIEL STEVENS, } Selectmen.  
JOHN PARKHAM, }

#### SIGNERS IN DUBLIN.

John Swan,	Levi Patridge,	James Chamblor,
Richard Gilcrest,	Timothy Adams,	Thomas Lewis,
Thomas Morse,	Eli Greenwood,	Samuel Williams,
Eli Morse,	John Knowlton,	Ebenezer Hill,
Joseph Greenwood,	Simeon Bullard,	Abijah Twitchel,
Moses Adams,	John Muzzey,	Nathaniel Bate,
Daniel Morse,	Moses Johnson,	William Strongmeny,
Joseph Twitchel,	Reuben Morse,	William Yardley,
Ebenezer Twitchel,	Richard Strongmeny,	John Wright,
Samuel Twitchel,	Ithamar Johnson,	Thomas Muzzey,
Stephen Twitchel,	Silas Stone, Jun.,	Moses Pratt,
Simeon Johnson,	Ezra Morse,	Gershom Twitchel,
Ivory Perry,	Isaac Adams,	Caleb Stanford,
Benjamin Learned,	Isaac Bond,	Labe Pussler,
John Morse,	Silas Stone,	Phinehas Stanford,
Henry Strongman,	Thomas Alden,	Nathan Burnap,
Joseph Adams,	Josiah Greenwood,	Gershom Twitchel, Jr.
Benjamin Musson,	Moses Greenwood,	Gardner Town,
William Greenwood,	James Rolins,	Oliver Wright.

In compliance with your request, we have desired all the males in our Town, above twenty-one years of age, to sign to the Declaration on this paper, which they all did, without any dispute. Test:

JOSEPH GREENWOOD, }  
SIMEON BULLARD, } Selectmen of Dublin.  
JOHN MUZZEY, }

#### SIGNERS IN DUNBARTON.

Thomas Caldwell,	Enoch Sargent,	Thomas Mills,
Sampson Calley,	William Holms,	David Hardey,
Thomas Huse,	Henry Pondrey,	William Wheeler,
John Gould,	Thomas Hoit,	Plumer Wheeler,
James Clement,	John Holms,	Samuel Allison,
David Story,	James Alexander,	James Stewart,
Daniel Story,	Nathan Butnam,	Archibald Stinson,
Samuel Burnam,	Thomas George,	Stephen Wheeler,
John Sameson,	John Marrill,	Samuel Stewart,
Step. Henayer,	Asa Burnham,	Moses Colby,
Hezekiah Colby,	Asa Putney,	George Hogg,
Abel Sargur,	William Page,	Isaac Cheney,
Samuel Kelly,	John Hogg,	Jonathan Stevens,
Noah Sanger,	Enoch Sargent,	Richard Greenough,
Edward Presbe,	Sargent Colby,	Hugh Temeson,
James Gray,	Zebulon Gitche,	David Favour,
Amos Emery,	Philip Wells,	Jacob Colley,
Theophilus Goodwin,	Israel Clifford,	Jacob Chesamore,
Caleb Page,	John Church,	Caleb Page, Jun.
Jeremiah Page,	Benjamin Dalman,	

The underwritten names were those who had the offer to sign, and refused: *William Stark, William Stinson, Stephen Palmer, John Stinson, Robert Hogg, James Hogg, Abraham Burnam, John Folten, David Hogg, John McCordey.*

JEREMIAH PAGE, }  
JOHN HOGG, } Selectmen for Dunbarton.

Dunbarton, November 25, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN ENFIELD.

John Lasell,	Josiah Hovey,	Samuel Meacham,
Benjamin Fuller,	Nathan Bicknell,	Jonathan Padelford,
Daniel Hovey,	Elisha Bingham,	Philip Padelford,
John Lyman,	Jon. Padelford, Jun.,	Asa Williams.
Simon P. Slapp,		

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

Those names which are within written, hereunto voluntarily set their hands. Attest:

JOHN LASSELL, }  
SAMUEL MEACHAM, } Selectmen of Enfield.  
DANIEL HOVEY, }

Enfield, June 11, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN CANAAN.

Ebenezer Eames,	Jehu Jones,	James Treadway will, on
Richard Clark,	Thomas Baxter,	certain conditions.*

\*I, on condition that no man who is taken a captive from the British Forces, be made an officer, or let to be a soldier in the Continental Army; and, secondly, that every American found and taken in arms against the United Colonies be immediately put to death; and, thirdly, that all and every of the British Troops that are captured by the Continental Forces, by sea or land, or any other way taken, shall be kept in prison, or close confinement; and, fourthly, that every commanding officer, or a private soldier, or any person or persons, employed in any business whatever in the Continental Forces, who is found and proved to be a traitor to the United Colonies, in America, be put to death immediately. Upon these aforementioned conditions do I sign this Declaration. Witness my hand: JAMES TREADWAY.

Robert Coats,  
Joshua Wells,  
Samuel Joslen,  
Richard Joslen,  
Charles Walworth,  
Ezekiel Wells,  
Caleb Clark,

Thomas Miner,  
Samuel Jones,  
Joseph Walter,  
John Scofield,  
Samuel Latbrop,  
Ezekiel Gardner,

Solomon Scipio,  
John Scofield,  
Thomas Baldwin,  
Caleb Welch,  
Gideon Rudd,  
Ebenezer Scofield.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

These are to certify that every man in this town voluntarily signed this Agreement. Attest:

EBENEZER EAMES, }  
SAMUEL JONES, } Selectmen.

Canaan, July 1, A. D. 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN EPPING.

John Prescott,	David Lawrence,	Josiah Folsom,
Abraham Perkins,	Mark How,	Eliphelet Cally,
Abraham Folsom,	Benjamin Smith, Jr.,	Ezekiel Brown,
Benjamin Rowell,	Benjamin Page,	Brads. Gilman,
Jonathan Cilley,	Jonathan Clark, Jr.,	Daniel Gordon,
Jonathan Meloon,	Abraham Perkins, Jr.,	William Coffin,
Seth Fogg,	Josiah Edgerly,	Abraham Brown, Jr.,
Benjamin Dearborn,	Jonathan Rundlett,	Samuel Smith,
Jonathan Filbrick,	Samuel Hunt,	James Norris,
Samuel Plummer,	Joseph Gale,	Nehemiah Wheeler,
Ezekiel Clough,	James Norris,	Joseph Prescott,
N. Wells,	Benjamin Brown, Jr.,	Benjamin Clifford,
David Lowell,	Ezra French,	Samuel Morrill,
Jonathan Winslow,	Jeremiah Jath,	Ebenezer Fisk,
Jacob Forss,	Jethro B. Tilton,	Jacob Frost,
Joseph Blake,	Barzillai French,	Paul Lad,
Philip Harvey,	Moses Coffin,	John Page,
Jonathan Clark,	John Pike,	Ebenezer Blase,
John Rowell,	John Bartlett,	Benjamin Rawlings,
Thomas Cauley,	Samuel Cornor,	Jonathan Thomas,
John Cauley,	John Towl,	Thomas Robinson,
Simon Drake,	Simeon Robinson,	Joseph Edgerly,
Edward Sawran,	Thomas Burley,	Zebulon Edgerly,
Abraham Brown,	Samuel Clark,	William Gill,
Joseph Chandler,	Benjamin Dockum,	Micah Prescott,
Samuel Shaw,	Jonathan Eliot,	Nathan G. Prescott,
Richard Shaw,	Josiah Smith,	Dearborn Blake,
Ebenezer Carrier,	David Hanes,	Philip Kelley,
Ezra Strow,	Daniel Basly,	Jonathan Ferren,
John Strow,	Moses Dalton,	John Ferren,
Samuel Dearborn,	David Folsom,	Benjamin Clarke,
John Shurburn,	Levi French,	Samuel Veasey,
Richard Shurburn,	Josiah Tilton,	Robert Cross,
Jonathan Prescott,	Benjamin Dow,	Simon Johnson,
Jonathan Calley,	James Dow,	Jon. Robinson, Jun.,
William Crockett,	John Chapman,	Robert Wile,
Moses Davis,	Edmund Chapman,	Benj. Dockum, Jun.,
Samuel Parsons,	Benjamin Smith,	Joseph Dudley,
Ezekiel Hook,	Edward Sanbon,	Benajah Dow,
John Lunt,	Daniel Sanborn,	Jacob Swain,
Francis James,	Benjamin Johnson,	Winthrop Dow,
Joshua Brown,	Benj. Johnson, Jun.,	Theophilus Stevens,
James Rundlet,	Timothy Jones,	Theoph. Stevens, Jr.,
William Dowlin,	Isaac Dinond,	John Pease,
Jeremiah Prescott,	Jeremiah Sanborn,	Jonathan Robinson,
Simon Dearborn,	Jacob Blaisdel,	Stephen Clifford,
Job Parsons,	Chandler Sanborn,	James Wadleigh,
James Samborn,	Josiah Chase,	John Perkins, Jun.,
Joseph French,	Joseph Chandler,	John Lyford,
Abraham Tilton,	Theophilus Blake,	Henry Wiggin,
Enoch Coffin,	Benjamin Dearborn,	Thomas Wiggin,
Phineas Fogg,	Chase Osgood,	Thomas Wiggin, Jr.,
Ribben Osgood,	Jacob Freeze, Jun.,	Jonathan Kenison,
John Gilman,	Nathaniel Sanborn,	Stephen Clark,
Jacob Rundlet,	Ebenezer Dow,	David Perkins,
Robert Judkins,	Jonathan Fifield,	Jacob Clark,
Charles Crockett,	Hezekiah Clifford,	Moses Page,
Joseph Mason,	James Osgood,	James Chase,
John Towhir,	Joseph Taylor,	David Lawrence, Jr.,
Josiah Rundlet,	Daniel Rundlett,	Samuel French,
Josiah Norris,	Richard Clifford,	Paul Ladd, Jun.,
John Chapmain,	Nicholas Robinson,	Nathan Swain,
Oliver Morrill,	David Norris, Jun.,	Daniel Blake,
Gould French,	Thomas Alley,	Jedediah Blake,
James Chase, Jun.,	Joseph Prescott,	John Carr,
James Johnson,	Samuel Morrill,	John Carr, Jun.,
Ebenezer Straw,	James Rundlet,	Benjamin Smart,
Josiah Towl,	Jonathan Chase,	Nathan Samborn,
John Marden,	James Harvey,	Nathan Samborn, Jr.,
William Straw,	Sargent Huse,	James Norris, 4th.

Agreeable to the within Association Paper, we have shown it to the inhabitants; and those persons whose names are underwritten are persons that refuse to sign the same: *John Barker, Jonathan Barker, Thomas Drake, Robert Blake, Joseph Shepard, Robert Smith, Nathaniel Ladd, Josiah Roberson, James Rundlet, Jun., Thomas Norris, Benjamin Morgan.*

SETH FOGG, }  
ENOCH COFFIN, } Selectmen of Epping.  
ABRAHAM PERKINS, }

#### SIGNERS IN EPSOM.

John McClerey,	Josiah Knowles,	Andrew McGaffey,
John Casey,	Simon Cass,	Waymuth Wallace,

Mark Moses,	Moses Lock,	Neal McGaffey,
Samuel Meyers,	William Nason,	Obadiah Williams,
Ephraim Berry,	Abraham Wallis,	Jeremiah Prescott,
Benaiah Labbee,	James Woden,	Simeon Chapman, per
John McGaffey,	Richard Treep,	desire,
George Wallis,	John Cate,	Samuel Davies,
Eliphelet Sanborn,	Ephraim Pettingell,	Nathan Marden,
George Uren,	Ephraim Lock,	Francis Lock,
Ebenezer Bracket,	Nathaniel Kuyes,	John McCreles,
Joseph Tharborn,	Thomas Babb,	Jonathan Knowles,
Aaron Burbank,	Ebenezer Williams,	Joseph Seavey,
Simon Knowles,	Benson Hain,	Henry Seavey,
Reuben Sanbun,	Henry McCrilles,	George Sanders,
Benjamin Goodwin,	John McCleary, Jun.,	David Knowlton,
Samuel Blake,	Moses Osgood,	Levi Cass,
Joseph Towle,	John Hanier,	Samuel Ames,
Jeremiah Page,	William Drought,	Samuel Ames, Jun.,
Nathaniel Willis,	William McCreles,	Thomas Holt, Jun.,
Benjamin Johnston,	Jethro Blake,	William Holt,
Isaac Lebbe,	James Nelson,	William Rand,
Samuel Rand,	Israel Folsom,	Huanus Moses,
Mark Moses,	Ephraim Berry,	Benaiah Lipbee.
Samuel Moses,		

John Cass and William Odiorne refused to sign.

#### SIGNERS IN EAST-KINGSTON.

Phineas Batchelder,	Ebenezer Batchelor,	Joshua French,
Benjamin French,	Benjamin French, Jr.,	Jacob Gale,
Edward Fifield,	Josiah Talton,	Samuel Stevens,
Jonathan Collins,	Abraham Smith, Jr.,	Ralph Blasdel,
John Sanborn,	Nathan Bacheller,	Nathan Sampson,
Nathaniel Bacheller,	Thomas Bacheller,	Jacob Blasdel,
Abraham Smith,	Nathan Ordway,	Jacob Rowell,
Nathan G. Bacheller,	Jacob Ordway,	Matthias Bartlet,
Simon Bacheller,	Jacob Graves,	David Rowell,
Stephen Prescott,	Samuel Palmer,	Henry Blasdel,
John Toppan,	David Tilton,	Daniel Blasdel,
William Fifield,	Benjamin Wilton,	Nathaniel Whitcher,
Enoch Chase,	Ithamar Emerson,	William Samson,
William Smith,	Joseph Bean,	Samuel Carter, Jun.,
Moses Greeley,	John Carter,	Barnard Elliot,
Jonathan L. Webster,	Moses Blasdel,	Caleb Webster,
Eliphelet Webster,	John Welch,	Ezekiel Merrill,
Jon. Greeley, Jun.,	Elijah Clough,	True Perkins,
John Currier,	Andrew Greeley,	Josiah Bachelder,
Richard Smith,	Ebenezer Collins,	Philip Brown,
Daniel Gale,	Ezra Currier,	Edward Greeley,
John Morrill,	Jeremiah Currier,	Jonathan Greeley,
Daniel Eastman,	Abner Morris,	John Sanborn,
Jonathan Clough,	Samuel Carter,	Jonathan Cass,
Truworthy Palmer,	Jonathan Blasdel,	Jeremiah Morrill,
Benjamin Smith,	John Blasdel,	Jonathan Perkins.

Colonel Jonathan Greeley has several times been desired to sign the Declaration, but has not. Abraham Brown and Jacob Currier refused to sign the Declaration.

#### SIGNERS IN GILMANTON.

Joseph Badger,	Daniel Stevens,	Jere. Richardson,
Joseph Badger, Jr.,	Robert Glidden,	Isaac Batchelder,
Peaslee Badger,	Nathaniel Kimball,	Winthrop Gilman,
William Smith,	Andrew Page,	Dudly Young,
Jacob Kelly,	Simon Clough,	Dudly Hutchings,
Ebenezer Eastman,	Andrew Gliden,	Jon. Gilman, Jun.,
Daniel Folsom,	Samuel Willseen,	Jotham Gilman,
John Moody,	Samuel Avery,	Jesse Looze,
Paul Bickford,	Jasper Elkins,	Samuel Osgood,
Ezekiel Hoyt,	Elisha Odlin,	John Worth,
Jacob Sleeper,	Samuel Ladd,	Solomon Kinnison,
John Hains,	Benj. W. Dean,	Ebenezer Steivers,
Joshua Gilman,	Thomas Taylor,	Eliphelet Gilman,
Benjamin Peckins,	David Elkins,	John Melchir,
Israel Karrar,	Sammersbee Gilman,	Elisha Hutchinson,
Benjamin James,	David Clough,	Abiathar Sanborn,
Jonathan James,	Edward Gilman,	Lowel Sanborn,
John Parsons,	Nathaniel Elkins,	Jonathan Ross,
Noah D. Dow,	Samuel Avery,	Samuel Clough,
Samuel Greeley,	Edward Smith,	Jonathan Clark,
Joseph Hutchins, Jr.,	Ambrose Hinds,	Benjamin Weeks,
Joseph Hutchins,	John Sanborn,	Daniel Dudley,
David Fifield,	Nathaniel Webster,	Stephen Dudley,
Samuel Fifield,	Edward Fox,	John Dudley,
William Libbey,	Abner Clough,	Benjamin Dow,
John Gimman,	John Jeffery,	Jeremiah Connor,
Isaac Smith,	Elisha Weed,	Antipas Gilman,
George Dennet,	Matthew Weeks,	Benjamin Gilman,
Thomas Fanoeny,	Thomas Chattle,	Samuel Brooks,
David Bean,	Ephraim Morrill,	Nehemiah Longe,
Peter Gilman,	Jon. Gilmaw, 3d,	Abner Evens,
Joshua Gilman,	Joseph Parson,	Daniel Evens,
Samuel Gilman,	William Parsons,	Jonathan Hutchinson,
Stephen Bean,	Wm. Parsons, Jun.,	Trede Bean,
Ephraim Morrill, Jr.,	Samuel B. Rand,	John Mash,
James Huckings,	Ebenezer Paige,	Henry Mash,
Jonathan Folsom,	Jeremy Cogswell,	Josiah Avery,
Robert Moulton,	Nathaniel Wilson,	Joseph Osgood.
Matthias Sawyer,		

Pursuant to the orders of the Committee of Safety, we have applied to the inhabitants of Gilmanton to sign the Association Paper, and those named in the list herewith committed are those that refuse to sign it.

EDWARD SMITH, }  
JOHN SAMBORN, } *Selectmen of Gilmanton.*

Gilmanton, August 28, 1776.

Samuel Avery,	Gilman Lovejoy,	George Weymouth,
John Smith,	Philip Pain,	Charles Currier,
Daniel Clough,	Joseph Merrill,	Scribner Mudget,
John Fox,	David Edgerley,	Jonathan Dow,
Reuben Allen,	Gilman Lovejoy, Jr.,	Joseph Avery,
Thomas Mudget,	Orlando Weed,	Hosea Hatch,
Noah Weeks,	Jonathan Gilman,	Joseph Clifford,
Samuel Weeks,	John Sheperd,	Jonathan Batchelder,
Nat. Webster, Jun.,	Amos Paine,	Simeon Bean,
Simeon Mudget,	Isaiah Clough,	Joseph Young,
Gideon Bean,	Edward Lock,	Enoch Bean.
Joshua Bean,	Abraham Folsom,	

The several persons above-named refuse signing the Association Paper.

EDWARD SMITH, }  
JOHN SAMBORN, } *Selectmen of Gilmanton.*

Gilmanton, August 28, 1776.

To the Honourable the Council and Assembly, or the Committee of Safety, for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

Whereas the Selectmen of the Town of Gilmanton have applied to us to sign an Association Paper, and there being some scruples on our minds, we cannot conscientiously sign it, and beg leave to assign our reasons; which are as follows, viz: We agree and consent to the Declaration of Independence on the *British Crown*, and are willing to pay our proportion to the support of the United Colonies; but, as to defend with arms, it is against our religious principles, and pray we may be excused. All which is most humbly submitted, by your Honours' most obedient humble servants,

John Fox,	Hosea Hatch,	Noah Weeks,
Samuel Weeks,	Charley Currier,	Gilman Longee, Jr.,
Orlando Weed,	Samuel Avery,	Joseph Clifford,
Peter Smith,	Simeon Mudget,	Jonathan Batchelder,
Nat. Webster, Jun.,	Scribner Mudget,	Simeon Bean,
Jonathan Dow,	Joseph Morrill,	Joseph Young,
	Gilman Longee,	Reuben Allen.

Gilmantown, August 20, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN GILSUM.

Ebenezer Dewey,	Stephen Bond,	Ebenezer Wilcox,
Justus Hurd,	Joseph Youngs,	John Chapman,
Pelatah Pease,	David Bell,	John Marks,
Ebenezer Dewey, Jr.,	Stephen Bond, Jun.,	Stephen Griswold,
Gershom Crocker,	Elijah Mack,	James Rowe,
Josiah Kilburn,	Obadiah Smith,	Elisha Rendell,
Ebenezer Kilburn,	Levi Bliss,	John Boynton,
Thomas Morse,	Jonathan Bliss,	John Boynton, Jun.,
Josiah Kilburn, Jun.,	Abner Bliss,	John Dimick, Jun.,
Ebenezer Church,	David Bliss,	John Dimick,
Jonathan Adams,	Jonathan Bliss, Jun.,	Timothy Dimick,
Ichabod Youngs,	Ebenezer Bill,	John Row,
Henry White,	Joel Kilbourn,	John Row, Jun.,
Shubael Hurd,	Obadiah Wilcox, Jr.,	Obadiah Wilcox.

This may certify, that the names annexed to this paper are all the inhabitants of the Town of Gilsun, that come within the limits of this request.

EBENEZER DEWEY, JR., }  
PELATIAH PEASE, } *Selectmen of Gilsun.*

#### SIGNERS IN HAMPTON.

Small Moulton,	Samuel Towle,	Moses Brown,
Thomas Leavitt,	Joshua Towle,	Stephen Fifield,
John Moulton,	Joshua Towle, Jun.,	John Crosbie,
John Dow,	Elisha Marston,	Simon Lane,
James Hobbs,	Jonathan Marston, Jr.,	William Lane, Jun.,
John Moulton, 5th,	Carter Batchelder,	Benjamin Moulton,
John Moulton, 6th,	Amos Towle, Jun.,	Amos Towle,
Samuel Dow,	Joseph Nay,	Joseph Towle, Jun.,
John Lamprey,	John Nay,	Benjamin Malon,
Josiah Moulton,	Josiah Towle,	Josiah Malon,
Edward Shaw,	Daniel Philbrick, Jr.,	Jonathan Elkins,
Samuel Shaw,	George Freese,	Moses Elkins,
Oliver W. Lane,	Joseph Freese,	John Towle,
Jonathan Moulton, Jr.,	Jeremiah Ball,	James Blake,
Edward B. Moulton,	John Dearborn,	Ebenezer Lane,
Jonathan Shaw,	Jona. Garland, Jun.,	Josiah Lane,
Benjamin Batchelder,	Robert Drake, Jun.,	Nathan Blake,
Jonathan Sanborn,	Jeremiah Towle,	Jonathan Blake,
Jonathan Leavitt,	Nathaniel Dearborn,	Lemuel Tuttle,
Simon Marston,	Ephraim Marston,	Abm. P. Towle,
Shubael Page,	Philip Towle,	Jethery Blake,
Elisha Towl,	Philip Towle, Jun.,	David Moulton,
Ebenezer Thayer,	Winthrop Sanborn,	James Towle,
Jonathan Moulton,	Thomas Jenness,	Henry Elkins,
Josiah Moulton, Jun.,	John Moulton, Jun.,	Jonathan Towle,
John Moulton,	Nathan Brown,	Nathaniel Batchelder,
Anthony Emery,	Jonathan Marston,	Philip Marston,
Joseph Johnson,	Simon Towle,	Abner Sanborn,
Nathaniel Johnson,	Jeremiah Marston, Jr.,	Jeremiah Sanborn,
John Batchelder,	Nathan Sanborn,	Simon Sanborn,
John Lane,	Benj. Brown Shaw,	Ezekiel Moulton,
Jeremiah Shaw,	Benjamin Fifield,	John Fogg,
John Johnson,	Samuel Brown,	John Sanborn,
Joseph Moulton,	Samuel Brownson,	Benjamin Tucke,
Joseph Garland,	John Allaman,	John Taylor,
Thomas Woodman,	John Readman,	Henry D. Taylor,
Joshua James,	Simon Dow,	Micajah Morrill,
Stephen Page,	John Marston,	

Thomas Page,	James Johnson,	John Taylor, Jun.,
Samuel Drake,	Andrew Mace,	Joseph Philbrick,
Samuel Drake, Jun.,	Ephraim Moulton,	John Philbrick,
John Drake, Jun.,	Jacob Palmer,	Robert Moulton,
Joshua Fenney,	Samuel Philbrick,	Josiah Dearborn,
John Jenness, Jun.,	James Philbrick,	Robert Drake,
Christopher Toppan,	Gideon Shaw,	John Drake,
Benjamin Page,	Nathaniel Lamprey,	Jonathan Godfree,
William Branscombe,	Reuben Lamprey,	Ward Lane,
John Hobbs,	Jonathan Dowst,	Samuel Nay,
Abner Page,	Joshua Shaw,	Daniel Lamprey,
Jonathan Lock,	William Moulton,	Edmund Mason,
Nathan Moulton,	Samuel Lock,	Samuel Marston,
John Moulton, 3d,	Jeremiah Knowles,	Joseph Dow,
Samuel Page,	Amos Knowles,	William Lane,
John Tuck,	Amos Knowles, Jun.,	Jonathan Garland,
James Perkins,	John Lamprey, Jun.,	John Randell,
Jonathan Tuck,	Zachariah Brown,	Cotton Ward,
Jonathan Tucker, Jr.,	Thomas Nudd,	Elisha Johnson.
Nathaniel Towle,	Simon Nudd,	

## Colony of New-Hampshire.

Pursuant to the within request, we, the subscribers, Selectmen of *Hampton*, have desired all males, within said *Hampton*, above twenty-one years of age, (Lunatics, Idiots, and Negroes, excepted,) to sign to the Declaration on this paper; and there are, that have refused to sign the same, viz: Captain *Jeremiah Marston* and *Daniel Philbrick*.

Given under our hands. Dated at *Hampton*, aforesaid, June 4, 1776.

WILLIAM LANE,	} <i>Selectmen of Hampton.</i>
JOSEPH DOW,	
JOSIAH DEARBORN,	
JONATHAN GARLAND,	
COTTON WARD,	

## SIGNERS IN HAMPSTEAD.

Jonathan Carleton,	Joseph French, Jun.,	Samuel Kelly,
Samuel Little,	John Atwood,	Jonathan Eastman,
Bartholomew Heath,	Benj. Treecellery,	John Simson,
Timothy Goodwin,	Ezra French,	Nathaniel Chase,
Caleb Emmerson,	Austin George,	Ebenezer Copp,
Hezekiah Hutchens,	John Wier,	Abner Little,
Reuben Harriman,	John Bond, Jun.,	Joseph Noyes,
John Webster,	Edmund Mooers,	John Richardson,
Benjamin Little, Jr.,	Peter Eastman,	John Sawyer,
William Moulton,	Henry True,	Moses Stevens,
Benj. Emerson, Jun.,	Eliphelet Poor,	John Harriman,
Samuel Johnson,	Daniel Little, Jun.,	Moses Kimball,
Samuel Flagg,	Tristram Little,	Joseph Webster,
James Gile,	Samuel Johnson, Jr.,	Levi Webster,
John Gorden,	Humphry Nichols,	John Calf,
James Eaton,	Abner Rogers,	Jonathan Page,
John Bond,	Thomas Emery,	Joseph Kimball,
David Poor,	Christopher Rowell,	Joseph Brown,
Edward Prescott,	William George,	John Kent,
Stephen Johnson,	Wm. Richardson, Jr.,	Job Kent,
Joshua Bradshaw,	Moses Little,	Samuel Brown,
Roger Magrath,	Thomas Williams,	Samuel Brown, Jr.,
Robert Hogg,	Peter Morss,	Moses Brown,
Edmund Eastman,	Robert Emerson,	James West,
Joshua Eastman,	Watts Emerson,	Samuel Currier,
Ezekiel Currier,	William Ritcherson,	Jacob Currier,
Timothy Stephens,	John Giffers,	John Atwood,
Daniel Little,	Joshua Sawyer,	Thomas Wodley,
John Darling,	Caleb Webster,	Benjamin Emerson,
Andrew Bryant,	John Harriman, Jr.,	Thomas Harriman,
James Atwood,	Amos Clark,	Obadiah Weeks.
Oliver Worthen,	Benjamin Lunt,	

The names of the persons refusing to sign the Declaration on this paper:

Capt. Wm. Marshall,	Peter Morss,	James Shepard,
Deacon Jos. French,	Joshua Corlis,	Jesse Johnson,
Deacon Benj. Kimball,	Thomas Muzzey,	Caleb Johnson,
Mr. John Hogg,	Joseph Kimball, Jr.,	John Plummer,
John Muzzey, Esq.,	Henry Hilton,	Kelley Plummer,
Lieut. Edmund Morss,	William Stephens,	Ebenezer Kimball.
John Mills,	Parker Stephens,	

State of New-Hampshire, September 10, 1776.

In pursuance of the request of the honourable Committee of Safety, for the State aforesaid, we, the subscribers, have accordingly attended the service, and have presented the within Declaration to the inhabitants of the Town of *Hampstead*, and desired all male persons therein directed, to sign thereto; and after waiting upon sundry persons for their consideration and determination of their signing thereof, we have obtained the greater part of said town to subscribe their names thereto; and all those persons that have refused to sign to said Declaration, after being repeatedly desired, we return their names in a separate column on this paper.

JOHN ATWOOD,	} <i>Selectmen for Hampstead.</i>
THOMAS WADLY,	
SAMUEL LITTLE,	

## SIGNERS IN HAWKE.

Moses Colbey,	James Towle,	Isaac Flanders,
David Quimby,	Jos. Clifford Sanborn,	Jacob Eastman,

Reuben True,	Joseph Brown,	Samuel Eastman,
Henry Dearborn,	Jabez Page,	Stephen Eastman,
Thos. Stow Ramsey,	Thomas Chelis,	Henry Morrill,
Jeremy Towle,	Timothy Worth,	Israel Dimond,
Abraham Chase,	Jonathan French, Jr.,	Hezekiah Blake,
Thomas Page,	Sam. Paul Dudley,	Jonathan Blake,
John Selly,	Ebenezer Walker,	Jonathan Blake, Jr.,
Jonathan French,	Joseph Tucker,	Josiah Foxbery,
John Page,	Edward Easman,	Isaac Clifford,
Henry Elkins,	Matthias Pellew,	William George,
Caleb Towle,	Barnet Thorn,	Jonathan Clough,
John Sanborn,	Joseph Barron,	Joseph Williams,
Jethro Sanborn,	Samuel Sargent,	Aaron Quimby,
Timothy Brown,	Samuel Fellows,	Ames Campall,
Jonathan Sanborn,	Joseph Collins,	Samuel Quimby,
Abraham Darling,	Nehemiah Sleeper,	James Sawyer,
Gideon Sawyer,	Samuel March,	Jabez Eaton,
David Tilton,	Nathaniel Brown,	David Flanders,
Elisha Bachelder,	Nathan Jones,	William Busel,
Josiah Bachelder,	Ezra Jones,	Eliphelet Haye,
Richard Nason,	Nathan Jones, Jun.,	Benjamin Eastman,
Peter Elkins,	Jonathan Jones,	George Bartlett,
Jedediah Philbrick,	Moses Quimby,	James Lowell.
Humphrey Hook,	Asa Flanders,	

In pursuance to the within request, we have shown this Declaration to all the inhabitants of this Parish, and all have signed, except *Joseph Jones*, *Hezekiah Sleeper*, *Joseph Sweat*, and *Trostrum Collins*. The above named persons are called *Quakers*, and refuse to take up arms.

MOSES COLBY,	} <i>Selectmen of Hawke.</i>
DAVID QUIMBY,	
REUBEN TRUE,	

Hawke, June 7, 1776.

## SIGNERS IN HENNIKER.

Jacob Rice,	Joshua Heath,	Joseph Williams,
James Bowman,	Asa Putney,	John Pedney,
Thomas Pope,	Samuel Wayworth,	Ephraim Morrill,
William Powers,	Nathaniel Joslyn,	Otis Howe,
Alexander Whitney,	Francis Withington,	Jesse Ross,
Ebenezer Harthorne,	Abel Gibson,	Eliphelet Colby,
Amos Goold,	Jacob Whitcomb,	Thomas Townsend,
Ezekiel Smith,	Ezekiel Stone,	Thomas Ward,
Elijah Rice,	Benjamin Whitcomb,	Phineas Ward,
Alexander Patterson,	Samuel Faizel,	Benjamin Clark,
Charles Whitcomb,	Reuben Whitcomb,	William Clark,
Moses Smith,	David Campell,	Isaac Gates,
David Pope,	Uriah Arisden,	Timothy Ross,
Timothy Gibson, Jr.,	Thomas Howlett,	Timothy Gibson,
Eliakim How,	Daniel Rice,	William Heath,
Joseph Lewis,	James Joslyn,	Jonathan Wood,
Jonas Alexander,	James Detins,	Stephen Spaldin.

Those persons who refused to sign the within Declaration are underwritten:

Joseph Kimball,	Ezra Tucker,	Thomas Stone, Jr.,
William Kimball,	present Lieutenant.	James Dusten,
Joshua Kimball,	Ebenezer Herramon,	Benjamin Currier,
Col. Sam. Kimball,	present Ensign.	Capt. Aaron Adams,
William Chabers,	Capt. Josiah Ward,	Moses Powel,
Aaron Estam,	Major Huse,	Jonathan Basson,
Samuel Morrison,	Sargeant Heath,	Nathaniel Merrill,
Noah Gill,	Robert Campbell,	James Stone.

JONAS BOWMAN,	} <i>Selectmen of Henniker.</i>
SAMUEL WADSWORTH,	

## SIGNERS IN HILLSBOROUGH.

Joseph Symonds,	Asa Dresser,	Benjamin Lovejoy,
Isaac Andrews,	Samuel Jones,	Lot Jennison,
Archibald Taggart,	Andrew Bixbe,	George Booth,
Samuel Preston,	William Love,	Daniel Rolt,
Jedediah Preston,	John Gibson,	Samuel Bradford,
Timothy Bradford,	John Mead,	Samuel Symonds,
John Nichols,	John M. Calley,	Jonathan Barnes,
James Taggart,	Daniel Gibson,	Timothy Wilkins,
William Pope,	John Graham,	Jacob Flint,
William Jones, Jun.,	William Jones,	Nehemiah Wilkins,
John McClintock,	William Taggart,	Daniel McNeill,
Alex. McClintock,	William Hutchinson,	

*Jonathan Durant* refuses to sign.

WILLIAM POPE,	} <i>Selectmen.</i>
ARCHIBALD TAGGART,	

## SIGNERS IN HINSDALE.

Rev. Bunker Gay,	John Barret,	Asa Flagg,
Aaron Cooper,	Benajah Green,	William Flagg,
Josiah Wheeler,	Capt. Thos. Taylor,	Micah Rockwood,
Isaac Barit,	Jonathan Barrit,	Oliver Doolittle,
Zadock Barit,	John Evans,	Nathaniel Smith,
Silas Barit,	Medad Evans,	Nathaniel Stearns,
Offo Burnam,	Joshua Frost,	Thomas Stoddard,
Samuel Cummins,	Hezekiah Elmer,	Zephaniah Richmond,
Robert Grandy,	Aaron Wright,	John Peacock,
Uriel Evans,	William Goss,	Aaron Peary,
Stephen Tuttle,	Remembrance Wright,	Samuel Brown.
Moses Barret,	Sives Shattock,	

These are the names of those that refuse to sign the paper:

James Peirce,	Thomas Rockwood,	Nathan Thomas,
Thomas Butler,	Daniel Jones, Esq.,	Aaron Barret,
Josiah Butler,	Simon Jones,	Benjamin Bacor.
Timothy Ladd,		

## SIGNERS IN HOPKINTON.

Richard C. Rogers,	Gideon Gould,	Aaron Greeley,
Abner Gordon,	Ebenezer Collins,	John Jewett,
Joseph Putney,	James Smith,	Green French,
Peter How,	Jonathan Stanly,	Moses Jewett,
Joshua Bailly,	William Stanly,	Jacob Sibley,
Jotham How,	Abner Colby,	Edward Roden,
Oliver Drew,	James Stickney,	Abraham Davis,
Moses Kimball,	Samuel Kimball,	Isaac Alby,
Benj. B. Darling,	Adonijah Tyler,	Jonathan Chase,
Aaron Kimball,	Ezekiel Hadley,	Nehemiah Cowel,
Elijah Fletcher,	Abraham Rowell,	Samuel Hoyt,
Stephen Harriman,	John Clement,	Joseph Flint,
Jonathan Straw,	Daniel Murry,	Abel Kimball,
James Scales,	Joseph Stanly,	Asa Hildreth,
Anthony Colby,	John Blasdell,	Samuel Farrington,
Sergeant Currier,	Elijah Durgin,	Jonathan Gordon,
John Chadwick,	Benjamin Eastman,	David How,
Enoch Eastman,	John Jewett, Jr.,	Nathaniel Clement,
Joseph Eastman,	Eliphelet Colby,	Joshua Moss,
John Putney,	Daniel Watson,	Philip Greely,
William Darling,	Francis Smith,	Nathaniel Morgan,
Jacob Hoyt,	Caleb Smart,	Richard Merrill,
David Conner,	Isaac Chandler,	Nathan Kimball,
Timothy Darling,	Jeremiah Story, Jr.,	Moses Straw,
Nathan Sargent,	Isaac Fellows,	Ralph Judkins,
Jacob Straw,	Abraham Brinlay,	Richard Webber,
Moses Emerson,	Joseph Chandler,	William Colby,
Moses Bayley,	John Gage,	William Davis,
John T. O'Conner,	Nathaniel Kimball,	Caleb Burbank,
Ezra Hoyt,	Samuel Jewett,	Thomas Capenn,
Nicholas Colby,	Oliver Pearson,	Reuben Kimbete,
Matthew Stanley,	Ezekiel Straw,	William Scales,
Stephen Hoyt,	Daniel Cressey,	Jonathan Quimby,
Stephen Eastman,	David Fellows,	Benjamin Quimby,
John French,	Daniel Noyes,	Jacob Choate,
Joseph Story,	Joseph Clark,	Joseph Nichols,
Moses Gould,	Henry French,	Samuel Backunbery,
John Gage,	Zachariah Story,	James Kimball,
Thomas Bickford,	Nathan Story,	Oliver Sawyer,
Moses Sanborn,	David Clough,	Benjamin Sawyer,
David Young,	Jeremiah Story,	Johnson Gile,
John George,	Joseph Hovey,	Francis Whittier,
Joseph O'Conner,	Samuel Stanley,	Isaac Davis,
Joseph Davis,	Joseph Barnard,	James Clough,
Thomas Webber,	Ephraim Gil,	Jonathan Hunt,
Moses Sawyer,	Samuel Stocker,	Samuel Silwik,
Moses Hills,	Samuel Stavers,	Philip Gonsmith, Esq.,
Richard Straw,	William Godfrey,	John Eaton,
William Petters,	Peter Sargent,	Joseph Hastings,
Jonathan Quimby,	John Webber,	Samuel Hadley,
John Darling,	Moses Conner,	Benjamin Wiggins,
Josiah Smith,	Samuel Smith,	Josiah Judkins,
Benjamin Jewett,	Mark Jewett,	Daniel Flanders.
John Burbank,		

The names on this paper are those that refused to sign to the Declaration sent from the Committee of Safety, to us the subscribers:

Chose Wiggins,	Benjamin Brown,	Eastman Hoyt,
Nathaniel Barker,	Abraham Brown,	John Carrier,
James Russell,	Nathan Gould,	Richard Cressey,
James Jewett,	Moses Jones,	Benjamin Merrill.
Christopher Gould,	John Jones,	
	JAMES SMITH,	} <i>Selectmen of</i>
	JOHN CLEMENT,	
	BENJAMIN WIGGIN,	

## SIGNERS IN KEENE.

Thomas Frink,	Timothy Ellis, Jun.,	Jedediah Wellman,
Nathan Blaze,	Eliakim Nims,	Jonathan Heaton,
Eliphelet Briggs,	Caleb Ellis,	Simeon Ellis,
Josiah Richardson,	Thomas Wilson,	Benjamin Ellis,
Joseph Blake,	Davis Howlett,	James Crossfield,
Daniel Kingsbury,	Timothy Ellis, 3d,	Joseph Ellis, Jun.,
Daniel Guild,	Benjamin Willis,	Thomas Baker, Jun.,
Eli Metcalf,	Samuel Chapman,	Thomas Wells,
Ichabod Fisher,	John Balch,	Achilles Mansfield,
Thomas Wilder,	Abijah Metcalf,	Boyce Blake,
Isaac Wyman,	Henry Ellis,	William Gray,
David Foster,	Luther Bragg,	Aaron Gray, Jun.,
Ephraim Denman,	Seth Heaton, Jun.,	John Daniels,
Seth Heaton,	Josiah Ellis,	Samuel Daniels,
Andrew Baker,	Benjamin Osgood,	Jedediah Carpenter,
Gideon Ellis,	Ebenezer Newton,	William Goodenough,
Thomas Baker,	Daniel Wilson,	Abin Hoolbrook,
Benjamin Archer,	Ezra Harvey,	Hezekiah Man,
Joseph Ellis,	David Harris,	Jeremiah Siles,
Simeon Washborn,	Obadiah Blake, Jun.,	Samuel Hall,
David Nims,	Zadock Nimes,	Jonathan Archer,
Elisha Briggs,	Isaac Clark,	Abiathar Pond,
Benj. Archer, Jun.,	Bartholomew Grimes,	Silas French,
Samuel Woods,	Daniel Wilson,	Eliphelet Carpenter,
Eliphelet Briggs,	Benjamin Balch,	Benjamin Willard,
Nathaniel Briggs,	Ebenezer Day,	Jacob Town,
Elijah Blake,	John Dickson,	John Day,
Uriah Willson,	Naboth Bettison,	Peter Rice,
John Lesbourear,	Abm. Wheeler, Sen.,	Isaac Esey,
David Foster, Jun.,	James Wright,	Jonathan Dwinell,
Timothy Ellis,	John Houghton,	Thomas Dwinell,
Gideon Ziffany,	Silas Cook,	John Colleeney,
Jesse Hall,	Nathan Blake, Jun.,	Abijah Wilder,
Michael Metcalf,	Nathan Rugg,	Zadock Wheeler,
Jesse Clark,	Stephen Larrabe,	Daniel Snow,
Gideon Ellis, Jun.,	Robert Spencer,	Witham Nelson,
David Nimsir,	Ebenezer Cook,	Israel Houghton,
Abraham Wheeler,	Joshua Ellis,	William Woods,

William Ellis,	Jotham Metcalf,	Asaph Nichols,
Joshua Osgood,	Moses Mash,	Elisha Ellis,
Nathaniel Kingsbury,	Simeon Clark, Jun.,	Thomas Fields,
Reuben Daniels,	Benjamin Ellis,	Michael Sprought,
Reuben Partridge,	Asahel Blake,	Benjamin Tiffany,
Cephas Clark,	Samuel Bassit,	James Eddy.
Ebenezer Carpenter,		

Agreeable to the within directions, we have requested all in this town to sign, as herein set forth, and hereto annex the names of all those who refuse to sign the within Declaration, viz: Major *Josiah Willard*, Lieutenant *Benjamin Halle*, Doctor *Josiah Pomroy*, *Samuel Woods*, *Robert Gilmore*, *John White*, *Eleazer Sangor*, *Abner Sangor*, *Thomas Cutter*, *James Perkins*, *Benjamin Osgood, Jun.*, *John Swain*, *James Hun.*

ELIPHELET BRIGGS, JR.,	} <i>Selectmen of the</i>
JOSIAH RICHARDSON,	
JOSEPH BLAKE,	
DANIEL KINGSBURY,	

## SIGNERS IN KENSINGTON.

Jonathan Perkins,	Jeremiah Fogg,	Philbrick Palmer,
Benjamin Prescott,	Joseph Fogg,	Jonathan Flanders,
Odlin Prescott,	William Fogg,	Nathan Dearborn,
Simon Prescott,	Jesse Tuck,	Benjamin Brown,
Aaron Page,	David Smith,	David Brown,
Moses Blake,	Abraham Sanborn,	Robert Pike,
Richard Sanborn,	Joseph Wadleigh,	Benjamin Eastman,
Israel Hodgdon,	Nathaniel Healey,	Ezekiel Brown, Jun.,
Peter Hodgdon,	Jonathan Prescott,	Ezekiel Worthen,
Caleb Shaw,	Paul Blake,	Enoch Worthen,
Israel James,	John Lane,	Nathaniel Wear,
Abner Potter,	Henry Sanborn,	Jabez Dow,
Ebenezer Clifford,	Jeremiah Batchelder,	Nathan Dow,
Benjamin Row,	Abraham Prescott,	Stephen Brown, Jun.,
Joseph Hilliard,	Theophilus Sanborn,	Joseph Brown,
John Melcher,	James Sanborn,	Joseph Clifford,
Edward Melcher,	Benjamin James,	Samuel Clifford,
Winthrop Row,	John Tilton,	John Graves,
Benjamin Row, Jun.,	Sherburn Tilton,	Jonathan Palmer,
Joseph Tilton,	Benjamin Tilton,	Samuel Dearborn,
Elijah Tilton,	Benjamin Melcher,	Samuel Lampre,
Samuel Tuck,	James Sanborn,	Jonathan Brown,
Philoem Blake,	Moses Sanborn,	Josiah Dow,
Jonathan Row,	William Brown,	Henry Lampre,
Samuel Prescott,	Timothy C. Hilyar,	Jonathan Dow,
David Stuart,	Benjamin James, Jr.,	Nathaniel Dow,
Jeremiah Fellows,	Joseph Batchelder,	Jonathan Ward,
Jere. Fellows, Jun.,	Joseph Wadleigh, 3d,	Moses Shaw,
James Fogg,	Philemon Blake,	Moses Shaw, Jun.,
John Batchelder,	Timothy B. Locke,	David Shaw,
Benjamin Moulton,	Joseph Dow,	Joseph Shaw,
John Page,	Simon Page,	Joseph Row,
Edward Lock,	Elihu Shaw,	John James,
Hezekiah Blake,	Elisha Blake,	Marston Prescott,
Jeremiah Dearborn,	Elisha Blake, Jun.,	Nathan Shaw,
Ephraim Eastman,	Ebenezer Louren,	Benjamin Dow,
Nathaniel Ward,	Abraham Gow,	Josiah Brown,
David James,	Stephen Page,	Stephen Brown.
John Page, Jun.,		

The underwritten names are those who refused to sign to the Declaration given forth by the Congress, or Committee of Safety:

Theophilus Page,	Obadiah Gone,	John Chase,
Nathan Page,	Obadiah Johnson,	Stephen Chase,
George Conner,	Jonathan Purrington,	Jonathan Green,
Nathan Chase,	Elihu Chase,	John Green,
Nathaniel Chase,	Elihu Chase, Jr.,	Stephen Green.

So far are Quakers.

And what are to come your Honours may call what you please: *Joseph Wadleigh, Jun.*, *Caleb Brown*, *Jeremiah Tilton*, *Jonathan Tilton*, and *Stephen Fogg*.

NATHANIEL GOW,	} <i>Selectmen of Kensington.</i>
JOSIAH BATCHELDER,	
ISAAC FELLOWS,	

## SIGNERS IN KINGSTON.

John Huntoon,	Henry Judkins,	Cornelius Clough,
Jonathan Procter,	Benjamin Stavers,	Joshua Woodman,
Willet Peterson,	Joseph Clafford,	Amos Binnam,
Nathan Sweat,	Jonathan Sanborn,	Benjamin Tucker,
Benjamin Judkins,	Samuel Fifield,	John Newton,
Daniel Colcord,	Samuel Philbrick,	James Colby,
Philbrick Huntoon,	Peter Fifield,	Ralph Blasdel,
Samuel Colcord,	George Picher,	Samuel Thompson,
Richard Hubbard,	David Kelly,	Thomas Thompson,
Ebenezer Eastman,	Nathaniel Garland,	John Bartlet,
Simon Seecomb,	Thomas Procter,	Ebenezer Bartlet,
Joseph Caffe,	Gideon George,	Nathan Bartlet, Jun.,
Thomas Elkins,	John French,	Thomas Sever,
William Sanborn,	Benjamin Sleeper,	Thomas Sever, Jun.,
Abraham Sanborn,	Joseph Woodman,	Philip Davis,
Isaac Sanborn,	Ebenezer Stevens, Jr.,	Webster Davis,
Benjamin Huntoon,	Samuel Buswell,	Jacob Carter,
James Procter,	Ebenezer Griffing,	Jacob Carter, Jun.,
Josiah Bartlett,	Samuel Sweet,	Jeremiah Johnson,
Elisha Ensat,	Edward Sleeper,	Henry Hunt,
Ebenezer Stevens,	Joshua Bartlett, Jun.,	Jonathan Pollerd,
John Pearson,	Reuben Lowell,	Stephen Stuart,



Abraham French,	Benjamin Cooper,	Joseph Welch,
Jacob Hook,	Jacob Webster,	John Severance,
Richard Sleeper,	Daniel Smith,	Jonathan Sanborn, Jr.,
Solomon Wheeler,	David French,	Moses Hunt,
Thomas Elkins, Jun.,	Benjamin Sanborn,	Ebenezer Watson,
Aaron Young, Jun.,	William Tande,	John Stevens,
Tristram Dudley,	Timothy Sanborn,	Jonathan Sleeper,
Michael Carew,	Joseph Judkins,	Moses Calef,
William Patten,	Samuel Barring,	William Collins,
Joseph Nichols,	Samuel Woodman,	Peaslee Hoyt,
Henry French,	Jonathan Collins,	William Chailey,
Benjamin Sweat,	Stephen Badger,	Benoni Daton,
John Darling Sweat,	Timothy Quimby,	Aaron Young,
Stephen Clifford,	William Sleeper,	Thomas Carter,
John Calef,	Jacob Smith,	Benjamin Webster,
David Sanborn,	Jeremiah Bean,	Richard Hubbard,
John Lad,	Benjamin Laurien,	James Naye,
Samuel French,	Stephen Tongue,	Jacob Pesby,
John Judkins,	Joshua Bartlet,	Joseph F. llovs,
John Calef, Jun.,	Benjamin Lad,	Caleb Sever,
John Judkins, Jun.,	Stephen Sweat,	John Sleeper,
Ebenezer Long,	John Clifford, Jun.,	John B. Sleeper,
Amos Gale,	Benjamin Clough,	John Winslow,
Ebenezer Fifield,	Sanders Carn,	Jacob Thorn,
Jethro Sanborn,	James Thorn,	Samuel Davis,
Caleb Judkins,	John Thorn,	Timothy Bartlet,
William Calfe,	Bennet Greenfield,	Jacob Winsle,
John Singleton,	John Noyes,	Samuel Winslow.
Biley Hardie,	Daniel Busel,	

Agreeable to the directions of the honourable Committee of Safety of this Colony, we have requested each inhabitant of this Town to sign to the within Declaration, and herewith return the names of those that have signed as within; also those that have not, and refuse to sign, who are as follows, viz:

*James Caruth*, a *Scotchman*, declines obliging himself to take up arms against his native country; but declares he will never take up arms against *America*, and is willing to bear his proportion of the publick taxes with his townsmen.

*Moses Welch* refuses to take up arms, and pleads conscience for an excuse.

*Hezekiah Beedy*, *John Sanborn*, *John Clefford Fifield*, *Ensign Isaac Webster*, *John Webster*, *Robert Davise*, *Samuel Severance*, *Thomas Merrill*, *John Tucker*, *Ephraim Winslow*, *John Eastman*, *John Gilman*: These persons appear to be fearful that the signing this Declaration will, in some measure, be an infringement on their just rights and liberties; but they appear to be friendly to their country, and several of them have ventured their lives in the *American* cause, and the three last named persons are now in the Army.

EBENEZER EASTMAN,  
RICHARD HUBBARD,  
SIMMONS SEECOMB, } *Selectmen of Kingston.*

September 23, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN LEBANON.

John Wheatley,	Josiah Potter,	Theophilus Baybrick,
John Slapp,	Samuel Payne,	Eleazer Woodward,
John Baldwin,	Elijah Dewey, Jun.,	Nathaniel Kidder,
Samuel Bailey,	Huckens Sierr,	David Colburn,
Jonathan Dana,	Joseph Filden, Jun.,	Moses Hebard,
Eleazer Robinson,	Elkanah Sprague,	Jeremiah Griswold,
William Dana,	Daniel Hough,	Benjamin Fuller,
Hezekiah Watts,	Samuel Bailey, Jun.,	James Fuller,
James Jones,	Daniel Bliss,	Lemuel Hough,
John Gray,	Joseph Filden,	Elisha Ticknor,
Jesse Cook,	Charles Filden,	Isaiah Bliss,
Samuel Estabrook,	Oliver Griswold,	Nathaniel Storrs,
Benjamin Write,	James Hartshorn,	Samuel Millington,
Robert Estabrook,	Azariah Bliss,	Henry Woodward,
Nathaniel Hall,	Azariah Bliss, Jun.,	John Griswold,
Jonathan Bingham,	Stephen Bliss,	Nathan Durkee,
Silas Bingham,	John Ordway,	Samuel Sprague,
Jedediah Hebbard,	Nehemiah Estabrook,	Charles Seaton,
Joseph Wood,	Rufus Baldwin,	John Clapp, Jun.,
William Rudman,	Nathaniel Porter,	William Downe, Jr.,
John Colburn,	Nathaniel Porter, Jr.,	Zalmon Appenwall,
Nathaniel Wheatley,	Elijah Dewey,	Joseph Martin,
Walter Peck,	Phineas Wright,	Abel Wright,
Zaccheus Downer,	William Downs,	Ebenezer Bliss,
Asa Colburn,	Barnabas Perkins,	Thomas Welles,
Const. Storry,	James Hebard,	Jonathan Bettes,
Stephen Colburn,	Levi Hyde,	Joseph Dame.
John Williams,	Elias Lyman,	

These may certify that the within Resolve, &c., has been presented to all the inhabitants of said *Lebanon*, in manner and form as requested, who have freely and cheerfully affixed their several names thereto, there not being one dissentient therefrom in said *Lebanon*.

NEHEMIAH ESTABROOK,  
JOHN WHEATLEY,  
JOHN SLAPP, } *Selectmen.*

Lebanon, July 14, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN LEAVITSTOWN, [NOW EFFINGHAM.]

Reuben Marston,	Simon Leavitt,	Josiah George,
John Marston,	Weare Drake,	Robert Brown,
Levi Lumper,	Thomas Parsons,	Joseph Palmer,
Carr Leavitt,	Levi Stows,	Eleazer Davise,
Benjamin Dearborn,	John Leavitt,	William Palmer.
Richard Fryborn,	James Titcombe,	

The above have all signed to abide by the within precept; and there are no more inhabitants in *Leavittstown*.

#### SIGNERS IN LEE.

Elijah Densman,	Philbrook Barker,	Benjamin Durgin,
Samuel Jackson,	Moses Ranales,	John Sanborn,
Bennan Jackson,	Samuel Hill,	Jonathan Runals,
John Emerson,	Paul Giles,	Zaccheus Clough,
Samuel Emerson,	Cornelius Denimore,	Job Runels Turner,
Joshua Burnam,	Job Runals,	Enoch Runel,
Joshua Burnam,	E. Jones, Jun.,	William Goen,
Stephen Will,	Jonathan Dow,	Ephraim Shurburn,
Joseph Sias,	Isaac Small,	Dimoud Farnald,
William French,	Peter Folsom,	Richard Hall,
Joshua Woodmarch,	Josiah Dergien,	Samuel Langmaid,
Elson Watson,	Miles Randal,	Ebenezer Jones,
Lemuel Chesley,	Samuel Watson,	William Bly,
John Jones,	Timothy Moses,	Samuel Langley,
Benjamin Clark,	Dennet Waymouth,	Samuel Smith,
George Jones,	John Kinnison,	Nicholas Meader,
Benjamin Jones,	Josiah Kinnison,	Matthias Jones,
Smith Emerson,	William Gleden,	Benjamin Jones,
Isaac Clark,	John Putmans,	Joseph Jones,
Simon Rendel,	Anthony Fling,	Solomon Thompson,
James Brackett,	John Davis,	Ezekiel Wille,
Stephen Stevens,	Clement Davis,	Edward Leathers,
Gideon Mathes,	Andrew Watson,	John Leathers,
Daniel Chele,	James Pottle,	Joseph Doe,
George Chele,	Thomas Jussels,	John Williams,
Thomas Arlen,	Samuel Burney,	John Layn,
Zebulon Wiley,	James Davis,	Benjamin Briely,
Anthony Muncy,	Jeremiah Hutchings,	Thomas Huckins, Jr.,
Micajah Bickford,	John Davis,	Elijah Fox,
Daniel Shaw,	Nathaniel Frost,	John Wiggins,
Amos Fumeld,	Henry Tufts,	James Clemens,
Edward Scales,	Jonathan Stevens,	John Sias,
Robert Parker,	Henry Tufts, Jun.,	Benjamin Bodge,
John Mendum,	Thomas York,	Marsy Weder,
Hunking Dame,	Nicholas Tuttle,	M. V. Samuel Bodge,
John Follett,	Robert York,	John Gloner,
Ebenezer Randell,	Eliphelet York,	Edward Hill,
Eli Furbur,	David Davis,	Thomas Wille,
Ebenezer Burnham,	Nathaniel Stevens,	Ezekiel Moor,
Joseph Brackett,	William Stevens,	Thomas Noble,
Joseph Follet,	Samuel Durgin,	Samuel Woodman,
Samuel Steavens,	Joseph Watson,	Edward Woodman,
Samuel Beckford,	Reuben Hill,	Thomas Hick,
Jonathan Fisk,	Samuel Hutchine,	Josiah Burleigh,
William Weymouth,	Josiah Bartlett,	Samuel Wille,
George Tuttle,	Moses Dame,	Joseph Pitman,
George Duch,	Jonathan Thompson,	Samuel Snell, Jun.,
James Watson,	Samuel Mathes,	Thomas Langly.

These men hereafter named, in the Parish of *Lee*, refuse to sign the Association sent to us from the General Court by order of the Continental Congress:

Robert Thompson,	Joseph Meder,	William Colwell,
Joseph Carlin,	James Bunker,	Joseph Emerson,
William Jenkins,	Samuel Lamas,	Richard Glover,
William Jenkins, Jr.,	David Muncy,	Aaron Hanson.
Charles Rundlet,	John Snell,	

ICHABOD WIDDEN, } *Selectmen of Lee.*  
WILLIAM LASKEY, }

#### SIGNERS IN LONDONDERRY.

William Gregg,	Adam Dunlap,	James Hopkins,
John Pinkerton,	William Davidson,	Robert Archibald,
Moses Lancaster,	Robert Moore,	John Hunter,
Benjamin Cheney,	Robert Smith,	James Miltimore,
David Clendenin,	David Anderson,	Jonathan Wallace,
James Paul,	Samuel Gregg,	David Pinkerton,
John Cochran,	David Taylor,	James Adams, Jun.,
Robert Wilson,	John Hopkins,	Thomas Rogers,
Timothy Faren,	Samuel Marsh,	James Anderson,
John Moor,	Robert Morrison,	William Anderson,
John Aiken,	Jonathan Gillmor,	Joseph Mack,
Thomas Taggart,	Jonathan Kelso,	Josiah Duncan,
John Nesmith,	George Mansfield,	Robert Craige,
James Cochran, Jun.,	John Ames,	John McAlester,
James McGregere,	Jas. Humphrey, Jun.,	Thomas Holmes,
John Bailey,	Robert McFarland,	David McCleary,
John Gilman,	John Taylor,	Ephraim Dimond,
Robert McNeill,	William Taylor,	John Anderson,
Arthur Archibald,	John Marsh,	John Patterson,
William Betty,	Wm. Cunningham,	Alexander Boyd,
Matthew Thornton,	Thomas Anderson,	Thomas Wallace, Jr.,
Joseph Gregg,	Thomas Creage,	James Barnett,
George Duncan, Jr.,	Matthew Clark,	John McCling,
John Gregg,	Isaac Brewster,	Sam'l Morrison, Jun.,
Benjamin Gregg,	John Barnett,	Robert Dickey,
William Alexander,	John Hilner,	Joseph Chapman,
Isaac Peabody,	John Barnett, Jun.,	Elias Smith,
McGregore,	James Anderson,	John Marshall,
Daniel Rundlets,	John Gunion,	Humphry Holt,
George Russel,	Adam Taylor,	Andrew Mack,
Stephen Holland,	Samuel Taylor,	Archibald McCalester,
William Vance,	John Bell,	Andrew Tode,
Nathan Stinson,	William Duncan,	Robert Thompson,

David Craige, John Prentice, James Cochran, James Alexander, Matthew Miller, Thomas Barnett, John Vance, Alexander McCallen, Adam Wiar, Robert Wallace, Thomas M. Clerry, Robert Macordey, John Robinson, John Paton, Samuel Dickey, James Wallace, John Holmes, Alexander Craige, Robert Gilmore, Andrew Clendinen, Thomas Wilson, Samuel Morrison, John Steel, James Nickols, John Emerson, Thomas Patterson, Robert Holmes, Robert McClure, John Keen, Samuel Wallace, John Giles, Robert Boyes, James Thompson, Thomas McCleary, Jacob Chase, William Page, Nath. Smith, Joseph Bell, James Cochran, John McAdams, John McClenche, Samuel Bous, Joseph Boys, Moses Watt, Joseph Hogg, John Watts, Thomas Hiltoneds, James Lyons, James Hogg, Francis Mitchell, William Johnston, Hugh Kalley, Peter Kalley, Robert Clendinin, William Wier, Nicholas Dodge, John Dwinell, Henry Campbell, David Porter, Thomas Wallace, James Wallace, George McMurphy, William Wallace, Joseph Cochran, Samuel Renkin, William Rankin, James Ramsey, John Hunter, Daniel Hunter, Thomas Wilson, Jesse Plumer, Nathaniel Brown, Jonathan Adams, John Clark, William Eayrs, John Ramsey, William Ramsey, William Cochran, John Ramsey, James Crombie, Joseph Crombie, Thomas Lemon, Simeon Robertson, Eleazer Cummings, Ebenezer Tarbox, Samuel Eysers, Reuben Pal, Moses Drew, John Reed, Joseph Finlay, John Clark, Samuel Topson, Abraham Duncan, John Coe, Robert Morrison, John Craige, James Taggart, James Anderson, James Adams, James Nesmith, Robert Adams, James Nesmith, Jun., James Miltmore, Samuel Clark, James Ewins, James Donaldson, William Rogers, David McKeen, John Wallace, David Paul, Samuel Grimes, Samuel Wilson, James Dinsmore, Samuel Gregg, John McKeen, George Duncan, Samuel Fisher, John Duncan, James Anderson, Josiah Jones, Joseph Curtice, Thomas Senter, William Richardson, William Alexander, James Darrah, Ezekiel Gale, Nathaniel Haies, Daniel Marshall, Benjamin Kidder, Joseph Hobbs, Elijah Towns, Stephen Dwinell, William Moor, Gales Town, John March, Samuel Senter, James Gregg, William Boyd, Abel Plummer, Joshua Conet, William Dickey, Samuel Karr, William Eayers, Samuel W. Adams, William Dickey, Thomas Boyd, Peter Robinson, William Steele, William McAdams, Robert McAdams, John Robinson, David Peabody, Joseph Steel, George Burrough, Isaac Page, Philip Marshall, David Lawrence, Richard Marshall, Samson Kidder, James Barrel, John Smith, Josiah Burroughs, William Burroughs, Moses Barret, David Campbell, William Grinalls, Reuben Anderson, Samuel Cochran, Samuel Miller, John Duncan, John Jacques, John Pinkerton, Trueworthy Sargent, Jesse Anis, Thomas Perrin, Thomas Melcher, Robert Cochran, Joseph Morrison, Jr., Arthur Page, Charles Sargent, David Conolley, Parker Moor, John Stewart, John Thompson, Isaac Walker, Samuel Thompson, Andrew Tode, Robert McColeom, David Brewster, James Adams, James McMurphy, James Alexander, John McIntosh, Robt. McMurphy, Jr., Samuel Moreson, Matthew Pinkerton, Samuel Alles, Alexander Craig, Hugh Watt, Arch. McMurphy, Jedeciah Pattee, Samuel Wilson, James Willson, Adam Dickey, John Dickey, George Corning, James Boyers, Samuel White, George McAllaster, Mating Dickey, Thomas Stuart, Alexander Robison, Robert McKeen, George Orn, Simeon Merrill, James Rowel, Barns Morrill, James Cheney, David Davison, Alexander Kassay, David Colbey, Daniel Cheney, Charles Sargent, John Kinked, Abraham Page, Stephen Johnson, William Gray, Samuel Dodge, William Parkinson, Alexander Campbell, Dennis Healey, Robert Walter, Moses Plumer, James Miller, John Stinson, John Karr, Robert Hunter, James McGregor, James Litch, John Archibald, George Moor, William Morrison, William Gilmore, William Smith, John Livingston, Daniel McDuffee, Thomas Cristy, Robert McMurphy, Jacob Bartlett, George Davidson, David Colly, Alexander Clark, William Parker, Daniel McNeill, James Vance, Robert Boyd, Robert Boyd, Jun., Jacob Towle, John Wadile, John Alexander, Richard Emerson, William Miltimer, Robert Hopkins, John Nesmith, George Gregg, Isaac Cochran, James Wilson, James Eayers, John McDuffee, John Moore, Samuel White, Hugh Dunske, John Humphrey, Samuel Allison.

To the Honourable the House of Representatives for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE:

Agreeable to the request of the honourable Committee of Safety, for this Colony, we have taken pains to go through with the Association Paper, and we find none who refuses to sign the same, except the persons hereafter mentioned, viz: *Timothy Dawson, Alexander Nicoles, Joseph Morrison, Abraham Morrison, William Humphry, David Morrison, Samuel Ella, Dr. George Wood, John Holms, (Lieutenant to a Minute Company,) John Reed, John Moor, Robert Moor, James Cochran, Samuel Clark, and John Stewart.*

By order of the Selectmen:

THOMAS TAGGART, Clerk.

Londonderry, June 24, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN LOUDON.

John Glines, Charles Sias, Timothy Tilton, Samuel French, Samuel Cater, William Tilton, Josiah Rins, Stephen Knells, Thomas Sweet, Benjamin Willie, Thomas Ward, Eliphelet Rawlye, Jashom Mathes, Abel French, Moses McFee, Ebenezer French, Nahaniel Batchelor, Caleb Pillsbury, John Bradbury, Timothy French, Jonathan Smith, John Sargent, Benjamin Sias, Jonathan Clough, Joseph Magoon, Isaac Morrill, Dudley Swasey, Thomas Magoon, Samuel Chamberlain, Jethro Batchelder, Paul Morrill, Ephraim Blunt, Samuel Morrill, Maston Morrill, Jethro Batchelder, Jr., Daniel Ladd, Thomas Drake, Jas. Gilman Lyford, Moses Rollings, William Gilman, Jr., Joseph Smith, Roger Stevens, Abraham Batchelder, John Drew, Nathan Batchelder, John Sanborn, Joseph Tilton, Nathaniel Tebbets, Ephraim Bunt, Moses Pillsbury, James Shurburn, William Boynton, Jacob Shurburn, Alexander Gordon, William Davis, Simeon Taylor, Ezekiel Morrill, George Shurburn, Lebe Batchelder, Abigail Chamberlain, Josiah Harvey, Samuel Chamberlain, John Hoist, Daniel Batchelder, Moses Ordway, Joseph Moulton, Oliver Blaisdel, Jacob Towle, William Jardy.

Agreeable to the within instrument, whereas we have carried this instrument to the inhabitants of *Loudon*, they have all signed, saving one or two that lived very much out of the way.

NATHAN BACHELDER, }  
JOHN DREW, } *Selectmen.*  
SAMUEL CHAMBERLAIN, }

Loudon, June 3, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN MEREDITH.

Ebenezer Smith, John Falsham, Nicholas C. Falsham, John Kimball, John Whitcher, Philip Connor, Abraham Swain, Joseph Roberts, Abraham Folsom, Joshua Crockett, Jonathan Smith, William Mead, Jonathan Danford, David Watson, Pearson Smith, Nathaniel Robinson, James McChrill, Reuben Marston, Jr., George Beatt, Job Judkins, Samuel Sibley, Jonathan Edgerly, Jonathan Clark, Samuel Shepard, Samuel Oprey, Robert Bryant, Gideon Robinson, John Mead, Samuel Carr, Ebenezer Pitman, Benjamin Sincler, Gordon Lawrence, Thomas Dockam, Benjamin Mead, John Duckham, Onesiphorus Flanders, Elias Swain, Reuben Marston, Thomas Sincler, Isaac Farrar, James Quemy, Charles Robinson, Thomas Foster, Jonathan Crosbe, John Sweazy, Jun., Benjamin Sweazy, Thomas Frohock, Daniel Merrill.

#### SIGNERS IN MONADNOCK, [NOW MARLBOROUGH.]

Benjamin Tucker, Jonathan Frost, Thomas Briggs, Abijah Tucker, Eliphelet Stone, Benoni Robbins, Phineas Park, Silas Fifer, David Wheeler, John Felton, Richard Fozer, Daniel Emerson, Daniel Goodenow, Thaddeus Hastings, Reuben Ward, Eleuthen Newton, Abel Woodard, Benj. Goodenow, Benedict Webber, Samuel Bishop, John McBrid, Daniel Collins, Joseph Cutting, James Lewes, Joseph Collins, James Field, Isaac McAllester, Timothy Bemies, Ebenezer Hixon, John Fozer, Stephen Woodward, Moses Tucker, Oliver Wright, Jonah Harrington, William Adams, Benjamin Layntons, William Tenny, Richard Hubbard, Ebenezer Roads, James Brewer, Solomon Woodward, James Flood, David Dressir, Abraham Brooks, Jonathan Goodenow, Daniel Cutting, David Thurston, Jacob Newell, Robert Converse, Theodore Mann.

In obedience to the within writing, we have offered the same to all our inhabitants, and they have all signed, excepting those whose names are here under-written: *William Barker, Richard Atwell, Jonathan Shaw, Ichabod Shaw, Daniel Larrance.*

BENJAMIN TUCKER, }  
THOMAS BRIGGS, } *Selectmen of Monadnock*  
ELISHA STONE, } *No. Five.*

Monadnock No. Five, July 9, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN NEW-BOSTON.

Robert Hogg, Hugh Kamy, Elijah Cochran, Abner Gregg, Josiah Hileting, Noah Dodge, Andrew Walker, Nathaniel Cochran, Robert Livingston, Thomas Wilson, John Smith, Thomas McColeom, James Cochran, James Wilson, Alexander Wilson, William Beard, John Drown, Tobias Butter, Robert Walker, James Gregg, Jun., Alexander Patterson, Samuel Boyd, John Cochran, Jun., Livermore Langdell, Lt. William Boyes, Lt. Wm. Livingston, En. Alex. Gregg, Jr., Henry Woodbury, Benjamin Dodge, James Caldwell, Josiah Warren, Eliphelet Dustin, Robert Patterson, Jacob Hooper, David Scoley, William Campbell, Barnabas McGinis, Josiah Morgan, Robert McGaw, Thomas Karr, Ninian Cochran, John Carter, Daniel McAllester, John McAllester, William Kelso, Alexander Kelso, John Burns, Allen Moor, Daniel Kelso, George Cristy, William Moor, Peter Cochran, John McMillan, David Handerson, Robert Patterson, John Bear, Matthew Doravan, Samuel Smith, John Steward, William Clark, John Cristy, Ninian Clark, John Gordon,

John McMillan, Jr., Lessly Gregg, James McFearson,  
Robert Patterson, 3d, Aaron Tally, Paul McFearson,  
Taylor Little, Nehemiah Dodge, Jas. McFearson, Jr.,  
Archibald Walker, Solomon Moor, Robert Wilson,  
William McNiell, John McIntosh, James Doak, Jun.,  
Robert Burns, Reuben Smith, James Willson,  
Daniel McMillan, Andrew Walker, Jr., John Willson,  
Archibald McMillan, John Donovan, John Livingston,  
Robert Campbell, Andrew Jack, Jacob Ober,  
Josiah McNiell, William McNiell, Thomas Cochran,  
William Blair, Jonathan Gore, John Cochran,  
James Gregg, John McLaughlin, James Hunter,  
Benjamin Woodbury, Jno. McLaughlin, Jr., John Hunter,  
Joseph Hezelton, Robert White, Daniel McNiell,  
John Davis, Robert Boid, Hugh Gregg.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your Honours' orders we have published this paper, and the names subscribed are as above.

A true return:

NINIAN CLARK, }  
DANIEL McALLESTER, } *Selectmen.*

New-Boston, August 26, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN NEWCASTLE.

Joseph Frost,	Stephen Chase, Jun.,	Thomas S. Gondy,
George Frost, Jun.,	Elias Tarlton,	Samuel Langmade,
William Neal,	Meshech Bell, Jun.,	Israel Pridham,
Richard Yeaton,	Ephraim Amazeen,	John Colleyen,
Samuel Clark,	James Neal,	Benjamin Bell, Jun.,
John Simpson,	Sampson Bell,	Noah Shurburn,
Henry Prescott,	John Card,	John Odiorne,
Robert White,	David Mitchel, Jun.,	Samuel Odiorne,
Thysson Barton,	Abednego Bell,	Christopher Amazeen,
Matthew Bell,	Joshua White,	Stephen Lawry,
Abraham Trefethen,	William Vennard,	Henry Langmade,
Paul Randall,	Nathaniel Baison,	William Trundy,
Thomas Lake,	John Tarlton,	Edward White,
John Lear,	Meshech Bell, 3d,	Abra. Trefethen, Jr.,
John Trefen, 3d,	Thomas Bell,	Robert Martin,
Thomas Trundy,	Henry Card,	Henry Foss,
William Gody,	John Amazeen,	William Tredick,
Benjamin Yeaton,	Edward Card,	John Seavey,
Isaac Smith,	John Trefethen, Jun.,	William Jones.

The names of those who have refused to sign the within paper: *Stephen Batson, Richard Yeaton, Jun., a soldier, John Kanear, and William Clark.*

#### SIGNERS IN NEWINGTON.

Richard Downing,	Ezekiel Gil. Adams,	Isaac Nutter,
Samuel Shackford,	Phineas Coleman, Jr.,	D. Bickford,
John Nutter,	Jonathan Trickey,	Thomas Pinder,
Rich'd Downing, Jr.,	Joseph Dame,	Nathan Huntriss,
Bart. Downing,	Eliphelet Dame,	Christopher Huntriss,
Josiah Downing,	John Trickey,	Issachar Wiggin,
Henry Hart,	Joseph Hight,	Mark Willey,
Thomas Trickey,	Joseph Colbath,	Benjamin Hodgson,
John Hart,	Samuel Fabyan,	John Fabyan,
Nicholas Pickering,	Joshua Nutter,	Benjamin Pickering,
Ephraim Pickering,	Hartwill Nutter,	Benjamin Miller,
John Benson,	John Hodgdon,	Ichabod Bickford,
Nathaniel Hart,	George Loughton,	Joel Loughton,
John Stoodly,	Joseph Colman,	Christopher Nutter,
Jonathan Hoyt,	Anthony Vincent,	Nelson D. Nutter,
John Gee Pickering,	Levi Furbur,	Joseph Huntriss,
Thomas Pickering,	Nehemiah Furbur,	Samuel Rawlings,
Hartwill Nutter, 3d,	John Hodgdon,	William Huntress,
James Stoodly,	Issachar Dame,	James Pickering,
Joseph Nutter,	Sam'l Shackford, Jr.,	Richard Pickering,
James Colman,	William Furbur,	Winthrop Pickering,
Hutson Peavy,	Phineas Coleman,	James Nutter,
John Adams,	John Dame,	Paul Rawlings,
John Pickering,	Edward Brasbridge,	Joseph Rawlings,
Timothy Dame,	John Colman,	John Downing,
Jethro Furbur,	John Hoyt,	Samuel Fabyan, Jun.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to the within, notified all persons as ordered, and desired them to sign; and Captain *Joseph Patterson, Benjamin Adams, Esq., and Noah Rawlings*, declined signing.

Attest:

SAMUEL SHACKFORD, }  
JETHRO FURBUR, } *Selectmen.*  
TIMOTHY DAME,

Attest:

SAMUEL FABYAN, }  
RICHARD DOWNING, } *Committee of*  
SAMUEL SHACKFORD, } *Correspondence.*  
JOHN NUTTER,  
EPHRAIM PICKERING,

N. B. This paper stood up at the Meeting-House door three Sabbaths.

#### SIGNERS IN NEWMARKET.

John Perkins,	David Folsom,	Bradstreet Doe,
Thomas Tash,	Edward Smith,	Joshua Clark,
Samuel Baker,	Edward Hilton, Jun.,	Wentworth Cheswill,
Samuel Gilman,	John Young,	Zebulon Doe, 3d,
Benjamin Mead,	Job Willey,	Joseph Folsom,
John Mason,	Simon Folsom,	Enoch Stevens,
William Scriggins,	Morgan Connor,	Jonathan Colcord,
John Tash,	Walter Bryant,	Joseph Colcord,

Jonathan Robinson,	Josiah Adams,
Joseph Sandborn,	John Meeder,
Joseph Smith,	Jeremy Bryant,
Walter Bryant, Jun.,	Nathaniel Ewer,
Jacob Brown,	Jeremiah Foss,
John Watson,	William Rinton,
Josiah Burnham,	Levi Folsom,
Joshua Brackett,	John Mead,
Nicholas Hartford,	Nathaniel Gilman,
Samuel Burleigh,	Levi Pickering,
John Folsom,	Jacob Burley,
Thomas Bennett,	John Bennet, Jun.,
Ichabod Brackett,	John Bennet,
Thomas Churchill,	Cotton Bennet,
Zebulon Doe, Jun.,	Josiah Bennet,
Joseph Young, Jun.,	Arthur Bennet,
Andrew Bowman,	John Folsom,
Asa Wiggin,	James Goodwin,
John Cooke,	Robert Goodwin,
Jonathan Doe,	Zebulon Dudge,
Jonathan S. Dudley,	Jonathan Wiggin,
David Chapman,	David Wiggin,
Robert Jackson,	Benjamin Stevens,
Samuel Ward,	Peter Drowne,
Benjamin Stevens,	Reuben Doe,
Lewis Kinnison,	John Weeks,
David Smart,	Andrew Gilman,
Charles Smart,	John Bean,
Benning Brackett,	Jonathan Sanborn,
Philip Towler,	John Wedgewood,
Charles Smart,	Josiah Burley,
Francis Durgan,	Nicholas Doe,
Francis Durgan, Jun.,	John Doe,
Enoch Remick,	Joseph Meloon,
Charles Wiggin,	Samuel Meloon,
Moses Egerley,	Jacob Durgan,
James Hills,	Asa Folsom,
John Burleigh,	William Burley,
Joseph Chapman,	Joseph Gilman,
Abraham Parsons,	Josiah Hilton,
James Marston,	William Folsom,
Robert Barber,	Joseph Smith,
Thomas Hanford,	Robert Pike,
Peter Folsom,	James Gilman,
Zebulon Barber,	Nicholas Harvey,
Josiah Hall Bartlett,	Samuel Neal,

Walker Neal,
Gideon Colcord,
Josiah Colcord,
Jacob Thompson,
Joseph Wiggin,
Joseph Doe,
Edmund Chase,
Hubartus Neal,
Hubartus Neal, Jun.,
Nat. Ames,
Winthrop Smith,
Andrew Folsom,
William Folsom,
Samuel Chapman,
Jeremiah Folsom,
Joseph Joy,
Thomas Kineson,
Aaron Rinstone,
James Cram,
Winthrop Hilton,
Ichabod Hilton,
Benjamin Piner,
William Cario,
Benjamin Folsom,
Daniel Hilton,
Jacob Fowler,
Samuel Dyer,
John Ames,
Bradst. Gilman,
Edward Colcord,
Nat. Ames, Jun.,
Eliphelet Geas,
Simonds Fowler,
Nathaniel Peas,
Joseph Bean,
Samuel Pease,
Joseph Pease,
Nicholas Doe, Jun.,
John Moody,
Thomas Burly,
Benjamin Foster,
William Burley, Jun.,
Edward Folsom,
John Bartlett,
John Perkins,
Jonathan Folsom,

Pursuant to the within orders, we do hereby return the following persons' names that refuse to sign the within Declaration:

Stephen Hardy,	Samuel Gilman,	Zebulon Neal,
Stephen Thurston,	Nathaniel Rogers,	Jonathan Kinnison,
Nathan Parsons,	John Neal,	Samuel Smart,
Jacob Parsons,	Michael Shute,	Josiah Smart,
William Badger,	William Shute,	Jacob Ames,
Walter Shute,	Dr. John Marster,	Stephen Lyford,
Joshua Wiggin,	Anthony Pickering,	Elisha Thomas,
William Perkins,	Henry Wiggin,	Benjamin Pease,
John Mighels,	William Odiorne,	Peter Hearsey,
Isaac Marston,	Roger Racklyft,	Thomas Piper,
John Marston,	Richard Perkins,	John Shute,
Samt. Mighels, Jun.,	George Hart,	Nathaniel Lord.
Josiah Mighels,		

SAMUEL GILMAN, }  
JAMES CRAM, } *Selectmen.*  
SAMUEL BAKER,

Newmarket, July 12, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN NORTHAMPTON.

Isaac Jenness,	Ebenezer Lovering,	Samuel Fogg,
John Crown,	John Potter,	Joseph Taylor,
Joseph Hobbs,	Reuben G. Dearborn,	Thomas Leavitt,
Benjamin Hobbs,	Joshua Brown, Jun.,	Nat. Batchelder,
Abner Fogg,	Joseph Palmer,	Abraham Taylor,
Seth Fogg,	Samuel Davis,	Joseph Moulton,
Samuel Wedgwood,	John Weeks,	Jos. Moulton, Jun.,
Benjamin Philbrick,	Benjamin Palmer,	Benjamin Hobbs,
Freeman Page,	Josiah Dalton,	James Batchelder,
Thomas Cotton,	Nathaniel Hans,	John Marston,
Tristram Redman,	Ebenezer Tilton,	Samuel Batchelder,
Jonathan Knowles,	John Chase,	Morris Hobbs,
Jacob Brown,	Abm. Drake, Jun.,	Daniel Dearborn,
Morris Lamprey,	James Wedgwood,	Benjamin Mason,
Benjamin Brown,	Joseph Knowles,	James Nudd,
John Lamprey,	Ebenezer Samborn,	Simon D. Lamming,
Thomas Cotton,	Edward Shaw,	Reuben G. Dearborn,
Reuben Dearborn,	Reuben Dearborn,	Thomas Samborn,
Levi Dearborn,	John Taylor,	Daniel Samborn,
Abraham Drake,	Benjamin Lamprey,	Stephen Shaw,
John Wingate,	Jon. Wedgwood,	William Samborn,
John Dearborn,	Ebenezer Neal,	Samuel Chapman,
David Marston,	John Leavitt,	Simeon Marston,
Christopher Smith,	Henry Batchelder,	Zach. Batchelder,
Caleb Marston,	Zachariah Towle,	Henry Batchelder,
Simon Lampere,	James Godfrey,	Joseph Garland,
Samuel Mace,	John Robie,	Samuel Batchelder,
Abner Fogg,	Timothy Dateon,	Nathaniel Hobbs,
Josiah Batchelder,	Benj. Marston, Jun.,	Samuel Page,
Joshua Hains,	Simon Brown,	Samuel Robie,
William Godfree,	Benjamin Leavitt,	Phineas Dearborn,
Zach. Fowle, Jun.,	Francis Page,	Samuel Smith,
Thomas Hobbs,	Jeremiah Dearborn,	Isaac Marston,
Thomas Marston,	David Knowles,	John Nudd,
Samuel Dearborn,	Moses Leavitt,	Simon Page,
Daniel Dow,	Samuel Hardy,	Jonathan Page,
William Weeks,	Stephen Page,	David Page,
Joseph Dearborn,	David Page, Jun.,	Ebenezer Lovering.
John Lovering,	Josiah Dearborn,	

*To the Honourable Committee of Safety:*

According to the within order of yours, we have procured all the names of our Parish, according as your Honours desired us.

Attested by us:

ABRAHAM DRAKE, } *Selectmen of*  
DAVID MARSTON, } *Northampton.*  
CHRISTOPHER SMITH, }

Colony of New-Hampshire, }  
Northampton, June 7, 1776. }

## SIGNERS IN NORTHWOOD.

Joseph Demeret,	Moses Godfree,	Elijah Carswell,
Eliphelet Taylor,	Abm. Batchelder,	Richard Carswell,
Joshua Furbur,	William Blake,	Stephen Rawlins,
Daniel Hoit,	Daves Batchelder,	Jonathan Knolton,
John Durgin,	Thomas Freeland,	Jonathan Clark,
William Wollais,	Richard Garland,	Benjamin Wadleigh,
Increase Batchelder,	Benjamin Johnson,	Sharborn Dearborn,
Israel Hodgdon,	Nathaniel Twombly,	Zebulon Norris,
Nathaniel Chandler,	Asabel Blake,	Solomon Bickford,
Jonathan Sanborn,	Henry Sanborn,	Caleb Clough,
Elias Philbrick,	Henry Dearborn,	Morris Longway,
Captain of the Parish,	Phineas Blake,	Nat. Morrill, Jun.,
John Wadleigh,	Nicholas Blake,	Nathaniel Morrill,
Thomas Piper,	William Wadleigh,	John Bickford,
Francis James,	Robert Hill,	Samuel Bartlet,
John Shurburn,	David Knowles,	Stephen Hoit,
Samuel Shurburn,	Benjamin Hill,	Benj. Jonson, Jun.,
Reuben Morgin,	Valentine Kinson,	Timothy Caswel,
Shurburn Blake,	William Prescott,	John Batchelder,
Jonathan Blake,	Moses Johnson,	Joseph Durgin,
Levi Dearborn,	Samuel Johnson,	Thomas Knowlton.

*Daniel Sawyer* refuses to sign this, making plea that he is of a *Quaker* principle.

## SIGNERS IN NOTTINGHAM.

J. Mills,	Samuel Burnam,	John Hodgdon,
Benjamin Butler,	James Glass,	Simeon Ladd,
Joseph Morrill,	Samuel Daniels,	Jonathan Foss,
Josiah Clark,	Nathaniel Hall,	Enoch Page,
Thomas Healey,	Jonathan Willey,	Joseph Garman,
Thomas Kensten,	Samuel Searls,	John Neally,
Joseph Cilley,	Abraham Knight,	Jonathan Gore,
Jonathan Davis,	John Giles,	Abednego Lethers,
Benjamin Shaw,	Aaron Hayes,	Benjamin Winslow,
Ephraim Durgin,	Gideon Straw,	Ichabod Row,
Thomas Bartlet,	Israel Randel,	John Hutcherson,
Alexander Lucy,	William Clark,	John Gill,
Henry Butler,	John Merilles,	John Chesle,
Vowd Leathers,	Robert Evans,	John Nelly, Jun.,
Abner Clough,	Asa Guile,	Joshua Stearns,
Cutten Cilley,	Nathaniel Randel,	William Nolley,
William Gill,	Samuel Brasa,	Thomas Odel,
John Harvey,	Charles McCoy,	Robert Morrison,
John Wells,	Francis Trickey,	James Kelse,
Rice Rowell,	Hezekiah Randel,	John Shaw,
Zephaniah Butler,	Edward Fox,	Nicholas Leathers,
John Ford,	Thos. Whitehouse,	Jonathan Langley,
Joseph Jackson,	John Whitehouse,	Abel Lethers,
Quick Preast,	Paul Garrish,	Thomas McConnell,
John Brown,	John Shaw, Jun.,	Benjamin Jackson,
Valentine Hill,	Thomas George,	Solomon Davis,
Samuel Gray,	Andrew Simpson,	Abner Davis,
Mason Rendel,	Benjamin Stokes,	Nicholas Brown,
David Dennis,	Charles Furnil,	Sawyer Chesle,
Jacob Burnam,	Ham Libbey,	John Kereon,
John Bickford,	Joseph Robinson,	John Collet,
William Welch,	Moses Davis,	Jonathan Rollings,
Thomas Bickford,	Daniel Young,	John Hany,
Robert Davis,	Joshua Trickey,	Winthrop Colbath.
John Wille,	Joseph Nithe,	

Pursuant to the within Precept, we have presented this Covenant to the inhabitants of the Town of *Nottingham*, and the persons that refuse to sign it are on a separate paper.

NOWEL LEATHERS, } *Selectmen.*  
THOMAS BARTLET, }

State of New-Hampshire, August 16, 1776.

A list of the men in the Town of *Nottingham*, that refuse to sign the Covenant sent to the Selectmen by the Committee of Safety in *April* last, viz:

* Abraham Seails,	Thomas Foss,	* James Watson,
Philip Bartlet,	Francis Harvy,	Nathan Watson,
* Nathaniel Goodhu,	Francis Harvy, Jun.,	Josiah Watson,
Noah Barker,	* Eldad Langley,	* Benjamin Watson,
John Shepard,	Moses Davis,	Benjamin Whiteker,
* John Banfill,	Edmund Hodgdon,	Daniel Rogers, Esq.,
* Joseph Nealley,	Samuel Gore,	James Bean,
* John Bartlet,	* John Watson,	James Thurstin.
* Thomas Hines,		

NOWEL LEATHERS, } *Selectmen.*  
THOMAS BARTLET, }

Nottingham, August 16, 1776.

Those with this mark \* have advanced money to hire men to go to *Crown-Point*.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

## SIGNERS IN NOTTINGHAM-WEST.

Asahel Blodget,	Moses Barret,	John Polard,
Asa Davis,	Joseph Caldwell,	Nathaniel Hardy,
David Cummings,	Thomas Caldwell,	Timothy Smith,
John Caldwell,	Eliphelet Hadly,	Amos Pollard,
Daniel Wyman,	Thomas Wason,	Richard Cutter,
James Caldwell,	Eliphelet Hadly, Jun.,	Nathaniel Lunt,
Alexander Caldwell,	Moses Hadly,	Sanders Bradbury,
Thos. Caldwell, Jun.,	Parrit Hadly,	Samuel Marsh,
Samuel Caldwell,	Stephen Hadly,	Benjamin Marshall,
William Merril,	John Campbell,	Eleazer Cummings,
James Ford,	Thomas Searles,	Ebenezer Cummings,
Abraham Page,	David Glover,	Daniel Hardy,
Seth Wyman,	Nicholas Eastman,	Samuel Hills,
John Hazeltine, Jun.,	Page Smith,	Philip Hills,
Henry Huey,	John Strickland,	Seth Hadly,
Jonathan Bradley,	Timothy Emerson,	Simeon Barret,
John Hazeltine,	Joseph Wilson,	Isaac Barret,
Samuel Smith,	Joseph Gould,	Oliver Hills,
Ichabod Esman,	Samuel Warner,	Richard Hardy,
Edward James,	Stephen Chase,	Joseph Pollard,
Tim. Emerson, Jun.,	Jonathan Blodget,	Jeremiah Hills,
Robert Stuart,	Samuel Burbank,	William Hills,
Samuel Wason,	Saml. Burbank, Jun.,	Richard Marshall,
Jonathan Searls,	Amos Kinney,	Thomas Marsh,
Thomas Hills,	Nathaniel Merril,	Elijah Hills,
Ezekiel Hills,	Samuel French,	Nat. Merril, Jun.,
Peter Cross,	George Burns, Jun.,	Stephen Chase, Jun.,
William Brown,	Samuel Grule,	John Pollard, Jun.,
Nat. Merril, Jun.,	Samuel Grule, Jun.,	Samuel Burbank,
Isaac Merril,	Joseph Blodget,	George Burns,
Samuel Durent,	Joseph Winn,	Ebenezer Dakin,
John Merril,	Joseph Winn, Jun.,	Levi Dakin,
Abel Merril,	Ebenezer Polard,	Henry Hale, Jun.,
Justus Dakin,	Jeremiah Ploget,	Henry Hale,
Samuel Pollard,	Timothy Polard,	John Hale,
Joshua Chase,	Abiathar Winn,	Andrew Swasey,
Stephen Gouch,	Jona. Hardy, Jun.,	James Watson, Jun.,
Stephen Lowel, Jun.,	Ezekiel Chase,	David Tarble,
Jesse Whiteman,	John Walker,	Thomas Hamblet.
Moses Johnson,		

In obedience to the within request, we have desired all persons presented therein to sign, and find none to refuse except Captain *Joseph Killy*.

SAMUEL MARSH, } *Selectmen of Not-*  
JOHN CALDWELL, } *tingham-West.*  
WILLIAM BROWN, }

Nottingham-West, June 3, 1776.

## SIGNERS IN PACKERSFIELD, [NOW NELSON.]

Aaron Beel,	Eleazer Twitchel,	John Farewell,
Absalom Fairwill,	John Spinney,	Thomas Upham,
William Beal,	Benjamin Nurse,	Nathaniel Breed, Jun.,
Joseph Mason,	John French,	Jonathan Felt,
Richard Fairwell,	John Newhall,	Noah Day,
Amos Skinner,	Philip Bailash,	Bunker Clark,
Nathaniel Breed,	John Adams,	David Marshall,
Abijah Brown,	James Phillips,	Edmund Taylor,
Joel Wright,	Jonathan Nichols,	Samuel Everett,
William Follet,	Henry Bemis,	Johnson Se,
Timothy Farley,	John Estabrook,	Reuben Wellman,
James Bancroft,	Benj. Nurse, Jun.,	John Stroud.
Joseph Stanhope,	Amos Childs,	

In obedience to your Honours, we have faithfully discharged the duty requested, desiring each man to sign this Covenant within our limits; all of whom have signed except Major *Breed Batchellor*.

JOSEPH STANHOPE, } *Selectmen of Pack-*  
JOHN SPINNEY, } *ersfield.*  
ELEAZER TWICHEL, }

## SIGNERS IN PEMBROKE.

William Cochran,	James Robinson,	Samuel Kelley,
Samuel Daniell,	David Frye,	William Friser,
David Abbot,	William Martin,	James Cochran, Jr.,
William Carlton,	Edward Smith,	Jonathan Bartlet,
Job Abbot,	John Carlton,	Nehemiah McDaniel,
Nathaniel Ambrose,	John Knox,	Robert McDaniel,
Thos. Cunningham,	Lemuel Stickney,	James Martin,
David Lovejoy,	Asa Foster, Jun.,	Joseph Cochran,
Chandler Lovejoy,	Joseph Sweet,	John McDaniel,
Samuel Abbot, Jun.,	Samuel Kimball,	Peter Robinson,
Benj. Whittemore,	Caleb Foster,	Ezekiel Gilman,
Benjamin Holt,	Moses Foster,	Lieut. James Coffrin,
James Head,	John Ayer,	John Moor,
Nath. Head,	Stephen Bartlet,	William Knox,
Richard Head,	Samuel Jenness,	Solomon Whitehouse,
Samuel Lakeman,	Joseph Parker,	P. Whitehouse,
Nathaniel Lakeman,	Jeremiah Morgan,	Joseph Cochran,
Nath'l Lakeman, Jr.,	Nathaniel Gilman,	Caleb Lovejoy, Jun.,
Josiah Hagget,	Peter Gilman, Jun.,	Caleb Lovejoy,
Josiah Phelps,	Benjamin Piper,	William Man,
Samuel Smith,	Aaron Whittemore,	Nathan Waite,
John Lad,	Daniel Noyes,	Samuel Man,
John Cochran, Jun.,	Asa Foster,	John Man,
William Fife,	David Kimball,	Samuel Noyes,
Francis Doyme,	Richard Bartlet,	James Cochran, 3d
John Fife,	Joseph Emery, Jun.,	Richard Bryant,
Robert Simpson,	Ambrose Goold,	William Marstin, Jr.,
Joseph Simpson,	John Moor,	Samuel Conner,
James Fife,	Dean Merrill,	Fry Heath,
Nathaniel Head,	Thomas Morse,	John Knox,

John Head,  
Lonewell Baker,  
Joseph Baker,  
Thomas Baker,  
John White,  
William Bard,  
Elias Whittemore,  
Samuel Abbot,  
Moses Tyler,  
Nathan Holt,  
Michael Kimball,  
Jere. Wardwell,  
Joshua Tyler,

Joshua Kimball,  
Isaac White,  
William Kimball,  
Jonathan Eliot,  
Thomas Robinson,  
James Knox,  
John Sanders,  
Moses McConnell,  
Robert Stinson,  
Robert Moor,  
Jacob Doyme,  
Ichabod Robie,  
James Robertson,

Samuel Gault,  
Phedris McCathe,  
Andrew Gault,  
Joseph Hemphill,  
John Cullimore,  
Jacob Emery,  
Samuel Cater,  
John Conner,  
David Conner,  
Daniel McLucas,  
Gideon Piper,  
Timothy Knox.

In compliance with the within orders, we have requested all the males as directed; and the names underwritten are all within our Precincts that have neglected to subscribe the within Declaration, viz: Rev. *Daniel Mitchell*, Captain *Benjamin Norris*, Captain *Samuel McConnet*, Deacon *John Man*, *Samuel Parker*, *William Robertson*, *Andrew Robertson*, *James Cunningham*, *Zebulon Robinson*.

DAVID ABBOT,  
WILLIAM COCHRAN, } *Selectmen*.  
SAMUEL DANIELL,

To the Honourable Committee of Safety.

Colony of New-Hampshire, September 18, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN PETERBOROUGH.

Neal Hammell,  
Thomas Morrison,  
Thos. Cunningham,  
James Templeton,  
Thomas Davidson,  
Samuel Miller,  
William McNee, Jr.,  
James Cunningham,  
Alexander Stewart,  
Aaron Brown,  
Samuel Mitchell,  
Charles White,  
William Swan,  
Samuel Houston,  
William White,  
John White,  
William White,  
David White,  
Samuel Miller, Jun.,  
James Richey,  
William McNee,  
John Scott,  
William Smith,  
William McCay,  
James Robb,  
Joseph Hammill,  
Jonathan Wheelock,  
John Gregg, Jun.,

Robert Smith,  
John Smith,  
Moses Cunningham,  
William McKeene,  
John White, Jun.,  
William Moore,  
William Robbi,  
William Millen,  
Samuel Mitchell,  
John Young,  
Abraham Holms,  
John Mitchell,  
David Steel,  
Isaiah Taylor,  
Charles Stuart,  
Samuel Gregg,  
William Spear,  
Kalso Gray,  
Matthew Templeton,  
William Scott,  
Thomas Steel,  
James Taggart,  
Elijah Puffer,  
Daniel Mack,  
Samuel Miller,  
Alexander Robbe,  
Samuel Hogg,  
Samuel McAtester,

Robert Gray,  
John Butler,  
Isaac Mitchell,  
Thomas Stewart,  
John Blair,  
John Taggart,  
Samuel Hockley,  
William Moore,  
John McMurphey,  
Robert Morrison,  
Thomas Turner,  
John Smith,  
John Morrison,  
Thos. Morrison, Jun.,  
Joth. Blanchard,  
John Cunningham,  
Robert Willson,  
John Gregg,  
Timothy Miner,  
Hugh Wilson,  
Samuel Wilson,  
James Wilson,  
John Wilson,  
John White,  
Benjamin Mitchel,  
David Ames,  
Adams Gregg.

Peterborough, June 17, 1776.

Pursuant to the within request, the inhabitants of the said Town of *Peterborough* have subscribed their names to the within resolves of the Continental Congress.

JAMES TEMPLETON,  
SAMUEL CUNNINGHAM, } *Selectmen*.  
WILLIAM MCNEE,

#### SIGNERS IN DORCHESTER AND PIERMONT.

##### Inhabitants in PIERMONT.

John Richards,  
Thomas Gregg,  
John McCorniel,  
David Tyler,  
Ebenezer Tyler,  
Jonathan Tyler,  
David Awber,  
John Sawyer,  
Enos Sawyer,  
David Tyler, Jun.,  
Francis Trenton,  
Andrew Crook,

John Patterson,  
Uriah Stone,  
Cuager Medcalf,  
Benjamin Stone,  
Ephraim Patterson,  
Abner Chandler,  
Solomon Bailey,  
Isaac Patterson,  
Benjamin Patterson,  
Zenas Case,  
Thomas Davis, Jun.,  
Noah Foord,

Jonathan Chandler,  
Joseph Webb,  
Daniel Tyler,  
Thomas Crook,  
Seth Foord,  
Ephraim Root,  
Charles Crook,  
Azariah Webb,  
Thomas Davis,  
John Weed,  
Charles Webb.

All the inhabitants of *Piermont*, of age, according to the within direction, have signed, except those that are in the Continental service.

JOHN PATTERSON,  
JOHN WEED,  
JOSEPH WEBB,  
JONATHAN CHANDLER, } *Committee*.

#### SIGNERS IN PORTSMOUTH.

Meshech Weare,  
Nathaniel Folsom,  
E. Thompson,  
Stephen Evans,  
Pierce Long,  
P. White,  
John Dudley,  
H. Wentworth,  
Thomas Hart,  
William Peary,

John Bartlett,  
William Parker,  
Daniel Brewster,  
Daniel Lunt,  
William Brewster,  
Benjamin Welch,  
Nehemiah Rowell,  
George Hart,  
George Hart, Jun.,  
Rendal Fernald,

Peter Man,  
Samuel Gooch,  
Henry Gardner,  
Nathaniel Folsom,  
Shackford Seward,  
Kinsman Peverly,  
Joseph Seward,  
Joseph Ayers,  
Benjamin Bigelow,  
William Martin,

George King,  
George Turner,  
George Wentworth,  
Supply Clap,  
John Langdon,  
Joseph Bass,  
Josh. Wentworth,  
John Penhallow,  
Samuel Penhallow,  
William Langdon,  
John Fernald,  
Joseph Simes,  
George Gains,  
Mark Seavey,  
Joseph Pitman,  
Samuel Gains,  
Joseph Akerman,  
Josiah Savage,  
Benjamin Qaimby,  
George Ham,  
Benjamin Akerman,  
Walter Akerman,  
Barnet Akerman,  
Mark Nelson,  
John Akerman,  
John Hutchins,  
Henry Nutter,  
Hugh Henderson,  
George Hull,  
Thomas Thompson,  
Perkins Ayers,  
Tobias Warner,  
John Pike,  
James Grouard,  
G. Durrell,  
Stephen Ivner,  
Jacob Treadwell,  
George Doig,  
William Walker,  
Nath'l Treadwell, Jr.,  
James Haslet,  
Theodore Moses,  
Charles Treadwell,  
W. E. Treadwell,  
Charles Waters,  
Samuel Bouls,  
John Clarke,  
Robert Hart,  
Cotton Math. Stevens,  
John Dennett,  
George Waters,  
Edmund Butler,  
Temple Knight,  
Clement Jackson,  
Daniel Grant,  
John Davenport,  
Samuel Servise,  
Samuel Hutchings,  
Joseph Jackson,  
George Kipp, Jun.,  
William Knight,  
William Gardner,  
Philip Pendexter,  
George S. Homans,  
Nathaniel Shurburn,  
William Stanwood,  
William Gunnison,  
David Macclure,  
John Noble,  
Daniel Pierce,  
Moses Ross,  
Joseph Low,  
Alex. Greenlow,  
Jacob Sheafe, Sen.,  
Samuel Shurburn,  
William Marshall,  
James Sweet,  
D. Shurburn,  
Nathaniel Treadwell,  
Reuben Daniel,  
Edward Shurburn,  
Jonathan Ayers,  
Richard Mills,  
Jacob Mills,  
Jona. Shillaber,  
Joseph Shillaber,  
Wilsom Ham, Jun.,  
John Reed,  
John Mackmahawn,  
J. Whipple,  
Hall Jackson,  
Henry Seaward,  
Samuel Lear,  
William Appleton,  
John Gregory,  
George Jackson,  
Stephen Mead,  
Richard Fitzgerald,  
Joshua Crocket,  
Samuel Cate,  
A. R. Cutter,  
Abner Blaisdell,  
Eliphelet Daniel,  
Noah Peirce,  
Giles Seaward,  
Gershom Flagg,  
Samuel Tripe,  
Richard Langdon,  
Richard Champney,  
Samuel Sherref,  
John Payn,  
Joseph Benson,

John Shurburn,  
Nathaniel S. Griffith,  
Thomas Ransom,  
Jacob Tilton,  
Joseph Walker,  
James Hart,  
Luke Foster,  
Thomas Surges,  
Elisha Hill,  
Joseph Cotton,  
John Hart, 3d,  
Samuel Bryard,  
Moses Woodward,  
Nahum Ward,  
George Libby,  
Samuel Cuits,  
George Dame,  
George Masey,  
James Dwyer,  
David Call,  
Thomas Martin,  
John Greenleaf,  
Joseph Leach,  
Samuel Jackson,  
Edmund Davis,  
Richard Jackson,  
Joseph Ham,  
John Tuckerman,  
John Tuckerman, Jr.,  
Nathaniel Mendum,  
John Langdon,  
R. Hart,  
Edward Dempsey,  
Jeremiah Libbey,  
Benjamin Reed,  
Jonathan Huntress,  
James Priest,  
James Stoddy, Jun.,  
Samuel Ham, Jun.,  
John Durys,  
William Palmer,  
Joseph Winkalls,  
Peter Kennison,  
Thomas Mead,  
David Brewster,  
George Reed,  
William Welch,  
A-a Mann,  
John Hooper,  
Samuel Aris,  
Edmund Butler,  
Benjamin Patridge,  
John Collins,  
Henry Carter,  
William Vaughan,  
William Chiles,  
John Varrel,  
John Clark,  
John White,  
Edward Ayers,  
Jeremiah Claneey,  
Edward Lowd,  
Richard Harvey,  
Reuben Snell,  
Valentine Nutter,  
Richard Ware,  
Joseph McOiks,  
John Beck,  
George Gebow,  
Michael Foulter,  
Clement March,  
George Marshall, Jr.,  
James Whitaker,  
George Marshall,  
John Marshall, Sen.,  
John Marshall, Jun.,  
John Williams,  
Moses Feren,  
William Richards,  
John Gunnison,  
William Gibbs,  
Richard Trusdell,  
H. Jones,  
Joseph Damrell,  
Daniel Jackson, Jun.,  
James Fall,  
Gupey Stoodley,  
John Grant,  
Richard Kitson,  
Benjamin G. Carter,  
Joseph Moulton,  
Samuel Dalling,  
R. W. Bird Penhallow,  
Richard Fa Grey, Jr.,  
John Lang,  
John Peirce,  
Thomas Prince, Jun.,  
John Stavers,  
Joseph Lowd,  
Edward Hart,  
Ezekiel Pitman,  
Daniel Lang,  
Samuel Hart,  
Nathaniel Melcher,  
Ephraim Ham,  
Samuel Drowne,  
Henry Nutter,  
Francis Alaswere,  
William Adams,  
John Melcher,  
James McIntire,

Samuel Walker,  
James P. Thing,  
John Gooch,  
Daniel Towle,  
Ruth Spence,  
Charles Raufik,  
Tim. Mountford,  
Benj. Austin, Jun.,  
Samuel Hill,  
Mark Fernald,  
Gilbert Fernald,  
Jonas Austin,  
A. McEntyre,  
Robert Robertson,  
Jos. Alcock,  
Thomas Moses,  
Thomas Leigh,  
John Moffatt,  
Richard Wilson,  
Thomas Palmer, Jun.,  
Tobias Walker,  
William Wilson,  
John Pickering,  
Thomas Shurburne,  
Robert Yeaton,  
Joseph Botten,  
Benjamin Botten,  
William Hunt,  
Thomas Hodgson,  
Samuel Haven,  
Samuel Haven, Jun.,  
William Jenkins,  
Benjamin Chandler,  
William Patridge,  
James Melcher,  
Benjamin Mackay,  
James Shores, Jun.,  
Abijah Holbrook,  
William White,  
Nahum Akerman,  
Nathaniel Denner,  
Henry Shurburn,  
James Hill,  
Jeremiah Denner,  
Dennis Hight,  
Benjamin Hodgson,  
Dennis Walker,  
Richard Elliott,  
Thomas Hayley,  
Nathaniel Shannon,  
Abraham Elliot,  
Nat. Gookin,  
Benjamin Miller, Jr.,  
Moses Miller,  
Samuel Thompson,  
Mark Walker,  
P. Colbath,  
Jonathan Quint,  
William Beck,  
William Thompson,  
Gideon Walker,  
Theodore Dame,  
John Thompson,  
Nath'l Jackson, Sen.,  
Charles Hodgson,  
William Ham,  
Thomas Ayers,  
John Broten,  
William Peverly,  
John Dennett,  
Richard Cutter,  
William Abbot,  
Thomas Bickford,  
Henry Bickford,  
Amos Shores,  
Daniel Davis,  
William Walden,  
John Walden,  
Thomas Walden,  
Thomas Pittan,  
John Davis,  
William Hunt,  
Samuel Slade,  
Timothy Watson,  
William Shores,  
John Frost,  
John Lord,  
Nathan Whits,  
Richard Evans,  
Peter Shores, Jun.,  
James Clarkson,  
Peter Shores,  
Obadiah Marshall,  
Nathaniel Lear,  
James Ryan,  
John Showers,  
Peter Ball,  
Andrew Sherburn,  
Richard Monson,  
Richard White,  
Michael Frost,  
Amos Abbet,  
William Gale,  
Thos. Shurburn, Jun.,  
William Cotton,  
Robert Neall,  
Joseph Leigh,  
William Funnell,  
William Cotton, Jun.,  
Samuel Ball, Jun.,  
Nathan'l Muchamore,



James Hight, William Treforthern, Samuel Langdon,  
 John Hart, Jun., James Drisco, Joseph Langdon,  
 John Jackson, Samuel Waterhouse, Leader Nelson,  
 Thomas Bowles, John Beck, Jun., John Langdon,  
 John Boyd, Thomas Studly, Samuel Beck,  
 John Briard, Richard Sharnam, Nathaniel Lang,  
 Nathaniel Pike, John Pitman, Andrew Beck,  
 John Ayres, Reuben Shapley, John Shurburn,  
 Joshua Pike, Ephraim Denneit, James Moses,  
 Robert Furniss, Thomas Manning, Nadab Moses,  
 Henry Lang, George Janverin, John Melcher,  
 Mark Noble, Ebenezer Janverin, Benjamin Lear,  
 Benjamin Newmarch, Daniel Jackson, Joseph Tucker,  
 John Marden, Ezekiel Gunnawier, A. Pipperrill,  
 Samuel Beck, Leverett Hubbard, Samuel Langdon, Jr.,  
 Nathaniel Pitman, Richard Woods, Joseph Whidden,  
 Josiah Leach, Simeon Akerman, John Seavay,  
 Edward Pendexter, John Wendell, Nathaniel Cotton,  
 Caleb Currier, Thomas Clark, Richard Tarlton,  
 Timothy Ham, Samuel Waters, James Tarlton, Jun.,  
 Thomas Currier, Hugh Bride, William Cate, Jun.,  
 Daniel Hart, Samuel Oakes, Elias Tarlton,  
 John Norton, Tobias Banfill, John Lewis,  
 Mark Lang, Samuel Norris, Samuel Hall,  
 Thomas Seavey, Josiah Haines, Daniel Evans,  
 Samuel White Cate, Robert Holmes, John Hooker,  
 Thomas Marden, James Frisbee, Joseph Shaw,  
 John Gardner, James Jones, Nathaniel Shurburn,  
 George Walden, David Sweet, William Parker,  
 John Lang, Enoch Huntress, John Parker,  
 Joseph Savage, Israel Marden, Michael Whidden,  
 William Nelson, Tobias Lear, Josiah Clark,  
 Caleb Brewster, Jonathan Swett, John Wheelwright,  
 Phinehas Hodgdon, Zebulon Wiggins, Joshua Brackett,  
 Charles Rendells, Moses Brewster, John Seaward,  
 George Ayers, Samuel Ham, Matthew Haslett,  
 Thomas Ayers, William Shurburne, Thomas Pierce,  
 Samuel Whidden, Samuel Ball, William Yeaton,  
 John Lucca, Joshua Jones, J. Sheafe, Jun.,  
 Jeremiah Homes, John Moses, Paul Loughton,  
 Joseph Norris, George Shurburne, Richard Dolly,  
 John Banfill, James Jones, Joseph Halbrook.  
 Joseph Banfill, Aaron Moses, Total—503.  
 Thomas Cotton, John Lewis, Jun.,

List of persons taken up in *Portsmouth* as being notoriously disaffected to the common cause, viz:

Isaac Rindge,	John Peirce,	James Sheafe,
William Hart,	William Torry,	John Stavers,
Peter Pearse,	Stephen Little,	Jonathan Warner,
Hugh Henderson,	Oliver Whipple,	Nathaniel Treadwell,
Robert Robertson,	Thomas Armet,	James Hickey.

Pursuant to an order to us directed, by the Committee of Safety of this State, we have waited on every person in this Town, and have tendered the Association for signing; and do herewith return the said Association, and the names of those who have refused to sign the same, viz:

Noah Parker,	Cotton Palmer,	George Jaffery,
Isaac Rindge,	Jno. Peirce, (Merch't),	Mark H. Wentworth,
Chase Freeze,	Moses Noble,	Daniel Warner,
Joseph Stacy Hastings,	John Eliot,	Jonathan Warner,
Theodore Atkinson,	John Moore,	John Shurburne,
James Sheafe,	Thomas Armet,	Samuel Waters, Jun.,
Stephen Little,	Alford Butler,	John Campbell,
William Torry,	Eleazer Russell,	Richard Tucker,
William Hart,	Samuel Gardner,	Giles Picket.
Major Samuel Hale,		

*Daniel Rogers* absent at *Nottingham*. *Peter Pearse* absent at *Newington*.

By order of the Committee:

H. WENTWORTH, Chairman.	
JOSEPH SIMES,	} Selectmen.
GEORGE GAINES,	
WILLIAM LANGDON,	

State of New-Hampshire,  
 Portsmouth, August 14, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN RABY.

George Russell,	Daniel Speed, Jun.,	Samuel Russell,
James Badger,	Eason Dix,	George Woodward,
Benjamin Muzzy,	Moses Lowell,	James McIntosh,
Randel McDonell,	Phineas Aten,	Matthew Wales,
James Dickey,	Nathaniel Badger,	Robert Seiver,
Nathaniel Patten,	James Campbell,	Isaac Shattuck,
Samson Farnsworth,	James Rolfe,	William Spaulding,
William Hall,	Swallow Tucker,	

In obedience to the above precept, we have taken the count, and our men have all signed it.

We the subscribers:

ALEXANDER MCINTOSH,	} Selectmen.
BENJAMIN SHATTUCK,	
CLARK BROWN,	

#### SIGNERS IN RICHMOND.

Constant Barnay,	Moses Tyler,	Samuel Shearman,
Jeremiah Thayer,	Solomon Artherton,	Abner Aldrich, Jun.,
Abraham Barrus,	Abra. Comstock, Jun.,	Simpson Hammond,
Nathaniel Whipple,	Fran. Norwood, Jun.,	Samuel Hix,

Barnabas Thrasher,	Joseph Cass,	Ephraim Hix,
Israel Whipple,	Ebenezer Ornsle,	Edmund Ingalls,
Oliver Barrus,	Reuben Parker,	Mathercan Ballou,
John Dauly,	John Robinson,	Richard Peters,
Isaac Benson,	Peter Hoolbrook,	Ebenezer Peters,
Daniel Reed,	Nathan Woolley,	Ebenezer Martin,
Daniel Greene,	John Barrus,	Israel Peters,
John Holt,	Joseph Kazey,	John Wolley,
Michael Barrus,	James Kingsley,	Ebenezer Cole,
Allis Thayer,	Amos Garusey,	Samuel Carpenter,
John Gansey,	Rufus Whipple,	Jonathan Jillson,
Jere. Thayer, Jun.,	Jonathan Areterton,	John Ellis,
Ichabod Whipple,	Oliver Garnsey,	Leonard Cass,
Daniel Freeman,	Timothy Tomson,	Oliver Capron,
David Barney,	Ezra Ornsbe,	Azariah Comstock,
Benjamin Thrasher,	James Westcott,	Seih Ballou,
Ebenezer Barrus,	Solomon Aldrich,	Moses Comstock,
Abra. Barrus, Jun.,	Eli Page,	Ezra Day,
Timothy Robinson,	William Goddard,	Stephen Kiniston,
Nehemiah Thayer,	Henry Ingalls,	Jeremiah Bullock,
Daniel Whipple,	Amos Hix,	Oliver Hix,
Othneal Day,	Jonathan Bozard,	Abiel Knap,
Thomas Woolley,	Jonathan Thurbur,	Abner Aldrich,
David Hix,	William Gunney,	Wile Aldrich,
Barnard Hix,	Nathan Bullock,	Oliver Mason,
Jacob Mump,	Anthony Harris,	George Cook,
Joseph Streeton,	Nathaniel Taft,	Nathan Aldrich,
William Aldrich,	Abraham Randal,	Peter Aldrich,
Jonah Twitchel,	Asa Man,	Uriah Harris,
Ephraim Taft,	John Cass,	Artemas Aldrich,
Silas Taft,	Simeon Thayer,	Enoch White,
Abraham Man,	Jonathan Boos,	Paul Handy,
Esquire Whipple,	Joseph Newel,	Holab Smith,
Grindul Thayer,	John Martem,	Aaron Aldrich,
James Norwood,	George Martem,	Thomas Boen,
John Cass,	Robert Works,	Joseph Wing,
Oliver Ormsbec,	Thomas Crain,	John Wing,
James Tilton,	David Russel,	Jonathan Gaskill,
Joseph Cass, Jun.,	Moses Martin,	John Sprague,
Daniel Cass,	Peter Martin,	Israel Phillips,
Daniel Cass, Jun.,	John Martin, Jun.,	Thomas Horton,
James Ranar,	William Cook,	Silas Gaskell,
Gideon Man,	Luke Cass,	Paul Boyce,
Ephraim Alen,	Richard Peters, Jun.,	James Below,
Moses Alen,	Noah Curtis,	Silas Below,
Joseph Alen,	Samuel Curtis,	H-zekiah Thurber,
Jedediah Buffman,	Amariah Curtis,	Jonathan Sweet,
Nathan Harkness,	Ananias Aldrich,	Daniel Peters.

Richmond, June 27, 1776.

#### To the Honourable Provincial Congress:

These do certify the reasons why we, the subscribers, do not sign the resolutions of the Congress, in taking up arms: We do not believe that it is the will of *God* to take away the lives of our fellow-creatures; not that we come out against the Congress or the *American* liberties; but whenever we are convinced to the contrary, we are ready to join our *American* brethren to defend, by arms, against the hostile attempts of the *British* fleets and armies.

Amos Boorn,	Ananias Aldrich,	Uriah Harris,
Thomas Ballou,	Thomas Horton,	Martin Ellis,
Enoch White,	Luke Cass,	Oliver Mason,
William Cook,	Anthony Harris,	Simeon Thayer.

DANIEL READ, }  
 JOHN DANLY, } Selectmen.

August 30, A. D. 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN RINDGE.

Abraham Wetherbe,	Benjamin Lovering,	Jonathan Ball,
Jeremiah Towne,	Henry Godding,	John Thomson,
William Carlton,	Joshua Webster,	Ichabod Thomson,
Nehemiah Town,	Ebenezer Shaw,	Eleazer Coffin,
Benjamin Bancroft,	Joel Russell, Jun.,	Jephthah Richardson,
John Simonds,	Benjamin Carlton,	Abijah Haskell,
Amasa Turner,	Abel Platts,	Eliakim Darling,
Nathan Hubbard,	Daniel Davis,	Asa Sherwin,
John Page,	Zebulon Converse,	Barnabas Cary,
John Townshend,	Isaac Wood,	Benjamin Newman,
Ebenezer Lock,	Benjamin Gould,	Jehoshaphat Grout,
Jeremiah Chapman,	Jonathan Ingalls,	John Lovejoy, Jun.,
Nathaniel Russell,	Josiah Ingalls,	Othniel Thomas,
Jacob Hobbs,	Jeremiah Norcross,	John Buswell,
John Dean,	Elisha Perkins,	Nehemiah Porter,
Salmon Stone,	Caleb Winn,	Daniel Lake,
Enoch Hale,	Joseph Platts,	Abel Platts,
Seth Dean,	Page Norcross,	Reuben Page,
Edward Jewett,	Samuel Walker,	Jonathan Town, Jun.,
Jonathan Sherwin,	Aaron Estey,	Timothy Wood,
Abel Stone,	Ezekiel Larnard,	Solomon Whitney,
William Russell,	Simon Davis, Jun.,	Israel Adams,
Nathaniel Page,	Rich. Kimball, Jun.,	Simon Davis,
Solomon Cutler,	Daniel Russell,	William Robbins,
John Demary,	Jotham Putnam,	Jabez Norcross,
John Handsom,	Stephen Jewet,	Abel Perkins,
Jonathan Sawtell,	David Hale,	Samuel Page,
John Whitaker,	Nathaniel Ingalls,	Joel Russell,
James Crombie,	Nehemiah Bowers,	Ezekiel Rand,
John Sherwin,	Richard Thompson,	John Ellis,
James Philbrick,	Samuel Russell,	Jona. Parker, Jun.,
Samuel Tarbell,	Francis Towne,	Jonathan Towne,
Paul Fitch,	Amos Davis,	Thomas Hutchinson,
Samuel Sherwin,	William Davis,	John Fitch,
James Wood,	Moses Hale,	Jonathan Parker,
John Hanaford,	George Lake,	Asa Tyler,
Richard Kimball,	James Streator,	Samuel Parker,

Ebenezer Chaplin,  
John Wetherbee,  
Benjamin Peirce,  
John Emery,  
Ebenezer Davis,  
Samuel Whiting,  
James Cutter,  
Daniel Rand,  
Oliver Stevens,  
Solomon Rand,  
Jeremiah Russell,  
Samuel Stanley,  
Joseph Stanley,

Richard Davis,  
James Carlton,  
Samuel Paig, Jun.,  
Deliverance Wilson,  
Jonathan Stanley,  
Jacob Gould,  
Elijah Rice,  
Israel Adams, Jun.,  
Caleb Huston,  
John Gray,  
Nathaniel Thomas,  
David Robbins,  
Oliver Gould,

Ezekiel Jewett,  
Randall Jarvis,  
Simeon Ingalls,  
Henry Smith,  
Joshua Tyler,  
Daniel Gray,  
William Walton,  
Levi Mansfield,  
Benjamin Moore,  
David Adams,  
Samuel Adams,  
Daniel Adams,

Elijah Tebbets,  
Elijah Tebbets, Jun.,  
John Tebbets,  
Ezekiel Tebbets,  
Joseph Tebbets,  
Muzzey Gould,  
David Tebbets,  
Robert Tebbets,

Mordecai Varney,  
David Varney,  
Moses Varney,  
Moses Varney, Jun.,  
Moses Austin,  
Ebenezer Varney,  
John Cloutman,

Thomas Cloutman,  
Jonathan Dame,  
Isaac Twambley,  
Benjamin Meader,  
Nathaniel Meader,  
Jonathan Meader,  
Joseph Meader.

By order of the Committee. A true copy.

Attest :

EBENEZER TEBBETS, Clerk.

Rochester, October 15, 1776.

To the Honourable General Assembly, or the Honourable  
Committee of Safety, for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

In obedience to the within request, we have desired all  
the males in this Town to sign the within Declaration, (ex-  
cept those that are excepted,) and they have all signed.

EDWARD JEWETT, }  
JONATHAN SHERWIN, } *Selectmen of*  
ABEL STONE, } *Rindge.*

Colony of New-Hampshire, Rindge, June 1, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN ROCHESTER.

Ebenezer Tebbets,  
James How,  
Samuel Furbur,  
James Chesley,  
Benjamin Furbur,  
Jabez Dame,  
Barns Palmer,  
William Allen,  
Daniel Wingate,  
Joshua Pearl,  
William Evans,  
John Plummer,  
Wm. Chamberlain,  
Wm. McDuffee,  
Richard Furbur,  
John Ham,  
John Beargin,  
Ebenezer Ricker,  
Timothy Roberts,  
Stephen Berrey,  
Samuel Plummer,  
Abner Dame,  
Lemuel Bickford,  
John Cook,  
William Trickey,  
Daniel Rogers,  
John Brewster,  
Richard Walker,  
Daniel Kimball,  
Benjamin Rollins,  
Moses Hammett,  
Thomas Plummer,  
Joseph Dame,  
Daniel Watson,  
Joseph Haven,  
Richard Wentworth,  
Isaac Wentworth,  
Avery Hall,  
Josiah Main,  
Wentworth Hayes,  
Paul Libbey,  
Isaac Libbey,  
Thomas Roberts,  
Mark Hartford,  
Samuel Alley,  
Jacob Hanson,  
Daniel Garland,  
James Foster,  
Enoch Hoyt,  
Benjamin Frost,  
Benjamin Frost, Jun.,  
Eleazer Coleman,  
Broadstreet French,  
James French,  
David French,  
John Ham, Jun.,  
Thomas Ham,  
Joseph Knight,  
Henry Tebbets,  
James Chamberlain,  
Thomas Peevey,  
William Knight,  
William Wingate,  
Edward Lock,  
Hunking Colebroth,  
Charles Knight,

James Rogers,  
David Lighton,  
James Rogers, 3d,  
Samuel Jones,  
Sam. Chamberlain,  
Moses Horne,  
James Downs,  
Thomas Davis,  
Ichabod Hayes,  
Moses Hayes, Jun.,  
Nathaniel Watson,  
Nath. Watson, Jun.,  
Daniel Hayes,  
John Woodman,  
Ephraim Wentworth,  
John Trickey,  
Dodavah Garland,  
John Trickey, Jun.,  
Samuel Twambley,  
Jona. Twambley,  
James Wentworth,  
Job Clements,  
Stephen Jenkins,  
Cornelius Jenkins,  
Josiah Fulsom,  
Caleb Wakeham,  
Samuel Nute,  
Benjamin Twambley,  
Ebenezer Wentworth,  
Reuben Wentworth,  
James Jackson,  
James Dearing,  
Ebenezer Horn,  
Ichabod Rollins,  
Thomas Drew,  
Moses Hayes,  
William Jennis,  
William Jennis, Jun.,  
James Knowles,  
William Ham,  
Ebenezer Chesley,  
Solomon Perkins,  
Solo. Perkins, Jun.,  
Samuel Merrow,  
Samuel Merrow, Jun.,  
Jonathan Richards,  
James Horn,  
John Richards,  
John Richards, Jun.,  
Thomas Furbur,  
Abraham Morrison,  
Jonathan Morrison,  
Daniel Page,  
Joseph Page,  
Joshua Downing,  
Aaron Jennis,  
John Nute,  
Simon French,  
Moses Jennis,  
David Jennis,  
Samuel Robinson,  
William Hodgdon,  
Paul Jennis,  
Solomon Drown,  
Joseph Tucker,

William McNeal,  
Joseph Drown,  
Aaron Ham,  
Joseph Jiles,  
Richard Place,  
Ebenezer Place,  
Alexander Hodgdon,  
Alex. Hodgdon, Jun.,  
Benjamin Hoyt,  
Thomas Brown,  
John Hammett,  
Moses Brown,  
Jonathan Bickford,  
Edward Tebbets,  
George Place,  
James Rogers, Jun.,  
Jonathan Ham,  
Benjamin Hayes,  
Samuel Drown,  
Joseph Walker,  
Joseph Hayes,  
Ithamar Seavey,  
Samuel Seavey,  
Ebenezer Garland,  
Diamond Pearl,  
James McDuffee,  
Turner Whitehouse,  
John Jennis,  
Elijah Varney,  
Richard Nutter,  
Henry Allard,  
John Place,  
Ephraim Ham,  
Joseph Walker, Jun.,  
Robert Walker,  
Richard Farbur, Jun.,  
Beard Plummer,  
Joseph Thompson,  
John Heard,  
Reuben Heard, Jun.,  
Zebulon Dame,  
Reuben Heard,  
Josiah Wentworth,  
Moses Roberts,  
Jotham Nutter,  
Gershom Downs,  
John Randall,  
Lemuel Richardson,  
Moses Downs,  
Benjamin Capps,  
Joseph Plummer,  
George Willard,  
Jonathan Pinkham,  
Caleb Jackson,  
Sam. Twambley, Jun.,  
Ebenezer Place, Jun.,  
Zebulon Davis,  
Abraham Cook,  
Edmund Tebbets,  
Joseph Jones,  
Eihu Wentworth,  
Sam. Wingate, Jun.,  
N. Wentworth, Jun.,  
Joshua Corsen,  
Thos. Brown, Jun.

The following persons refuse to sign the annexed Asso-  
ciation :

James Allen,  
John Withrell,  
Ichabod Cosen,  
Morris Ellis,  
Thomas Trickey,  
Solomon Clark,  
Samuel Wingate,  
Daniel Jennis,

Joseph Heard,  
Benjamin Heard,  
Tristram Heard,  
Nathaniel Garland,  
Benjamin Bickford,  
Abraham Searl,  
Jonathan Hodgdon,

William Ellis,  
Samuel Downing,  
Jonathan Ellis,  
Joshua Knight,  
Edward Varney,  
Stephen Wentworth,  
Benjamin Dame.

The undernamed persons are of the Society of Friends,  
and do not choose to sign :

#### SIGNERS IN RYE.

Samuel Jennis,  
William Davison,  
James Perkins,  
Jonathan Brown,  
Isaac Dow,  
Moses Seavey,  
Samuel Seavey, Jr.,  
Robinson Treferrin,  
Nathan Towl,  
Samuel Seavey,  
Jeremiah Berry, Jr.,  
Benjamin Garland,  
Nathan Goss,  
Peter Johnson,  
James Lock,  
Joshua Lock,  
James Goss,  
John Blunt,  
Levi Towl,  
Simeon Towl,  
Jonathan Lock,  
Tristram Sleeper,  
John Jennis,  
Francis Jennis,  
Jonathan Jennis,  
Francis Jennis, Jr.,  
Job Brown,  
Bickford Lang,  
Nicholas Dolbar,  
Joseph Sevey,  
Joel Aine,  
Olem Lowel, Jun.,  
Samuel Willis,  
Jonathan Goss,  
Merrifield Berry,  
Joseph Parsons,  
Benjamin Marden,  
Nat. Marden, Jun.,  
Samuel Marden,  
Robert Sanders,  
Robert Sanders, Jr.,

William Marden,  
Samuel Murry,  
Simon Johnson,  
Benjamin Marden,  
Job Foss,  
Jonathan Berry,  
George Randall,  
Joseph Hall,  
Jonathan Towle, Jr.,  
Jacob Berry,  
David Smith, Jun.,  
Joseph Marden,  
Nathaniel Rand,  
James Hobbs,  
John Lock, Jun.,  
Benjamin Marden,  
Jeremiah Lock,  
Joseph Lock, Jun.,  
Richard Lock,  
Richard Lock, 3d,  
Joseph Lock,  
Alexander Salter,  
Sam. Knowles, Jun.,  
William Seavey, Jr.,  
Samuel Hutchins,  
Joseph Rand,  
Arthur Leebce,  
Amos Seavey,  
James Seavey,  
Sam. Doust Foss,  
Paul Seavey,  
John Webster,  
Ebenezer Wallis,  
Joseph Rand,  
Mark Randall,  
Daniel Moulton,  
Thomas Watson,  
William Seavy,  
Alexander Lear,  
Samuel Wallis,  
Samuel Wallis, Jun.,

John Rand,  
William Berry, Jun.,  
Ephraim Damas,  
Levi Goss,  
Solomon Verrell,  
Reuben Moulton,  
Jonathan Philbrick,  
Nathaniel Jennis,  
John Jennis,  
Samuel Fenner, Jr.,  
Richard Jennis, 3d,  
Job Jennis,  
Titus Philbrick,  
Elijah Lock,  
Peter Johnson, Sen.,  
Peter Garland,  
Nehemiah Moulton,  
Wm. Wormwood,  
David Lock,  
Joseph Philbrick,  
Elijah Lock,  
Michael Dalton,  
Job Jennis, Jun.,  
Jonathan Philbrick,  
John Rand,  
Nathaniel Rand,  
Nathaniel Marden,  
William Morrison,  
Joseph Seavey,  
Joseph Yeaton,  
Wallis Foss,  
Richard Jennis, Jr.,  
Richard Jennis,  
Jeremiah Berry,  
Henry Elkins,  
Abraham Libbee,  
Simon Galland,  
Samuel Knowles,  
Samuel Rand,  
Samuel Elkins,  
Reuben Philbrick.

According to the above precept, we, the said Selectmen  
of Rye, have applied to the inhabitants of said Town, and  
they have signed the above precept in full.

JOSEPH JENNESS, }  
NATHANIEL RAND, } *Selectmen.*  
RICHARD BROWN, }

#### SIGNERS IN SALEM.

William Hall,  
Amos Dow,  
Evan Jones,  
Nathaniel Woodman,  
Joseph Flanders,  
Jonathan Massey,  
Daniel Gordon,  
Benjamin Mowbry,  
Raphu Hall,  
Jonathan Corlis,  
Moody Morse,  
John Wheeler,  
Richard Dow, Jun.,  
Jacob Hardy,  
Nathaniel Dow,  
John Marland,  
Josiah Hardy,  
Zach. Woodber,  
Richard Dow,  
Simon Johnson,  
Alexander Gordon,  
Phineas Swain,  
Timothy Sargeant,  
Abraham Amey,  
Seth Pattee,  
Israel Woodbury,  
John Woodbury,  
Simeon Foss,  
Joseph Hull, Jun.,  
Jesse Morrill,  
John Merrill,  
Timothy Merrill,  
Daniel Corlis,  
Abraham Dow,  
Solomon Cole,  
James Sanders,  
Richard Kelley,  
Jonathan Gordon,  
Timothy Duston,  
Israel Young,  
Daniel Ladd,

Richard Hennessee,  
Sampson Wheeler,  
Stephen Wheeler,  
Abner Wheeler,  
James Hall,  
William Smith,  
Samuel Kelly,  
Nathaniel Belknap,  
Jesse Smith,  
Obadiah Eastman,  
Timothy Swan, Jun.,  
Thomas Dow,  
James Hastings,  
Jeremiah Dow,  
Caleb Duston,  
Joseph Carlton,  
Joshua Bailey, Jun.,  
Benoni Rowell,  
David Copp,  
Jeremiah Foster,  
Samuel Johnson,  
Henry Little,  
John Johnson,  
Albert Pettingill,  
Jonathan Hasseltine,  
Asabel Smith,  
Phineas Gordon,  
John Kinkrad,  
Jonathan Bailey,  
Samuel D. Day,  
Joseph Wright,  
Joseph Perkins,  
Timothy Swan,  
Joshua Swan,  
Asa Mors,  
Solomon Smith,  
James Moreland,  
William Moreland,  
Simon Bradford,  
John Bradford,  
John Cuming,

James Corlis,  
James Webster,  
Benjamin Bixly,  
John Carlton,  
Dudley Currier,  
Silas Wheeler,  
John Currier,  
Elihu Knight,  
Thomas Robinson,  
Nathaniel Woodbury,  
Joseph Hull,  
Daniel Merrill,  
Hugh Campbell,  
Hugh Campbell, Jr.,  
Andrew Campbell,  
Joshua Baley,  
Peter Duston,  
Asa Rowell,  
John Laneker,  
Henry Lankcest,  
Abner Bayley, Pastor  
of the church,  
William Sanders,  
Samuel Sanders,  
Abiel Astin,  
John Astin,  
William Clough, Jr.,  
John Clough,  
John Lavet,  
Perley Merrill,  
Adam Cole,  
Oliver Kimball, Jr.,  
Joshua Hall,  
Josiah Clough,  
William Ayer,  
Israel Ober,  
Joseph Harriss,  
William Clement,  
Christopher Clement,  
Josiah Thissel,  
Jon. Bayley, Jun.,

James Hastings, Jr.,	Thomas Maiglaton,	John Lowell, Jun.,
Timothy Johnson,	William Smith,	Henry Woodbury,
Daniel Massey,	Joseph Cressey,	Samuel Ayer,
Richard Kimball,	Asa Colby,	Jonathan Stevens,
John Bayley,	William Gordon,	David Merrill,
William Tapley,	Richard Messer,	Benjamin Bixly, Jr.,
Percy Dow,	John Moor Bayley,	Edward Pattee,
Stephen Currier,	David Bayley,	Nathaniel Gornell,
John Bayley, Jun.,	Nehemiah Stanwood,	John Ellinwood,
Abiel Cross,	John Hasseltine,	Nathan Webster,
Oliver Kimball,	Barnard Kimball,	Benjamin Rawlings,
Josiah Rowell,	Daniel Hasseltine,	Jonathan Smith,
William Bailey,	Thomas Munr,	Joseph Ordway,
Nathaniel Merrill,	Benjamin Wheelin,	John Currier,
John Smith,	Abijah Wheeler,	Matthew Taylor,
Israel Hull,	Asa Dow,	Caleb Clark,
David Nevins,		

*To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE :*

GENTLEMEN: We, the subscribers, having shown the Declaration (commonly called the Test Bill) to the inhabitants of *Salem*, as by your Honours directed, have found a number who neglected to sign said Test Bill; whose names are as follows, viz :

Robert Young,	Wyman Clough,	John Chase,
Jesse Webster,	William Clough,	John Clement,
William Leach,	Daniel Silver,	Captain John Allein,
Deacon Th. Douglass,	Webster Emerson,	Robert Ellingwood,
Joseph Merrill,	Jonathan Tenny,	Henry Saunders,
Peter Merrill,	Ebenezer Page,	Josiah Rowel, Jun.,
Ebenezer Woodbury,	Deacon John Kelly,	Philip Rowel,
Joshua Heath,	Enos Webster,	Jacob Rowel,
David Hall,	John Ashly,	William Thom,
Deacon John Hall,	Samuel Hilton,	Joseph Leach,
John Reith,	Daniel Peasley, Esq.,	Daniel Silver,
Nathan Asten,	Samuel Clement,	

WILLIAM HALL,  
AMOS DOW,  
RICHARD MESSER, } *Selectmen of Salem.*

Salem, August 27, 1776.

**SIGNERS IN SALISBURY.**

Ebenezer Johnson,	Jacob Garland,	Ananiah Bonohon,
Samuel Scribner,	William Eastman,	Andrew Bonohon,
John Collins,	John Fifield,	Daniel Huntoon,
Reuben Greele,	William Searle,	Moses Selley,
William Nuton,	Abel Tandy,	Gideon Dow,
Benjamin Bean,	Jeremiah Webto,	Jacob Cochran,
Job Heath,	Edward Fifield,	Nathan Colby,
Phinehas Bean,	Moses Garland,	Joseph French,
John Jameson,	Edward Feath,	Stephen Call,
John Sanborn,	Ezra Tucker,	Jacob Bohonon,
Jacob True,	Eben Tucker,	John Brown,
John Gale,	Nathaniel Meloon,	Benjamin Sanborn,
Moses Elkins,	Hezekiah Foster,	Joseph Basford,
Rev. Jonathan Searle,	Nat. Meloon, Jun.,	Daniel Sewell,
Ebenezer Webster,	Ildo Scribner,	John Webster,
Robert Smith,	John Been,	Israel Webster,
Andrew Pettingill,	Obadiah P. Fifield,	Robert Barber,
William Calef,	Benjamin Scribaer,	Nathaniel Marston,
Leonard Judkins,	Edward Scribner,	Matthew Pettingill,
Jonathan Fifield,	John Scribner,	Ebenezer Clifford,
Edward Eastman,	Joseph Marston,	Reuben Hoit,
Shubael Grele,	Moses Sawyer,	Joseph Fifield,
Benjamin Huntoon,	John Challis,	Abel Elkins,
Jonathan Cram,	Benjamin Greele,	Abraham Fifield,
David Pettingill,	John Fellows,	Richard Piermont,
Joseph Bartlett,	Ephraim Colby,	Daniel Warren,
John Rowe,	John Webster, Jun.,	Cutting Stevens,
William Webster,	And'w Robinson, Jr.,	

This may certify to the General Assembly, or Committee of Safety, of the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, that we, the subscribers, have offered the within Declaration to the inhabitants of the Town of *Salisbury*, and they sign freely, Mr. *Sinkler Bean*, and *Joseph Bean, Esq.*, excepted.

EBENEZER WEBSTER, }  
JONATHAN FIFIELD, } *Selectmen of Salisbury.*

Salisbury, September 12, 1776.

**SIGNERS IN SANBORNTON.**

Joseph Woodman,	Cheese Taylor,	Abijah Sanborn,
Benjamin Colby,	Josiah Sanborn,	Jona. Smith, Jun.,
Nicholas Clark,	Jacob Smith,	Ichabod Swain,
Josiah Emery,	James Gibson,	Timothy Smith,
Robert Smart,	Ebenezer Morrison,	John Thorn,
Eliphelet Brown,	John Colby,	Moses Thompson,
Nathaniel Burley,	Elisha Cates,	Charles Thomas,
Jacob Bumford,	Joseph Clark,	Cole Weeks,
Stephen Burley,	Jonathan Chase,	Ebenezer Sanboru,
John Bryen,	Wm. Durgin, Jun.,	John Lane,
John Clark,	Josiah Miles, Jun.,	Nathaniel Tilton,
Isaac Colby,	Ebenezer Eastman,	Enoch Outs,
Benjamin Darling,	Daniel Fifield,	Philip Hunt,
William Tomson,	Benjamin Sanborn,	Moses Randell,
James Cates,	Caleb Gilmon,	Daniel Lavy,
Richard Beacham,	Moses Gilmon,	John Robinson,
John Johnson,	Joseph Gilmon,	Samuel Harper,
Satchel Clark,	John Gale,	Jonathan Cass,
David Orr,	Daniel Gale,	Thomas Rundlet,
John Folsom,	Wm. Hayes, Jun.,	Thomas Sinklar,

Enoch Ealy,	Joseph Hoit,
David Dustin,	Andrew Jewett,
James Cater, Jun.,	Nicholas Gies,
Stephen Gale,	Edward Kelly,
Aaron Samborn,	Gideon Leavitt,
Jonathan Taylor,	Samuel Morrison,
Daniel Sanborn,	Jotham Rawlins,

Thomas Cricket,
Solomon Copp,
Elisha Smith,
Josiah Sanborn,
Moses Danforth,
Ebenezer Goue.

*To the Honourable the General Court, or Committee of Safety, of NEW-HAMPSHIRE :*

Pursuant to the within request, the inhabitants of said *Sanbornton*, have all, except one, (*Benjamin Hoit*.) severally subscribed their names hereunto.

AARON SANBORN,  
*In behalf of the Selectmen.*

July 3, 1776.

**SIGNERS IN SANDOWN.**

Samuel Bean,	Charles Pressey,	Joshua Harriman,
John Colby,	Thomas Wells,	Theophilus Griffin,
Abner Colby,	William Rowel,	Thomas Griffin,
David Bennet,	Israel Huse,	Peter Griffin,
Orlando Colby,	Samuel Bennet,	Moses Heath,
David Sargent,	Sargent Wells,	Asa Heath,
Reuben Clough,	Jacob Wells,	Moses Griffin,
Josiah Cotton,	Benjamin Wells,	Samuel Wyatt,
Arche aus Hunt,	Phineas Batchelder,	Humphrey Clough,
James Trussell,	William Bean,	Nathan Hunt,
Peter Collins,	Nat. Russell, Jun.,	Samuel Putman,
Henry Page,	Fben Bosnell,	John Hearse,
Edmund James,	Nathaniel Busel,	Daniel Kelly,
E. Colby,	Jotham Huse,	Samuel Keaise,
Daniel Watson,	Zebadiah Matson,	Samuel Daniels,
Stephen Long,	John Tucker,	Nathaniel French,
Samuel Judkins,	Ebenezer Tucker,	Benjamin Taylor,
Benjamin Flanders,	Jacob Tucker,	John Sanborn,
Moses Hook,	John Straw,	David Sleeper,
Sherburne Sanborn,	John Pierce,	Moses Sanborn,
Timothy Tilton,	William Ferren,	Josiah Fowler,
David Sanborn,	Meshech Gordy,	Daniel Davis,
Samuel Sleeper,	Robert Craford,	Richard Griffin,
John Sleeper,	John Tilton,	Lemuel Sauborn,
Jethro Sanborn,	Benjamin Hunkins,	Joseph Tilton,
Sherburn Tilton,	David Tilton,	Abraham Hook,
Isaac Ladd,	John Fuller,	Thomas Chase,
Oliver Smith Blake,	Samuel Ingalls,	Joseph Bagley,
Joseph Draper,	Ezekiel Eaton,	Edward Edmonds,
Nathaniel Ingalls,	Isaac Dow,	Thomas Fallows,
Jonathan Huse,	David Moulton,	Timothy Fallows,
Benjamin Colbey,	Joshua George,	Benjamin Pilsbery,
David Straw,	Jonathan Whiteaker,	Joseph Hunt,
Jona. Colbey, Sen.,	John Collins,	Ela Dow.
Daniel Stanford,		

In obedience to the within, we have requested the Parish to sign this instrument; and, in obedience, the Parish have all signed, but those whose names are here underwritten.

The names of those that refused to sign : *Ichabod Shaw, Esq., Benjamin Shaw, Cornet Daniel Fitts, Thomas Cotton, William Woodward, Folsby Shaw, Joshua Stevens.*

*Samuel Stevens* did not sign, but is since gone into the war.

MOSES HOOK,  
REUBEN CLOUGH, } *Selectmen of Sandown.*  
ELA DOW,

**SIGNERS IN SANDWICH.**

Isaac George,	Israel Gillman,	Benjamin Bean,
Nathaniel Knowls,	Simeon Smith,	Edward Smith,
Henry Weed,	Eliphelet Mansfield,	John Ladd,
Richard Sinkler,	Enoch True,	Jeremiah Hilton,
Jeremiah Page,	Joseph Hoyt,	Daniel Beede, Jun.,
David Bean,	Thomas Berley,	Micha Rice,
Christopher Topan,	Daniel Beede,	Joshua Prescott,
Bagly Weeck,	Elias Ladd,	Benj. Blanchard,
Samuel Brown,	Elias Smith,	Josiah Bean,
Jonathan Page,	Nathaniel Ethridge,	Edward Wells,
John Page,	Ben. Atkinson,	Elias Ladd, Jun.,
John Prescott,	John Glidden,	Nathaniel Scribner.
Jacob Smith,		

In pursuance of the within request, we have asked all male inhabitants of *Sandwich*, who are above twenty-one years old, to sign the within Declaration.

The names of those that refuse to sign, are as follow, viz. *Jacob Jewell, Benjamin Scribner, Moses Weed, Nathaniel Weed, Henry Weed, Jun., Mark Jewell, Jacob Weed, Nathan Beede, and Aaron Beede.*

Test: MARK JEWELL, }  
JOSHUA PRESCOT, } *Selectmen of Sandwich.*

June 15, 1776.

**SIGNERS IN SAVILLE, CROYDON, AND NEWPORT.**

Benjamin Giles,	Ephraim Towne,	William Stannan,
Aaron Buck,	Joel Bailey,	Jesse Lane,
Jeremiah Jenks,	Benjamin Bragge,	Abraham Keley,
Samuel Hurd,	Lemer Keley,	David Brown,
Josiah Stevens,	Abraham Buell,	Roswell Keley,
Ezra Darnvle,	Jesse Willcocks,	Joseph Buel,
Giles Keleg,	Jesse Kelley,	Phinehas Willcocks,

Josiah Dudley,  
Nathan Flint,  
Nathan Woodbury,  
Daniel Dudley,  
Robert Lane,  
Jedediah Reynolds,  
Jed. Reynolds, Jun.,  
James Church,  
Isaac Newton,  
Ebenezer Merrill,  
Amos Hall,  
Jesse Bailey,  
John Lane,  
David Brown,  
Uriah Wilcox,  
Benjamin Swinerton,

Isaac Sanger,  
Moses Whipple,  
Samuel R. Hall,  
John Sanger,  
Jacob Leland,  
David Warrin,  
Daniel Emerson,  
Joseph Hall,  
Seth Chase,  
Abner Brigham,  
Bezaleel Gleason,  
James How,  
Stephen Powers,  
Benjamin Powers,  
Samuel Whipple,

Phinehas Sanger,  
David Powers,  
David Stockwill,  
Eleazer Leland,  
Jacob Hall,  
Phinehas Hewton,  
Nathaniel Wheeler,  
Amos Hager,  
Seth Wheeler,  
Benjamin Thompson,  
Abijah Hall,  
Timothy Fisher,  
Benjamin Thomson,  
Thomas Whipple,  
John Cooper.

Samuel Foster,  
John Dearborn,  
Simon Wiggan,  
Nicholas Rawlings,  
Mark Wiggan,  
Abraham Tilton,  
Joshua Avery,  
Samuel Piper,  
Dudley L. Chase,  
Stephen Cate,  
David Smith,  
Noah Wiggan,  
Elisha French,  
Samuel Giles,  
Samuel Boynton,  
Joseph Clark, Jun.,  
Benjamin Barker,  
Samuel Lane,  
Joseph Adams, Jun.,  
Justin Wiggan, Jun.,  
Thomas Odel,  
Winthrop Wiggan,  
John Stockbridge,  
Jonathan Piper, Jun.,  
Jonathan Levit, Jun.,  
Chase Wiggan,  
Daniel Pickering,  
John Piper,  
Isaac Goss,  
Bickford Kennison,  
Henry Kennison,  
John Foss,  
Joseph Hill,  
John Crockett,  
Samuel Piper, Jun.,  
David Crockett,  
John Burley,  
Samuel Wiggan,  
Joseph Adams,  
John Luey,  
Daniel Mason,  
William Moor, Sen.,

Joshua Lane,  
J. Stevens,  
Samuel Goodwin,  
Joshua Rawlings,  
John Robinson,  
Justin Wiggan,  
Wheler Burly,  
Andrew Wiggan, Jun.,  
Joseph Mason, Jun.,  
Joseph Smith,  
Paul Burley,  
John Taylor,  
Jonathan Rawlings,  
Francis Mason,  
David Jewell,  
Benjamin Leavitt,  
Edward Taylor,  
Jotham Rawlings,  
Taylor Clark,  
Jacob Rundlet,  
Jonathan Hoyt,  
Ezra Barker,  
Jonathan Robinson,  
Frederick Merrill,  
Josiah Leavitt,  
Jesse Randall,  
Matthew Jameson,  
William Callyn,  
Jonathan Sibley,  
David Haniford,  
Joseph Norris,  
William French,  
Isaac Leavitt,  
Samuel Chapman,  
Joshua Wingate,  
Joseph Thirston,  
Daniel Jewell,  
John Sinkler,  
Jonathan Chase, Jun.,  
Samuel Leavitt,  
Thomas Veasey,

James Kelley,  
Moses Chase,  
Joseph Fifield,  
Samuel Calley,  
Edward Mason,  
John Rundlett,  
William Calley,  
Jonathan Leavitt,  
William More,  
Richard Rust,  
Walter Wiggan,  
Cotton Dockum,  
Joseph Handerson,  
Jude Allen, Jun.,  
Henry Moore,  
John Stockbridge, Jr.,  
William Pottle,  
Andrew French,  
John Avery,  
William French,  
Richard Wiggan,  
Solomon Smith, Jun.,  
Samuel Smith,  
David Robinson,  
Benjamin Merrill,  
James Merrill,  
William Pottle, Jun.,  
Josiah Allen,  
Joseph Merrill,  
Andrew Wiggan, 3d,  
Sergeant Whitcher,  
Joseph Clark,  
Israel Stockbridge,  
Jacob Jewell,  
Abraham Stockbridge,  
Nathaniel Wiggan, 3d,  
Thomas Vesey, Jr.,  
Jonathan Piper,  
Ephraim Crockett,  
William Bilagh,  
John Juannirs.

The inhabitants of *Newport*, who are required, have all signed this Association.

JOSIAH STEVENS,  
SAMUEL HURD,  
AARON BUCK, } *Selectmen of Newport.*

Newport, June 20, 1776.

Robert Woodward,  
John Bevens, (a Saville man.)  
William McBrenay,  
Ephraim Bradbury,  
Samuel Gunnison,  
Geery Walker Lear,

Joseph Lear,  
Benjamin Howard,  
Eleazer Sisco,  
Joshua Gage,  
Benjamin Thurston,  
Daniel Grendel,

Samuel Thurbur,  
William Sisco,  
Daniel Shurburne,  
Benjamin Rand,  
William Lang,  
Michael Bowden.

Croydon, July 6, 1776.

Those whose names are above are inhabitants of this Town.

*Edward Hall, Ezekiel Powers, John Powers, and John Cooper*, refused to set their names to this paper.

JOHN COOPER,  
MOSES WHIPPLE, } *Selectmen.*

The inhabitants of *Saville*, who are required, have all signed this Association.

SAMUEL GUNNISON,  
BENJAMIN THURBUR, } *In behalf of Saville.*

Saville, July 15, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN SOCIETY LAND.

John McCleary,  
Thomas Stuart,  
Nathan Taylor,  
John Green,  
John Warner,  
Samuel Moory,  
James Moory,  
Philip Raley,  
Tristram Cheney,  
John Cheney,  
Joseph Boyd,  
Daniel Milimor,  
Alexander Jameson,  
William Smith,  
James Aiken,  
Isaac Butterfield,  
Robert Rogers,  
James Gregg,  
Alexander Parker,  
James Hopkins,  
James Duncan,  
Matthew Templeton,  
Morish Lynch,  
John Duncan,  
Robert Duncan,  
P. White,  
Henry French,  
Henry French, Jun.,  
James French,  
Obadiah French,  
Daniel French,  
Elihu French,  
Isaac Brown,  
Reuben Currier,  
Robert Long,  
Timothy Huntington,  
Nathaniel Flanders,

William Graves,  
Josiah Rogers,  
David Graves,  
Stephen Rogers,  
Samuel Peirce,  
William Cooper,  
Humphry Peirce,  
Moses Peirce,  
H. Pearce,  
Thomas Shepherd,  
Richard Fitts,  
Nathan Fitts,  
Eliphelet Merrill,  
James Hedlock,  
Philip Flanders,  
Jacob Jones,  
Josiah Sawyer,  
Richard Sawyer,  
Israel Sawyer,  
Ezekiel Clough, Sen.,  
Nathan Currier,  
Challis Currier,  
John Currier,  
Richard Currier,  
Levis Hedlock,  
Jacob Barnard,  
John Pilsbery,  
Enos George,  
Parker Flanders,  
Ebenezer Colby,  
Ezekiel Flanders,  
Timothy Flanders,  
Daniel Jones,  
Nicholas Currier,  
Nathaniel Rowell,  
Josiah Dole,

Jonathan Days,  
Timothy Pinkerton,  
Edmund Pillsbury,  
Bernard Currier,  
Ephraim Carter,  
Abel French,  
Benjamin Clough,  
Abel Brown,  
N. Noyes,  
Thomas Pexbury,  
Merrill Flanders,  
Onesiphorus Page,  
Richard C. Flanders,  
Richard Collins,  
Philip Osgood,  
Ezekiel French,  
Joseph Jones, Jun.,  
Joseph Jones,  
Joseph Merrill,  
Bernard Flanders,  
Philip Flanders,  
Thomas Currier,  
Jonathan Trasa,  
Benjamin Brown,  
Enoch Page,  
Richard Grule,  
Moses French,  
Jacob Dole,  
Daniel Page,  
Ebenezer French, Jr.,  
Henry Trull,  
Benjamin Barnard,  
Josiah Flanders,  
Eliphelet Merrill, Jr.,  
Daniel Colby,  
William Clough.

Provided that the act or advice of the said Continental Congress be complied with respecting Minute-men, I subscribe,

MOSES FLANDERS.

Agreeable to the within, we have desired the males in said Town to sign the Declaration on this paper. It hath been complied with by all so desired, excepting those whose names are hereafter mentioned: *Jeremiah Flanders, Josiah Flanders, Jeremiah Flanders, Jun., Christopher Flanders.*

ABEL FRENCH,  
JOSEPH MERRILL, } *Selectmen.*

Colony of New-Hampshire,  
Southampton, June 24, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN STRATHAM.

Daniel Clark,  
Andrew French, Jun.,

William Chase,  
Daniel French,

Samuel Lane, Jun.,  
Benjamin Green,

Agreeable to the instructions given us, we, the Selectmen and Committee, have done all in our power for the purpose within mentioned; and all the persons within are voluntary signers.

SIMON WIGGIN,  
DANIEL CLARK,  
JONATHAN WIGGIN,  
MOSES CLARK,  
NICHOLAS RAWLINGS,  
JONATHAN ROBINSON, } *Selectmen and Committee.*

Stratham, September 3, 1776.

Ebenezer Barker,  
Nathan Barker,  
Moses Clark,  
Jonathan Chase,  
John Clark,  
Edward Chase,  
James Darborn,  
Capt. Joseph Hoyt,  
Daniel Hoyt,  
Joseph Hoag,  
N. Hoag, (a Friend.)  
John Hill,  
William Hash,  
Jonathan Jewett,

Jacob Low,  
Enoch Merrill,  
Elijah Meader,  
Thomas Moore,  
Cornet Thos. Moore,  
William Moore, 3d,  
Exeter Moore,  
Joseph Mason,  
Capt. George March,  
Enoch Merrill, Jun.,  
Nicholas Meriner,  
Nathaniel Piper,  
Stephen Piper,  
Nathaniel Piper,

Samuel Pottel,  
Benjamin Piper,  
Richard Scammon,  
Richard Sincklear,  
Isaac Stockbridge,  
Nathaniel Stevens,  
Stephen Thruston,  
Andrew Wiggan,  
Samuel Wiggan, Jr.,  
Joseph Wiggan,  
Nathaniel Wiggan, Jr.,  
Rev. Pain Wingate,  
Doct. Sam. Shephard,  
Nathaniel Wiggan.

The above names are those that refuse to sign the Association paper. From your humble servants,

SIMON WIGGIN,  
DANIEL CLARK,  
JONATHAN WIGGIN,  
MOSES CLARK,  
NICHOLAS RAWLINGS,  
JONATHAN ROBINSON, } *Selectmen and Committee.*

Stratham, September 3, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN SURRY.

Wolston Brockway,  
Joshua Darte,  
Samuel Smith,  
Nathan Hayward,  
Jonathan Carpenter,  
Jonathan Smith,  
Abia Crane,  
Jonathan Smith,  
Samuel McCurdy,  
John McCurdy,  
William Hayward,  
Joseph Whitney,  
Joshua Darte,  
Nathaniel Darte,

Thomas Smith,  
Peter Hayward,  
Ichabod Smith,  
Obadiah Wilcox,  
Thomas Darte,  
Joshua Fuller,  
William Barran,  
Moses Ware,  
John Marvin,  
Deleborn Delelance,  
Abel Allen,  
Eliphelet Darte,  
Ebenezer Daniels,  
Moses D. Field,

Obadiah Wilcox,  
Thomas Redding,  
Tristey Chapin,  
Job Gleason,  
Job Gleason, Jun.,  
Abner Skinner,  
Aaron Chapin,  
Hiram Chapin,  
Cornelius Smith,  
Thomas Harvey,  
Joshua Fuller, Jun.,  
Nathan Carpenter,  
Benjamin Carpenter,  
Charles Rice.

In compliance with the within request, we have offered the same to every person required, and no one has refused to sign it.

OBADIAH WILCOX,  
THOMAS HARVEY,  
THOMAS DARTE, } *Selectmen.*

Province of New-Hampshire, Cheshire,  
Sarry, May 31, A. D., 1776.

## SIGNERS IN TEMPLE.

We, the subscribers, do hereby solemnly profess our entire willingness, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, with arms, to oppose the hostile attempts of the *British* fleets and armies against the United *American* Colonies, whenever, and to such a degree as such attempts of *Britain* may require.

Joshua Todd,	Elias Colburn,	Ephraim Brown,
Nathaniel Ball,	Robert Fletcher,	Benjamin Cragin,
Ezekiel Goodals,	Peter Wheeler, Jun.,	Caleb Maywood,
Francis Blood,	John Cragin, Jun.,	Ebenezer Cobb,
Stephen Garlin,	Ephraim Heald,	John Stiles,
Samuel Webster,	Stephen Putman,	Zebediah Dinson,
Gershom Drury,	Ebenezer Darny,	Enos Goodale,
Oliver Heald,	Joseph Heald,	George Start,
Peter Wheeler,	Joshua Foster,	John Start,
Ezekiel Jewet,	Isaac Brews,	David Fuller,
Archelaus Cummings,	Stephen Cobb,	Joshua Fitts,
Peter Felt,	William Drury,	Seth Cobb,
Zachariah Emery,	David Townsend,	Abijah Gould,
Zedekiah Drurey,	Amos Emery,	Jacob Foster,
Benjamin Byames,	Benjamin Tenney,	Eliot Powers,
Jonathan Avery,	Zebediah Johnson,	David Spafford,
John Everett,	Silas R. Stickney,	Abraham Dinsmore,
Silas Angier,	John Brown,	Archelaus Willson,
Edward Spafford,	Joseph Richardson,	Aaron Felt,
John Crogin,	Peter Heald,	Gideon Powers,
Aaron Marshall,	Jonathan Drury,	Elijah Mansfield,
Thomas Marshall,	Benjamin Cutter,	Daniel How,
Abraham Shelden,	William Manson,	Timothy Atten,
Caleb Bancroft,	Samuel Bernap,	John Patten,
Francis P. Cragin,	Joseph Richards,	Nathaniel Shattuck,
Jonathan Morse,	Samuel Howard,	Stephen Sanders,
Peter Davis,	Samuel Holt,	Andrew Lane,
James Foster,	Josiah Stone,	Peter Brown.

The following persons refuse to sign any Association to defend *America* by arms against the hostile attempts of *Britain*: *Joseph Putnam, Jacob Putman, and Joseph Gibbs.*

JOHN CRAGIN,  
OLIVER HEALD, } *Selectmen of Temple.*  
GEORGE START,

To the General Assembly, or Committee of Safety, for New-Hampshire.

We produced to the inhabitants of this Town, in Town-meeting, the paper proposed by the Committee of Safety to be signed by the inhabitants of this Colony. Few, if any, of the inhabitants, were willing to engage and promise as there proposed, to oppose, by arms, to the utmost of their power, the hostile attempts of the *British* fleets and armies, as this seemed to the inhabitants plainly to imply far more than any common enlistment into the service, even engaging as soldiers directly and during the continuance of the war. As to exerting ourselves faithfully when engaged, this, at least, was within the compass of our power; but it did not appear to the inhabitants prudent or necessary for any, or in any degree lawful, for all thus to engage. The town directly adopted the form of Association signed on this paper, which they and we hope, expresses all required by the General Congress.

JOHN CRAGIN,  
OLIVER HEALD, } *Selectmen of Temple.*  
GEORGE START,

## SIGNERS IN WAKEFIELD.

David Copp,	Nathaniel Mardogh,	Stephen Hawken,
Nathaniel Balch,	John Wingate,	Joseph Sanborn,
Samuel Willey,	John Cook,	Joseph Leavit,
John Wentworth,	Eliphlet Philbrook,	Robert Hardy,
Joseph Perkins,	Benjamin Philbrook,	Nathaniel Cook,
Simeon Dearborn,	Richard York,	Thomas Parkins,
John Horne,	Samuel Sherburne,	Jonathan Palmer,
Joseph Matcham,	Samuel Hains,	Jonathan Copp,
Daniel Hall,	Jeremiah Lieman,	Samuel Saunders,
Ebenezer Cook,	Andrew Lieman,	John Kimball,
Jacob Wiggin,	Jere. Lieman, Jun.,	Rest Kimeser,
William Moor,	John Gilman,	Clement Steele,
William Blasdell,	Jonathan Gilman,	Clement Steele, Jun.,
Richard York,	Jona. Gilman, Jun.,	Samuel Allen,
John Carr,	Noah Kimball,	Abner Allen,
John Wels,	Benjamin Perkins,	Josiah Page,
David Ham,	Joseph Wiggin,	Tobias Hanson,
Elisha Piper,	John York,	Simeon Wiggin,
Samuel Allen, Jun.,	Joseph Hains,	Reuben Davis,
Nathaniel Balch, Jun.,	Samuel Hall,	Henry Robens.
Eliphlet Quimby,	Moses Cepps,	

According to the request of the honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, this instrument has been presented to the inhabitants of this Town, and universally approved of and signed by them.

JACOB WIGGIN,  
NATHAN MURDOGH, } *Selectmen.*

Wakefield, September 11, 1776.

## SIGNERS IN WEARE.

Thomas Wortley,	William Dusten,	Samuel Caldwell,
John Robie,	William Whitker,	Joseph Hadlock,
Ephraim Jones,	Moses Currier,	Joseph Quembe,
Sabbeus Emery,	E. Ferrin,	Daniel Hadley,
Jesse Blake,	Asa Whitcher,	Seth Thomson,
John Blake,	Timothy Clough,	Benjamin Flanders,
Ezekiel Kimball,	Timothy Buxbery,	John Newell,
Thomas Kimball,	Jonathan Atwood,	Timothy Corles,
Ezekiel Carr,	Caleb Atwood,	Joseph Hadlock, Jun.,
Thomas Evans,	Eben Mudget,	David Moulton,
Winthrop Clough,	Aaron Quimbe,	John Mudget,
Benjamin Silly,	Isaac Trisling,	Joseph Emons,
Jeremiah Page,	Moses Quimbe,	John Simons,
Samuel Ayer,	Jesse Clement,	Ebenezer Bailey,
Benjamin Page,	Samuel Selley,	Philip Hoyt,
Nathaniel Weed,	Jonathan Wadlock,	Nathan Cram,
Ezra Pillsbury,	Samuel Easman,	Daniel Galigher,
David Patson,	Jonathan Wootilly,	Jacob Graves,
Ithamar Eaton,	Samuel Orduay,	Isaac Ransdell,
Reuben Martain,	John Colly, Jun.,	Josiah Crown,
Samuel Straw,	Thomas E-man,	Joseph Huntoon,
Obadiah Eaton,	Jesse Bayley,	Moses Hoyt, Jun.,
Abner Hoyt,	Daniel Bailey,	Jacob Tuxbury,
Israel Straw,	Timothy Worthley,	Nicodemus Watson,
Samuel Paige,	Stephen Emerson,	Samuel Worthen,
Lemuel Paige,	E. Cram,	John Ardway,
Jonathan Paige,	Elijah Gove,	Daniel Gould,
Samuel Paige, Jun.,	Caleb Whitaker,	Joseph Dalis,
Enoch Sweat,	Isaac Sargent,	Moses Folonsbury,
Robert Alcock,	Thomas Worthly,	Joseph Webster,
Paul Dusten,	Timothy George,	John Corley,
Caleb Emery,	Joseph Huse,	Jonathan Martain,
John Muzzey,	Peter Rogers, Jun.,	Nathan Goul,
John Worth,	Joshua McField,	John Huntington,
Joseph Kimball,	Samuel Brockelbank,	Thomas Colby,
Samuel Philbrick,	Ephraim Emerson,	Jedediah Cram,
Jabez Morrill,	George Hoyt,	Timothy Colis, Jun.,
Simon Perkins,	Moses Hoyt,	Moses Flood,
Nathan Cram, Jun.,	Jonathan Clement,	John Fair,
Dudley Chase,	Ezra Clement,	Simeon Hovey,
Jonathan Blasdell,	Jotham Tuttle,	James Emerson,
John Webster,	Mark Flood,	Warde Emerson,
Joseph George,	Philip Sargeant,	William Quemby.
Elijah Green,		

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of this Colony:

Whereas, we, the Selectmen of *Weare*, have caused this Declaration to be signed by a number of men who appear to be well associated to defend by arms the United Colonies, against the hostile attempts of the *British* fleets and armies.

JOHN ROBIE,  
JABEZ MORRILL, } *Selectmen of Weare.*

Colony of New-Hampshire, Weare, June 6, 1776.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of this Colony:

GENTLEMEN: Whereas, we, the Selectmen of *Weare*, have received a Declaration from you to sign by the inhabitants of said *Weare*; we have acted according to the orders of the Declaration. We make return of all who refuse to sign the Declaration, a list of their names on this paper.

JOHN ROBIE,  
JABEZ MORRILL, } *Selectmen of Weare.*

Colony of New-Hampshire, Weare, June 6, 1776.

A list of men's names called *Quakers*:

Jonathan Dow,	John Gove,	Edmund Jonson,
Daniel Page,	Samuel Collings,	James Buxton,
Nathaniel Peaslee,	John Gove, Jun.,	Joseph Parkins,
Silas Peaslee,	Johnson Gove,	John Chase,
Benjamin Peaslee,	Stephen Gove,	Samuel Hovy,
Jonathan Peaslee,	Daniel Gove,	Samuel Huntington,
Ebenezer Peaslee,	Elisha Gove,	Samuel Bailey,
Caleb Peaslee,	Jedediah Dow,	John Jewell, Jun.,
Isaiah Green,	Ebenezer Breed,	George Hadley,
Isaiah Green, Jun.,	Zephaniah Breed,	Nathaniel Curtis,
Elijah Purenton,	Jonathan Estes,	Abraham Meloon,
Hezekiah Purenton,	Jonathan Osborn,	Asa Heath,
Jeremiah Green,	John Hodgdon,	Joseph Webster, Jun.
Michael Green,	Enoch Junson,	

## SIGNERS IN WESTMORELAND.

Jonathan Holton,	David Britton,	Thos. Chamberlain,
William Hutchins,	Ezekiel Woodward,	Henry Walton,
Israel Amesbury,	Nathaniel Wilbore,	Harriiden Wheeler,
Daniel Whitman,	William Britton,	Zephaniah Leach,
Abiel Eddy,	David Sibure,	Josiah Leach, Jr.,
Isaac Cobb,	Benjamin Aldrich,	Jeremiah Leach,
Daniel Cobb,	Luther Bailey,	Enos Burt,
James Butterfield,	Roger Conent,	Jede. Chamberlain,
Benjamin Peire,	John Snow,	Josiah Dodge,
Ebenezer Brotton,	Stephen Dutton,	Caleb Briggs,
Ebenezer Bailey,	Benjamin Gusen,	Jonathan Cole, Jr.,
Joseph Wilborn,	Jonathan Willis,	Aaron Chandler,
Henry Chamberlain,	Seth Britton,	Ebenezer Robbins,
Abner Howe,	Jonas Butterfield,	David Johnson,
Joseph Packard,	Artemus Witt,	Daniel Johnson,
David Wathenell,	Ephraim Wetherel,	Ebenezer Pierce,
Ephraim Leonard,	Ephraim Warner,	Daniel Pierce,
Jacob Leach,	Jonathan Sawyer,	Waitstill Scott,
Joseph Burt,	Caleb Aldrich,	Amos Peirce,
Ebenezer Knowlton,	Samuel Howe,	Elias Gates,



John Chamberlain, Shorebah Leach, Nathan Franklin,  
 William Brickway, Philip Whitbur, 2d, Edmund Goodenow,  
 Joseph White, John Ranstead, James Gleson,  
 John Cole, Daniel Johnson, John Warner,  
 John Scott, David Robins, Joshua Warner,  
 Nahum Goodenow, William Day, Micah Reed,  
 Noah Whitman, Witting Johnson, Eleazer Robins, Jun.,  
 Nehemiah Maw, David Stacey, Daniel Blanchard,  
 Gideon Burnham, Gideon Gilbert, Moses Brown,  
 Jeremiah Tinkham, Moses White, Daniel Winchester,  
 Ephraim Robbins, Asa Goodenow, Jonathan Winchester,  
 Joshua Warner, Jun., David Robinson, Robert Robins,  
 David Darby, John Doyl, Elijah Temple,  
 Reuben Kendal, Ephraim Brown, Archelaus Temple,  
 Israel Goodenow, Job Warner, Isaac Leach,  
 Josiah Hackett, Joseph Boynton, Josiah Leach,  
 Jonas Robbins, Alexander Troiber, James Chamberlain,  
 Nathaniel Daggett, Seth Gilbert, Jonathan Cooper,  
 Samuel Works, John Robbins, Reuben Tarbell,  
 Jona. Goodenough, Samuel How, Philip Wilbor,  
 Jonathan Cole, 3d, Jonah Edson, Seth Leach,  
 John Verey, Benjamin Rogers, Isaac Chamberlain,  
 Moses Bennet, Jephtha Dows, T. Bowen,  
 Fortunatus Gleson, Daniel Keys,

#### COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

In obedience to this Declaration, that we received from your Honours, we proceeded according to your directions, and the persons' names annexed are those that refuse to sign this Declaration on your paper: *Mr. William Goddard, Leonard Keep, Job Chamberlain, Aaron Brown, Daniel Gates, and John Butterfield.*

BENJAMIN PEIRE, }  
 EBENEZER BRITTIN, } *Selectmen of*  
 HEBER MILLER, } *Westmoreland.*

Westmoreland, June 12, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN WILTON.

Hart Balch,	Ebenezer Perry,	Elisha Hudson,
Daniel Batchelder,	Benjamin Parker,	Amos Fuller,
Joshua Blanchard,	Henry Parker,	David Kinney,
Ephraim Baker,	Archelaus Wilkins,	William Brown,
Jonathan Burton,	Jonathan Hartshorn,	Stephen Blanchard,
Ebenezer Chandler,	Simon Keys,	James Dascome,
Jeremiah Holt,	John Brown,	Richard Whitney,
Joseph Snow,	Joseph Abbot,	John Dale,
Daniel Barker,	Caleb Putman,	William Peirce,
William Abbot,	Nathaniel Greele,	Samuel Shelden,
George Coburn,	Nathaniel Putman,	Silas Buss,
Benjamin Rideout,	John Breston,	George Hutchinson,
Jeremiah Abbot,	John Stevens,	Phineas Farrington,
George Blanchard,	Isaac Peabody, Jun.,	William Abbot, Jun.,
Theodore Hovens,	Timothy Dale,	Jonathan Greele,
Uriah Smith,	Abraham Butterfield,	Abijah Perry,
Ephraim Peabody,	Enoch Fuller,	Abiel Holt,
Abner Stiles,	Jonathan Parkhurst,	Alexander Milliken,
Thomas Lewis,	Timothy Gray, Jun.,	Stephen Buss,
Jonathan Livermore,	Timothy Hall,	Joseph Stiles,
Joseph Holt,	John Keyes,	Samuel Lovejoy,
Abiel Abbot,	Fifield Hall,	Henry Lovejoy,
John Burton, Jun.,	William Goldsmith,	Benjamin Blanchard,
Jonathan Martin,	John Dale, Jun.,	Jonathan Cram,
N. Ballard,	William Boyl,	Archelaus Putman, Jr.,
Joseph Abbot, Jr.,	Daniel Kinney,	John Burton,
Benjamin Steel,	Amos Holt,	Jacob Putnam, Jun.,
David Blanchard,	Thomas Russell,	Daniel Holt,
Uriah Pollard,	Joseph Holt, Jun.,	Stephen Butterfield,
James Perry,	Ebenezer Cram,	Ezra Johnson,
Richard King,	Joseph Phelps,	Bartholomew Stevens,
Abraham Burton,	Joseph Cram,	William Grimes,
Isaac Peabody,	Joseph Butterfield,	James Grimes,
Timothy Gray, Sen.,	Ashly Morgan,	Robert Watherspoone,
John Cram,	Josiah Parker,	John Craig,
John Cram, Jun.,	Ebenezer Brown,	Robert Craig,
Nathan Hasseltine,	Amos Coburn,	Samuel Sharley,
Thomas Towne,	Fifield Holt, Jun.,	James Sharley,
Nathaniel Hasseltine,	Simeon Holt,	Alexander Sharley,
William Patterson,	Philip Putnam,	John McFarland,
Samuel Hutchinson,	Jacob Abbot,	Samuel Webster,
Jacob Putnam,	Timothy Holt,	William Letch.
William Boyl,	Joel Taylor,	

#### COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

In obedience to the within resolve of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, we, the subscribers, have desired all males, above twenty-one years of age, that are inhabitants of the Town of *Wilton*, to sign to the within Declaration, and but two have refused or neglected to sign, viz: Captain *Ephraim Butterfield* and *Archelaus Putnam*, whose names we hereby return to the General Court, or Committee of Safety, for the aforesaid Colony, in obedience to the within direction.

RICHARD TAYLOR, }  
 JACOB ADAMS, } *Selectmen of Wilton.*

Wilton, June 3, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN WINCHESTER.

Samuel Ashley,	Nathaniel Wilder,	Nathan Twitchel,
Ebenezer Alexander,	William Dodge,	Samuel Verey,
Nathaniel Rockford,	Benjamin Wilson,	Alexander McDowell,

Reuben Alexander,	Elijah Dodge, Jun.,	Amos Willard,
William Humphrey,	Asa Alexander,	Francis Very,
Gaius Field,	Ebenezer Scott,	John Atkin,
Elijah Dodge,	Abraham Holt,	Joseph Marbel,
William Holmes,	Nehemiah Houghton,	Samuel Bond,
Henry Bond,	James Latham,	David Cady,
Israel Stord,	Thomas Hubbrings, Jr.,	Adonijah Fasset,
Elijah Houghton,	Ziba Ward,	Elihu Field,
John Higgans,	Stephen Franklin,	Isaac Hutchins,
Ebenezer Taylor,	Henry Miles,	Moses Fray,
Joseph Stowel,	Samuel Wright,	Benjamin Freeman,
Reuben Rockwood,	Isaac Scott,	Joshua Whitmore,
Nath. Lawrence, Jr.,	James Franklin,	Theodore Watkins,
Ichabod Franklin,	Daniel Smith,	Thomas Hutchens,
Abijah Carpenter,	John Alexander,	Ezra Parker,
Daniel Owen,	Joseph Latham,	Jeremiah Pratt,
Samuel Scott,	Joshua Field,	Zebulon Streeter,
Joseph Bright,	John Butler, Jun.,	Nehemiah Healy,
John Curtis,	Henry Foster,	Seth Alexander,
Nathaniel Chase,	Samuel Healy,	Stephen Belding,
Jeremiah Hatch,	David Perry,	Josiah Stebbins,
John Stearns,	John Hihage,	Abel Hammond,
John Peirce, Jun.,	Samuel Fasset,	Ezekiel Keney,
Asahel Jewell,	Haskiel Lawrence,	Israel Field,
Seth Breit,	Stetson Holmes,	Robert Newton,
Philip Goss,	Daniel Ashley,	Seth Pratt, Jun.,
Ichabod Franklin, Jr.,	Nathaniel Oak,	Moses Belding,
Andrew Putnam,	Waitstill Field,	Amasa Burt,
Simon Chamberlain,	Ebenezer Scott, Jun.,	Gershom Dinsmore,
Zachariah Field,	Jonathan Wood,	Amaziah Robards,
Arthur Latham,	Elisha Smith,	Stephen Putman.
James Whitney,		

#### COLONY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE :

According to the within resolve of the General Congress, we called a meeting, and it appears that all the before mentioned signers have agreed to stand by the within Covenant.

WILLIAM HUMPHREY, }  
 ISRAEL STOWELL, } *Selectmen.*

Winchester, June 3, 1776.

*Enoch Stowel* absent, *Asa Rockwood* sick. We suppose they are willing to sign the within Covenant.

WILLIAM HUMPHREY, }  
 ISRAEL STOWELL, } *Selectmen.*

Winchester, June 3, 1776.

Col. Josiah Willard,	Benj. Melven, Jun.,	John Gould,
Rev. Micah Lawrence,	Simeon Willard,	Thomas Gould,
Parel Richardson,	Elijah Willard,	Ebenezer Willom,
Capt. Samuel Smith,	Prentice Willard,	Samson Willard,
Benjamin Melven,	Benjamin Wright,	John Peirce.

The above returned names refuse to sign the within Covenant.

WILLIAM HUMPHREY, }  
 ISRAEL STOWELL, } *Selectmen.*

Winchester, June 3, 1776.

#### SIGNERS IN WINDHAM.

Hugh Graham, Jun.,	Benjamin Thom,	Alex. Richey, Jun.,
William Gregg, Jun.,	Robert McIlvaine,	David Davidson,
Alexander McCay,	John Clyde,	Nehemiah Hadley,
John Campbell,	Alexander Park,	Alexander Wilson,
Henry Campbell,	Joseph Smith,	Hugh Brown,
Robert Park,	James Brierly,	James Caldwell,
David Gregg,	Alexander Morrow,	David Currier,
William Gregg,	John Cochran,	David Armstrong,
David Gregg, Jun.,	James Cochran,	John Armstrong,
Thomas Gregg,	Robert Dinsmore,	Samuel Wilson,
James Campbell,	William Rowell,	Ebenezer Hall,
Arthur Darrah,	William Jameson,	John Ryel,
Alexander Gregg,	Isaac Cochran,	Hugh Clyd,
William Dinsmore,	Thomas Jameson,	John Wilson,
John Cochran, Jun.,	Daniel Hopkins,	Simon Williams,
Alexander Simpson,	Robert Sonit,	Peter Merrill,
John Morrison,	Jeffery Dunnough,	Peter Merrill, Jun.,
Adam Templeton,	James Gilmore,	James Wilson,
Nathl Hemphill, Jr.,	George Wilson,	Alexander Richey,
Allen Hopkins,	Moses Duly,	Hugh Graham,
Thomas Wilson,	James Dinsmore,	John McCay,
Daniel McGarvin,	William Dicken,	Thomas McCay,
George Davidson,	John Armstrong, Jun.,	James Davidson,
James Betton,	Samuel Morrison,	Samuel Campbell,
John Anderson,	Andrew Park,	William Shed,
Joseph Clyd,	Alexander Park,	Henry Campbell,
John Dinsmore,	William Thom,	Nathaniel Hemphill,
John Davidson,	Timothy Ladd,	Robert Hemphill,
John Simson,	Timothy Ladd, Jun.,	Gain Armour,
William Simson,	Eliphelet Ladd,	John Morrow,
Samuel McAdam,	Andrew Armot,	John Miller.
Isaac Thom,	Robert Spear,	

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of this State :

The foregoing request hath been presented.

Observed, notwithstanding, that Lieutenant *Abraham Reed, Matthew Reed,* and *Amos Merrill,* have refused or neglected to sign the foregoing Declaration.

ALEXANDER WILSON, }  
 SAMUEL MORRISON, } *Selectmen.*  
 NEHEMIAH HADLEY, }

State of New-Hampshire,  
 Windham, August 26, 1776. }

JACK THOMPSON TO S. BURLING.

St. Eustatia, April 13, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you the 9th instant via *Maryland*, to the care of Mr. *Clement Biddle*, Merchant, in *Philadelphia*, in whose hands I begged you long since to keep letters for me, as he would have more frequent opportunities to forward them than you from *New-York*; they having four pilot-boats in this trade, and they outsail every ship they meet with.

The sloop *Wharton* and Captain *Porter* are out, from this, nine weeks; no account of them. *David Morris* and two others, who sailed three weeks after them, are safe arrived in *Philadelphia*. Am very uneasy about *Mount*, and still I am very certain he was not taken in the *West-Indies*. We have daily advices from most of the Islands; but in case she is arrived, and not in your power to send her out again with safety, (which I should be very sorry for,) in that case, you and *T. G.* must be mindful of the remittance, and believe it would be as easy to make from *Philadelphia*, if not more so, than from *New-York*. The merchants there have large sums owing them at *St. Kitts* and *Antigua*, and the factors want to remit; and *T. & A.* no doubt would think hard of a disappointment, particularly at this time, when they have fathered so many *American* vessels, and they all want cash.

I apprehend you will have a warm summer, as all the troops have quitted *Boston* for *New-York*; and the preparation you are making, I hope, will enable you to give them a warm reception. I am astonished the merchants at *New-York*, *Philadelphia*, and other places on the Continent, do not fit out privateers as in last war, with commissions from Congress, to take all vessels coming from, or going to, *Europe*, from any part of the world whatever, as *English* bottoms. The Admiral has given two commissions at *Antigua* and one at *Dominica*, to vessels fitted out by the merchants and planters, to take all *American* vessels they can meet with; and I must say, I do wish the *Americans* would return the compliment. If two or more privateers were once to appear in the *West-Indies*, all kinds of produce, particularly sugar and rum, would fall twenty-five per cent.

Since we had advice of the fleet sailing from *Philadelphia*, the shippers to *Europe* offer ten per cent. against *American* privateers only, and many of the merchants who have written for insurance, expect to be disappointed.

By a vessel from *Madeira*, we are advised that three outward-bound *Indiamen* were laying there, waiting for convoy, with large quantities of wine on board; and I am very well convinced if a few privateers were sent into these seas, it would prevent any sugars being shipped this season, they are so damnable frightened since these few vessels sailed from *Philadelphia*.

Twenty-nine sail of transports under convoy passed here last *Saturday*, from *Antigua*, with troops and stores for the Army that was at *Boston*. Rum is very plenty in every Island, eighteen and twenty pence per gallon. The transports have taken in a large quantity at *St. Kitts* and *Antigua*, which kept the price at two shillings and six pence. Lumber is forty pounds per thousand; and in making sugar-hogsheads, every second stave is made out of boards brought from *Egg-Harbour*, and they will not have hogsheads for rum nor molasses; and the Congress would do right to forbid any lumber being shipped from any part of the Continent. And a few privateers to windward, to pick up the *Irish* vessels with beef and pork, would be the plan; and twenty or thirty sugar-ships convoyed in safety to any part of *America*, would be glorious prizes; and then to sell the cargoes on reasonable terms, would enable the Congress to carry on a war for seven years, if their vessels were constantly kept cruising. I am very well convinced every *English* Island in the *West-Indies* would be ruined in three years; and you may be assured if some such plan is not adopted by the Congress, *America* is ruined. The Army at *Boston* is constantly supplied with bread, flour, wine, rum, molasses, gin, beef, and pork, from the *West-India* Islands, and that will continue to be the case, let the Army go where they will, unless they receive a check from the privateers.

The great Mr. *Burk*, who was taken last winter going into *Boston* with a cargo of rum and sugar, has returned to *Antigua*, and is now fitting and loading three vessels for the same purpose. I am exceedingly sorry he made his escape,

or was suffered to leave the Continent, as he is concerned in the two privateers that are fitted out there.

No beef nor pork in market; butter, six pounds twelve shillings per firkin; tobacco, five pounds per cwt.; rice, forty shillings; corn, sixteen shillings; pease, none; flour, twelve pounds per barrel, and plenty; hams, eighteen pence per pound; cheese, eighteen pence; sheep and poultry, any price you will please to ask.

My compliments to friend *Helm* and family, Captain *Rutgers*, and others.

I am,  
To Mr. *S. Burling*, *New-York*.

JACK THOMPSON.

EDMUND RANDOLPH TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, April 13, 1776.

SIR: It distresses me much that I should be obliged to refuse the distinction intended for me by the Congress, in their appointment of me to the office of Mustermaster for this District. The citizens of *Williamsburgh* having elected me to represent them in Convention, and an ordinance excludes all persons holding any military post of profit from a seat therein, I cannot desert them without the highest violation of gratitude. I must, therefore, entreat you, sir, to transmit these my reasons for not entering upon the duties of the above office, to the Congress, and my sincere acknowledgments for the favour.

I am, sir, with esteem and respect, your most obedient servant,

EDMUND RANDOLPH.

To the President of the Committee of Safety.

## TO THE INHABITANTS OF VIRGINIA.

MY COUNTRYMEN: The fears of many lest we should not be able to provide sufficient funds for the support of an expensive war, has been the reason why they have been so reluctant to break that connection with *Britain* which has been the source of so many evils, and may probably incline them to spend that time in negotiation which they ought to employ in action; but a little attention to the advantages that we shall derive from unrestrained commerce, may dissipate their fears, and point out to them an ample compensation for all the expenses, the dangers, and the toils of the war. I shall only produce the trade of this Colony as an example; with which you are best acquainted. This has hitherto been almost wholly managed by foreigners, and in foreign bottoms; and will be so again, if, by any negotiation, our enemies can betray or bribe us to an accommodation on their own principles. You are without merchants, ships, seamen, or ship-builders; and thus want several very abundant sources of wealth, as well as nurseries of arts, and of numerous useful subjects to the State. Your trade is confined to a single spot on the globe, in the hands of the natives of a distant Island, who fix the market of all commodities at their pleasure, and we may be very sure will rate yours at the lowest, and their own at the highest prices, they will in any conscience bear. Every article of merchandise, that is not the produce of *Britain*, must first pay its duties to the Crown, perhaps must be increased in the price a very large advance per cent. there, and then be re-exported to *Virginia*, and undergo an additional advance of seventy-five, and sometimes near one hundred and fifty per cent. here. This disadvantage is felt much more sensibly by those who are acquainted with the trade of the Northern Colonies, where they are not altogether so shamefully gulled as we have been from the first plantation of this Colony. You can there buy linens and broadcloths from the retail merchants at the same price your factors here tell you they obtain them at prime cost in *Britain*. By this means you fairly lose seventy-five pounds currency on every one hundred pounds sterling worth of merchandise you import from *Great Britain* that is not native to that country. If we suppose your imports from thence annually to amount to seven hundred thousand pounds sterling, (which can be no extravagant supposition,) and suppose upon one half of that sum you lose in the proportion which I have already mentioned, there will be lost two hundred and sixty-two thousand five hundred pounds per annum, which might be saved by a free and independent trade; or, to be sure that we are within bounds, fix it at two hundred thousand pounds.

Let us next advert to the amazing injury you sustain in the dependant trade, by your merchants being all foreigners. This is a situation not peculiar to you, but affects all the Southern Colonies, from *Maryland* to *Georgia*. I am not well enough acquainted with the trade of *Virginia* to know exactly how many foreign houses, or companies, have an interest in it, or how many factors are employed by them to manage it; but I suppose I shall be far enough within bounds if I say fifty of the former, and two thousand of the latter. Whether I am right or wrong in the numbers, the principles of my calculation will be equally just, and may be very easily applied to enlarge and diminish the profit or loss to the merchant and the country, by readers who are better acquainted with the subject than I am. It is not unreasonable to say, that every house or company makes fifteen thousand pounds a year, net gain, by the trade of this Colony; and, consequently, fifty houses will annually export seven hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling to *Scotland* and *England*; which will be just so much saved to the Colony, whenever its own natives shall become its merchants. And allowing to the factors, on an average, one hundred pounds each per annum, (as some have much more, and others perhaps may have less;) if, out of this annual income, we suppose them to spend thirty pounds in the country, there will be seventy pounds a year laid up for their own use, and expended in *Britain*, for what they cannot, or do not choose to purchase in *America*. But because they pay taxes, and are of some other small service to the Colony as long as they stay in it, we will rate their gain at ten pounds less, and suppose them to lay up sixty pounds a year, which is so much taken out of the trading stock of this country, and only waits for a sufficient addition to be carried off and expended beyond sea. Here is another loss of one hundred and twenty thousand pounds per annum; and the whole together amounts to eight hundred and seventy thousand pounds sterling per annum that we lose by foreign merchants; besides the great number of useful arts that are closely connected with the management of commerce by the natives of any country. How many thousand excellent servants might be employed in ship-building, in manning your fleets, in raising and manufacturing all kinds of naval stores? Reflect a moment on the present condition of *Spain*, and on her condition two centuries ago. She presents us with a striking instance, out of a great number which *Europe*, *Asia*, and *Africa* afford, of the ill effects of resigning her commerce into the hands of foreigners; then the most opulent and formidable power in *Europe*, now among the most despised and neglected; then able to give laws to almost all the world, (the *United Netherlands* were but an inconsiderable part of her extensive and powerful Empire,) but now, grown indolent and negligent of commerce, even the little Province of *Holland*, in her turn, gives the laws of the sea to her former mistress.

I am afraid this subject, though very important, begins to grow dry and unentertaining to the publick. I shall therefore produce but one more instance of the loss we sustain by this dependant trade; and that is in our staple, upon which the Government of *England*, and the merchants of *Scotland*, have it in their power to put what price they please. At present we esteem two-pence half-penny per pound, or about twenty shillings per cwt. a very good average price; and at this rate a careful planter may keep himself above want, and have enough besides to pay his taxes, and give a dinner now and then to a friend. This tobacco is exported to *Britain*, and pays seven-pence half-penny sterling duty per pound, and their merchants make their fortunes out of it afterwards. The duty that tobacco pays in the *British* ports is almost four times the price it bears in *Virginia*; which, by a free trade, and exporting it directly to the countries that consume it, would be so much clear gain to us. The planter, then, instead of twenty shillings, would receive five pounds per cwt. But, making large allowance for the discouragements that such an article of luxury might be under in our hands, if we were separated from *Britain*, which now consumes a large proportion of it, I shall suppose its common price to be three pounds; that is, forty shillings more than we receive at present. If, then, we suppose that there are annually one hundred and ten million pounds, or one hundred and ten thousand hogsheads of tobacco exported out of the Colony, (which, perhaps, is pretty near the truth,) we shall gain an advantage of two million

two hundred thousand pounds a year, besides half as much more by the great quantities of hemp, flax, cotton, wheat, and flour, that are beginning to be raised or manufactured; that will enable my countrymen to be as generous as their natural temper inclines them to be, and to pay a tax of forty shillings, with greater convenience than they can pay one of fifteen shillings at present. To present you in one view the whole of what you lose by a dependant trade, and would gain by a determined resolution to emancipate yourselves and it into the liberty for which I hope Providence has designed both, and to listen to no pretended Negotiation that does not carry upon her face candor and fairness, and openly, and without disguise, extend freedom in the one hand, while she offers peace in the other:

1st. On imports, as above, - - -	£200,000
2d. Merchants' net profits, £870,000 sterling, - - - - (currency)	1,087,500
3d. Planters' gross profits, - - -	2,200,000
4th. On wheat, flour, hemp, flax, &c., at least half as much; but say, - - -	1,000,000
5th. That part of the gross profits of the merchants that will go to artists of different kinds, ship-builders, seamen, makers of sails, cordage, anchors, and a variety of other tradesmen, must exceed their net gain: suppose it - -	1,500,000
Sum total, - - -	£5,987,500

That is, it will increase the real property among us annually to near six millions. This, in seven years, (by which time we shall undoubtedly have discharged our part of the Continental expense) will amount to above forty millions of pounds currency that we shall be more wealthy than we should have been if we had continued dependant on *Great Britain*, and in the same circumstances that a few years ago we esteemed very prosperous. I make no allowance for the gradual improvement of commerce, because I am willing to make all my calculations at the lowest rates that things will bear; and it is very possible that I am now a million or two below the truth. Besides, we may let the increased profits of some of the last years of this period balance our unskilfulness and poverty for a few years in the beginning of it. Here is a fund sufficient for defraying all the expenses that even the most timorous amongst us can suppose to be necessary for the preservation of our liberties against the avarice of a nation much more powerful than the *English*, and not a farthing of our present property touched. And although we should not be able to enjoy an unmolested trade for several years to come; yet, whenever that desirable period shall arrive that we shall be as free as we ought to be, we shall speedily be able to redeem all the Bills of Credit it may be found necessary to issue for that purpose. For if we lay but the moderate tax of a shilling in the pound (which we should hardly perceive) only on those gains that will be wholly additional to the gains of our former limited and dependant commerce, we shall be able to sink all the bills issued in this Colony, and our quota of those that have been issued by the Congress, and have in the publick coffers besides upwards of five millions of dollars for other necessary uses.

If we aim only at interest in the present contest, it appears plainly what part we ought at once to resolve upon. If we mean to unite with our interest the considerations of equity, and the dictates of natural affection, there is a degree of injury where affection ceases, and is converted into resentment; and I know of no principles of equity that forbid us to defend ourselves, or that require us to risk everything we have been contending for in tedious and treacherous negotiations. Does any of my countrymen ask me whether I am an enemy to all treaty, and inquire what prospect shall we have if these maxims prevail, of ever seeing a period of our trouble? I answer, No; but I would treat with them as the *Roman Consul* did with the King of *Asia*. And since they have first drawn the sword, I would make a circle round them with the sword, and demand their peremptory, unevasive answer to every requisition our country has a right to make from them, before they leave the spot. The controversy has been agitated long enough for both nations to understand each other. Each perfectly knows what she is willing to yield, or on what she will firmly fix her foot, determined to hold it, or perish in the attempt. What need is

there of delay? An hour may decide it as well as an age. We are too serious to be playing over with them all the tricks of what they are pleased to call negotiation, but which is really nothing else than downright lying and sharpening. It is no time to parley with a robber about your purse when he has his pistol at your breast. You must either give or take in a moment. It would become us, in the opinion of some men, mighty well, to be sure, to forbear such high language, and rather to manage our cause by supplication and crying to a great King and a powerful nation! We have cried and roared long enough already, and what have we got by it? Our petitions have been turned out of doors, and we have all been called Rebels and savages, and what not, because we have roared so loud as to disturb his Majesty's good repose, and oblige him to wear out his horses driving from *Kew* to *St. James's*. If we are blameable, it is for using these ineffectual applications too long. The time is come in which we ought to do something decisive; and the more desirous our enemies seem to be to involve us in knotty and intricate negotiations, the more determined should we be not to unravel them, but to cut them with the sword. They well know that tedious, inactive delays, must bring our affairs to a ruinous condition; and if they can waste our time in negotiating, the battle is won without striking a stroke. Our resources must be greatly diminished before we engage in action; and when they have worn us out with subtle deliberations, and wasted our treasure, while they only wanted to gain time by artful compliances and demands, they know very well how, by a fetch in politicks, to throw everything into confusion again, and to expose us naked, and perhaps distracted with mutual discords among ourselves, to superior wealth and superior power. I design no reflection on those who may be appointed to treat with them on the part of *America*; on the other hand, I do not doubt their abilities. But it is always in the power of Ministry, who will be treacherous, and whose interest lies in gaining time, to overreach the wisest politicians, if they will descend to follow them through the labyrinths of a negotiation that is only meant as a wile to mislead, or to blind them. But we have not only an accumulated debt to dread by the tedious delays that are unavoidable in the common forms of negotiating, but infinite dissensions among ourselves. An enterprise that depends upon the concord and exertions of the people, will ever infallibly fail if they are long held in a state of doubtful inactivity. All wise politicians, who have governed them with success, have found it necessary to keep them employed in constant action. I can scarcely forbear to consider it as miraculous, that this extensive Continent has hitherto been led to pursue one determinate plan with so much unanimity and perseverance. But there is no error we ought more to dread than wearing out the patience of the populace by inaction. When their minds have long hung in suspense, at such a crisis as the present, they naturally fall into one of these two dangerous evils—either an entire languor and passivity of temper, or an impatience that at length breaks out in faction and sedition. In two of our neighbouring Colonies, which have been farthest removed from the scene of action, we have already seen this observation unhappily verified. And the suspense in which all the Colonies have been held for a considerable time is beginning to verge towards impatience, which will very probably soon burst out into violent mutual dissensions, if it shall be defrauded out of a proper enemy, by an unseasonable negotiation, especially when it is artfully managed by emissaries who will refuse neither promises nor rewards to inflame it to their purpose. For *God's* sake, then, my countrymen, let us waste no time in unnecessary and dangerous delays; let us act with vigour and decision; let us propose to them the terms we demand in a clear and unequivocal manner, and require of them an immediate and unequivocal answer. Suffer them not to waste an hour, (for every hour is precious,) under the artful pretence of considering propositions more maturely, which they ought to have been well determined on long ago; or of not having brought with them sufficient powers, a usual artifice of statesmen, so that they can propose or answer nothing decisive without sending two or three times across the *Atlantick*. And since they have set us the example of treating at the point of the sword, cut short the negotiation they would be willing to protract, and make your appeal at once to the sword.

A PLANTER.

QUERIES OFFERED TO THE FREEHOLDERS AND PEOPLE  
OF VIRGINIA AT LARGE.

Williamsburgh, April 13, 1776.

Is it your intention to be freemen or slaves? If it is your intention to be free, should you not adopt the sure means of being so, whilst these means are in your hands, and not put it in the power of fortune to wrest them out of your hands? Are not these means obvious to every common understanding? Is it not manifest that you have already sinned beyond forgiveness in the eye of the accursed Ministry of *Great Britain*, and of that more accursed tyrant, who will employ no Ministry unless they previously stipulate to work your ruin? Is there any circumstance in the whole life or character of this tyrant which gives you reason to think that he will relent? Was he ever known to forgive those that he had once oppressed or injured? Is there any symptom of virtue in either House of Parliament which can flatter you that they will check the disposition of their masters? Is there any appearance of vigour and spirit in the people of *Great Britain* which can open a prospect of relief? Is it probable that a people who have suffered their own most sacred laws to be baffled, violated, and trampled upon with impunity, should rouse themselves in the cause of others, who are removed three thousand miles distant from them? On the contrary, is it not plain that they are scarcely less hostile to your rights and happiness than the tyrant himself? It is true a few virtuous men have appeared your advocates; but have not the virtuous, and friends to liberty in other parts of the globe, been equally your advocates? Have not the first geniuses of *France*, inspired by the sacred love of freedom and humanity, stepped forth as champions of that cause which is in fact the cause of all mankind? The *Rhensels*, *Voltaires*, and *Alemberts*, have exerted their talents in your defence; and they have exerted them not in vain: their works have been read with avidity and applause. Every man who thinks, every man who feels, through the different States of *France*, *Italy*, and *Germany*, is your friend, and sends up vows for your success; while, in *England*, argument, reason, wit, and eloquence, have been absolutely thrown away. As an evidence of this truth, has a single County petitioned in your favour? Some few manufacturing towns have indeed expressed their apprehensions that the present measures may be detrimental to their own commerce and interest; but on the injustice and inhumanity of these measures they have been utterly silent. Have not your fields been laid waste, your property confiscated, your citizens butchered, and your cities reduced to ashes? Have not the Savages been tampered with to deluge your frontiers with blood and slaughter? Have not your slaves been instigated to murder you and your wives and children? Are not these things (monstrous and incredible as they are) notorious? But in what manner have they affected the people of *England*? Have they shown the least resentment, indignation, or even compassion? Have they not, on the contrary, voted, or suffered their Representatives to vote fresh means for prosecuting the diabolical plan? Have they not negotiated with every power of *Europe* for hiring instruments, to insure your destruction? Are these things facts, or are they not? And can you now sit patiently, with your arms across? Will you not rouse yourselves at the great call of nature? Will you suffer a few coward hearts, contemptible, confused heads, or perhaps treacherous bosoms, to keep you fascinated in a state of torpor, till the chain is fixed about your necks, by which you will be inextricably held? But, to speak without a figure, I will tell you plainly, fellow-citizens, your situation, and point out your interest and duty. You have already proceeded so far that, were your cause less righteous than it is, you could not in policy recede. You have overturned every form of the Constitution, if such a defective patchwork fabrick as yours can be called a Constitution; you have assumed the legislature into your own hands; you have raised troops; you have waged war; and you have, in appearance at least, expelled your Governour. In short, you have committed a multiplicity of acts, which a Prince less tyrannical, a Ministry less abandoned, and a Nation less imperious than that of *Great Britain*, might choose to construe treason, and which, if fortune, or your own indecision, should throw it into their power, they will infallibly punish as such. If you succeed, all these things, which you have done, will redound to your honour; but if you miscarry, (which may Heaven and your

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own spirit avert,) the horrible slavery which must be the lot of you and your children, will be represented in history as scarcely adequate to the blackness and magnitude of your crimes. If anything in human affairs is certain, it may be affirmed that success or miscarriage are at your own option. Decision insures the former; hesitation incurs the latter.

You have an Army, the soldiers and officers of which have displayed more valour, order, and discipline, and the Generals more ability, than the enemy or yourselves could possibly have expected. They have been crowned with most wonderful success. And are they now to be stopped in the career of their good fortune? And are your liberties to be risked on the chance of a die, merely through complaisance to the fears, if not the treachery, of the most despicable and worthless part of the community? I speak not from passion or prejudice: I appeal to your own sense and experience. Look about you. Who, what are these men, thus sobbing and whining after their darling dependance, which they can neither understand themselves, nor do attempt to explain to others? Are they not the very men who, from the beginning, have either openly opposed, or thrown obstacles in the way of, every spirited measure of resistance? In short, are they not men of suspected principles, muddy, perplexed understandings, or of a timidity ridiculous to a proverb?

I shall now conclude, fellow-citizens, with urging and insisting upon these incontrovertible truths: that although you have a numerous and gallant Army, although your Generals and officers are zealous and capable, although it has pleased Heaven to bless them hitherto with almost one continued series of success—I say, that although these things are, they are all in vain, unless you likewise exert, at this important crisis, that manly decision which has long been expected from you. The gallantry of your troops, the zeal and capacity of your officers, will only serve to make their defeat and destruction more humiliating and lamentable; and that they must ultimately be defeated, ruined, or dissolved, is most infallible, unless they are furnished with the requisite means of carrying on the war. They have not these means; they have neither arms, tents, blankets, nor a sufficient stock of ammunition. They can only be supplied with these requisites by a more certain, and less precarious intercourse with other States, than the little, dirty, disgraceful, smuggling method now pursued. This intercourse cannot be established without a declaration, on your parts, that you are a free and independent people. Whilst you remain in the predicament of Rebels, they are, in decency, obliged to keep aloof; but when you can be considered as an independent State, the eternal rules of policy will point out to them the advantages and honour which must result from a close alliance with you. For Heaven's sake, why, therefore do you hesitate? The pusillanimous mortals who labour to raise spectres in your imaginations similar to those which haunt their own, know very well that reconciliation and reunion with your butchers are impossible. You may, indeed, be their slaves, but to be their brethren and fellow-subjects is out of the nature of things. Procrastination only prolongs the calamities of war. Every day's delay swells up the expense of *America's* blood and treasure. Will you, then, I repeatedly demand, throw away the lives of so many thousands of your most valuable citizens, plunge yourselves into an enormous debt, from which you can never be extricated; will you stake the liberties of yourselves and posterity on hazard and fortune, merely in complacency to the fears of a few timid, or perhaps to the designs of a few disaffected men? Or will you, by a brave, spirited, and manly injunction on your servants in Congress to declare you a free and independent people, bring the calamities of war to a shorter issue, and fix your liberties on a firm and durable foundation?

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF VIRGINIA.

[No. 116.]

Annapolis, April 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Ristean*, the bearer, has the misfortune of having a brother in captivity, taken by Lord *Dunmore*, and entertains some hopes of obtaining his release if he can gain access to him. He is a native of this Province, and well known to some of us to be a warm friend to *American* liberty; we should therefore be obliged to you if you

would afford him any opportunity for that purpose that would not be injurious to the cause in which we are embarked. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS SMYTH.

[No. 117.]

Annapolis, April 13, 1776.

SIR: We are sorry any uneasiness should prevail among the independent Captains on the *Eastern-Shore*, from a supposition they have not equally the attention of the Council of Safety with those on this side the bay. We aim at doing what is right, and wish to avoid every appearance of partiality. The companies here are as unhappily circumstanced, both as to arms and clothing, as they are with you. We were disappointed in having as many guns at *Baltimore* as we expected; and as there are a good many on hand in *Annapolis*, and we had a probability of receiving sixty or eighty more from *Frederick* within a few days, we thought it most advisable to wait a little while for them, that you might be furnished at once with at least as many as we had in view to send when you were with us. The hats, blankets, and lead, did not get down until three or four days ago, and we were obliged to send a second messenger to *Baltimore* before we could learn the quantity of musket powder they had there. These matters prevented our supplying you so early as we were anxious to do.

We have sent you from hence, by Mr. *Waters's* boat, ninety-four muskets, twenty-one rifles, with bullet moulds, pouches, and horns, five hundred and ten hats, three pieces osnaburgh, fifteen hundred gun flints, twenty musket bullet-moulds, forty blankets, two and a half reams of cartridge paper, fifty pieces of check, fifteen pieces of *Russia* linen, and forty-five pieces of cruger; and have ordered Major *Gist* to send from *Baltimore* one ton of musket gunpowder, four ton of lead, four hundred and fifty-four cartridge-boxes and belts, four hundred and fifty-four bayonet-belts, three hundred gun-slugs, and also sixty of the muskets and accoutrements now in the possession of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company. The osnaburghs are for Captain *Veazey's* Company; the blankets for the others; and the arms, &c., with forty muskets and accoutrements, and twenty rifles, which we have purchased from Mr. *Thomas Ringgold*, with those you have bought, and also the linen, are to be equally distributed, to avoid all complaints. If you have leisure, we request you will parcel out the arms for each company. *Cecil* County is already sufficiently supplied with powder and lead. The gentlemen from below say the addition of one barrel will not be enough; we therefore would have you send them each another; and to keep up an equality, which may prevent uneasiness, we desire you will also add one to each of the other Counties, except *Caroline*.

We desire you will contract for the other rifles, but think the shoes too dear. If Mr. *Hands* can come over with you the last of next week it will be a great relief to us. Mr. *Carroll* is fearful of a fit of the gout. Mr. *Tilghman* is anxious to get to the *Eastern-Shore*, and the rest of us are much fatigued. We are, &c.

To *Thomas Smyth, Esq.*

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: There is not an ell of light duck in this city, or we should have bought some, agreeable to your request. We advised with persons here who understand what articles are fit for tents, and they inform us that the cruger sent by Mr. *Bowly* from hence, is very proper for that purpose. We wish to know if you have received the cruger and other linens imported in the *Wild Duck*. We directed them to be lodged at *Baltimore* for your order, and expect they are arrived before this. Enclosed you have a memorandum of the several prices. Be pleased to inform us if you have heard from *Vanbibber*. No important occurrence since we last wrote you.

We are your most obedient servants,

THOMAS STONE,  
THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.,  
R. ALEXANDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.



CASSANDRA TO CATO.—NO. II.

Philadelphia, April 13, 1776.

SIR: Though the *Common Man's* advice has come rather too late; though his manner of stating the points to be discussed decides to which party he belongs; though he has studiously evaded the main question, and thereby shown the publick that security to our rights forms no share of the debate he wishes to open; and though the manner in which he attempts to expose *Cato* and *Cassandra* evidently proves whose faults he is most inclined to conceal, yet I heartily join him in his censure on personal reflections. I thank him, too, for his candour in tacitly informing the publick that you have not come to the point as yet, though you have already published five letters, and heartily close with his proposal of laying aside all personality. I shall therefore proceed to the main point; and if you are willing to enter the lists as a fair antagonist, and meet me on the ground of reason and argument, on that ground will *Cassandra* meet you: but if, contrary to your own proposal, and the advice of your friend, you continue to amuse your countrymen with declamation and assertion, and study to terrify rather than inform, to address their passions rather than enlighten their understandings, I shall still be personal. Your talent lies in strong painting and declamation, and you expect to hold up such a terrific picture to the imaginations of the people, as will effectually frighten them into submission; but the exhibition of your person at the side of your productions will ever prove a perfect antidote to their poison. Giving you this fair warning, I shall now proceed to your third, fourth, and fifth letters, and nothing which can point out the man shall drop from my pen until *Cato* gives occasion for it.

I agree with the *Common Man* thus far, that some propositions he mentions ought, one day, to be discussed; but as there is one point, not only prior to any of them, but of infinitely greater importance than them all, viz: an absolute security for the enjoyment of our liberties, I must and will insist on the discussion of this point first, as not only prior in order, but most essential; and when it shall be fairly proved that our rights can be as effectually secured in a state of dependancy as in an independent state, then, and not before, will be the proper time to examine which would be most to our advantage. We entered the contest with a determination to secure our rights at every hazard. This is, therefore, what we are to provide for. If two ways of equal security should present themselves, then will come on the other question, viz: Which will not only secure our liberties but bring us the greatest advantages besides? Now, when *Cato*, the *Common Man*, or any other man, shall exhibit a plan by which we can absolutely secure our liberties and continue dependant, then *Cassandra* will be ready to enter upon the discussion of this point. But *Cassandra* assures *Cato*, the *Common Man*, and every other man, that no sophistical proposals of any man will turn his eyes from the main object until he sees a way of permanent security to our rights; and he trusts his countrymen, who first armed for this purpose, will still continue of that mind, and then he fears neither the threats nor efforts of *Cato* and the aristocratical junto, who are straining every nerve to frustrate our virtuous endeavours, and to make the common and middle class of people their beasts of burden. Those freemen who nobly refuse to be ridden by a King, Lords, and Commons, will scarcely be tame enough to take *Cato* and his party on their backs. I shall therefore proceed.

Passing, for the present, those parts of your letters which contain nothing but the most illiberal abuse and scurrilous invectives against Committees, Conventions, &c., I shall take up your political creed, and examine, with the greatest freedom, the arguments on which you have founded your faith. You believe "that the true interest of *America* lies in a reconciliation with *Great Britain* on constitutional principles; and that you wish it upon none else." Sir, I earnestly entreat you, as you wish not to mislead your dear countrymen, to explain what you understand by a reconciliation on constitutional principles, that I may not mistake your meaning. It will save much writing on both sides to give such definitions of general terms as we are determined to abide by. I wish to see the whole truth laid fairly before the people, that they may coolly consider, and, with the utmost impartiality, weigh every circumstance, and choose that alone which promises the greatest security to their rights

and privileges, and affords them the surest prospect of wealth and happiness. I shall, therefore, cheerfully define every term which *Cato* may think dubious, or calculated to mislead; and I demand the same of *Cato*. If he is the honest man he wishes to appear, he will not refuse me. Let us canvass everything to the bottom; and let not dark hints, unproved assertions, or ungenerous inuendoes, against the designs of incorruptible patriots, be hereafter palmed on the people for argument; but when truth is exhibited to them in the fullest and fairest manner, let them judge for themselves. Upon due information, I doubt not, they will judge right; and that judgment I am resolved to abide by.

But why does *Cato* labour so incessantly to bias his reader by so many and such long and pathetick harangues of the horrors of war, and its powers of desolation? Slavery is certainly a much more terrible evil, in every respect, than war; for the evils of war are both tolerable and temporary; while the miseries of slavery are intolerable and endless. War may cut off thousands in the bloom of their youth; but slavery destroys the very seeds of generation, not only in the animal, but vegetable world. How does it look, *Cato*, in a patriot of your magnitude, to be continually haranguing on the horrors of war, at a time when everything we hold dear and valuable depends on the success of our arms? Were you in your beloved mother country, and the Pretender, with a foreign force, (suppose *Russians*,) ravaging her coasts, would you harangue on these horrors to discourage resistance? I confess myself at great uncertainty what part you would act on such an occasion; but I strongly presume that in case you did, you would be accounted a disaffected traitor, and treated accordingly. But I ask pardon, sir; you do not like to be questioned. Surely, were you in the councils of the enemy, your native appetite for peace would soon put an end to their murderous designs! You are not conscientiously scrupulous, neither; for you declare you will turn out against us if there be any attempt to set the *French* and *English* by the ears. Take no help! Take no help! Fight alone, Whigs, till you are all cut off; and then we Tories will submit and have the whole. This is the language of *Cato*. Now, though I am as confident that your publications are intended to reduce us to slavery as you can be that mine propose a continuation of the war; and though I can more easily prove the one than you can the other; yet I have not endeavoured, by alarming descriptions of the miseries of slavery, to prejudice my reader against the arguments of my opponents. *Cassandra* has no point to carry, and, therefore, detests such shifts. God forbid that I should ever consider my own interest as separate from the general interest of mankind! And with equal fervency of devotion I pray that all who have, may be finally defeated in their attempts against these Colonies. You have filled nearly the one-half of the five letters you have already published with horrible descriptions alone. Do you imagine, *Cato*, that we are all affected with nervous complaints, and that you can do more for your cause by alarming our fears than informing our judgments? If this be not your design, pray publish as many, as terrible, and as animated descriptions of the miseries of slavery as you have done on the horrors of war, and then leave the people to judge which they would choose. Do not let us throw them into a panick and confusion, and then desire them to examine with coolness and deliberation. There is a dignity in honesty, and a pleasing fortitude in conscious integrity, which I could wish *Cato* to experience. The subject demands a clear, plain, full, rational, and manly discussion; and it ought to have it. It is certainly worthy of all the labour we can bestow upon it. Liberty or slavery is now the question. Let us but fairly discover to the inhabitants of these Colonies on which side Liberty has erected her banner, and we will leave it to them to determine whether they would choose liberty, though accompanied with war, or slavery, attended by peace.

The present contest is a contest of Constitutions, and the war a war of Legislatures. The common wars of nations are the wars of one crowned head against another, in which the people have little share, and are as little consulted. The crowned head on each side declares war, or negotiates peace, without conferring with them. But this war is a war between the *British* Parliament and the Colonial Assemblies; it is, in fact, become a war between the People of *Great Britain* and the People of *America*; and though both have heretofore acknowledged the same King, (and he, in duty,

ought to have remained neuter,) yet, as he has joined the *British* Parliament against us, he has become a party in the quarrel. Hence, so far as the present is a contest of Constitutions, the Parliament has evidently won the field; for the whole force of the Legislature of *Great Britain* has been, from the first day of the controversy, armed against us; but we have, in no one instance, been able to call forth the strength of our Legislatures to oppose. Nay, we have constantly had them against us, ready to join the foe. I ask, how happens this, *Cato*? Why are you so in love with such a Constitution? As you are not fond of answering silly queries, I will endeavour to answer them myself: it is, because our Legislatures are dependant on our very enemy, and theirs is independent of us. Our constitutional connection with *Britain* gives her so prodigious an advantage over us, that, if we had strictly adhered to our chartered Constitutions, we would have been enslaved before this time; and it will ever be so as long as we are dependant.

Both the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* are the choice of the People of *Great Britain*; but though our Assemblies are our choice, our Governours are not; they are either nominated by the King of *Great Britain*, or some one of his *British* subjects, which effectually destroys their utility to us in this, and every such controversy, which has already, or is likely hereafter to happen. Their salaries, though the gift of the people, are evidently no counterpoise to their nomination, if facts can prove any thing—and for this plain reason, that, though we grant the wages, yet it rests in the power of the King whether they shall enjoy it or not, as, after the appointment, the continuance of it depends entirely on him.

The King of *Great Britain*, though our King, will ever join the Parliament against us as often as a contention happens. The Parliament are his tools; and their illegal claims are only a specious covering for his endeavours after arbitrary power in the first place; and, in the second place, his Crown, his dignity, and his support, depend entirely upon their grants, and not upon ours. He will, therefore, take part with them on every occasion. On the contrary, his Representatives are not so dependant on us as to oblige them to take part with us. This is not all; for in every Province where they had the power, they not only refused to concur in our measures, but also prevented us from making use of our Representatives, that we might not have the shadow of a Legislature to support us; and even in those Provinces where his power has not extended so far, he has constantly gone as far as he could. This is not all yet; for in many they have corrupted the ignorant and illiterate by bribes, set up the Royal standard against us, and obliged us to fight under every disadvantage. Is it not so, *Cato*?

There is, therefore, a capital defect in our chartered Constitutions; a defect which makes an essential difference between the present state of our liberties and that secured to *Englishmen* by *Magna Charta*; a defect which, if not effectually removed, will oblige us ever to hold our liberties at the point of our swords, or by that most precarious of all tenures—will and pleasure. The immortal Barons were too wise to be duped by fair promises. They drew their swords, determined to obtain absolute security; and they did obtain it. They obtained, by *Magna Charta*, the constitutional right of levying war against the King as often as he should attempt to infringe upon the liberties of the people. Were our Governours the choice of the people, and dependant on them for their salaries, we would, in the present case, be able to make a constitutional resistance to oppression—to oppose Constitution to Constitution. But this not being the case, the Parliament has plainly the advantage. It is necessary, therefore, to our security to have our Governours as much dependant on the people of *America* as the King is on those of *Great Britain*, before our Constitutions can be of any service to us against *British* encroachments; or that, when our Governours refuse their concurrence, our Representatives shall have the privilege of setting them aside, and acting legislatively without them. This is a clause as essential to the security of *America* as the clause which grants to the people of *Great Britain* the right of declaring war against the King when he attempts to disturb their privileges. Will *Cato* stand it out till this is obtained?

But as the contest is between us and the Parliament, we ought now to inquire how we can be secured against Parlia-

mentary encroachments? The Constitution of *Great Britain* is such, that what this Parliament does, the next can undo. And it is impossible for one Parliament to pass a bill which will not be liable to a repeal by any future one, without destroying the very essence of its own Constitution. Is there any remedy against this defect, *Cato*? Let us see the constitutional dependant principles, if you are a friend to liberty, which will give absolute and permanent security to our liberties, and not leave us at the mercy of our enemy; and then we will talk further on the subject. We have gone too far, and have too much sense to rest our future safety on the probability of her letting us alone for the future.

Our constitutional connection with *Great Britain* is the very plea alleged by *Great Britain* for her attempts to enslave us. Now, if this Constitution is the very foundation of her claims; if she, in consequence thereof, had declared us Rebels, which she could not, unless she supposed we violated the Constitution by our resistance; and if it was not in our power to make effectual opposition, in strict conformity to the Constitutions she gave us, why is *Cato* so fond of reconciling us on these principles, and on no other? This looks not like honesty, *Cato*. If you love *America*, and if your attachment to the cause is real, answer to these things. A lover of truth and liberty will be afraid of no queries whatever. You say you have viewed the ground on which you stand, and are not afraid to tread it in the sight of the most vigilant son of liberty. Here it is. Come forth, then; here I wish to find you. But, I beseech you, examine it thoroughly first; explore its hidden recesses; for I am well assured it contains a secret mine, which, if once sprung, will either blow up you and your party, or our liberties.

This Continent has had a twelve years' constant experience that the Constitution of the Colonies could not protect them from *British* oppression. Can you deny it, *Cato*? However it be against your present designs, yet this you must acknowledge. Can you tell the first day a Committee existed on this Continent? Did not that day tell the world we had no Constitution that could withstand *British* oppression? Can you remember the time our Assemblies were first dissolved for attempting to correspond with one another on the subject of our grievances? Did not that time convince even *Cato* himself that our Constitutions were not equal to the task of protecting themselves? Do you recollect the hour our worthy Governour refused to call our Assembly to consult on ways and means to preserve our liberties? Did not that hour inform you that the chartered Constitution of *Pennsylvania* could do nothing for us? Now, if after so long and so severe a trial of their defects, we should still take up with them on the recommendation of *Cato*, might not the world, particularly that part of it which you say is looking at us, laugh at our stupidity and folly?

Your first argument in support of your creed is, that "Agriculture and commerce have hitherto been the happy employments by which these Middle Colonies have risen into wealth and importance. By them the face of the country has been changed from a barren wilderness into the hospitable abodes of peace and plenty." I forbear to point out your constant endeavour to separate the interest of the Middle Colonies from the rest, as if the wealth of the whole arose not from the same sources; or as if your description of one or two would not answer for all. I also forbear to mention the care of your party to have your letters, though addressed to the People of *Pennsylvania*, reprinted in *New-York* and *Maryland* papers. When you have gone through the demonstration, how we can have effectual security to our liberties under so defective Constitutions, then, and not till then, I shall call upon you to prove that agriculture and commerce would decay, if the whole world were our market instead of the *British* Islands, and a few foreign ports to which we are most graciously permitted to export a few articles. I will also call on you to convince us that a severe restraint on our trade in many instances, and in some a total prohibition, tends to enrich us. And here it may not be amiss to show how poor the *Hollanders* have grown since they became independent, and were obliged to support all the expenses the *Common Man* has mentioned.

But *Cato* has given uncommon proofs of his attachment to trade, by declaring that he will arm against us as soon as we form any alliance with such powers as are able and

willing to draw off the *British* fleets from blocking up our ports. Our ports are now effectually shut by the fleets of *Great Britain*, and there is a total stop put to our exports. We have not yet a fleet which can open them. Our grain is spoiling, and the powers of *Europe* longing for an opportunity of taking it off our hands. All this can be removed by the alliance proposed. But *Cato* sees this would eternally frustrate the designs of his party. He has therefore laboured, by every artifice of cunning, to prevent our taking any step of the kind. He hopes the country will, by this means, be brought to submit, and he will triumph in our folly. But where is the real danger to our liberties, *Cato*, in accepting the assistance of our neighbouring fleet until we have time to fit out one for the purpose? Were we to do this, would not agriculture and commerce flourish as usual?

"That much of our former felicity was owing to the protection of *England*, is not to be denied; and that we might still derive greater advantages from her protection and friendship, if not valued at too high a price, is equally certain," says *Cato*. I could pardon a few *Israelitish* murmurings and hankerings for the onions of *Egypt*; but to be incessantly called back to what we enjoyed while *Joseph* lived, when behold a *Pharaoh* now reigns who knew him not, is insult not to be endured. *Cato* cannot pretend ignorance of the price of the friendship he so strongly urges us to court. If he does, he is certainly a very dangerous guide for the good people to whom his letters are addressed. *Cassandra* affirms that the price is no less than an absolute surrender of all our rights, liberties, and property; and these once given up, he would gladly be informed what more is left for any power to invade. All animals, under absolute domination, are nursed only to be fleeced. However problematical may be the question of nursing the Colonies, we have had the fleecing demonstrated with a vengeance.

*Cato* adds: "If the present differences can be accommodated, there is scarce a probability that she will ever renew the late fatal system of policy, or attempt to employ force against us." Two reasons induce me to think the mode of attack would indeed be altered; for, obstinate as the author of our oppression is, he cannot longer flatter himself of our falling an easy prey to his force, if now incessantly continued. His clemency would then certainly dispose him most graciously to enslave us by his experienced and much more successful method of intrigue. But as *Cato* allows it is not altogether improbable that his force may be employed against us in some future day, *Cassandra* would gladly be informed by what means we can be secured from that force, when, by the treaty of protection, we are cut off from the right of establishing a force of our own.

Conscious that this poor contrivance is prodigious stale, a thousand times repeated, and as often refuted by most stubborn arguments, founded on twelve years' invariable procedure, and really despairing to hold the people long in expectation of "former protection," or any more than a mere delusive change of the mode of attack, and that change as ill disguised as any that have preceded it, *Cato* adds, (as if all were one connected proposition,) "If they will not make up on constitutional principles, we have arms in our hands, and virtue enough to use them." As to corruption, *Cato* would have us believe there is hardly a man on the Continent in danger from that quarter. Would to *God* we had abundant evidence of this universal integrity. Respecting the arms, *Cato*, with much devotion I praise the Director of human affairs that we have them in our hands; and I pray and confide in His overruling providence, that we may there keep them till our rights are placed on a firmer foundation than the mere grace of a conniver at the destruction of millions on one side the globe, and contriver of the devastations now daily committing on the other. Well might *Cato* tell us of our arms, for he clearly foresaw that no wise man could conceive himself safe in reconciliation on his principles, without holding them in his hands continually.

This paragraph, after flourishing away on the original ground of the contest, concludes: "And if, hereafter, in fullness of time, it should be thought necessary to separate from the land that gave birth to our ancestors, it will be in our perfect state of manhood, when we can wield our arms, and protect our commerce and coasts by our own fleets, without looking to any nation on earth for assistance." Well

said, *Cato*. Here we agree for once. But now that we are on good terms with each other, let me ask you, in a friendly manner, how we are to become masters of this fine fleet? Does *Cato* propose to insist upon it, as a term of constitutional reconciliation with the Ambassadors, that we shall be allowed to build such a fleet? Or does he conceive that when we arrive at just twenty-one years of age, and about to commence as house-keepers, our dear mother country will make us a present of such a fleet to set up with? I confess myself greatly incredulous of either. If *Cato* can clear up my doubts on these important heads, I will be much obliged to him.

"It has been asserted," says *Cato*, "that we are able, with our land forces, to defend ourselves against the whole world; that if commerce be an advantage, we may command what foreign alliance we please; that the moment we declare ourselves an independent people, there are nations ready to face the *British* thunder, and become carriers of our commodities to enrich themselves; and if this were not the case, we can soon build navies to force and protect a trade," &c. Of this, *Cato* here intimates his suspicion, "because," says he, "it is not fully proved." *Cassandra* will prove the first assertion from unquestionable authority, for *Cato*, in his fourth letter, says: "I will even go beyond him in expressing my good opinion of our situation. He thinks foreign assistance necessary to us. I think otherwise. We are able to defend our own rights, and to frustrate the attempt of any nation upon earth to govern us by force." *Cassandra* hopes, in a short time, to prove every assertion of *Common Sense* from the same authority. He wishes every position of *Cato* was equally consistent with *Common Sense*.

CASSANDRA.

P. S. As the *Common Man* has called us to a fair discussion of the point, we once for all request every printer on the Continent, who publishes *Cato's* Letters, to publish our replies, and particularly Mr. *Sowers*, of *Germantown*, that the subject may not only have a full diffusion, but a fair hearing.

#### NATHANIEL MILLS AND OTHERS TO NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Jamaica, Long-Island, April 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We, the subscribers, inhabitants of the Township of *Jamaica*, in *Queen's* County, on *Long-Island*, beg leave to acquaint you that we have heretofore been disarmed by order of the Continental Congress, which we peaceably and quietly submitted to, as not having it in our intention to act contrary to their resolves, or the resolves of your Congress. Notwithstanding which, we have lately been plundered of our cattle and effects, which have been publicly sold at vendue for half their value, in consequence of an order issued by Captain *Ephraim Bailey*, in this township, for not appearing in arms, and answering to our names, when it is well known we have been deprived of our arms, and thereby disqualified for any such service. Besides which, it appears to us quite contrary to a late resolve of the Continental Congress.

We therefore, gentlemen, request it as a favour that you will be pleased to take this matter into your serious consideration, and, if the treatment we have received does not proceed from any order or direction of yours, that you will be pleased to give us such relief as you may think necessary; in which, gentlemen, you will oblige your respectful, humble servants,

NATHANIEL MILLS,	JOHN RAMSON,
JABEZ WOODRUFF,	JACOB DEAN,
JOSHUA MILLS,	DIRCK <sup>his</sup> BARGIN,
JOHN LAMBERSON,	<sup>mark</sup>
NICHOLAS LUDLAM,	PETER MILLS,
JOSEPH OLDFIELD,	ABRAHAM COLYER.
SAMUEL MILLS,	

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, in *New-York*.

#### EGBERT BENSON TO DELEGATES FROM DUTCHESS COUNTY.

Rhinebeck Precinct, April 13, 1776.

SIR: The Committee in this Precinct have lately committed *Mordecai Lester*, Esq., and a certain *Frederick Klein*, to the Jail in *Kingston*, as the peace and security of the Pre-

cinct rendered the confinement of these persons absolutely necessary.

The Committee of that place, at the time of the commitment of Mr. *Doughty*, a few months since, declared their readiness to receive our prisoners, but expected we would make provision for their support. In consequence of this, we requested that not only with respect to Mr. *Doughty*, but any other prisoners we might send them, they would provide for them at the cheapest rate; and the members of this Committee, as individuals, engaged for the payment of it.

As we have no publick moneys, nor any authority to raise them, we shall, without the interposition of Congress, be obliged to defray this expense out of our own pockets. I am therefore directed by the Committee to write to you respecting this matter, with a request to use your endeavours that means may be devised for making the maintenance of these prisoners a publick charge, and that we may no longer remain liable in our private capacities.

Several persons are now in Jail at *Kingston*, and provided for by order of Congress. We therefore take the liberty of suggesting, as an expedient, that the Committee there may be directed to extend the order to our prisoners. *Lester* and *Doughty* possibly can, but *Klein* certainly cannot support himself. The Committee may therefore also be directed not to furnish the two former with necessaries, if it should appear that they have estates sufficient for their own subsistence.

When Mr. *Doughty* was taken into custody, we wrote a similar letter, respecting him, to Congress, and have never received an answer. I must therefore entreat an answer to this, because unless Congress should determine to make provision for supporting our prisoners, we shall be reduced to the necessity of discharging them.

We conceive it will not be expected we should stipulate to defray the expense of this business, or advance moneys for the purpose, without a prospect of being reimbursed. We do not, however, suppose this will be the case, especially as it may with such ease be charged upon the publick fund; and have no doubt but proper steps will be taken to release us from our engagements to the *Kingston* Committee.

We have not informed you of the particular instances of misconduct charged against these delinquents. However, the Committee is ready, upon the least intimation, to furnish such proofs and reasons as we trust will fully justify our conduct. And we have the satisfaction to find that not only the County in general, but even some that are disaffected, approve of the imprisonment of these persons, and that it is the only means of preserving peace in the Precinct. I remain your very humble servant.

By order of the Precinct Committee:

EGBERT BENSON, *Chairman*.

To the Gentlemen attending from *Dutchess* County, as Members in the Committee of Safety.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO DOCTOR FRANKLIN.

Fort George, April 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The lake is open in so many places that I am of opinion you may set out for this place as early as you can. I have received some despatches from *Canada*, which I enclose you, and by which you will see the necessity of sending a large reinforcement. Please to bring up with you the papers I enclose, as I have no copies of them.

The bearer goes express to Congress and to General *Washington*.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To Dr. *Franklin*.

DOCTOR FRANKLIN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 22, 1776.]

Saratoga, April 13, 1776.

SIR: We have been here some days, waiting for General *Schuyler's* orders to proceed, which we have just received, and shall accordingly leave this place to-morrow; though by the advices from *Canada*, communicated by him to us, and (as we suppose) sent forward to you, I am afraid we shall be able to effect but little there. We had a heavy snow here yesterday, and the waters are so out as to make

travelling difficult by land, and there is a strong fresh in the river against the boats, but we shall endeavour to get on as well as we can. We join in respects to the Congress, and to yourself in particular.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

B. FRANKLIN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

THEODORE STAUNTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Norwich, April 13, 1776.

SIR: Captain *William Wilbur*, of *Groton*, has intimated to me his willingness of serving on board the galley in the character of a master; by what I have heard of his character, and some personal acquaintance, I think him as suitable a person (if your Honour thinks fit to appoint him) as any that is likely to be procured.

I am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

THEODORE STAUNTON.

To his Honour the Governour.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Baltimore, April 14, 1776—ten o'clock, P. M.

HONOURABLE SIR: The enclosed copies of letters were just now received by our Committee, by express, from the Council of Safety of *Virginia*, with a desire that they might be forwarded to you instantly; indeed, the intelligence they contain we think of too much importance to have been delayed a moment. In consequence whereof, we have prevailed on our commanding officer here to appoint Mr. *David Phunket*, a Lieutenant, in whose prudence and industry we can rely, to wait on you with this; and if your honourable body should think it necessary to take any steps, or give any instructions to the Council of Safety on the occasion, he will wait your commands.

We have the honour to be, with greatest respect, honourable sir, your most obedient servants,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN.,	BENJ. NICHOLSON,
<i>Chairman</i> .	WM. BUCHANAN,
WILLIAM LUX,	JOHN SMITH,
<i>Vice Chairman</i> .	JOHN BOYD,
JAMES CALHOUN,	JOHN STERETT.
THOMAS HARRISON,	

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

Williamsburgh, April 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We could not suffer a moment to pass before we transmitted the enclosed copies of intercepted letters, addressed by the Secretary of State to the Governour of your Province, which opens the schemes of Administration to us in a more explicit manner than any other intelligence we have been able to procure. We wish you to transmit copies of these letters to Congress without delay.

I am, for and by order of the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN PAGE, *Vice President*.

To the Committee of *Baltimore, Maryland*.

N. B. A certain Mr. *Alexander Ross*, who was refused a permission by this Committee, has been on board Lord *Dunmore's* ship, and was the person intrusted with the care of the enclosed letters. He has escaped from us; but, as we think him inimical to the *American* cause, he ought to be apprehended.

J. P., *V. P.*

[Circular.]

Whitehall, December 23, 1775.

SIR: The King being determined, in concurrence with his Parliament, to pursue the most vigorous measures for reducing his rebellious subjects in *North-America* to obedience, and for restoring legal Government, has given the Royal assent to the enclosed act, which I am commanded by his Majesty to transmit to you; and, at the same time, to signify to you his Majesty's pleasure that you do exhort all persons, upon whom the execution of this law shall depend, to pay a due attention thereto, and to use their best endeavours for carrying the provisions of it into effect; and I trust when his Majesty's deluded subjects in the Associated Colonies are better apprized of the fatal consequences of the

conduct they have adopted, and see the determined spirit of the nation to maintain its constitutional rights, they will avail themselves of the means which the justice and benevolence of the supreme Legislature have held out to them of being restored to the King's grace and peace, and that a happy and lasting reconciliation and union will be effected. And I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that, in order to accelerate this desirable object, the proper steps have been taken for passing a commission under the great seal, in conformity to the last section but one of that act; and that the Commissioner, or Commissioners, to be appointed for that purpose, will have full power to inquire into the state and condition of the Colonies, and to confer with proper persons upon such points as may be necessary for effecting a restoration of the publick tranquillity.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE GERMAINE.

To Deputy Governour *Eden*.

*The clause in the Act of Parliament, passed the 19th of DECEMBER last, which ascertains the powers of the Commissioners, is in these words:*

"Provided, that in order to encourage all well-affected persons in any of the said Colonies to exert themselves in suppressing the Rebellion therein, and to afford a speedy protection to those who are disposed to return to their duty, it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons, appointed and authorized by his Majesty, to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons, with such exceptions therefrom as shall seem fit and reasonable, by Proclamation in his Majesty's name; to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Town, Port, District, or place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the peace of his Majesty; and from and after the issuing of any such Proclamation in any of the aforesaid Colonies or Provinces, or if his Majesty shall be graciously pleased to signify the same by his Royal Proclamation, then, from and after the issuing of such Proclamation, this act, with respect to such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, or Port, District, or place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void; and if any captures shall be made after the date and issuing of such Proclamation, or any ships or vessels, and their cargoes, belonging to the inhabitants of any such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, or Port, District, or place, or if any ships trading to or from such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, respectively, the same shall be restored to the owners of such ships or vessels, upon claim being entered, and due proof made of their property therein; and the captors shall not be liable to any actions for seizing or detaining the said ships or vessels, or their cargoes, without proof being made that they had actual notice of such Proclamation having been issued."

Whitehall, December 23, 1775.

SIR: It was not till the 27th of November that your despatch to Lord *Dartmouth*, of the 27th of August, was received here, when I had the honour of laying it before the King; and I have it in command from his Majesty to express to you his Majesty's approbation of your zeal for the publick service, and of the unalterable attachment you have shown to his person and Government from the first commencement of the unhappy disputes which have involved his Majesty's faithful servants in the Colonies in difficulties and distress, that are only to be equalled by the fortitude with which they are borne.

Your letter contains a great deal of very useful information, and your confidential communication of the characters of individuals, more especially of such as come over into *England*, is of great advantage; and you may rest assured that every possible precaution will be used that no part of your letter shall transpire.

An armament, consisting of seven regiments, with a fleet of frigates and small ships, is now in readiness to proceed to the Southern Colonies, in order to attempt the restoration of legal Government in that part of *America*. It will proceed, in the first place, to *North-Carolina*, and from thence either to *South-Carolina* or *Virginia*, as circumstances of greater or less advantage shall point out; if to the latter, it may

have very important consequences to the Colony under your Government; and, therefore, you will do well to consider of every means by which you may, in conjunction with Lord *Dunmore*, give facility and assistance to its operations.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE GERMAINE.

To Deputy Governour *Eden*.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., TO THE BALTIMORE DEPUTATION, AT ANNAPOLIS.

Baltimore, April 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *James Nicholson* having returned yesterday evening with his tender, we have despatched her to *Annapolis*, under the command of Lieutenant *Nicholson* and Captain *Samuel Smith*, with a number of picked men well armed, to be at your and the Council's command, in case the Governour should have escaped before you get down. As this boat can both row and sail, we judged her much better fitted for the pursuit than any vessel that could be found at *Annapolis*; and we are of opinion that it may still be possible to overtake the Governour before he may leave Colonel *Fitzhugh's*, where, it is possible, he may call. Captain *Smith* has directions to use every precaution that no alarm may be given by the boat's going down, and we confide in his prudent management of the matter. In case there is no occasion for his service, the vessel can instantly return back. This measure has been determined on by General *Buchanan*, Mr. *Lux*, *William Buchanan*, Doctor *Boyd*, Mr. *Harrison*, and myself; but they being now all gone to dinner, cannot find them to sign this.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN.

CAPTAIN NICHOLSON'S ORDERS TO LIEUT. NICHOLSON.

SIR: You are immediately to proceed, with the *Defence's* tender, off the harbour of *Annapolis*, and there to land Captain *Smith*. While he is ashore, you are to stand off and on the harbour, and examine every boat that comes out of *Annapolis*, or thereabouts, (taking care to distress no boat unnecessarily;) and if you find Governour *Eden* and Secretary *Smith*, or either of them, you are to make them prisoners. If Captain *Smith* has orders to deliver them to the Council of Safety, you will, in that case, deliver them up to him for that purpose; if not, bring them on board the *Defence*. If, upon Captain *Smith's* return, you find they are not at *Annapolis*, you are then to proceed down to Colonel *Fitzhugh's*, and assist Captain *Smith*, if necessary, in examining the Colonel's house and in making them prisoners. Provided they are not to be found in either place, and you have reason to think you can overtake them in standing farther down the bay, in that case you will proceed as far as prudence will direct you. You must be particularly careful in your watch while off *Annapolis*. Take care to consult Captain *Smith* in all cases.

Given from under my hand, this 14th April, 1776, at *Fell's Point, Baltimore*.

JAMES NICHOLSON.

To Mr. *John Nicholson*, Lieutenant of the Ship *Defence*.

N. B. If you find Mr. *Ross*, you will likewise make him prisoner.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SMALLWOOD. [No. 118.]

Annapolis, April 14, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby requested to send a commissioned officer to apprehend *Alexander Ross*, of this Province, on suspicion of his having been instrumental in communicating intelligence to Lord *Dunmore* and other persons inimical to this Province and to the cause of *America*, and to bring him, with all convenient speed, before the Council of Safety. The officer you send will probably find him in the neighbourhood of *Queenstown*, in *Queen Anne's County*; and for so doing this shall be your justification.

Witness our hands, this 14th day of April, Anno Domini 1776.

To Colonel *William Smallwood*.

N. B. The officer is to command what assistance he may want after he gets to the *Eastern-Shore*.



MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS SMYTH.

[No. 119.]

Annapolis, April 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Very urgent affairs of the Province require your attendance in Council. We therefore request you will immediately join us at *Annapolis*.

We are, &c.

To *Thomas Smyth* and *T. B. Hands*, Esquires.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 14, 1776.

You justly complain of my short letters; but the critical state of things, and the multiplicity of avocations, must plead my excuse. You ask where the fleet is? The enclosed papers will inform you. You ask what sort of defence *Virginia* can make? I believe they will make an able defence. Their Militia and Minute-men have been some time employed in training themselves, and they have nine battalions of Regulars (as they call them) maintained among them, under good officers, at the Continental expense. They have set up a number of manufactories for fire-arms, which are busily employed. They are tolerably supplied with powder, and are successful and assiduous in making saltpetre. Their neighbouring sister, or rather daughter Colony of *North-Carolina*, which is a warlike Colony, and has several battalions at the Continental expense, as well as a pretty good Militia, are ready to assist them, and they are in very good spirits, and seem determined to make a brave resistance. The gentry are very rich, and the common people very poor. This inequality of property gives an aristocratical turn to all their proceedings, and occasions a strong aversion in their patricians to *Common Sense*. But the spirit of these Barons is coming down, and it must submit. It is very true, as you observe, they have been duped by *Dummore*. But this is a common case. All the Colonies are duped, more or less, at one time and another. A more egregious bubble was never blown up than the story of Commissioners coming to treat with the Congress; yet it has gained credit like a charm, not only with, but against, the clearest evidence. I never shall forget the delusion which seized our best and most sagacious friends, the dear inhabitants of *Boston*, the winter before last. Credulity and the want of foresight are imperfections in the human character, that no politician can sufficiently guard against.

You give me some pleasure by your account of a certain house in *Queen-street*. I had burned it long ago in imagination. It rises now to my view like a phoenix. What shall I say of the Solicitor-General? I pity his pretty children; I pity his father and his sisters. I wish I could be clear that it is no moral evil to pity him and his lady. Upon repentance, they will certainly have a large share in the compassions of many. But let us take warning, and give it to our children. Whenever vanity and gayety, a love of pomp and dress, furniture, equipage, buildings, great company, expensive diversions, and elegant entertainments, get the better of the principles and judgments of men or women, there is no knowing where they will stop, nor into what evils, natural, moral, or political, they will lead us. Your description of your own *gaieté de cœur* charms me. Thanks be to *God*, you have just cause to rejoice; and may the bright prospect be obscured by no cloud. As to declarations of independency, be patient. Read our privateering laws and our commercial laws. What signifies a word?

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

New-York, April 14, 1776.

SIR: I have just received information that the *Nautilus* sloop-of-war is arrived here from *Newport*, said to be sent express from thence for the *Asia*, *Phenix*, and *Savage*, and that they are intended for *New-London*, in order to block up your squadron in that harbour. I thought it my duty to give you notice of this by express, that you might take your measures accordingly. The *Phenix*, *Savage*, and *Nautilus*, sailed this morning. The *Asia* still remains in the harbour.

I should be much obliged to you if you would forward the cannon and stores I left a list with you for, as soon as possible; and as the men-of-war are now out, I should be extremely glad if you would keep a good look-out, to see

that the coast is clear before any more of the Continental Troops embark from *New-London*.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Admiral *Eseck Hopkins*.

LIEUTENANT JONES TO JOSEPH HEWES.

Alfred, New-London Harbour, April 14, 1776.

SIR: When, agreeable to your request, I undertook to write you an account of our proceedings in the fleet, I did not imagine that I should have been so stinted in point of time. I owed you a much earlier account; but since our arrival here, the repairs and business of the ship have required my constant attention. I will endeavour to be more punctual hereafter; in the meanwhile, hope you will excuse this omission till I can account for it personally. I pass over what was prior to our arrival at the Capes of *Delaware*, where we were met by the *Hornet* sloop, and *Wasp* schooner, from *Maryland*.

On the 17th of *February*, the fleet put to sea with a smart northeast wind. In the night of the 19th, (the gale having increased,) we lost company with the *Hornet*, and *Fly* tender. We continued steering to the southward, without seeing a single sail, or meeting with anything remarkable, till the 1st of *March*, when we anchored at *Abaco*, one of the *Bahama* Islands, having previously brought to a couple of *New-Providence* sloops, to take pilots out of them. By these people we were informed that there was a large quantity of powder, with a number of cannon, in the two forts of *New-Providence*. In consequence of this intelligence, the Marines and Landsmen, to the number of three hundred and upwards, under the command of Captain *Nicholas*, were embarked in the two sloops. It was determined that they should keep below deck until the sloops were got in close to the fort, and they were then to land instantly, and take possession before the Island could be alarmed. This, however, was rendered abortive, as the forts fired an alarm on the approach of our fleet. We then ran in, and anchored at a small key three leagues to windward of the town, and from thence the Commodore despatched the Marines, with the sloop *Providence* and schooner *Wasp*, to cover their landing. They landed without opposition, and soon took possession of the eastern garrison, (*Fort Montague*), which, after firing a few shot, the Islanders abandoned. The next morning the Marines marched for the town and were met by a messenger from the Governour, who told Captain *Nicholas* that "the western garrison (*Fort Nassau*) was ready for his reception, and that he might march his force in as soon as he pleased." This was effected without firing a gun on our side; but the Governour had sent off one hundred and fifty barrels of powder the night before.

Enclosed you have an inventory of the cannon, stores, &c., which we took possession of, and brought off in the fleet. We continued at *New-Providence* till the 17th ultimo, and then brought off the Governour and two more gentlemen prisoners. Our course was now directed back for the Continent, and, after meeting with much bad weather, on the 5th instant, off *Block-Island*, we took the *Hawke* schooner, of six guns, one of Captain *Wallace's* tenders, and the bomb-brig *Bolton*, of eight guns and two howitzers. The next morning we fell in with the *Glasgow* man-of-war, and a hot engagement ensued, the particulars of which I cannot communicate better than by extracting the minutes which I entered on the *Alfred's* log-book.

"At two A. M., cleared ship for action. At half past two, the *Cabot*, being between us and the enemy, began to engage, and soon after we did the same. At third glass the enemy bore away, and by crowding all sail, at length got a considerable way ahead, made signals for the rest of the *English* fleet, at *Rhode-Island*, to come to her assistance, and steered directly for the harbour. The Commodore then thought it imprudent to risk the prizes, &c., by pursuing farther; therefore, to prevent our being decoyed into their hands, at half past six made the signal to leave off chase, and haul by the wind to join our prizes. The *Cabot* was disabled at the second broadside, the Captain being dangerously wounded, the Master and several men killed. The enemy's whole fire was then directed at us, and an unlucky shot having carried away our wheel-block and ropes, the ship broached to, and gave the enemy an opportunity of

raking us with several broadsides, before we were again in condition to steer the ship, and return the fire. In the action we received several shot under water, which made the ship very leaky; we had besides, the mainmast shot through, and the upper works and rigging very considerably damaged; yet it is surprising that we lost only the Second Lieutenant of Marines and four men, one of whom, (*Martin Gillingwater*), a Midshipman, prisoner, was in the cock-pit, and had been taken in the bomb-brig *Bolton* yesterday. We had no more than three men dangerously, and four slightly, wounded."

I have the pleasure of assuring you that the Commander-in-Chief is respected through the fleet, and I verily believe that the officers and men, in general, would go any length to execute his orders. It is with pain that I confine this plaudit to an individual; I should be happy in extending it to every Captain and officer in the service. Praise is certainly due to some; but, alas, there are exceptions.

It is certainly for the interest of the service that a cordial interchange of civilities should subsist between superior and inferior officers; and, therefore, it is bad policy in superiors to behave towards their inferiors, indiscriminately, as though they were of a lower species. Men of liberal minds, who have been long accustomed to command, can ill brook being thus set at nought by others, who pretend to claim the monopoly of sense. The rude, ungentle treatment which they experience, creates such heart-burnings as are nowise consonant with that cheerful ardour and spirit which ought ever to be the characteristic of an officer; and, therefore, whoever thinks himself hearty in the service, is widely mistaken when he adopts such a line of conduct in order to prove it; for to be well obeyed, it is necessary to be esteemed.

The fleet having been reinforced with two hundred men lent from the Army, is now in condition for another enterprise, and we expect to embrace the first wind for *Rhode-Island*, where I hope we shall meet with better success, as we understand that the *Scarborough* is now there. It is proposed to clean the ships at *Providence*, so that our detention there will admit of a return of letters from *Philadelphia*.

Meantime, with a grateful sense of past favours, I have the honour to be, with much esteem, sir, your very obliged, most humble servant,

JOHN PAUL JONES.

To the Honourable *Joseph Hewes*, *Philadelphia*.

MAJOR FRAZER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 7, 1776.]

Boston, April 14, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have taken the liberty to enclose you copies of the lists of vessels, and ordnance, and ordnance stores, left by our enemy in this town, all of which I have properly secured since they evacuated it. A more particular account of the cargoes found in the vessels, with an account of all other King's stores, I will forward as soon as I can ascertain the amount of each article. I was ordered in here by the Quartermaster-General the same day the enemy left the town, in order to take an account, and secure all King's stores; which I have been constantly employed about ever since, and hope to finish in about two weeks, when I shall render an account of the whole of my proceedings to Colonel *Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General. The amount of King's stores alone will, I am sure, be worth upwards of fifty thousand pounds sterling, besides a number of cables and anchors taken up out of the harbour, in three or four fathom of water. The anchors weigh from thirty-five hundred down to five hundred; some very large cables almost new. The value of these two articles, that I have already got, is computed, by good judges, to be worth three thousand pounds sterling. I have only had twelve hands employed in this work two weeks; they are men that I hired belonging to the town, who are very well acquainted with the harbour. I hope, in two weeks more, to clear the harbour, and get out a number more of anchors and cables, &c. The men expect to be allowed salvage, besides their pay, for every thing taken beyond low-water mark, as well as for the cargoes of salt, which would all have been lost had we not used the greatest industry to have got it out, as the vessels were all left scuttled. Your Honours will judge whether this demand is reasonable, and please to let me know your

determination. If you think any extraordinary trouble is worth any more than my pay as Assistant Quartermaster-General, you will please to make me what allowance you think proper. His Excellency has been pleased to give me a Majority in the Sixth Regiment of Foot, which I shall join as soon as I finish the above business, which I am ordered to do; and I am, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN G. FRAZER,

Assistant Quartermaster-General.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. The Quartermaster-General has fixed upon *Jonathan Williams*, Esq., of *Boston*, as agent to dispose of all stores found here, except what we want for our Army. He has already sold, to a large amount, horses, wheat, flour, &c.

MAJOR FRAZER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, April 14, 1776.

SIR: I now enclose you a more particular account of the vessels left by the enemy at *Boston*; also, an inventory of the ordnance and ordnance stores. I have not included those that are at *Castle-Island*, because General *Ward* informs me that the Province claims the whole of them.

We have found, within this week, anchors and cables worth at least three thousand pounds sterling; they weigh from thirty-five hundred weight down to five hundred weight, (meaning the anchors,) taken out in three or four fathom water, at low tide. I hope the Continental Congress will allow us salvage upon these, as well as other things which we have secured. I have had only twelve men employed constantly in clearing the docks, &c., who do not belong to the Army.

On *Thursday* last, the people at *Cohasset*, observing a brig coming up the bay, armed themselves, and manned three or four whale-boats, went off, and, finding her to be a merchantman, boarded and took her. She was from the *West-Indies*, laden with rum and sugar; rum, three hundred hogsheads, for General *Howe's* Army, which they expected to find here.

On *Friday* morning last, ran away from the *Renown*, ship-of-war, now lying in *Nantasket-Road*, eight British seamen that belonged to her, who brought off the cutter, and landed at *Point-Shirley*, and are now in this town.

Commodore *Manly's* crew, that he took in the last rich prize, are in close prison in this town. Mr. *Jackson*, Mr. *Brush*, and three others, were examined by the General Court, who were all committed to prison yesterday, *Brush* in irons.

I expect to settle all my accounts, and finish all matters in my late department, this week; and I shall be much obliged to you to give me leave to come to *New-York*, to have a final settlement with Colonel *Mifflin*, and deliver up the books, &c. Mr. *James Gray*, who did the business in my department before my appointment, has lived with me ever since, and I think he is the most proper person to succeed me now, as he is very capable, and understands the nature of the business very well; and I hope your Excellency will be pleased to appoint him, which will infinitely oblige me, as he will be left entirely without business when I give up the place; and he has been in the *American Army* as long as any in it. Colonel *Mifflin* knows him very well, and has a very good opinion of him.

Major *Parke* tells me he proposes to set out for *New-York* on *Wednesday* next. If he does, he will leave a vast number of accounts unsettled, and other affairs unfinished.

The General Court of this Province want some of the barracks upon *Winter-Hill*, to cover one thousand men, which are to be raised immediately, and stationed at *Noddle's Island*.

I hope your Excellency and lady had a pleasant journey to *New-York*; and am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN G. FRAZER.

To General *Washington*.

A List of Vessels remaining in *Boston Harbour* after the Enemy evacuated the Town, with the proper Owners' names, according to the best information; viz:

1. A Brigantine Privateer, commanded by Captain *Martindale*, taken by the *Fowey*, man-of-war, burden one hundred and ten tons; at *Tileston's Wharf*.

2. A Brigantine loaded with Salt, one hundred and twenty tons, owned by Major *Peddrick*, of *Marblehead*; at *Tileston's Wharf*, scuttled.
3. A Brigantine loaded with Salt, one hundred and forty tons, owned by *Robert Hooper*, Esq., of *Marblehead*; at *Tileston's Wharf*.
4. A Brigantine from *Jamaica*, belonging to *Providence*; no cargo on board; one hundred and twenty tons; at *Tileston's Wharf*.
5. A Brigantine loaded with Lumber, one hundred and forty-five tons, Captain *Pike* master; masts cut away.
6. A small Fishing-Boat, ten tons, owned by *Moses Pitcher*; at *Gardner's Wharf*.
7. A Brigantine loaded with Lumber, but taken out by the enemy, one hundred and fifty tons; at *Rowe's Wharf*, owned at *Portsmouth*.
8. A Schooner, forty-five tons, formerly belonging to *Pickering*, sold at vendue, and purchased by *John Rowe*, Esq.; at *Rowe's Wharf*.
9. A Sloop, seventy-five tons, belonging to this Province, taken by a man-of-war; at *Hall's Wharf*.
10. A Schooner, *Sophia*, owned by *Thomas Bishop*, Esq., Commander of the *Lively*, forty tons; at *Hall's Wharf*.
11. A Schooner, thirty tons, owned by Mr. *Shimmear*, Commissary-General of the King's Forces; at *Peck's Wharf*.
12. A Sloop belonging to *Rhode-Island*, loaded with condemned Stores of the King's ships, masts cut away, and she scuttled; at *Peck's Wharf*.
13. A Schooner, thirty-five tons; at *Peck's Wharf*.
14. A Sloop, formerly belonging to *Rhode-Island*, taken with Wood, seventy-five tons; at *Hallowell's Ship-Yard*.
15. A Brigantine, one hundred tons, *Jewet* master, belonging to *Newbury*; at *Hallowell's Ship-Yard*.
16. A Fishing-Boat, owned by Mandamus Councillors; in *Oliver's Dock*.
17. A Boat, ten tons, from *Rhode-Island*, owned by *Homans*, a tailor; at *Oliver's Dock*.
18. A Schooner, owned by Mr. *Williams*, of *Boston*, one hundred and ten tons; at *Oliver's Dock*.
19. A Schooner, cut out of *Stonington Harbour*, loaded with Sugar, Molasses, &c., sixty tons; at *Phillips's Wharf*, masts cut away.
20. A Sloop, seventy-five tons, belonging to *Nantucket*, now the property of *N. Ray Thomas*; at *Phillips's Wharf*.
21. A Schooner, ninety tons, owned by *Samuel White*, of *Marblehead*; at *Phillips's Wharf*.
22. A Schooner, twenty tons, owned by *William Perry*; at the *Long Wharf*.
23. A Schooner, seventy tons, with some Salt on board, owned by Major *Peddrick*, of *Marblehead*; at *Minot's Wharf*.
24. A Brigantine, belonging to *Marblehead*, one hundred and forty tons; at the *Long Wharf*.
25. A Sloop, belonging to the eastward, ninety tons; at the *Long Wharf*.
26. A Brigantine, loaded with Oil, owned by Colonel *Hancock*, ninety tons.
27. A Schooner, ninety tons, owned by Captain *Cobb*; at *Treat's Wharf*.
28. A Schooner, fifty-five tons, owned by *Conner*, a butcher; in *Town Dock*.
29. A Schooner, loaded with Salt, owned by Captain *White*, of *Salem*; at *Phillips's Wharf*.
30. A Schooner, ninety-five tons, owned by *Webb*; at his Wharf; masts cut away.
31. A Schooner, at *Noble's Wharf*, forty-five tons, owned by *John White*, of *Boston*; masts cut away.
32. A Ship, three hundred tons, owned at the *Grenards*, bound to *Portsmouth*, loaded with Rum, Sugar, and Molasses; had sixteen Guns in her hold; brought in here by a man-of-war.
33. A new Ship belonging to the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.; at his Wharf; masts cut away, and otherwise much damaged.
34. A Schooner, called *The Hope*, one of the King's Armed Tenders, sold by the Admiral to one *Breed*, of *London*; at *Hancock's Wharf*.
35. A Schooner at *Hutchinson's Wharf*, seventy tons, owned by Captain *Vernon*.

- 36, 37. Two small Sloops, belonging to the King, employed as Tenders—one formerly taken at *Philadelphia*, the other from *Rhode-Island*; at *Clark's Ship-Yard*.
38. A Ship, three hundred tons, owned by Captain *Vernon*; masts cut away.
39. A Brig, one hundred and ten tons, owned by Captain *Vernon*; masts cut away.
40. A Sloop, seventy tons, owned by Captain *Vernon*; masts cut away.
41. A Schooner belonging to *Enoch Tiley*, of *Casco-Bay*, and others, one hundred and ten tons; at *Vernon's Wharf*; no masts.
42. A Schooner owned by Captain *Dodge*, of *Salem*, sixty tons; at *New-Boston*.
43. One Sloop drifted on *Dorchester-Flats*; names of owners not known.
44. A Sloop, drifted on *Dorchester-Flats*; names of the owners not known.
45. A Schooner, drifted to *Chelsea*, loaded with Oil, belonging to *Benjamin Jepson*.

JOHN G. FRAZER,  
Assistant Quartermaster-General.

Boston, April 14, 1776.

LETTER AND PETITION FROM NOVA-SCOTIA TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

[Enclosed in General Washington's Letter to Congress, dated March 27, 1776.]

Cumberland, Nova-Scotia, February 8, 1776.

SIR: You may reasonably imagine that it is presumptuous in me to take such liberty in writing to your Excellency; still, its going from one whose principles are actuated from the genuine feelings of liberty, and an indelible anxiety for the happiness of his country, animates an assurance that it will meet rather with a feeling of sympathy than censure; more particularly as it is addressed to you, sir, who is at the head of that Army which is opposing the mandates of a corrupt and despotick Ministry, whose views and intent can be founded upon no other principles than to bring the subjects of *Britain* to as abject slavery as the subjects of the most arbitrary Eastern monarchy. Sensible I am of the importance of this proceeding, my inability of performing anything in this great struggle, and the danger I expose myself and family to in being treated with that accumulated vengeance used by such men, who are actuated by publick, as well as private prejudices; still, my fear and dread is yet more when I consider the state of my country, that, by lying passive, I expose myself and posterity to be bound in chains of slavery and wretchedness, and not only that, but have that infamous epithet entailed upon them, of being like those sluggish and slothful wretches, as represented of the tribe of *Issachar*. You will, therefore, pardon this impudence of mine.

The great contest between *Britain* and *America* has hitherto been only treated with speculation amongst us. A spirit of sympathy, I presume, for our brethren on the Continent, reigns in the breasts of the generality of the inhabitants. With gladness and cheerfulness would we be active in the glorious struggle, had our situation and circumstances been any way such that there was the least glimpse of success; but our remoteness from the other Colonies, and our form of Government, joined with the indigent circumstances of the inhabitants, render it in a manner impossible, without succour from some other quarter.

Time not permitting, and my mind impressed with accumulated troubles for our situation, nor is it necessary, for the present intention, to give a detail of the different proceedings and managements of Government; so much will suffice, to give your Excellency an idea of the rise of our impending calamity, if Providence does not stir up some means to prevent it.

The generality of the Province, as I before mentioned, sympathize with the Colonies. The least encouragement or opportunity would have excited the people to join in the defence of the liberty of *America*, always rejoicing when they heard any flying report that an invasion was intended. A necessity there was that the rulers in Government should use every means and method to prevent giving uneasiness to the people, if they had a mind to preserve peace. Yet, notwithstanding, the men at the head of the Government, with their emissaries, following the example of their patrons, the

Ministry, stimulated with an expectation of recommending themselves by showing their zealously for the prerogative, prompts on the Governour to some proclamations laying certain restraints on the people. Then, joining in associations, offering their lives and fortunes in the defence of the supremacy of the Parliament; and then, to complete the matter, advise the Governour to call the Assembly together at a time when the small-pox was raging at a great degree. Many of the country members could not attend on account of the distemper. A bill was passed for raising a regiment by ballot; and another for raising a tax to support them. The preamble to the latter was such, that, in my view, it carried the greatest implication of a declaration of war against the Colonies. This flagrant proof of the intention of these miscreants roused a spirit among the people, and publick declarations were made which before were not heard. Some were immediately for applying to your Excellency. Business was entirely stagnated. Nothing to be heard but war—this County in particular. The inhabitants being called to appear by the Commanding Officer of Militia, they complied with the order; and, when met, they all, to a man, charged the officers, on their peril, to draw a person. The inhabitants then agreed that an Address, Remonstrance, and Petition, be sent to the Governour, praying his suspending the execution of said acts, and to dissolve the House of Assembly, and call a new one to meet immediately. The Governour gave no other answer than ordering the officers of Militia and tax-gatherers to desist, for the present, the putting the acts into execution. On the receipt of this, the County of *Cumberland* again met, and resolved, almost unanimously, that it was no way satisfactory, and that it was only to delay time till a number of troops could be distributed through the different parts, as we had sufficient reason to imagine so by the preparation and other intelligences at *Halifax*. We have, therefore, again petitioned, pressing his Excellency the Governour to answer our former request, by dissolving the Assembly, and, for the first time, hinting to him our feeling for the commotions in the *British Empire*, &c. In this time some recruiting parties came among us, as also a person whom we have found to be a spy. These, with others who live among us whose principles are actuated by private prejudices, besides their enthusiasm for arbitrary authority, are making strong solicitations to have troops sent among us, the fear of which has occasioned much disorder and discontent among us. Many are afraid of speaking. There are, also, among us several families which lately came from *England*. They, in general, speak something in favour of Parliament, and are willing to submit to little taxes, as they have been accustomed to pay such heavy ones in their own country. These encourage the minions of Government. We can have no certainty how matters are passing. News is constantly propagated to the disadvantage of the *Americans*, and of the intentions and success of the other side, and that almost every foreign power intends assisting *Britain*. Sometimes we have a flying report that the *Americans* have allies to help them; but this is generally stifled. All these things keep us in a flutter. The straggling manner in which people have settled this new country makes it very difficult, and, in a manner, almost impossible for them to act either offensively or defensively. The people, in general, have great families, which will occasion a lamentable scene should *British* Troops arrive here before any succour comes from your Excellency. We would greatly rejoice could we be able to join with the other Colonies; but we must have other assistance before we can act publickly. I would observe to your Excellency, concerning the *Acadians*, I have dwelt among them near six-and-twenty years. I am well acquainted with their manners and ways. I have taken great pains in conversing with them concerning their commotions. They are, to a man, wholly inclined to the cause of *America*. I have often pitied them in their situation, and the manner of proceedings against them from time to time. I have made proposals to them, and promised, if ever in my power, to do my utmost for their relief, and to lay the state of their matter before the honourable the Continental Congress, not doubting but they would be relieved. By this opportunity, I have sent a young man belonging to themselves; he may be able to answer any questions your Excellency may want to know.

A Committee was chosen lately by the inhabitants to fall upon such methods as might be thought conducive for the

publick safety. On their meeting two or three times, suspicion arose that they intended sending to the Continent; the news of which was sent immediately to *Halifax*. The Committee, perceiving these things, found they could not continue, as they subjected themselves to be made prisoners. They therefore agreed to lay aside the sending to *New-England* as a Committee; but if any should choose to do anything of themselves, they might. The bearer, Captain *Jonathan Eddy*, declared that he would immediately set off by land, and lay our situation before your Excellency. A number drew up a small incorrect address, to recommend him to your Excellency. He will, no doubt, fully prove that he is capable for the undertaking. I have also, at the same time, sent two *Frenchmen*, to return immediately from *Machias*, in order to know what we are to expect.

Your Excellency may see by this, with the other information you may receive, our situation. You have, no doubt, an unlimited power to help the distressed in this critical time. I trust and rely that this, joined with your own humane disposition, will excite your Excellency to give us assistance. Should your Excellency incline helping us, it would be necessary to take care how any troops come. My grand view in this is, to prevent the effusion of blood; for should it be known when they come, I imagine that a force would be sent to oppose. The present situation of the Province respecting force is very trifling; and the fear our great men are in concerning an invasion makes it more so. They have but about two hundred regular troops in *Halifax*, including a number of raw recruits from *Newfoundland* and other places. The Twenty-Seventh Regiment, lately arrived, is stationed in the naval yard, and there endeavouring to fortify round the town; but I think it is but trifling. We have this comfort, that, should no other troops arrive, they may not send up to molest us. Had we, at this present time, two or three hundred men, it would secure all that part of the Province between this and *Halifax*, and am convinced that that number would prevent five thousand from coming through the woods. Captain *Eddy* will make known to your Excellency the most suitable manner how to introduce troops. I am, it may be said, more particular in this, in order to serve some friends. One of my brothers is an officer in the regiment at *Halifax*. Galling as this is to me, and the feeling of anguish for this calamity, will nowise deter me in my pursuit for the welfare of the publick. Determined I am to prosecute the matter, if *God* should spare me, to establish those rights and privileges in this Province which should, by right, be enjoyed by every human being. But should your Excellency, with the honourable the Continental Congress, determine not to give any assistance, it must occasion the most direful and horrible consequences. Let me beseech your Excellency to help us. Give us an opportunity of joining with the other Colonies. It all depends upon your bounty.

I must once more plead for your forgiveness for this liberty I have taken, as, also, excuse the incorrectness of my writing. I have not time to copy. And further, must earnestly request your keeping this from the publick. Much other information could be given; but the hurry of departure of the bearer prevents my saying more. I refer to him. Any assistance I can give your Excellency, either by intelligence or otherwise, I shall esteem it an honour and duty to perform.

My best wishes for the success of your arms. May the Supreme Ruler of the Universe protect you. May the civil and religious liberties of *America* stand firm and unshaken to the latest posterity, is my earnest prayer.

I am, with profound respect, your Excellency's most devoted, most obedient, and very humble servant.

To His Excellency *George Washington*.

To His Excellency *GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., Generalissimo of the Army of the Twelve United Colonies of AMERICA.*

May it please your Excellency:

The liberty we take in addressing a person of so exalted a rank will, we presume, be fully pardoned when you perceive the occasion of it.

The inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia*, and in particular those of the County of *Cumberland*, have been under the greatest

desire and apprehension ever since the great contest subsisting between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*. Our situation has been such that we have not had it in our power to do anything in conjunction with the other Colonies. The form of Government we are under, and the manner of executing its authority, has been such that we are rather to be looked upon as slaves than freemen.

With anxious desires have we been waiting for the success of your righteous cause, and that you would cast an eye of pity towards this forlorn part. We have, indeed, nothing to recommend us but misery and impending destruction and devastations. We trust our manner of proceeding will have the desired effect on you, as well as the others who are the instruments of supporting the liberty of mankind.

We have been harassed much, occasioned by different proceedings of Government; threatened are we because we have such sentiments concerning the cause contended for by our brethren on the Continent. News has been received that troops will soon be sent among us. This, in a manner, has roused many who were environed in lethargy. Committees have been appointed from the different towns (including the *Acadians*) to fall upon some method of safety, there being a number among us (vainly called Government-men) who are continually prying into our proceedings, and, with accumulated tales, give information to the Government at *Halifax*. Liable, therefore, are we to be cut in pieces, having no expectation of succour but what comes through your Excellency.

We agreed in our Committees that nothing should be done publicly, as it might aggravate the others to fall upon us sooner than they intended; and further, as we could not tell the intention of the honourable Continental Congress concerning us.

Therefore, as individuals who belong to the aforesaid Committee, do recommend *Jonathan Eddy*, Esq., to your Excellency, who will acquaint you with our situation; and praying with ardency that your Excellency will please relieve us, so that we may be able to give our sentiments publicly, and join with our little strength, in conjunction with the other Colonies, in preventing the ensigns of slavery from being set up in any part of this great Empire. And we further pray your Excellency will keep this our request a secret for the present.

We do, separately and jointly, pray for the success of your arms, and that you may be victorious, and vanquish all your enemies.

We are, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most devoted and very humble servants,

ABIJAH AYER,	JOHN ALLAN,
NATHANIEL REYNOLDS,	WILLIAM LAWRENCE,
AMASA KILLAM,	SIMON NEWCOMB,
JESSE BENT,	ROBERT FOSTER,
WILLIAM MAXWALL,	SIMEON CHEFTER.
GEORGE FORSTER,	

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

Whitehall, February 17, 1776.

SIR: The events which happened in the Province under your government, in the month of *November*, left no room for any other consideration but that of sending as early as possible a relief to the Town of *Quebeck*, in case you should have been able, with the small garrison you had collected together, to maintain possession of it during the winter; such relief to be followed by a body of troops sufficient to retake the town in case it should have fallen into the hands of the Rebels, and to effect the recovery of the whole of the Province to his Majesty's possession.

To this end it was judged expedient immediately upon the arrival of Lieutenant *Pringle*, in the *Nancy*, to equip a small squadron of his Majesty's ships, consisting of the *Isis*, of fifty guns, the *Surprise* and *Triton* frigates, and the *Martin* sloop-of-war. This squadron has been accordingly prepared with the greatest despatch, and will be accompanied with three victuallers and two large navy transports, having on board provision for three thousand men for three months.

His Majesty has also thought fit to direct that the Twenty-Ninth Regiment should be distributed on board the different ships, in the manner stated in the enclosed paper; and the whole being now ready to sail, enclosed I send you a

copy of my letter of instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel *Gordon*, and of the instructions given by the Admiralty to the Captains of the several ships, pursuant to the directions I had the honour to send their Lordships by his Majesty's command.

Every effort is making to push forward the second embarkation of troops, so that they may be ready to sail by the 20th of next month.

That embarkation will consist of six Regiments from *Ireland*, and two from *Great Britain*, together with four companies of Artillery, and a large battering train; the whole to be under the command of Major-General *Burgoyne*, who, together with Major-General Lord *Cornwallis*, is appointed by the King to serve under you on the side of *Canada*; but it will possibly be some time before you can have the assistance of Lord *Cornwallis*, as he is at present appointed to serve under Major-General *Clinton*, upon an expedition to the southward, but he will proceed to *Quebeck* with his regiment as soon as that service is over.

To this force it is proposed to add about five thousand foreign auxiliary troops, furnished by the reigning Duke of *Brunswick* and the Prince of *Waldeck*; of which about three thousand will be ready to embark in the *Elbe*, in the beginning of *March*, and the remainder as soon after as possible.

Enclosed I send you the state of the *British* Regiments that are to proceed under the command of Major-General *Burgoyne*; and I am to signify to you his Majesty's commands, that you do give the necessary directions for the disembarkation of the said troops, as well as of the foreign auxiliaries; and that you do employ them in such manner as you shall think most effectual for his Majesty's service.

Major-General *Burgoyne* will be so fully instructed in every point, in regard to the important services that are to be carried on, on the side of *Canada*, that it will be unnecessary now for me to say anything on that subject, and, therefore, I have only to enclose to you his Majesty's warrant, containing a signification of his Majesty's pleasure for your direction in carrying into execution the powers vested in you by your commission of posting officers to vacancies.

I am, &c.,

GERMAINE.

To Sir *Guy Carleton*, *Quebeck*.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GOVERNOUR CARLETON.

Whitehall, March 28, 1776.

SIR: I have already informed you in my letter of the 17th *February*, of which I now enclose a duplicate, that the force to be employed in *Canada* under your command would consist of nine *British* Regiments, and about five thousand foreign auxiliaries.

I hope that by this time the Regiments from *Ireland* are nearly ready to proceed, and this letter will be delivered to you by Major-General *Burgoyne*, who accompanies the first embarkation from hence, consisting, as you will see by the enclosed state, of about two thousand *Brunswick* Troops, being the first division of that corps, and also of the Twenty-First Regiment, from *Plymouth*.

It is impossible, on account of the difficulty of procuring transports, to say when the second division of the *Brunswick* Troops will be ready to embark, but I hope it will be in the course of next month.

Enclosed I have the honour to send you a list of commissions, by which his Majesty gives military rank in *America* to his General Officers serving there; and it is hoped that this arrangement will have the effect to prevent any embarrassment or inconveniency from any claim in the General Officers of the foreign troops to have command in consequence of superior rank to the natural born subjects of *Great Britain*, upon whom it is his Majesty's intention that the command shall in all cases devolve.

The defeat and repulse of the Rebels at *Quebeck*, on the 31st *December*, was a great and happy event; and I am commanded by the King to express to you the sense his Majesty entertains of your service on that important day, and of the services of all those who distinguished themselves upon that occasion.

It is hoped and believed that so severe a check will have had the consequence to deter the Rebels from any other such attempts upon *Quebeck*; and we trust the armament



now sending out will arrive in time to prevent their forming any regular siege of that important post.

If the Rebels should attempt to keep possession of *Montreal*, or any other place in *Canada* on your side the lakes, the Army under your command will be sufficient to drive them from that part of the Province; and there is no doubt, if you succeed in these first operations, but that you will endeavour to pass the lakes as early as possible, and, in your future progress, contribute to the success of the Army under General *Howe*. If, contrary to all our expectations, *Quebeck* should have fallen into the hands of the Rebels, a battering train of artillery is sent out, with Engineers, and a strong detachment of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, to enable you to regain that place, either by immediately attacking it, or first seizing *Montreal*, and by that means cutting off all communication between *Quebeck* and the rebellious Provinces; but these operations must be left to your judgment and discretion, as it would be highly improper, at such a distance, to give any positive orders, especially as so much confidence is placed in your knowledge and military experience. I am, &c.,

GERMAINE.

To Sir *Guy Carleton*, *Quebeck*.

LETTER FROM ARTHUR LEE.

[London,] April 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On the 7th ultimo the *Snow Dickinson*, Captain *Meston*, consigned to Messrs. *Montandouine & Frere*, at *Nantes*, was brought into *Bristol* by her crew, and delivered up with all her papers. From these the Ministry are apprised of all the ships which have been sent to the different ports of *France*, and cruisers are despatched into the Bay of *Biscay* to watch them. *John Sands*, mate of the *Dickinson*, had made memorandums, long before he left *Philadelphia*, of every material transaction, which shows a premeditated plan of treachery. The proceedings of the Ministry, relative to this proof of the *French* interposition, have not yet transpired; but *France* does not seem to be settled or spirited enough to enter into a war, should *England* resent this business.

On the 5th of this month a fleet sailed with two thousand *Brunswick* Troops and General *Burgoyne*; it is therefore understood that they are gone to succour *Quebeck*. Six regiments, (about four thousand effective men,) made up with *German* recruits, are now ready for sailing orders at *Cork*. It is probable that they, too, are destined to *Quebeck*. The first divisions of the *Hessians* are not yet arrived, so that it is not likely the whole of them will sail till the latter end of *May*. They are, by stipulation, to serve altogether, and therefore will go to *Boston* or *Long-Island*. It is supposed the Provincials will possess the strong posts on *Elizabeth River*, which, if in the enemy's hands, will give them the command of *Jersey*, *Staten-Island*, &c. If the Provincials always have redoubts in the front and flanks of their Army, it is the opinion of the ablest in the profession, that they will be better than intrenchments or lines, and will foil the Regulars by breaking their line, or forcing them to sacrifice a number of men, which they cannot afford.

People here begin to feel the matter as very serious, since the publications of Dr. *Price* and Lord *Stair* have convinced them that new taxes must be imposed for supporting this armament, which, it is certain, will cost upwards of twelve millions. This, therefore, is universally believed to be the last effort of Administration; and if they do not succeed this campaign, it will be utterly impossible for them to find men or money for such another. The ships sent out are exceedingly ill-manned, and there is such a disposition to desertion among the *German* Troops, that if proper offers are made to them the Ministerial people are much afraid they will desert in great numbers. They have hopes, however, that divisions will take place among the Provinces and in the Congress, as they are satisfied that firmness and unanimity will force their own terms.

The City of *London* has addressed the Throne for an avowal of the conditions on which peace is to be restored. The answer was, in effect, unconditional submission. You may reckon, that in *July* the troops will be arrived, so as to enable General *Howe* to take the field. Lord *Howe*, though he has accepted of the command, is not yet sailed; he goes in the *Eagle*, of sixty-four guns. He is a brave man, but has a very confused head, and is therefore very unfit for an ex-

tensive command. As there will not be above two line-of-battle ships, if the Congress could procure five line-of-battle ships from the *French* and *Spaniards*, they might destroy or drive the whole *British* fleet from their coasts. Adieu.

JOHN HANSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fredericktown, Middle District, April 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee have received the rolls of Captain *Young's* and Captain *Good's* Minute Companies, and the times of the men's attendance, agreeable to the resolves of the Convention. Their pay amounts to eighty-six pounds four shillings and six pence; which sum the Committee request may be immediately put into their hands, that the men may be paid off.

I am desired to acquaint your Honours that the quantity of powder now in the magazine in this town is only about six hundred weight; that though the powder belongs properly to the whole Province, yet they hope they may have the liberty (on any occasion where they conceive the good of the Province to be concerned) of making use of any part of it which they may think necessary, and they request your Honours' permission to do so.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANSON, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 15, 1776.

I send you every newspaper that comes out, and I send you, now and then, a few sheets of paper; but this article is as scarce here as with you. I would send a quire if I could get a conveyance. I write you now and then a line, as often as I can, but I can tell you no news but what I send in the publick papers.

We are waiting, it is said, for Commissioners—a Messiah that will never come. This story of Commissioners is as arrant an illusion as ever was hatched in the brain of an enthusiast, a politician, or a maniac. I have laughed at it, scolded at it, grieved at it, and I do not know but I may, at an unguarded moment, have ripped at it. But it is in vain to reason against such delusions. I was very sorry to see, in a letter from the General, that he had been bubbled with it; and still more, to see, in a letter from my sagacious friend *W.\** at *Plymouth*, that he was taken in too.

My opinion is, that the Commissioners and the commission have been here (I mean in *America*) these two months. The Governours, Mandamus Councillors, Collectors, and Comptrollers, and Commanders of the Army and Navy, I conjecture, compose the list, and their power is to receive submissions. But we are not in a very submissive mood. They will get no advantage of us. We shall go on to perfection I believe.

I have been very busy for some time; have written about ten sheets of paper, with my own hand, about some trifling affairs, which I may mention some time or other—not now, for fear of accidents. What will come of this labour time will discover. I shall get nothing by it, I believe, because I never get anything by any thing that I do. I am sure the publick or posterity ought to get something. I believe my children will think I might as well have thought and laboured a little, night and day, for their benefit. But I will not bear the reproaches of my children. I will tell them, that I studied and laboured to procure a free Constitution of Government for them to solace themselves under, and if they do not prefer this to ample fortune, to ease, and elegance, they are not my children, and I care not what becomes of them. They shall live upon thin diet, wear mean clothes, and work hard, with cheerful hearts and free spirits, or they may be the children of the earth, or of no one, for me.

*John* has genius, and so has *Charles*. Take care that they do not go astray. Cultivate their minds, inspire their little hearts, raise their wishes. Fix their attention upon great and glorious objects. Root out every little thing. Weed out every meanness. Make them great and manly. Teach them to scorn injustice, ingratitude, cowardice, and falsehood. Let them revere nothing but religion, morality, and liberty.

\*James Warren.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Received April 18, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Reed, Mr. Clinton, and Mr. Braxton.]

New-York, April 15, 1776.

SIR: I am now to inform you that, on the 4th instant, I set out from *Cambridge*, and arrived here on *Saturday* last. I came through *Providence*, *Norwich*, and *New-London*, in order to see and expedite the embarkation of the troops. The Third Brigade, under the command of General *Greene*, was at *New-London* when I left it, where there was a sufficient number of transports to embark them, and most probably would have arrived here before this, had it not been for a snow-storm which happened the night they sailed, which dispersed them, and I fear has done them some injury. General *Spencer*, with the last brigade, marched from *Roxbury* the day I left *Cambridge*, and would be at *New-London*, ready to embark in the return transports which brought General *Sullivan's* division to this place. The whole of the troops may be reasonably expected here in the course of this week. The badness of the roads, and difficulty of procuring teams for bringing the stores, baggage, &c., have greatly prolonged their arrival at this place.

I have not had time since I came to look fully about me, but find many works of defence begun, and some finished. The troops are much dispersed, some on *Long-Island*, others on *Staten-Island*, &c.

I have ordered four battalions from hence to *Canada*, and am taking measures to have them forwarded to *Albany*, by water, with all possible expedition. This will greatly expedite their arrival, and ease the men of much fatigue. I have written to General *Schuyler* of their coming, that he may have necessary measures taken to hurry their march to General *Thomas*.

I am informed by General *Putnam*, that the Militia that were called in for the support of this town, in case the Ministerial Army had arrived before our troops, are all discharged, it being unnecessary to keep them longer. All the ships-of-war, besides the *Asia*, moved out of this harbour on *Saturday*, and the *Asia* yesterday, some of which are now below the *Narrows*, and the rest gone to sea.

Your favour of the 10th instant, by Major *Sherburne*, directed to General *Putnam*, or the commanding officer here, came to hand on *Saturday* evening, with three boxes of money, which I shall deliver the Paymaster as soon as he arrives, and transmit you his receipt for the same.

Having received information from hence before my departure from *Cambridge*, that thirty pieces of heavy cannon were wanting, and essentially necessary for the defence of this place, in addition to those already here, I took the liberty of applying to Admiral *Hopkins*, whom I saw at *New-London*, for that number, with the mortars and stores he brought from *Providence*, a list of which he had transmitted you. He told me that, as many were wanting for the defence of *Providence River* and the harbour at *New-London*, it was uncertain whether I could have all I wanted, but that he would send me all that could be spared.

I have not been able to get a return of the troops since I came; as soon as I do, I will send it to you.

I am, sir, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable the President of Congress.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 14, 1776.

(Parole, *New-York*)

(Countersign, *Prosperity*)

The General compliments the officers who have successively commanded at this post, and returns his thanks to them, and to all the officers and soldiers under their command, for the many works of defence which have been so expeditiously erected, and doubts not but the same spirit of zeal for the service will continue to animate their future conduct.

Exact returns of all the Regiments and Corps to be made up and sent to the Adjutant-General, as soon as possible. The commanding officers at the outposts are also to send a report of the numbers under their command, where and how disposed of. Exact returns also of all the ordnance and military stores, provisions, stores in the department of the

Quartermaster-General, &c., to be forthwith delivered to the Commander-in-Chief, signed by the proper officer of the head of each department.

All persons infected with the small-pox are to be immediately removed to a secure place, to be provided by the Quartermaster-General, who will consult the Magistrates of the city thereupon. A proper guard, to be composed of men who have had that disorder, to be fixed at this Hospital, to prevent any intercourse but such as the manager shall license.

Pay abstracts are to be made out for each Regiment and Corps in this department, to the 1st of *April*, exclusive, (each month separate,) and lodged with Major *Harrison*, Aid-de-Camp to the General, that provision may be made for payment.

As the General is unacquainted at present with the various orders for the good government of the troops here, or the reasons which induced the giving of them; he directs that those, and all General Orders, be duly attended to and obeyed, until countermanded by himself.

The General flatters himself that he shall hear no complaints from the citizens of abuse or ill treatment, in any respect whatsoever; but that every officer and soldier, of every rank and denomination, will pride themselves (as men contending in the glorious cause of liberty ought to do) in an orderly, decent, and regular deportment.

One Captain, four Subalterns, four Sergeants, four Corporals, two Drums, and one hundred Privates, to parade this afternoon, at four o'clock, to go as guard to *Governour's Island*.

Two Field-Officers, four Captains, eight Subalterns, sixteen Sergeants, four Drums and Fifes, and four hundred men, from *Heath's* and Lord *Stirling's* Brigades, to parade at six o'clock, to-morrow morning, with three days' provisions, to go as a working party to *Governour's Island*. General *Putnam* will order boats to be ready at the ferry to transport them.

For the future, the Commissary-General is not to issue any rum to working parties, unless the return is signed by the officer commanding the whole party.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Philadelphia*.)

(Countersign, *Norfolk*.)

The Quartermaster-General is immediately to provide transports to convey four Regiments to *Albany*. *Poor's*, *Patterson's*, *Greaton's*, and *Bond's* Regiments, are to hold themselves in readiness to embark at an hour's warning. They are to take with them their camp equipage, which the Quartermaster-General will furnish, taking the Colonels, or commanding officers' receipt for the tents, &c., supplied to each corps.

An exact return to be made this evening by the Majors of Brigade of all the guards; where mounted, and number of sentries furnished by each guard.

The Quartermaster-General is immediately to provide six whale-boats for the publick service; he will report when they are ready to be employed.

The Majors of Brigade are to attend at the Adjutant-General's Office, near Head-Quarters, at eleven o'clock, every forenoon, to receive the General Orders of the day. Such Brigade-Majors as are at a remote distance from the town may send an Orderly Adjutant to act for them.

Brigadier-General *Thompson* is to command the Brigade going to *Albany*; he will receive his orders as soon as the troops are embarked.

As the Army at this place is lately strongly reinforced, and more of the Continental established Regiments hourly expected, it is no longer necessary to detain any of the Militia; therefore Colonel *Martin*, with four companies of Militia, from *Sussex County*, in *New-Jersey*, are dismissed, with the General's thanks for the spirit with which they stepped forward in the service of their country on this occasion, and for their good behaviour and service since they joined the Army.

The officers and soldiers of *Poor's*, *Patterson's*, *Greaton's*, and *Bond's* Regiments, to be immediately taken off duty.

Lieutenant *Dallace*, of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, together with the non-commissioned officers and men of that corps, who were lately employed at the Laboratory in making cartridges, are immediately to return to that duty.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, April 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Previous to the receipt of your favour of the 7th instant, I had been directed by the honourable Congress to detach four regiments to *Quebeck*, if they could be spared from the service here. I am very sensible of the great necessity of sending a respectable body of troops immediately into that country, and have accordingly ordered four of the strongest regiments to hold themselves in readiness, and am providing vessels to transport them to *Albany*. You may depend they shall be forwarded with all possible despatch. In the mean time, I beg you would make the necessary preparations for their subsistence. There will be about two thousand men, exclusive of officers, in the four regiments.

I beg you will forward the enclosed letter to General *Thomas*; and am, very respectfully, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL THOMAS.

New-York, April 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 7th instant, and cannot but express my concern at the great deficiency of the regiments destined for *Canada*; but as I am sensible of the necessity of having a respectable body of troops in that country, I am now preparing to send you four of the strongest regiments in the service; and you may rely upon it no time shall be lost in getting them forward as fast as possible. They will amount to about two thousand rank and file, and will go to *Albany* by water.

I have written to General *Schuyler* by this opportunity, and desired him to make the necessary preparations for their subsistence, and doubt not he will speedily despatch them to you.

I most sincerely wish you success equal to the importance of the cause; and am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *John Thomas*, *Albany*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSEPH REED.

New-York, April 15, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 13th was this instant put into my hands, scarcely in time to acknowledge the receipt of it by this post, and to thank you for your great care and attention in providing my camp equipage.

I am exceedingly concerned to hear of the divisions and parties which prevail with you, and in the Southern Colonies, on the score of independence. These are the shelves we have to avoid, or our barque will split and tumble to pieces. Here lies our great danger, and I almost tremble when I think of this rock. Nothing but disunion can hurt our cause. This will ruin it, if great prudence, temper, and moderation, are not mixed in our councils, and made the governing principles of the contending parties.

When, my good sir, will you be with me? I fear I shall have a difficult card to play in this Government, and could wish for your assistance and advice to manage it. I have not time to add more, except that, with great sincerity and truth, I am, dear sir, your most obedient and affectionate humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Joseph Reed*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN ADAMS.

New-York, April 15, 1776.

SIR: This morning your polite letter of the 1st instant was delivered to me by Mr. *Dana*. I am much obliged to you for your introduction of that gentleman, and you may rely on my showing him every civility in my power.

I have ever thought, and am still of opinion, that no terms of accommodation will be offered by the *British* Ministry but such as cannot be accepted by *America*. We have nothing, my dear sir, to depend upon but the protection of a kind Providence, and unanimity among ourselves.

I am impressed with the deepest gratitude for the high ho-

nour intended me by Congress. Whatever device may be determined upon by the respectable Committee they have chosen for that purpose, will be highly agreeable to me.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient and affectionate humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Adams*, in Congress.

WILLIAM ALLISON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Goshen, April 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to a letter and resolve of Congress, of the 4th of *March* last, I have enclosed to you a state of my regiment, and lament that I was not able to do it sooner, and that they are not better equipped; but as necessity covers many wants, I hope the Committee will impute the latter to that, and the impossibility of obtaining some of the necessary articles, rather than their want of zeal for the cause.

I have not the least reason to doubt the willingness of my officers and soldiers to march on the shortest notice, but am sorry to inform you that the regiment seems to have a general aversion to the Minute service; that a great deal of pains has been taken by my Captains to turn out their proportion of Minute-men, by voluntary enlistments, but to no purpose, and to draft, gentlemen, must be an arduous task to an officer while a general reluctance prevails among the people; have therefore omitted it at the present, and if it must be done, I hope the Committee will favour me with a line to that purpose.

You will pardon the digression, gentlemen, in my saying that I am much afraid the good end the honourable the Continental Congress had in view, will never be well answered in the Minute-men. If they go on in general throughout the Confederated Colonies as they have ever done in this part of *Orange County*, I think I dare, without the spirit of prophecy, say we must not lay any great stress on what they will do for us in the present contest. All which is humbly submitted.

I have the honour to be, respectfully, gentlemen, your obedient and very humble servant,

WILLIAM ALLISON.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

*A state of the First Regiment of Foot, in GOSHEN Precinct, ORANGE County, as to Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, Arms, Accoutrements, Ammunition, &c.; made out this 15th day of APRIL, 1776:*

Colonels, *William Allison* and *Benjamin Justin*, Jun.; Majors, *Moses Hatfield* and *John Decker*; Adjutant, *John Wood*; Quartermaster, *James Sawyer*.

CAPTAINS' NAMES.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fives.	Privates.	Arms.	Accoutrements.	Ammunition.
1st, George Thompson.....	1	1	4	4	2	95	74	47	40
2d, Moses Cortright.....	2	1	4	4	2	44	37	10	-
3d, Samuel Jones.....	2	1	4	4	2	43	40	32	-
4th, John Jackson.....	2	1	4	4	2	107	84	40	-
5th, John Little.....	2	1	4	4	2	55	50	20	-
6th, Daniel Rosekranz.....	2	1	4	4	2	48	33	-	-
Total.....	11	6	16	16	12	392	318	149	40

I do hereby certify the above to be as true a state of my Regiment as I have been able to ascertain.

WILLIAM ALLISON.

JOHANNES HARDENBURGH TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Rosendall, Ulster County, April 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter, dated the 1st of *April* instant, I received the 13th, and did immediately make inquiry what progress the recruiting officers had made in raising their men; and was informed by some of the officers, that two of the companies raised in *Ulster County* were completed and ordered to the fortifications in the Highlands; the other

company, to be raised by Captain *Cornelius Hardenburgh*, I was also informed, had their complement of men; but as he was gone to *New-York* at the time I received your letter, I expect he will receive his orders there; but will also, on his return, give him notice of General *Putnam's* demand.

I also gave notice to Mr. *Wynkoop*, one of our Delegates, of the necessity of some of our Delegates attending at *New-York*, when he told me he was preparing to go there with the first opportunity that should offer.

Gentlemen, whereas several of our militiamen are without arms or ammunition, and we know not how soon their assistance may be required; I therefore think it reasonable that those who have agreed with the Congress last year to make arms for the use of the Colony, should deliver them as soon as possible, that those who are in want of arms may be supplied.

I remain, gentlemen, with esteem, your humble servant,  
JOHANNES HARDENBURGH,  
Chairman of the County Committee.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*,  
now at the City of *New-York*.

DR. FRANKLIN TO JOSIAH QUINCY, BRAINTREE.

Saratoga, April 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am here on my way to *Canada*, detained by the present state of the lakes, in which the unthawed ice obstructs navigation. I begin to apprehend that I have undertaken a fatigue that, at my time of life, may prove too much for me, so I sit down to write to a few friends, by way of farewell.

I congratulate you on the departure of your late troublesome neighbours. I hope your country will now for some time have rest; and that care will be taken so to fortify *Boston* as that no force shall be able again to get footing there.

Your very kind letter of *November 13th*, enclosing Lord *Chatham's* and Lord *Camden's* speeches, I duly received. I think no one can be more sensible than I am of the favours of corresponding friends, but I find it impossible to answer as I ought. At present I think you will deem me inexcusable, and therefore I will not attempt an apology. But if you should ever happen to be at the same time oppressed with years and business, you may then extenuate a little for your old friend.

The notes of the speeches taken by your son (whose loss I shall ever deplore with you) are exceedingly valuable, as being by much the best account preserved of that day's debate.

You ask, "When is the Continental Congress, by general consent, to be formed into a supreme Legislature; alliances, defensive and offensive, formed; our ports opened; and a formidable naval force established at the publick charge?" I can only answer, at present, that nothing seems wanting but that "general consent." The novelty of the thing deters some; the doubts of success, others; the vain hope of reconciliation, many. But our enemies take continually every proper measure to remove these obstacles, and their endeavours are attended with success, since every day furnishes us with new causes of increasing enmity, and new reasons for wishing an eternal separation; so that there is a rapid increase of the formerly small party who were for an Independent Government.

Your epigram on Lord *Chatham's* remark has amply paid me for the song. Accept my thanks for it, and for the charming extract of a lady's letter, contained in your favour of *January 22d*.

I thought, when I sat down, to have written, by this opportunity to Doctor *Cooper*, Mr. *Bowdoin*, and Doctor *Winthrop*, but I am interrupted. Be so good as to present my affectionate respects to them, and to your family.

Adieu, my dear friend, and believe me ever yours, most affectionately,

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

To *Josiah Quincy, Esq., Braintree*.

COLONEL BAYLEY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Newbury, April 15, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Bedel*, on his march, sent to me to provide some trusty persons to pilot soldiers, by way of *Massachusetts*,

to *St. John's*, who were to make return of that route to your Excellency. They were to wait for Colonel *Bedel's* arrival at *St. John's* or *Montreal*, but they found the lake so broken, that they must stay too long for him. Two of the five I sent, returned the fifteenth day; the other three went forward with the soldiers to *Quebeck*. As I had no actual survey of the country from *Massachusetts* to *St. John's*, I sent to Mr. *Metcalf* for a plan of that part, who has sent the plan enclosed, which he informs is done from actual survey, which agrees nearly with my representation. I also send the journal of Captain *Thomas Johnson*, as also the true distance of sundry places to *St. John's* by *Massachusetts*, and from the same place by *Charlestown* and *Crown Point*, and by *Albany*, which may be examined by the post roads and maps; and, if found true, it will appear that the cost of making the road will be saved in the soldiers' marching home from *Canada*, at the close of the present campaign, as it will save six days' pay and provision for all that live eastward of *Connecticut River*.

We have here provisions to supply all that may pass this way. I also inform that there is good water carriage from this place to *St. John's*, except forty-three miles. Mr. *Johnson* informs me that the lakes are so broken that the soldiers are detained at *Crown Point*, and that the *French* are fearful, as troops do not arrive as expected.

If I can be of any service to the *American* cause, in cutting the proposed road, or any other way, I am ready. I should think one hundred picked men from the Army, or elsewhere, will be enough to be employed in that business; no officer higher than a Sergeant. I will provide a surveyor, pilot, and overseer. None of my providing shall have more wages than they merit by their behaviour; and if I am employed to see the road completed, I shall expect no more than the Congress, or any of the Congresses or Courts in the Colonies, may think I deserve, after the whole is completed. I say this, because I will never receive anything for anything I do in the Continental service, unless it is thought to be really serviceable to the common cause.

Nothing new from *Canada* to be depended on. They had reports of considerable advantages our Army had got at *Quebeck* over the Ministerial Troops, killing and taking about three hundred; hope it is true.

These you will receive from a hearty friend of the *American* cause, and your very humble servant,

JACOB BAYLEY.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. Good men for the business purposed deserve good wages; but bad ones deserve none. Colonel *Little* is a good judge what men will do for the road.

#### JOHNSON'S JOURNAL.

Newbury, March 26, 1776.

Set out with a number of soldiers for *St. John's*, in order to make return of the way from *Newbury* to *St. John's*, by way of *Massachusetts*, to your Excellency, which is as follows:

*Tuesday*, 26th, set out from *Newbury*; lodged at the last inhabitant's; waited half a day for the rear of the soldiers.

*Wednesday*, 27th, marched six miles; good land for road.

*Thursday*, 28th, marched twelve miles; good.

*Friday*, 29th, marched twelve miles; good, except two miles.

*Saturday*, 30th, marched fifteen miles; good, except three miles.

*Sunday*, 31st, marched ten miles to Mr. *Metcalf's*; good; waited half a day for the rear.

*Monday*, April 1st, marched twenty-five miles to *St. John's*.

*Tuesday*, 2d April, tarried at *St. John's*.

*Wednesday*, 3d, returned to Mr. *Metcalf's*.

*Thursday*, 4th, tarried for the plan.

The 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, travelled home; cut myself badly the second day, which made my journey longer. I find it the best country for a road I ever saw, for such a length of way.

This is from your very humble servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

DISTANCES BY SEVERAL ROUTES TO ST. JOHN'S.

	Miles.	Miles.
Distance from <i>Portsmouth</i> , by <i>Charlestown</i> } and <i>Crown Point</i> , to <i>St. John's</i> , - - - }	125	310
From <i>Portsmouth</i> to <i>Newbury</i> , - - - -	92	
to <i>St. John's</i> , - - - - -	—	217
Difference in favour of the <i>Newbury</i> route, - -	—	93
From <i>Boston</i> to <i>Charlestown</i> , - - - -	119	
to <i>Crown Point</i> , - - - - -	80	
to <i>St. John's</i> , - - - - -	120	
	—	319
From <i>Boston</i> to <i>Newbury</i> , - - - - -	145	
to <i>St. John's</i> , - - - - -	92	
	—	237
Difference in favour of the <i>Newbury</i> route, - -	—	82
From <i>Hartford</i> to <i>St. John's</i> , by way of <i>Albany</i> , - - - - -	—	363
From <i>Hartford</i> to <i>Newbury</i> , - - - - -	185	
to <i>St. John's</i> , - - - - -	92	
	—	277
Difference in favour of the <i>Newbury</i> route, - -	—	86
From <i>New-York</i> , by way of <i>Albany</i> , to <i>St. John's</i> , about four hundred miles.		
From <i>New-York</i> , by <i>Hartford</i> , to <i>Newbury</i> and <i>St. John's</i> , about the same.		

ARRANGEMENT OF OFFICERS OF COLONEL NICHOLSON'S  
REGIMENT.

Head-Quarters before *Quebeck*, April 15, 1776.

As it has been found necessary to make some alteration in the arrangement of the Captains and Subaltern Officers in Col. *Nicholson's* Regiment, the following is to take place:

*John Nicholson*, Esquire, Colonel; *Frederick Weisenfels*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, appointed in the Third Regiment of *Yorkers*; *John Vischer*, Esq., Major; *John Brogden*, Adjutant; *Israel Evans*, Chaplain; *Joseph Marvin*, Surgeon's Mate.

First Company: *Gershom Mott*, Captain; *Benjamin Pelton*, First Lieutenant, appointed in Third Regiment *Yorkers*; *Isaac Nichols*, Second Lieutenant; *Charles F. Weisenfels*, Ensign.

Second Company: *Elisha Benedict*, Captain; *Digby Odum*, First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Henry*, Second Lieutenant; *Francis Shaw*, Ensign.

Third Company: *John Graham*, Captain; *John G. Lansing*, First Lieutenant; *Francis Brindley*, Second Lieutenant; *Esia Holmes*, Ensign.

Fourth Company: *Robert Johnston*, Captain; *William Martin*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Nicholson*, Second Lieutenant; *Peter Kertan*, Ensign.

Fifth Company: *Ezekiel Cooper*, Captain; *Timothy Hughes*, First Lieutenant; *William Belknap*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Lennington*, (taken prisoner in *Canada*), Ensign.

Sixth Company: *Benjamin Evins*, Captain; *Isaac Hubbel*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas McClallen*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Preble*, Ensign.

Seventh Company: *Derrick Hansen*, Captain; *William Tapp*, First Lieutenant, appointed in the First Regiment of *Yorkers*; *Isaac Guion*, Second Lieutenant; *William Blackney*, Ensign.

Eighth Company: *John Copp*, Captain; *John Brogden*, First Lieutenant; *William Colebraith*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Logan*, Ensign.

Approved of by General *Wooster*, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces before *Quebeck*, as taken from Brigade-Major *Blagden's* Orderly Book.

By my order:

FREDERICK V. WEISENFELS,  
Lieutenant-Colonel.

THOMAS GRENELLY TO LIEUTENANT FLEMING.

Norwalk, April 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your last favour, of the 11th, I have received, and am sorry for the miscarriage of the other. My brother's declining has fixed me as to going, as I had no thoughts of going under the command of any one else, especially for the

present. I am sorry that it has so happened, for I should have been very happy to be in a company with you and Mr. *Reed*. I have no particular objections of my own, but my father is not very willing that I should go, and I would choose he should be fully satisfied with it. I join with you in opinion about Major *Beauman*, who, I think, is a deserving man. I something expect to be in town in about ten days, when I hope for the pleasure of seeing you before you go from thence, (for I suppose you will not be stationed in town;) but if it should so fall out that I should not be there, you and Mr. *Reed* will please to accept of my sincerest and warmest wishes for your prosperity and welfare.

My best wishes to him; and believe me to be, dear sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

THOMAS GRENELLY.

To Lieutenant *George Fleming*, in *New-York*.

P. S. Mr. *Griffiths* is much obliged to you for your compliments, and begs you to accept of his in return. Please to acquaint uncle's family of our being all well, and desiring to be remembered to them all.

T. G.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Lebanon, April 15, 1776.

SIR: On representation from the Committee, who were directed last week to attend you respecting the prisoners taken in your late cruise, &c., that you would be glad to have our armed Brig *Defence* (now in the harbour of *New-London*) to attend and assist you in any further operations you may think proper soon to effect, we have considered your desire, and fully comply with the same, and have given orders to Captain *Harding* accordingly, a copy of which is enclosed.

At the same time we tender you our thanks for your favourable acceptance of our request respecting the cannon and military stores.

I am, in behalf of the Governour and Council of Safety, your most obedient humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Admiral *Hopkins*.

P. S. Captain *Niles*, in the *Spy*, is also ordered to attend your directions, provided you shall have any occasion for his services.

J. T.

GENERAL WARD TO MESHECH WEARE.

Head-Quarters, Boston, April 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 11th instant, by Captain *Salter*, I have received; in answer to which I am to acquaint you that the cannon belonging to *New-Hampshire*, which are here, shall be delivered to your order, whenever you please to send for them. I wish it was in my power to supply you with all the cannon you want; but the enemy destroyed and carried off so many, together with what are gone southward with the Army, that we have not enough for our fortifications.

I am, your most obedient servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Esq., and Committee of Safety.

RICHARD THURSTON TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Rowley, April 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We, the subscribers, being a Committee of Safety, &c., for the town of *Rowley*, having had a number of complaints against *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun.; and, upon examination of the evidences, and his own assertion before the Committee, we find him to be an enemy to *America*; and we think his crime so great, and of so aggravated a nature, that it was proper to send him to your Honours, that he might receive his just deserts; and, accordingly, we have sent said *Hickney* by Lieutenant *Searl*, the bearer hereof, and likewise the affidavits. The reason why said affidavits were not sworn to, was for want of a Justice in said town. The evidences are respectable persons, and offered to attest said affidavits before a Justice of the Peace.

In behalf of the Committee:

RICHARD THURSTON, Chairman.

To the Honourable Council now sitting at *Watertown*, in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*.



Rowley, April 8, 1776.

Mr. *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., said, before the Committee of Safety, that he would not fight upon either side; but if he was obliged to fight, and was to choose, he would fight for the King. Also, that he thought *God* Almighty never suffered so ignorant a body of men to transact business of so much importance as our General Court.

Signed by order of the Committee:

RICHARD THURSTON, *Chairman*.

Rowley, April 8, 1776.

We, the subscribers, declare, that on the evening of the 26th of *February* last, we heard Mr. *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., talk as follows: 1st. That they (meaning the *Canadians*) ought to esteem it an act of grace in his Majesty in establishing Popery in *Canada*; and that he was glad his Majesty was of so gracious a turn of mind; further, that his Majesty had a just right to sign any act of Parliament whatever, though ever so contradictory of his Majesty's Coronation oath.

Attest:

WILLIAM STICKNEY,  
PARKER CLEVELAND.

Rowley, April 8, 1776.

Mr. *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., said that the Continental Congress was a pack of rascally villains; that he longed to see the blood streaming from the hearts of those that upheld the destruction of that tea; and that our General Court was a pack of ignorant souls, for they were deceiving the people.

RUFUS WHEELER.

Rowley, April 8, 1776.

We heard *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., say that the Continental Congress was a pack of rascally villains, and he looked upon the General Court to be men not fit for that purpose.

JOSEPH SEARL,  
RUTH SEARL.

Rowley, April 8, 1776.

I heard *Jonathan Stickney* say, some time last *January*, that those that were the leaders of those affairs, (meaning those that destroyed the tea, and our Court and Congress,) he should be glad to see the stream running from their hearts.

TIMOTHY JACKMAN, JUN.

Rowley, April 8, 1776.

*Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., told me that, in his opinion, all the Continental Congress aimed at was Independence; that that was their first motive, and that he had rather see them in their gore than to see them ruling *America* independent. He said the bigger part of the Provinces had rebelled without any provocation, and he wished the leaders of that rebellion might be made turnspits for the nobility in *England*; that beheading was too honourable for them. He said those that destroyed the tea were a pack of damned rascals, and that was the whole cause of all our difficulties. He said King *George* was able to throw his dominion over *America*, and he hoped he would do it. He said those creatures who were vulgarly called Committees of Safety, were properly tyrants; that no arguments would convince them but the bright steel, and he hoped *George* would convince them by it; and many other things to the same import.

SAMUEL JOHNSON.

DEPOSITIONS RESPECTING THE ARSENICK MIXED WITH THE  
MEDICINES LEFT AT BOSTON BY THE BRITISH.By the Council and House of Representatives of Massachusetts, }  
April 15, 1776. }

*Resolved*, That the Depositions of Doctor *John Warren*, *Daniel Scott*, and *Frederick Ridgely*, respecting a quantity of Medicines left in the Work-House of the Town of *Boston*, lately improved as an Hospital by the *British* Troops, be published in the *Watertown* Newspaper, by order of the General Court.

## DEPOSITION OF DOCTOR JOHN WARREN.

I, *John Warren*, of *Cambridge*, Physician, testify and say, that, on or about the 29th day of *March* last past, I went into the Work-House of the Town of *Boston*, lately improved as an Hospital by the *British* Troops stationed in said town, and upon examining into the state of a

large quantity of medicine there by them left, particularly in one room, supposed to have been by them used as a medicinal store-room, I found a great variety of medicinal articles lying upon the floor, some of which were contained and secured in papers, whilst others were scattered upon the floor loose; amongst these medicines I observed small quantities of what I supposed was white and yellow arsenick intermixed; and then received information from Doctor *Daniel Scott* that he had taken up a large quantity of said arsenick from over and amongst the medicine, and had collected it chiefly in large lumps, and secured it in a vessel. Upon receiving this information, I desired him to let me view the arsenick; with which he complied, and I judged it to amount to about the quantity of twelve or fourteen pounds. Being much surprised by this extraordinary intelligence, I more minutely examined the medicine on the floor, and found them to be chiefly capital articles, and those most generally in great demand; and judging them to be rendered entirely unfit for use, I advised Doctor *Scott* to let them remain, and by no means meddle with them, as I thought the utmost hazard would attend the using of them. They were accordingly suffered to remain, and no account was taken of them.

JOHN WARREN.

Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, WATERTOWN, ss.

Then *John Warren* made solemn oath to the truth of the above written Deposition.

Before me,

JAMES OTIS,  
*Justice of the Peace through the said Colony.*

April 3, 1776.

## DEPOSITION OF DANIEL SCOTT.

Watertown, April 9, 1776.

Being ordered by the Director-General of the Continental Hospital to look over and take charge of the medicines left by the Ministerial Army in the Hospital in *Boston*, and being called upon by the honourable Council of this Province to give information of sundry medicines found in a room improved as a medicine-room in the house formerly improved as a Work-House in *Boston*, supposed to be poisoned, I do declare, on examination, that there was promiscuously scattered over the floor of said room, in a mixed manner, a quantity of medicine, of various kinds; and over a part of the most valuable was strewed a quantity of white and yellow arsenick, as I suppose about twenty pounds weight, (as I did, with the assistance of Doctor *Frederick Ridgely*, take up eighteen pounds.) The medicines which were unhurt by the arsenick, I suppose, may amount in value to about forty pounds, lawful money; and those which were rendered useless, I suppose, to about twenty; the latter of which I have in charge, and am determined, as soon as opportunity will allow, to bury, to prevent their being made any use of in future.

DANIEL SCOTT.

Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, April 9, 1776:

*Daniel Scott* appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Declaration by him subscribed.

Before

MOSES GILL,  
*Justice of the Peace through the Colony.*

## DEPOSITION OF FREDERICK RIDGELY.

Watertown, April 9, 1776.

I being ordered to assist in taking an account of the medicines left in the town of *Boston* by the Ministerial Troops, and now being called before the honourable Council of this Province to give information of some of them which were said to be poisoned, do declare, that, on examining the medicines in a house that had been occupied by the Ministerial Troops as an Hospital, (but formerly improved as a Work-House,) there was a considerable quantity of valuable articles promiscuously scattered over the floor; among a part of which was about twenty weight of arsenick intermixed, which rendered them useless; therefore, that part of them was omitted, which Doctor *Daniel Scott* said he would take the necessary care of.

FREDERICK RIDGELY.

Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, April 9, 1776:

*Frederick Ridgely* appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Declaration by him subscribed.

Before

MOSES GILL,  
*Justice of the Peace through the Colony.*

## ESSEX COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

At a Committee appointed and held for *Essex* County, at *Tappahannock*, on *Tuesday*, the 16th of *April*, 1776:

The Sub-Committee of this County having reported to this Committee that it appeared to them, by the Deposition of *James Connolly*, that *John* and *George Fowler* had imported goods into this County contrary to the Association, from *Antigua*, and referred the consideration thereof to us; the said *John Fowler* appeared, was heard, and, on consideration of the premises,

*Resolved*, That it does not appear to this Committee that the said *Fowlers* imported the said goods into this County as alleged; but that the said goods were imported into *Gloucester* County, and from thence brought into their store in this County.

*Resolved*, (It appearing to this Committee that the Committee of *Gloucester* have had the said goods under their consideration, and determined thereon,) That this Committee will proceed no further with respect to the said goods, the said Committee of *Gloucester* having taken goods of the said *Fowlers* to the amount of the invoice produced to them.

*Resolved*, That this Committee are of opinion that the said *Fowlers* have violated the Continental Association, and that they be published in the *Gazette*, as enemies to *America*, agreeable to the said Association, the offence having been committed before the passing the Ordinance of Convention respecting such cases, and that it be recommended to the good people of this Colony to have no further dealings with them.

JOHN UPSHAW, *Chairman*.

## MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We send by the bearer, (*James Rue*, a wagoner,) one ton of powder for the use of the *Eastern-Shore*. You will be pleased to receive it into your care, and advise the Council of Safety of the same, that they may direct the distribution. You will observe that *Cecil* County is not entitled to any of this powder, as we have already supplied that County from this place. Be so kind as to acknowledge the receipt of the powder by the return of the wagoner.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

R. ALEXANDER,  
THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.,  
T. STONE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We this morning sent off in a wagon one ton of powder for *Chestertown*, which is directed to the care of Messrs. *Smyth & Hands*; if absent, to be delivered to the Committee of Observation. We have written these gentlemen to receive the powder, and to await your orders for the distribution. This powder we obtained on application from Congress, who grant supplies to the different Provinces, as the circumstances and situation of them make it necessary. Knowing the exposed and defenceless state of the *Eastern-Shore*, we have sent off this supply, which we expect will meet your approbation. You will observe *Cecil* County has been supplied by us from hence with five hundred pounds. We mention this, to prevent any part of the ton being sent to that County.

We send you by the post eight of the plates, with the devices, for the money. *Rittenhouse* says the remaining four will be finished in ten or twelve days.

We are, with respect, gentlemen, your humble servants,  
R. ALEXANDER,  
T. STONE.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia, April 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received, and immediately communicated to Congress, your letter of the 14th, with the important papers enclosed. In consequence of which, the Congress have resolved that the person and papers of Governour *Eden* be

immediately seized by the Committee of Safety, to whom I write by this opportunity.

The person mentioned in the enclosed resolution (Mr. *Alexander Ross*) is represented as a dangerous partisan of Administration, who has been lately with Lord *Dunmore*, and it is suggested is on his way to the *Indian* country, to execute the execrable designs of our enemies. I have no doubt but you will exert your utmost endeavours in seizing and securing him.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Committee of *Baltimore*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By the letters of Lord *Germaine* to your Governour, copies of which you have enclosed, it evidently appears that Mr. *Eden* has been carrying on a dangerous correspondence with the Ministry of *Great Britain*, who seem desperately bent on the destruction of *America*.

The Congress, therefore, have come to a resolution that the person and papers of Governour *Eden* be immediately seized, from which there is reason to believe we may not only learn, but probably defeat, the designs of our enemies.

The Congress also being informed that there is one *Alexander Ross* in your Colony, who has lately been with Lord *Dunmore*, and is represented as a dangerous partisan of the *British* Administration, him, also, the Congress are desirous of apprehending, and for that purpose have passed a resolution, which you have enclosed with the other. The Congress, relying on your zeal, confide that you will exert your best endeavours in executing these resolutions.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

In Congress, April 16, 1776.

Whereas information has been this day laid before Congress, from which there is great reason to believe that *Robert Eden*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Maryland*, has lately carried on a correspondence with the *British* Ministry highly dangerous to the liberties of *America*:

*Resolved, therefore*, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be earnestly requested immediately to cause the person and papers of Governour *Eden* to be seized and secured, and such of the papers as relate to the *American* dispute, without delay, conveyed safely to Congress, and that copies of the intercepted letters from the Secretary of State be enclosed to the said Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be requested to cause the person and papers of *Alexander Ross* to be immediately seized and secured, and that the papers be sent safely to Congress.

And to prevent the said *Alexander Ross* from any opportunity to escape,

*Resolved*, That the like request be made to the Committees of Observation for *Baltimore* and *Frederick* Counties, in *Maryland*, in one of which Counties the said *Ross* probably now is.

Extract from the Minutes:

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

Ordered by Congress to be transmitted to the honourable Council of Safety of the Colony of *Maryland*.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

## PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

Philadelphia, April 16, 1776.

SIR: Congress finding, by intelligence from General *Washington*, that the greatest part of the troops that were before *Boston* are either on their march to *New-York*, or actually arrived there, judge it improper to keep a larger body of men together than is called for in that place. I am therefore commanded by the Congress to direct that you discharge the whole, or such part of the Militia of *New-York* and *Connecticut*, now in the pay of the Continent, as

the publick service will permit, and also, that you discharge the whole of the Militia of *New-Jersey*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Putnam*, at *New-York*.

WILLIAM SCUDDER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, April 15, 1776.

I would inform your Honours that I received a warrant to enlist men for your Province, *Henry O'Hara* being Captain, for which I have enlisted and have in billet in *New-Jersey*, about thirty-five. They have been there about six weeks on my expenses. The Captain went to *Albany* seven weeks ago recruiting, and was to have returned in three weeks. I have had no intelligence from him since. I know not what to do with the men, as they call on me daily for money, or they will desert. Likewise, the *Jersey* people are vexed that their Militia is called away, while they are under pay and doing nothing.

I beg, gentlemen, you will take some method for my relief.

WILLIAM SCUDDER.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety in *New-York*.

Elizabethtown, April 16, 1776.

The subscribers hereby certify, that the bearer, Mr. *William Scudder*, is of very reputable parentage, of considerable property in this town, and we have no reason to believe that his conduct has been such as to render himself any way disrespectful; but on the contrary, believe him to be a deserving young gentleman, and strongly attached to the common cause.

ROBERT OGDEN,  
ELIAS DAYTON.

List of Men's names under the care of WILLIAM SCUDDER, intended for HENRY O'HARA'S Company, with the dates of their enlistment.

1776.	1776.
Michael Fleming, Sergt., Feb. 20,	John Clark, Corporal, March 2,
Andrew O'Brien, Sergt., Feb. 20,	Cornelius Briant, Corpl., Feb. 27,
John Russell, Sergeant, Feb. 20,	Abm. B. Stokes, Drummer, Feb. 22,
Jedediah Millar, Sergeant, Feb. 27,	John Bordaime, Fifer, March 12,
William Walsh, Corporal, Feb. 21,	

*Privates.*

James Ryan, - - February 20,	Robert Field, - - February 24,
Charles Hall, - - February 20,	Arthur Kief, - - February 22,
Thomas Bolton, - - February 20,	John Creag, - - February 21,
John Lynch, - - February 22,	John Emory, - - February 21,
Dennis Mullin, - - February 22,	Maurice Hanlon, - - March 3,
Barnard Mullin, - - February 24,	John Merry, - - March 4,
Philip Prosser, - - February 21,	Joshua Dooly, - - March 3,
John Tanner, - - February 24,	Isaac Seavy, - - March 4,
William Bullion, - - February 24,	Benjamin Little, - - March 11,
James O'Hara, - - February 25,	Charles Kenedy, - - March 19,
William Goodwin, - - February 25,	Robert Thornton, - - March 19,
Jarvis Burns, - - February 25,	John McDonald, - - March 19,
Solomon Saltus, - - February 26,	James Burrows, - - March 19,
John Bryan, - - February 28,	Patrick Read, - - March 22,
Abraham Lofberry, - - March 1,	Benjamin Dooly, - - March 3,
Henry Kizer, - - March 2,	Adrian Post, - - March 23,
John McDonald, - - March 3,	John Hosman, - - April 10,
William Wilson, - - March 3,	John Batteas, - - April 10,
Henry Reynolds, - - March 2,	Robert Hardy, - - April 11,

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO THE MAYOR OF NEW-YORK.

Ship *Dutchess* of *Gordon*, *Sandy-Hook*,  
April 16, 1776.

SIR: As the commander of his Majesty's ships-of-war on this station found it expedient for his Majesty's service to burn down the Pilot-House at the *Hook*, I am to acquaint you, all possible care has been taken of Mr. *Adam Dobbs* and his property; and that if you will send down a sloop to the *Hook*, it will be suffered to bring up to *New-York* Mr. *Dobbs*, his servants, and effects.

I am, with regard, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM TRYON.

To *David Matthews*, Esquire, Mayor of the City of *New-York*.

CHRISTIAN JACOBSON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Richmond County, April 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 12th instant came safe to hand, the contents of which we have duly considered.

Rest assured, gentlemen, that nothing on our part shall be neglected in quartering the troops under the command of Lord *Stirling*, so far as circumstance and ability will admit of, and we shall endeavour to procure room for them, provided the distance is not limited. We shall exert our influence with the inhabitants, to give them all possible assistance.

We should have been very happy, had it been our lot to have had Major *Dehart*, with the troops under his command, continued among us, whose conduct has gained our greatest esteem. We have before experienced the severity of persons in power, and fond of exerting it, and on slight information, have taken upon them to carry inhabitants out of this County into another Government for trial, which we wish might be prevented.

Mr. *Derby Doyle* was last week apprehended, and sent to *New-York*—we know not by what authority. Although he may be an offender, and deserving of punishment, yet we cannot approve of such conduct in taking him out of the County. We have reason to believe that something has been alleged against this Committee and their proceedings. If so, we are ready to be examined.

We are, gentlemen, with respect, your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

CHRISTIAN JACOBSON, *Chairman*.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO LIEUTENANT HINMAN.

Ship *Alfred*, at *New-London*, April 16, 1776.

SIR: You are to take charge of the *Cabot*, and proceed with her directly to *Newport*, and land the ten guns there to General *Babcock*; but in case you cannot get into *Newport Harbour*, then you are to go into the river eastward of *Rhode-Island*, and land your guns at *Howland's Ferry*, and send an express to Brigadier *Babcock* with an account of it as soon as possible. If you cannot get into either of the above ports, go up to *Providence*, and deliver the guns to Governour *Cooke*.

Yours, &c.,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To *Elisha Hinman*, Esq., Lieutenant of the *Cabot*.

MAJOR BASSETT TO COMMANDING OFFICER AT BOSTON.

Martha's Vineyard, April 16, 1776.

SIR: I have sent you, under the care of a Sergeant, four prisoners, taken aboard the Schooner *Valent*, at *Martha's Vineyard*, bound for *Boston*, viz: *Edward Marsh*, Master; the Mate, and two passengers in the employment of the Ministerial Forces.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

BARACHIAH BASSETT,  
Major in the Provincial Forces.

To the Commander of the Continental Forces now stationed at, or near, *Boston*.

MAJOR BASSETT TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Martha's Vineyard, April 16, 1776.

Please to pay Sergeant *Samuel Bassett* the expenses of the guard, in conveying four prisoners taken on board the Schooner *Valent*, bound for *Boston*, in the employment of the Ministerial Forces, from *Martha's Vineyard* to *Watertown*.

From your most humble servant,

BARACHIAH BASSETT,  
Major of the Provincial Forces.

To the Honourable Council of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*. \*

\*IN COUNCIL, April 20, 1776.—Read, and the Prisoners having been examined before the Council, Ordered, That they be sent to *Concord Jail*; *Edward Marsh* and *John Loring*, two of said Prisoners, not to have the privilege of pen, ink, or paper, nor any person to be suffered to speak to them, but in the presence of the Keeper of said Jail. The other two persons, viz: *Basil Cooper* and *David Lang*, to have the liberty of that part of the Jail yard that is enclosed, during their good behaviour, and giving their parole in writing not to depart without the limits of the same, in failure of which, they are to be committed to close prison; and that a mittimus go out accordingly.

JOHN LOWELL, *Deputy Secretary pro tem*.

## GENERAL WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Boston, April 16, 1776.

SIR: As I am left in *Boston* with the command of the Continental Troops in this Colony, I think it my duty to acquaint the honourable House with my situation. Five regiments are in this Colony—two in *Boston*, one at *Dorchester-Heights*, one at *Charlestown*, and one at *Beverley*. These regiments were stationed by General *Washington's* order. In *Boston* there are not seven hundred men fit for duty, at *Beverley*, not three hundred. I by no means think it prudent to take any men from *Beverley*, as all the prizes taken from the enemy remain there uncondemned, and considering near fifty of that regiment are on board the Continental privateers. The troops that marched to the southward were hurried off. Chief of the cannon then fit for service were ordered away, that we had not many, if any, cannon in our most advanced posts to annoy the enemy with if we had been attacked; and the stores scattered from *Medford* to *Dorchester*; the teams so drained off that we are not able to procure teams to move the ordnance and ordnance stores as I could wish. The harbour is now open to our enemies. The men-of-war have it in their power to cannonade the town of *Boston*. If the enemy should return, is it not possible for them to carry the town of *Boston*, and the lines we have occupied for ten months, and scatter destruction in all the adjacent towns? Nay, is it not probable? If such should be the case they would get to themselves more honour and more advantage than by vanquishing any other Colony in *New-England*; and our disgrace and dishonour would be in proportion. I would not willingly exaggerate matters, and fear when there was no occasion for fear. This matter has lain heavy on my mind ever since they evacuated the town. It appears to me indispensably necessary that the channel should forthwith be stopped, in whole or in part, so as to render it impassable to strangers with large ships. There is nothing to hinder the men-of-war's men from landing in *Braintree*, *Squantum*, or *Dorchester*, in the night, and spreading destruction all around them, and getting off without much difficulty, provided they know our state; and we have reason to fear that many among us would readily give them information of the same. I would by no means pretend to dictate to the honourable House. I mention them with submission, and with a mind full of anxiety for the future well-being of my country; and am, sir, your very humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.\*

## SENTIMENTS RELATIVE TO FORTIFYING BOSTON HARBOUR.

The necessity of immediately securing the harbour of *Boston* is acknowledged by all. The neglect of it gives great anxiety and uneasiness. Whether the variety of sentiments, relative to the mode of execution, has not contributed to prevent it, I am not able to say. The fortifying near the town of *Boston* can have only that town for its object. Our other towns within *Hull* and *Pulling-Point*, also our navigation, must be almost as much exposed as ever. A plan that would take in the whole, if practicable, must certainly be the most eligible. That it is practicable, there is no doubt. There is no army to hinder our beginning at the entrance into the harbour. The places there are admirably well calculated for fortifying, and some of them are of such importance that, should the enemy take possession of them, we should have occasion to rue the day, and curse our neglect.

*Hull* is the outermost land next to the bay, surrounded by water, except by a long neck, or beach, connecting it with the main. On it are two eminences, well adapted for fortifying—the one, *Point Alderton*, one mile and three-eighths from *Beacon-Island*, the other, called *Loring's Hill*, or *North-Head*. This town is a situation of the greatest importance, being such as would enable the enemy, if they

once possessed and fortified it, (with the help of their shipping,) to keep off any army that we could raise. Not forty thousand men, perhaps, could dislodge them. The land is one of the most fertile spots in the Province—would afford them pasturage, hay, grain, and vegetables of every kind; houses deserted by the inhabitants would afford them a safe lodging. They would have the entire command of *Hingham*, *Weymouth*, *Braintree*, and, indeed of the whole seaboard, unless measures to prevent this were then pursued; the expense of which would probably ten times exceed what need now be expended to prevent it. The possession of this, with *Pectick's Island*, would secure them a safe harbour within *Nantasket Gut* for ships from twenty to thirty guns; and they would be as well accommodated for distressing us, and making inroads into the country, as if they possessed *Boston*. Now, by considering what it would be to them, may sufficiently show what it might be to us, and the necessity of our immediately fortifying it, together with *Pectick's Island*, but a little distance from the north head of *Hull*, or *Loring's Hill*, so called, and not exceeding half a mile. Within musket shot of this, vessels passing through the gut must come; and within this gut, on the south side of *Hull*, there would be as fine a retreat for privateers, and other vessels, as can anywhere be found; from all which it appears that these two places ought to be instantly fortified.

For the more effectual security of the harbour, *George's Island* is the best of any in it. Was this strongly fortified, and well furnished with every necessary, with common success it would prevent any ship-of-war from passing. All ships-of-war, from twenty guns and upwards, must pass by it to go through the *Narrows*, or through the western passage, that is, by the *Moon*, and west end of *Long-Island*, and must come within musket shot of it. Fronting the channel, the land is so high that it would be difficult for a ship to bring her guns to bear, and they must be exposed to a fire in their course up as far as shot could reach them. If it is thought best to risk our defence upon forts, without blocking up the channel, it cannot well be effected without fortifying this Island; and a strong fortress here, with those on *Hull* and *Pectick's Island*, and the aid of two or three row-galleys, would probably secure the harbour, having first driven out the fifty-gun ship that now lies here, which, it is imagined, might be easily done.

But if *George's Island* is not fortified, the harbour may be secured by stopping up the *Narrows* by hulks or vaisseaux-de-frise, fortifying the *Moon* and west end of *Long-Island*. It is affirmed that there is a sufficient depth of water through the western passage for ships of any burden. Whether there is or not, may be easily ascertained; but if there is, what matter is it if the *Narrows* are stopped up forever? These two Islands, together with *Pectick's Island* and *Hull*, well fortified, and *Narrows* blocked up, would be a security to a greater part of the harbour, with the aid of galleys. These might keep off any vessels that would come through *Broad Sound*, and would be a noble protection to the Islands; and if such could be immediately obtained, they would greatly facilitate the operations on the Islands.

The foregoing plan, well executed, would be productive of innumerable advantages. It would secure *Hull*, (a rich spot of land,) give the inhabitants possession of their houses and improvements of their lands, and afford a fine harbour for vessels within *Nantasket*. We should be able to discover our enemy's ships long before they could injure us, *Hull* affording a most extensive prospect. The Islands in the harbour might be improved the present summer; from whence vast quantities of pasturage, hay, grain, and sheep, be raised, and cattle fattened; a constant communication, by water, to all the places within the harbour; *Boston* be supplied with fresh fish, and all other necessities, for which they must shortly be much straitened. A vast charge of land-carriage for goods brought into the out-ports might be saved. In short, so many are the advantages that would result herefrom, that it would compensate for any expense that we should be at; and if we mean to enjoy any commerce, it is indispensably necessary. The door of trade is now wide open; and who will venture to come into this port if, after having run the risk of seas and enemies, they must here be taken in the harbour? If we mean to avoid much larger expenses, and to secure ourselves against an

\*MAY 7, 1776.—The Committee of both Houses, to whom is referred the consideration of a Letter from General *Ward*, have considered the same, and, from various circumstances, are led to conclude that the probability of the enemy's return to this Colony is such as renders it highly necessary that part of the Militia be called to the lines near *Boston* with all possible despatch; and that due care be immediately taken to provide proper magazines of provisions, and sufficient supply of intrenching tools and camp utensils for their use and support.

All which is humbly submitted.

Per order:

J. WINTHROP.

enemy that may invade us, it cannot be omitted. The neglect may be fatal. Now there is nothing to oppose our doing it. As much work may be done in one day now as may be in ten when the enemy is annoying the labourers. And ought we not to take it for granted that what they can do they will do? Are they not unwearied in their exertions to ruin us? Are we to take for granted that they have not men, strength, or inclination to attack us again? Might we not easily be surprised under our perfect defenceless state, they knowing that our Army is removed? What scheme could they contrive more probable to effect our ruin than to return with their fleet and army? The measures at present pursued for fortifying the Castle, &c., tend to the security of *Boston* only; but this would secure the whole harbour, from within *Pulling* to *Alderton-Point*; and without this an army might land anywhere from *Hull* to *Dorchester*, and from *Pulling-Point* to *Noddle's Island*. These things being considered, it is imagined that no one could hesitate about the propriety of the measure. The present time is, perhaps, the only time. This opportunity once lost may never be regained. What may be done to-day it is not wisdom to leave until to-morrow.

ADDRESS OF THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF DUMFRIES TO  
THE KING.

*To the King's most Excellent Majesty, the humble Address  
of the Provincial Synod of DUMFRIES.*

*Most Gracious Sovereign:*

We, your Majesty's dutiful subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Provincial Synod of *Dumfries*, now assembled about the affairs of the church within our District, beg leave humbly to approach the throne, with hearts full of affection and loyalty, to declare in the strongest manner our warm and steady attachment to your Majesty's person, family, and Government, and to express our abhorrence of the rebellion now subsisting in your Colonies in *North-America*.

This rebellion we consider as unnatural towards the Parent State, and ungrateful to the best of Sovereigns, whose reign has been so much distinguished by wisdom, justice, and clemency.

We are happy to assure your Majesty, that the people under our charge entertain the same just sentiments; and we shall not fail, great sir, at this critical juncture, to enforce upon them principles of loyalty to your Majesty, and of submission to Government.

That the Divine Providence may so guide your Majesty's Councils, and prosper your arms, as that the present civil war may be brought to a speedy and happy conclusion, is the sincere prayer of, may it please your Majesty, your Majesty's faithful subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Provincial Synod of *Dumfries*.

Signed in our name and presence, this 17th day of *April*, 1776, by

BRYCE JOHNSTON, *Moderator*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED APRIL 17, 1776.

I arrived here after a tedious journey. As I came through *Virginia* I found the inhabitants desirous to be independent from *Britain*. However, they were willing to submit their opinion on the subject to whatever the General Congress should determine. *North-Carolina*, by far, exceeds them, occasioned by the great fatigue, trouble, and danger the people here have undergone for some time past. Gentlemen of the first fortunes in this Province have marched as common soldiers; and, to encourage and give spirit to the men, have footed it the whole time. Lord *Cornwallis*, with seven regiments, is expected to visit us every day. *Clinton* is now in *Cape-Fear*, with Governour *Martin*, who has about forty sail of vessels, armed and unarmed, waiting his arrival. The Highlanders and Regulators are not to be trusted. Governour *Martin* has coaxed a number of slaves to leave their masters in the lower parts; everything base and wicked is practised by him. These things have totally changed the temper and disposition of the inhabitants that are friends to liberty; all regard or fondness for the King, or the nation of *Britain*, is gone; a total separation is what they want. Independence is the word most used. They ask,

if it is possible that any Colony, after what has passed, can wish for a reconciliation? The Convention have tried to get the opinion of the people at large. I am told that in many Counties there were not one dissenting voice. Four new battalions are directed to be raised, which will make six in this Province.

We are endeavouring to form a Constitution, as it is thought necessary to exert all the powers of Government; you may expect it will be a popular one.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 121.]

Annapolis, April 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have had an alarm here of a very interesting nature. We think it advisable to communicate the intelligence by express, at the same time letting you know what we have done therein; and we are induced to expedite our despatch, because we do not know but that the Congress may have taken some steps in the same affair, copies having been forwarded to them from the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, to whom the whole packet was transmitted by the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, we think very improperly, as the address ought to have been made in the first place to us.

Some time past, *Alexander Ross* (a great scoundrel, we fear) applied to our Board for a permit to go to Lord *Dunmore*, under pretence of private business, and getting some money that was due to him, as he alleged. He brought us a letter from two gentlemen of the Congress, (Messrs. *Alexander* and *Rogers*,) which, no doubt *R. Alexander* remembers. We refused to give him any other permit than to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*. Thither he went, we are told, but could not get a permit to *Dunmore*. He got a letter, it is said, to the Committee of *Hampton*; they declined giving him any passport. He went to Lord *Dunmore* without, and on his way back was stopped by Captain *Barron*, who took from him some letters to Governour *Eden*, particularly a circular letter; also, a private letter from Lord *George Germaine*, which, we take it for granted, you have seen, some of the Committee of *Baltimore* assuring us that they forwarded duplicates to the Congress. On receipt of these letters, (Monday afternoon,) we immediately gave orders to apprehend *Ross*, and the next morning a deputation from our Board, together with *W. Paca*, Esquire, (then in town,) waited on the Governour, showed him the copies of the intercepted letters, and requested a sight of his letter of the 27th of *August* to Lord *Dartmouth*. The Governour declared to us that he had sent away the copy of that letter, with all his other papers of consequence, last fall, and could not remember the particulars; but observed, we might be convinced there was nothing of a nature unfriendly to the peace of this Province, because the troops going to the southward were not ordered here. He asserted, also, upon his honour, that he had not endeavoured to inflame the Ministry, by traducing the characters of individuals; some he had spoken well of; others he had recommended as sufferers. The gentlemen of the Congress he had spoken of as acting within the line of moderation.

The deputation informed him they were instructed to ask his parole that he would not leave the Province till the meeting of the Convention. He complained of being unjustly suspected; gave us his letters from *William Eden*, Esquire, (his brother,) one of the Under Secretaries; also from Lord *Dartmouth*, (copies of which we had leave to take, and herewith transmit you.) He desired time (till this day, twelve o'clock) to give his definitive answer. He has given it, and we send you a copy thereof. We look upon it as giving his parole, in effect, that he will not leave the Province till the Convention, and will endeavour to promote the peace thereof in the mean time. He wishes to continue in that line of conduct as long as he can, consistently with his station, and will not leave the Province after the Convention, provided they will assure him that, when he finds he can no longer stay with peace and consistency, he may have leave to depart and carry his effects. This we promised to recommend to our friends in Convention. *William Paca* agrees with us in opinion that we may rest satisfied with this answer, and not call the Convention sooner than the 27th of *May*, unless something further should intervene.



You have probably heard that our Convention did not meet agreeable to their late adjournment. On *Friday* evening twenty-six members, who were collected, agreed to separate, and that *G. Duvall* should write a circular letter, informing the Delegates that the members assembled recommended the holding a Convention on the 27th of *May*. We enclose, also, a copy of their circular letter.

The indignity offered our Board by the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and the want of confidence in the *Baltimore* Committee, (to say nothing more harsh,) we cannot help complaining of. We know of no good cause for this insult in passing us by, nor can we conceive what motives could induce such treatment. We send you by Mr. *Green* (who will hand you this) thirteen hundred and seventy-two pounds seven pence, currency, in gold, for the Continental service. *W. P.* has delivered in the money he brought from the Treasury. Be pleased to forward the money-plates by Mr. *Green*, if not already sent.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

P. S. The last ton of Continental powder, if not already sent to *Chester*, we would have ordered to *Baltimore*, having already sent powder to the *Eastern-Shore*. The copies of the Governour's letters, &c., are sent in confidence, and are not to be printed. Our answer to his Excellency's letter you shall receive by the next post.

The following is a copy of Lord DARTMOUTH's Letter to Governour EDEN.

[No. 4. Duplicate.]

Whitehall, July 5, 1775.

SIR: Your brother has been so obliging as to communicate to me, from time to time, such intelligence as you have transmitted to him respecting the affairs in *Maryland*, and about ten days ago I had the satisfaction to receive your letter of the 5th of *May*. I sincerely wish you may not have been too sanguine in your hopes that the time is not far distant when peace and harmony will be restored, and confidence re-established on a permanent basis; at the same time I observe, with satisfaction, what you say of the temper and moderation of the persons chosen to represent the Province of *Maryland* in the Continental Congress; and I am not without some reason to believe that there may be others in that Congress of the same disposition.

At present, however, the rebellious proceedings of the people, in most of the Colonies, wear the appearance of an actual revolt; and it is his Majesty's firm resolution, in consequence of the advices which he has received, that the most vigorous efforts should be made, both by sea and land, to reduce his rebellious subjects to obedience; and the proper measures are now pursuing, not only for augmenting the Army under General *Gage*, but also for making such addition to our naval strength in *North-America* as may enable Admiral *Graves* to make such a disposition of his fleet as that, besides the squadron necessary for the *New-England* station, there may be separate squadrons at *New-York*, within the Bay of *Delaware*, in *Chesapeake-Bay*, and upon the coast of *Carolina*. After what has passed, there can be no doubt what ought to be the plan of operations for the squadron upon the *New-England* station; and I think it necessary to acquaint you, for your own information, that Admiral *Graves* will be instructed to exert the most vigorous efforts for suppressing the rebellion now openly avowed and supported in that country, and to seize and detain all ships and vessels belonging to the inhabitants thereof, such only excepted as are the property of persons who are friends of Government, and have shown an attachment to the Constitution.

There is still some room to hope that the Colonies to the southward may not proceed to the same lengths with those of *New-England*. It is, however, his Majesty's intentions that the commanders of the separate squadrons I have mentioned should be instructed to prevent all commerce between the Colonies within their respective stations and any other places than *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or his Majesty's Islands in the *West-Indies*; that they should receive on board and give protection to any officers of the Crown who may be compelled, by the violence of the people, to seek for such an asylum; and to proceed, as in case of a town in actual rebellion against such of the seaport towns, being

accessible to the King's ships, as shall hereafter offer any violence to the King's officers, or in which any troops shall be raised, or military works erected other than by his Majesty's authority, or any attempts made to seize or plunder any publick magazine of arms or ammunition.

With regard to the plan of operations to be adopted by General *Gage*, it must depend upon his own judgment, and the opinion of the able Generals with him; and I have only to add, that it is his Majesty's express command that you do exert every endeavour, and employ every means in your power, to aid and support him and Admiral *Graves* in all such operations as they may think proper to undertake for carrying the King's orders into full execution, and restoring the authority of his Majesty's Government.

The attention you appear to have given to the preservation of peace and good order in your Government, is very much approved of by the King; and I have his Majesty's commands to assure you of his Royal acquiescence in your wish to return to *England*, when the state of your affairs in your Government will admit of it. In the mean time, I hope your private affairs here will not suffer by the very honourable resolution you have taken of remaining in *Maryland* so long as the present disorders continue.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

DARTMOUTH.

The two following are copies of Letters from WILLIAM EDEN, Esquire, one of the Under Secretaries of State, to His Excellency ROBERT EDEN, Esquire.

Downing-Street, November 15, 1775.

MY DEAR BOB: *Tom Eden* is so violent a patriot, that he will not let me write one word worth your reading, as he says that my accursed politicks have already brought a slur on the blood of our family. Take plain facts, therefore, without any comment. Lord *Dartmouth* has quitted the seals for the privy seal, which was vacated by the dismission of the Duke of *Grafton*, his grace having made a crane-necked turn in his politicks since last year. It is another of my disgraces to be honoured with the friendship of your new principal, who, I believe, will fill his department ably and actively, and is particularly intimate with the Commanders-in-Chief on your Continent. Lord *Rockford* has retired on honourable and amicable terms; we are removing to his office as senior, but retain the Northern Department. Lord *Weymouth* succeeds to the Southern; the other smaller promotions you will see in the papers. About four-fifths of the House of Commons continue as blindly devoted as your humble servant to a system of exertion that this nation can make beyond any nation in the world, and that we are fools enough to think the nation thoroughly disposed to make. You, who are a moderate man, and wish well and kindly to both parties, at the same time that you dislike the extremes of the language and the conduct pursued by both, will distinguish truth from falsehood in the strange jumble of misrepresentations with which our newspapers are stuffed. I shall only add, for the present, that I hope we shall all find some bridge at last to lead us back to our old good humour and prosperity; but we have a rough road to go over, before we can arrive at it.

Believe me ever, very affectionately, yours,

WILLIAM EDEN.

Downing-Street, December 24, 1775.

MY DEAR BROTHER: I am very unable to say a tenth part of what I ought to say to you this evening, when there is so much to be said, and so few opportunities of saying it; but my head is disabled by this influenza, (which has disabled us all by turns,) and my attention, as far as I am competent to employ it, is engaged by official business.

Our campaign this year has certainly not been brilliant; and the news (reported a few days ago, and confirmed this morning) of the taking of *St. John's*, completes our disgrace. We have wanted a few hard knocks to rouse us, and I trust that we are roused—at least we had the knocks; I also trust that we are not stunned by them, but animated to a just sense of the contest in which we are engaged, and determined (and let me add able) to take measures equal to its difficulties. You have rather a predilection for *America*. Let me repeat to you, however, what I have always said,

and what the cheerful disposition of the people of this country, under all their disappointments in this business, confirms: "We are too steady and too resolute to give way, and either you or we must give way." If we were less steady than we are, we could still be too much for you, by the relative advantages which we enjoy, in spite of the great expenses to which you are putting us, in great naval equipments, and in more numerous armies than have ever yet been seen in *America*. It is a cursed business. We may be mistaken, but we think you, in general, in a state of phrensy. You will neither hear reason, nor act reasonably; and the only question now is, whether you will be brought back to common sense and general happiness, or whether you shall succeed in destroying both us and yourselves. As for your Excellency, individually, you are behaving in a manner to deserve great credit. You are acting the dignified, determined part, and are showing yourself a friend to both sides of the *Atlantick*. You have all due honour for it here, and I hope you will be treated with equal candour on your own side of the *Atlantick*.

The bill, which had the Royal assent yesterday, puts an end to all commercial intercourse between us. I hope the Southern countries will begin to see the consequences of continuing upon themselves the miseries which that bill must bring on them, and that they will learn (what they might have learned long ago) that if they succeed in their present united enterprise, they will immediately find themselves in a state of subjection to the *New-Englanders*, and that the longer they persevere in that enterprise, (if they are fortunate enough in the end to fail in it,) the more they must suffer.

For other matters, I must refer you to the papers from the post-office; and remain, very affectionately, yours,

WILLIAM EDEN.

*The following is the copy of a Letter from His Excellency ROBERT EDEN, Esq., to CHARLES CARROLL, J. HALL, and WILLIAM PACA, Esquires.*

Annapolis, April 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: However unwelcome might be your errand, your polite behaviour to me yesterday merits my acknowledgments; and, on mature consideration of the proposal you made to me, I find it incumbent on me to tell you that I will not accord to it; nor can I, whilst I act, in any degree, as Governour of this Province, give my parole to walk about in it a prisoner at large, under any obligation whatever. The necessity must be obvious of my ceasing to act as Governour, should I become a prisoner. Neither will I voluntarily give you any satisfaction on that head, further than that I had, and have, no intention, during these times, of leaving the Province whilst my continuing here can, in my own opinion, tend to preserve its tranquillity. My resolution was—as the letters you have of mine show—to continue here whilst I could serve the Province; nor shall the indignity now offered to me alter it. I shall persevere in my line of duty by what I think the rule of right, but not without some chagrin at knowing myself, unmeritedly, the object of suspicion; although I have the satisfaction to think that a considerable part of the most respectable persons in the Province entertain a very different opinion of me than is to be inferred from your proposed arrest.

May I not challenge you to say to the world if any troops have arrived at, or any hostile measures been proceeded in against this Province, from any request of mine, or information from me to the Secretary of State?

I have above told you my resolution of continuing in my station as long as permitted, or the ostensible form of the established Government can contribute to preserve the peace of the Province; and I will add one further assurance, in hopes it may be satisfactory to you, that, as your Convention is to meet shortly, they shall find me here, and willing to continue acting in the same line I have hitherto done, so long as *Maryland* can reap any peaceful benefits from my service; provided I can have assurances that my peaceable departure shall not be impeded whenever I find my remaining any longer here unnecessary, or that my private affairs at home indispensably demand my return.

Consistent with my honour and insulted station, I cannot add more, but that, if made a prisoner, I shall consider myself treated as an enemy, and such a proceeding as a breach of that confidence I have implicitly reposed in you; which

I thought my conduct, and the publick declaration of the Convention justified.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT EDEN.

To *Charles Carroll, Esq., Barrister; John Hall, Esq.; and William Paca, Esq.*

*Answer thereto by the Committee.*

[No. 120.]

Annapolis, April 18, 1776.

SIR: In times of publick distress and convulsions, when a free people are threatened with a deprivation of their civil liberty, exertions for its preservation, influenced by the purest principles, and conducted with all possible attention to form and ceremony, we hope will not be considered as an indignity or insult to any rank or station in the community. The proceeding which your Excellency reprehends in your letter addressed to *Charles Carroll, John Hall, and William Paca, Esquires*, and communicated by them to our Board, arose from an impression that we, who are entrusted with the publick safety, should pursue, with vigilance, every effectual measure, though the danger to be guarded against may rest only in possibility. The intercepted letters from Administration to your Excellency, we own, furnish grounds for conjecture and apprehension only of your having held an injurious correspondence; and, whilst we reflect on the general tenour of your Excellency's conduct, the friendly disposition you have often manifested, and the several favourable and impartial representations you have made to Administration of the temper and principles of the people of this Province, we sincerely lament the necessity of the times, which, urging us to guard against every possibility of danger, forced us to a measure so disagreeable to, and which may prove an unmerited treatment of your Excellency.

We acknowledge, sir, we know of no information you have given Administration countenancing or encouraging the introduction of troops into this Province; nor do we know of any measures whatever to have been concerted or pursued by your Excellency injurious to this Province, or *America*.

We thank your Excellency for your resolution of continuing in your station as long as permitted, or the ostensible form of the established Government can contribute to preserve the peace of the Province; and we cheerfully acquiesce in your Excellency's assurance, that, as the Convention is shortly to meet, they shall find you here. As far as our influence extends with that respectable body, it shall not be wanting to remove every obstruction to your peaceable departure whenever your Excellency's continuance here shall become inconsistent with your instructions, or your private affairs shall demand your return.

With ardent wishes for a speedy reconciliation upon honourable and constitutional terms, we have the honour to be, with sincere respect, your most obedient, humble servants.

THOMAS RICHARDSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Georgetown, April 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 19th of *February* did not come to hand until *Friday* last. I am very sensible of the honour the Convention did me by appointing me Supervisor to the Saltpetre Works for this District; but being myself a stranger to the process necessary for making that article, and not knowing any person who understood it that would undertake to carry on the business, I thought it my duty to resign, in hopes the Committee for this District might know, and would appoint some person qualified for the undertaking. Accordingly, some time before the rising of the Convention, I delivered Mr. *John Murdock* (one of our Committee) a newspaper in which was the resolve of the Convention concerning Saltpetre Works, desiring him to show it to the Committee, and inform them of my resignation; but have not heard of any other persons being appointed.

Having this occasion to trouble you, I must beg leave to intrude as much farther on your patience as to inform you that the Convention having appointed Mr. *William Deakins* to a Majority, and Mr. *Aquila Johns* to the naval service of the Province, the *Georgetown Militia* was left without any subaltern officer. The company have nominated Mr. *Alexander McFadon* First, and Mr. *John Peters* Second Lieutenants; and Mr. *Edward Gale* Ensign. If those gen-

tllemen should meet your approbation, I hope you will honour them with commissions.

I am your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS RICHARDSON.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LEWESTOWN, DATED APRIL 17, 1776.

*Lewestown* is, at this time, made up of officers and soldiers; and the people, altogether, seem determined to defend our little place. As for Tories, there are none such among us. That infamous name is quite done away since danger comes so near us. The *Roebuck* still remains in our Road all alone, and has, I believe, lost her tender: a few days ago some say they saw a sloop take her to the southward of our Cape. We have between fifty and a hundred men on guard night and day at the Light-House, *Arnold's*, and the Creek's mouth; and are determined to watch them closely. They made application to fish on our beach. We would not let them, but desired them to go to *Newfoundland* for that purpose. If they should attempt to fish on the beach, we are determined to show them *Yankee* play, as we did on *Easter Sunday*, when we were unloading Captain *Field*.\* I do assure you that, if you were here, you would be pleased with the spirit of the people.

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.  
Philadelphia, April 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yesterday morning, just before the meeting of Congress, the letters from *Baltimore*, which occasioned the resolution of yesterday, came to the hands of the President. By the same express, and, as I believe, under the same cover, came an anonymous letter, referring to a copy therein enclosed from General *Lee* to Mr. *Samuel Purviance*. I saw and read the copy, which was in *Purviance's* handwriting. *Lee* strongly urged the immediate seizing and securing of the Governour.

After the minutes of the preceding day were read, the President began reading the anonymous letter; but he had not proceeded far before he came to a part desiring that it might not be made known to the Congress, but, as I think, to such only as the President might think proper to trust with the contents. The President hesitated; for he had not before read the letter, and seemed desirous of running his eye over it; but, on being desired to read out, he did so.

From the enclosure above-mentioned, (as many expressions in the letter, and Mr. *Purviance* being the hero of the tale, which was told in the first person,) I had not the least doubt but that *Purviance* was the author; and Mr. *Andrew Allen*, who saw the letter, and is acquainted with *Purviance's* handwriting, says it was his. The letter informs that the writer had impressed on General *Lee*, on his way to *Virginia*, an idea that the Council of Safety was timorous and inactive, and represents the Council of Safety, and Convention too, as being afraid to execute the duties of their stations. His own and the conduct of the Convention, on an affair that you must remember, he contrasts to the disadvantage of the latter, whose inaction he imputes to want of spirit. He speaks of the orders he gave Captain *Nicholson* on the late alarm, and how the Council of Safety was alarmed and frightened at the spirit and boldness of them; represents himself as an

\* PHILADELPHIA, April 17, 1776.—From *Sussex County*, on *Delaware*, we learn that a small schooner, the property of Mr. *Nehemiah Field*, of *Lewestown*, returning from *St. Eustatia*, with some stores, and having information of the *Roebuck*, man-of-war, being in the Road, came to anchor a few miles southward of the Light-House, and sent a messenger to *Lewes*, desiring assistance to discharge the cargo. A company of Continental Troops, of the *Delaware* Battalion, stationed at *Lewes*, were immediately ordered to march to the assistance of the schooner. In the mean time, the schooner, perceiving the man-of-war's tender bearing down upon her, endeavoured to get into *Indian River*; but not effecting it, she ran ashore near to Mr. *Henry Fisher's* pilot-boat, (which some time since had been run ashore by the Third Lieutenant of the man-of-war and three hands, who were all taken prisoners.) The company having arrived, got behind the vessels on shore, and waited for the tender; which, when within two hundred yards distance, fired a broadside. A hot fire from both sides ensued, which lasted near two hours; and the tender was finally obliged to sheer off, without having effected her purpose; but, on the contrary, with the loss of several men, as many were seen to fall. The cargo was safely landed from the schooner, and secured, without the loss of a man, either killed or wounded. The Militia officers at *Lewes* behaved with that courage and magnanimity which does honour to their country.

object against whom the intentions of the Council of Safety are levelled, and, in proof, recites a conversation with, or saying of one of them, to the effect that he was a warm man, or a hot-headed man, whose power must be pulled down, or he would throw things into confusion.

As I heard the letter read but once, I cannot undertake to repeat expressions with exactness; but I think I have preserved the sentiments, and have not exaggerated in anything; and, on the whole, I esteem it a vile, injurious calumny, calculated, like his conversation with General *Lee*, to spread suspicion and distrust of the only Executive in our Province.

If I am not mistaken, the letter mentions, further, that some gentlemen were sent from *Baltimore*, or were, by him, proposed to be sent to *Annapolis*, who should engage the officer commanding the troops there to secrecy, under oath, and then endeavour to get his assistance to execute what you are requested to do by the resolution. This, I suppose, may be easily traced.

As soon as the letter was read, a motion was made to send the original, or a copy of it, to you; which was warmly supported. But it was put off till to-day, to make way for the consideration of the subject of the express; and in the mean time, all was ordered to be secret. Messrs. *Stone* and *Alexander*, who had been delayed in writing letters by the post, came into the Congress in this stage of the affair, and are, as well as myself, privy to the after transactions.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Philadelphia, April 17, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 9th of *March*, with the enclosure, was duly received, and laid before Congress, in whose name I beg leave to congratulate you on the success of your expedition.

Your account of the spirit and bravery shown by the men affords them the greatest satisfaction, and encourages them to expect similar exertions of courage on every future occasion. Though it is to be regretted that the *Glasgow* man-of-war made her escape, yet, as it was not through any misconduct, the praise due to you and the other officers is undoubtedly the same.

I have it in charge from Congress to direct that you send a complete list and state of the stores taken and brought from *Providence*, with the sizes, &c.; and that the cannon, and such other of the stores as are not necessary for the fleet, be landed and left at *New-London*.

Wishing you the greatest success and happiness, I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Commodore *Hopkins*, at *New-London*.

The following extract of a letter from *Antigua*, I hope, will be of service to you. With that view I send it.

"Antigua, March 26, 1776.

"The third division of transports will leave *Antigua* in a few days—it is said for *New-York*, under convoy of an old *East-India* ship, mounting sixteen guns. There will be six in number."

MEMORIAL OF COLONEL FORD.

To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces in AMERICA.

The Memorial of Col. JACOB FORD, Jun., humbly sheweth:

That whereas, in consequence of a letter received from the Earl of *Stirling*, then commander of the Continental forces in this city, directed to the Committee of the County of *Morris*, requesting an immediate detachment of three hundred men from the Militia of that County, to assist in fortifying and defending this place against the enemies of *American* liberty, your Memorialist, then and as yet Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia in said County, warm in the cause of his country, and anxiously forward to do his duty as Colonel of said Regiment, did immediately despatch to this place, under the command of Major *Doughty*, one hundred and fifty men, being his proportion of the three hundred men demanded from said County, firmly relying on the promise made by his Lordship in the above recited

letter, of the men's receiving the same provision and pay with the Continental Troops in the Middle Department.

Your Memorialist would beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that the above men, under Major *Doughty*, did join the Continental Army in *New-York*, and there did faithfully serve (as by a certificate from Lord *Stirling* fully appears) for the space of eighteen days; for which services, and also for the subsistence of the men whilst on their march, there is now due to them the sum of two hundred and eighty-nine pounds, which sum still remains unpaid.

Your Memorialist would further beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that much jealousy subsisted in the minds of the above men, upon marching, as to the propriety of the application from his Lordship to the County Committee, and thence many hastily concluded that the application being improper, the pay and subsistence might be uncertain. Your Memorialist, fearful of any delay, and anxious to remove every doubt in the minds of his men, became surety, and pledged his faith that the men should be paid at some short day after being discharged from the service, or become Paymaster himself.

Your Memorialist would therefore further beg leave to represent to your Excellency, that, as much depends upon the Militia being regularly paid, your Excellency would be pleased to point out some ways and means for the speedy payment of the above debt of two hundred and eighty-nine pounds, that all jealousy may be removed from the minds of the good people of the County of *Morris*, when called forth to any future service.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JACOB FORD, JUN.

New-York, April 17, 1776.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 17, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to direct that two companies of Colonel *Dayton's* Battalion of *New-Jersey* Troops be stationed at *Cape-May*, for the protection of the property and navigation in that quarter. You will please to issue the necessary orders accordingly.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, April 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: There is nothing that could add more to my happiness than to go hand in hand with the civil authority of this, or any other Government to which it may be my lot to be ordered; and if, in the prosecution of such measures as shall appear to me to have a manifest tendency to promote the interest of the great *American* cause, I shall encounter the local convenience of individuals, or even of a whole Colony, I beg it may be believed that I shall do it with reluctance and pain; but in the present important contest the least of two evils must be preferred.

That a continuance of the intercourse which has hitherto subsisted, between the inhabitants of this Colony and the enemy on board the ships-of-war, is injurious to the common cause, requires no extraordinary abilities to prove. A moment's reflection not only evinces this truth, but points out the glaring absurdity of such procedure. We are to consider ourselves either in a state of peace or war with *Great Britain*. If the former, why are our ports shut up, our trade destroyed, our property seized, our towns burnt, and our worthy and valuable citizens led into captivity, and suffering the most cruel hardships? If the latter, my imagination is not fertile enough to suggest a reason in support of the intercourse.

In the weak and defenceless state in which this city was, some time ago, political prudence might justify the correspondence which subsisted between the country and the enemy's ships-of-war; but as the largest part of the Continental troops is now here, and as many strong works are erected and erecting for the defence of the city and harbour, these motives no longer exist, but are absorbed in others of a more important nature.

To tell you, gentlemen, that the advantages of an inter-

course of this kind are altogether on the side of the enemy, whilst we derive not the smallest benefit from it, would be obvious to every one. It is, indeed, so glaring, that even the enemy themselves must despise us for suffering it to be continued; for, besides their obtaining supplies of every kind, by which they are enabled to continue in your harbours, it also opens a regular channel of intelligence, by which they are, from time to time, made acquainted with the number and strength of our works, our strength, and all our movements, by which they are enabled to regulate their own plans, to our great disadvantage and injury. For the truth of this I could produce instances; but as it may be the subject of future discussion, I shall decline it at present.

It would, gentlemen, be taking up too much of your time to use further arguments in proof of the necessity of putting an immediate and total stop to all future correspondence with the enemy. It is my incumbent duty to effect this, convinced as I am of the disadvantages resulting from it; and it cannot be thought strange or hard that, under such conviction, I should be anxious to remove an evil which may contribute not a little to the ruin of the great cause we are engaged in, and may, in its effects, prove highly detrimental to this Colony in particular.

In effecting the salutary purposes above-mentioned, I could wish for the concurrence and support of your honourable body. It will certainly add great weight to the measures adopted, when the civil authority co-operates with the military, to carry them into execution. It will also redound much to the honour of the Government, and of your Committee in particular; for the world is apt to judge from appearances; and while such correspondence exists, the reputation of the whole Colony will suffer in the eyes of their *American* brethren.

It is therefore, gentlemen, that I have taken the liberty to address you on this important subject, relying upon your zeal and attachment to the cause of *American* liberty for your assistance, in putting a stop to this evil, and that you will co-operate with me in such measures as shall be effectual, either to prevent any future correspondence with the enemy, or in bringing to condign punishment such persons as may be hardy and wicked enough to carry it on otherwise than by a prescribed mode, if any case can possibly arise to require it.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*.

DUTCHESS COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Dutchess County Committee, April 17, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your requisition, we now return you a state of the four Companies of Continental forces raising in this County for the defence of the Colony.

Captain *Rosekrans* is already, with his company, stationed at the fortifications in the Highlands. As we had no opportunity of seeing Captain *Rosekrans*, we could not procure an exact return; but from information, the company must be almost, if not entirely, complete.

Captain *Swartwout* has sent off his men from time to time, as they enlisted, to the Highlands; and having his officers recruiting in different parts of the County, it was impossible, upon so short notice, to furnish us with a proper return, though make no doubt but that, by this time, he must have upwards of fifty men.

Captain *Child*, who succeeds Captain *Barker*, (the latter having resigned,) received a warrant from the Committee of Safety only last week; and we find, by the tenour of it, he is indulged with three weeks to make his return. However, the firm activity of this gentleman, and being generally well liked, we imagine he will speedily raise a company.

Captain *Pearse*, before this comes to hand, will have waited on the Committee of Safety, to make his return and receive their directions in person.

We remain, most respectfully, your very humble servants. By order of the Committee:

EGBERT BENSON, Chairman.

To *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

## ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO GENERAL BABCOCK.

New-London, April 17, 1776.

SIR: I this moment received an express from General *Washington*—the contents are enclosed. Have sent the *Cabot* with ten pieces of cannon, with orders to deliver them to you as soon as possible. Have given the Captain orders to land them in *Newport*, if possible, if not, at *Howland's Ferry*. Your own prudence will suggest what steps may be necessary for the publick safety.

I am, with great respect, your humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To *Henry Babcock*, Esq., Brigadier-General and Commander of the Troops on *Rhode-Island*.

## ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, April 17, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of General *Washington's* letter of the 14th, received by express. Your own prudence will suggest what steps will be necessary for the publick safety.

I am, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

## COLONEL SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

April 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Adams* yesterday morning took *Alexander Ross*, at *Chestertown*, and immediately afterwards fell in with Ensign *Chambers*. They have conducted him to this place; and Captain *Adams* now waits upon you for further orders respecting the prisoner.

I am, your very obedient servant,

W. SMALLWOOD.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

## ANDREW BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Bladensburgh, April 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It is with reluctance I take up my pen to address you on a matter I would wish to be silent on, were I not urged to do it by the strongest entreaties of a company inferior to none in the Province, which I respect, and which I have the highest satisfaction in obliging. My resigning has thrown the company into great confusion and concern, for fear Mr. *William Hamilton*, my First Lieutenant, should take place as Captain, who they look upon not to be worthy, or in any respect proper for that office; but perhaps may be recommended by the Colonel, through prejudice to me, as I would not condescend to serve under him. If it so happens that he should be appointed Captain, it will be the utter destruction of the company, as they are determined not to serve under him.

I would not willingly interfere with the gentleman's private character, therefore shall only relate the matter to your Honours how he came to be appointed Lieutenant; which was, as he had been a soldier several years in the last war, I imagined he must have been better qualified than any other person I had the opportunity of getting at that time; however, found myself much deceived, for he was as ignorant as those who had never seen a musket thrown in their lives, and surprisingly awkward in every respect, and still continues so.

There are many young men in the company who are much better qualified, in every respect, and I believe as many so as in any company in the Province. Mr. *Hamilton* is a poor man, and has a wife and several children, and no person to work for them but himself, therefore cannot make the appearance that an officer ought to make; is a person of no education, neither is he qualified in any respect whatever to keep company with the other gentlemen officers, which is a material objection by the company, as they would not choose to serve under an officer who could not keep company with, and be looked upon by other officers, but more particularly, as he is esteemed a very improper person in other respects. And, of more consequence to those under him, there are other objections, which I do

not choose to meddle with; yet I hope have said enough to evince to you how very displeasing he is to the company, and the ill consequences that might arise in case of his appointment; and what I can with much truth and certainty assure would come to pass, *i. e.* the breaking up of a company of much consequence.

Relying on your Honours' wisdom in not appointing a person so disagreeable, (as nothing but my particular desire to have the company kept together, and to be satisfied, could have induced me to write in this manner,) I remain, with the utmost respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW BEALL.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

We, the subscribers, do hereby certify, that we prefer *Andrew Beall*, Jun., to any other person as Captain, in place of his father.

Thos. Adams, Jun.,	Thomas Crawford,	Theophilus Hughes,
Thomas Beall,	Alexander Crawford,	Joseph Cook,
Thos. Tilley, Jun.,	Abednego White,	Thomas Bean,
Nathaniel Suit,	Josiah Gordon,	Isaiah Hurley,
William Conn,	Samuel Brashears, Jr.,	William Marthis,
Henry Scott,	John Tilley,	Philip James,
Thomas Brown,	Josias Shaw,	Thomas Wright,
William Brown,	James Mockbe,	John Bozwell,
John Beall,	Clement Wilson,	David Wilson,
Josias Ray,	Henry Tuell,	John Wilson,
Jonathan Manly,	John Furguson,	James Wilson,
Jeremiah Moore,	Henry Purdy,	John Mayhew, Jun.,
Basil Crawford,	Philip Cissil,	George Seb. Bence,
James Ray,	James Furguson,	Josias S. Wilson,
Patrick Law,	William Mullikin,	Ignatius Wilson.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

N. B. If the Council of Safety, or Convention, should want to be informed with regard to *William Hamilton*, who is First Lieutenant of the Company, *Peter Brown*, a Sergeant in Captain *Lucas's* Company, can inform.

Bladensburgh, April 18, 1776.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 122.]

Annapolis, April 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Walter Hanson*, of *Port-Tobacco*, has been recommended to us by Mr. *Hooe*, as a genius in the mechanical way, and as a person that may be of service to this Province in gaining a proper knowledge of erecting and working powder-mills, or some other useful and necessary manufacture. The errand he comes on will, no doubt, recommend him to your notice; and, also, entitle him to every aid and assistance in your power, to attain such a laudable end.

We are, &amp;c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland*, in Congress.

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 22, 1776.]

Annapolis, April 18, 1776.

SIR: Your letter, enclosing the resolves of Congress, was this day delivered to us. We were furnished with the intercepted letters some time before the receipt of yours, and had taken such measures as, in our judgment, were competent to the occasion. To dissolve the Government, and subvert the Constitution, by the seizure and imprisonment of the Governour, we conceive to be a measure of too much delicacy and magnitude to be adopted without calling and consulting the Convention of this Province. We saw no necessity urging us to such an extreme; and were determined, therefore, not to expose the Province to immediate anarchy and convulsion, if an assurance could be obtained from the Governour that he would not depart before our Convention met, to decide upon this important business. He cheerfully gave this assurance, and voluntarily put into our hands all the letters he had received from the Secretary of State since *September* last, and offered us the inspection of the papers in his possession; assuring us his letters, antecedent to that time, had been transmitted to *Great Britain*, on prospect of his private affairs requiring his presence there; and explained and vindicated his conduct in such a manner, that we feel no apprehension of danger from him. Under these circum-



stances we cannot comply with the request of Congress, in any other manner than we have done, and flatter ourselves they will rest satisfied, and consider us excusable.

Mr. *Ross* was apprehended by our order, on *Monday* evening last; we shall have him in custody, and examine him fully.

Permit us, sir, to assure you that we are determined to maintain the rights and liberties of this country, at every hazard of life and property, and will vigorously pursue every measure which the defence of *America* shall require.

We have the honour to be, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order and on behalf of the Council of Safety of the Province of *Maryland*.

To the Honourable the President of Congress.

#### MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, Thursday, April 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We moved yesterday in Congress, that the letter referred to by Mr. *Johnson* should be immediately transmitted to you, that you might have an opportunity of vindicating your honour against the malicious charges made by the writer. This produced a warm debate, which lasted for several hours. We insisted (and were supported by several gentlemen) that the letter, containing the most severe reflections upon you, as a publick body, ought not to be concealed; that it was absolutely necessary, in the present state of our affairs, that the dignity of the Executives of every Province should be supported, if properly conducted; and if there rested a suspicion that any publick body, either from weakness or want of integrity, omitted or refused to execute the trust committed to them, it ought to be made known to their constituents, that the power might be placed in more safe hands; that the exertions of the letter-writer had already produced, in part of the Council of *Virginia*, distrust and suspicion of you; that we had the most convincing proofs, upon all occasions, of your integrity, vigilance, and activity in the common cause; and, therefore, esteemed it our duty to insist that justice might be done to your injured characters. It was argued against the motion, that the letter was confidential; that it had raised no suspicions in the Congress of your zeal or integrity, because they had reposed the highest confidence in you immediately afterwards, by the recommendation sent by the return of the express; that the mischief, which would be produced by communicating the letter would be greater than any benefit which could be expected from it; and that the President was not obliged to produce the letter before the Congress, to take order thereon, although it had been read in the House. Upon the question whether the President should be requested to lay the letter before Congress, five Colonies voted in the negative, three in the affirmative, and one divided.

We conceived this treatment to you, and our Province, to be cruel and ungenerous to the last degree. The obligation to secrecy expired yesterday; and we immediately determined to give you such a state of this transaction as our memories supply us with; and Mr. *Johnson* committed to writing what passed on the first day. We this morning waited on Mr. *Hancock* to demand the letter, but he refused to see us.

Thus the affair rests at present; and we cannot delay communicating it to you longer. We have ordered an express immediately to set out for *Annapolis*, and have not the least doubt but what you will take the proper steps to vindicate your honour against the foul calumny of Mr. *Purviance*, who has dared to detract from your patriotism and spirit. We are determined at all hazards to support you; and, though very sorry for the occasion, hope you have complied with the recommendation of Congress, by securing Mr. *Eden* and his papers. If he has conducted himself fairly, an examination will do him credit; if otherwise, we ought to know it, and guard against his unfriendly endeavours. We shall write you by the post; and are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.,  
T. STONE,  
R. ALEXANDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### REMARKS ON A PLAN OF THE AMERICAN COMPACT, PROPOSED BY AN ENGLISH AMERICAN.

New-York, April 18, 1776.

No reasonable objection can be offered to the first and second articles of this plan. The third proposes that the Crown shall appoint officers "during good behaviour." Who is to judge of their behaviour, and remove them upon misbehaviour? Doubtless the King in Council. If he should judge that good behaviour in his officers which *America* knows and feels to be abominably bad behaviour, what remedy has she by this plan? And that this will frequently be the case, past experience convinces. The Earl of *Dummore's* infamous behaviour has been justified by the King; so was *Bernard's*, *Hutchinson's*, and all the rest of the King's wicked Ministers; and so it will be, so long as an arbitrary and inequitable, partial spirit reigns in the *British* Court, which, to all appearance, will not soon be expelled. *America* can have no security against the greatest and perpetuated vexation from the King's officers, unless she has a voice in their appointment, and the power of renovating them upon misbehaviour.

The fourth article is admissible. The fifth proposes a General Congress to manage the general affairs of all the Colonies. This has a plausible appearance, but it is a *felo de se*; for it is added at the close of the article, "but as absolute power might in time be assumed by this Congress, were it without any check, its acts therefore should go home for the Royal assent. The Crown to have no power to reject them, or the Provincial acts, unless done within three years after their passing here." That is, to prevent the Congress from assuming absolute power, let them have no power at all to do any one thing, except what the King, from time to time, wills to have done, and let him have three years to consider upon every act before he either affirms or annuls it. And this restriction, this planner would have laid upon all the Provincial Assemblies too. A fine Constitution, indeed; an excellent device to screen the rights and liberties of *America* against all future attempts of the Crown and *British* Ministry! That she may henceforth be effectually secured from the encroachments of the Crown, let the Crown be invested with absolute power to restrain her from passing any one act for her own security or benefit, either in Congress or Provincial Assemblies, but what the King, in his sovereign pleasure, allows her to do, from time to time. This entirely undermines the security seemingly given her in the second article: "Parliament shall not intermeddle with the internal police of the Colonies." No! But the King and his Ministry shall, as far as they please. Let the Colonies provide for their own internal government. Yes, as far as the King pleases, and in such manner as he, with the *British* Council, approves, and no further. Suppose the Provinces give a bounty to encourage any kind of manufactures, or lay a duty on any luxuries imported from *Britain*, or make acts to prohibit the importation of *African* Slaves into the Colonies, &c., &c., will the *British* Council advise the King to confirm them?

The sixth article proposes that *America* should agree that the King shall have a right to keep up a Standing Army of ten or twelve thousand men in *America* in times of peace. Yes, give him a constitutional right to drive in a small wedge, and he will be able after that to get in a bigger. No, the article says, "more than this stipulated number the Crown should not send without the consent of the General Congress." By such an article, *America* would invite the *British* Ministry to use all their interest to corrupt the members of her Congress, and make it their interest to do so; and they would probably succeed by degrees. At first, draw them in to consent to fifteen thousand, then to twenty. When by this their constituents are alarmed, and themselves brought into danger, they will readily consent to the introduction of thirty or forty thousand, and we shall soon have all our Tories in the Army, prepared to cut us off. This article opens a door to the tyranny of *Britain* and a military Government, under the pretence of shutting the door against it. If *America* agrees to this, she is lost.

The eighth article proposes, "that *America* should agree to pay the King a perpetual duty of eight per cent. upon all merchandises imported from foreign countries." For what? To pay *Britain* for protecting her by a Standing Army, kept up within her in times of peace, when she neither wants nor

desires it, and would be much safer without it; and because she is to receive the duties arising from the regulation of trade? Her trade is regulated and restrained by the Parliament, to *Britain's* great advantage, and to *America's* great prejudice, and this without any charge to *Britain*; so *America* owes her nothing for this. The duties *America* pays upon the regulations of her trade, to her own disadvantage, she ought in all reason and equity to pay to herself. And this plan proposes to give them to her; but then it artfully takes them back double from her by other duties payable to *Britain*. This plan is a betrayer of *America's* liberty and safety; whether designedly so or not, no ways concerns the publick to inquire.

#### REMARKS ON THE PROPOSED AMERICAN COMPACT.

New-York, April 18, 1776.

A gentleman, who styles himself *An English American*, in his plan of compact, proposes, thirdly: "The Crown shall appoint the officers of Government during good behaviour, &c." But whence have all our troubles sprung? Have not our Governours, appointed by the Crown, been the principal source of all our calamities, by their ambition and covetousness, their misrepresentation and calumny? They want larger salaries, and Regulars to keep the people in awe; and instead of being the fathers of their people, have been their betrayers, oppressors, and murderers. The Continent would have been in peace, had it not been for these appointed Governours. It never was worth while to take up arms at all, unless these can be expelled. They are like the roots of a cancer, which, if not entirely eradicated, soon spread as bad as ever. These men, if reconciliation was immediately to take place, would never rest until they had embroiled us again. They have had their reign already, and have been banished for their oppression and tyranny. Let us never receive them, nor any of their order again, who have proved such vipers. We should be fools, indeed, if, after all their schemes to subdue the several Colonies to arbitrary power, and even to spirit up the *Indians* and *Negroes* to murder us in our peaceable habitations, we should ever suffer them to remain among us.

But they shall continue only during good behaviour. But who is to judge of their good behaviour? The good people of the *Massachusetts-Bay* judged that *Bernard* and *Hutchinson* did not behave well, and preferred a complaint against them to his Majesty. But what did it avail? The Governours were acquitted, and the complaint dismissed as a false and scandalous libel. If Governours are diligent and resolute in enlarging the power of the Crown, and lessening the liberties of the subject, it is to no purpose at all to complain against them. Sundry noblemen in *Scotland*, in the reign of *Charles II.*, accused *Lauderdale* of many horrid oppressions and unheard-of cruelties; but the King, after hearing the case, acquitted him, saying, though they had proved many damned things against him, yet they had not proved that he had intended to lessen his prerogative. Nay, the bloody Marquis of *Antrim*, who encouraged and headed the *Irish* Papists in the massacre, when they murdered almost all the Protestants of *Ireland*, was acquitted by the express order of his Majesty. Now, there cannot be worse men in this world than the Marquis of *Antrim*, *Lauderdale*, *Hutchinson*, and *Bernard*.

In article sixth: He thinks it would be useful for us, that the King should have a right to keep ten or twelve thousand troops to repel any sudden invasion, &c. But a Standing Army is one of the greatest grievances. The Praetorian Guards at *Rome* were, I believe, not a larger body, if so large; yet they kept the whole world in slavery for many ages, raised any one to be Emperor whom they pleased, and cut him off if he happened to disoblige them, and set up another in his room. Yet there were ten times as many soldiers in the Empire as are now in *America* and *Great Britain* together, whom this handful of Praetorian Guards thus insulted and abused for sundry centuries. A Standing Army have great power to do mischief and enslave countries, because they are already raised, and disposed to follow an ambitious leader, where there is no danger. They are greedy of large fees and plunder. As to their repelling a sudden invasion, they have no great inclination for that business. Living in idleness, they become effeminate and cowardly, and ready to flee at the approach of a brave enemy. Their

chief business seems to be drunkenness and lewdness, to insult the inhabitants, promote riot, and debauch the women. Let *Boston* tell the great benefit she has derived from having two or three regiments quartered there.

Professor *Duncan*, speaking of the Armies of the several nations of *Europe*, says, "that the soldiers are the dregs of every nation." This was not suggested by passion and prejudice, but fact. (See his *Cæsar's Commentaries*.) What benefit, security, or defence, could we expect from those who are the dregs of mankind? They ought not to be named with the Provincials and Militia, who are freemen, sons of liberty, property, and bravery. Why should the riches of a country be expended to support a useless Army of debauchees.

There is no doubt but there are great deficiencies in the regulation of the Militia. The ancient *Greeks* served till they were seventy; the *Romans* till they were forty-five years of age. Perhaps a medium between these two extremities would be best. Many will often do as good service at fifty-five, as ever they could. But in many places, even in *New-England*, you will scarcely find a man that is forty years of age. This method tends to weaken the country. Suppose, after they had arrived at thirty-five or forty years of age, they were to be advanced into a more respectable body, or had some little privilege granted them, to raise their ambition, but still kept in the roll. Surely the Assemblies should take this affair into immediate consideration. The Militia do not train enough to make them expert at arms. Some writers propose that they should be trained steadily two years; others, that they should train fifty days every year. But such plans would be too burdensome and expensive. It would be sufficient for them to train an afternoon every week, including two days of a general review, one in the spring and another in the fall, of each regiment. This would amount in the whole but to twenty-seven days in a year, and would hinder but very little business. There would not, perhaps, be one acre of land less ploughed and improved, if such a plan were to take place, than there is now. And there would be no need of any other expenses more than if they were at home. It is not harder work to handle the musket than the flail, the axe, the plough, or the hoe. If the Colonies should adopt some such plan, they will always be able and ready to repel any sudden invasion. Indeed, the very report of such a plan of training Militia would prevent any nation from invading us, where there are no riches to plunder, and where they must be sure to be knocked on the head. No need at all then of ten thousand Regulars, debauchees and cowards, to protect the Colonies against the whole world.

AN INDEPENDENT WHIG.

#### REPLY TO REMARKS OF RATIONALIS, ON "COMMON SENSE."

New-York, April 18, 1776.

This writer censures *Common Sense* as unjust in representing Monarchical Government as disapproved by Heaven, and endeavours to show, on the contrary, that it is equally approved with any other form that men may devise. A little attention to the Scriptures will clear this matter. *God* foresaw that his nation would in time insist upon having a King, like the other nations, and, therefore, in his laws, gave rules for him to govern himself by. *Deuteronomy* xvii, 14-20: "He shall not multiply horses to himself, neither shall he multiply wives to himself, that his heart turn not away; neither shall he greatly multiply to himself silver and gold. He shall write himself a copy of the law, and he shall read therein all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his *God*—to keep all the words of this law, and these statutes to do them; that his heart may not be lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left." Kings thus governing themselves and their people, in the fear of the Lord, are accepted with him, and loved and honoured by their subjects. Had *Britain's* King done so, *America* would have been in peace this day. Where will you find such a King? They are all turned aside and apostatized. How are they lifted above their brethren? When *Israel*, weary of the moderate and gracious government *God* had hitherto exercised over them by their Judges and Elders, and, stimulated by worldly ambition, insisted on having Kings over them, like the rest of the nations; *God*, foreseeing that

so great, perpetuated power, in the hands of one man and one family, would prove very intoxicating and corrupting, too heavy for the weakness of the human mind to support with honour; and that Government, thrown into this form, would, in fact, soon degenerate into an oppressing tyranny, and so prove a curse instead of a blessing,—directed *Samuel* to lay this before the people, as an argument to dissuade them from insisting upon having their demand of a Kingly Government granted. He did so, and has painted a covetous, greedy, proud, and oppressive tyrant, lifting himself up above his brethren, to the life. See 1 *Samuel* viii, 10–18. The people still persisting in their demand, *God* condescended to it, and in granting their request, they found their punishment. “I gave them a King in mine anger.”—*Hosea* xiii, 11.

Thus, as a fool, they prepared a rod for their own backs. This, then, is the result; if a people, in forming a plan of Government, will consult the Supreme Ruler of the nations, his advice to them is not to establish Monarchical Government, because it easily and naturally degenerates into tyranny; but if they choose it, he suffers it to be so, and uses their Kings as an iron rod in chastening the apostate rebel nations, and by the heavy strokes of these iron rods, he dashes the earthen vessels one after another. The Kingdoms both of *Israel* and *Judah* were ruined by their Kings; so have numberless nations been; so will *Britain* probably be; so will *America* soon be, unless *God*, in great mercy, now saves her, as he did *David* from the paw of the bear and the mouth of the lion. The plain truth is, the nations, by presumptuously trusting too great power in the hands of one man and one family, have caught a Tartar. All history confirms this. Considering the weak and disordered state of human nature, no other can be expected.

*Common Sense* objects against the hereditary Kings, that this is a frequent occasion of great and destructive contentions. To this, *Rationalis* opposes the strifes and contentions that arise about the choice of Kings in elective Monarchies, and instances *Poland*. The *Polish* Kings are elective, but by whom? Not by the body of the people, nor by men deputed by the people to choose a King for them; but by a set of great men in the nation, who are independent on the people, have usurped a tyranny over them, and are generally pensioners to neighbouring Kings, who interfere by these their creatures, and frequently by their armies too, in the choice of a new King for *Poland*. No wonder, then, that that Kingdom is thrown into great commotions on these occasions. The manifest truth is, that, when the Crowns of Kingdoms are invested with exorbitant powers, and decorated with great riches and high prerogatives, dangerous to the rights and liberties of the subjects, they become objects of greedy, coveting desire, and a bone of frequent furious contention amongst great ones, whether they are hereditary or elective; and the people are sure to suffer and bleed, whoever bears away the prize.

*Rationalis* complains that *Common Sense* argues from the abuse of the *British* Constitution, to its insufficiency to secure its grand aim—the liberty and happiness of the people; and says, if the several branches of the Legislature would be faithful, the *British* Constitution would be the best in the world. In this he does not do *Common Sense* common justice. He points out the errors and defects inherent in the Constitution itself, (some of them, but not all,) the chief of which is, the exorbitant powers and dangerous prerogatives given to the Crown, and shows that the great abuses of the Government naturally arise out of the errors and defects in the Constitution itself.

The Bill of Rights has limited the Crown a little, but not enough to secure the interest and liberty of the subjects. Had the limitations proposed by the long Parliament to *Charles I.* taken place, it would have been happy for the nation. That is a bad Constitution indeed, under which the rulers, though ever so faithful, cannot serve the interest of the nation. That is a good and wisely constructed Constitution, by virtue of which the governing powers have full liberty and authority to do all the good to the people they wish them to do, and at the same time are made liable to be restrained and controlled by them, whenever they attempt to sacrifice the publick interest to their private passions, and whereby the subjects have reserved in their own hands full power to remove corrupt and dangerous rulers, from year to year, and put worthier in their places. Such is the Consti-

tution proposed to *America*. The *British* Constitution furnishes no such effectual security against a corrupt Parliament and Administration. The liberty of making a new choice of members for a House of Commons once in seven years, as things are managed, is of no advantage, is no real security to the people. The nation might as well leave the nomination of their Representatives in Parliament to the King, as they do the nomination of their Bishops; for he does in effect nominate and secure a large majority as his creatures.

But *Rationalis* endeavours to frighten the people, and prejudice them against the proposed plan of *American* Government, by telling many frightful stories of the violent factions, confusions, and tyranny of Commonwealths, and instances *Athens*, *Rome*, and *Carthage*. These cities were once Commonwealths, in an imperfect, defective form. But many other cities, Provinces, and people, were conquered by them; especially the two last, stripped of their liberties, and subdued under their Government. These were not generally incorporated as members of the Commonwealth, invested with equal rights and liberties; but the ruling cities exercised an arbitrary government over them, like what *Britain* is now attempting over *America*; reserving to themselves the power of the purse and the sword, and the disposal of the great offices. No wonder, then, these ruling cities were rent with factious strifes among their members, and tyrants to their conquered subjects. If the City of *Philadelphia*, or *New-York*, should form itself into a Commonwealth, and then conquer the whole Province, and bow it under her Government, doubtless she would rule as a tyrant, and be agitated and torn by great strifes among her own members, contending among themselves for offices and the spoils of a Province.

*Rationalis* also mentions the Commonwealth formed in *England* after *Charles I.* was cut off, as another instance to his purpose. He might as well have mentioned the conquest and tyranny of *William I.* over *England*. They that had the Government after *Charles's* death, proudly styled themselves the Commonwealth of *England*, but were not so; but only a party of mad enthusiasts and violent Independents, with a few Deists, formed in the Long Parliament, who have artfully got the Army into their power, usurped the Government of the nation, and ruled by the sword and arbitrary power. Their Government was a real tyranny. And when *Cromwell* usurped it from them, it was only an exchange of many joint tyrants for one.

Suppose, as the issue of the present war, the *British* Government in *America* is overthrown, and some little party among us, as for instance the *Baptists*, aided by the Army, should form themselves as a kind of Commonwealth, and violently assume and exercise sovereign dominion over all *America*, and arrogantly style themselves the Commonwealth of *America*, would this make them really so? Would not *America*, in this case, be really a conquered people, under the tyrant rule of the *Baptists*? To what purpose are such instances of the few, formed among themselves as a kind of Commonwealth, and exercising tyrant rule over the many, introduced to discredit such a genuine Commonwealth as is recommended to *America*, wherein all who are subject to its Government are constituent members of it, and have all equal rights, liberties, and privileges, and equal interest in its Government? They have no analogy or likeness to this plan.

*Rationalis* thinks the right time to declare for an independent Government is not yet come; that we ought yet to seek reconciliation; that if we cannot obtain safe terms, we should still fight on for them, till every brave man in *America* is slain. We shall do so before *Britain* will grant such terms; then, after that, if we cannot obtain them, and the aggressors call in foreign aid in this last extremity, we may do so too, and then declare. This brings to mind the old proverb, “After death call the Doctor.” Fight for an accommodation till all your brave men, who have courage to fight, are slain, then set up Independency. He knows it will then be too late. Yes, yes, fight down and slaughter all the sons of liberty, then the sons of slavery will have free liberty to subject their country to the conqueror’s iron yoke, and may, perhaps, share a very small part of her spoils as the reward of their villany. Will not *America* erect a superb monument in honour of this great master of reason, this wise counsellor?

When the people first came to *Samuel*, demanding a King, *God* said to him, Harken to their voice, yet protest solemnly unto them, (that in this they sin against the Lord to their own hurt,) and show them the manner of the King that shall reign over them; that is, what will in fact be the spirit and oppressive burden of Kingly Government. This is called the manner of the Kingdom. 2 *Samuel* x, 25. As *Samuel* had before told them how it would be if they put themselves under Kingly Government, so now, they persisting in their demand, and, in a spirit of unbelief, presumptuously despising all the consequences *God* had forewarned them of, and having received the Kingly Government which *God* gave them in his anger, as an instrument of chastising, with presumptuous shouting, *Samuel* repeats to them what he had foretold them before, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord, that it might remain a witness for *God*, that he had faithfully forewarned them of the oppressions and miseries they were bringing on themselves and their posterity, and a witness against them in the day when they should find this prediction verified upon them, and cry unto the Lord by reason of their grievous oppressions by the hand of their King, and not be heard.

As all Scripture is given for our instruction and warning, so this in particular is a speaking admonition to *America* now, when Heaven is opening a door of deliverance from such sore oppression, and the *British* Government, by their cruel and brutish treatment of her, has released her from all obligations of conscience, gratitude, or interest, to remain any longer subject to it, or dependant on it; and if now, (after all the cruel injuries we have suffered, and the greater we cannot but foresee,) we say nay, we will not be made free, but we will have a King, even *Britain's* King, to reign over us and over our children, we shall soon cry out, by reason of infinite oppressions, with a great and a bitter cry, and the Lord will not hear us in that day. How justly might he answer us, saying, I would have set you free, but you would not accept it; go cry to your King and tyrant rulers, whom you have chosen; let them deliver you.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, April 18, 1776.

SIR: Permit me, through you, to convey to the honourable Congress the sentiments of gratitude I feel for the high honour they have done me in the publick mark of approbation contained in your favour of the 2d instant, which came to hand last night. I beg you to assure them that it will ever be my highest ambition to approve myself a faithful servant of the publick, and that, to be in any degree instrumental in procuring to my *American* brethren a restitution of their just rights and privileges, will constitute my chief happiness.

Agreeable to your request, I have communicated, in general orders, to the officers and soldiers under my command, the thanks of Congress for their good behaviour in the service; and am happy in having such an opportunity of doing justice to their merit. They were, indeed, at first "a band of undisciplined husbandmen;" but it is (under *God*) to their bravery and attention to their duty that I am indebted for that success which has procured me the only reward I wish to receive—the affection and esteem of my countrymen. The medal intended to be presented to me by your honourable body, I shall carefully preserve as a memorial of their regard.

I beg leave to return you, sir, my warmest thanks for the polite manner in which you have been pleased to express their sentiments of my conduct; and am, with sincere esteem and respect, sir, yours and their most obedient and most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, April 18, 1776.

I received your favour of the 17th instant, in answer to Colonel *Glover's* application to you. I am of opinion that all accounts respecting the armed vessels should be paid by the Agents only; and as the trial of the prizes cannot be much longer deferred, they will have cash for the goods which may be condemned, in their hands, much more than

sufficient to answer the demands upon them; if there is not a probability of this, you will be pleased to give a warrant for as much as will pay the wages due. The ship *Jenny* and the brigantine, both taken by *Commodore Manly*, (the former from *London*, the latter from *Antigua*, bound to *Boston*.) are, by what I can learn, proper vessels to be fitted out as cruisers. You will therefore, sir, have a person of knowledge and trust sent on board to examine them. If the report of them is such as they have been represented to me, you must have them purchased for account of the United Colonies. If *Commodore Manly* is in your neighbourhood his opinion of them must have weight; and if they are fit for the purpose, he will, of course, have his choice of them, and attend the fixing one of them out. His First Lieutenant can command the *Hancock* in the mean time. The sooner this is put in execution the better. Nothing material to inform you of from hence.

I am, &amp;c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General Ward.

## NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 18, 1776.

SIR: Your recommendation of yesterday we took into consideration immediately on receipt of it; and, thereupon, framed the enclosed resolves and orders.

We cannot sufficiently thank your Excellency for your most delicate attention to the civil Government of this Colony, and beg leave to give you the strongest assurances that we most eagerly embrace this, as we shall every other, opportunity of co-operating with you in every measure which shall come recommended to us with the argument of public utility.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM PAULDING, *Chairman*.

To General Washington.

## LORD STIRLING TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, April 18, 1776.

SIR: *Thomas Vernon* was some time since made prisoner on the evidence of one *Craig*, a copy of which I now enclose you, and I think was then examined by the Committee of Safety. The General desires me to transmit to you the enclosed letter from *Vernon*, and request that the Committee would make such further inquiry into the matter as will enable them to determine whether it be worth while to keep him any longer prisoner or not.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

STIRLING.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of New-York.

## CRAIG'S Examination relative to THOMAS VERNON, a prisoner.

*Craig*, lately a soldier in the First Regiment of *Yorkers*, declares that he was employed by one *Vernon*, a hatter of this city, to rig out a sloop the said *Vernon* had lately purchased by order of Governour *Tryon*, to be employed by the Governour as a tender or cutter, and occasionally to cruise in the *North* and *East Rivers*; that the said *Vernon* was to be supplied by the said Governour with swivels for the said sloop; that the said *Craig* went on board, with the said *Vernon*, of the *Dutchess of Gordon*, and there conversed with the Governour and the Attorneys General *Kemp* and *Skinner*, who urged him to be active in procuring as many men as possible, not only for the said sloop, but for the *Asia* and other men-of-war soon expected here; that above fifty or sixty soldiers, now in town, in the Continental service, were engaged by the said *Vernon* for the service of the Ministry.

March 12, 1776.

## ELIHU MARVIN TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Orange County, April 18, 1776.

This Committee being informed that the four regiments ordered to be raised in this Province are not yet full, and it is the opinion of this Committee that there may be another company raised on the north side of the mountains, if war-

rants may be had; we therefore recommend *Seth Marvin* for a Captain, and *Joshua Brown* for First Lieutenant, as proper persons; and as the other two officers are not pitched upon yet, we promise, if blank warrants are sent here, to fill up the same for those we think to be proper persons.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your humble servant.

By order of the Committee:

ELIHU MARVIN, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

ELIHU MARVIN TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Orange County, April 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of this County being met, and having considered several places for erecting a Powder-Mill, agreeable to the resolve of Congress, do approve of a place at or near *John Carpenter's* saw-mill, in the Precinct of *Cornwall*, in the County of *Orange*, near *Graycourt*, to be a convenient place; and *Henry Wisner, Esq.*, and *John Carpenter*, do apply for recommendation; and this Committee do recommend the said *Henry Wisner, Esq.*, and *John Carpenter*, both of *Orange County*, to be proper persons to build the same.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

Per order:

ELIHU MARVIN, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

ELIHU MARVIN TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Orange County, Oxford, April 18, 1776.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *NEW-YORK* during the recess of Congress:

GENTLEMEN: The Committee of this County have been informed by Colonel *William Allison*, that the sum of two hundred pounds is allowed towards paying their Deputies for attendance in Congress during the course of their service; and as the money is wanting, I would, therefore, in the name of this Committee, desire that it might be sent up by the bearer, (*Seth Marvin*), together with your instructions for disbursing the same, if necessary.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your humble servant,

ELIHU MARVIN, *Chairman*.

JEREMIAH CLARK TO TEUNIS CUYPER.

New-Cornwall, April 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I take this opportunity, per Lieutenant *Roe*, to inform you that we held our election to choose a Deputy for the next Convention, day before yesterday, and chose *Archibald Little, Esq.*, for *Cornwall* Precinct. Who is chosen in *Goshen* I know not.

Sir, you may remember that, not long since, I wrote a line to the Committee in behalf of Lieutenant *Roe*. He is down now on the same business, and he wants to know what he may depend upon, as the season of the year is far advanced. I think if there is a vacancy he is as suitable a man for a Captain as I could recommend in the County. If it should be agreeable to you, I hope you will give him both your advice and assistance. If he should succeed, he will inform as to under officers.

Sir, pardon my boldness, and permit me, with great esteem, to subscribe myself your most humble servant,

JEREMIAH CLARK.

To *Teunis Cooper, Esq.*, in Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

To the Honourable the Continental Congress.

The Petition of the Committee of Safety, and Officers of the Militia of *KING's District*, in *ALBANY County*, and *Province of NEW-YORK*, together with part of the Committee and Militia Officers of the east part of *CLAVE-RACK District*, in said County, also the east part on *MA-NOR RENNELAERWICK District*, in said County, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioners live in that part of *Albany County* that adjoins to the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and is peopled from the *New-England Colonies*.

That your Petitioners have, from the commencing of hostilities by the *British Troops* at *Lexington* and *Concord*,

been attentive to the preservation of the rights and liberties of *America*, and particularly attended the rules of Congress therein.

That your Petitioners did, on the earliest notice of the country's want of men to withstand the violence of the *British Troops*, array themselves in military order for that purpose; particularly at the time when Colonel (now Brigadier-General) *Arnold* was on his way to surprise and take possession of the important posts of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*, (on intelligence obtained,) Colonel *Arnold* did, by his letter, send back for men to come immediately to his assistance, a copy of said letter being sent to that part of the County before described, your Petitioners, in Militia Companies, met for the purpose of gathering a number of men that were willing to go to the assistance of said Colonel *Arnold*, on which there did voluntarily appear to the number of one hundred men or more, to go to his assistance. Part of which did immediately march to *Albany*, there expecting to be furnished with some guns and ammunition, (as they were not all furnished,) and at *Albany* did make application to the Committee of Safety for the County, who were then sitting; but said Committee not having the sentiments of the Government or country in regard to taking possession of said forts, did not at that time think proper to furnish said men, on which said men did return, and thereon the others did not at that time go forward, yet held themselves in readiness for the purpose if wanted.

That the said volunteers, with a number of others joining, did, a short time after, at the desire of the Committee of the County, (on the resolves of Congress,) proceed to *Albany*, and from thence to *Ticonderoga*, in three Captains' companies, under the direction of the Committee aforesaid, and did continue in the country's service until the last winter, when they were dismissed; after which, under the direction of the General in *Canada*, out of the three companies, one was formed to continue in service through the winter and part of the spring.

Besides the aforesaid companies, there went one Captain's company, and part of two or more to join the Army before *Boston*, from the parts before mentioned. And your Petitioners think they are warranted, from the conduct of the aforesaid companies through that campaign, to say that it was to the honour of their country.

In addition to what is now mentioned, of the readiness and service, &c., on the news of General *Montgomery's* repulse and death before *Quebeck*, the last winter, and want of troops in that department, there immediately turned out and went part of a company from the aforesaid *King's District*, (joining with Captain *Goodrich's* Company, of *Massachusetts-Bay*;) and many more would have engaged, but distance from home, the season of the year, and shortness of the preparation for leaving home, prevented them.

Your Petitioners would now inform that, since the aforesaid dismissal, the greater part of said men remain at home, and the others expected soon, as their time is now expired; and that, in the raising the battalion in this Province this spring, there has been no appointment of officers in these parts, (as a quota of men with the County were in service,) and the people desire if it could be, they may be formed into a battalion, with officers in the parts before-mentioned; to accomplish which, the good people before-mentioned did request the Committee first mentioned, and the officers of the Militia, to meet and inquire into the practicability of forming a battalion, or part of a battalion, as aforesaid; and if they found there were men who might be spared, and who were willing to enter into their country's necessary service, sufficient for that purpose, to pursue such ways and means as to accomplish the same.

On which desire the Committee and militia aforesaid did meet, and, on inquiry, found, according to the readiness manifested among the people, there might be a battalion, or part of a battalion raised, of good and proper men that are heartily engaged for their country's good, accordingly petitioned the General Committee of the County aforesaid, desiring their assistance in procuring the same, (as the battalion to be raised in the County and Government were officered;) but said Committee was pleased to give your Petitioners a negative answer. Since which, your Petitioners have resolved to lay before your honourable body their readiness to enter into the Continental service; and therefore have laid before you this their Petition, and here-



with send one of the members of the Committee of the aforesaid *King's* District, and desire that the subject-matter of this Petition may be heard, and the privilege of a battalion, or part of a battalion, with officers thereto, from the parts before mentioned, be directed to be raised for the Continental service, if wanted, under the direction of such person or persons as your honourable body shall appoint.

And your Petitioners in duty are bound to pray.

Signed by order of the aforesaid Committee and officers, in behalf of themselves and the people aforesaid.

Dated *King's* District, *Albany* County, Province of *New-York*, the 18th day of *April*, 1776.

MAT. ADGATE,	BARET DYER,	} Committee.
ASA DOUGLASS,	JOSEPH WOOD,	
ELISHA PRATT,	PETER GARNSEY,	
W. B. WHITING,		

Col. 17th Reg. Militia, in the County of ALBANY.

To the Congress.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FORT GEORGE, DATED APRIL 18, 1776.

I arrived at this place last *Tuesday* afternoon, and expected to find the lakes open, but am disappointed. General *Thomas* left this place yesterday morning, and intended to break his way through; and this day about forty batteaus went off with the same intention, and carried about five hundred men; the residue of the troops here, (about three hundred,) and the cannon, (four thirty-two-pounders, four twenty-four-pounders, four eighteen, and some nine, with eight tons of powder,) go off in the morning. The batteaus which went away this day, we just hear, have got above twelve miles. Colonel *St. Clair's* Regiment is at *Fort Edward*, fourteen miles below this, and are ordered here to-morrow.

This day arrived, with their interpreter, (Mr. *Deane*,) the Indian Delegates of the seven tribes in *Canada*, from the Congress of the *Six Nations*, at *Onondaga*. I was introduced to, and had the honour to take them by the hand. *Deane* says they have resolved to observe a strict neutrality, and have appointed deputies to attend our Indian Commissioners at *Albany*, and may be daily expected there.

I write this from the spot where the battle was fought and *Dieskau* taken prisoner, by Sir *William Johnson*, and within a quarter of a mile of *Fort William Henry*, which *Montcalm* took.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 29, 1776.—Referred to Mr. Harrison, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Rodney.]

Williamsburgh, April 19, 1776.

SIR: The disagreeable uncertainty I have been in (from the circumstance of their being able to fly in their ships from one spot to another) of the enemy's designs, has kept me at *Williamsburgh*. It is evident that their original intention was against *North-Carolina*; but the apparently total overthrow of their whole scheme by Colonel *Caswell's* victory, makes it more probable that they will bend their force to some other quarter; whether to this Province or *South-Carolina*, it is impossible to divine. I am myself more inclined to think that this will be their object, as the numerous intersecting navigable waters present them such superior advantages; though, at the same time, I confess myself in great pain for *South-Carolina*.

The force in that Province seems alarmingly small. I wish I could afford to detach from hence at least three battalions; but neither our number of men, the state and condition of our arms, nor the vast extent of this Province (open to attack) will admit of the thought. If *Pennsylvania* could spare three or four battalions for the defence of *Virginia*, *Virginia* or *North-Carolina* might detach the same number to *South-Carolina*; and as the Army which was employed in the blockade of *Boston* is now set at liberty, I should imagine this force might be afforded us.

We are so extremely deficient in arms that I have been under the necessity of sending an officer into the back parts of the country to purchase all the rifles he can procure, for the Continental service. The arrangement I have made of arming two companies of each battalion with spears, will render muskets and bayonets less necessary; and the ease I

find in reconciling the men to this kind of arm, is a flattering symptom of their spirit. The price of these rifles, I am told, will be five pounds each; but as the article of cartouches, accoutrements, and bayonets, will be saved, upon the whole, they will not be more, if so expensive.

The defence and security of the capital rivers, with their creeks, are an object of so great importance that I have thought it necessary to direct as great a number of half galleys as possible to be constructed with the utmost expedition; but as the carpenters and other artificers in this country are so lazy a race of mortals that it is in vain to expect any fruits from their labours, unless there is a coercive power over them, I thought it the surest and safest method to establish, or try to establish, two companies of carpenters, on the same terms with those in the *Jerseys*. The measure is absolutely necessary, and I flatter myself it will prove economy.

The nature of the service here is such, (the force not being collected into one point, but scattered in fragments,) that a greater number of subordinate staff officers are requisite than in the Northern and Eastern Armies. I have, therefore, taken the liberty, until the pleasure of the Congress is further known, to appoint a few who could not be dispensed with. Enclosed is a list of them.

The Committee of Safety, I find, sir, had not apprized you of their having already raised a company of Artillery, and appointed officers. Captain *Imis*, who was placed at the head of it, though he professes himself utterly ignorant of this particular branch, is a man of great zeal, capacity, and merit; and as there is a vacant Majority in the Ninth, or Colonel *Flemming's* Regiment, I have ventured to appoint him to act in that station, in hopes that the Congress will confirm his commission. A body of horse is a *sine qua non* in a country circumstanced like this. I take the liberty of enclosing to you an address I published to the young gentlemen of this Colony on the subject, and wish it may meet with your approbation.

I shall make Monsieur *Arundel* accountable for the sixty dollars; but, at the same time, beg leave to submit to the consideration of the Congress, whether the expenses of his journey should not be allowed. They amount to thirty dollars. Indeed, the pay of the Artillery officers and Engineers is so wretched that I do not see any chance of procuring men fit for the service on the terms; and if they are procured, they cannot possibly subsist, unless the expenses of their frequent journeys are paid, for they are obliged, from the nature of their business, to make more journeys than other officers, and not in corps, but singly. I have been obliged to subsist Baron *Hasenback*; as likewise to furnish Captain *Smith*, who is now at *York*, with money for his expenses.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. Enclosed is an affidavit transmitted from *North-Carolina*, with a resolve of their Provincial Congress. I forgot to mention that I advanced at *New-York* to Monsieur *Arundel* fifteen dollars, to carry him to *Philadelphia*; but I shall send to the Secretary, as soon as possible, an account of the several sums I have advanced. To-morrow I set out to visit the posts at *Suffolk*, *Kemp's Island*, the *Great Bridge*, &c.

C. L.

TO THE YOUNG GENTLEMEN OF VIRGINIA.

As an Army without Cavalry is, in all countries, a very defective machine, but in this Province, circumstanced as it is, it is impossible to carry on the service with any tolerable degree of credit, without a certain proportion of this species of troops, General *Lee* begs leave to address himself to the young gentlemen of the different Counties, entreating that they will form themselves into companies of Light Dragoons, consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Cornet, two Sergeants, two Corporals, and a Trumpet or Horn-Sounder. As it is intended and hoped that the whole will be composed of gentlemen volunteers, it will not be expected that they should receive any pay; but, at the same time, as it is not reasonable that they should put themselves to the expense of maintaining their horses, they are to be allowed rations for them, as well as for themselves. Their arms should be a short rifle carbine, a light pike, of eight feet

long, and a tomahawk. General *Lee* is confident, if the young gentlemen approve, and adopt this scheme, they will not only do very great honour to themselves, but very important service to their country.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 125.]

Annapolis, April 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received the Honourable Mr. *Hancock's* letter of the 16th instant yesterday afternoon, enclosing a recommendation of Congress that we should immediately cause the person and papers of Governour *Eden* to be seized and secured, and convey such of the papers as related to the *American* dispute safely to Congress; and, also, the person and papers of *A. Ross*, and to transmit the latter likewise to Congress.

Previous to our receipt of the above, we had fully investigated the charge that the intercepted letters imported, in which we conducted ourselves agreeable to what we wrote you by Mr. *Green*, and finally concluded the affair with our answer, a copy of which we now enclose you. The extraordinary manner of communicating the intelligence by the Council of Safety of *Virginia* to us, with the behaviour of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore*, give us cause to complain of the indignity offered our Board; and we cannot suppress our suspicion that matters have been concerted so as to prevent all information which might otherwise have been laid before you from hence. The letter from the Council of Safety of *Virginia* is dated the 7th instant, and was conveyed through *Baltimore* to us on the 15th, about three o'clock, P. M., by four gentlemen deputed by that body to wait on us with it, (whose conduct was very disingenuous and exceptionable,) and the resolves passed on the 16th. We are at a loss otherwise to account for the length of time the letter was passing from *Williamsburgh* to us, and the expedition with which the despatch appears to have been transmitted from *Baltimore* to *Philadelphia*, the instructions given Captain *Samuel Smith* by the Committee of *Baltimore*, and those given by Captain *Nicholson* to his Lieutenant, copies of which we likewise send you. The originals came into our hands accidentally, and the whole of the proceedings of the *Baltimore* Committee were kept from us.

Whence this unmerited treatment has sprung, we cannot conceive, as we ever most cheerfully co-operated with and assisted the Colony of *Virginia* in such measures as we could justify, from our situation, and have always considered the interest and security of *Baltimore* as essential to this Province, and acted correspondently. With these ideas, and reflecting upon these circumstances, and being fully persuaded the Congress would have determined differently if they had been furnished with the same evidence upon which we proceeded, we cannot but hope they will rest satisfied with what we have done, more especially as a Convention is shortly to be held, and we are firmly persuaded the Governour will not stir from his station, or do anything to disturb the peace of the Province between this time and the meeting of that body. We consider the Congress as having the supreme authority over the Continent, and look up to them with reverence and esteem, but that they cannot interfere, with uncontrollable power, in the internal polity of this, or any other Province; and herein we are supported by the resolves of the late Convention. If unhappily, however, they do not approve our conduct, we are determined to call a Convention with all convenient speed, and lay our whole transactions before them, that they may judge of the propriety of what we have done.

We omitted informing you before that the Governour assured us, on his honour, that he had received no letters from the Ministry at home but those he delivered to us, and of which we have heretofore sent you copies. He has also given us leave to search all his papers, if we think proper. We are not convinced that he has carried on any correspondence with the Ministry unfriendly to *America*. If on suspicion only we seize the head of the civil Government, all commissions of Magistrates, Sheriffs, and other officers flowing from him must be at an end, and the Council of Safety have no power to fill up the vacancy. The Convention have this power inherent in them, as Representatives of the people; they have not communicated it to us

that we can find. On seizing the Governour, therefore, the Convention ought to be immediately called, to take the state and condition of the Province into their consideration, and make provision for the civil department. If you recommend calling it earlier than the 27th, we shall pay due attention to the day you fix on. We have done everything in our power to promote the interest and peace of the Province, and are firmly persuaded that, if this storm blows over, we shall continue to enjoy quiet some time longer, if not the whole campaign, and, perhaps, before another, all will be settled happily. We write to the President by this opportunity, and we think ourselves fortunate in having *William Paca* with us, and approving of all we have done; and we doubt not you would have acted, in substance, as we have done, had you been here on the spot. Our Council, consisting of *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *Benjamin Rumsey*, and *James Tilghman*; were unanimous in their opinion, and if we are suffered to go on our own way, all will end as it should do. If, on the other hand, the Governour is treated with ignominy and rigour, and laid under arrest, and guarded, &c., we cannot tell what will be the consequence. This we are certain of, our Government will be shaken to its very foundations, and in what form it would be setted again, we know not.

*A. Ross* was taken by our orders last *Monday*, and brought before us yesterday; but as we had not then time to inquire particularly into his offence, we deferred it until we had a little more leisure, and committed him to the custody of a guard. If, upon examination, he should discover anything which we may apprehend will be of service, we will immediately disclose it to you. We should have been glad to have had a line from you by the express. We have received the money-plates, &c.

And are yours, &c.,

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

*N. B. A. Ross* was represented in the letter to the *Baltimore* Committee as inimical to *America*, but not a word said of him in that addressed to us. We enclose you copies of a letter from *J. Rogers* and *R. Alexander*, and our passport in consequence thereof.

The following is a copy of a Letter from R. ALEXANDER and J. ROGERS, in recommendation of A. ROSS.

Philadelphia, February 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Alexander Ross*, a gentleman of our acquaintance, has applied to us to procure for him from Congress a passport to Lord *Dunmore*, upon whom, he says, he has a very considerable claim, which he hopes he should be able to procure, could he have an opportunity of making a personal demand. From the multiplicity of business now before the Congress, an application of this kind would be attended with great delay, and as a license from your honourable Board will be at least as effectual, we take the liberty of recommending him to your indulgence, being well persuaded he will religiously observe any injunctions you may think proper to lay him under.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

J. ROGERS,

ROBERT ALEXANDER.

For Passport to *Virginia*, vide No. 32.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety for *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO RICHARD HARRISON.

[No. 124.]

Annapolis, April 19, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Conway*, of the Sloop *Molly*, will deliver you this. In the disposition of the cargo you will please observe our former instructions, and send us any returns by this vessel you may have to make, as she is a prime sailer.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Richard Harrison*, *Martinico*.

DOCTOR BOYD TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 22, 1776.]

Philadelphia, April 19, 1776.

SIR: The Congress did me the honour to appoint me Surgeon to the First Battalion of the *Pennsylvania* forces, in *December* last, and I did the duty of Surgeon, till the



is no distinguishing citizens from soldiers, nor any other possible method of keeping the latter to their quarters, and, of consequence, from rioting and disorderly behaviour) that it will be found less inconvenient to the inhabitants (to say nothing of the security which is to be derived from it) to give the countersign at that hour, than submit to the greater inconveniences which may arise out of the neglect of it. After this hour it is strictly enjoined upon the officers to see that their rolls are called, and that the men are in quarters.

General *Thompson* will hasten the embarkation of the Regiments for *Albany* as fast as possible, and is to fix with the Mustermaster-General, Mr. *Moylan*, upon a time and place for mustering of them. These Regiments may be embarked and sent off, one at a time, or otherwise, as it can be done quickest; the General to set out with the last. The Colonels to prepare their muster-rolls immediately.

All persons having business with the Adjutant-General are to repair to his own office, and not to Head-Quarters, to transact it.

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Starke* was President, is dissolved.

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning, at Mr. *France's* Tavern, at ten o'clock. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 17, 1776.

(Parole, *Boston*.)

(Countersign, *Charleston*.)

The General being informed that many of the houses taken up for barracks are much abused by the soldiers, which is a grievance which might be prevented by the officers paying a proper attention to their duty, and more carefully observing the conduct and behaviour of their men, the Barrackmaster is therefore ordered to place a proper proportion of officers in the same houses with the soldiers, who are to be answerable for any mischief done, to prevent any wood being cut upon the floors, or any water or filth thrown out of the windows, as all damages wantonly committed must be paid for out of the pay of the men quartered in the house where such damage is done. The offenders must also expect to suffer a severe corporal punishment for any breach of these orders.

The officers are moreover expressly ordered to see that the men's barracks are kept clean; and the General again urges the necessity of the same cleanliness being observed in the person of the soldiers.

The Colonels and commanding officers of Regiments are to exert their utmost endeavours to complete their companies to the establishment.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Rhode-Island*.)

(Countersign, *Hopkins*.)

The honourable the Continental Congress have been pleased to direct the Thanks of the United Colonies to be presented to the Officers and Soldiers of their Army, who, with unremitting courage and perseverance, surmounted every effort of the enemy, and every obstacle of that severe climate, in persisting for eleven months in the blockade and siege of *Boston*, and finally forcing their enemies to make a shameful and precipitate retreat from that once devoted town. This honourable mark of the approbation of the Congress would have been inserted sooner in the General Orders, had not their express gone to the eastward while the Army was upon the march, and arrived only last evening from *Boston*.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 19, 1776.

(Parole, *Lexington*.)

(Countersign, *Gardner*.)

The Colonels and commanding officers of Corps are, without delay, to make up their Pay Abstracts, agreeable to the order of the 14th instant, and present the same for an order for payment. Necessary clothing, &c., must be immediately provided for every Regiment and Company, and the whole to be in readiness for service here, or elsewhere, as occasion shall require, as no excuses will be admitted to retard or prevent a march or embarkation whenever necessary to be commanded. The Muster-Rolls must be immediately prepared, and the Mustermaster-General is to muster the whole as soon as possible.

The Colonels who have received money for the purchase of arms and blankets are to make out their account of disbursements, and lodge them, with the abstracts, that a final settlement may be made.

All persons serving in the Continental Army without commissions from Congress, are desired to give in their names and employments in writing, that the propriety of their appointments, and the nature of their duty, may be judged of.

Major *Crane* to take the command of the Continental Artillery at *New-York*. All reports and returns of that corps to be made to him.

One Subaltern, one Sergeant, two Corporals, one Drum, and eighteen Privates, from General *Heath's* Brigade, to be sent as soon as possible to *Montresor's Island*, as a guard for the Small-Pox Hospital; the officer, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, to be men that have had the small-pox. The Quartermaster-General to supply a boat, and the Commissary provisions, for the above guard.

*James Britton*, of Captain *Draper's* Company, in Colonel *Bond's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Baldwin* was President, for quitting his post when sentry, is found guilty by the Court, and adjudged to receive twenty lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at such time and place as Colonel *Bond* shall direct.

COLONEL TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, April 19, 1776.

Commissary TRUMBULL's best respects to General *Washington*, and informs that the rations of provision supplied by him to the troops at and near *Cambridge*, per general orders, were and are: 18 ounces salted pork, or 24 ounces salted or fresh beef, or 16 ounces salted fish, per man per diem; 1 pound of flour or bread per man per diem; 1 quart of beer per man per diem, or 9 gallons of molasses per one hundred men per week; 3 pints of peas or beans per man per week; 6 ounces of butter per man per week;  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint of rice, or 1 pound of *Indian* meal per man per week; 6 pounds of candles per one hundred men per week; 24 pounds of soft or 8 pounds of hard soap, per one hundred men per week.

That he paid the officers their rations at and after the rate of seven and a half pence, lawful money of *New-England*, per ration; in which computation, the fractions were given in favour of the officer. Pork was computed at seventy-seven shillings and six pence per barrel; flour at twenty-two shillings and six pence per hundred; beer was not to be had at *Cambridge*, and molasses was generally given at two shillings and two and four pence per gallon.

That he now supplies the same rations in *New-York*. Pork now costs sixty-six shillings per barrel; flour twelve shillings per hundred; and beer (which can be had, and molasses cannot) costs seven shillings and six pence per barrel; and all other articles as cheap, and the most of them a little cheaper here than at *Cambridge*. The difference arises from the difference between land and water transportation; so that there is nearly one and half pence difference in each ration of bread or flour, and nearly one and a half pence in the pork; so that he judges a ration here will not exceed six pence, or six and a half pence, lawful money of *New-England*—equal to eight pence, or eight and one-third pence, currency of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, April 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 12th instant, from *Fort George*, was delivered me, with the enclosures, yesterday, by express. I agree with you that the intelligence is very alarming, and requires the strictest attention. The four regiments ordered from hence are now embarking, and I hope will soon be with you. I need not urge the necessity of forwarding them from *Albany* with all possible despatch. You will have with the troops five hundred barrels of provisions. The Commissary-General expects every moment a large quantity from *Connecticut*; and what can be spared of it shall be sent to you in the same bottoms without delay. What General *Lee* contracted for is not yet delivered. His sudden and unexpected departure to the southward left the contractors at a loss where to deliver the provisions, and apply for the pay. The Commissary-General has since renewed the contract, and ordered them to send the provisions here.

I have ordered a return to be made of the state of our magazine; and if the powder you request can possibly be spared, you shall have it. I have writtten to Congress to know whether they would incline to send you a further reinforcement of men; but we are yet in a very uncertain situation, not knowing where the enemy may bend their force, and constant applications from all quarters of the sea-coast, for a supply of men and ammunition. The recruits that have been lately raised here are totally unfurnished with arms, and, what is still worse, we do not know where to procure them.

You, who know the temper and disposition of the Savages, will, I doubt not, think with me, that it will be impossible to keep them in a state of neutrality. I have urged to Congress the necessity of engaging them on our side to prevent their taking an active part against us, which would be a most fatal stroke, under our present circumstances. The commotions among the *Canadians* is really alarming. I am afraid proper measures have not been taken to conciliate their affections, but rather that they have been insulted and injured, than which nothing could have a greater tendency to ruin our cause in that country; for human nature is such that it will adhere to the side from whence the best treatment is received. I therefore conjure you, sir, to recommend to the officers and soldiers, in the strongest terms, to treat all the inhabitants (*Canadians, English, and Savages*) with tenderness and respect, paying them punctually for what they receive, or giving them such certificates as will enable them to receive their pay.

As you are perfectly well acquainted with the country and its inhabitants in and about *Albany*, I think it would be best for you to remain there, at least until the troops and all their supplies are forwarded from thence to *Canada*. Besides the four regiments ordered for that service, I shall send a company of Riflemen, a company of Artificers, and two Engineers.

I beg you will continue to furnish me with intelligence of every interesting occurrence; and believe me, most affectionately, your obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON TO ISAAC ROOSEVELT AND OTHERS.

New-York, April 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am under the necessity of applying to you for the performance, on your part, of the contract between us. I have, in consequence of that contract, furnished myself with considerable supplies for the troops; and as I do not furnish near enough to bear the expenses, I am now to inform you that I shall look to you for the damages I have and may sustain from the non-compliance of your agreement with me.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To Messrs. *Isaac Roosevelt, Nathaniel Woodhull, Abraham Yates, Jun., Morris Graham, William Paulding.*

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 19, 1776.

SIRS: The contract I made with the gentlemen, in behalf of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pursuant to a resolution of the Continental Congress, not having been complied with on their part, I beg leave to lay before the Committee of Safety the following state of facts:

1st. That the day after the contract between us was signed, Mr. *Carpenter Wharton* came to this town as Commissary to the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, then expected here, which so suddenly increased the price of provisions, that I was under the absolute necessity, pursuant to my agreement, to furnish myself with a very considerable quantity thereof, and at high prices; and further, to contract to a very considerable amount, which would not have been the case had I, as was universally expected, had the market in my own hands.

2dly. That I am at an immense expense for Commissaries at the Highlands, boat hire, the heavy expenses of domesticks, and the providing for live cattle now in and near this town; which expenses amount to near as much as it would to furnish the whole Army now in and about the suburbs of this city.

3dly. That since the Minute-men have been disbanded, I have not furnished, altogether, a single full regiment, although I was to have supplied five thousand men or more.

4thly. That I cannot expect any troops will be supplied by me, if they get greater allowance from the Commissary-General, whose arrival here has also thrown me into new difficulties.

5thly. That paying me the profit I expected to have when I contracted, will not by any means compensate, without the provisions I have on hand, and have contracted for, are taken from me at the first cost and charges.

6thly. That although the cost of victualling the troops does not exceed, but is under the sum that I received from the Congress, yet if I had, according to agreement, furnished five thousand men, a considerable sum would have been due to me, which would have relieved me from many difficulties with the people with whom I have contracted. But the want of money is a small part of the difficulties I labour under, by reason of the contract. They would be better explained by ocular demonstration than I possibly can do on paper. I shall only add, further, that above a month of the time I agreed to supply the troops has elapsed, and several and material matters, more than I have already mentioned, have been omitted by Congress, for fulfilling on their part the contract between us.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To the General Committee of the Colony of *New-York*.

LIEUTENANT PAYNE TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As I embarked early in defending the rights of *America*, by every means in my power, I trust my conduct, in the late campaign against *Canada*, was becoming the character of a soldier. As I am still actuated by the same principle in preserving the freedom of my country, I take the liberty to express to you my inclination to continue in the service. I signified to General *Schuyler* I would rather serve in the Artillery, as I had made it my study while Conductor of Artillery in the Northern Department. The General gave me a line of recommendation to the honourable Provincial Congress. If the places are made up for that department, I should have no objection to serve, either to take the command of the Marines on board of one of the ships-of-war, or in a marching regiment. Should you think me worthy your confidence, I hope my future conduct will give satisfaction to my country. I flatter myself I could raise the men in a short time.

I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES WILLIAM PAYNE, *Lieutenant*.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

ISAAC GEDNEY TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

White-Plains Jail, April 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am to acknowledge your kindness in removing me from the *New-York* Jail to this place, but am still unhappy in being detained from my family, who, at this season, want my assistance very much. It is not only the aid I might give, in keeping my interest together, (all of which has been earned by the sweat of my brow,) but adding happiness to my family, and saving a large family of children from running into many vices. You, gentlemen, who have families, know the difficulty of keeping youth within bounds, when with them; much less can it be done by a mother.

I have been in confinement near three months. There surely ought to be some period, some end to a man's suffering. If you, gentlemen, think that giving you good bail for my appearance, as well as for my peaceable behaviour, will answer the intention of the law, I can, and shall with pleasure, give it, in any sum which may be asked; but to lie here confined in a jail, and know my interest daily sinking, without one single advantage to the publick that I can conceive, renders me much more unhappy than the bare suffering of being confined.

If you, gentlemen, can with propriety give me enlargement, you will relieve a distressed family of a wife and seven



children, and lay under obligations your unhappy and very humble servant,

ISAAC GEDNEY.

To the Chairman of the Honourable the Provincial Congress, *New-York*.

COLONEL NICOLL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Constitution, April 19, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letter was intercepted about ten days ago; and as it contains something that may lead to a further discovery, have sent it down to you for your direction how to act in regard to the Major *Colden* mentioned in it. In the fourth and sixth line, the ciphered word is *Governour*; and in the seventeenth, *Boston*; the name of the signature, *Robert Hamilton*—a person known, but not now in this Province. The person it is directed to lives in *Newburgh* Precinct. Your returning the letter, with your orders, will be of service up here.

Your Excellency's humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL, *Com. Officer*.

To General *Washington*.

THADDEUS BURR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fairfield, April 19, 1776.

SIR: While General *Lee* was at *New-York*, Mr. *Benjamin Gale*, by his order, was taken up as a Tory, and sent to Colonel *Waterbury*, with orders to send him to *Connecticut*, there to be confined. In consequence of which orders, the Colonel sent him to me; since which he has been confined to my Jail till within a day or two, when I received the enclosed resolution of the *New-York* Congress. He is now out upon his parole of honour. You will observe that the resolve of Congress is directed to the Chairman of our Committee, who think they have nothing to do with it, and will not act upon it. I therefore send you, enclosed, the letter upon which he was taken up, (which, by the way, Mr. *Gale* says he never wrote;) also, Colonel *Waterbury's* orders and the resolves of Congress, that I may have your directions in the affair. Mr. *Gale* is an *Englishman*, a gentleman of good education, and possessed of high notions in favour of his native country; is frank and open in declaring his sentiments, but says he never has, nor will be active against the Colonies.

I confess it appears to me a little extraordinary that General *Lee* should take up a man upon so slight evidence, and send him out of the Colony, unheard. But of this your Excellency will judge; and I hope to have your directions as soon as may be.

I have the honour to be, with the highest esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

THADDEUS BURR.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

LETTER FROM JOHN MCKESSON.

SIR: The enclosed resolution of the Provincial Congress will show you their opinion in the case of *Samuel Gale*. I have it in charge from the Provincial Congress to request your order that he may be immediately discharged from confinement.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

To the Chairman of the Committee of *Fairfield* County.

"In Provincial Congress, *New-York*, March 16, 1776.

"The Congress resumed the consideration of that part of the Report of their Committee on the 8th of *March* which contained Lord *Stirling's* answer as to the case of *Samuel Gale*; and taking the case of the said *Samuel Gale* into consideration,

"Resolved, That this Congress are of opinion that he ought to be forthwith discharged from his confinement, he having been taken, carried away, and imprisoned, without any hearing, trial, or adjudication whatever.

"And Ordered, That a Letter be written to the Chairman of the Committee of *Fairfield* County, in the Colony of *Connecticut*, requesting the immediate discharge of the said *Samuel Gale*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*."

JOHN ELY TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

*New-London*, April 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I think myself in duty bound not only to execute your orders, but to inform your Honour of what progress we make. The Fort on the Neck I think goes on briskly, considering the extent of the works, and the small number of men employed on said works. Colonel *Mott* and Mr. *Waters* have been absent for some time. We expect the Colonel here on *Monday*. The work has not been retarded, as the Colonel gave me directions in his absence.

I must just mention that I find the drafting of men makes uneasiness among the people. If you should think it necessary to enlist more men, I have daily the refusal of them.

I shall still pursue your orders; and am, with the greatest respect, your very humble servant,

JOHN ELY.

To the Honourable Governour *Trumbull*.

ALEXANDER ROSS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, April 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have, by your orders, been in close confinement ever since last *Wednesday* morning, during which time I have had feelings far beyond the power of expression. Although I am yet ignorant of the charge you have against me, I am persuaded nothing can appear that was not more the effect of necessity than inclination. My wish, therefore, is, to be heard by you as soon as possible, when I doubt not you will act, and determine for me, with that temper and moderation which has hitherto been the result of your deliberations. I doubt not of convincing you that my plan of life had been long settled before this unhappy affair, and that my views were very different to what I am charged with. *Maryland* has always been my favourite Province, and it has always had my warmest and best wishes; and, if I may be believed, I did it all the little service in my power while with Lord *Dunmore*.

You will be pleased to forgive me for troubling you at this time, as your own feelings will point out my necessity.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

ALEXANDER ROSS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WEARE.

[No. 126.]

Annapolis, April 20, 1776.

SIR: We are in hopes that, by this time, your family are much better than they were when you left us. Your attendance is become necessary. We want you to take the command at *Baltimore* Town. Colonel *Smallwood* is so unwell, that Major *Price* cannot be spared from hence.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Francis Weare*.

REASONS FOR A DECLARATION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE AMERICAN COLONIES.

1. The Colonies will be delivered from two Governments directly opposed to each other.

2. The Colonies will be delivered from the disorders which arise from the unlimited, undescribed, and sometimes arbitrary powers of Conventions, Committees of Safety, and Committees of Inspection.

3. A criminal correspondence with the enemies of this country will be prevented, or punished under the article of high treason.

4. The Colonies will be delivered from the danger of Crown Officers, whose apparent interest it will always be to remain inactive, or to co-operate with the enemies of *America*.

5. The *British* Constitution may be immediately restored to each Colony, with the great and necessary improvements of a Governour and Council chosen by the people.

6. *France* will immediately attack *Britain* in the most defenceless parts of her Empire, and thus draw off her fleets and armies from our coasts.

7. All the Powers of *Europe* will conceive such ideas of our union, love of freedom, and military resources, that they will not be tempted to accept of a share in us upon the condition of conquering us.

Philadelphia, April 20, 1776.

## ON THE POWERS OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

Philadelphia, April 20, 1776.

The people throughout the Continent, and particularly in this Province, have been lately entertained with a fond expectation, and many anxiously look for the arrival of sundry great personages; by some called Ambassadors of Peace, by others Ambassadors of Corruption, sent on purpose to divide and conquer; and by his most gracious Majesty they are called Commissioners, empowered to grant general or particular pardons and indemnities, in such manner and to such persons as they shall think fit. He also adds, in case that any Colony should be disposed to submit, (despairing of success in the present opposition,) in consequence of the great fleet and army which his Majesty has so greatly augmented by taking into his service a part of his electoral troops, and which is then to act against us, then these Commissioners shall have authority to receive the submission of such Province or Colony, which shall be so disposed to return to its allegiance, and to restore to it the free exercise of its trade and commerce. The act of Parliament which is said to authorize the Commissioners to treat with the people of *America*, provided it be the Prohibitory Act, (and as no person has been bold enough to say that there is another for that special purpose, I take it for granted that this is the act so much talked of,) which is now made publick, and, from the very title, as well as from the tenour and consequences of it, tends to alienate, divide, and entirely separate us from *Great Britain*; no longer viewing us as joint subjects. How absurd a falsehood, then, to declare that there are such persons as Commissioners coming to treat with *America*, to heal our differences, and to restore to us our liberty, or to secure to posterity the privileges of *Englishmen*. In the act of Parliament before alluded to, there is not one word to this effect; neither is it, in substance, any more than what the King has declared in his speech of the 27th of *October* last, in which he assures his Lords and Commons that he hath fully opened to them his views and intentions, and then adds: "I shall give authority to certain persons on the spot to grant general or particular pardons and indemnities;" but not a word of sending over Commissioners to treat with *America*, to effect a reconciliation upon constitutional principles. Nay, on the contrary, Governor *Tryon* has informed the people of *New-York* that "he has it in command from the King to encourage, by every means in his power, the expectations of his Majesty's well-disposed subjects in that Government of every assistance and protection the state of *Great Britain* will enable his Majesty to afford them." Governor *Martin*, also, in his commission of the 10th of *January*, 1776, to *Allan McDonald* and others, after setting forth that, by virtue of the powers and authorities in him vested by his Majesty, he thereby commissions, authorizes, and empowers those persons to raise, levy, muster, and array in arms, for the purpose of subduing the rebellion, &c.; and then adds, to the end that the people who have been deluded into rebellion may be made sensible it is his Majesty's most gracious and Royal intention and earnest desire to reclaim them to a proper sense of their duty and obedience to lawful Government, without involving the country in the horrors of a civil war, if by timely and dutiful submission they make such extremities avoidable.

But to return: If we examine the transactions of Parliament, in order to discover what powers are given the Commissioners now said to be coming out, we shall find that his Majesty, having declared his intentions of granting commissions for the purpose of pardoning such persons as might choose to submit to the Commissioners, the Parliament, by virtue of a clause in the Prohibitory Act, "makes it lawful for any person or persons authorized by his Majesty to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons, by proclamation in his Majesty's name, to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Port, District, or place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the peace of his Majesty." Now, for the Commissioners to do anything more than this, is not lawful; nor would the Parliament be bound thereby. This clause (and it is the only clause relative to Commissioners) gives them not the least power to treat with *America* on any other terms than by our direct and absolute submission, without reserve; nor can his Majesty grant to such Commissioners any other powers than what the Parliament has given him authority to grant. Therefore, he that expects a reconciliation by

virtue of Commissioners empowered to treat with *America* in consequence of this act, expects it on no other terms than on our absolute submission; and it would do credit to the espousers of that cause were they honest enough candidly to avow their sentiments on this head; but this answers not their purpose, for it would be plainly telling us that we should then be treated by our conquerors as subdued enemies, and deprived of the liberty of assenting or dissenting to the disposal of our property.

So that upon a review of the foregoing circumstances, I think we have very little reason to believe that Commissioners are coming; or, if they are, I am confident it must appear very evident to every impartial person, that they are not coming for the purpose of restoring peace to the Colonies, but at the expense of our liberty and property; nor for effecting a constitutional reconciliation with our cruel and unnatural stepmother on any other terms. If the Parliament of *Great Britain* were disposed to heal the differences now subsisting between her and the Colonies, why did they reject the motion made in the House of Commons by the Honourable Mr. *Luttrell*, to empower the Commissioners to treat with any Convention, Congress, or Assembly, of one or more Provinces? They well knew, and all the enemies of *American* liberty who have fled to the Ministry, and are now begging their protection and support from the impoverished revenue, could declare, that all the Assemblies throughout the Continent referred the motion which Lord *North* made in Parliament last year to the Congress: how absurd, then, to think of treating with the Colonies separately. Were the Parliament really desirous of peace, would they risk it on the present plan which is now talked of? No; the Commissioners would be directed to apply to the Congress without delay. But this is not their drift. The Prime Minister continues in the maxim he adopted last year, to divide and conquer. Every measure he adopts proves this to be his creed. And after subduing you he may, perhaps, think a particular share of the confiscated estates a proper and reasonable compensation for his indefatigable pains, assiduity, and care, in scheming and contriving your ruin. Beware, then, of every offer of clemency, favour, and protection, lest, like the poor victims in *Boston*, you smart for it in the end; they vainly thought themselves safe, whilst under the protection of a few mercenaries, but were deceived. Remember the treaty made between General *Gage* and the Selectmen of *Boston*, whereby he disarmed the inhabitants; and forget not how he observed it. This very General is now engaged in assisting the enemy to form their last plan. No publick censure passed upon him for his treachery; which shows they fully approved it. Can you confide in the treaties of such enemies? Look at Lord *Mansfield's* speeches, and be convinced of the folly of such expectations, particularly his last, published in the *Evening Post* of the 9th instant. Fail not, then, to unite in every measure the patrons of our liberty may think necessary for our preservation. Be cautious how, by show, or appearance of disunion, you add to the numbers already slain, and increase those torrents of blood which have already flowed in defence of our liberty. I am certain that there is not a more effectual method of augmenting the number of martyrs to their country, than a submission of any Colony, or a part of any Colony, to the tools of Administration. Suppose, for a while, (what I hope may never be accomplished,) that such a disunion takes place, and conquest on the part of the King's troops ensues, what a dreadful catastrophe appears! Who can answer for the numbers that shall be slain in battle, and in cold blood? For a just representation of the fatal consequences of such a conduct, suffer me to lay before you the proceedings and cruelty of a *British* Army after conquering Rebels, as handed to us by a noted *English* historian. Though they were Rebels against the State, and we are not, yet, as we are both involved in the same character, we must expect, if conquered, the same merciless treatment. "In the month of *May*, (says *Smollet*,) the Duke of *Cumberland* advanced with the armies into the highlands, as far as *Fort Augustus*, where he encamped, and sent off detachments on all hands to hunt down the fugitives, and lay waste the country with fire and sword. The Castles of *Glengary* and *Lochiel* were plundered and burned; every house, hut, or habitation, met with the same fate, without distinction; all the cattle and provision were carried off; the men were either shot upon the mountains like wild beasts, or put to death in cold blood,

without form of trial; the women, after having seen their husbands and fathers murdered, were subjected to brutal violation, and then turned out naked, with their children, to starve on the barren heaths; one whole family was enclosed in a barn and consumed to ashes. Those ministers of vengeance were so alert in the execution of their office, that, in a few days, there was neither house, cottage, man, nor beast, to be seen in the compass of fifty miles." Nor did their cruelty stop here: "Fifty officers (says our historian) were dragged in captivity to a strange country, denied the privilege of trial in the country where the act of treason was said to have been committed, and there, (far from their friends and connexions, and destitute of means to produce evidence in their favour, even if they had been innocent of the charge,) being found guilty, suffered an ignominious death."

Having thus laid before you the proceedings of a cruel *British* Army, when conquering Rebels, let us apply it to ourselves. If conquered or subdued to submission, we have no better fate to expect, for, however just our cause may be, yet the herald of Majesty has proclaimed us Rebels;\* and this Proclamation, however iniquitous it may appear in the sight of a just *God*, and the impartial publick, will be a sufficient salve for these ministers of vengeance, whose ears are shut against the cry of distress, in executing the orders of their tyrannical Sovereign; and whose hearts thirst for the blood of their fellow-creatures. They will not hesitate to destroy your defenceless towns: witness *Charlestown, Falmouth, Stonington, Bristol, and Norfolk*. They will exert their utmost endeavours to lay waste your villages and cottages without distinction, where their arms may give them the victory. Those who may chance to fall into their hands as prisoners, must suffer a long and dismal confinement in their dark dungeons, loaded with irons, and denied the comforts and necessities of life; transported in these caverns three thousand miles distance, and then further confined in their loathsome jails, to which death itself would be a happy alternative, but their cruelty and revenge forbids it. For a proof of this, turn your attention to the distress and sufferings of the brave, though unfortunate *Allen*. In a word, what is it their relentless fury would not accomplish? Neither the persons of your wives nor your daughters would be sacred, but would soon fall a prey to those ravagers, whose greatest glory is in the violation of virtue. Nor let those who submit foolishly hope to fare better. Lord *Mansfield* tells you, that the Rebels at *Preston* submitted on promise of pardon, and they pleaded it on their trials, but it availed them not; though he, in the same breath, assures the Parliament, that the commanding officer had full power to receive their submissions and grant pardons. Will submitters in *America* fare better?

From a retrospective view of these horrid cruelties, is there a man on the Continent who would wish to contribute to the success of so treacherous a scheme? I fear there are a few. Few indeed, I hope they are, and heartily pray they may never increase. Be cautious, then, ye political scribblers how ye make parties or divisions amongst us, for be assured, though we abhor to imitate those merciless mercenaries, yet, when provoked, the guilty shall feel the indignation of the people's wrath, to the terror of those who may be alike wicked and corrupt.

Let the world know, that although we have thus suffered, yet we have not learnt to partake of their cruelty. Those whom chance of war have put into our hands, and whose lives are entirely at our mercy, are not otherwise confined than by parole; and such who refuse to give their parole, instead of being confined in dark dungeons, loaded with irons like the unhappy prisoners of *Boston*, inhabit the chambers of the best Inn this city affords; to whom also their friends and acquaintances have free access. Go on, then, my brethren and fellow-countrymen, to conquer, and treat with mercy the unfortunate; such acts are recorded in Heaven, the Ruler of which has most singularly espoused your cause.

To conclude: If Commissioners should come, whatever may be the change or appearance of things, persevere in unanimity; upon no pretence whatever (as ye regard success in the present contest) be divided; and ere many days have elapsed, or the infant you now fondly doat upon be arrived

\* Nay, more, we are declared Rebels by Act of Parliament; which was not the case of the *Scotch* Rebels. This fully shows what we are to expect.

to manhood, *Great Britain* may know, and all the world experience, that the inhabitants of *North-America* are inspired with a noble zeal for liberty and independence; that though once cruelly used by our stepmother, who will then be enslaved by domestick tyranny, yet these Colonies are preserved as an asylum of true *British* liberty; that their greatest glory will be to give freedom to the enslaved; and that they will ever rejoice to see the virtuous sons of *Britain* partake of the sweets of a free *American* Constitution, which, I trust, will effectually and for ever be guarded against the attacks of every kind of despotism.

THE WATCHMAN.

JOHN HANCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 20, 1776.

SIR: The polite attention which your goodness has induced you to pay to me and my private affairs, particularly while you were at *Boston*, makes me take the liberty of requesting you to spare your Aid-de-Camp a few days. If Mr. *Palfrey* could, consistent with the service, be permitted to pass two or three days with me in this city, on business of importance to me, I shall esteem it a particular favour. I would not, however, solicit his presence here, or even think of such a thing, if it cannot be done without prejudice or detriment to the publick good, or any inconvenience to you.

I am, sir, with the truest esteem, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 20, 1776.

SIR: Your several letters of the 24th and 27th of *March*, the 1st, 4th, and 15th instant, I had the honour of receiving in the order of their dates; by the last of which I learn with pleasure that you had safely arrived at *New-York*. The dispositions you made to expedite the embarkation of the troops were highly proper and judicious.

Too much despatch cannot be used in sending the battalion to *Quebeck*, as it frequently happens, in conducting such important affairs, that a week, a day, even an hour, proves decisive, and the greatest advantages are thereby either gained or lost forever.

The resolutions of Congress, as far as they relate to yourself, or those of your letters that have come under their consideration, I do myself the honour to transmit herewith, and am, sir, with every sentiment of esteem and regard, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, April 20, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour of transmitting herewith the resolutions of Congress, under the hand of the Secretary, as far as they relate to your own conduct. You will perceive they have ordered four Battalions to *Quebeck*; and, by letter from General *Washington*, I understand they are preparing to march with the greatest expedition.

I expect, very soon, to do myself the pleasure of writing more fully. In the mean time I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of regard, yours, &c.,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL LOWREY.

Philadelphia, April 20, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to direct your immediate attention to the enclosed resolve of Congress, for the purchase of two thousand barrels of pork, which, when purchased, or part thereof, you will forward in the most expeditious manner to General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*. As it is of great importance the Army in *Canada* should be well supplied, you will exert yourself to effect this purchase speedily. Whenever you send or draw for the money, your

bill on me shall meet due honour for twenty thousand dollars.

My respects to Mrs. *Lowrey*. I hope I shall soon have time to write, and thank you and Mrs. *Lowrey* for your politeness.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *Thomas Lowrey*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, April 20, 1776.

SIR: By the returns just delivered me of the state of our ammunition, I find we are greatly deficient in the article of ball; and as I understand a large quantity of lead has been manufactured at *Middletown*, in your Government, I must beg the favour of you to forward as much as you can spare to me, as soon as possible.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,  
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I thank you for the polite and ready attention you paid to my requisition of the 17th instant. When the civil and military powers co-operate, and afford mutual aid to each other, there can be little doubt of things going well. I have now to request the favour of your information, in what manner and in what time a body of two thousand, or two thousand five hundred Militia, might be collected from this Colony, for actual service, upon any sudden emergency.

Although we may not, and, I trust in *God*, shall not have occasion for their aid, common prudence does nevertheless dictate the expediency of a preconcerted plan for calling them in, that, in case of necessity, they may be drawn together in proper corps, without tumult or disorder, and at the same time with the utmost expedition. This will not be the case if men are not regularly imbodyed, and notified that they are to step forth at a moment's warning.

The idea that strikes me as the most proper to be pursued at present is, to establish out of the Continental forces good look-outs on the Heights and Highlands, at the entrance of the harbour, who, upon the appearance of a fleet, shall make such signals as (being answered from place to place) shall convey the earliest intelligence to Head-Quarters, of the strength and approach of the enemy. These signals, for greater certainty, to be followed by expresses; and then, in case anything formidable should appear, for the Committee of Safety, (if sitting, if not, those to whom the power shall be delegated,) upon application from the commanding officer of the Continental forces, to order in two or more battalions, as the exigency of the case may require; or, for greater despatch, such Militia, or such part of them as shall be allotted to this service by the Committee, might be assembled (if in the town or vicinity) by signals, to be agreed on.

A mode of proceeding of a similar kind concerted with *Jersey*, would bring in a reinforcement speedily, and without those irregularities and unnecessary expenses which but too frequently attend the movement of Militia.

Thus, gentlemen, I have expressed my sentiments to you upon the occasion. Your prudence will suggest to you the necessity of adopting these or other methods of a like nature, and your wisdom will point out the most effectual and expeditious manner of carrying them into execution. I therefore submit them to your consideration; and am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COLONEL GRIDLEY.

New-York, April 20, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency General *Washington*, to transmit you the enclosed copy of a letter which he received from a Committee of Congress yesterday, and

to request that you repair to *Cape-Anne*, and comply with the several matters in the said copy, respecting the harbour, fortifications, &c., and return him your report in a clear and full manner.

I am, &c.,

R. H. HARRISON, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To Colonel *Richard Gridley*.

[To Colonel *Henry Knox* the same as the preceding letter, to go to *New-London*.]

CAPTAIN WILLET TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 20, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is the warrant from the honourable Provincial Congress, directed to me, for the purpose of raising a company in the service of the United Colonies. As I am satisfied I have done my duty with faithfulness and integrity since I have had the honour of serving my country in a military capacity, I can by no means submit to the indignity of being superseded.

MARINUS WILLET.

To the Chairman of the Honourable Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *NEW-YORK*.

The Memorial of JOHN DUNLAP, of the City of *NEW-YORK*, humbly sheweth:

That your Memorialist is desirous to demonstrate his attachment to the liberties and cause of his country in any manner in which he may be most serviceable to the publick weal; that he has spent upwards of three weeks at the publick works in and about this city, until the inhabitants were dismissed that service; that your Petitioner has been many years engaged in such business as habituated him to accounts, and flatters himself that he might be useful to the publick in any station that required his attention in that way; that the number of his family and circumstances are such as require that the fruits of his service might render a small allowance towards their support.

Your Memorialist humbly prays that the honourable Committee will be pleased to appoint him to any such station or employment as they may think fit, and judge him qualified to execute, for the benefit of his country, and consistent with the circumstances above-mentioned.

And your Memorialist shall ever pray.

JOHN DUNLAP.

New-York, April 21, 1776.

RYNIER VAN HOSEN TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York Jail, April 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Permit me to inform you that I have been confined almost three months; and in the course of that time have never been admitted to a hearing, in order to clear up the charge that is against me. I have a wife and six young infants, who now suffer through want; likewise my land lies waste, having no friend to cultivate it. So hope you will be kind enough to grant me a hearing, and oblige your humble servant,

RYNIER VAN HOSEN.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

RICHARD NORWOOD TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Pursuant to your order of the 23d *February*, I have received the muskets and other accoutrements from Colonel *Waterbury*, and have had them appraised by Messrs. *Jacamah* and *William Allen*. The number of muskets is twenty-three, valued at eighteen pounds seven shillings; one pistol and two pair of holsters; eight old swords are valued at one pound ten shillings; and two pistols are likewise valued at sixteen shillings.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD NORWOOD.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

P. S. Some of the above arms, with a little repair, will be fit for service. Mr. *Norwood* would have an order to repair the above guns, and some repairs to the magazine.

*A Return of Powder, Ball, and Flints, found in the Powder-House, and received at different times from the 12th of FEBRUARY, 1776, to the 20th of APRIL, 1776, inclusive; also, of the Powder, Ball, and Flints, delivered out from the 16th of FEBRUARY, 1776, to 20th APRIL, 1776, inclusive.*

When received.	Colony's credit; where found, and from whom received.	Casks of Powder, and quality.	Number of Pounds said to contain.	Lead.	Flints.	Musket Cartridges.	When delivered.	To whom delivered.	By whose order.	For what service.	Casks of Powder, and quality.	Number of pounds said to contain.	Lead.	Flints.	Musket Cartridges.
1776.				lbs.			Feb. 16	Mar. Johnston,	Colonel McDougall,	Continental service,	14	25			
Feb. 12,	Found in the Powder-house,	197½	4925	-	-	8827	18,	Wm. Leary,	General Lee,	Colonel Drake's Regiment,	-	-	-	-	1300
12,	P. Curtenius,	-	-	15734	25500		19,	Simeon Selick,	Provin. Congress,	An armed tender,	44	100	-	-	150
18,	From Philadelphia,	9 bbls, 32 gls. each, or 80½	2000	-	-		20,	Steph. Badlam,	Win. Palfrey, A. D. C.,	Artillery,	74	184	-	-	
Mar. 20,	P. Curtenius,	20½	-	2600	-		24,	Stephen Hall,	General Lee,	Colonel Ward's Regiment,	8½	200	400	-	
30,	Van Zandt & Halliett,	354	1875	-	1000		Mar. 1	Rob. Andrews,	Do,	Publk service,	-	6	-	-	
April 4,	P. Curtenius,	-	-	-	784		4,	Jos. Ketchum,	Do,	Col. Van Ness's Regiment,	-	-	-	-	1200
13,	P. Curtenius,	-	-	-	-		4,	Express for Canada,	Colonel McDougall,	-	-	-	-	-	12
16,	Nicholas Low,	59½	1503	-	-		4,	H. Godwin,	General Lee,	Colonel Swartwout's Reg't,	-	-	-	-	1400
		44	-	-	-		5,	Captain Smith,	Colonel McDougall,	Armed Sloop,	44	100	-	-	200
18,	P. Curtenius,	-	-	-	504	17000	19,	M. Halstead,	L'd Stirling,	Colonel Winds' Regiment,	-	-	-	-	1200
20,	From the Laboratory,	-	-	-	-	1700	19,	Anth. Griffiths,	Do,	Laboratory,	56½	1400	1406	-	
		-	-	-	-		21,	Benj. Ledyard,	Colonel McDougall,	Colonel McDougall's Reg't,	-	-	-	-	500
Total received, - - -		413	10303	20622	42500	10527	25,	Th. Tredwell,	Committee of Safety,	Suffolk County,	40½	1000	4000	-	
Total delivered out, -		265	6640	10486	15050	10946	25,	A. McDougall,	Colonel McDougall,	C. Atherton,	14	25	-	-	
Total remaining in store,		148	3663	10136	27450		28,	Hugh Hughes,	Committee of Safety,	Orange County,	204	500	4480	10000	
Deficient quarter-cask,		1					29,	Teunis Cuyper,	Do,	Colonel McDougall's Reg't,	204	500	-	-	3200
Total.....		147					Ap'l 4,	A. McDougall,	Do,	Tryon County,	204	500	-	-	
							4,	J. Moore, Esq.,	Do,	Albany County,	9 bbls, 32 gls, each, or 80½	2000	-	-	
							4,	Major Dehart,	Do,	Continental account,	-	-	-	-	2400
							9,	A. McDougall,	Do,	Colonel McDougall's Reg't,	-	-	-	-	4434
							19,	Wm. Mercier,	Do,	Sloop Montgomery,	244	600	200	-	
							Total delivered out, - -					285	6640	10486	15050, 10946

The above is a true Return of the Powder, Ball, and Flints, received in, and delivered out of, the Provincial Store of the Colony of New-York.  
To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York.

RICHARD NORWOOD, Commissary of Colony Stores.

GOVERNEUR MORRIS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Morrisania, April 20, 1776.

I take the liberty of addressing your Excellency upon a subject so much out of my own line, that I must be entirely in your equity as to the charge of impertinence. I hope to be acquitted.

The Committee of Safety have ordered that the sick soldiery should be transported to an Island called *Little-Barn Island*; which was, and perhaps still is, the property of Captain *John Montresor*, an Engineer in the Ministerial Army. The choice of this particular spot for that purpose induces me to suspect that they were actuated in some measure by those illiberal prejudices, which have great weight in little souls; for certainly it must be rather inconvenient to place the sick upon an Island, at nine miles distance from the Army. It seems to be rather more rational to erect buildings for their reception on the high grounds near *Hudson's River*, to the westward of *Harlaem*, a situation at once healthy and easy of access. Or, if an insular position is indispensably necessary, then *Behemma's*, and especially *Blackwell's Island*, will be found much better adapted to the purpose, being nearer the city, and a convenient ferriage to either from the Fort at *Horne's Hook*. And the proprietors of those Islands would, I believe, gladly let any houses they can spare for that use.

My reason for troubling your Excellency on this occasion is, that when Mr. *Montresor* went to *Boston*, the Island was put in the possession of (I believe conveyed to) *John Tudor*, Esq., one of his Majesty's Council for the *Bermuda Islands*, who came hither in the pursuit of health. He has found it where he now is, and thinks it inhospitable to the stranger to turn him out, instead of taking him in. The

lower orders of mankind, blessed in the bluntness of their perceptions, may receive a pecuniary compensation for any inconvenience; but your Excellency best knows how precious are the feelings of a gentleman: publick money can neither purchase or alleviate them. If we banish this *pauvre malade*, it is worth while to consider how much his tale will be repeated against us. The uncharitable will say it was a pique, because he holds a feather under the King. The mildest judges will discover some harsh features in the piece.

I trespass too much, sir, upon your patience. I have no other excuse, but that Mr. *Tudor* requested me to mention the matter to your Excellency; let me add, that I receive pleasure in furnishing the occasion for that happiness which you receive in doing good.

With the greatest respect, I have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

GOVERNEUR MORRIS.

To General *Washington*.

JOHN HATHORN TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Warwick, April 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have herein made a return of the officers chosen in Captain *John Wisner's* Company of Minute-men, of the Regiment of *Florida* and *Warwick*, in the Precinct of *Goshen*, and County of *Orange*, agreeable to a return made to me by two of the members of the Committee of this Precinct, declaring their attending at the election of the said company, on the 26th day of *March* last; and were chosen (agreeable to a certain resolve of the Provincial Congress of this Province, made respecting the regulation of



the Militia and Minute Companies) *Abraham Dolson*, First Lieutenant; *Nathan Sayre*, Second Lieutenant, and *Asa Wisner*, Ensign; and hope your honourable body will issue commissions accordingly.

I am, in behalf of the Committee, your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN HATHORN, *Chairman*.

To the *New-York Congress*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT FORT GEORGE,  
DATED APRIL 20, 1776.

We came here two days ago, and found the lake still closed with ice; yesterday it all vanished, when Dr. *Franklin* and the other Delegates immediately embarked on board batteaus, and crossed the lake. Our regiment, with sundry other troops from *New-England* and the *Jerseys*, set out at daybreak to-morrow morning. The whole of the troops that are now on the lake and here, will amount to upwards of fifteen hundred men; so that I think we shall make a very respectable figure before *Quebeck* when we all arrive; and I hope we shall not lay long there, but endeavour immediately to see what the inside is made of.

LIEUTENANT HACKER TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Franklin's Ferry, April 20, 1776. }  
Two o'clock, P. M. }

SIR: These are to inform you that, according to your order, I proceeded to *Neuport* as fast as possible, and arrived there yesterday, at one o'clock, and went on shore, and found the *Cabot* at Mr. *Holmes's* wharf, getting out the guns. I advised Captain *Hinman* to go up the river as soon as he could, as there was a report that there were three ships in the offing. He told me that he intended it. I put out at three o'clock, with the wind at west-southwest, and flood tide, and beat out to the Light-House; but the wind being small, we bore away into *Franklin's Ferry*; came to and lay till four o'clock; then got under way, and beat as far as the Half-way House, between *Point-Judith* and *Watch-Hill*, where we saw a ship lying, a-hull. We still beat, in hopes of getting by her; but she made sail, and stood in to windward of us. We stood for her awhile, but soon bore away. She immediately bore away after us, but made no more sail than her topsails and courses. She stood after us till we got round *Point-Judith*, where we lowered all sail to wait for her. She hauled away under the lee of *Block-Island*. I should have taken her for one of our ships, but Captain *Hinman* was chased before from the same place, within a mile of the Light-House, and a small sloop yesterday, within a few rods of the shore; which makes me cautious how I go too near a ship. I thought proper to run into *Franklin's Ferry*, and send Captain *Brown* as fast as possible to acquaint you.

I am, with respect, yours to serve,

HOYSTED HACKER.

To *Eseck Hopkins, Esq.*, Commander-in-Chief of the *American Fleet*, (per favour of Captain *Brown*.) at *New-London*.

COLONEL WATERBURY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Hartford, April 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: After my best wishes to your Excellency, praying *God* may preserve you through the many dangers and difficulties that attend the calling you are now engaged in; hoping your Excellency, and the Army under your command, may be the means, under *God*, to the saving of our land from ruin: I received your Excellency's favour of the 13th instant, and can answer the request: that is, I should take it as an honour done to me to be an officer under your command; but as I am well assured that your Excellency delights to see justice done to every officer and soldier in your Army, your Excellency must know that I have not had justice done me. I never had a Continental commission offered me, although it is said, since I returned home, that I refused one while in *Canada*. I never had the offer, although I took such an active part in the Northern expedition last fall. There were but four small companies that went down with the Generals, besides me and my regiment. When we first took the ground at *St. John's*, never man

laboured through an expedition with more fatigue and hardship than I did; and now, to take rank under those that were but Lieutenant-Colonels at that time, and others that were Colonels, that ranked under me, I should think it would look as though I had done something that was not to my honour, in being set back. If your Excellency sees cause to lay the case before the honourable Congress, and they see cause to give me my proper rank, I shall cheerfully accept your Excellency's offer, and ever make it the height of my ambition to render my services acceptable to your Excellency and my bleeding country; and if not, and your Excellency is attacked, I shall come to your assistance as a volunteer, upon the shortest notice.

And am, with every sentiment of respect and regard, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, JUN.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. My being at *Hartford* instead of being at *Stamford*, is the reason of my not answering your Excellency's favour sooner.

W. READ TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Reading, April 20, 1776.

SIR: I have your favour of the 11th of *April*, by order of the honourable Council of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to which an immediate answer is requested.

Sir, I am very sensible of the great honour done me in this appointment, to be one of the Justices of the Superior Court of Judicature, &c., for that Colony, and of the duty which I owe my country, and should be glad to render it any service; but my present, and, for some time, low state of health, and the situation of my affairs, render it impossible for me to undertake such an arduous office, which I esteem beyond my abilities in my best condition. Please to present my duty to the honourable Board, and acquaint them herewith, and that I beg the favour to be held excused.

I am, with the highest respect to the honourable Board, their very humble servant,

W. READ.

To the Honourable the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

WILLIAM MILLER TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Newburyport, April 20, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: About three months ago your Honours were pleased to order me to be confined to this town. I should now be glad to be released from that restraint; and as my employ in the Customs has been at an end for nigh a year, during which time I have been entirely idle, I should therefore be glad of liberty to return to *Great Britain*, as an opportunity now offers from this place.

I am, honourable gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM MILLER \*

To the Honourable the Council, at *Watertown*.

WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have received an order, by Mr. *Quin*, to attend your honourable Board to-morrow, which I should very willingly obey; but as our Committee is to meet, for the purpose of laying taxes on Non-Associates, and we have appointed the attendance of all our members, I presume to hope it will plead my excuse for deferring it till *Tuesday*, when you shall be waited on by, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

GALLOWAY (NEW-JERSEY) COMMITTEE TO DELEGATES OF MASSACHUSETTS IN CONGRESS.

New-Jersey, Gloucester County, Galloway Township, }  
April 21, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: We, the Committee of *Galloway Township*, have received your favour of the 17th instant, and,

\* IN COUNCIL, April 23, 1776.—Read; and Ordered, That the said *Miller's* request be referred to the Committee of *Newburyport*, who are hereby authorized and empowered to permit him to go to *Great Britain*, under such restrictions and conditions as their discretion shall point out to be necessary.

PEREZ MORTON, *Deputy Secretary*.

taking the same into our most serious consideration, do hereby promise that nothing shall be wanting in our duty to assist our unhappy and suffering brethren.

As soon as ever we heard of their misfortunes, we called our Committee together immediately, and ordered all necessary assistance that could be provided for their relief, with a Surgeon immediately to attend them, and nurses, with proper lodging and diet for them. We have the pleasure to inform you that they are in a fair way to recover. The Mate is able, by the help of his crutch, to go about his room. We shall use our utmost endeavour to comply with your request in this and all other matters that your Honours will be pleased to assign to us.

And we do hereby request you will please to accept of our most hearty and sincere thanks for the steady and unwearied part you are acting in the defence of our country's cause, and, in particular, for your humane and tender care for the sick and wounded. May your wise Councils and Assemblies be always crowned with success in all their undertakings, is the sincere wish of this Committee.

By order of the Committee :

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
RICHARD PRICE, Clerk.

To the Honourable the Delegates of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, &c.

N. B. We herewith enclose you Captain *Tripp* and the Mate's deposition. Captain *Tripp* informs us that the Captain of the tender's name was *Butler*, and believes the Lieutenant's name was *Han*; and one *Green*, from *Barnagat*, they kept on board as pilot.

R. P.

#### GALLOWAY Township, in GLOUCESTER County :

Be it remembered, that, on the 20th of April, 1776, personally appeared before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Gloucester*, Captain *Job Tripp*, late Master of the Sloop *Endeavour*, and *James Cathill*, his Mate, both of *Dartmouth*, in the County of *Bristol* and Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and, being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, do declare, that we left *Dartmouth*, in the said sloop, on the 31st day of *March* last, for *Philadelphia*. On the following day, about three o'clock in the afternoon, (the forepart of the day being very thick and foggy, cleared up in the afternoon,) we saw the vessels in at *Little-Egg Harbour* Inlet. About the same time we discovered a vessel to the southward of us. When we found we were so near the land, we altered our course more out to sea; we being bound to the southward, and that vessel to the northward. They presently came up with us. About the distance of three hundred yards on our lee-bow, they fired at us. Immediately we saw a number of men on board of her, who appeared to be in motion, and very busy. We hailed them twice with our trumpet, but received no answer, but another firing, and hove about, and made after us. We still kept our course, and they after us, continually firing, till about ten o'clock at night. At that time they were about a swivel-shot distance from us. The wind dying away, and perceiving them coming up very fast, we immediately hove to, and hauled down our foresail, and were busy in hauling down our mainsail, when they run up as near as they conveniently could without running foul of our vessel, and fired a broadside at us; which felled both the Captain and Mate. By their account, they fired two volleys of small-arms just as they fired their cannon and swivels; each volley ten guns. Their carriage-guns and swivels were two four-pounders and six swivels on each side. The Captain was wounded in the thigh, which we imagine to be a swivel-ball, which broke the bone, and shattered it very much. The Mate was also wounded in both thighs; the ball went through the fleshy part of the right, and lodged in the left.

We were unable to help ourselves, though we made shift to scramble down into the cabin. The Captain laid on the cabin-floor, and the Mate had got in his birth, before they boarded us. The Lieutenant came down, and presently presented a pistol at him, and ordered him to turn out immediately on deck, or he was a dead man; treated him with very scurrilous and abusive language, and hauled him out of his cabin. With that, he scrambled on deck as well as he could; kept him there till he was satisfied; then ordered him into his cabin again; and, returning to the Captain, who lay on the floor, ordered him likewise upon deck.

The Captain begged he would let him alone, as he was unable to stand or help himself; with that he left him.

They rummaged all our chests for papers and letters, which they took with them—all they could find, with forty-nine dollars of the Captain's in Continental bills; with the Mate's journal, pocket-book, chest, bed, &c., &c. They were particularly careful in collecting all the old iron and spikes they could find to take with them. After they had rummaged and taken what they thought proper, they cut up the cables, and hove them, with the anchors, overboard, and threatened to burn the vessel. They kept us till about five o'clock in the afternoon next day, when the Lieutenant came to the Captain (on board our own vessel) and told him that the Captain of the tender was going to indulge him with his boat and men to go ashore for a Doctor. There were three hands besides the Captain and Mate. Before we had left the vessel, they scuttled her, and the water came in very fast; and heard them call out, Come, let us begin the fire in the cable-tier. They let the Captain take his bed and chest, and a bed-sack to lie on. The Captain of the tender called to his Lieutenant not to let us take too many things with us. When we had got some distance from the vessel, we saw a great smoke arising from her, with all her sails standing, save the peak of the mainsail, which was dropped down, with her tiller lashed fast, so as she could steer herself. The vessel was about seventy or seventy-five tons burden.

We were about one hour and a half in the boat before we reached the shore, which was the flat beach; and were about thirty-six hours before we had any dressing to our wounds. And further these deponents say not.

JOB TRIPP,  
JAMES CATHILL.

ROBERT MORSS.

Sworn before me,

N. B. The most of the latter part of the transaction was taken from the Mate; the Captain, being badly wounded, could not remember.

The above is a true copy from the original.

RICHARD PRICE, Clerk Township Committee.

#### COLONEL KNOX TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Norwich, April 21, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your Excellency's instructions, I tarried at *Cambridge* till all the ordnance and stores in my department were on the way to this place; which, to my great mortification, was not till the 14th instant. The detention was owing to the zeal of the General Assembly, which promised more than their activity could perform.

In my passing through *Providence*, Governor *Cooke*, and a number of the principal people, were very pressing for me to take *Newport* in my way, in order to mark out some works of defence for that place. The spirited conduct of the Colony Troops posted there, in driving away the King's ships, alarmed the whole Colony for the safety of its capital. Knowing your Excellency's anxiety for the preservation of every part of the Continent, I conceived it to be my duty to act in conformity to your wishes, especially as I could get to *Norwich* as soon as the stores which set out for *Norwich* on the 14th. Accordingly, I went to *Newport*, and marked out five batteries, which, from the advantageous situation of the ground, must, when executed, render the harbour exceedingly secure. In this I humbly hope for your Excellency's approbation.

Mr. *Cheever* is expected in this day with the powder and some stores, being the last division; which I shall endeavour to get away as soon as possible. If the wind shall be fair, I propose going by water; if not, by land.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Burbeck* declined complying with your Excellency's orders, alleging that the Province had settled on him four shillings sterling per day during life, after the war was over; which, if he went out of the Province, he might, perhaps, lose.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Mason*, who came with the ordnance to this town, being in ill health, I have permitted to go by land.

I am going down to Admiral *Hopkins*, to receive his directions concerning the safety of sending out the stores, as some of the King's ships yesterday chased in a vessel to *New-London*; and also to endeavour to get the brass mor-

tars which he brought from *Providence*, if not particularly appropriated.

I sincerely wish your Excellency every earthly blessing; and am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

HENRY KNOX.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

WILLIAM RICHMOND TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Head-Quarters, Newport, April 21, 1776.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your very acceptable favour of ordnance and warlike stores from the *Cabot*. We are mounting them with all despatch possible, under the inspection of Mr. *John Collins*, who assures us that within four days he will have them all mounted. We have almost completed the fortification on the Point, where we can mount thirteen guns. To-morrow we go on *Fort-Island*, in order to put the old fort in a posture of defence; which, together with another on *Brenton's Point*, we think will well secure the harbour: all which works we shall pursue with the utmost vigour till completed. We are informed you have sixteen more heavy guns for us. As they are without carriages, it may be necessary to send them along soon.

Before this can come to hand, you must have heard of the confusion we have lately been in, occasioned by the wild conduct and insanity of our late commander, (Colonel *Babcock*;) who is now under an arrest at *Providence*, and, we judge, must be discharged from the service: in consequence of which, the command, at present, devolves upon me—a heavy task.

I have the honour, sir, to be, with the greatest sincerity, your most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM RICHMOND.

To Admiral *Hopkins*, Esquire.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO STEPHEN HOPKINS.

On board Ship *Alfred*, at the mouth of New-London River, }  
April 21, 1776. }

DEAR BROTHER: Since I wrote, nothing material has happened. We landed our sick, (which were one hundred and forty men in the fleet,) and got some new men out of the Army, and were ready to sail, when I received General *Washington's* letter by express, a copy of which I have enclosed.

I sent out the *Cabot* in order to strengthen the town of *Newport*, where she is arrived, as you will see by Lieutenant *Hinman's* letter, a copy of which you have enclosed. Two days past we were under sail to go out, but got ashore on the rocks near *Fisher's Island*; but got off again without much damage, after about eight hours, and came in again, and ordered all the vessels in which I had under convoy—five of whom were at the risk of the Congress. The *Fly* is now out in order to learn the strength of the fleet. If they are not much stronger than we, shall go out the first fair wind.

We are much better manned now than we ever have been. My son (*John B. Hopkins*) is ashore, at Mr. *Shaw's*, and getting better of his wounds; but do not expect he will be able to go on board his brig, to take the command, in less than three or four weeks.

I am your loving brother, ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *Stephen Hopkins*, Esquire, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. I have obliged most of the sailors that I have taken out of the armed vessels to do duty on board. Should be glad to know if that is agreeable with the sentiments of the Congress, that I may still follow the same rule.

THOMAS BURKE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 2, 1776.]

Halifax, North-Carolina, April 22, 1776.

SIR: Expecting in our Province a scene of much business, which may require all our attention, we have thought it expedient to send the prisoners taken during the late commotion, some to *Maryland*, some to *Virginia*, and some to *Philadelphia*, for the more immediate disposition of the Continental Congress. These last are such as appear to us,

from their rank and influence over an ignorant and restless part of our inhabitants, to be capable of doing us the most mischief.

We are sorry to be compelled to an act of such severity as this of sending these men at such a distance from their unfortunate families; but the security of our country makes it indispensably necessary, for should they have an opportunity of exerting their pernicious influence, at a time when we may be invaded by a powerful Army, the consequences might and probably would prove fatal. The hopes these men have given our enemies, we are assured, have induced the *British* Ministry to direct against us the first efforts of their arms; to them, therefore, are due the evils, expenses, and difficulties, which we encountered in suppressing them, and the calamities which they and their wretched families must now undergo. We shall not fail to extend to the latter the most humane attention, for we are always mindful that humanity distinguishes the brave.

We should not have sent off the prisoners, but that we could not secure them without engaging too many of our officers and soldiers from more important business; for while in the neighbourhood of their connexions, when the attention of every one would be drawn to the more important operations of the impending campaign, without strong guards a rescue would be inevitable.

We rely on the wisdom of Congress for disposing of them in such a secure manner that we shall have nothing to apprehend from their future machinations. We enclose you the list of their names, and we shall by the first opportunity transmit you a particular account of circumstances relative to each, extracted from the report of the Committee appointed by the Provincial Congress to inquire concerning them.

We are, with very great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Secrecy, of War, and Intelligence, for the Congress of *North-Carolina*:

THOMAS BURKE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

LIST OF PRISONERS DESTINED FOR PHILADELPHIA.

1. His Excellency *Donald McDonald*, Esq., Brigadier-General of the 'Tory Army, and Commander-in-Chief in *North-Carolina*.
2. Colonel *Allan McDonald*, (of *Kingsbrough*;) first in commission of array, and second in command.
3. *Alexander McDonald*, son of *Kingsbrough*.
4. Major *Alexander McDonald*, (*Cowdrach*.)
5. Captain *Alexander McKay*.
6. Captain *John Leggate*.
7. Captain *James McDonald*.
8. Captain *Alexander McLeod*.
9. Captain *Alexander Morrison*.
10. Captain *John McDonald*.
11. Captain *Alexander McLeod*.
12. Captain *Murdock McAskell*.
13. Captain *Alexander McLeod*.
14. Captain *Angus McDonald*.
15. Captain *Niel McArthur*.
16. Captain *James Meirs*, of the Light-Horse.
17. Captain *John McLeod*.
18. Captain *Thomas Wier*.
19. Captain *John McKinzie*.
20. Lieutenant *John Merchison*.
21. *Kennith McDonald*, Aid-de-Camp to General *McDonald*.
22. *Murdock McLeod*, Surgeon.
23. Adjutant-General *John Smith*.
24. *Donald McLeod*, Quartermaster.
25. *John Bethune*, Chaplain.
26. *Farquard Campbell*, late a Delegate in Provincial Congress, Spy and confidential emissary of Governor *Martin*.

ORDERS BY GENERAL LEE TO THE COMMANDERS OF THE SEVERAL BATTALIONS.

Virginia, April 22, 1776.

SIR: You will please to give orders to the several recruiting officers of your regiment not to take any natives of *Great Britain*, or *Ireland*, as recruits, unless they have

been some time residents in the country, and have wives and children, or unless they can bring a strong and sufficient recommendation. As this, sir, is a matter of no small importance, a Colonel will be appointed to examine and pass all the fresh recruits; and whoever does not come under this predicament, will be thrown on the officer's hands.

By the General's orders:

THOMAS BULLITT, *Dep'y Adjutant-General.*

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, at Williamsburgh, }  
April 22, 1776. }

*Ralph Wormeley, Jun., Esq.*, appearing before this Committee in custody, and being examined touching his Letter to *Mr. John Grymes*, of the 4th of April, 1776, lately intercepted from the said *John Grymes*, on his way to Lord *Dunmore*; the Committee hearing what he alleged in his defence, also examining *Charles Neilson* on oath, are of opinion that nothing appears to us in his conduct, or in the said Letter, to be within the offences defined by the late Ordinance for establishing a mode of punishment for the enemies to *America* in this Colony; but the said Letter being, in the opinion of this Committee, a full proof of the inimical disposition of the said *Ralph Wormeley, Jun., Esq.*, against the rights of *America*, and showing a readiness to join the enemies of this Colony, provided he should be called and enabled so to do, this Committee do resolve, that the said *Ralph Wormeley, Jun., Esq.*, be discharged out of custody, upon entering into bond, with approved security, in the penalty of ten thousand Pounds, conditioned that he do not correspond with the enemies of *America*, join, or in any manner aid or assist them; that he do not depart this Colony without leave of the Convention or Committee of Safety; and further, that he appear before the said Convention at any time during their next meeting, if he shall be required so to do.

JOHN PAGE, *Vice-President.*

In Committee of Safety, at Williamsburgh, }  
April 24, 1776. }

Ordered, That the Letter from *Ralph Wormeley, Jun., Esq.*, to *John Grymes, Esq.*, lately intercepted, together with the Resolution of this Board thereupon, be published in the *Virginia Gazette*.

JOHN BECKLEY, *Assistant Clerk.*

Rosegill, April 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: When you and *Mr. Neilson* returned from *Norfolk*, you informed me that Lord *Dunmore* either wished or expected, or thought it my duty, that I should immediately, in person, repair to his Lordship; that some such ostensible marks of my attachment to Government and loyalty to my King were looked for from me; and that, notwithstanding my unequivocal, steady, and invariable conduct, if I still continue at home, I may be exposed to the indiscriminating ravages of war, without any chance of reparation. Whether this opinion is founded on the last Proclamation of the King, on the late advices from the Minister, or from his Lordship's conjectures, I do not know. As to the Proclamation and the late advices from the Minister, I have an easy answer. First. I have never seen the Proclamation, never heard it either read or repeated; it cannot, then, be expected of me to pay respect to any instrument of that sort, whose contents I can have no cognizance of before they are submitted to my senses. Second. As to the advices of the Minister which may lead his Lordship to conclude it to be the duty of every man now, when the friends of Government are in such a state of impotency, or rather are under such complete dominion, to repair to his Lordship, without the probability of advancing any practical scheme of utility, of concerting any effectual plan of operations, and without regard to circumstances; I say, sir, such advices are repugnant to the words and meaning of the King. In the true knowledge of our present situation, his Majesty thus expresses himself: "And although many of these unhappy people may still retain their loyalty, and may be too wise not to see the fatal consequences of this usurpation, and wish to resist it, yet the torrent of violence has been strong enough to compel their acquiescence, until a sufficient force shall appear to support them."

A few observations on the above quoted passage will

prove the repugnancy. "Unhappy people." In what? In being overpowered by these usurpers; so overpowered that they cannot even hope, they can only wish to resist it. This being the case, what are these unhappy people to do? What does his Majesty expect? Not their fruitless, vain endeavours, which prejudice every cause; he knows that the torrent of violence is strong enough to retain them in their compulsive acquiescence, "till a sufficient force shall appear to support them." He expects, then, they will wait the event. They will have, they have a right to protection. Every effort and endeavour now, on their part, would only issue in ruin to themselves, and in ruin to their cause. No man bears the accursed tyranny that is erected with more impatient mortification than I do; and if there were a corner on the face of the earth that I could support myself in, and enjoy that freedom which I am now violently deprived of, I would, for the gratification of my own happiness, fly to it. I have too much feeling not to be exquisitely sensible of my slavish condition.

I have made no reply as to his Lordship's conjectures. As he must be furnished with intelligence that I am ignorant of, it must be supposed that he can form a better judgment than I can. In a matter of such weight I wish he had extracted the paragraph, if he drew his opinion from his late advices, or had given the reasons on which he formed it. To convey myself, together with the absolute necessities of life, without my intention being discovered, is almost impossible. Besides, I am only an inferior member of the family, have not the command of furniture, bedding, &c., nor provisions; and exportation being prohibited, if I could afford, I could not command money for my support. Add to this the probability of all resources being cut off, whereby wheat, flour, or corn, are now furnished, as the army of the Provincials increases, unless one of equal or superior force should soon arrive from *Britain*. Numbers, in such a case, will add to the difficulties that the fleet, army, and people at *Norfolk*, labour under. Hundreds will only multiply these inconveniences; thousands alone can remove them. These reasons weigh with me at present, and restrain me from taking the step *Mr. Neilson* advises with so much urgency.

But, after all, what beneficial consequence could my personal attendance operate in favour of that cause whose success I have at heart? My example is not efficacious enough to influence others to follow it. What exertions of mine could now avail? And are not ineffectual exertions capitally erroneous in policy? Would not, or might not, the departure of a person of my insignificance quicken the jealousy of the present rulers, give fresh vigour to the persecution, and make them lash our few party friends, not with that rod of iron which we have experienced severe enough for the most criminal atrocity, but with a red-hot one, fresh from the infernal forge of tyranny. If, though, the Governour should think my presence necessary, and that I can, in any degree, be assistant to his Lordship, Government, or my country, he will give me an official summons, and afford me proper facilities to reach him, I will, at the hazard of that precarious, negative quiet that is now indulged to me—I will, to the prejudice of my health, which is, as you know, at present interrupted by a most inveterate disorder, and which disorder would certainly be aggravated by a diet exclusive of vegetables, at the risk of my life, of every thing, obey it.

Will you be so obliging as to communicate this where you think it necessary? And, under all vicissitudes of fortune, believe me to be, with the most unalterable sincerity, your most affectionate friend,

RALPH WORMELEY, JUN.

To *John Grymes, Esq.*

CAPTAIN NICHOLSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have now to inform you of the armed Schooner *Resolution* being equipped, agreeable to your directions. She wants principally the commissions for her officers, who refuse acting out of the harbour until their commissions are confirmed. After which, should be glad of your permission to go down the bay as far as you think proper, in order to exercise our men, and consult with Captain *Boucher*. The schooner has about forty hands now shipped, but is capable of carrying seventy with great convenience.

If you think proper to have that number complete, you will please let me know. The officers that have been acting aboard are *William Ward*, Captain; *Henry Auchinlick*, Lieutenant; *Bennet Johnson*, Master; and, as far as I can discover, are proper persons. Mr. *Dorsey*, one of the ship's Midshipmen, I understand, has made application for a Lieutenancy of Marines; I think him very capable.

I am, gentlemen, with much sincerity, your obliged humble servant, to command,

JAMES NICHOLSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

HUGH YOUNG TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the pleasure of advising you of the safe arrival of the Brigantine *Beith*, in the *West-Indies*, the 3d ultimo, without any interruption. I sent you, by Mr. *Lux*, a letter for you from him, but have learned that he forgot it; I suppose he has sent it since his return.

I am sorry to advise you of the loss of the Brigantine *Nancy*, Captain *Wise*, somewhere in the bay, a few days ago. I have not received any letter from him, but have it from a gentleman from the *Eastern-Shore* of undoubted authority, and believe it to be a fact. It appears, from the care Captain *Wise* had taken, that it is morally impossible for any vessel to pass our ravenous enemies. However, if you think the Schooner *Ninety* has any chance, you will please give the Committee orders to allow me to load her, as her cargo is all ready. If you think otherwise, I shall be glad to know what I am to do with the cargo. I shall be much obliged for a few lines on the subject by the first opportunity.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
HUGH YOUNG.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

SOLOMON WRIGHT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Queen Anne's County, April 22, 1776.

Captain *George Noble Sweat* having, under an especial order of this Committee, returned a list of a Company of Militia in *Wye*, whereby it appears that the said *George Noble Sweat* is chosen Captain, *Nehemiah Noble* First Lieutenant, *James Bartlett* Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Duffe* Ensign of the said Company; and that there are in the said Company four Sergeants, four Corporals, and fifty-two Privates. The above officers are recommended to the Council of Safety for commissions.

Signed per order of the Committee of Observation:  
SOLOMON WRIGHT, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE DELEGATES IN CONVENTION.

[No. 127.]

Annapolis, April 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Very urgent affairs of the Province require your attendance in Convention. We, therefore, earnestly request you would meet punctually at *Annapolis*, on *Friday*, the 7th of *May* next, at which time we have determined a Convention ought to be held.

We are, &c.

To the Delegates in Convention.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 128.]

Annapolis, April 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You have our thanks for the anxiety you express on our accounts, if the thanks of such blackened, insulted (but we think injured) characters are worth your acceptance. We must say, that if the same justice were done us that we would do unto others, in similar circumstances, a copy of the anonymous letter you mention, traducing our reputations, would not have been refused us by the Congress; for we sincerely declare to you and the world, that were we in possession of any paper reflecting in so gross a manner on that, or any other respectable body on the Continent, we should think it unjust and ungentlemanly to withhold it from them, and, by thus secreting, prevent the dis-

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covery of the author of so foul a calumny, and shelter him from the censure, not to say punishment, he deserves.

We wrote you fully in our last two letters, and sent copies of all such papers as we thought material. The Governour voluntarily gave us his parole in the fullest manner, and has since confirmed it by letter, assuring us that he will not leave the Province till the Convention sits. We are firmly persuaded he will not stir, or do anything against the peace thereof. He also assured us, in the most explicit terms, that he had received no other letters from the Ministry but what he gave up, and which we sent you copies of. We examined his bureau and closet, and found several letters in them to Administration, and his friends in *England*, wherein he represents this Province in a favourable point of view.

We were not without our suspicions that a plan had been concerted by the two persons you mention, and have determined, if possible, to get to the bottom of it; and for that purpose, on *Saturday* last, before the receipt of your express, issued our order to Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, Mr. *William Lux*, Deputy Chairman, and Mr. *George Lux*, Clerk, of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, to appear before us this day, and to bring with them all the proceedings, papers, letters, orders, entries, instructions, &c., relative to the intercepted letters. We are resolved to have a full and open examination of the affair, and shall then cheerfully submit our conduct to the publick.

We consider the authority of the whole Province trampled upon and insulted, (if not conspired against;) and, having your letters holding forth the same sentiment, we have thought it advisable (as we know not to what lengths this matter may be carried) to call a Convention, to be held at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Tuesday*, the 7th of *May* next, at which time we shall be glad to see all the gentlemen Deputies that can be spared from Congress. We shall endeavour to have all our proceedings ready to lay before them on the first day of their meeting, and shall submit to them whether our conduct has been either timid, inactive, or in any other particulars unjustifiable.

Our proceedings with the Governour are such as are, in our opinions, in every respect defensible. We are convinced, from his declarations and answers, and from his manner of behaving to us, that he will not leave the Province. Little minds might have been gratified with actual imprisonment, and further severities, but we do not imagine the Congress meant any such outrage on humanity. We have had all the advantages we could have had if we had committed him to the publick jail, and, we are persuaded, many more. Nobody can believe that we are courting the Governour at present: it is the peace and happiness of the Province we wish to preserve; and we are persuaded that it will be best done by keeping up the ostensible form of our chartered Constitution. We feel for you. The insult offered by Mr. *Hancock*, in not admitting you to his presence, must have been grating. Our Province is the object of attention, and we are to be plunged into all the horrors of anarchy only to gratify a few individuals out of Congress. However, we shall still persevere in doing our duty with unremitting zeal, and not fail to assist our neighbours, if necessary. And, upon the whole, after again repeating our thanks, permit us to assure you, that we are persuaded when our transactions come to be fully canvassed, and the true interest of this Province considered, that you will have no occasion to blush for our conduct.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

N. B. We have received the Surgeon's instruments, and delivered them safe to Doctor *Weisenthal*.

COLONEL MORGAN TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Carlisle, April 22, 1776.

SIR: I have just now had the honour to receive the instructions of Congress, dated the 19th instant, relating to the *Indian* Department; which they may be assured I will strictly observe; and that my attention, as I have now no other business to the westward, shall be devoted to the publick service.

*Isaac Stell*, the Interpreter, being taken ill with the small-pox at a Mr. *White's*, twenty-two miles on this side of *Lan-*



caster, I have left some money, and necessary directions, for the care of him and his family, until further orders from the Commissioners.

I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GEORGE MORGAN.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

ON THE PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS, ETC., RELATING TO INDEPENDENCE.

When I meet in my walks with angry disputants, and behold the bursts of rage which some men unhappily give way to, I often repeat to myself that beautiful exclamation of the inimitable *Sterne*, "What is there in this world's goods that can so sharpen our minds against each other, and make so many kind-hearted brethren amongst us fall out so cruelly by the way."

What, indeed, is there in the narrow limits of time that should induce us to risk our future peace to a momentary gratification of passion and resentment, and embitter the few fleeting hours of our present existence? Whenever I view contending parties treating each other with envenomed asperity, my very soul throbs with pain for their feelings; and fain would I exert every nerve within me to reconcile their jarring interests, and restore that happy harmony, for the perfect enjoyment of which we are by our nature so amply fitted. When I meet with that wild ambition which would deluge the world with human gore, for the extension of empire, or establishing some favourite views, I lament, with truly heart-felt woe, the miserable bosom that contains it, and breathe out a supplicating wish that the great Author of Nature may confine within narrow bounds their fatal effects.

That mankind should differ in sentiment is of infinite importance to society; but that they should support that difference with the virulence of anger, is a misfortune of the deepest dye. When passion once possesses the mind, it becomes blind to reason, and throws the whole system of things into confusion. The subject becomes lost in the dispute, and, instead of sober argument, they substitute intolerable abuse.

I have been led into these reflections by a review of the several publications which have lately appeared on the grand political question of Independence; a doctrine of so important a nature, that it ought to be sifted to the bottom. I can readily allow the utmost indulgence to those gentlemen who have started the thought, and most heartily admit an unlimited freedom to support their arguments; but, on the other hand, I should expect a grant of equal indulgence from their side. The subject is a grand subject. The thought was great, and has proceeded from no little mind. But then, gentlemen, it is new; and you ought to grant a free and uninterrupted discussion of a question in which so many millions are concerned.

That the opposers of the novelty may not be thought unfriendly to the *American* cause, and to show the necessity there is of sober and cool argument to convince a great number of well-meaning men, I will take the liberty of showing the thoughts of several publick bodies on the occasion, lest some should ignorantly run away with the opinion, which has been too hastily adopted by a few of the independent writers, that those who hesitate to embrace an immediate Independency have sinister views, and would sacrifice their country for the sake of a reunion with *Great Britain*. That this is not the case, and that it is not the malevolent party view of a trifling, contemptible junto, seeking to serve themselves at the expense of their brethren, I think may be fairly and honestly inferred from the several following quotations.

I shall give the first place to the sentiments which I find published in the proceedings of the honourable Continental Congress, excluding everything which was transacted before the fatal 19th of *April*, when hostilities first commenced on the part of *Great Britain*; from whence we shall discover that an idea of total separation by no means took place on that unhappy event, but that a restoration of the beneficial connection that had before existed was the principle object in view; therefore, if the writers in opposition to this new doctrine should not be convinced of the propriety of abjuring *England* so speedily as the Independents desire,

they ought not to be surprised, much less ought they to get angry on the occasion. Christianity itself has been upwards of seventeen hundred years in the world, and yet millions of its inhabitants are still to be convinced of the excellence of the Christian religion; and even amongst the professors of Christianity themselves, how slowly has the Reformation advanced. Men must be convinced before they become converted. Why, then, this impatient earnestness for a whole Continent to assent to a doctrine the tidings of which have scarcely reached beyond the limits of the Middle Provinces? If any single man or set of men should doubt the propriety of the measure, they have an undoubted right to speak their minds, and ought to be heard, without being charged with sentiments inimical to *America*. But I shall proceed to produce my authorities.

Whilst bleeding with the wounds received at the battle of *Lexington*, when every passion of rage and resentment must be supposed to have been at its greatest height, we find the Provincial Congress of *Massachusetts-Bay* thus expressing themselves in their Address to the Inhabitants of *Great Britain*. After reciting the ravages committed by the soldiery, they add: \* "These, brethren, are marks of Ministerial vengeance against this Colony, for refusing, with her sister Colonies, a submission to slavery. But they have not yet detached us from our Royal Sovereign. We profess to be his loyal and dutiful subjects; and so hardly dealt with as we have been, are still ready, with our lives and fortunes, to defend his person, family, crown, and dignity."

A little further they add: † "We sincerely hope that the Great Sovereign of the Universe, who hath so often appeared for the *English* Nation, will support you in every rational, manly exertion, with these Colonies, for saving it from ruin; and that in a constitutional connection with the Mother Country, we shall soon be a free and happy People."

On intelligence being brought to Congress of the taking *Ticonderoga*, they resolved, amongst other things, ‡ "That an exact inventory be taken of all such cannon and stores, in order that they may be safely returned when the restoration of the former harmony between *Great Britain* and these Colonies, so ardently wished for by the latter, shall render it prudent and consistent with the overruling law of self-preservation."

The Congress being resolved into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*, agreed to an unanimous resolve, in which we find the following words: "That these Colonies be immediately put into a state of defence. But as we most ardently wish for a restoration of that harmony formerly subsisting between our Mother Country and these Colonies, (the interruption of which must, at all events, be exceedingly injurious to both countries,) that, with a sincere design of contributing, by all the means in our power not incompatible with a just regard for the undoubted rights and true interests of these Colonies, to the promotion of this most desirable reconciliation, an humble and dutiful petition be presented to his Majesty."

In the resolution for a Fast, to be kept the 20th of *July* last, it is recommended, amongst other things, to offer up supplications to the Almighty, § "That all *America* may soon behold a gracious interposition of Heaven for the redress of the many grievances, the restoration of her invaded rights, and a reconciliation with the Parent State, on terms constitutional and honourable to both."

In their Declaration, published after the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, amongst other things, they say: "Lest this Declaration should disquiet the minds of our friends and fellow-subjects in any part of the Empire, we assure them that we mean not to dissolve that union which has so long and so happily subsisted between us, which we sincerely wish to see restored. We have not raised armies with ambitious designs of separating from *Great Britain*, and establishing independent States."

They finish their Declaration with an admirable solemnity, in these words: "With an humble confidence in the mercies of the supreme and impartial Judge and Ruler of the Universe, we most devoutly implore His divine goodness to protect us happily through this great conflict, to dispose our adversaries to reconciliation on reasonable terms, and thereby to relieve the Empire from the calamities of civil war."

In their Petition to his Majesty, we find them thus ex-

\* Journal of Congress, p. 45. † Page 59. ‡ Page 63. § Page 87.

pressing themselves, page 55: "Attached to your Majesty's person, family, and Government, with all devotion that principle and affection can inspire, connected with *Great Britain* by the strongest ties that can unite societies, and deploring every event that tends in any degree to weaken them, we solemnly assure your Majesty that we not only most ardently desire the former harmony between her and these Colonies may be restored, but that a concord may be established between them, upon so firm a basis as to perpetuate its blessings, uninterrupted by any future dissensions, to succeeding generations, in both countries.

"We beg leave further to assure your Majesty, that, notwithstanding the sufferings of your loyal Colonists during the course of this present controversy, our breasts retain too tender a regard for the kingdom from which we derive our origin, to request such a reconciliation as might, in any manner, be inconsistent with her dignity or her welfare. These, (related as we are to her,) honour and duty, as well as inclination, induce us to support and advance; and the apprehensions that now oppress our hearts with unspeakable grief, being once removed, your Majesty will find your faithful subjects on this Continent ready and willing, at all times, (as they have ever been,) with their lives and fortunes, to assert and maintain the rights and interests of your Majesty, and of our Mother Country."

In their Address to the People of *England*, (page 163.) they say: "We are accused of aiming at Independence; but how is this accusation supported? By the allegations of your Ministers; not by our actions."

A little further, they add: "Even under these circumstances, what measures have we taken that betray a desire of Independence?"

After speaking of the taking possession of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*, they say, page 165: "Yet give us leave most solemnly to assure you, that we have not yet lost sight of the object we have ever had in view—a reconciliation with you on constitutional principles, and a restoration of that friendly intercourse which, to the advantage of both, we till lately maintained."

Page 166, they add: "It has been said that we refuse to submit to the restrictions on our commerce. From whence is this inference drawn? Not from our words. We have repeatedly declared the contrary; and we again profess our submission to the several acts of trade and navigation passed before the year 1763; trusting, nevertheless, in the equity and justice of Parliament, that such of them as, upon cool and impartial consideration, shall appear to have imposed unnecessary or grievous restrictions, will, at some happier period, be restricted or altered."

In their Letter to the Lord Mayor and Corporation of *London*, sent home by Governour *Penn*, (page 172,) they say: "*North-America*, my Lord, wishes most ardently for a lasting connection with *Great Britain*, on terms of just and equal liberty; less than which generous minds will not offer, nor brave and free ones be willing to receive. A cruel war has at length been opened against us; and whilst we prepare to defend ourselves like the descendants of *Britons*, we still hope that the mediation of wise and good citizens will at length prevail over despotism, and restore harmony and peace, on permanent principles, to an oppressed and divided Empire."

In the Talk drawn up to be held with the *Indians*, after reciting to them the happy connection that had subsisted for above one hundred years with *Britain*, and informing them of the present cause of our quarrel, they say, (page 182:) "Brothers and friends of the *Six Nations*, attend: We, upon this Island, (meaning *America*,) have often spoke and entreated the King, and his servants the Counsellors, that peace and harmony might still continue between us; that we cannot part with or lose our hold of the old covenant-chain which united our fathers and theirs; that we want to brighten this chain, and keep the way open, as our fathers did; that we want to live with them as brothers; labour, trade, travel abroad, eat and drink in peace. We have often asked them to love us, and live in friendship with us, as their fathers did with ours."

Page 186, they tell them: "We do not take up the hatchet, and struggle for honour or conquest, but to maintain our civil Constitution and religious principles, the very same for which our forefathers left their native land and came to this country."

In addressing the People of *Ireland*, (page 221,) after most pathetically describing the ravages of the Ministerial Army, the burning of *Charlestown*, and the deplorable situation of the town of *Boston*, they declare: "Though vilified as wanting spirit, we are determined to behave like men; though insulted and abused, we wish for reconciliation; though defamed as seditious, we are ready to obey the laws; and though charged with rebellion, will cheerfully bleed in defence of our Sovereign, in a righteous cause. What more can we say? What more can we offer?"

Thus, we find the Congress, through the whole of their proceedings, till the time of their adjournment, uniformly holding up the idea of reconciliation. If we look for the sentiments of whole Provinces of a much later date, we shall find them still acting upon the same principles. The Instructions from the Representatives of the People of *Pennsylvania*, (who form one-eighth of the whole Continent,) expressly direct their Delegates in Congress to keep up a steady opposition to every proposal of separation from *Great Britain*.

The Province of *Maryland*, in Convention met the 7th day of last *December*, unanimously resolved, that being deeply affected with the suspicion entertained by his Majesty, of these Colonies designing to establish an independent Empire, declare that they are "desirous to remove from the mind of the King an opinion which we feel to be highly injurious to the People of this Province; and in order to manifest to his Majesty, to the Parliament, the people of *Great Britain*, and to the whole world, the rectitude and purity of our intentions in the present opposition to the measures of the *British* Ministry and Parliament, do declare, that the people of this Province, strongly attached to the *English* Constitution, and truly sensible of the blessing they have derived from it, warmly impressed with sentiments of affection for and loyalty to the House of *Hanover*, connected with the *British* Nation by the ties of blood and interest, and being thoroughly convinced that, to be free subjects of the King of *Great Britain*, with all its consequences, is to be the freest members of any civil society in the known world, never did, nor do entertain any views or desires of Independency. That as they consider their union with the Mother Country, upon terms that may insure to them a permanent freedom as their highest felicity, so would they view the fatal necessity of separating from her, as a misfortune next to the greatest that can befall them."

In the votes and proceedings of the Assembly of *New-Jersey*, held last *November*, we find that sundry Petitions against Independency were presented to the House; that several of the signers were summoned to attend, who, it seems, had signed the Petition on the report that "some men affected Independency." On reading the Petitions a second time, the House came to the following resolves: "That reports of Independency, in the apprehension of this House, are groundless; that it be recommended to the Delegates of the Colony to use their utmost endeavours for the obtaining a redress of *American* grievances, and for restoring the union between the Colonies and *Great Britain* upon constitutional principles; that the said Delegates be directed not to give their assent to, but utterly reject any propositions, if such should be made, that may separate this Colony from the Mother Country, or change the form of Government thereof."

On examining the votes a little further, it should seem that one of the petitioners, who had been summoned before the House, had charged one of the members with supporting the doctrine of Independency; in consequence of which we find the following paragraph, page 20:

"Mr. . . . attending pursuant to the order of the forenoon, and, being examined as to the words spoken by him of the member, informed the House that he neither intended any offence or insult to the House, or any member of it, and that he is sorry any member of the House should take it as an insult upon him; with which this House being satisfied, and being of opinion that it appears Mr. . . . really misapprehended the words of the member, and that the same member is not justly chargeable with such opinions, do discharge Mr. . . . from any further attendance on the House."

Here we see that the Assembly express themselves as if it were criminal to hold such opinions, by using the words

"not justly chargeable." As to the "holding of opinions," I conceive that every man has a right to hold whatever sort he pleases, so long as he does not insist on obliging other people to hold the same.

At a Town Meeting held at *Portsmouth, New-Hampshire*, the 25th of *December* last, to appoint Delegates to represent them in Provincial Congress, we find their sentiments fully expressed by an unanimous vote of Instructions to their Delegates, as follows: "The precept sent to this town for the choice of Delegates, mentions our taking up a form of Government in this Colony. This we conceive to be a measure to be entered upon with the greatest caution, calmness, and deliberation. We are of opinion that the present times are too unsettled to admit of perfecting a form stable and permanent, and that to attempt it now would injure us, by furnishing our enemies in *Great Britain* with arguments to persuade the good people there that we are aiming at Independence, which we totally disavow. We should therefore prefer the Government of the Congress till *God*, in his providence, shall afford us quieter times." But leaving the matter of taking up a form of Government to their Convention, and recommending an earnest attention to putting the Province into a posture of defence, they add, "At the same time, however, that we give you this instruction, we recommend it to you that, should a plan of accommodation be proposed, the completion of which will terminate in an honourable settlement of the present dispute, you give your assent thereto."

*January 5, 1776*, a Convention for the Province of *New-Hampshire* met at *Exeter*, and after reciting the necessity of assuming a form of Government, and the power given them by the Continental Congress for that purpose, as well as the abdication of the Governour and Council, they declare that, "for the preservation of peace and good order, and for the security of the lives and properties of the inhabitants of this Colony, we conceive ourselves reduced to the necessity of establishing a form of Government, to continue during the present unhappy and unnatural contest with *Great Britain*, protesting and declaring that we never sought to throw off our dependance upon *Great Britain*, but felt ourselves happy under her protection, whilst we could enjoy our constitutional rights and privileges, and that we shall rejoice if such a reconciliation between us and our Parent State can be effected, as shall be approved by the Continental Congress, in whose prudence and wisdom we confide.

Thus, we find that a reunion with *Great Britain*, upon constitutional principles, has been the favourite object of the Continental Congress, whose conduct has been steadily marked with defensive movements, and nowhere giving way to revenge or resentment—passions inconsistent with the dignity of publick bodies. Though deeply afflicted with the distresses of their country on every hand, they have made a redress of grievances, and the protection of *America*, their only care. Nor can I trace a single step which induces me to believe they now wish for Independence. Till they do, or publish their desires of taking the sentiments of the people at large, on this important question, in such manner as their own wisdom shall direct, every man will hold himself guiltless in both speaking and writing on the subject. It is not the subject of a day, that in the morning blossoms, and at night fades to unfold no more; but it is an event in which millions in future ages are to be deeply interested. Why, then, would the writers in favour of a total separation wish to suppress an opposition? If liberty and happiness has inlisted on the one side, and misery and slavery on the other, surely it is a truth that may be easily displayed, and will be shown more clearly by opposition. On the side of reconciliation, I find, exclusive of the Continental Congress:

<i>Maryland</i> , in Convention met, representing	-	Inhabitants. 310,174
<i>Pennsylvania</i> , in Assembly met, representing	-	372,208
<i>New-Jersey</i> , in Assembly met, representing	-	161,290
<i>New-Hampshire</i> , in Convention met, representing	-	124,069

967,741

Which is near one-third of the inhabitants of *America*. How many of the other Provinces have expressed their sentiments on the subject of Independence, I cannot pretend to say; but surely these are enough to justify any writer or writers

on the Continent, in joining their voices, and to screen them from the ungenerous charges of being the corrupt tools of Government, and having no other view than "pensions and titles" for themselves and families. Away with all such unhandsome reflections on party schemes and party views. Convince me but once that more happiness is to be expected from Independence than from reconciliation, and instantly I renounce *Great Britain* forever.

Some late writers justify personality in publick disputes; for my part I cannot conceive what persons have to do with the matter. If a highwayman was to stop my coach on the road, and, after taking my purse, was to tell me I had lost the linchpin from my wheel, I should certainly deserve to be overturned if I neglected to examine into the truth of his information. So with respect to Independence; I care not who it is that informs me of the miseries of a separation, or what may be his views. I shall listen to his tale, and judge for myself. On the other hand, when the peace, plenty, and liberty of Independence are pointed out with all the colours of description, it is no matter to me whether my director has views of power and dignity for himself or not; I shall examine the principles and leave the man; but if, apart from argument, I should have any preference from prejudice, it would be to that side which appeared most inclined to grant an unlimited indulgence to a freedom of speech and the freedom of the press; for if grievances should hereafter arise in the Government I had chosen, such freedom would sooner enable me to obtain redress.

SEEK TRUTH.

#### LETTER III.—TO CATO.

*Cato's* partisans may call me furious, I regard it not. There are men, too, who have not virtue enough to be angry; and that crime perhaps is *Cato's*. He who dares not offend cannot be honest. Having thus balanced the charge, I proceed to *Cato's* fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh letters, all of which, as they contain but little matter, I shall dismiss with as little trouble and less formality. *Cato's* fourth, and the greatest part of his fifth letter, are constructed on a false meaning, uncivilly imposed on a passage quoted from *Common Sense*; and for which the author of that pamphlet hath a right to expect from *Cato* the usual concessions. I shall quote the passage entire, with *Cato's* additional meaning, and the inferences which he draws therefrom.

He introduces it with saying, "In my remarks on the pamphlet before me, I shall first consider those arguments on which he (the author) appears to lay his chief stress; and these are collected under four heads in his conclusion;" one of which is, "It is the custom of nations when any two are at war, for some other Powers not engaged in the quarrel, to step in by way of mediators, and bring about the preliminaries of a peace; but while *America* calls herself the subject of *Great Britain*, no Power, however well-disposed she may be, can offer her mediation." The meaning contained in this passage is so exceedingly plain, and expressed in such easy and familiar terms, that it scarcely admits of being made plainer. No one, I think, could have understood it any otherwise than that, while we continue to call ourselves *British* subjects, the quarrel between us can only be called a family quarrel, in which it would be just as indelicate for any other nation to advise, or any way to meddle or make, even with their offers of mediation, as it would be for a third person to interfere in a quarrel between a man and his wife. Whereas, were we to make use of that natural right which all other nations have done before us, and erect a Government of our own, independent of all the world, the quarrel could then be no longer called a family quarrel, but a regular war between the two Powers of *Britain* and *America*, in the same manner as one carried on between *England* and *France*; and in this state of political separation, the neutral powers might kindly tender their mediation, (as hath always been the practice,) and bring about the preliminaries of a peace. Not a union, *Cato*; that is quite another thing. But instead of *Cato's* taking it in this easy and natural sense, he flies away on a wrong scent; charges the author with proposing to call in foreign assistance; and, under this wilful falsehood, raises up a mighty cry after nothing at all. He begins his wild and unintelligible comment in the following manner: "Is this," says he, (meaning the passage already quoted,) "*Common*

sense, or common nonsense? Surely peace \* with *Great Britain* cannot be the object of this writer, after the horrible character he has given of the people of that country, and telling us that reconciliation with them would be our ruin. The latter part of the paragraph seems to cast some light upon the former, although it contradicts it; for these mediators are not to interfere for making up the quarrel, but to widen it, by supporting us in a declaration, that we are not the subjects of *Great Britain*; a new sort of business truly for mediators! But this, (continues *Cato*), leads us directly to the main inquiry, what foreign Power is able to give us this support? What support, *Cato*? The passage you have quoted neither says a syllable, nor insinuates a hint about support. It speaks only of neutral Powers in the neighbourly character of mediators between those who are at war; and says it is the custom of *European* Courts to do so. *Cato* hath already raised Commissioners into Ambassadors; but how he could transform mediators into men in arms, and mediation into military alliance, is surpassingly strange. Read the part over again, *Cato*; if you find I have charged you wrongfully, and will point it out, I will engage that the author of *Common Sense* shall ask you pardon in the publick papers with his name to it; but if the error be yours, the concession on your part follows as a duty.

Though I am fully persuaded that *Cato* does not believe one half of what himself has written, he, nevertheless, takes amazing pains to frighten his readers into a belief of the whole; tells them of foreign troops (which he supposes we are going to send for) ravaging up and down the country; of their "bloody massacres, and unrelenting persecutions, which would harrow up (says he) the very souls of Protestants and freemen." Were they coming, *Cato*, (which no one ever dreamed of but yourself; for, thank God, we want them not,) it would be impossible for them to exceed, or even to equal the cruelties practised by the *British* Army in the *East-Indies*; the tying men to the mouths of cannon and "blowing them away," was never acted by any but an *English* General, or approved by any but a *British* Court.† Read the proceedings of the Select Committee on *Indian* affairs.

From temporal fears *Cato* proceeds to spiritual ones; and in a hypocritical panick, asks, "To whose share will *Pennsylvania* fall—that of his most Catholick, or his most Christian King? I confess, (continues he,) that these questions stagger me." I don't wonder at it, *Cato*—I am glad to hear that some kind of remorse hath overtaken you—that you begin to feel that you are "heavy laden"—you have had a long run; and the stoutest heart must fail at last.

*Cato*, perceiving that the falsehoods in his fourth letter passed unreprieved, ventured boldly on a fifth; in which he continues enlarging on the same convenient bugbear. "In my last, (says he,) some notice was taken of the dangerous proposition held up by the author of *Common Sense* for having recourse to foreign assistance." When will *Cato* learn to speak the truth! The assistance which we hope for from *France*, is not armies, (we want them not,) but arms and ammunition. We have already received into this Province only, near two hundred tons of saltpetre and gunpowder, besides muskets. Surely we may continue to cultivate a useful acquaintance, without such malevolent beings as *Cato* raising his barbarous slander thereon. At this time, it is not only illiberal, but inpolitick, and perhaps dangerous, to be pouring forth such torrents of abuse as his fourth and fifth letters contain against the only Power that, in articles of defence, hath supplied our hasty wants. *Cato*, after expending near two letters in beating down an idol which himself only had set up, proudly congratulates himself on the defeat, and marches off to new exploits, leaving behind him the following Proclamation: "Having thus (says *Cato*) despatched his (the author of *Common Sense*'s) main argument for Independence, which he founds on the necessity of calling in foreign assistance, I proceed to examine some other parts of his work." Not a syllable, *Cato*, doth any part of the pamphlet in question say of calling in foreign assistance, or even forming military alliances. The dream is wholly your own; and is directly repugnant both to the letter and spirit of every page in the piece. The idea which

\* It is a strange thing that *Cato* cannot be taught to distinguish between peace and union.

† Lord Clive, the chief of Eastern plunderers, received the thanks of the Parliament for "his honourable conduct in the *East-Indies*."

*Common Sense* constantly holds up is, to have nothing to do with the political affairs of *Europe*. "As *Europe*, (says the pamphlet,) is our market for trade, we ought to form no political connections with any part of it. It is the true interest of *America* to steer clear of all *European* contentions." And where it proposes sending a manifesto to foreign Courts, (which it is high time to do,) it recommends it only for the purpose of announcing to them the impossibility of our living any longer under the *British* Government, and of "assuring such Courts of our peaceable disposition towards them, and of our desire of entering into trade with them." Learn to be an honest man, *Cato*, and then thou wilt not be thus exposed. I have been the more particular in detecting *Cato* here, because it is on this bubble that his air-built battery against Independence is raised. A poor foundation indeed! which even the point of a pin, or a pen if you please, can demolish with a touch, and bury the formidable *Cato* beneath the ruins of a vapour!

From this part of his fifth letter to the end of his seventh, he entirely deserts the subject of Independence, and sets up the proud standard of Kings, in preference to a Republican form of Government. My remarks on this part of the subject will be general and concise.

In this part of the debate, *Cato* shelters himself chiefly in quotations from other authors, without reasoning much on the matter himself.\* In answer to which, I present him with a string of maxims and reflections, drawn from the nature of things, without borrowing from any one. *Cato* may observe that I scarcely ever quote; the reason is I always think. But to return.

Government should always be considered as a matter of convenience, not of right. The Scripture institutes no particular form of Government, but it enters a protest against the Monarchal form; and a negation on one thing, where two only are offered, and one must be chosen, amounts to an affirmative on the other. Monarchal Government was first set up by the Heathens, and the Almighty permitted it to the *Jews* as a punishment. "I gave them a King in mine anger."—*Hosea* xiii, 11. A Republican form of Government is pointed out by nature—Kingly Governments by an inequality of power. In Republican Governments, the leaders of the people, if improper, are removable by vote—Kings only by arms. An unsuccessful vote in the first case leaves the voter safe; but an unsuccessful attempt in the latter, is death. Strange that that which is our right in the one should be our ruin in the other—from which reflection follows this maxim: That that mode of Government in which our right becomes our ruin, cannot be the right one. If all human nature be corrupt, it is needless to strengthen the corruption, by establishing a succession of Kings, who, be they ever so base, are still to be obeyed; for the manners of a Court will always have an influence over the morals of a People.

A Republican Government hath more true grandeur in it than a Kingly one. On the part of the publick, it is more consistent with freemen to appoint their rulers than to have them born; and on the part of those who preside, it is far nobler to be a ruler by the choice of a People, than a King by the chance of birth. Every honest Delegate is more than a Monarch. Disorders will unavoidably happen in all States; but Monarchal Governments are the most subject thereto, because the balance hangs uneven. "Nineteen rebellions and eight civil wars in *England* since the conquest." Whatever commotions are produced in Republican States are not produced by a Republican spirit, but by those who seek to extinguish it. A Republican State cannot produce its own destruction; it can only suffer it. No nation of people, in their true senses, when seriously reflecting on the rank which God hath given them, and the reasoning faculties he hath blessed them with, would ever, of their own consent, give any one man a negative power over the whole. No man since the fall hath ever been equal to the trust; wherefore it

\* The following is an instance of *Cato*'s method of conducting an argument: "If hereditary succession," says *Common Sense*, (meaning succession of Monarchal Governments,) "did ensure a race of good and wise men, it would have the seal of Divine authority." Thus we find him, (says *Cato*) with his own hand affixing the seal of Heaven to what he before told us the Devil invented, and the Almighty entered his protest against.—*Cato*'s seventh Letter. This is a strange argument indeed, *Cato*, or rather, it is no argument at all; for hereditary succession does not ensure a race of good and wise men; consequently has not the seal of Divine authority.

is insanity in us to entrust them with it; and in this sense, all those who have had it have done us right by abusing us into reason. Nature seems sometimes to laugh at mankind, by giving them so many fools for Kings; at other times she punishes their folly by giving them tyrants; but *England* must have offended highly to be cursed with both in one. *Rosseau* proposed a plan for establishing a perpetual *European* peace; which was for every State in *Europe* to send Ambassadors to form a General Council, and when any difference happened between any two nations, to refer the matter to arbitration instead of going to arms. This would be forming a kind of *European* Republick; but the proud and plundering spirit of Kings hath not peace for its object. They look not at the good of mankind—they set not out on that plan; and if the history of the creation, and the history of Kings be compared together, the result will be this, that *God* hath made a world, and Kings have robbed him of it.

But that which sufficiently establishes the Republican mode of Government, in preference to a Kingly one, even when all other arguments are left out, is this simple truth, that all men are Republicans by nature, and Royalists only by fashion. And this is fully proved by that passionate adoration which all men show to that great and almost only remaining bulwark of natural rights, Trial by Juries, which is founded on a pure Republican basis. Here the power of Kings is shut out. No Royal negative can enter this Court. The Jury, which is here supreme, is a Republick, a body of judges chosen from among the People. The charter which secures this freedom in *England* was formed, not in the Senate, but in the field; and insisted on by the People, not granted by the Crown. The Crown in that instance granted nothing, but only renounced its former tyrannies, and bound itself over to its future good behaviour. It was the compromise by which the wearer of it made his peace with the People, and the condition on which he was suffered to reign.

Here ends my reply to all the letters which have at present appeared under the signature of *Cato*, being at this time seven in number. I have made no particular remarks on his two last, which treats only of the mode of Government, but answered to them generally. In one place I observe he accuses the writer of *Common Sense* with inconsistency, in having declared, "that no man was a warmer wisher for reconciliation than himself before the fatal 19th of *April*, 1775;" "that is, (says *Cato*,) reconciliation to Monarchal Government." To which I reply, that war ought to be no man's wish, neither ought any man to perplex a State already formed, with his private opinions, "the mode of Government being a proper consideration for those countries" only, "which have their Governments yet to form."—*Common Sense*.

On a review of the ground which I have gone over in *Cato's* letters, (exclusive of what I have omitted,) I find the following material charges against him:

First. He hath accused the Committee with crimes generally; stated none, nor proved, nor attempted to prove any. N. B. The pretence of charging the acts of a body of men on individuals is too slender to be admitted.\*

Secondly. He hath falsely complained to the publick of the restraint of the Press.

Thirdly. He hath wickedly asserted that "gleams of reconciliation had lately broken in upon us;" thereby grossly deceiving the People.

Fourthly. He hath insinuated, as if he wished the publick to believe, that we had received "the utmost assurance of having all our grievances redressed, and an ample security against any future violation of our just rights."

Fifthly. He hath spread false alarms of calling in foreign Troops.

Sixthly. He hath turned the Scripture into a jest.—*Ez.* xxxv.

These falsehoods, if uncontradicted, might have passed for truths, and the minds of persons remote from better

\* *Cato* and I differ materially in our opinion of Committees. I consider them as the only constitutional bodies at present in this Province, and that for the following reason: they were duly elected by the people, and cheerfully and faithfully do the service for which they were elected. The House of Assembly were likewise elected by the people, but do the business for which they were not elected. Their authority is truly unconstitutional, being self-created. My charge is as a body, and not as individuals.

intelligence, might have been greatly embarrassed thereby. Let our opinions be what they will, truth, as to facts, should be strictly adhered to. It was this affecting consideration that drew out the *Forester* (a perfect volunteer) to the painful task of writing three long letters, and occasioned to the publick the trouble of reading them.

Having, for the present, closed my correspondence with *Cato*, I shall conclude this letter with a well-meant, affectionate address

#### TO THE PEOPLE.

It is not a time to trifle. Men who know they deserve nothing from their country, and whose hope is on the arm that hath sought to enslave ye, may hold out to you, as *Cato* hath done, the false light of Reconciliation. There is no such thing. 'Tis gone! 'tis past! The grave hath parted us, and death, in the persons of the slain, hath cut the thread of life between *Britain* and *America*.

Conquest, and not reconciliation, is the plan of *Britain*. But admitting even the last hope of the Tories to happen, which is, that our enemies, after a long succession of losses, wearied and disabled, should despairingly throw down their arms and propose a reunion, in that case, what is to be done? Are defeated and disappointed tyrants to be considered like mistaken and converted friends? Or would it be right to receive those for governours, who, had they been conquerors, would have hung us up for traitors? Certainly not. Reject the offer, then, and propose another; which is, We will make peace with you as with enemies; but we will never reunite with you as friends. This effected, and ye secure to yourselves the pleasing prospect of an eternal peace. *America*, remote from all the wrangling world, may live at ease. Bounded by the ocean, and backed by the wilderness, what hath she to fear but her *God*?

Be not deceived. It is not a little that is at stake. Reconciliation will not now go down, even if it were offered. 'Tis a dangerous question; for the eyes of all men begin to open. There is now no secret in the matter; there ought to be none. It is a case that concerns every man, and every man ought to lay it to heart. He that is here, and he that was born here, are alike concerned. It is needless, too, to split the business into a thousand parts, and perplex it with endless and fruitless investigations, in the manner that the writer signed a *Common Man* hath done. This unparalleled contention of nations is not to be settled like a school-boy's task of pounds, shillings, pence, and fractions. That writer, though he may mean well, is strangely below the mark. For the first and great question, and that which involves every other in it, and from which every other will flow, is happiness. Can this Continent be happy under the Government of *Great Britain* or not? Secondly. Can she be happy under a Government of our own? To live beneath the authority of those whom we cannot love, is misery, slavery, or what name you please. In that case, there will never be peace. Security will be a thing unknown, because a treacherous friend in power is the most dangerous of enemies. The answer to the second question, Can *America* be happy under a Government of her own? is short and simple, viz: as happy as she please. She hath a blank sheet to write upon. Put it not off too long.\*

Painful as the task of speaking the truth must sometimes be, yet I cannot avoid giving the following hint, because much, nay, almost everything depends upon it; and that is, a thorough knowledge of the persons whom we trust. It is the duty of the publick, at this time, to scrutinize closely into the conduct of their Committee members, Members of Assembly, and Delegates in Congress; to know what they do, and their motives for so doing. Without knowing this, we shall never know who to confide in; but shall constantly mistake friends for enemies, and enemies for friends, till, in the confusion of persons, we sacrifice the cause. I am led to this reflection by the following circumstance: that the gentleman to whom the unwise and arbitrary instructions to the Delegates of this Province owe their being, and who hath bestowed all his power to support them, is said to be the same person who, when the ships now on the stocks were wanting timber, refused to sell it, and thus, by preventing our strength, to cry out of our insufficiency. But his hour of fame is past—he is hastening to his political exit.

THE FORESTER.

\* Forget not the helpless *African*.



## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 25, 1776, and referred to Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Hewes.]

New-York, April 22, 1776.

SIR: I was this day honoured with the receipt of your favour of the 20th instant. I have now the pleasure to acquaint you that the four regiments designed for *Canada*, embarked yesterday, with a fair wind, for *Albany*, under the command of Colonels *Greaton*, *Patterson*, *Bond*, and *Poor*; besides which there was a company of Riflemen, a company of Artificers, and two Engineers; the whole commanded by Brigadier-General *Thompson*.

I have repeatedly mentioned to the honourable Congress the distressful situation we are in for want of arms. With much pains and difficulty I got most of the regiments from the eastward tolerably well furnished; but find the *York* regiments very badly provided; Colonel *Ritzema's* has scarcely any; and yet these men, being inlisted during the war, and at five dollars per month, ought not, in my judgment, to be discharged, as we find it almost as difficult to get men as arms. This is a matter of some importance, which I should be glad to receive the particular opinion of Congress upon.

Mr. *Baldwin* is one of the Assistant Engineers ordered to *Canada*. He is, indeed, a very useful man in his department, but declined the service on account of his pay, which he says is inadequate to his support. In order to induce him to continue, I promised to represent his case to Congress, and would recommend an increase of his pay, and that he should have the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, of which he is very deserving. I beg leave, therefore, to recommend him to the Congress, and that they would make provision for him accordingly.

A few days ago, application was made to me by the Committee of Safety for this Colony, for an exchange of prisoners; for the particulars, I beg leave to refer you to their letter, a copy of which you have enclosed. As there is a standing order of Congress, that no sailors or soldiers shall be exchanged for citizens, I did not incline to comply with their request without the particular direction of Congress. But I have been since informed that the prisoners (mentioned in the Committee's letter as citizens) are really seamen, taken from private vessels, but not in arms. How far this may alter the case, or how far the reasons which induced the Congress to pass the resolve above-mentioned may still exist, must be left to their determination.

The Militia which, on my application, were ordered to this place, to keep possession until I should arrive with the Continental forces, were obliged to return home without their pay, as there was not then money sufficient in the Treasury for that purpose, and to answer the exigencies of the Army. This occasioned great uneasiness among them, and may be attended with very bad consequences, in case we should have occasion for their service on any future emergency. I therefore beg the Congress would make provision for their pay, and point out particularly whether it is to be done by the commander of the Continental forces, or by the Provincial Assemblies or Conventions from whence they are sent.

As the time for which the Riflemen inlisted will expire on the 1st of *July* next, and as the loss of such a valuable and brave body of men will be of great injury to the service, I would submit it to the consideration of Congress, whether it would not be best to adopt some method to induce them to continue. They are, indeed, a very useful corps; but I need not mention this, as their importance is already well known to the Congress. It is necessary they should pay an early attention to this matter, as we know, from past experience, that men are very slow in re-inlisting.

When I had the honour of seeing Admiral *Hopkins* at *New-London*, he represented to me the weak state of his fleet, occasioned by sickness and the damage he received in his engagement with the enemy, and requested I would spare him two hundred men, to assist him in a design he had formed of attacking *Wallace*. This I readily consented to, and the men are to be returned as soon as the service is performed.

I wish it was in my power, at present, to furnish General *Lee* with the companies of Artillery he desires. I have already sent two companies to *Quebeck*, and I have not yet been able to procure a return of those that are here. I ex-

pect Colonel *Knox* every moment, and shall then be able to determine whether any can be spared from hence. Blankets we are in great want of ourselves, and it was with great difficulty a few could be procured for the Riflemen that were ordered for *Canada*.

I enclose you Mr. *Winthrop's* receipt for two hundred thousand dollars, brought some time ago from *Philadelphia* by Major *Sherburne*, which you will please to deliver to the Continental Treasurers.

On my arrival here I found that Mr. *Livingston* had been appointed by the Provincial Congress a Commissary, to furnish the Continental troops stationed in this city with provisions. I suppose this was done because there was no Continental Commissary then on the spot. Mr. *Livingston* still claims a right of furnishing all the troops but those lately arrived from *Cambridge*. Mr. *Trumbull* is now here; and as I consider him as the principal in that office, I should be glad to know whether any part of the Continental troops is to be furnished by any other than their Commissary-General. I must needs say, that to me it appears very inconsistent, and must create great confusion in the accounts, as well as in the contracts. I intended to have laid before Congress the amount of the rations as supplied by Colonel *Trumbull* and Mr. *Livingston*, and called upon those gentlemen to furnish me with a separate estimate for that purpose. Colonel *Trumbull* has given me his, by which it appears he supplies the troops at eight and one-third pence per ration. I have not yet received any from Mr. *Livingston*, but am informed his contract is at ten and a half pence. The difference is immense, as it will amount to no less than two hundred pounds per day, for twenty thousand men. It is, indeed, to be considered, that Mr. *Livingston's* contract is including every other charge; and that to Mr. *Trumbull's* must be added store-hire, clerks, and every other contingent expense; but even then it will not amount to so much as Mr. *Livingston's* by a penny per ration, which in the gross will be something very considerable. I thought it my duty, without prejudice or partiality, to state the matter fairly to Congress, that they might take such order upon it as to them shall seem necessary. I cannot, however, in justice to Mr. *Trumbull*, help adding, that he has been indefatigable in supplying the Army, and I believe, from his connections in *New-England*, is able to do it on as good terms as any person in *America*.

The several matters contained in the foregoing, I must beg the early attention of Congress to, and that I may be favoured with an answer as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

New-York, April 17, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Safety of this Colony have been requested to apply to your Excellency to obtain a release of seven citizens, now detained on board the ships *Phoenix* and *Asia* as prisoners. They are well informed an exchange may be effected, if your Excellency would be pleased to give them the benefit of a number of your prisoners of equal rank. Should either of the ships depart with the prisoners on board, their respective families must labour under additional misfortunes. Some of them have been detained a long time. The Committee enclose a list of their names, and beg leave to assure you that they are, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's most humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM PAULDING, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

## GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 20, 1776.

(Parole, Hartley)

(Countersign, Newtonham.)

The General is much surprised that, notwithstanding the order of the 14th instant, he is without those returns he then called for. He again repeats the order, and once for all requests that he may not, in future, have occasion to issue two orders to the same purpose. Returns from every corps are to be made regularly, at Orderly time, every *Saturday*.

*James Henry*, Sergeant, *Samuel Smith*, Sergeant, *John McKenney*, Corporal, and *Richard Taylor*, Matross, belong-

ing to the Company of Artillery commanded by Captain *Hamilton*, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Stark* was President, for "mutiny." The Court find the prisoners, *James Henry* and *John McKenney*, guilty of the charge, and therefore sentence *James Henry* to be reduced to the ranks, and mulcted one month's pay; and *John McKenney* to be reduced to a Matross, and to be imprisoned a fortnight. The Court finding *Samuel Smith* and *Richard Taylor* guilty of disobedience of orders, sentence them to be reprimanded by the Captain, at the head of the company.

The General approves the proceedings of the above Court-Martial, and orders that Sergeant *James Henry* and Corporal *John McKenney*, as they have not paid for their clothing, be stripped, and discharged the company; and the sentence of the Court-Martial upon Sergeant *Smith* and *Richard Taylor*, to be executed to-morrow morning, at Guard-mounting.

*Lawrence Ferguson*, tried by the above Court-Martial for "striking Lieutenant *Johnson*," is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to receive twenty lashes on his bare back. The General approves the sentence, and orders the execution of it to-morrow morning, at Guard-mounting.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 21, 1776.

(Parole, *Rockingham*.) (Countersign, *Grafton*.)

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 22, 1776.

(Parole, *Richmond*.) (Countersign, *Conway*.)

For the future, all prisoners confined for crimes, for which they are to be tried by a General Court-Martial, are to be sent to the Provost-Marshal, (Captain *Moroney*.) who has a Guard appointed to secure them; and all prisoners, confined in any Guard for offences that come under the cognizance of a Regimental Court-Martial, are to be sent to the Barrack Guard of the Regiment they belong to.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, April 22, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 12th instant, and to inform you that it is not in his power, at this time, to forward the supply of cash you ask for, having found and received here a much smaller sum, in proportion to your demands, than what he left for your department, which he hoped would have been equal to every present claim. But if not, his Excellency apprehends that no great inconvenience can arise to the regiments stationed in and about *Boston*, to wait a little time for pay for *March*, until money can be sent for that purpose. If they should be in great want, and very importunate, he doubts not but the honourable General Court will, on your application, lend a sufficient sum to pay them, on promise of repayment when money comes to hand.

In a letter his Excellency received from Congress, of the 6th of *March*, they mention five and a half tons of powder to have been sent him the day before, and that it would be followed in a day or two after by ten tons more. Five tons having only arrived before his departure from *Cambridge*, he desires you will inform him whether any more has come since he left it, and what quantity, having heard nothing more of the ten tons, save that a small part of it was stopped on the road.

His Excellency requests your most careful attention to the works necessary for the defence of *Boston*; and is hopeful that, ere now, they are so strong and far advanced as to render the town entirely secure. He wishes you to favour him with every interesting occurrence from time to time, and by the earliest opportunities.

The enclosed warrant is for *Daniel Rogers*, Esq., which you will please to deliver him.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To Major-General *Ward*, *Boston*.

GILBERT LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, April 22, 1776.

SIR: The bearer hereof, Mr. *Marshall*, (one of the gentlemen recommended by the *Dutchess* County Committee for one of Captain *Billings's* Lieutenants,) wants to take a

copy of the muster-roll of that part of Captain *Billings's* Company that I mustered. I have been obliged to muster part of Captain *Swartwout's* Company. The roll goes down by this conveyance. I wish that Colonel *Palmer*, or the commanding officer here, or some particular person, was appointed to muster the men as they arrive, as I conceive it irregular for me to do it. But there seems to be a necessity, at present, for some one to undertake the business, even without an order. Should be glad you would give him a copy, or let him take it himself.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

GILBERT LIVINGSTON.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

CAPTAIN BILLINGS TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, April 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your order of the 13th ultimo came to hand. In compliance to the same, sent one of my Sergeants immediately to the County, and to two of the Precinct Committees in *Dutchess*, with a copy of what I received from Congress, requesting their assistance, with as much despatch as possible, and acquainting them that I had but seven guns, and about forty blankets, which I had (with difficulty) purchased in the country. I have written to Colonel *Ritzema*, desiring to know whether I am to move before I get supplied. We have one battery finished, excepting the floor, and are now employed in cutting and making fascines. Garrison sickly. I send enclosed the return I received from the County Committee, respecting my subalterns, and shall be obliged by an answer to the same, as well as that respecting the two guns found in the barn on my passage from *New-York*. Mean time, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW BILLINGS.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO JOHN JENCKES.

New-London, April 22, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Allen Brown* is here yet with your sloop, and without the coast is clear, I advise him to stay until he can be certain of getting round; but if you want to sell the molasses, I hear it will fetch three-eighths at *New-York*, where she may go safe, and perhaps be more for your advantage than her coming home. Your son is hearty, and behaves extremely well since he came on board our ship.

I am your friend at command,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To *John Jenckes*, Esq., at *Providence*.

DOCTOR MORGAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Cambridge, April 22, 1776.

SIR: I take this opportunity to inform your Excellency that I am constantly employed in collecting and forwarding the Hospital stores to *New-York*, and in executing your orders relative to the drugs and medicines, &c., left in the Ministerial Hospital, and Messrs. *Perkins* and *Gardner's* shops, at *Boston*; of which I have given a more minute detail in my letters to General *Gates*, that I might not be troublesome in taking up more of your Excellency's time than necessary.

I have, and am collecting a noble store of medicines for the ensuing campaign; and I hope to leave no room for complaint of any scarcity or want of either medicines, beds, blankets, or other hospital stores for the Army; having got a sufficient supply (except of a few capital articles, which I hope to procure from *Philadelphia*) of medicines, for a year to come, or more, with fifteen hundred additional blankets and rugs, as many beds and pillows, &c., by the care and attention of my Steward and Quartermaster of the Hospital, Mr. *Carnes*, who has spared no pains in executing my orders, in collecting them from *Boston*, and in washing and fitting them for use.

The sick in the several Hospitals are reduced to about eighty. I hope in ten or twelve days, or at least within a fortnight, to have managed in such a manner as to discharge them all, and to break up the Hospitals entirely. I have sent off about twenty-six wagons already for *New-York*, with hospital stores, always accompanied with some of the Mates of the Hospital to take charge of them. I flatter

myself, with the number already gone Doctor *Foster* will be capable of managing the concerns of the Hospital at *New-York* so well that the sick will not suffer. The rest of the gentlemen in this department will shortly follow, with the remainder of the stores, and I expect in a few days after to join them. To-morrow I purpose to set out for *Portsmouth*, to learn whether there are any tidings of the ten packages of medicines formerly mentioned to be in the prize carried in there, that nothing of so great value may be lost for want of looking after. If, on my way to *New-York*, your Excellency has any orders for me, I shall, agreeable to my instructions, expect to meet them at *Norwich*.

From a sense of my duty, I have troubled your Excellency with an account of my proceedings; and remain, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

JUDGE DRAYTON'S CHARGE TO THE GRAND JURY OF CHARLESTOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA.

*At an adjournment of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Oyer and Terminer, Assize and General Jail Delivery, held at CHARLESTOWN, for the District of CHARLESTOWN, on TUESDAY, the 23d day of APRIL, 1776, before the Honourable WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, Esq., Chief Justice, and his Associates, Justices of the Colony of SOUTH-CAROLINA.*

THE CHARGE TO THE GRAND JURY.

GENTLEMEN OF THE GRAND JURY: When, by evil machinations tending to nothing less than absolute tyranny, trials by jury have been discontinued, and juries, in discharge of their duty, have assembled, and, as soon as met, as silently and arbitrarily dismissed without being empanelled, whereby, in contempt of *Magna Charta*, justice has been delayed and denied; it cannot but afford to every good citizen the most sincere satisfaction once more to see juries, as they now are, legally empanelled, to the end that the laws may be duly administered. I do most heartily congratulate you upon so important an event.

In this Court, where silence has but too long presided, with a direct purpose to loosen the bands of Government, that this country might be involved in anarchy and confusion, you are now met to regulate your verdicts, under a new Constitution of Government, independent of Royal authority—a Constitution which arose according to the great law of nature and of nations, and which was established in the late Congress, on the 26th of *March* last—a day that will be ever memorable in this country—a month remarkable in our history, for having given birth to the original Constitution of our Government, in the year 1669; for being the era of the *American* calamities, by the Stamp Act, in the year 1765; for being the date of the repeal of that act, in the following year; and for the conclusion of the famous siege of *Boston*, when the *American* arms compelled General *Howe*—a General of the first reputation in the *British* service, with the largest, best disciplined, and best provided Army in that service, supported by a formidable fleet—so precipitately to abandon the most impregnable fortifications in *America*, as that he left behind him a great part of the bedding, military stores, and cannon of the Army. And for so many important events is the month of *March* remarkable in our annals. But I proceed to lay before you the principal causes leading to the late revolution of our Government, the law upon the point, and the benefits resulting from that happy and necessary establishment. The importance of the transaction deserves such a state, the occasion demands, and our future welfare requires it. To do this may take up some little time; but the subject is of the highest moment, and worthy of your particular attention. I will, therefore, confine my discourse to that great point; and, after charging you to attend to the due observance of the Jury law, and the Patrol and Negro acts, forbearing to mention the other common duties of a Grand Jury, I will expound to you the Constitution of your country.

The House of *Brunswick* was yet scarcely settled in the *British* throne, to which it had been called by a free People, when, in the year 1719, our ancestors in this country, finding that the Government of the Lords Proprietors operated to their ruin, exercised the rights transmitted to them by

their forefathers of *England*, and, casting off the Proprietary authority, called upon the House of *Brunswick* to rule over them—a House elevated to Royal dominion for no other purpose than to preserve to a People their unalienable rights. The King accepted the invitation, and thereby indisputably admitted the legality of that Revolution. And in so doing, by his own act, he vested in those our forefathers, and us their posterity, a clear right to effect another revolution, if ever the government of the House of *Brunswick* should operate to the ruin of the People. So the excellent *Roman* Emperor, *Trajan*, delivered a sword to *Saburanus*, his Captain of the *Prætorian* Guard, with this admired sentence: "Receive this sword, and use it to defend me if I govern well, but against me if I behave ill."

With joyful acclamations our ancestors, by act of Assembly, passed on the 18th day of *August*, 1721, recognised the *British* Monarch. The virtues of the second *George* are still revered among us; he was the father of his People; and it was with ecstasy we saw his grandson, *George* the Third, mount the throne, possessed of the hearts of his subjects.

But alas! almost with the commencement of his reign, his subjects felt causes to complain of Government. The reign advanced—the grievances became more numerous and intolerable—the complaints more general and loud—the whole Empire resounded with the cries of injured subjects! At length, grievances being unredressed and ever increasing; all patience being borne down; all hope destroyed; all confidence in Royal Government blasted; behold! the Empire is rent from pole to pole! perhaps to continue asunder forever.

The catalogue of our oppressions, Continental and local, is enormous. Of such oppressions I will mention only some of the most weighty.

Under color of law, the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* have made the most arbitrary attempts to enslave *America*:

By claiming a right to bind the Colonies "in all cases whatsoever;"

By laying duties at their mere will and pleasure upon all the Colonies;

By suspending the Legislature of *New-York*;

By rendering the *American* Charters of no validity, having annulled the most material parts of the Charter of the *Massachusetts-Bay*;

By divesting multitudes of the Colonists of their property, without legal accusation or trial;

By depriving whole Colonies of the bounty of Providence, on their own proper coasts, in order to coerce them by famine;

By restricting the trade and commerce of *America*;

By sending to, and continuing in *America*, in time of peace, an armed force, without and against the consent of the People;

By granting impunity to a Soldiery instigated to murder the *Americans*;

By declaring that the People of *Massachusetts-Bay* are liable, for offences, or pretended offences, done in that Colony, to be sent to, and tried for the same in *England*, or in any Colony where they cannot have the benefit of a jury of the vicinage;

By establishing in *Quebeck* the *Roman Catholic* Religion, and an arbitrary Government; instead of the *Protestant* Religion and a free Government.

And thus *America* saw it demonstrated that no faith ought to be put in a Royal Proclamation; for I must observe to you that, in the year 1763, by such a proclamation, people were invited to settle in *Canada*, and were assured of a legislative representation, the benefit of the common law of *England*, and a free Government. It is a misfortune to the publick, that this is not the only instance of the inefficacy of a Royal Proclamation. However, having given you one instance of a failure of Royal faith in the Northern extremity of this abused Continent, let it suffice that I direct your attention to the Southern extremity; respecting which, the same particulars were, in the same manner promised, but the deceived inhabitants of *St. Augustine* are left, by their Grand Jury, in vain to complain and lament to the world, and yet scarcely permitted to exercise even that privilege distinguishing the miserable, that Royal faith is not kept with them.

The proceedings which I have enumerated, either immediately or in their evident consequences, deeply affected all the Colonies; ruin stared them in the face. They united their counsels, and laid their just complaints before the Throne, praying a redress of grievances. But, to their astonishment, their dutiful petition for peace and safety was answered only by an actual commencement of war and military destruction!

In the mean time the *British* troops, that had been peaceably received by the devoted inhabitants of *Boston* as the troops of their Sovereign bound to protect them, fortified that town, to imprison the inhabitants, and to hold that capital against the people to whom it belonged. And the *British* rulers, having determined to appeal from reason and justice to violence and arms, a select body of those troops, being in the night suddenly and privately marched from *Boston*, at *Lexington*, on the 19th day of *April*, 1775, they by surprise drew the sword of civil war, and plunged it into the breasts of the *Americans*! Against this horrid injustice the Almighty gave instant judgment—a handful of country Militia, badly armed, suddenly collected, and unconnectedly and irregularly brought up to repel the attack, discomfited the regular bands of tyranny; they retreated, and night saved them from total slaughter.

Thus forced to take up arms in our own defence, *America* yet again most dutifully petitioned the King, that he would “be pleased to direct some mode by which the united applications of his faithful Colonists to the Throne, in presence of their common councils, might be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; and that, in the mean time, measures might be taken for preventing the further destruction of the lives of his Majesty’s subjects;” but it was in vain! The petition on the part of millions, praying that the effusion of blood might be stayed, was not thought worthy of an answer! The nefarious war continued. The ruins of *Charlestown*, *Falmouth*, and *Norfolk*, (towns not constructed for offence or defence,) mark the humane progress of the Royal arms. So the ruins of *Carthage*, *Corinth*, and *Numantium*, proclaimed to the world that justice was expelled the *Roman Senate*! On the other hand, the fortitude with which *America* has endured these civil and military outrages; the union of her people, as astonishing as unprecedented, when we consider their various manners and religious tenets, their distance from each other, their various and clashing local interests, their self-denial, and their miraculous success in the prosecution of the war—I say, these things all demonstrate that the Lord of Hosts is on our side. So it is apparent, that the Almighty constructor of the universe, having formed this Continent of materials to compose a State pre-eminent in the world, is now making use of the tyranny of the *British* rulers as an instrument to fashion and arrange those materials for the end for which, in his wisdom, he had formed them.

In this enlightened age humanity must be particularly shocked at a recital of such violences. And it is scarce to be believed, that the *British* tyranny could entertain an idea of proceeding against *America* by a train of more dishonourable machinations. But nothing less than absolute proof has convinced us that, in carrying on the conspiracy against the rights of humanity, the tyranny is capable of attempting to perpetrate whatever is infamous.

For the little purpose of disarming the imprisoned inhabitants of *Boston*, the King’s General, *Gage*, in the face of day, violated the publick faith, by himself plighted; and in concert with other Governours, and with *John Stuart*, he made every attempt to instigate the Savage nations to war upon the Southern Colonies, indiscriminately to massacre man, woman, and child. The Governours in general have demonstrated that truth is not in them; they have inveigled Negroes from, and have armed them against their masters; they have armed brother against brother, son against father. Oh! Almighty Director of the universe! what confidence can be put in a Government ruling by such engines, and upon such principles of unnatural destruction. A Government that, upon the 21st day of *December* last, made a law, *ex post facto*, to justify what had been done, not only without law, but in its nature unjust—a law to make prize of all vessels trading in, to, or from the United Colonies—a law to make slaves of the crews of such vessels, and to compel them to bear arms against their conscience, their fathers, their bleeding country. The world, so old as it is, heretofore had never

heard of so atrocious a procedure. It has no parallel in the registers of tyranny. But to proceed.

The King’s judges in this country refused to administer justice; and the late Governour, Lord *William Campbell*, acting as the King’s representative for him, and on his behalf, having endeavoured to subvert the Constitution of this country, by breaking the original contract between King and People, attacking the People by force of arms; having violated the fundamental laws; having carried off the great seal, and having withdrawn himself out of this Colony, he abdicated the Government.

Oppressed by such a variety of enormous injuries, Continental and local, civil and military, and by divers other arbitrary and illegal courses—all done and perpetrated by the assent, command, or sufferance, of the King of *Great Britain*, the Representatives of *South-Carolina*, in Congress assembled, found themselves under an unavoidable necessity of establishing a form of Government, with powers legislative, executive, and judicial, for the good of the People—the origin and great end of all just Government. For this only end, the House of *Brunswick* was called to rule over us. Oh! agonizing reflection! that House ruled us with swords, fire, and bayonets. The *British* Government operated only to our destruction. Nature cried aloud, self-preservation is the great law; we have but obeyed.

If I turn my thoughts to recollect in history a change of Government upon more cogent reasons, I say I know of no change upon principles so provoking—compelling—justifiable. And in these respects, even the famous Revolution in *England*, in the year 1688, is much inferior. However, we need no better authority than that illustrious precedent; and I will therefore compare the causes of, and the law upon the two events.

On the 7th of *February*, 1688, the Lords and Commons of *England*, in Convention, completed the following Resolution:

“Resolved, That King *James* the Second, having endeavoured to subvert the Constitution of the Kingdom, by breaking the original contract between King and People; and, by the advice of *Jesuits* and other wicked persons, having violated the fundamental laws, and having withdrawn himself out of this Kingdom, has abdicated the Government, and that the Throne is thereby vacant.”

That famous Resolution deprived *James* of his Crown, and became the foundation on which the Throne of the present King of *Great Britain* is built; it also supports the edifice of Government which we have erected.

In that resolve there are but three facts stated to have been done by *James*. I will point them out, and examine whether those facts will apply to the present King of *Great Britain*, with regard to the operations of Government, by him or his Representative, immediately, or by consequence affecting this Colony.

The first fact is, the having endeavoured to subvert the Constitution of the Kingdom, by breaking the original contract.

The violation of the fundamental laws is the second fact; and in support of these two charges, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, assembled at *Westminster*, on the 12th day of *February*, 1688, declared that *James* was guilty:

“By assuming and exercising a power of dispensing with, and suspending of Laws, and the execution of Laws, without consent of Parliament;

“By committing and prosecuting divers worthy Prelates, for humbly petitioning to be excused from concurring to the said assumed power;

“By issuing and causing to be executed a Commission, under the great seal, for erecting a Court, called the Court of Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Causes;

“By levying Money for, and to the use of the Crown, by pretence of prerogative, for other time, and in other manner than the same was granted by Parliament;

“By raising and keeping a Standing Army within this Kingdom in time of peace, without consent of Parliament, and quartering Soldiers contrary to law;

“By causing several good subjects, being Protestants, to be disarmed, at the same time when Papists were both armed and employed contrary to law;

“By violating the freedom of election of Members to serve in Parliament;

"By prosecutions in the Court of King's Bench, for matters and causes cognizable only in Parliament; and by divers other arbitrary and illegal courses."

This declaration, thus containing two points of criminality—breach of the original contract, and violation of fundamental laws—I am to distinguish one from the other.

In the first place, then, it is laid down in the best law authorities, that protection and subjection are reciprocal; and that these reciprocal duties form the original contract between King and People. It therefore follows, that the original contract was broken by *James's* conduct, as above stated, which amounted to a not affording due protection to his People. And it is as clear that he violated the fundamental laws, by the suspending of laws, and the execution of laws; by levying money; by violating the freedom of election of members to serve in Parliament; by keeping a Standing Army in time of peace; and by quartering soldiers contrary to law, and without consent of Parliament; which is as much as to say, that he did those things without consent of the Legislative Assembly chosen by the personal election of that People over whom such doings were exercised.

These points, reasonings, and conclusions, being settled in, deduced from, and established upon Parliamentary proceedings, and the best law authorities, must ever remain unshaken. I am now to undertake the disagreeable task of examining whether they will apply to the violences which have lighted up, and now feed the flames of civil war in *America*.

*James* the Second suspended the operations of laws: *George* the Third caused the Charter of the *Massachusetts-Bay* to be in effect annihilated; he suspended the operation of the law which formed a Legislature in *New-York*, vesting it with adequate powers; and thereby he caused the very ability of making laws in that Colony to be suspended.

King *James* levied money without the consent of the Representatives of the People called upon to pay it: King *George* has levied money upon *America*, not only without, but expressly against the consent of the Representatives of the People in *America*.

King *James* violated the freedom of election of Members to serve in Parliament: King *George*, by his Representative, Lord *William Campbell*, acting for him and on his behalf, broke through a fundamental law of this country, for the certain holding of General Assemblies; and thereby, as far as in him lay, not only violated, but annihilated the very ability of holding a General Assembly.

King *James* in time of peace kept a Standing Army in *England*, without consent of the Representatives of the People among whom that army was kept: King *George* hath in time of peace invaded this Continent with a large Standing Army, without the consent, and he hath kept it within this Continent expressly against the consent of the Representatives of the People among whom that army is posted.

All which doings by King *George* the Third, respecting *America*, are as much contrary to our interests and welfare; as much against law, and tend as much, at least, to subvert and extirpate the liberties of this Colony, and of *America*, as the similar proceedings by *James* the Second operated respecting the People of *England*. For the same principle of law, touching the premises, equally applies to the People of *England* in the one case, and to the People of *America* in the other; and this is the great principle: Certain acts done over and affecting a People, against and without their consent expressed by themselves, or by Representatives of their own election. Upon this only principle was grounded the complaints of the People of *England*; upon the same is grounded the complaints of the People of *America*. And hence it clearly follows, that if *James* the Second violated the fundamental laws of *England*, *George* the Third hath also violated the fundamental laws of *America*.

Again: King *James* broke the original contract by not affording due protection to his subjects, although he was not charged with having seized their towns, and with having held them against the people; or with having laid them in ruins by his arms; or with having seized their vessels; or with having pursued the people with fire and sword; or with having declared them Rebels, for resisting his arms levelled to destroy their lives, liberties, and properties. But *George* the Third hath done all these things against *America*; and it is therefore undeniable that he hath not afford-

ed due protection to the People. Wherefore, if *James* the Second broke the original contract, it is undeniable that *George* the Third has also broken the original contract between King and People; and that he made use of the most violent measures by which it could be done—violences of which *James* was guiltless—measures carrying conflagration, massacre, and open war, amidst a people whose subjection to the King of *Great Britain* the law holds to be due only as a return for protection. And so tenacious and clear is the law upon this very principle, that it is laid down, subjection is not due even to a King *de jure*, or of right, unless he be also King *de facto*, or in possession of the Executive powers dispensing protection.

Again: The third fact charged against *James* is, that he withdrew himself out of the Kingdom. And we know that the people of this country have declared that Lord *William Campbell*, the King of *Great Britain's* Representative, "having used his utmost efforts to destroy the lives, liberties, and properties of the good people here, whom, by the duty of his station, he was bound to protect, withdrew himself out of the Colony." Hence it will appear that *George* the Third hath withdrawn himself out of this Colony, provided it be established that exactly the same natural consequence resulted from the withdrawing in each case respectively—King *James* personally out of *England*, and King *George* out of *Carolina*, by the agency of his substitute and representative, Lord *William Campbell*. By King *James's* withdrawing, the Executive Magistrate was gone; thereby, in the eye of the law, the Executive Magistrate was dead, and, of consequence, Royal Government actually ceased in *England*; so by King *George's* Representative's withdrawing, the Executive Magistrate was gone, the death in law became apparent, and, of consequence, Royal Government actually ceased in this Colony. Lord *William* withdrew as the King's Representative, carrying off the great seal and Royal Instructions to Governours; and acting for and on the part of his principal, by every construction of law that conduct became the conduct of his principal; and thus, *James* the Second withdrew out of *England*, and *George* the Third withdrew out of *South-Carolina*; and by such a conduct, respectively, the People in each country were exactly in the same degree injured.

The three facts against King *James* being thus stated and compared with similar proceedings by King *George*, we are now to ascertain the result of the injuries done by the first, and the law upon that point; which, being ascertained, must naturally constitute the judgment in law, upon the result of the similar injuries done by the last. And I am happy that I can give you the best authority upon this important point.

Treating upon this great precedent in constitutional law, the learned Judge *Blackstone* declares, that the result of the facts "amounted to an abdication of the Government; which abdication did not only affect the person of the King himself, but, also, all his heirs, and rendered the throne absolutely and completely vacant."

Thus it clearly appears that the Government was not abdicated, and the throne vacated, by the resolution of the Lords and Commons; but that the resolution was only declaratory of the law of nature and reason, upon the result of the injuries proceeding from the three combined facts of mal-administration. And thus, as I have, on the foot of the best of authorities, made it evident that *George* the Third, King of *Great Britain*, has endeavoured to subvert the Constitution of this country, by breaking the original contract between King and People; by the advice of wicked persons has violated the fundamental laws, and has withdrawn himself, by withdrawing the constitutional benefits of the Kingly office and his protection out of this country,—from such a result of injuries, from such a conjuncture of circumstances, the law of the land authorizes me to declare, and it is my duty boldly to declare the law, that *George* the Third, King of *Great Britain*, has abdicated the Government, and that the throne is thereby vacant; that is, he has no authority over us, and we owe no obedience to him. The *British* Ministers already have presented a charge of mine to the notice of the Lords and Commons in Parliament; and I am nothing loth that they take equal resentment against this charge; for, supported by the fundamental laws of the Constitution, and engaged as I am in the cause of virtue, I fear no consequences from their machinations.



Thus having stated the principal causes of our last Revolution, it is as clear as the sun in meridian that *George* the Third has injured the *Americans* at least as grievously as *James* the Second injured the People of *England*; but that *James* did not oppress these in so criminal a manner as *George* has oppressed the *Americans*. Having also stated the law on the case, I am naturally led to point out to you some of the great benefits resulting from that Revolution.

In one word, then, you have a form of Government in every respect preferable to the mode under the *British* authority. And this will most clearly appear by contrasting the two forms of Government.

Under the *British* authority, Governours were sent over to us who were utterly unacquainted with our local interests, the genius of the people, and our laws. Generally, they were but too much disposed to obey the mandates of an arbitrary Ministry; and if the Governour behaved ill, we could not by any peaceable means procure redress. But, under our present happy Constitution, our Executive Magistrate arises according to the spirit and letter of Holy Writ: "Their Governours shall proceed from the midst of them." Thus, the people have an opportunity of choosing a man intimately acquainted with their true interests, their genius, and their laws; a man perfectly disposed to defend them against arbitrary Ministers, and to promote the happiness of that people from among whom he was elevated, and by whom, without the least difficulty, he may be removed and blended in the common mass.

Again, under the *British* authority it was in effect declared, that we had no property; nay, that we could not possess any; and that we had not any of the rights of humanity. For men who knew us not; men who gained in proportion as we lost, arrogated to themselves a right to bind us in all cases whatsoever. But our Constitution is calculated to free us from foreign bondage; to secure to us our property; to maintain to us the rights of humanity; and to defend us and our posterity against *British* authority, aiming to reduce us to the most abject slavery.

Again, the *British* authority declared that we should not erect slitting-mills; and to this unjust law we implicitly and respectfully submitted, so long as with safety to our lives we could yield obedience to such authority. But a resolution of Congress now grants a premium to encourage the construction of such mills. The *British* authority discouraged our attempting to manufacture for our own consumption; but the new Constitution, by authorizing the disbursement of large sums of money, by way of loan or premium, encourages the making of iron, bar-steel, nail-rods, gun-locks, gun-barrels, sulphur, nitre, gunpowder, lead, woollens, cottons, linens, paper, and salt.

Upon the whole, it has been the policy of the *British* authority to oblige us to supply our wants at their market, (which is the dearest in the known world,) and to cramp and confine our trade so as to be subservient to their commerce, our real interest being ever out of the question. On the other hand, the new Constitution is wisely adapted to enable us to trade with foreign nations, and thereby to supply our wants at the cheapest markets in the universe; to extend our trade infinitely beyond what it has ever been known; to encourage manufacturers amongst us; and it is peculiarly formed to promote the happiness of the People, from among whom, by virtue and merit, the poorest man may arrive at the highest dignity. Oh, *Carolínians*! happy would you be under this new Constitution, if you knew your happy state.

Possessed of a constitution of Government, founded upon so generous, equal, and natural a principle—a Government expressly calculated to make the People rich, powerful, virtuous, and happy—who can wish to change it, to return under a Royal Government, the vital principles of which are the reverse in every particular? It was my duty to lay this happy Constitution before you in its genuine light. It is your duty to understand, to instruct others, and to defend it.

I might here, with propriety, quit this truly important subject; but my anxiety for the publick weal compels me yet to detain your attention, while I make an observation or two upon one particular part of the Constitution.

When all the various attempts to enslave *America* by fraud, under guise of law, by military threats, by famine, massacre, breach of publick faith, and open war—I say,

when these things are considered on the one hand, and, on the other, the Constitution expressing that some mode of Government should be established "until an accommodation of the unhappy differences between *Great Britain* and *America* can be obtained; an event which, though traduced and treated as Rebels, we still ardently desire"—I say, when these two points are contrasted, can we avoid revering the magnanimity of that great council of the State, who, after such injuries, could entertain such a principle? But the virtuous are ever generous. We do not wish revenge. We earnestly wish an accommodation of our unhappy disputes with *Great Britain*; for we prefer peace to war. Nay, there may be even such an accommodation as (excluding every idea of revenue by taxation or duty, or of legislation by act of Parliament) may vest the King of *Great Britain* with such a limited dominion over us as may tend, *bona fide*, to promote our true commercial interests, and to secure our freedom and safety—the only just ends of any dominion.

But while I declare thus much on the one side, on the other it is my duty also to declare that, in my opinion, our true commercial interests cannot be provided for but by such a material alteration of the *British* acts of Navigation as, according to the resolve of the honourable the Continental Congress, will "secure the commercial advantages of the whole Empire to the Mother Country, and the commercial benefits of its respective members;" and that our liberties and safety cannot be depended upon if the King of *Great Britain* should be allowed to hold our forts and cannon, or to have authority over a single regiment in *America*, or a single ship-of-war in our ports. For if he hold our forts, he may turn them against us, as he did *Boston* against her proprietors. If he acquire our cannon, he will effectually disarm the Colony. If he has a command of troops among us, even if we raise and pay them, shackles are fixed upon us; witness *Ireland* and her National Army. The most express act of Parliament cannot give us security; for acts of Parliament are as easily repealed as made. Royal Proclamations are not to be depended upon; witness the disappointments of the inhabitants of *Quebeck* and *St. Augustine*. Even a change of Ministry will not avail us, because, notwithstanding the rapid succession of Ministers, for which the *British* Court has been famous during the present reign, yet the same ruinous policy ever continued to prevail against *America*. In short, I think it my duty to declare, in the awful seat of justice, and before Almighty God, that, in my opinion, the *Americans* can have no safety but by the Divine favour, their own virtue, and their being so prudent as not to leave it in the power of the *British* rulers to injure them.

Indeed, the ruinous and deadly injuries received on our side, and the jealousies entertained (and which, in the nature of things, must daily increase against us) on the other, demonstrate to a mind in the least given to reflection upon the rise and fall of empires, that true reconciliation never can exist between *Great Britain* and *America*, the latter being in subjection to the former. The Almighty created *America* to be independent of *Britain*. Let us beware of the impiety of being backward to act as instruments in the Almighty hand, now extended to accomplish his purpose, and by the completion of which, alone, *America*, in the nature of human affairs, can be secure against the craft and insidious designs of her enemies, who think her prosperity and power already by far too great. In a word, our piety and political safety are so blended, that to refuse our labours in this Divine work, is to refuse to be a great, a free, a pious, and a happy People.

And now, having left the important alternative, (political happiness or wretchedness,) under God, in a great degree in your own hands, I pray the Supreme Arbiter of the affairs of men so to direct your judgment as that you may act agreeable to what seems to be His will, revealed in His miraculous works in behalf of *America*, bleeding at the altar of Liberty!

#### THE PRESENTMENTS OF THE JURY.

*At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Oyer and Terminer, Assize and General Jail Delivery, begun to be holden in and for the District of CHARLESTOWN, at CHARLESTOWN, in the Colony aforesaid, on TUESDAY, the*

23d day of APRIL, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six;

*The Presentments of the Grand Jury for the said District :*

I. Fully sensible and thoroughly convinced that to live in a society without laws, or a proper execution of them, to restrain the licentious nature of mankind, is the greatest misery that can befall a People, and must render any body of men, in such a situation, but little superior to a herd of brutes; and being no less sensible that it was the scheme of a corrupt, nefarious Administration in *Great Britain*, to reduce the good people of this Colony to that wretched situation, from a want of officers to execute the laws, (those whom they had appointed having refused to act in their respective stations,) that, through the evil effects of anarchy and confusion, the people might become an easy prey to the cruel designs of their insidious enemies: While we lament the necessity which has obliged the people to resume into their hands those powers of Government which were originally derived from themselves for the protection of those rights which *God* alone has given them, as essential to their happiness, we cannot but express our most unfeigned joy in the happy constitution of Government now established in this Colony, which promises every blessing to its inhabitants, which a people, endued with virtue and a just regard to the rights of mankind, could desire. With gratitude to the Divine Ruler of human events, and with the most pleasing expectations of happiness from a Constitution so wise in its nature, and virtuous in its ends, (being founded on the strictest principles of justice and humanity, and consistent with every privilege incident to the dignity of a rational being,) we cannot but declare we think every opposition to its operations, or disregard to its authority, the foulest criminality a mortal can be guilty of; highly offensive in the eyes of *God*, and of all just men, and deserving the most exemplary punishment.

We cannot but deplore the unhappy situation of any few amongst the people of this Colony, who, through an ignorance of their true interests and just rights, and from a want of proper information of the real truth, may be misled, by the artifice and cunning of their false and designing enemies, from a real sense of those benefits which our present Constitution has so amply provided for; benefits which are not confined or limited to any ranks or degrees of men in particular, but generally, equally, and indiscriminately, extending to all, from the richest to the poorest, and which time and a little patient experience must soon evince.

Every good citizen must be happy in the consideration of the choice of those officers, appointed in the administration of our present Government, as well in the impartial mode of an appointment arising from the people themselves, and the limited duration of their power, as in their personal characters as men, justly beloved and revered by their country, and whose merits and virtues entitle them to every pre-eminence.

Filled with these sentiments, arising from mature deliberation and the most impartial inquiry, we must further declare that blessings such as these we have before enumerated, are too inestimable to be lost, and that nothing in nature can repay the least violation of them; and although an accommodation with the power which attempts to destroy them may be highly worthy of attention, and, upon principles truly honourable, of obtaining, yet we think it a sacred duty, incumbent upon every citizen, to maintain and defend, with his life and fortune, what is given and intrusted to him by the hand of Providence, not for his own good only, but for the lasting happiness of posterity; a trust which no law can ever annul, which is the grand principle of existence, and the source of every social virtue.

II. We present, as a grievance intolerable to the spirit of a people born and nurtured in the arms of freedom, and (though ever submissive to the just mandates of legal authority) holding every oppression as detestable,—the unjust, cruel, and diabolical acts of the *British* Parliament, not only declaring the good people of the United Colonies of *North-America* Rebels, for defending those invaluable rights which no human power can lawfully divest them of, but making all murders, rapines, thefts, robberies, and other inhuman oppressions, done before the passing of those acts without authority, and which were, after the passing the said acts, to be done by the *British* forces in these Colonies,

legal and warrantable, to the eternal disgrace and indelible infamy of a kingdom once renowned for her justice, honour, and humanity, but now meanly descending to that wanton profligacy which even Savages abhor.

III. We present, as a very great grievance, the indulgence allowed to all those who are inimical to the liberties of *America*, and the operations of the United Colonies, amongst us, in suffering them to reside here, and be admitted to intercourses dangerous to the peace and welfare of this Colony.

IV. We present, that the publick oaths, directed by an act of the General Assembly (passed since the forming of our present Constitution) to be administered to those exercising publick offices, trusts, and professions, are not administered to such of the Clergy as are included in the same.

V. We present, that the times at which the several Parochial Committees meet, or are appointed for their meeting, are not made publick; and we do recommend that they do publish the same in the publick papers, that all persons who are desirous of obtaining leave to sue for debts, may know when to apply.

VI. We present, as a great grievance, more particularly at this time, the want of due attention to the roads and ferries in this Colony; many of the roads not being sufficiently wide and worked upon, agreeable to law, and the ferries, in general, not having boats sufficient to forward passengers upon any emergent occasion.

VII. We present, as a grievance, the too frequent forestalling out of the wagons, coming from the back parts of the country, the many necessities of life, by which the good inhabitants of this town are obliged to pay most exorbitant prices for the same; and, with submission, would recommend a place to be appointed for the sale of bacon, flour, butter, and other such necessities, brought to town in carriages, to be regulated by the market act.

VIII. We present the want of a proper person, by law, to oblige the sellers of blades and hay to weigh the same at a publick scale.

JONATHAN SCOTT, *Foreman*, [L. S.]

GEORGE COOKE, [L. S.]	JOHN SMYTH, [L. S.]
THOMAS JONES, [L. S.]	JOSEPH JENKINS, [L. S.]
JOHN LIGHTWOOD, [L. S.]	JOSEPH COX, [L. S.]
PETER LEGER, [L. S.]	DANIEL LESSESNE, [L. S.]
PHILIP MEYER, [L. S.]	LEWIS DUTARQUE, [L. S.]
ISAAC MAZYCK, [L. S.]	JOHN SINGLETARY, [L. S.]
JOHN OWEN, [L. S.]	

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO DELEGATES FOR CHARLOTTE COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Charlotte* County, April 23, 1776, present the Chairman and fifteen Members:

*Resolved*, That in this truly alarming and important crisis of our publick affairs, it is expedient that the Delegates lately chosen for this County should know the sentiments of their constituents, and be instructed what part it is desired and expected they will act in the ensuing Convention.

“To PAUL CARRINGTON, and THOMAS READ, *Esq's* :

“GENTLEMEN: When we consider the despotick plan adopted by the King, Ministry, and Parliament of *Great Britain*, insidiously pursued for these twelve years past, to enslave *America*; when we consider that they have turned a deaf ear to the repeated petitions and remonstrances of this and our sister Colonies, and that they have been equally inattentive to the rights of freemen and the *British* Constitution; and when we consider that they have for some time been endeavouring to enforce their arbitrary mandates by fire and sword, and likewise encouraging, by every means in their power, our savage neighbours, and our more savage domesticks, to spill the blood of our wives and children; and to crown the whole, they have added insult to their injustice and cruelty, by repeatedly pretending to hold out the olive-branch of peace in such a way as teacheth us that they are determined to persist in their hellish designs, and that nothing is intended for us but the most abject slavery; of this we can no longer doubt, since we have been made acquainted with a late letter from the Secretary of State to Governour *Eden*, and the late act of Parliament for seizing and confiscating all our ships and property that may fall into their hands:

“Therefore, despairing of any redress of our grievances

from the King and Parliament of *Great Britain*, and all hopes of a reconciliation between her and the United Colonies being now at an end, and being conscious that their treatment has been such as loyal subjects did not deserve, and to which, as freemen, we are determined not to submit; by the unanimous approbation and direction of the whole freeholders, and all the other inhabitants of this County, we advise and instruct you cheerfully to concur and give your best assistance in our Convention, to push to the utmost a war offensive and defensive, until you are certified that such proposals of peace are made to our General Congress as shall by them be judged just and friendly. And because the advantages of a trade will better enable us to pay the taxes, and procure the necessaries for carrying on a war, and in our present circumstances this cannot be had without a Declaration of Independence; therefore, if no such proposals of peace shall be made, we judge it to be a dictate of the first law of nature, to continue to oppose every attempt on our lives and properties; and we give it you in charge, to use your best endeavours that the Delegates which are sent to the General Congress be instructed immediately to cast off the *British* yoke, and to enter into a commercial alliance with any nation or nations friendly to our cause. And as King George the Third, of *Great Britain*, &c., has manifested deliberate enmity towards us, and, under the character of a parent, persists in behaving as a tyrant, that they, in our behalf, renounce allegiance to him forever; and that, taking the *God* of Heaven to be our King, and depending upon His protection and assistance, they plan out that form of Government which may the most effectually secure to us the enjoyment of our civil and religious rights and privileges, to the latest posterity.

"In all other things, gentlemen, that may come before you in Convention, we rely upon your known fidelity and zeal; resolving and giving you our faith, that we will, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, to the utmost of our abilities, support and defend you, our country, and our sister Colonies, in the glorious cause in which we are now engaged."

*Ordered*, That the above Resolves be published in the *Virginia Gazette*.

By order: WILLIAM JAMESON, Clerk.

#### GEORGE LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 23, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have been unwell for ten days past, nay, have been most of the time confined to my bed with a fever, of which I am not yet well enough recruited to venture upon a ride to *Annapolis*. I hope the honourable Council of Safety will excuse my non-attendance for the above reasons. I was confined to my bed at the time our Committee received the letters referred to in my citation, and heard nothing of it until *Sunday* morning. I have, agreeable to the order of your honourable Board, copied the papers referred to in your summons; your honourable Board will excuse the incorrectness with which they are copied, as it is caused solely by my sickness, for I am at this moment hardly able to hold my pen.

I am, with respect, honourable sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE LUX.

To the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.,  
President of the Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

#### BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation, Baltimore County, }  
April 23, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: This Committee, on the late alarm, appointed Mr. *Robert Purviance*, Mr. *David Stewart*, and Captain *George Woolsey*, to superintend the fitting out of the Schooner *Resolution* as a tender, or armed vessel, for Captain *Nicholson*. As they have nearly completed her, and are in advance a considerable sum, you will please to furnish them with six or eight hundred pounds, as is convenient.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

WILLIAM LUX, V. Chairman. JOHN SMITH,  
ANDREW BUCHANAN, JAMES CALHOUN,  
JOHN BOYD, WALTER TOLLEY, JR.,  
DARBY LUX, THOMAS HARRISON,  
JAMES GITTINGS, WILLIAM BUCHANAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mr. *Wallace* and Mr. *Green* set off to-morrow morning. By one of them we intend to write you fully; but as the post may possibly be in before these gentlemen, we think it necessary to advise you that all your Deputies here from *Maryland* approve the conduct of the Council of Safety and resolve to support it. The letter to the President gave high offence to some of the very hot gentlemen. No resolution is yet formed on it—but probably will to-day. *R. Alexander* and *Thomas Stone* join in respects to you and your brethren.

I am, dear sir, your very affectionate servant,

THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

#### PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 23, 1776.

SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 19th of *April*, enclosing several papers, all which were immediately laid before Congress.

The important intelligence they contain makes it necessary that the most vigorous measures should be adopted, as well to defend our troops against the *Canadians* themselves, as to insure success to the expedition. The Congress being determined on the reduction of *Quebeck*, and the security of that country, for reasons too obvious to be mentioned, have left nothing undone which can in any way contribute to that end. Whatever may be the causes of the late insurrection, good policy requires that, while we endeavour to prevent everything of the kind for the future, we should also make provision in case it should happen. Accordingly, Congress has come into sundry resolves, calculated to quiet the minds of the *Canadians*, and to remove the sources of their uneasiness and discontent. They have likewise ordered that six more battalions be sent into *Canada* from the Army at *New-York*, as you will see by the enclosed resolve. Whether any further additional troops will be wanted in that country, is a matter of some uncertainty with Congress. Should you, from your knowledge of facts, state of *Canada*, the possibility that General *Howe* will attempt to relieve General *Carleton*, and, comparing all circumstances together, be of opinion that an additional force is necessary, you will please to signify it to Congress; and at the same time inform them whether, in that case, such additional force can be spared from the Army now in *New-York*.

I transmit herewith sundry resolves of Congress for your direction; and have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

P. S. The enclosed letter for Commodore *Hopkins*, I leave unsealed for your perusal only; after which I beg the favour of you to seal and forward it by *Fessenden*, or a fresh express.

I have paid Mr. *Fessenden* twelve dollars, which you will please to note on settlement with him. J. H.

#### ON THE PRESENT STATE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Having attentively perused the various political publications which have been lately printed, I confess I have been astonished at the strange and extraordinary doctrines which some of them contain; and it naturally led me to consider whether I am to swallow in the gross, and pay an implicit obedience to their novel sentiments, or whether it is not my duty as a man, and as a friend to my native country, to judge for myself how they will affect me and my countrymen in general. I shall, therefore, in a brief manner, (if it is possible to be brief on so interesting a subject,) give some of my sentiments on the present unhappy situation of public affairs.

Much pains have been taken by some writers to make us believe that nothing but the vilest intentions that ever entered into the hearts of the worst of men are to be expected from the people of *Great Britain*; that if Commissioners are coming, they are coming to bribe, to deceive, and betray us; that the very thought of reconciliation

ought to be driven from us; and, in fact, that little else but war, destruction, and bloodshed, are now before us. What man in *America* who professes Christianity, or has any feelings of humanity, but must shudder at such a prospect, which, if there was no other, would be a prospect of evils that language cannot describe—"a hideous group of ills which singly shock."

But thanks be to Heaven, there are great numbers who have different views; who think they have reason still to hope for better things from that people, with whom in former times to be connected was their honour and their joy. Shall an *American* dare to express a sentiment of this sort at this time? I feel it to be a truth, and I cannot but see (through the whole of the present dreadful conflict) some traces of that nobility of sentiment and action which were formerly characteristic of the *British* Nation. Where are these to be found? may some say. Have they not invaded our territories with an armed force? Have they not destroyed our property in many instances, and shown a cruel disposition to an attack upon our essential rights? Granted. But have they not also shown a desire for reconciliation? And is there not a probability of overtures from them for this noble purpose, on terms constitutional and honourable to both countries? I answer in the affirmative, and shall endeavour to prove the assertion from authentick records.

The Address of the House of Lords, presented the 27th of *October* last, is concluded with this positive assurance of their desires, viz: "We feel no other wish than to re-establish order and tranquillity through the several parts of your dominions, upon the basis of a close connection with, and constitutional dependance upon *Great Britain*."

The King's answer to the House of Commons concludes with an earnest wish "to attain the most desirable end of restoring his subjects in *America* to the free and happy condition, and to the peace and prosperity which they enjoyed in their constitutional dependance, before the breaking out of these unhappy disorders."

In a pamphlet published in *England* a considerable time since, (and which was said to be written under the eyes of the Ministry,) I find some lively sentiments, expressive of a perfect anxiety for a restoration of that harmony which formerly subsisted between the two countries; and this to be established on the principles of mutual dependance, the natural effect of common interest and happiness. They even pray for some great and liberal commercial arrangement, which may remain a monument to future ages, that though there was once, there was but once, a quarrel between *Great Britain* and her Colonies.

As to the sentiments of great numbers of the people of *England* at large, they may be seen by the numerous addresses that have been presented to the Throne, which clearly and fully show that "one of the first objects of their wishes is, a return of peace and cordial union with their *American* fellow-subjects."

The late remarkable event of the *British* troops evacuating *Boston*, with the circumstances attending it, might be adduced to corroborate the opinion I have given. I felicitate the rightful inhabitants on this joyful occasion. I sympathized with them in their distress; I cheerfully contributed to the relief of the needy among them; and heartily wish their future welfare in a state of peaceful possession of all their just rights.

If, my countrymen, the general happiness of *America* is the object we aim at, the thought of a reasonable reconciliation cannot be driven from us. Independence will not produce happiness. As soon could I believe that those were my friends who would advise me to renounce my family, as I could believe them to be such who would separate me from my near connexions in the land that gave birth to my ancestors.

As to the cry raised against those who advise to a reconciliation on constitutional principles, that they are seeking for places and pensions—what would such say who are so groundlessly suspicious, if the accusation were retorted upon themselves? For my part, I can seriously declare, that I have such an aversion to titles and pensions that I would not be one of the three hundred and ninety Commissioners, on the plan of the writer of a piece called *Common Sense*, for all the money that has been made in *America* since the commencement of the unhappy differences.

To conclude: I have put together a few remarks, which,

however uncouth, are my honest sentiments. Who I am is not material; but this I may say, I should rejoice to see the happiness of my countrymen, of all denominations; and assure them that, for myself, I wish to remain, as I ever have been,

A SETTLED CITIZEN.

Philadelphia, April 23, 1776.

#### NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, New-Brunswick, }  
April 23, 1776. }

The President laid before this Council a Letter he received from the Committee of the Township of *Morris*, with several Counterfeit Bills of Continental Currency enclosed, together with sundry Affidavits proving the said bills to have been counterfeited by the wife of *Henry Vandyne*, of *Morris* County, who appears to have been privy thereto, and passed by himself and wife; which said *Vandyne* and wife had been apprehended by the said Committee, and were now confined in the Jail of the County of *Morris*.

The said Letter, with the Affidavits accompanying the same, being read and duly considered,

Ordered, That the said *Henry Vandyne* and his wife be continued under confinement, in the Jail of the County of *Morris*, until further orders be taken thereon; and that the consideration of the measures proper to be taken thereon be referred to the Congress of this Province, at their next meeting; and that Mr. President write to the honourable Continental Congress, requesting their advice and direction, to enable the said Provincial Congress to take such measures with said offenders, and form Regulations for preventing such offences in future, as may then appear proper and necessary.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

Messrs. *Livingston* and *De Hart* are requested to get the direction of Congress, agreeable to the above Resolution.

Morristown, April 6, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Observation of the Township of *Morris*, on the 5th and 6th of *April* instant, had before us *Henry Vandyne* and *Elizabeth*, his wife, charged with counterfeiting and passing bills of the Continental currency, wherein they confessed themselves guilty; also, such other persons whom we suspected could give us any information therein, were brought before us, and examined; and, on the strictest inquiry, have discovered seven counterfeit bills, which we believe to be the whole number they have made or passed. For these crimes we are sensible the delinquents may be punished by the common law for forgery, in subscribing the names of the signers to the bills, and as cheats, in passing counterfeit money for good. Yet it is a matter of publick concern, and of the greatest importance to the Colonies in general, to punish counterfeiters of the Continental currency. We did not choose, in this first instance, to take any determinate step, unless with the approbation, and by direction of the honourable Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-Jersey*. We have, therefore, under guard of a detachment of Light-Horse, sent you the prisoners, the affidavits, and confessions, taken and laid before us, together with six of the said bills, and one true bill, with some of the implements made use of in counterfeiting; to the end that you may be fully possessed of the facts, and take such further measures for punishing the offenders as you may in your wisdom think just and right.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

BENJAMIN HALLPEY, *Chairman*.

To Samuel Tucker, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress, *New-Jersey*.

MORRIS County, ss.

*Mary*, the wife of *Philip Tucker*, being duly sworn, deposed and saith: That she received the annexed three dollar bill, of Continental currency, of one *Vandyne*, (she thinks his Christian name was *Hank*,) for a true and good bill, on the 19th day of *March* instant, part in payment for sundry articles bought, and the remainder, (being two dollars and something more,) she gave him, in changing, good money, not knowing the said bill was counterfeit.

No. of said bill 24,951, date 10th May, 1775, endorsed :  
Printed by *Hall & Sellers*.

MARY <sup>her</sup> ~~mark~~ TUCKER.

Sworn 21st of March, 1776, before me,  
SAMUEL TUTHILL.

*Henry Vandyne*, under examination, saith : That he (*Vandyne*) passed a one dollar bill in imitation of the Continental currency, at the house of *Isaac Lewis*, in *Mendham*, which bill, he (*Vandyne*) saith, he received of *Elizabeth* his wife ; and further saith, that she (*Elizabeth*) had made and passed one of three dollars to *John Panton*, and likewise one of three dollars to *Isaac Vandyne* ; and, also, one of three dollars to *Mott Vandyne* ; and further saith, that he (*Vandyne*) saw the aforesaid *Isaac Vandyne* pass the aforesaid bill of three dollars to *Cornelius Davenport* ; and further saith, that he (*Vandyne*) saw the aforesaid *Elizabeth* pass one bill of three dollars to *Elizabeth*, the wife of *Samuel Fordice* ; and further saith, that he (*Henry*) passed one bill of one dollar to *Mark Walton* ; and further saith, that he (*Vandyne*) was knowing to his wife *Elizabeth's* making the above bills, and believes that not any person had any hand in making the above bills except the aforesaid *Elizabeth* ; and further saith, that *Mott Vandyne* was knowing to the making of the aforesaid counterfeit bills ; and further saith, the aforesaid *Elizabeth* got the paper of said *Mott Vandyne*. And further saith not.

HENRY VANDYNE.

The above examination was taken before the Committee of Observation for the Township of *Mendham*.

Signed by order of the Committee :

DAVID THOMPSON, *Chairman*.

April 4, A. D. 1776.

*The Examination of ISAAC VANDYNE, Jun., taken this 6th day of APRIL, before the Committee of Observation for the Town of MORRIS.*

This examinant being duly sworn, saith, that being at *Jonas Smith's*, on *Tuesday* night, 26th of *March* last, and intending to come to *Morristown* next day, he asked his brother, *Henry Vandyne*, to lend him a shilling or two to bear his expenses ; who replied, he would let him (*Isaac*) have a three dollar bill, and that he might take it out of that ; but coming to *Morristown*, and not having occasion to change it, he showed it to no one except to *Noah Vail* and *Mark Walton*, until he returned again into the neighbourhood of *Robert Gaston's*, at *Rockaway*, where he offered to pass it to *William Gordon's* wife, to take out the price of a mug of beer ; she replied, she should not refuse the bill if she could change it ; but would rather choose to charge the beer ; after which he showed it to no one else, but returned it to *Henry Vandyne*. *Isaac Vandyne* told Mrs. *Gordon* the bill looked too blotted, he did not know whether it was good or not ; she then replied the bill was good ; which is all he (*Isaac*) knows about the bill. And further saith not.

ISAAC VANDYNE, JUN.

Taken and sworn to, this 6th day of *April*, 1776, in presence of the Committee of *Morristown*, before me,

SAMUEL TUTHILL.

*The Examination of HENRY VANDYNE, taken this 5th day of APRIL, 1776, before the Committee of Observation for the Township of MORRIS.*

This examinant saith : That his wife, some time last winter, told him, in a jocose way, that she could make the Continental money ; and that he frequently saw her attempting to make such money ; and at length she did make six bills in imitation of the true bills of the Continental currency, viz : two bills of one dollar each, and four bills of three dollars each ; and that she gave one of those three dollar Continental bills in payment to *Elizabeth*, the wife of *Samuel Fordice* ; and that she gave one of the said counterfeit bills to *Isaac Vandyne, Jun.*, to get changed for her, which the said *Isaac* returned to this examinant ; and one of said counterfeit bills this examinant's wife told him she gave to *Matthew Vandyne* ; and the other three dollar counterfeit bill he (*Henry*) took to the *Great Pond*, and there lent the last-mentioned bill to *Matthew Vandyne* ; and that he (*Henry*) gave one of the said counterfeit one dollar bills in

part payment to *Mark Walton*, last *Tuesday* ; and the other one dollar counterfeit bill he (*Henry*) gave to *Richard Vanderhoof*, who tried to pass the said bill away at *Isaac Lewis's* Tavern, in *Mendham*, but could not, it being suspected to be counterfeit ; and that he (this examinant) saw his said wife *Elizabeth* complete two of said counterfeit bills ; and doth verily believe that she made each and every of the said six counterfeit bills, within two months last past ; and this examinant knows of no person or persons aiding or assisting his said wife in counterfeiting said bills ; but that he brought some writing-paper from *Matthew Vandyne's*, for his wife ; but believed the said *Matthew* did not know the paper was wanted for any bad purpose ; and further this examinant saith, that he let *Isaac Vandyne* have one other of the said three dollar counterfeit bills, which the said *Isaac* paid to *Cornelius Davenport*, in discharge of their expenses at said *Davenport's* ; and hath no reason to believe the said *Isaac* knew the said bill was counterfeit.

HENRY VANDYNE.

Taken and acknowledged as above,  
BENJAMIN HALLPEY, *Chairman*.

*Examination and confession of ELIZABETH VANDYNE, taken before me, MOSES TUTTLE, this 5th day of APRIL, 1776.*

She saith : That about the last of *February* or beginning of *March* last, she (this deponent) undertook to counterfeit the three dollar bills, (the emission of the Congress,) and completed three of the three dollar bills, and three of the one dollar bills, which she made with her pen and a pair of compasses, and by taking a true bill and laying it on clean paper, and pricking it through with a pin ; by which means she got the pattern of every part of the bill, and then took two pieces of clean paper and cut them to the shape of the bills, and put some starch between, with a point of a knife, and then put the two pieces of paper together, and while they were damp, sprinkled on isinglass, and then pressed with a warm smoothing-iron, and with her pen, by the help of her patterns, completed all the prints and the flowers, and then signed the signers' names to the said six bills, (the read ink was of horse blood,) and when so done, passed one to *Elizabeth Fordice*, of three dollars, to pay a debt that her husband owed to *Samuel Fordice*. The other two three dollar bills, she thinks her husband had them, but afterwards concludes that *Matthew Vandyne* had them. One bill of one dollar she passed to *Samuel Moon* ; and after her hearing there was a disturbance about the bills, she went to *Samuel Moon*, and took the said bill back from him, which said bill was lost with her pocket and one good bill of one dollar in it, directly after she was apprehended. One bill, of one dollar, of her own make, *Hank Vandyne*, her husband, paid to *Mark Walton* ; and one bill, of one dollar, her husband took with him. Two of three dollar bills, she let *Matthew Vandyne* have one ; she told him to get her a two dollar bill, and the remaining one dollar he was to have ; and the other three dollars she let *Matthew Vandyne* have also, without saying anything about what conditions *Matthew* had it upon, whether for debt or to pass for her. The first bill she made she told her husband to give it to some other body to pass, for fear he would be mistrusted ; and her husband told her that he gave the bill to *Isaac Vandyne, Jun.*, to put off for him ; and *Isaac* told him that he had changed the bill with *Cornelius Davenport*. One bill, of three dollars, she gave to *John Panton*, to buy some calico with for her ; and her husband being very uneasy for fear said *Panton* would be found out, (for the said *Panton* could not keep anything in,) so she went the next day but one after letting *Panton* have it, and brought the said bill back again, which was the one that *Matthew Vandyne* afterwards had. And further saith not.

ELIZABETH VANDYNE.

Taken before me, this 5th day of *April*, 1776.

MOSES TUTTLE.

*The Examination of ELIZABETH VANDYNE, taken this 6th day of APRIL, 1776, before the Committee of Observation for the Town of MORRIS.*

This examinant saith : That the above examination, taken before *Moses Tuttle, Esq.*, is true in every respect, except the number of three dollar bills, which ought to have been



called four; and this examinant further says, that *Moses Tuttle*, Esq., sent his boy and found her pocket, (mentioned in the above examination,) containing one good dollar bill, one counterfeit dollar bill, together with sundry implements which she made use of in counterfeiting the bills. The examinant further saith, that she had no assistance from any person in performing the before-mentioned counterfeits. The examinant further saith, that her husband (*Henry Vandyne*) at first discouraged her from attempting the counterfeiting of the bills; but after he saw in what manner they were done, and found they would pass, he encouraged her to proceed, by telling her he thought it would do as well as any.

ELIZABETH VANDYNE.

Taken and acknowledged the day and year last above-mentioned.

BENJAMIN HALLPEY, *Chairman*.

*The Examination and Confession of MATTHEW VANDYNE, taken before me, MOSES TUTTLE, this 5th day of APRIL, 1776.*

He saith, That on or about the 1st of *March* last, he was at *Hank Vandyne's*, and heard *Hank's* wife ask her husband whether she should show to him, (meaning the counterfeit bills;) and, after some conversation, she showed him a three dollar bill, and asked him how that would do; he said he told them that he did not know, but believed it would not do very well. And this deponent saith *Hank Vandyne* was in debt to him, and he pressed him hard for some money, and seeing a three dollar bill that was good, asked for that, but *Hank* nor his wife was willing to let him have the good bill then, but made answer that she (*Hank's* wife) would try her hand a little longer, then she would let him have it afterwards. She let him have one three dollar bill, which he says he accepted for a good one, and passed the same as such to *Mr. Tucker*; and on the 1st day of *April* instant, she let him have another three dollar bill, which he believes to be of her make; but that he has the said bill yet in his custody, and intended to return it to her again, for fear of coming to trouble about it. *Matthew* saith, that he took both the three dollar bills in part pay for a horse which he sold to *Hank Vandyne*, and that he did not return any part of the money back again. And further saith not.

MATTHEW VANDYNE.

Taken before me, this 5th day of *April*, 1776.

MOSES TUTTLE.

MORRIS COUNTY, ss.

*Elizabeth Fordice*, of full age, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That some time in *March* last past, *Elizabeth*, the wife of *Henry Vandyne*, paid her a three dollar bill, of Continental money, which she (this deponent) received for good money, not knowing or suspecting it to be counterfeit, until she was told it was counterfeit by *Frederick King*, this morning; and that her husband (*Samuel Fordice*) had paid the said bill away, supposing it to be a good bill.

ELIZABETH <sup>her</sup> FORDICE.  
mark.

Taken and sworn to this 6th day of *April*, 1776, in presence of the Committee of *Morristown*, before me,

SAMUEL TUTHILL.

MORRIS COUNTY, ss.

*Mark Walton*, of full age, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That on *Tuesday*, the 3d of *April* instant, he received of *Henry Vandyne*, at *Rockaway*, a one dollar bill, made in imitation of the Continental Bills of Credit, in part payment of a debt which the said *Vandyne* owed to him. The deponent further saith, that he offered said bill to *Caleb Howel*, who replied he would not give a copper for it, it was counterfeit; since which he has shown it to others, who all said it was not good; but that he has not offered it to pass to any body since.

MARK WALTON.

Taken and sworn this 6th day of *April*, 1776, in presence of the Committee of *Morristown*, before me,

SAMUEL TUTHILL.

MORRIS COUNTY, ss.

*John Panton*, of full age, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That on the 29th day of *March* last, at evening,

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*Elizabeth Vandyne* brought a three dollar bill, of the Continental currency to him, to buy for her something out of some merchant's store; but the weather proving stormy, hindered him from going abroad; and further, that the said *Elizabeth*, on the *Sunday* following, came to this deponent and demanded the bill again, saying she suspected it was not good, and wanted it to return to the person from whom she got it; upon which this deponent returned the bill to said *Elizabeth Vandyne*.

JOHN PANTON.

Taken and sworn this 6th day of *April*, 1776, in presence of the Committee of Observation for *Morristown*, before me,

SAMUEL TUTHILL.

MORRIS COUNTY, ss.

*Cornelius Davenport*, of full age, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That some time in *March* last, *Henry* and *Isaac Vandyne* came to his house; and that *Henry* took from *Isaac* a three dollar bill, of the Continental currency, which the said *Henry* gave to this deponent to pay for cider and food which the two *Vandynes* at that time had; and that this deponent returned the change to *Henry*; and that *Henry* returned said change to *Isaac*. This deponent further saith, he does not know to whom the bill belonged; but believes that *Isaac* carried the money because *Henry* had no good pocket; and further, that this deponent has since parted with said bill, not knowing it to be counterfeit.

CORNELIUS <sup>his</sup> DAVENPORT.  
mark.

Sworn this 6th day of *April*, 1776, in presence of the Committee of Observation of *Morristown*, before me,

SAMUEL TUTHILL.

NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, New-Brunswick, }  
April 23, 1776. }

Whereas many dangerous consequences will attend the suffering an unrestrained commerce between the inhabitants of this Colony and the Continental Troops stationed in or passing through this Province; therefore,

*Resolved*, That no inhabitant of this Colony shall be permitted to purchase or receive from any Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier in the Continental service, unless such Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier shall first produce a certificate signed by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment or Company to which such Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier belongs, specifying the particular goods permitted to be sold, with the name of the vender; and every person presuming to purchase any goods, clothing, or effects, contrary to this Resolution, after being notified thereof, shall be deemed unfriendly to the liberties of *America*, and treated accordingly; and the Committees of the several Counties and Townships in this Colony are enjoined to enforce a compliance with this Resolution.

By order of the Committee:

SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 25, 1776, and referred to Mr. R. H. Lee, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Hewes.]

New-York, April 23, 1776.

SIR: In a letter which I had the honour to receive from Congress some considerable time ago, they were pleased to ask what rank Aids-de-Camp bore in the Army; from whence I concluded that they had adverted to the extraordinary trouble and confinement of these gentlemen, with a view to make them an adequate allowance; but nothing being since done, or said of the matter, I take the liberty, unsolicited by, and unknown to my Aids-de-Camp, to inform your honourable body that their pay is not, by any means, equal to their trouble and confinement. No person wishes more to save money to the publick than I do, and no person has aimed more at it; but there are some cases in which parsimony may be ill-placed, and this I take to be one. Aids-de-Camp are persons in whom entire confidence must be placed. It requires men of abilities to execute the duties with propriety and despatch where there is such a multiplicity of business as must attend the Commander-in-Chief of such an army as ours; and persuaded I am that

nothing but the zeal of those gentlemen, who live with me and act in this capacity, for the great *American* cause and personal attachment to me, has induced them to undergo the trouble and confinement they have experienced since they have become members of my family.

I give in to no kind of amusements myself; consequently those about me can have none, but are confined from morn to eve, hearing and answering the applications and letters of one and another, which will now, I expect, receive a pretty considerable addition, as the business of the Northern and Eastern Departments (if I continue here) must, I suppose, pass through my hands. If these gentlemen had the same relaxation from duty as other officers have in their common routine, there would not be so much in it, but to have the mind always upon the stretch, scarce ever unbent, and no hours for recreation, make a material odds. Knowing this, and at the same time how inadequate the pay is, I can scarce find inclination to impose the necessary duties of their office upon them. To what I have here said, this further remark may be made, and it is a matter of no small concernment to me, and, in its consequences, to the publick, and that is, that while the duty is hard and the pay small, it is not to be wondered at if there should be found a promptness in them to seek preferment, or in me to do justice to them by facilitating their views; by which means I must lose their aid when they have it most in their power to assist me. Influenced by these motives, I have taken the liberty of laying the matter fully, and with all due deference, before your honourable body, not doubting its meeting with a patient hearing.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 4, 1776.]

New-York, April 23, 1776.

SIR: That I might be in readiness to take the field in the spring, and prepared for any service Congress should think proper to send me upon this campaign, I desired Colonel *Reed*, when he left *Cambridge* in the fall, to get me a set of camp equipage, tents, and a baggage wagon made at *Philadelphia*, under his own inspection, and send to me; this he informs me is now done and ready to come on. I have therefore to beg the favour of Congress, through you, to order payment of them from the Treasury, as it will save the expense and hazard of a remittance from hence, where we stand much in need of every farthing we have.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LORD DRUMMOND.

New-York, April 23, 1776.

MY LORD: Understanding that the Committee of Safety of this Colony have given your Lordship permission to visit *Bermuda*, for the benefit of your health, I take the liberty of wishing you a pleasant voyage, and a speedy and perfect restoration of it.

With respect, I have the honour to be, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Lord *Drummond*.

COLONEL RITZEMA TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, April 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: General *Washington* and my Lord *Stirling* are extremely anxious for the speedy completion of the *New-York* Regiments, and I am daily called on to know the reason why my regiment is not completed; in answer to which I inform the Generals of your orders for the companies to come down, and that they have been issued for some time, and of the arrangement that has been made in it. This does not seem to be satisfactory. I am therefore ordered

to request of you that you will be pleased to exert yourselves in fully completing the Third Regiment.

Captain *Riker's* Company not exceeding nineteen men, and not ten of them, in my opinion, fit for actual service, I submit it to your better judgment whether some company that is full had not better be substituted in its room, and also that the eighth company be added.

I am, gentlemen, with respect, your very humble servant,  
RUDOLPHUS RITZEMA.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

SETH MARVIN TO TEUNIS COOPER.

Oxford, April 23, 1776.

SIR: After proper respects, I must desire you not to mention that I did not incline to have warrants sent up to us without they were returned in a week; but if any should be returned at all, I should be glad to have them sent as soon as possible.

I am, with much esteem, your friend and humble servant,  
SETH MARVIN.

To Mr. *Teunis Cooper*, Esq., in the Committee of Safety, at *New-York*.

LEVI PAWLING TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Marbletown, April 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a return from the four gentlemen who were appointed a sub-Committee by the General Committee for the town of *Rochester*. Your Honours will be kind enough to send up the commissions as soon as possible. There can be no reasonable objection made why the three gentlemen returned should not be commissioned. The reason of the vacancy in Captain *Schoonmaker's* Company is, that one of his subalterns is an officer in the Continental service, the other two in Colonel *De Witt's* Regiment of Minute-men.

Your compliance will oblige your most humble servant,  
LEVI PAWLING.

To the *New-York* Committee of Safety.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, April 23, 1776.

SIR: I did myself the honour, in my letter of *January* 21, to enclose to your Excellency a copy of a Memorial from the General Assembly to the honourable Continental Congress, to which I beg leave to refer you; and when I had the pleasure of seeing you here I laid before you very fully the distressed situation of the Colony, and the enormous expenses we were necessarily put to in defending such an extensive line of sea-coast, which I thought you very well convinced it was impossible for the Colony to support.

I prevailed upon Colonel *Knox*, who passed through this town on his way to *Norwich*, to take a view of *Newport*, and to direct such works to be thrown up as he should think necessary for the defence of the place. He is clearly of opinion that the town of *Newport* may be secured, and hath left some directions, which I have ordered to be carried into execution. They have begun the works, and I believe will this day complete a battery which commands the north entrance of the harbour. To-morrow they begin the fortifications upon *Fort-Island*. And if it be in our power to complete the works, I have no doubt it will put a total end to toryism in this Colony. As Colonel *Knox's* stay was very short, his plans are not particular nor exact. If it were possible for your Excellency to spare from your Army some person acquainted with fortification, to assist, were it only for a few days, you would do us a particular favour, and a most essential service to the common cause.

Colonel *Babcock* hath given such incontestable proofs of insanity, that his officers were obliged to put him under an arrest, and send him under a guard to *Providence*. The General Committee have continued the arrest, and referred the matter until next week, when the Assembly meets, who will most certainly dismiss him.

I beg the favour of your Excellency to represent the state of the Colony to Congress, and to recommend to them the taking our Brigade (which is enlisted to serve in any of

the United Colonies) into Continental pay; and to establish a force here for the defence of the Colony.

I am, with great truth and esteem, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

DR. MORGAN TO COMMITTEE OF MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Cambridge, April 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been thrice over to *Boston* on purpose to have the honour of a conference with you; but not knowing of your engagements out of *Boston*, had not the pleasure of suiting my time to your convenience. It was not till last night that I received the list of articles found in the stores of *Dr. Sylvester Gardner*, which you have given orders to the Sheriff to take possession of, and secure till he should receive the order of the General Court to the contrary. As this instruction of yours does, in my opinion, interfere with General *Washington's* orders to me, and the resolve of the General Court on that head, I should have been happy to have had a conference with you, as it would give me the greatest concern to give you offence, by exceeding the intent of my commission, which I am confident I have not done, nor did I mean to do. Not having the satisfaction to meet you, and having business at *Portsmouth* that will detain me from *Boston* for a week to come, I think it my duty to state my claims to such articles contained in your list as I think will be of use to the General Hospital, which I shall submit with all deference to your consideration. If you approve thereof, I shall direct Mr. *Cutting* to proceed in getting them packed up and sent forward; and I flatter myself the good of the Army, the welfare and service of which I am sure you have at heart, will gain your acquiescence, when you maturely consider every circumstance with attention. I shall say nothing in respect to such articles as are enumerated in your list, that are already sent forward, further than that some of them are as essentially necessary to the General Hospital, and as much intended by General *Washington* to be appropriated to the use of the General Hospital, and fitting out all regiments in the Army with complete medicine chests, as any drugs or medicine found in the shop; and if some few others were sent, that might as well have been left behind for your use, I am sorry not to have had notice of those particulars in time to have given orders for their being left: but the attention that was necessary to take care of the extensive concerns of the sick, and of the Hospital stores at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, prevented my being as much at *Boston* as I could have wished, and of course I am obliged to leave the general management of the concerns of the Hospital in *Boston* to gentlemen under my direction, who, I believe, acted to the best of their judgment.

Passing these matters over, I proceed to point out the articles in your list which I have ordered to be left behind, and to mark the particulars included in it which I hope you will consent to my ordering to be sent along with the medicines and other parts of the shop furniture not included in your list. In the first place, then, I have ordered, and shall repeat the same, that all the following articles, if not sent away already, be wholly left behind, viz: the verdigris, three hogsheads of allum, four hogsheads of copperas, two hogsheads of brimstone, cork bungs, one hogshead of red wood, one hogshead of madder, read lead, white lead, logwood, a large bell-metal mortar, iron mortar, pestles, shut-corks, skillets, wire sieves, iron ring-pans, frevets for ring-pans.

The other articles coming within the General's intention as being necessary for the use of the General Hospital, and for fitting out complete Regimental chests, might all with great propriety be claimed for the use of the General Hospital, being such articles as I must purchase if I cannot get them here; but as you may wish for them for the good of the town, (which I sincerely join with you in regarding,) as well as I wish for them for the Continental Army, (which you must regard,) I propose to divide as follows, viz: to take one bag of allspice, equally necessary with any medicine for the use of the sick, and to leave the remaining ten bags; to share the bottle-corks, retorts and receivers, vials and galley-pots, bolt-heads, bottles in wicker-baskets, and to take such bottles as were designed for medicines only, leaving all others. The small mortars fit for Regimental chests, twine, and oint-

ment, already sent, were wanted, as well as the flat-irons, and a few large mortars for the General Hospital.

In proposing this division, I endeavour to consult the interest of the town of *Boston* and country, as much as of the Army. If you can propose anything more equitable, or more reasonable, I shall cheerfully acquiesce; for I would on no occasion wish to execute my orders in any manner detrimental to the good of this country, the interest of which I would willingly promote to the extent of my power. On the other hand, my immediate duty and the General's orders, (which I am bound to obey,) will not permit me to deprive the Army or General Hospital of whatever is essential to the service of the former, or the good of the latter. I will take upon me to answer for it, although the orders of the General mention no more than drugs and medicines, that his intention was to include all those particulars belonging to a General Hospital, not less necessary than medicine itself, as vials, galley-pots, corks, and other shop furniture equally wanted, and that he never once allowed himself to think that the Committee of *Boston* would have thought of putting any narrow constructions on his orders. If we cannot agree on these constructions, and the resolves of the General Court founded on the same, I shall either wait here for the General's further orders, or submit to such constructions as the General Assembly are pleased to put upon them. In the mean time, I remain, with fervent wishes for the prosperity of the town of *Boston*, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To the Committee of the General Court.

SAMUEL TUFTS TO BENJAMIN GREENLEAF.

Newburyport, April 23, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I hope, sir, you will pardon the freedom of my troubling you with this letter; but being appointed, with Captain *Edward Sawyer*, by the honourable General Court, to the important trust of inspecting and receiving saltpetre, the reason of my now addressing you is, to request the favour of you to inform the honourable Court that we have purchased, on account of the Colony, two thousand eight hundred and forty-seven and a half pounds, and paid for the same. And as many people have called upon us to receive large quantities, and more expected, to the amount of four thousand pounds weight, we are not able to receive for want of money. We request the favour of the honourable Court to grant a sum to enable us to fulfil the trust reposed in us.

Your communicating this will much oblige (by order and in absence of Colonel *Sawyer*) your humble servant,

SAMUEL TUFTS.

To the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq., at present at *Watertown*.

P. S. If the money should be granted, request the favour of your forwarding it.

INSTRUCTIONS TO DELEGATES FOR JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

The Freeholders of *James City* being desirous of expressing their sentiments on the important subject of Independence, a majority residing in the County assembled at *Allen's Ordinary*, the 24th of *April*, 1776, for that purpose, and agreed to the following Instructions:

"To ROBERT C. NICHOLAS and WILLIAM NORVELL, Esq's:

"GENTLEMEN: In vain do we congratulate ourselves upon the impotency of the Minister to divide us, if our union amounts to nothing more than an union in one common lethargy. War hath been brought into our houses, heightened by terrors and cruelties, which the justest cause wants even palliatives for; but faint advances towards peace, insidiously urged, have caught the ear of the credulous, and groundless hopes of accommodation deluded the timid, so that the true military system remains untouched in the most essential points. As if our inexperience, poverty in warlike stores, and the infancy of our Navy, were of trifling moment, we have ventured to neglect resources, in such difficulties, which Heaven hath placed within our attainment.

"Alliances may be formed at an easy price, capable of supplying these disadvantages, but an independent State disdains to humble herself to an equality in treaty with

another who cannot call her politicks her own; or, to be explicit, she cannot enter into a negotiation with those who denominate themselves Rebels, by resistance, and confession of a dependancy.

"Reason, drawn from justice, policy, and necessity, are everywhere at hand for a radical separation from *Great Britain*. From justice; for the blood of those who have fallen in our cause cries aloud, "It is time to part." From necessity; because she hath, of herself, repudiated us, by a rapid succession of insult, injury, robbery, murder, and a formal declaration of war. These are but few, and some of the weakest arguments which the great volume of our oppression opens to every spirited *American*.

"It cannot be a violation of our faith now, to reject the terms of 1763. They are a qualified slavery at best, and were acceptable to us, not as the extent of our right, but the probable cause of peace; but since the day in which they were most humbly offered as the end of animosities, an interval hath passed marked with tyranny intolerable.

"We, therefore, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do request and instruct you, our Delegates, (provided no just and honourable terms are offered by the King,) to exert your utmost abilities, in the next Convention, towards dissolving the connection between *America* and *Great Britain*, totally, finally, and irrevocably."

[The above Instructions are signed by a majority of the Freeholders living in the County.]

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 6, 1776, and referred to Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Duane.]

Suffolk, April 24, 1776.

SIR: As it is now beyond all doubt that it is the intention of the enemy to attack these Provinces with a very considerable force, and as the extent of the assailable parts is so very great, it must appear that the troops under my command are inadequate to the service; I must therefore entreat the Congress to detach as many battalions as possible from *Pennsylvania*, with a large addition of powder. I wish a good horse officer could be found and sent to me; he is much wanted. You will excuse the shortness of my letter, as I am in great haste.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. We want medicines (bark in particular) most cruelly.

THOMAS STONE TO DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

Philadelphia, April 24, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Mr. *Johnson* wrote to you, yesterday, by post, and I wrote to Mr. *Hall*. Nothing is known since, in consequence of your letter and resolution to the President. We have been very much engaged, for some days, in attending to the affairs of *Canada*, having received late intelligence from that quarter. I presume the *Canada* Department, with its Conventions and despatches, will engross our attention for a few days, and then some answer will probably be given to your letter. What it will be, I cannot guess with any degree of certainty; but I am inclined to think everything will be left to the Convention. We shall attend the meeting of that Assembly.

Governour *Eden's* letter is published in one of the papers here, and various are the comments on it. Independent of everything else, it is very suspicious; but taking Mr. *Eden's* conduct, and the letters from his brother, (who must know his sentiments,) into consideration, I think greatly lessens the charge which the intercepted letter would, of itself, import.

If the Commissioners do not arrive shortly, and conduct themselves with great candour and uprightness, to effect a reconciliation, a separation will most undoubtedly take place; and then all Governours and officers must quit their posts, and new men must be placed in the saddle of power. I wish to conduct affairs so that a just and honourable reconciliation should take place, or that we should be pretty unanimous in a resolution to fight it out for Independence. The proper way to effect this is, not to move too quick.

But then we must take care to do everything which is necessary for our security and defence; not suffer ourselves to be bullied or wheedled by any deceptions, declarations, or givings out. You know my heart wishes for peace, upon terms of security and justice to *America*. But war, anything, is preferable to a surrender of our rights. You may rely on my friendship on all occasions.

My brothers are all steady friends to your Council; and we have not the least doubt but when your conduct comes to be tried by your country, you will receive its thanks for your great attention to the publick good. You have been steady, firm, and determined, in the present opposition to Ministerial tyranny, and I hope will persevere to the end, bearing all blasts with unshaken constancy and resolution.

Nothing new here. I shall set out on *Saturday* or *Sunday* next, to meet my wife. Be pleased to show this to your brothers in Council, to whom I present my most respectful regards.

I am, sir, your most obliged and affectionate friend,

T. STONE.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WARD.

Philadelphia, April 24, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by Congress to acquaint you that your letter of resignation, of the 12th instant, was this day laid before them, and that they have been pleased to accept of the same. The motives which first induced the Congress to appoint you a Major-General in the Continental service, would naturally make them regret your retiring from the Army; but when it is considered that, in the course of your duty in that high rank, you have acquitted yourself with honour and reputation, I am persuaded the reluctance they feel at your retiring is much increased.

The Congress, in a letter to General *Washington* of the 2d instant, have declared the thanks of these United Colonies to be due to the brave officers under his command, and have requested him to communicate to them this distinguishing mark of the approbation of their country. I mention this, as the letter did not reach the General until he arrived at *New-York*.

With the sincerest wishes for a restoration of your health, and for your future happiness, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Ward*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL FRYE.

Philadelphia, April 24, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having received your letter of resignation, I am commanded to acquaint you that they have been pleased to accept of the same. While they lament the cause that obliges you to retire, they cannot but acknowledge it to be a sufficient one. The reputation and honour with which you have conducted yourself, on all occasions, in the Continental service, must always afford you the most pleasing satisfaction.

The Congress, in a letter to General *Washington*, of the 2d instant, have declared the thanks of these United Colonies to be due to the brave officers under his command, and have requested him to communicate to them this distinguishing mark of the approbation of their country. I mention this, as the letter did not reach the General until he arrived at *New-York*.

With the most sincere wishes for the restoration of your health, and for your future happiness, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Brigadier-General *Frye*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COLONEL HAZEN.

Philadelphia, April 24, 1776.

SIR: It affords me great pleasure to have it in charge from Congress to convey to you their approbation of your letter to General *Schuyler*, as well as your attention to the publick good. Though it appears that some of the Continental troops have behaved in an imprudent manner towards the *Canadians*, yet I trust the evil is not incurable. It is only by

cultivating a friendly intercourse with them, and restraining, by exemplary punishment, the irregularities of the soldiery, that their affections can ever be regained. To accomplish this most important purpose, the Congress have enjoined the commanding officer in *Canada* to be very attentive to military discipline, and to punish, severely, every violation thereof. To this must be added all the arts of insinuation and address, which, I make no doubt, you in particular, and the rest of the officers, will exert to the utmost of your abilities.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*

To Colonel *Hazen, Montreal.*

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—LETTER VIII.

The all-wise Creator having enabled every man to judge, in some degree, what is good for himself, the study of Government is a duty of the highest concern to all the members of a free State. But men, in general, may be said to feel better than they can see; and therefore seldom take the trouble to employ their thoughts on publick affairs while they are tolerably administered; nor is it till oppression becomes flagrant, and even palpable to the sight, that a People are universally roused into a serious attention to abuses in Government.

Numerous are the evils which spring from distractions and convulsions in a State; but they are often productive of one advantage, which outweighs them all. The civil Constitutions of countries, although long neglected through the indolence of the people, and tottering on the verge of dissolution, have nevertheless been thus purged of their corruptions, brought back to their first principles, and made to flourish, with renewed vigour, through many succeeding ages. But as this can only be the work of heroism, conducted by wisdom, virtue, and prudence, every writer who, upon such great and trying occasions, seeks to exaggerate or conceal facts, to state but one side of a question, to warp the judgment by partial representations, to give railing for reason, invectives for arguments, and to urge a people into hasty resolutions, by addressing the inflamed passions rather than the sober reason—every such writer, I say, insults his country in distress, and is a fellow-worker with its enemies, to hasten its ruin.

Had the author of *Common Sense* considered this, or were he possessed of the least reverence for the judgment or feelings of a great and enlightened people, whom he has thought himself fit to address, his performance would have been of a different nature. It would at least have worn the semblance of argument, and contained something which had a chance to meet the reason of wise men, and to stand the test of their candid examination. He would have listened patiently to their remarks upon his production, and would have coolly replied to their objections. He would not have dared to offer such an indignity to the publick, as to throw out impotent threats, instead of answers, against the meanest of his fellow-citizens, (if fellow-citizens he has in this place,) merely for endeavouring, in a country yet free, to detect his misrepresentations, to supply his defect of materials, and thereby enable a people to judge fairly of their own weighty concerns.

The contest in which *America* is engaged, was not lightly undertaken. The sword was drawn in defence of our laws and liberties. Till these are rendered safe, let it not be returned to the scabbard; but, still, let not the scabbard be thrown away. If our just rights can be best secured by reconciliation with our own flesh and blood—with a yet powerful nation, whose religion, laws, and manners, in our former happy days, we gloried to call our own—*God* forbid that we should shut the door against it, by any hasty measure among ourselves. This happy period of our miseries is still hoped for and devoutly wished, not only by multitudes of the zealous friends of *America*, through all the Colonies, but by whole Colonies, in their publick capacity, regardless of anything that has yet been offered to the contrary. While this continues to be the case, he who seeks to disturb the union which we nobly supported on our former ground, is the worst foe to this country. If the *British* Administration has a tool here, labouring to forward their ruinous purposes by divisions and distractions, “thou art the

man;” even thou, the author of *Common Sense*, who hast started thine ignis-fatuus, to draw the unwary into untried regions, full of tremendous precipices and quagmires, treacherous to the foot, whither the wise and considerate think it not safe to follow. Couldst thou succeed in this, thou dost effectually confirm all the slanders of our Ministerial foes against us; and instead of *America*, strong in domestick union, and supported by a respectable part of *Britain*, thou wilt give us *Britain* united, and *America* rent by divisions, amidst the mighty contest. Thou sayest that now is the exact time for adopting thy plan, and holdest up ruin as the sure consequence of the least delay. Thou saidst the same and didst threaten the same, near three months ago, if we hesitated a moment to follow thy advice. Possibly, any time may be thy now, especially if thou shouldst have nothing to lose, and, peradventure, mayest hope to gain something by the change. But when the Almighty shall be pleased to say now, thy interpretations will be unnecessary. He will send conviction along with it, in circumstances so clear and unambiguous, that they who run may read them.

The publick will excuse the occasional notice I am forced to take of the answers hitherto given to my letters. Were I disposed to deviate from my plan, or, by immediate retaliation, to draw the attention of the reader to the “political characters, connexions, and dependencies” of my antagonists, (which the author of *Common Sense*, in his new character of the *Forester*, allows to be very essential in such a controversy,) I believe it would add little to the credit of their works; especially if, upon inquiry, it should be found that they have neither “character nor connexions” in this place, and that they are the avowed instruments and dependants of some, who, having no concern in our domestick affairs, are nevertheless constantly intermeddling with them, to the great disturbance of the Province, and injury of the publick cause.

The popular leaders who overturned the Monarchy in the last age, were not themselves friends to Republicks. They only made use of the name to procure the favour of the people; and whenever, by such means, they had mounted to the proper height, each of them, in his turn, began to kick the people from him as a ladder then useless.

*Cromwell* exercised the power of a King, and of the most absolute King, under the specious name of a Protector. The instrument of Republican Government, which he had at first extolled as the most perfect work of human invention, he began (as soon as he thought his authority sufficiently established) to represent as “a rotten plank, upon which no man could trust himself without sinking.” He had his eyes fixed upon the Crown; but when he procured an offer of it, from a packed Parliament, his courage failed him. He had outwitted himself by his own hypocrisy, and, in his way to power, had thrown such an odium upon the name of the King, that his own family, apprehensive he would be murdered the moment the diadem should touch his brow, persuaded him to decline that honour.

The great *Sydney* never meant more, by his celebrated work, than to reform the abuses of mixed Government, and to restrain the rapid progress which the nation was making, in his time, towards absolute Monarchy. And he was as much a foe to *Cromwell* as to *Charles* the First, considering both as governing above the laws. But he did not write against Kings generally, more than other rulers who might abuse their power.

“Nothing,” says he, “is further from my intention than to speak irreverently of Kings;” and he explains what Kings he means, viz: those limited by law in mixed Governments. He has written a whole section to show that the best Governments in the world have been composed, as the *English* is, of Monarchy, Aristocracy, and Democracy. He says *God* ordained a mixed Government, answering to this in all its parts, and consisting of a single Judge, or chief Captain, (we contend not for names,) a Council of seventy chosen men, or Sanhedrim, and the General Assemblies of the People. Is not this our own form complete?

When he speaks of popular Governments, he uses the utmost precision. “To avoid unnecessary disputes,” says he, “I give the name of popular Governments to those of *Rome*, *Athens*, *Sparta*, and the like; but improperly, unless the same may also be given to many that are usually called Monarchies, since there is nothing of violence in either. As to popular Governments, in the strict sense, (that is,



pure Democracy,) where the People in themselves, and by themselves, perform all that belongs to Government, I know of no such thing; and if it be in the world, I have nothing to say for it."

And more explicitly still, he says: "Being no way concerned in the defence of Democracy, I may leave our Knight, (*Filmer*), like *Don Quixotte*, fighting against the phantasm of his own brain, and to say what he pleases against such Governments as never were, unless in such a place as *San Marino*, near *Senegaglia*, in *Italy*, where a hundred men govern a barbarous rock, that no man invades. As for Democracy, he may say what he pleases of it; and I believe it can suit only with the convenience of a small town, accompanied with such circumstances as are seldom to be found."

If *Sydney* understood anything of the matter, we see that every Colony in *America* is already too unwieldy for such a Government, and therefore it cannot be a model for an immense Continent. In a word, although this great man lived before the Revolution, he laid its foundation, died a martyr to its principles, and, by one of the first acts of Parliament made under it, his attainder was repealed, and a solemn national sanction given to his writings.

The testimony of another professed Whig, nay, an Independent Whig, (the famous *Gordon*, in his Discourses upon *Tacitus*), shall come next: "Monarchy, according to *Plato*, is the best Government, or the worst; to which opinion (says he) I subscribe, as I do to that of *Philip de Commines*, that *England* is the place in the world where the publick is most equally administered, and where the people suffer the least violence. We are blessed with a form of Government which *Tacitus* mentions as the most perfect, and thinks the hardest to be framed—that happy balance and mixture of interests that secures every interest."

*Polybius*, as he is quoted by *Montague*, on the Rise and Fall of Republicks, agrees with *Plato*: "The best form of Government (says he) is that which is composed of a due admixture of Monarchy, Aristocracy, and Democracy."

Of all legislators, he prefers *Lycurgus*, whom he looks upon rather as divinely inspired than as a man. To perpetuate the *Spartan* Government, he united the peculiar excellencies of the best forms into one, that neither of the three parts, by swelling beyond its just bounds, might ever be able to deviate into its original inborn defects.

*Montague* adds: "I cannot help observing, on this occasion, that our own Constitution, as settled at the Revolution, so nearly coincides with *Lycurgus's* general plan, that it seems, at first sight, to be formed by that very model."

And, indeed, in the Constitution of mixed Governments, there is something more substantial than an attachment to the mystical number, three, in this triple union of powers. All power lodged, uncontrolled, in one or many, has been shown to be full of danger. Lodged in two distinct bodies, they may chance to disagree long; but the addition of a third turns the scale; and further additions would only be clogs.

I have not lost sight of *Montesquieu*, whose sentiments, as applicable to the *English* Constitution, in practice as well as theory, shall be briefly introduced in my next, to close this part of my work; and then let the author of *Common Sense* combat the arguments of these great men as well as he can; for he has yet said nothing that is in any way applicable to them, and must look for better arguments than those drawn from the nature of the *English* Constitution, if he expects to serve his cause. For my part, I still stand upon my first ground, and have no sentiment which I wish to hide on this occasion. When it shall clearly appear that we can be no longer free, nor secure in our rights and property, in connection with *Britain*, or that we can be more secure in any other connection, (and the time which will enable us to judge of this cannot be very remote,) the author of these letters shall not then lisp a word against whatever measures the sense of the majority of this country, fairly taken, shall adopt for the common good; and will be ready to give his best assistance for carrying them into execution. But he must ever bear his testimony against being surprised into publick decisions by misrepresentations, ungrounded suggestions, and delusive arguments, too evidently proceeding from prejudice or predetermination of a question, in which the happiness of a great Continent is involved.

CATO.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-JERSEY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 24, 1776.

SIR: The readiness shown by the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-Jersey* to succour this place with their Militia, on a late occasion, when they were at my request called upon by Brigadier-General the Earl of *Stirling*, and the alacrity with which I am informed the Militia then stepped forward in defence of their country, are sufficient proofs of the important service the Province of *New-Jersey* is capable of rendering in support of the great cause of *American* liberty, especially if the Militia of that Province be put under such regulations as will enable them to give their aid at the very time it may be wanted, and without the least delay possible. What renders such a regulation the more necessary is, that in the present situation of affairs, it is more than probable that the approach of the enemy will be sudden, and without our having long notice of their being on the coast.

Late experience has taught us that, under the present regulation, it will take at least a fortnight (after the necessity of the requisition is seen) to assemble and embody any considerable detachment of the Militia; wherefore it seems absolutely necessary that there be a resolution of your Congress, or Committee of Safety, for allotting a particular number of your Militia to march on the first notice of the approach of the enemy. The detachment from each regiment should be fixed upon, who should march to certain places of rendezvous on the first alarm, by regulated signals. A regulation of such signals was lately made by Lord *Stirling* for the *Highlands*, *Neversink*, and *Staten-Island*, a copy of which, with some alteration, I now send you, and which I think are very proper for the purpose; the two last of which should be repeated at a number of eminences in your Province. And if, on the signal of the appearance of a large fleet, the detachments of your Militia were ordered to rendezvous at *Brunswick*, *Amboy*, *Woodbridge*, *Rahway*, *Elizabethtown*, *Newark*, and *Bergen*, they might be ready in a day or two to march to such place, either in your Province or in this, as would be found to stand most in need of their assistance. And in order to avoid the inconvenience which may arise from the absence of your Provincial Generals from that part of the country where the troops may assemble, it will be necessary that the Colonels and commanding officers of every corps or detachment be directed strictly to obey the orders they may receive from the Continental General to whom that department may be allotted.

With respect, I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the Congress of *New-Jersey*, or the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of that Province.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It being necessary that I should know the number of troops to compose the Army here, I must request the favour of your honourable body to inform me how many regiments are raising in this Province for the Continental service, by order of Congress, and what their state is as to men and arms. From the accounts I have had, I have reason to fear there is a great deficiency in the latter, which, at a crisis when nothing else seems left to decide the contest we are engaged in, is truly alarming, and calls aloud for their utmost exertions to procure them. The pleasing and ready assurances I have received from you to co-operate with me in every measure advancive of the common cause, leave me no room to doubt but proper steps will be pursued for obtaining them, and lead me to ask what expectations and source you have for getting a supply.

If there have been any officers commissioned by you, I shall be obliged by having a list of their appointments.

I have been informed that there is a number of arms at *Kingston*, that were taken from the forces in *Dutchess* County; if so, are they not at your disposal, and can they be had? I am, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

## GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, April 24, 1776.

SIR: I have this day granted a warrant unto Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop* for two hundred and seventy-six and two-thirds dollars, being for a month's advance to him, his officers and men, who are to serve on the lakes at the rates following:

Captain, at - - - -	32 dollars, - -	\$32
Three Mates, at - - - -	15 dollars, - -	45
One Boatswain, at - - - -	15 dollars, - -	15
Two Boatswain's Mates, at	9½ dollars, - -	18½
Twenty Seamen, at - - - -	8 dollars, - -	160
One Seaman, at - - - -	6 dollars, - -	6

\$276½

Which you will please to take notice of in adjusting the accounts of this Captain and his crew.

Brigadier-General *Thompson*, with four battalions and one company, sailed from hence last *Sunday*. I hope they will have reached *Albany* long before this, and I doubt not your forwarding them on with all possible expedition.

We have accounts of the *British* troops, under General *Howe*, being arrived at *Halifax*. A part of them, if not the whole, will probably attempt the relief of *Quebeck*, as soon as the navigation up the *St. Lawrence* is practicable.

I am, with great esteem, dear sir, your most assured, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

## HENRY WISNER, JUN., TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Wallkill, April 24, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of a resolve of Congress for a number of powder-mills to be built in this Province, Major *Moses Phillips* and myself applied to the County Committee for a recommendation, which we obtained, and herewith send you, hoping, as we have made great improvements in the more expeditiously manufacturing gunpowder, you will indulge us with the benefit of said resolve. I should have been down to make a contract, but my father being sick, I could not leave the powder-mill without great inconvenience, and hope this application will answer till the first *Tuesday* in *May*, at which time I expect to attend Congress, and then will make such contract as the Congress, or Committee, shall reasonably require. If it is necessary for me to come down before the first of *May*, should take it as a favour to be informed by the bearer. We have got timber and framed a powder-mill, which will be constructed in such a manner as will make much faster than the one belonging to my father and self, in which we make one thousand pounds per week. The weather being very changeable, we are much troubled to get it dry; but have above three tons made, which we shall send to *Fort Constitution* as soon as dry.

Your answer relative to the powder-mill will oblige, sir, your humble servant,

HENRY WISNER, JUN.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*.

N. B. Have sent a small horn of our powder, which I hope will meet with approbation.

## CORNELIUS D. WYNKOOP TO DIRK WYNKOOP.

Kingston, April 24, 1776.

SIR: As a Surgeon and Mate is allowed to every regiment in the United service, I have been applied to by Mr. *George Graham*, from the *Wallkill*, to act in the capacity of Surgeon's Mate of my Regiment. He is a young man, who, I am told, is capable for that purpose, and as appears by the within certificate of two reputable persons, he is also accounted very skilful. If anything should be wanting from my recommendation, please to apply to Mr. *Jones*, who, I believe, at present is in *New-York*, who can give you a satisfactory account thereof; and if your honourable Board will commission him as a Surgeon's Mate, I could wish it was done by the first opportunity, as he would make the necessary preparations.

Should you commission him, please to send it to him, directed to the *Wallkill*, as soon as possible. If it is in your power to let me know where my destination should be, I should take it as a favour to acquaint me thereof, and what time.

I am your friend to serve, CORNELIUS D. WYNKOOP.

To *Dirk Wynkoop*, Esquire, Member of the Provincial Congress.

## PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN-MEETING.

At a Town-Meeting, of the Town of *Providence*, held on the third *Wednesday* of *April*, Anno Domini 1776:

The Honourable *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Moderator.

## Instructions to the Deputies of the Town of PROVIDENCE:

GENTLEMEN: At a time when the very being of *American* liberty is at stake, through the machinations of our most unnatural and implacable enemies, by whom every effort is made to distress us, and to force to compliance with the most arbitrary, oppressive, and tyrannical measures, the virtuous inhabitants of the Thirteen United Colonies; and who have, by their most cruel edicts, absolutely prohibited that mutual and friendly intercourse with *Britain* and other foreign countries, which heretofore had amply supplied, to their great advantage and emolument, such necessary articles as this happy country, in its infant state, could not so readily afford; it becomes the wisdom, and is the highest policy of the said Colonies, to promote, by every measure, arts and manufactures, as well as arms, being equally and alike necessary to our comfort, support, and defence.

In consideration whereof, (as we suppose,) the honourable Continental Congress have afforded to several of the Southern Colonies such protection as the necessity of the case required, by passing the following resolution, *January 30*, 1776: "That no apprentice whatsoever be inlisted within the Colonies of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the Lower Counties on *Delaware*, and *Maryland*, as a soldier in the Army and Navy of the United Colonies, without the consent of his master or mistress first obtained in writing; and that all apprentices now inlisted as soldiers in said Army and Navy, without such consent, be immediately discharged from the service, on the application of his master or mistress, upon payment of all just and reasonable charges of their inlistment;" and having the fullest confidence in their justice and equal regards to each of the United Colonies, and knowing, from the most obvious reasons, (arising from the peculiar situation of this small frontier Colony,) that the present mode of raising recruits for the Army gives the most fatal discouragements to arts and manufactures therein:

We, the Freemen of the Town of *Providence*, in Town-meeting assembled, do recommend to you to use your endeavours that the General Assembly of this Colony, as soon as may be, apply to the honourable Continental Congress, that this Colony, and the inhabitants thereof, may have the afore-recited resolution extended to them in the same manner as to the Colonies therein particularly mentioned.

And we further recommend, that you endeavour to procure an act of the General Assembly of this Colony, in substance nearly the same with the said recited resolve, and which shall operate as to any standing troops to be hereafter raised within and for the immediate defence of this Colony.

Gentlemen, it is not from the least doubt of your cheerful readiness to urge and support every measure calculated to promote, in subservience to the publick good, the prosperity of this Colony; nor that we have the most distant wish to preclude the right of private judgment, that we thus publicly and unitedly recommend the foregoing to your care; but from the purest motives of regard to the welfare of our country.

Voted, That the foregoing be Instructions for the Deputies of this Town.

Witness: THEODORE FOSTER, Town-Clerk.

## COLONEL KNOX TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-London, April 24, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your Excellency's directions, I am employed in looking at and getting the necessary infor-

mation respecting this harbour, in which I shall spare no pains. I mentioned to your Excellency *Newport* harbour, which, in conjunction with this, will, when fortified, afford a safe retreat to the *American* Navy, or their prizes, in any wind that blows. They are equally convenient for ships coming from sea; and if the wind is not fair to go into one harbour, they may go into the other.

The artillery and stores are all embarked, together with the remaining company of my regiment, and have been waiting for a fair wind two days.

Admiral *Hopkins* is still in this harbour, and, I believe, will be obliged to continue here some time. He has this day received intelligence that four ships and two brigs are off *Montauk Point* and *Block-Island*, stationed in such a manner that but one appears at a time, and each able to come up to the assistance of the others. The Captain of the *Cerberus* was on *Block-Island* yesterday, and told a man there that he was waiting for Admiral *Hopkins*, and expected, in four days, to be joined by Captain *Wallace* and his squadron.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

HENRY KNOX,

Colonel Regiment of Artillery.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. I am in hopes to be able to set out for *New-York* on the 28th instant.

COSMOPOLITAN, NO. IX.

To the Inhabitants of the *AMERICAN Colonies*:

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: Had I not been interrupted by the misfortune of the press, I should have given the hero of my paper no rest until I had completed his character as delineated in his letters. As I left him somewhat abruptly in my last, I must intrude so far on the reader's patience, as once more to bring him upon the stage, promising to keep him there only until my next, with which I shall conclude.

Resolved as he was, to plague his country with every species of oppression, he was exceedingly fertile in projecting the means. Incessant and wily, but baffled and embarrassed were his attempts in their execution. No measures, however base, however cruel, however horrid and unheard of, startled him in his headlong career. Despairing of Grand Juries indicting whole towns, and in effect the whole Province, as an unlawful, tumultuous, and riotous assembly, for refusing to transgress the first command of Heaven, the great law of self-preservation, *Caligula* like, he was determined to sever its head from all its members with one stroke. Union, a mutual intercourse and interest being inimical to tyranny, and divisions, ignorance, and disconnected exertions, the very companions of her bosom; hence, both the policy, and his plan of separating *Boston*, that first devoted capital, the head and heart of the community, from the rest of the Province; and to treat her meetings as properly a mob, and an outrage upon Government—a mob liable to have the leaden messengers of death hurled among them, or the bayonet lifted to their throats by a licentious soldiery, when innocently assembled for the discharge of some social duty.

What shall I say of his humanity, his immaculate tenderness, when he demanded of . . . . . and . . . . . whether they would order the troops to fire upon mobs, if he should call upon them? What of his principles of friendship when he upbraids his inmates, who were disposed to go the greatest lengths, the one, with want of firmness, for excusing himself from the monstrous carnage, for fear of consequences; and the other, with stupidity, for qualifying his rancorous malice, by an immaterial distinction?

What shall I say of his tender-hearted pity, at a time when affliction and grief mantled on every face; when the sorrows of our country were seen in blood, flowing from the veins of our slaughtered citizens; when the pavements in the street blushed with a crimson hue, and upbraided the more unfeeling, the flinty heart, of a cruel, inactive magistrate; when, to his own townsmen pleading in the language of distress, clad in the robes of affliction from wounds of his own procuring, he refused to remove the cause of their wo, and to dry up the fountain of their tears, by suppressing the terror of arms! When the temples of *God* seemed to mourn, and the very

dwellings of the city appeared to languish, with what seeming delight does he review the tragick scene, and transmit, in delusive colours, his own merits in that bloody transaction, that most execrable proceeding, to his approving master? A scene sufficient to have caused the lawless sword to drop from every humane hand, swells up his lungs to a higher tone, for more troops, more havock, more bloodshed.

The leaders and the led, are likewise the objects of his malignity, but especially the former; rightly imagining that he could never entirely compass his ruinous designs so long as they continued clasped to the neck of their country, so long as they remained on their post, as watchmen, vigilantly opposing his parricidial attempts. From their blood he expected success. On them he poured forth all that rancour and splenetick fury that a bold and manly opposition had enkindled in his ambitious breast. Hence his increasing clamours for laws that would enable him to seize, expose, and extinguish those guides of publick councils, those lamps of intelligence, which, amidst the threatening convulsions, have continued to burn unimpaired on the altar of liberty. Hence his importunate demands for *British* laws to make it treason for any person to deny, by word or writing, the all-binding authority of Parliament; and if the Juries refused to convict on such statutes, to extend the Act of *Henry VIII.* for their trial in *Great Britain*; that is, to have them pinioned, dragged from their friends, transported like convicts, tried without evidence, condemned undefended, without law, and executed without mercy. And also to have persons taken, carried to *England*, and punished at the Execution-Block, possibly without even the sham formality of a mock-trial. Did the head of man ever project a scheme more black, his heart assent to measures more horrid against *America*, than the above, conceived and hatched by one of her sons?

It is difficult to conceive of a greater political curse, than a magistrate armed with full authority to obstruct, unchecked, the whole proceedings of the people. This has been our state ever since the independency of the Governour. From that fatal period, under his guidance, the community has been, post haste, on the high-road to destruction. The most audaciously abandoned, before him, never dared so far to shake the pillars of the State, and totally to demolish the power of the people. But in the bosom of his domination, as in a grave, was buried every principle of freedom, and in his letters, we may literally read the dismal ruins of a free country. By what appellation, by what name, shall I call, shall I describe the man who, for a mercenary consideration, sold the authority of a whole Province, attacked the rights of a whole Continent, bartered away the Constitution of a free Government, and desperately aimed at enslaving his own countrymen, in whose souls the love of liberty is so deep rooted as not to be extinguishable but with life itself.

Like the horse-leech, ever craving, not satisfied with the reception of a bribe himself, he labours to contaminate all with whom he is concerned with the same pollution. Lest the streams of impartial justice should continue to flow, even according to new-fangled laws, he was determined to defile the fountain by the same royal influence, and to create a dependance that would entail the corruption. Five hundred sterling a year, says he, for the Chief Justice, and three hundred for the Puny Judges, are the least sums proper for them to receive from the Crown to induce them to continue in their offices, and subserve Governmental purposes. This being established, it would be of no avail to impeach for high crimes and misdemeanours, not even by the grand inquest for the Province.

The extension of the boundaries of *Canada*, the arming *Roman Catholics*, and calling the tawny Savage from the wilderness, to scalp, murder, and desolate the *English Colonies*, have been justly complained of as unconstitutional, barbarous, and disgraceful. But even this is, at least in part, of an *American* origin; the cession of *Canada* to the *English*, says our letter-writer, has had worse effects than if it had remained in the hands of the *French* and *Indians*; plainly intimating that it ought to be held as a menacing rod over our backs, to scourge for disobedience, or awe to submissions.

Traversing land and sea, ruin and destruction mark his route on both elements. He was largely concerned in restraining, hampering, and finally banishing commerce, navigation, and trade, from the coast of *America*. He is express, for the restraining trade in all the Colonies who will not acknowledge themselves under the uncontrollable dominion

of a third State, of confining it to *Great Britain*, and of excluding them from the bounty of Heaven, common to all mortals—catching the fishes of the sea for their support and sustenance.

In short, the demolition of the Charter, the abolishing of Juries, which were attempted by a late importation of infamous laws, were planned, recommended, and procured by this fatal monster to his country. It is evident from his own words: "Something (says he) immediately must be done; no time is to be lost; something, I repeat it, must be done this session, to show the sense Parliament has of our past conduct." To Secretary *Pownall*, by whom he was informed that something very decisive might be done in Parliament, unless a favourable issue in the case of *Preston* and the soldiers should cause an alteration of proposed measures, he writes, "I am now anxious lest Parliament should pass over all our affronts, contempts, and insults, without notice. This would be extremely dangerous. In some way or other, the power of Parliament must be evinced. You know I have been begging, begging for measures to support the supremacy of Parliament. It will be best that I should not be suspected by the people of having suggested any alterations in our Constitution." These, and similar expressions, are not unfrequent in his letters. His incessant prayers to a Minister of State for measures against the virtuous, patriotick *Americans*, reminds me of a stale story that I once heard, with which I shall conclude, respecting a very troublesome woman, who made application to an unjust judge that neither feared *God* nor regarded man, to avenge her of her adversaries, who, by the force of importunity and pressing solicitations, wearied him into compliance.

#### NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

The General Court of this Colony appointed the following gentlemen to be a Committee of Safety in the recess of the Court:

The Honourable *Meshech Weare*, *Nathaniel Folsom*, *Ebenezer Thomson*, Esquires, of the Council; and *Philips White*, *Josiah Moulton*, *John Dudley*, *Robert Wilson*, *Stephen Evans*, Esquires, and Captain *Pierce Long*, of the Assembly; who proceeded to business, and appointed the Honourable *Meshech Weare*, Chairman.

Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

Ordered the Treasurer to pay Captain *Ebenezer Dear- ing's* Pay-Roll, for one month's wages in advance, and Blanket Money; amounting to one hundred and twenty-four Pounds ten Shillings, lawful money.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay to *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., Commissary, six hundred Pounds, lawful money, to be by him accounted for.

Ordered the Receiver-General to deliver *Josiah Moulton*, Esq., two pounds of the Colony Powder in his possession, he paying therefor at the rate of three Shillings, lawful money, per pound.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay to Captain *John Calef*, one Pound one Shilling, for the Mast used in the *Exeter* Fire-Raft.

Thursday, April 4, 1776.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay the Selectmen of *Hampton* five Pounds fourteen Shillings and two Pence, for moving and repairing a Guard-House.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

Pursuant to agreement the Committee met at *Portsmouth*.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay Lieutenant *Samuel Atkinson* fourteen Pounds thirteen Shillings and eleven Pence, for the expense of transporting the *Indians* sent from *Exeter*, from *Boscawen* to *Plymouth*.

Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

Employed the chief of the day in viewing the *Great Island*, *Pierce's* and *Sevey's* Islands.

Thursday, April 11, 1776.

Gave *Josiah Bartlett*, Esq., an order on the Treasurer for four Pounds thirteen Shillings, for his going twice to *Water-*

*town* on publick business for the Colony; and also for one hundred Pounds; to be accounted for.

Ordered the Receiver-General to pay *Christopher Tappan*, Esq., one hundred and ninety Pounds, for eight Six-pounders, at twenty Pounds, and for two Six-pounders, at fifteen Pounds.

Gave liberty to Captain *William Pearce* to fit a Vessel out for the foreign *West-Indies*, to be loaded with such articles as are not forbidden by any resolve of the Continental Congress; among other articles, to carry about seventy thousand Boards; the net proceeds of which is to be laid out in such things as we may direct, the Colony to receive the same on their arrival, allowing the first cost, customary commissions, and freight home, the residue to be laid out as he may think fit; for all which he is to give bonds.

Sent off an express to *Boston* after Cannon, &c., and wrote several Letters.

Gave *James McCluer* an order for five Pounds, for one month's wages as Adjutant to Colonel *Gilman*.

Wednesday, April 24, 1776.

Met at *Exeter* according to appointment.

Gave *John Langdon*, Esq., a Permit for the Brig *Marquis of Kildare*, *Thomas Palmer* Master, to proceed to *Europe* with her lading, &c.

Gave Colonel *Burnam* an Order on the Treasurer for twelve Pounds four Shillings and ten Pence, for his time and expenses at *Medford*, mustering the thirty-one Companies sent down there.

Thursday, April 25, 1776.

Gave Colonel *Samuel Folsom* an Order on the Treasurer for twelve Pounds five Shillings, his Bill for Room, Fire-wood, and Candles, for the Committee of Accounts.

Gave *Comfort Sever* and *John Crane* an Order on the Receiver-General for seven Pounds twelve Shillings and four Pence, lawful money, for the expenses of the *Indians* on their return to *Canada*.

Gave the Selectmen of *Northampton* an Order on the Receiver-General for four Pounds eight Shillings and nine Pence, for hauling a Watch-House on *Boar's Head*.

Gave liberty to General *Folsom* to receive out of the publick stock of Powder, one barrel, for one borrowed of the Town of *Exeter* and carried to *Portsmouth*, last fall.

Gave an Order on the Receiver-General to pay Captain *Eliphelet Daniels's* Pay-Roll, amounting to - £154 12  
Account for Blanketing Money, - - - 38 8  
£193 0

Which Roll was made up to 17th April instant.

Gave directions to the Selectmen of *Rochester* to deliver Colonel *Stephen Evans* a four-pound Cannon, now in said Town, to be carried to *Piscataqua Harbour*.

Friday, April 26, 1776.

Received from Major *George Gains* three thousand weight of Powder, which he was directed to bring up here by the Assembly, and lodge the same in the Powder-House.

Gave an Order on the Receiver-General for eighty Pounds, lawful money, in favour of Quartermaster *Gains*.

Gave Major *Gains* an Order to proceed to *Boston* for the Cannon and Stores lent.

Gave *Samuel Cutts*, Esq., Commissary, an Order on the Treasurer for six hundred Pounds, to be by him accounted for.

#### CAPTAIN TITUS SALTER TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, April 24, 1776.

Pursuant to the within, I have been to *Boston*, and as to the four cannon, have seen them. They can be had with the balls, &c., belonging to them, when sent for. As to any provision it cannot be had, neither could I procure an Engineer, or any more cannon.

TITUS SALTER.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
April 11, 1776. }

Captain TITUS SALTER:

You are hereby authorized and appointed to proceed to *Boston*, and there make application to the Honourable Ge-

neral *Ward* for liberty to bring back the cannon, viz: two thirty-two-pounders, and two six-pounders, double fortified, lent the Continental Army in *July* last, as we conceive they are not wanted there now, and as our lines at *Portsmouth* have not guns any ways sufficient for the defence thereof; and to see if any balls can be procured for the cannon there. Also, to inquire of General *Ward*, or the Commissary-General, whether there is any flour in store belonging to the Continent, to be sold, and at what price.

And also, to endeavour to procure some skilful Engineer, to come to *Portsmouth*, as soon as may be, to lay out the lines of some fortifications there as soon as possible; and on your return to notify Colonel *Weare* of the time the Engineer will be at *Portsmouth*; and make return of your doings to the Committee.

By order of the Committee.

In Committee of Safety, Portsmouth, }  
April 11, 1776. }

SIR: The bearer, Captain *Salter*, is instructed to apply to you for the release of cannon lent by this Colony to the Continental Army. And as our situation is such as makes it necessary to have a considerable number of cannon mounted at several places, to make any considerable opposition against an enemy attempting to destroy our capital, and near a hundred heavy pieces of cannon were carried by the King's ships from our Castle to *Boston*, many of which it is probable are left there; and if it is consistent with your instructions from the Continental Congress to lend as many as you can conveniently spare, to be accounted for by the Colony, it will at this time be esteemed a great favour done us.

By order of the Committee:

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

MESHECH WEARE, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *Artemas Ward*, Esq.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, April 25, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Emmerick*, who will have the honour to deliver this letter to you, served several years in the corps of *Hanoverian* Rangers, and was employed last war in many situations in which confidence and ability were requisite, and acquitted himself with great credit and honour.

He is now under the protection of Government here, and being desirous of employment in *North-America* I am commanded to recommend him to your attention; and as he certainly may be very useful in many situations, I am persuaded you will soon discover his merit, and employ him to his own and the publick advantage.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE GERMAINE.

WILLIAM HARRISON TO THOMAS SMYTH.

Head-Quarters, Blunt's Warehouse, }  
April 25, 1776. }

SIR: Mr. *Wright* and myself, with fifty-two men, including drummer and fifer, reached this place yesterday. We came down by water from *Newtown*, as far as the upper part of the Island, to avoid the expense of a march.

We have found here good store of provisions, but no person to give out fit proportions of it, and we are at a loss how to do it ourselves, as it is not possible to get either wet or dry measures. There are certain necessary articles for the soldiers wanting, which are not to be had here, a list of which Mr. *Wright* has. Captain *Veazey* desired me to write you that he is distressed for money. He was so much wanting it when I left town that he could not supply me with what was absolutely necessary to defray the expenses of the corps. He desired me to let you know likewise that he had five hundred pounds, Province money, in hand, sent him by his father, which he would be glad to apply by order of the Council.

I shall be much obliged to you to furnish Mr. *Wright* with the resolves of the last Convention. We could not obtain a copy of them in *Newtown*, and it is very fit we should have them.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM HARRISON.

To the Honourable *Thomas Smyth*, Esq.

P. S. We find many of the gun-locks, which we have,

defective, but hope we shall be able to get them put in good order in the neighbourhood, as we learn there is a person who understands such business.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 29, 1776, and referred to Mr. Harrison, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Rodney.]

[No. 129.]

In Council of Safety, Annapolis, }  
April 25, 1776. }

SIR: We send you under guard the person and papers of *Alexander Ross*. We have examined him, and send also a copy of his examination. Among his papers we find several that relate to a scheme of carrying on the lumber trade from *West-Florida* to the Islands in the *West-Indies*, and two letters of recommendation, from Governour *Eden* and Lord *Dunmore*, to the Governour of that Department. These papers we consider as the most material of any we could find, and have put them up in a separate bundle.

The persons he is supposed to be a confederate with, you have already in your custody, we mean *Smith* and *Connolly*, and we presume also their papers.

We are, very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress, *Philadelphia*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 130.]

Annapolis, April 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We send the person of *Alexander Ross*, together with his papers, and a copy of his examination, under guard, to the honourable Congress. Have written to the President to that purpose. We find several papers that relate to a scheme of trade in *West-Florida*, and two letters of recommendation, one from Governour *Eden* and the other from Lord *Dunmore*. These, we think, are material; his other papers, which we likewise send, we have searched, and find nothing of consequence.

Since our last, nothing new has occurred, except the examination of Mr. *Purviance* before our Board. He at first denied the anonymous letter; afterwards, on recollection, acknowledged it contained some of his sentiments, but could not remember when he wrote them. He prevaricated most abominably.

We hope the time of calling the Convention will meet with your approbation. We apprehended bad consequences from delay. No messenger as yet returned from *Philadelphia*. You may judge that we wish to hear some favourable news from you. Be it as it may, we have the satisfaction of thinking that we have done our duty by endeavouring to keep peace in the Province. We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland*, in Congress.

P. S. We send you a copy of General *Lee's* letter to *Samuel Purviance*.

In Council of Safety, Annapolis, April 24, 1776.

Examination of Mr. SAMUEL PURVIANCE, Jun., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for BALTIMORE County.

1. Question. You have a letter from General *Lee*, addressed to you as Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County. Will you produce it?

Answer. It is a doubt with me whether I can produce it in publick with honour. I will show it to you in private.

2. Question. Do you refuse to produce that letter to us in Council?

Answer. If I do, I expect a copy will not be taken.

3. Question. Will you produce it to the Council; yea or nay?

Answer. Delivers it. The letter was read.

4. Question. Who made up the packet to the Congress from your Committee?

Answer. Mr. *Lux*, I believe; I was not present when it was done.

5. Question. What letters were in it?

Answer. I do not know—there were very few.

6. Question. Was there any other packet sent to Congress?



*Answer.* Not that I know of.

7. *Question.* Do you know anything of an anonymous letter enclosed to Mr. *Hancock* in the packet?

*Answer.* No.

8. *Question.* Do you know of no anonymous letter or paper sent to *Philadelphia*?

*Answer.* I know of none.

9. *Question.* You know of no anonymous letter to the following purport? (reading a recital of it.)

*Answer.* No.

10. *Question.* Nothing in your hand-writing to that purport?

*Answer.* I wrote a private letter, in my own name, and signed therewith, to Mr. *Hancock*, as a private person, and which I desired he might not show to Congress. It was principally relative to the letter I received from General *Lee*. I mentioned likewise to him, that three gentlemen of our Committee were to wait on the Council the next day with the despatches received from *Virginia*; that I would gladly go as one, but that I had reason to believe I did not stand in a favourable light with the Council, who, I understood, had taken great offence at a letter or order I had written to Captain *Nicholson*, at the time the *Otter* was in our river. I likewise told him my opinion, that I did not expect, or had doubts whether the Council would take so spirited a step as to seize the Governour; and the event proves that I was not mistaken. I believe I likewise mentioned to him the design of sending the tender to *Annapolis*, to prevent the Governour's escape, should he attempt it; a measure which appeared to me strictly proper, both from the tenour of the Secretary of State's letters, and General *Lee*'s letter to me.

11. *Question.* You know of nothing sent from you respecting yourself as an object against whom the Council of Safety had levelled their power?

*Answer.* I had good reason to know I was disliked by the Council, but never had any apprehensions of their power against me.

12. *Question.* Have you ever represented yourself as thought by the Council of Safety a warm, hot-headed man; and that your power must be pulled down, or you would throw things into confusion?

*Answer.* I was well-informed I was considered in that light by your Council; and I have mentioned it in conversation to many of my friends.

13. Same question.

Makes no answer.

14. *Question.* The question was asked again, and Mr. *Purviance* desired to recollect.

*Answer.* It is very possible I may have made such representations in letters written to some of my friends, as well as in private conversation.

15. *Question.* Were they enclosed in the packet to Congress?

*Answer.* I never wrote to the Congress upon any such subject.

16. *Question.* How long has it been since you wrote such letters?

*Answer.* I cannot say. I never wrote anything with a view to prejudice the Council of Safety.

17. *Question.* Were they written within a week past?

*Answer.* I believe not.

18. *Question.* Do you remember that you impressed General *Lee* with an idea that the Council of Safety were timid and inactive?

*Answer.* General *Lee* seemed as well acquainted with the publick affairs in *Maryland* as I was; and it cannot be doubted that we conversed on many publick subjects. That I ever took pains to impress him with an ill opinion of the Council, I deny.

19. *Question.* Do you know of a single instance of inactivity in the Council of Safety, with respect to *Baltimore* town?

*Answer.* I do not know that I was called here to give any opinion of the Council of Safety, to their faces; but I know that I have heard many complaints, some of them perhaps I thought ill-founded. If I think otherwise of any other part of them, I have a right to exercise my judgement.

20. *Question.* Did we not give you the earliest intelligence on the late alarm?

*Answer.* You did everything in your power. I have passed many encomiums on you for it, in private letters to my friends.

21. *Question.* Did you not give instructions to Captain *Samuel Smith*?

*Answer.* Yes.

22. *Question.* Were they under an oath of secrecy?

*Answer.* They were not.

23. *Question.* Why was not Captain *Smith* to consult the Council of Safety when he came to *Annapolis*?

*Answer.* It was my intention he should.

24. *Question.* Were his instructions to be shown to the Council?

*Answer.* I did not tell him to show them, but presumed when he got to *Annapolis* he would be under their directions.

25. *Question.* Was Captain *Smith* to consult the commanding officer, and lay him under an oath of secrecy?

*Answer.* I gave him no such orders; I expected he was to take directions from the Council.

26. *Question.* Did you expect the Governour was going down the Bay when you sent the tender?

*Answer.* My expectation was that the Governour would attempt to escape, upon being informed that his letters were intercepted; otherwise I should not have sent the tender. A letter I wrote to the deputation of the Committee will explain my conduct on that head.

27. *Question.* Have you a copy of that letter?

*Answer.* I have the letter itself.

28. *Question.* Your instructions were that the Governour should be carried to *Baltimore* town. Why not delivered to the Council of Safety?

*Answer.* I will give you my ideas of the matter. I conceived that at the seat of Government he would have numerous friends and partisans; a clamour might be raised, and a rescue attempted. I proposed carrying him to *Baltimore*, and putting him on board the ship-of-war, where he would be treated like a gentleman, and there to await the directions of the Council of Safety, or Congress, whose prisoner I deemed him.

29. *Question.* Why were troops ordered from *Baltimore*, and Captain *Smith* not to consult the commanding officer here?

*Answer.* The Committee were well informed that *Alexander Ross* was come to *Annapolis*, and were afraid he would alarm the Governour, who would very probably attempt to escape; therefore troops, or armed men, were thought necessary, should Captain *Smith* find the Governour attempting to escape before he got to *Annapolis*.

30. *Question.* Were there any marines on board?

*Answer.* I believe there were either sailors or marines.

31. *Question.* You say the troops were sent to intercept the Governour, should he have attempted to escape?

*Answer.* That was my intention; and my letter to the deputation from the *Baltimore* Committee will explain the reason of sending the tender.

32. *Question.* You say you have the letter—produce it.

*Answer.* Delivered it. Explains the reason of his sending the boat, by referring to General *Lee*'s letter; directed Captain *Smith* to apply to the gentlemen of *Baltimore*, who, I thought, would carry him to the Council of Safety, to consult upon the measure.

33. *Question.* Why was the Governour to be carried to *Baltimore*, if taken at Colonel *Fitzhugh*'s? Would not the Committee of *Calvert* have taken care of him?

*Answer.* I gave no directions whatever on that subject, on condition that Captain *Smith* found the Governour attempting to escape before he got from *Baltimore* to *Annapolis*; and I had not the least design of anything save to prevent the Governour's escape.

34. *Question.* Did you not know the Council of Safety were sitting?

*Answer.* I expected they were.

35. *Question.* Was any other letter, than the above, written by you to the *Baltimore* deputation?

*Answer.* Not a scrap.

36. *Question.* Some gentlemen were sent to *Annapolis* to engage the commanding officer by oath to secrecy. Do you know anything of this?

*Answer.* No. I never entertained the most distant idea of that sort. The gentlemen of the Committee and myself

thought the intimation in General *Lee's* letter improper, and were doubtful whether it was a publick or private letter.

37. *Question.* Do you know of any such intimation contained in an anonymous letter?

*Answer.* I do not. I neither wrote any such, nor ever heard of any such.

38. *Question.* Do you know of any letter to the commanding officer here on the subject?

*Answer.* No. I did not suppose the commanding officer here could execute such an order while the Council of Safety were sitting.

39. *Question.* Was this the reason that the picked men were sent?

*Answer.* No. The intention of sending them is already explained.

40. *Question.* What time did you receive the despatches from *Virginia*?

*Answer.* Sunday evening.

41. *Question.* What time did you send them to Congress?

*Answer.* Four o'clock Monday morning.

42. *Question.* Why was not the same despatch used with respect to us?

*Answer.* We thought it most respectful to appoint a deputation to wait on the Council, and the gentlemen could not go till the morning.

43. *Question.* Did you know what was contained in the packet to the Congress?

*Answer.* There was no packet for the Congress. There were two or three private letters; and the letter to Mr. *Hancock* was in General *Lee's* handwriting.

44. *Question.* In your letter to the gentlemen from *Baltimore*, why was Captain *Smith* directed to go to Colonel *Fitzhugh's*?

*Answer.* I did not order him to go there. I expected he would have orders from the Council to go there, in case the Governour had escaped before Captain *Smith* got to *Annapolis*.

45. *Question.* Did you give any directions to Captain *Nicholson* verbally, or in writing?

*Answer.* I had conversed with Captain *Nicholson* on the propriety of sending the tender; he concurred with me, and at my desire ordered the tender to be got ready.

46. *Question.* Did you see Captain *Nicholson's* instructions to his Lieutenant?

*Answer.* Not till after the return of the officers and tender to *Baltimore*.

47. *Question.* Do you know of any intention to seize the Governour at Colonel *Fitzhugh's*?

*Answer.* I gave no such instructions, and know nothing of any such, save what is hinted in Captain *Nicholson's* orders to his Lieutenant.

48. *Question.* If seized at Colonel *Fitzhugh's*, why not sent to the Committee of *Calvert*?

*Answer.* I have already informed you I gave no such orders to Captain *Smith*.

49. *Question.* The instructions are dated on the 14th, and the letter also. How account for it?

*Answer.* It was a mistake; they ought to have been dated on Monday, the 15th.

50. *Question.* By your letter to the gentlemen of *Baltimore*, the tender was to be under their direction; did you expect they were to mix with the Council?

*Answer.* My letter to the gentlemen of *Baltimore* will show that was not my intention. I imagined that on so important an affair they would confer with them on the subject.

51. *Question.* Why was Captain *Smith* to consult with the gentlemen of *Baltimore*?

*Answer.* I referred him to those gentlemen, expecting they would carry him to the Council, under whose direction I expected he would be after his arrival at *Annapolis*.

52. *Question.* You say you wrote to your friends that the Council behaved with spirit on the late alarm?

*Answer.* I am certain I did to several, and observed the happy effects of it in rousing the whole Province.

53. *Question—Mr. Carroll.* The instructions were got by chance to my certain knowledge.

*Answer.* I neither gave Captain *Smith* directions to show his orders, nor forbade him to do it.

54. *Question.* Did you enclose the packet to *Philadelphia* in a letter of yours?

*Answer.* No.

55. *Question.* Why was so much respect shown to the Council of Safety of *Virginia*, and not to the President of the Congress?

*Answer.* A single gentleman was very sufficient to carry a packet to the Congress, and bring back their despatches. It was thought probable the Council of Safety would choose to confer with the Members of the *Baltimore* Committee on so interesting a subject as that contained in the papers which they carried; and it was to them, not the Council of *Virginia*, the respect was intended.

56. *Question.* Did you not cover the letter from the Congress?

*Answer.* I did; and my reason was, that the packet from Congress being endorsed with Mr. *Hancock's* name, and the publick curiosity being at that time great to know what was in agitation, I feared the express, or some other person who might see the packet, would be tempted by curiosity to open it; therefore put it under a new cover, directed to the Council, expecting it would pass as an ordinary packet from the Committee. To obviate all suspicions of my having opened it, which I presume is implied in your question, I could have no temptation to do so base an action. The despatch from Congress to our Committee informed us they had sent orders to the Council to seize the person and papers of Governour *Eden* and Mr. *Alexander Ross*.

56. The question asked again.

*Answer.* Recollected he did.

Mr. *Purviance* acknowledges the instructions were given by himself, and not by the Committee.

In Council of Safety, Annapolis, April 24, 1776.

*The Examination of Mr. WILLIAM LUX, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of Observation for BALTIMORE County.*

*Question.* Who made up and sealed the packet that was sent to Congress?

*Answer.* I did.

*Question.* Do you know what letters were contained in that packet?

*Answer.* The letter of Lord *George Germaine*; letter, in General *Lee's* hand-writing, to *John Hancock*; and a private letter to a gentleman in *Philadelphia*, but does not recollect who. The letter from the Council of Safety of *Virginia* was enclosed in the packet to the *Baltimore* Committee.

*Question.* Was the packet to *John Hancock* very large?

*Answer.* No; small.

*Question.* Did you deliver it to the Messenger?

*Answer.* I delivered it to Mr. *Purviance*. The letter directed to the Council of Safety was enclosed to us; it had the seal nearly torn off in opening our letter; we desired the gentlemen appointed to wait on you, to explain the cause; we went to Mr. *Purviance* at one o'clock; the gentleman who was to go messenger to *Philadelphia*, was in bed, at Mr. *Purviance's*, where we left the letter, when I received the packet. I did not open General *Lee's* letter to Mr. *Purviance*.

*Question.* Did you know of any verbal or written instructions given to Captain *Nicholson*?

*Answer.* No. The first I heard of it was at *Annapolis*.

*Question.* Have not the powers of seizing the Governour been assumed by persons other than the Council of Safety?

*Answer.* Not by the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

*Question.* Have they not been assumed generally?

*Answer.* They have.

*Question.* Have the Committee of *Baltimore* any right to accuse the Council of Safety of timidity, inactivity, or neglect of duty?

*Answer.* No. The Committee think your conduct meritorious.

*Question.* Had the gentlemen of the *Baltimore* Committee, who were delegated to wait on us, any other commands or instructions than the delivery of the letter to the Council of Safety?

*Answer.* None. They thought the delegation the most respectful mode of proceeding.

*Question.* Why send a letter from the Committee of Safety of *Virginia* to us by a delegation, and not Mr. *Hancock's* letter?

*Answer.* The letter appeared to be defaced, and we sent persons on that account.

*Question.* How can you account for the gentlemen not showing all your instructions?

*Answer.* They had no instructions; none were thought of.

#### *Examination of Major GIST.*

*Question.* Some instructions handed to us with your endorsement. Be pleased to inform what conversation you had, and with whom.

*Answer.* Captain *Nicholson* first informed me, and he told me of *Samuel Purviance's* instructions, (as if from the Committee.)

*Question.* Did you consider the purport of the instructions?

*Answer.* Yes; but I did it rather precipitately; had I considered it, perhaps I should not have done so.

*Question.* Did you understand Captain *Smith* was to be under the directions of the Council of Safety?

*Answer.* I understood a delegation of the Committee was sent to *Annapolis*. The instructions of *Samuel Purviance* were written when I first saw him, immediately upon my signing them.

*Question.* What conversation passed on *Sunday* night?

*Answer.* I was shown the letters from the Secretary of State. They were very busy in making copies to send to Congress. They enjoined me to secrecy.

*Question.* Who were there?

*Answer.* Mr. *Buchanan*, Mr. *Nicholson*, &c.

*Question.* What time was it when you first saw *Samuel Purviance's* instructions drawn up?

*Answer.* On *Monday*, about dinner. I did not wish to throw any reflections upon the Council by my acquiescence. I imagined the gentlemen of the Committee would have applied to the Council of Safety for instructions. Upon reflection, I am convinced the Committee had no power to issue such orders.

#### *Examination of Captain SMITH.*

*Question.* Had you any particular instructions how to execute the orders from Mr. *Purviance*?

*Answer.* He had some conversation with Mr. *Purviance* about the orders, some time before he delivered the instructions.

*Question.* Did you apprehend the instructions were to be shown to the Council of Safety?

*Answer.* I did; but as I was not admitted in the Council, had not an opportunity of showing them. Mr. *Reynolds* informed me that I was to act according to the orders I had received. I was enjoined to secrecy, or would have shown my orders to the Council.

*Question.* Had you any verbal orders from Mr. *Purviance*, or from any one else?

*Answer.* I had not.

*Question.* Did you consult the deputation from *Baltimore* before you came to the Council?

*Answer.* He waited on the deputation very early in the morning; they informed him what the Council had determined; advised him not to show his instructions to the Council. Produced a representation of his conduct, and promised a copy to the Council.

#### *Captain SMITH's Narrative.*

On *Monday*, the 15th of *April*, I was on the field exercising the three companies stationed in *Baltimore*, when Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman of the Committee, came out to me, and begged I would immediately attend the Committee, that an affair of the greatest consequence demanded my attention; that there would be occasion for eight or ten of my men, under my own command, to go in Captain *Nicholson's* tender. He then found it necessary to inform me of the business, and enjoined the strictest secrecy. I kept the troops about a quarter of an hour longer on duty, and discharged them all, except my own company, out of which I chose ten good men and a Sergeant, and ordered them to be in readiness at half past one. I waited at Mr. *Purviance's*, (on the Committee, as I thought,) but found only the Chairman there. He showed me the different letters respecting the business I was to go on; and I agreed with him that too much despatch could not be made. I then went in quest of Major *Gist*, but could not find him.

About one o'clock, Mr. *Samuel Purviance* passed by the barracks; I spoke to, and told him that I was ready, and waited but for orders; he said I should have them immediately. I again went in search of the Major, and found him at dinner. I told him my men were ready. As soon as he had finished dining, he went to Mr. *Purviance's*, where I followed him in about ten minutes, and found him reading my instructions.

(Mr. *Purviance* mentioned that if the Governour was still at *Annapolis*, I should have nothing to do, as he supposed the Council of Safety would put him under guard before I could get down.)

I received my instructions from the Major, and with my men went immediately to the *Point*, where I went on board the *Defence's* tender, commanded by Lieutenant *Nicholson*. After taking proper stores from the *Defence*, we proceeded down, arrived, and came to anchor off the harbour of *Annapolis*, at about three o'clock, on *Tuesday* morning. At daybreak I went ashore, and delivered a letter to Messrs. *John Smith*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, and *John Sterrit*. They told me what had passed between them and the honourable Council. I asked them whether I might not inform the Council of my business. They said the Council had enjoined the strictest secrecy, and advised me not to mention it till I had their (the Council's) leave.

(I showed them my orders. They advised me not to show them to any person, as it was their opinion they were in some degree improper. They said they were to wait on Major *Jenifer* after breakfast, and would let me know when they returned how I was to act. On their return to the Coffee-House, they told me he highly approved of the tender's being sent down; and that they were to meet the Council at one o'clock, who would give me orders.)

About eleven o'clock, I observed the Governour's boat hove out, and cleaning. I thought it my duty to make it immediately known to the honourable Council, and accordingly waited on them, and was refused admittance. I with difficulty persuaded the doorkeeper to ask Mr. *B. Nicholson* (who was with them) to come out. After half an hour's attendance, he came. I told him what I had seen, and begged he would tell the Council that I waited their orders whether to remain with the tender, or return home. They answered by Mr. *Nicholson*, that they desired me to remain with the boat, and act according to the orders I had received, or words to that amount. A short time after sunset I went on board. The Midshipman who came on shore for me pointed at a schooner lying off the Governour's wharf, which he said had come out, and on seeing the tender's boat rowing towards her, put back immediately, and came to where she then lay. On my return to *Annapolis* next morning, (*Wednesday*), we knew her to be Mr. *Sprigg's*. About eleven she hove up, and attempted going out, but was brought to by the tender. About twelve, the Governour's boat also got under way, and the tender brought her to. I saw what was done, and thought it my duty to go on board. I searched the last-mentioned boat narrowly, and found porter and claret, which made me suspect his Excellency intended making his escape. I put a guard on board, with some of the *Defence's* people, and am sorry to say that two bottles of porter and some of claret were drunk by them. Mr. *Sprigg* came off to us, and seemed much surprised that we should dare to stop his boat; and asked what orders we had. I thought his question impertinent, and answered it as it deserved—with silence. I went ashore with him, he grumbling all the time. Secretary *Smith* was on the wharf. He asked Mr. *Sprigg* what was the matter, that by order from the Council of Safety his schooner was stopped. Mr. *Smith* immediately replied, that he could assure him that the Council of Safety had given no such orders. I said it was sufficient I had my orders for what was done. I then went to dinner, and there understood, by verbal orders from Mr. *Duwall*, that the affair was settled, and I might return home. Mr. *Sprigg* came in, and I promised to send his boat up to *Annapolis* according to his desire. I went down to the wharf with intention to go on board, where I met Lieutenant *Nicholson*, with a pass from the Governour for his mulatto to pass unmolested in *Chesapeake-Bay*. We thought proper to deliver it to some member of the honourable Council; and seeing Mr. *Carroll* talking with Mr. *Sprigg*, we went up to him, and Lieutenant *Nicholson* delivered it. Mr. *Sprigg* complained of ill treatment. Lieutenant *Nicholson* told him he

only did what he had a right to do. He replied, he supposed that he (Lieutenant *Nicholson*) might think he was right. I answered, that he not only thought so, but was so. Mr. *Carroll* said that the Council had given no such orders. Both Lieutenant *Nicholson* and myself assured him that we had orders; and on being asked to show them, we did so, and promised to leave copies of them; which we did, with Mr. *Duwall*. About two o'clock we went on board, and returned to *Baltimore* town.

N. B. The paragraphs marked ( ) I recollected since I, *Samuel Smith*, wrote the narrative delivered to the honourable Council. I wrote it in a great hurry, or I might then have remembered many other circumstances relative to this affair.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN HANSON.

[No. 131.]

Annapolis, April 25, 1776.

SIR: We received, yesterday, your favour of the 15th instant, and have sent you, by *Robert Owings*, eighty-six pounds four shillings and six pence, currency, agreeable to your request. The Committee has our permission to use any part of the publick powder in their possession, whenever they think it necessary for the defence of the Province.

We are, &c.

To *John Hanson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Frederick* County, Middle District.

MARYLAND DELEGATES TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We this day, about twelve o'clock, received your letter of the 22d, by the return of our express. No further proceeding in Congress on Mr. *Eden's* affair. *King* came in on *Sunday*, about three o'clock, and is but just now discharged: we think proper to mention it, that you may not think him blameable. If Mr. *Rogers* is able, we wish his attendance here, that as many of us as might be, should be at the Convention. We do not think that the Province ought to be left unrepresented here.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

MATTHEW TILGHMAN,  
THOMAS JOHNSON, JUN.,  
T. STONE.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 25, 1776.

SIR: I have delivered in charge to Mr. *Hanson* and Mr. *Cox* three hundred thousand dollars, for the service of the Army in *Canada*, and have directed them, by order of Congress, to deliver the same to you; and am to request you will please to order it to be sent to General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*, under the care of an officer and some of the troops destined for *Canada*, to be delivered to General *Schuyler*.

Your favours of the 22d and 23d instant, I last night received by Major *Palfrey*, and are now under the consideration of a Committee.

I beg leave to recommend Mr. *Hanson* and Mr. *Cox* to your notice; and am, with esteem, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

The three hundred thousand dollars are packed in three boxes.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, April 25, 1776.

SIR: I have now time only to inform you that, by order of Congress, I transmit, by this opportunity, three hundred thousand dollars for the supply and pay of the Continental Army in *Canada*; which I hope will get safe to you.

I shall write you fully in a few days; and am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, *Albany*.

The three hundred thousand dollars are packed in three boxes.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 29, 1776, and referred to Mr. Harrison, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Paine, Mr. Rodney.]

New-York, April 25, 1776.

SIR: I received, by last evening's post, a letter from *Joshua Wentworth*, Esq., of *Portsmouth*, who I had appointed agent for our little fleet in that Province. It is dated the 15th instant, an extract from which I have the honour of transcribing for your perusal:

"The 3d instant, Commodore *Manly* brought in the Brigantine *Elizabeth*, one of the third division which sailed from *Nantasket*, with a valuable cargo of *English* goods, and a few hogsheads of rum and sugar, owned by a Mr. *Jackson*, who was passenger, part freighter, and a very Tory: suppose the cargo worth twenty thousand pounds sterling.

"Those goods are the greater part owned by the late inhabitants of *Boston*, and by some that were inhabitants when the troops left it; the residue by this Mr. *Jackson*, and others of the same cast.

"The complicate state of this prize required my immediate setting off for *Boston*, (expecting I might find some directions for my government there;) when I waited on General *Ward*, who was obliging enough to give me his opinion, (but not able to direct, having received no instructions to the point,) that the vessel and cargo must be libelled, and a dividend to the captors would follow, of all such goods as might be legally claimed by the friends to *America*; and those that were the property of persons inimical, might be decreed forfeited.

"Upon further inquiry I was informed a resolve passed in Congress that all vessels and goods retaken previous to a condemnation by a *British* Court of Admiralty, were liable to a partial decree (by every Colony Judge) to the captors not more than one-third nor less than one-fourth. The present prize falls under this resolve; and any other that may be property of our internal enemies, liable to a full confiscation, may be necessary for my government; therefore I shall be much obliged by your full direction of this capture, and a copy of the Continental resolves thereon.

"This brigantine is owned by a Mr. *Richard Hart*, of this town, taken on her return from the *West-Indies* last *October*, and carried into *Boston*, not condemned. The rum on board are seventeen hogsheads, and four of sugar, not removed out of her from the time of capture; the other cargo was in general stolen, by virtue of General *Howe's* Proclamation, (which undoubtedly you have seen,) appointing one *Crean Brush* Superintendent, who, by the way, was taken in the prize, and is now confined in the *Massachusetts* Colony, with Mr. *Jackson* and sundry others, by order of the General Court, to whom General *Ward* delivered them. There were a sergeant and twelve privates, of the Fourth or King's own Regiment, taken prisoners on board, with the others, making sixty-three souls, among whom are four negroes, (two men and two women,) which I have confined in Jail here, concluding they may be esteemed a part of the prize.

"There appeared, from the pillage of this cargo by many of the passengers, the property was in him who could secrete the most; for when examining the chests and bedding of the prisoners, I found great quantities of goods that they had collected while on board, which were taken out of warehouses without packing, and hove promiscuously on board the vessel; even the sailors had provided for their disposal at pleasure. In fact, the destruction of property under cover of General *Howe's* Proclamation, is unparalleled. I thought it my duty to be critical in examining for cash, which rendered it necessary to insist on a close scrutiny, and found about one hundred pounds sterling, viz: thirty-six pounds eighteen shillings and seven pence on Mr. *Jackson*, and sixty-two pounds sixteen shillings on a Mr. *Keighley*; likewise one hundred and fifty-nine pounds one shilling and nine pence, of Mr. *Jackson's*, in five sets of exchange, which I now have in possession, considering that a man so inimical to his country ought to be dispossessed of any interest whereby he could be benefited: added to which, they are Navy-bills, except sixty pounds, the draft of Governour *Wentworth*. On this point should be obliged by your opinion and direction.

"I am now discharging the cargo, as it is in a perishing situation; and when selected, and the regular course pursued through the Admiralty, I shall advertise, agreeable to his

Excellency's instructions to General *Ward*, who was obliging enough to give me an abstract.

"The General Court of this Province, finding a difficulty in making a code of laws for the Admiralty Court, did not complete that institution their last session, when they adjourned to *June*; which lapse of time will not admit my facilitating the disposal of the prizes under my care so early as I could wish for the safety of part of the interest of the *Susanna's* cargo, viz: the porter, which I fear may be spoiled by laying so long, (it not having equal body to that commonly imported for sale;) which induces me to desire your direction for a disposal of that article, either at private or publick sale."

That, sir, is an exact copy of part of Mr. *Wentworth's* letter to Mr. *Moylan*. I now request you will please to direct me in what manner I shall instruct the Agent respecting this complicated cargo, and whether he may be empowered to dispose of the porter, or any other articles, on board the prizes in his care, which the delay of establishing the Court of Admiralty may make liable to perish.

I have not yet heard that there has been any trial of the prizes carried into *Massachusetts-Bay*. This procrastination is attended with very bad consequences. Some of the vessels I had fitted out are now laid up, the crews being dissatisfied that they cannot get their prize-money. I have tired the Congress upon this subject, but the importance of it makes me again mention, that if a summary way of proceeding is not resolved on, it will be impossible to get our vessels manned.

I must also mention to you, sir, that Captain *Manly* and his crew are desirous to know when they may expect their part of the value of the ordnance stores taken last fall: they are anxious to know what the amount may be. As the inventory of that cargo is in the hands of Congress, I would humbly submit it to them whether a valuation thereof should not be made, and the captors' dividend be remitted them as soon as possible: it will give them spirit, and encourage them to be alert in looking out for other prizes.

Several officers belonging to the regiments raised in these middle Colonies inform me that their men (notwithstanding their agreement) begin to murmur at the distinction of pay made between them and the regiments from the eastward. I would be glad that the Congress would attend to this in time, lest it may get to such a pitch as will make it difficult to suppress. They argue, that they perform the same duty, undergo the same fatigue, and receive five dollars, when the Eastern regiments receive six and two-thirds dollars, per month. For my own part, I wish they were all upon the same footing; for if the *British* Army will not face this way, it will be necessary to detach a great part of our troops. In that case, I would, for many reasons, be sorry there should be any distinctions of regiments that are all in the pay of the United Colonies.

The deficiency of arms (in the *New-York* Regiments especially) is very great. If I am rightly informed, there are scarce as many in Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment as will arm one company. Can the Congress remedy this evil? If they can, there should not a moment be lost in effecting it, as our strength at present is, in reality, on paper only. Should we think of discharging those men who are without arms, the remedy would be worse than the disease; for by vigorous exertions, I hope arms may be procured, and I well know that the raising men is exceeding difficult, especially to be engaged during the continuance of the war, which is the footing on which Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment is engaged.

*April 26th.*—I had written thus far before I was honoured with your favour of the 23d instant. In obedience to the order therein contained, I have directed six regiments more for *Canada*, which will embark as soon as vessels and other necessaries, can be provided. These regiments will be commanded by General *Sullivan*. I shall give him instructions to join the forces in that country under General *Thomas*, as soon as possible.

With respect to sending more troops to that country, I am really at a loss what to advise, as it is impossible, at present, to know the designs of the enemy. Should they send the whole force under General *Howe* up the River *St. Lawrence* to relieve *Quebeck* and recover *Canada*, the troops gone, and now going, will be insufficient to stop their progress; and should they think proper to send that, or an equal force, this way, from *Great Britain*, for the purpose of possessing this

city, and securing the navigation of *Hudson's* River, the troops left here will not be sufficient to oppose them; and yet, for anything we know, I think it not improbable they may attempt both, both being of the greatest importance to them, if they have men. I could wish, indeed, that the Army in *Canada* should be more powerfully reinforced, at the same time I am conscious that the trusting this important post (which is now become the grand magazine of *America*) to the handful of men remaining here, is running too great a risk. The securing this post, and *Hudson's* River, is to us also of so great importance, that I cannot, at present, advise the sending any more troops from hence; on the contrary, the General Officers now here, whom I thought it my duty to consult, think it absolutely necessary to increase the Army at this place with at least ten thousand men, especially when it is considered that from this place only the Army in *Canada* must draw its supplies of ammunition, provisions, and most probably of men; that all reinforcements can be sent from hence much easier than from any other place.

By the enclosed return, you will see the state of the Army here, and that the number of effective men is far short of what the Congress must have expected.

I have found it necessary to order Colonel *Dayton's* Regiment, from *New-Jersey*, to march, as one of the six, to *Canada*; wherefore I must recommend it to Congress to order two companies of one of the regiments still in *Pennsylvania* to march to *Cape-May*, which can be done much sooner; for had this destination of that regiment not taken place, it would have been very inconvenient to have detached two companies from it to that place, as the march would (according to Lord *Stirling's* and other accounts) have been at least two hundred miles from *Amboy*, and they must have passed within twenty miles of *Philadelphia*, there being no practicable road along the sea-coast of *New-Jersey* for their baggage to have passed.

Doctor *Potts*, who is the bearer hereof, was, I understand, appointed Director of the Hospital for these Middle Colonies; but the Army being removed, with the General Hospital, from the eastward, does, in course, supersede him. He is inclined to go to *Canada*, where he may be very useful, if a person is not already appointed for that department. I would humbly beg leave to ask the Congress, whether, in all these appointments, it would not be best to have but one chief, to whom all the others should be subordinate.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

*General Return of the Army of the United Colonies, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief.*

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS PRESENT.							STAFF OFFICERS PRESENT.				NON-COM'D PRESENT	RANK AND FILE.							
Colonel.	Lieutenant Colonels	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total, rank and file.
20	19	18	129	140	131	139	10	20	19	15	14	588	293	8301	433	702	692	64	10192

Wanting to complete: 14 Sergeants, 21 Drums and Fifes, and 2966 Privates.  
Since last Return: 67 inlisted, 9 dead, 16 discharged, and 76 deserted.

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

Head-Quarters, at New-York, April 23, 1776.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 23, 1776.

(Parole, *Burke*) (Countersign, *Barre*)  
*Hitchcock's* and *Varnum's* Regiments to be ready to be mustered on *Friday* morning next. They will be under arms at eleven in the forenoon, upon the Common, near the



Park of Artillery, where the Commissary-General of Masters will attend.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 24, 1776.

(Parole, *Savile*.)

(Countersign *Thonet*.)

The Regiments are ordered to be brigaded as follows:

First Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Heath*: *Learned's*, *Prescott's*, *Read's*, *Bailey's*, and *Baldwin's*.

Second Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Spencer*: *Parsons's*, *Arnold's*, *Huntington's*, *Ward's*, and *Wyllis's*.

Third Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Sullivan*: *Hand's*, *Nixon's*, *Read's*, *Stark's*, and *Webb's*.

Fourth Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Greene*: *Varnum's*, *Little's*, *Hitchcock's*, *Wayne's*, and *Irvine's*.

Fifth Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General the Earl of *Stirling*: *Ritzema's*, *Dayton's*, *McDougall's*, and *Winds's*.

A clean, well-dressed Orderly Sergeant, from each Brigade, to attend in the General's Guard-room, near Head-Quarters, from six in the morning until they are dismissed in the evening. They are to bring their provisions with them, and to be relieved every morning.

The commanding officer of the Artillery is immediately to examine and report the quantity of case and grape-shot in store, and see that a sufficiency of each is immediately provided.

The Riflemen, in Colonel *Irvine's* Regiment, have liberty to fire their rifles to-morrow, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at such place as Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley* shall appoint. This is mentioned, as no person is to presume to fire without leave.

*Felix Micklehenny*, Corporal, *James Milliken*, Corporal, *John McGee*, *John McBride*, *George Conner*, Privates, belonging to the Sixth Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Troops, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Baldwin* was President, for "mutiny and disobedience of orders:" The Court are of opinion that the prisoners, Corporal *Miliken* and *John McBride*, are not guilty; but that the prisoners Corporal *Micklehenny*, *John McGee*, and *George Conner*, are guilty of the charge against them; and do therefore sentence Corporal *Micklehenny* to be reduced to a Private; and that *John McGee* be confined four days, and *George Conner* seven days, both on bread and water.

The General approves the sentence of the above Court-Martial, upon Corporal *Micklehenny*, *John McGee*, and *George Conner*, and orders it to take place immediately.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 25, 1776.

(Parole, *Johnstone*.)

(Countersign, *Luttrell*.)

Complaints having been made to the General, of injuries done to the farmers, in their crops and fields, by the soldiers passing over and trampling upon the young growth, in a wanton and disorderly manner, he expressly orders the officers commanding, either upon duty or in quarters, in the country, to take especial care to put a stop to such practices, and endeavour to convince their men that we come to protect, not to injure the property of any man.

The Quartermaster-General, assisted by Colonel *Putnam*, Chief Engineer, the Quartermaster, Quartermaster-Sergeant, and two men from each Regiment, of the First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth Brigades, to assemble at sun-rise, to-morrow morning, at the Redoubt upon *Bayard's Hill*, to mark out the encampment for the four Brigades above-mentioned. The Quartermaster-General will report to the Commander-in-Chief when he has fulfilled this order.

The encampment of the Third Brigade to be marked out in like manner, upon *Long-Island*, on Saturday morning. The Chief Engineers, with the Quartermasters, &c., from each Regiment, to assist the Quartermaster-General in that service.

As soon as the General has approved of the encampments marked out, the troops will be ordered to encamp. Until then, they are all to remain in their present quarters.

*James Gray*, of Captain *Mighill's* Company, in Colonel *Baldwin's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Baldwin* was President, for "desertion:" The Court, finding the prisoner guilty of the charge, do sen-

tence him to be whipped, thirty-nine lashes, upon his bare back.

*Joseph Leveritt*, of Captain *Wheeler's* Company, in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, tried at the above General Court-Martial for "absenting himself from his Guard without permission, and being intoxicated with liquor," is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to receive twenty-five lashes upon his bare back.

*Joseph Smith*, of Captain *Winship's* Company, in Colonel *Nixon's* Regiment, tried at the above General Court-Martial, for "quitting his post when on sentry," is acquitted by the Court.

The General approves of the foregoing sentences, and orders them to be put in execution to-morrow morning, at Guard-mounting.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 26, 1776.

(Parole, *Abington*.)

(Countersign, *Hartley*.)

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOSIAH QUINCY.

New-York, April 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 7th instant, coming duly to hand, I thank you for the intelligence therein contained. It gives me pain to find, from your account, that matters are taking a wrong bias in the politicks of your Government. I left five regiments (upon an average as strong as any in the service) to erect such works, and in such places as should be deemed most conducive to the defence of the harbour. I did (as it was a Government concern) leave the works which should be constructed for the defence of the harbour, to the adoption of the General Court, under the auspices of Colonel *Gridley*, whom I have been taught to view as one of the greatest Engineers of the age. If things have gone wrong, I can only express my concern, and lament that time, at so important a juncture, should be wasted, and the best mode for the defence of the harbour neglected.

My extreme hurry will only allow me, in addition to what I have said, to thank you most cordially for your friendly wishes, and to assure you that I am, with great truth and sincerity, dear sir, your most obedient and obliged, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To *Josiah Quincy*, *Braintree*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

New-York, April 25, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you the 14th instant, giving information of the sailing, from this harbour, of the *Phenix*, *Savage*, and *Nautilus*, men-of-war, which I apprehended were designed to join *Wallace*, in order to block up the fleet under your command. The latter part I since find to be groundless, as they have returned; and I find that they make a practice of stretching off from and soon returning to this port. This convinces me that they are in expectation of a fleet, and I am preparing for their reception.

I expected to have met here a force much superior to what I have found it. I was obliged to lessen it, by detaching four of our strongest battalions to *Canada*, which lays me under the necessity of requesting you to despatch to this place, as soon as possible, the two hundred men lent you from this Army, that they may join their respective corps, which are much weakened by their absence.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Admiral *Hopkins*.

P. S. Enclosed is a copy of two resolves of Congress, respecting the cannon, stores, &c.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO MAJOR FRAZER.

New-York, April 25, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, and to inform you that an allowance of salvage is a matter altogether in the power of Congress.

In respect to your coming here, to settle the accounts of your late department, his Excellency not only permits, but desires it, as highly necessary.

As to the appointment of Mr. *Gray*, or any other person,

to succeed you, it is a matter entirely with General *Ward*. His Excellency desires and empowers him to make appointments of such as he thought would answer the publick good.

I am, sir, &c., &c.

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Major *John G. Frazer*, Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General.

TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL SULLIVAN.

We, the subscribers, Colonels of the Regiments in your Honour's Brigade, beg liberty to show, that the love of freedom, founded upon rational principles, and an abhorrence of the measures of Administration in *Great Britain* tending to involve these Colonies in the worst of slavery, were our principal motives for engaging in the present service. We wish to answer the end for which we were appointed.

We are fully persuaded that nothing can be more pleasing to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, or more conducive to a successful campaign, than due subordination, and an exact discipline in the Army; but these cannot exist where rank is unequally supported. We humbly conceive that the provision made for the support of Field-Officers is very inadequate to that of any other. The rations are nominally generous; and was the allowance in money equal to the real prices we are obliged to pay for the articles of living, we could not complain on that head; but, in truth, the whole amount of ration-money will not defray the expenses of horse-keeping. The wages added to the rations, will not support us with decency; yet we have families at home, whom humanity and the sacred mandates of Heaven excite us to regard, and whom we cannot involve in ruin and misery. It is true we can march with packs, in common with private soldiers; we can lodge upon the ground in our blankets, and furnish a table, spread under the open canopy, with meat, bread, and water; in short, we must divest ourselves of the character of gentlemen, and dishonour the rank we sustain. Frugality, founded upon a prudent economy, is eligible in all Governments; but frugality, the basis whereof is parsimony, will ever defeat the very designs of Government.

We are willing, in common with our countrymen, to share the burdens of war; but we cannot investigate the reason why we should be greater sufferers than others, unless it is because we are continually exposed to hardships, fatigue, and danger.

We labour under several disadvantages; which are, our being obliged to the Quartermaster-General for articles of clothing, when the risk of deaths, desertions, &c., may involve us in debts, (without receiving any consideration but the trouble of business that does not belong to our Department,) which will render us bankrupts to the Continent, unless we can receive some kind of indemnity. Upon the whole, we are not desirous of reaping any particular advantages from the distressed situation of our injured country; we expect to feel a part in all its calamities; but are anxious to be considered as officers, supporting the character of gentlemen.

Should our complaints appear real, we doubt not but your Honour's wisdom, prudence, and justice, will excite you to make such representations to the Commander-in-Chief as will obtain redress.

We are, sir, in due respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

JOHN STARK, *Colonel*.  
JOHN NIXON, *Colonel*.  
CHARLES WEBB, *Colonel*.  
JAMES REED, *Colonel*.

New-York, April 25, 1776.

TO BRIGADIER-GENERAL SPENCER.

We, the subscribers, Colonels of the Regiments in your Honour's Brigade, beg liberty to show, that the love of freedom, founded upon rational principles, and an abhorrence of the measures of Administration in *Great Britain* tending to involve these Colonies in the worst of slavery, were our principal motives for engaging in the present service. We wish to answer the end for which we were appointed.

We are fully persuaded that nothing can be more pleasing to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, or more

conducive to a successful campaign, than due subordination and an exact discipline in the Army; but these cannot exist where rank is unequally supported. We humbly conceive that the provision made for the support of Field-Officers is very inadequate to that of any other. The rations are nominally generous; and was the allowance in money equal to the real prices we are obliged to pay for the articles of living, we could not complain on that head; but, in truth, the whole amount of ration-money will not defray the expenses of horse-keeping. The wages added to the rations, will not support us with decency; yet we have families at home, whom humanity and the sacred mandates of Heaven excite us to regard, and whom we cannot involve in ruin and misery. It is true, we can march with packs, in common with private soldiers; we can lodge upon the ground in our blankets, and furnish a table spread under the open canopy, with meat, bread, and water; in short, we must divest ourselves of the character of gentlemen, and dishonour the rank we sustain. Frugality, founded upon a prudent economy, is eligible in all Governments; but frugality, the basis whereof is parsimony, will ever defeat the very designs of Government.

We are willing, in common with our countrymen, to share the burdens of war; but we cannot investigate the reason why we should be greater sufferers than others, unless it is because we are continually exposed to fatigue, hardships, and danger.

We labour under several disadvantages; which are, our being obliged to the Quartermaster-General for articles of clothing, when the risk of deaths, desertions, &c., may involve us in debts, and being obliged to become Paymasters to our Regiments, (without receiving any consideration but the trouble of business that does not belong to our Department,) which will render us bankrupts to the Continent, unless we can receive some kind of indemnity. Upon the whole, we are not desirous of reaping any particular advantages from the distressed situation of our injured country; we expect to feel a part in all its calamities; but are anxious to be considered as officers, supporting the character of gentlemen.

Should our complaints appear real, we doubt not but your Honour's wisdom, prudence, and justice, will excite you to make such representations to the Commander-in-Chief as will obtain redress.

We are, sir, in due respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

SAMUEL H. PARSONS,  
JONATHAN WARD,  
J. HUNTINGTON.

New-York, April 25, 1776.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, }  
April 25, 1776. }

SIR: The polite sensibility with which you have been pleased to treat our attention to your requisition of the 17th instant, affords us singular pleasure.

Convinced with you that there can be little doubt that things will go well under a harmonious co-operation of the civil and military powers, permit us once more, sir, to assure you of our most vigorous exertions in seconding your efforts in the common cause.

We wish it were in our power immediately to inform you in what time a body of two thousand or two thousand five hundred Militia might be collected from this Colony, for actual service on a sudden emergency. Although we do not at present foresee that emergency, it may, nevertheless, happen. It is, therefore, our indispensable duty to be provided with a plan for calling them in with the utmost despatch, well equipped, and without disorder; and this we are fully convinced cannot be effected without a preconcerted plan. To this end, we would request an explanation, whether you would wish the proposed aid should exclude or include the Militia of this city? As soon, sir, as we are favoured with an explanation on this head, we shall lose no time in forming an arrangement for so important a service. We flatter ourselves, however, that in either case the required number will, upon such steps as we shall take, be ready at a very short warning; and lest necessity should require the aid in any small interval of adjournment of this Committee, we shall

take care to have our place supplied by a sub-Committee to comply with the applications of the Commander-in-Chief, whenever the exigency of affairs shall require it.

Give us leave, sir, to express our approbation of the plan you propose for establishing good look-outs. And as you very properly judge it best that they be made out of the Continental forces, we can only assure you that, upon notice of the approach of danger, or on any other necessity for the assistance of the Militia, all the succours in our power to command shall be most cheerfully and speedily contributed.

We shall consider of a necessary signal on such occasions; which may, perhaps, be best settled when we know that which, besides expresses, is to convey intelligence to the Commander-in-Chief from the look-outs you propose to establish. The whole plan would, perhaps, be best formed in concert with *New-Jersey*, the vicinity of which will afford this city as speedy succour as the nearest Counties in this Colony. On this head we are ready, sir, if you should think it necessary, to appoint a Committee to meet you for settling the arrangement; especially as we cannot sufficiently thank you for the confidence you are pleased to place in us; we cannot think of taking so momentous a matter entirely upon ourselves.

We heartily wish it were in our power to inform you of the present state of the *New-York* Continental troops. The number of troops to be raised by us, and destined by Congress for the protection and defence of this Colony, is four battalions. Besides these, there is one battalion for the *Canada* service, directed to be commanded by Colonel *Van Schaick*, an inhabitant of the northern part of this Colony. This regiment was naturally to be recruited in that quarter. For this reason the moneys sent to us for that purpose, by Congress, we immediately sent to General *Schuyler*, who has the forming of that battalion solely under his direction.

With respect to the four battalions, Congress has thought proper to put them under our immediate direction, saving in the appointment of Field-Officers, the right of appointing out of our recommendation. The Field-Officers are all appointed, and a list of them is subjoined. We have issued warrants to all the officers under that degree. We have taken the necessary steps for filling up the battalions, and for enforcing a return of their present state, with which we will furnish you as soon as we are possessed of them. The list of those under the degree of Field-Officers is so mutable in its nature that it would answer no purpose to trouble you with it now. Their warrants are all conditional in their nature. If any of them are negligent, or unfortunate, in recruiting, they must give way to new appointments; for we are determined to fill the four battalions with the utmost expedition, and for this purpose we have ordered returns. When the arrangement is settled it shall be laid before you.

You cannot, sir, feel more sensibly than we do, at the prospect of a deficiency of arms, at a crisis when we are compelled by *Great Britain* to the last appeal, in which we must, without arms, necessarily prove unequal combatants. We should, therefore, esteem ourselves deaf to the most alarming call, should we not exert our every power to procure them.

When the affair of *Lexington* proclaimed the war, this Colony was extremely destitute of arms. Our brethren of *New-England*, who were first called on for the defence of *American* liberty, had purchased many arms from our inhabitants. Our Colony troops were supplied last year with arms at our Provincial expense; most of these still remain in the *Canada* service. These considerations, together with our ineffectual attempts to obtain foreign supplies, increase the difficulty of arming our battalions. We are not, however, without hopes of succeeding. We have made several contracts already with the manufacturers. We have published encouragement for people in that branch; we shall continue to make as many contracts for the purpose as we shall from time to time have in our power. We have also directed the Committees in the several Counties to purchase arms. The number already furnished by our Commissary is three hundred and eleven; he has still on hand a few. We have reason to believe many of our troops will come provided; and, upon the whole, we hope we shall not be very deficient in so material an article. Colonel *Ritzema* is authorized to send an officer into the different Counties wherein his officers have recruited, for the purpose of collect-

ing from the Committees the arms that have been taken from the disaffected inhabitants. And as we have given repeated and pressing orders to the Committees to execute the Continental resolve for disarming Tories, we hope for some supply from that source.

Your information concerning the arms at *Kingston* is well founded; and we shall immediately order them either to this city, or to be applied for arming the troops raising in that quarter. We assure you, sir, we shall not fail to furnish you with the returns of men and arms as often as we shall be able to procure them.

We would beg leave, sir, to inform you that, since the commencement of hostilities, our situation and the publick exigencies have obliged us to submit to the burden of a great variety of departments, not properly within the sphere of a Provincial Congress—such as Paymaster, Commissary, &c., for the Continental service; in the course of which we have received and issued large sums of Continental money; and though our accounts are nearly ready to lay before Congress, they are so excessively voluminous that it will require some weeks to complete them. However, though the balance is not struck, we are sure it must be considerably in our favour. In the mean time, sir, we should think ourselves inexcusable were we not to inform you that we have not one farthing of Continental money in our hands; and that the publick service under our care is now suffering for the want of an immediate supply. We shall, without delay, apply to Congress; but we cannot have the necessary relief from that quarter so soon as the despatch of business requires it. We are, therefore, constrained to request of you the advancement of six thousand pounds, of which, if you please, you may estimate the subjoined advancements to the different commanding officers as a part, and for which we are ready to give you a receipt; or if you think it best to advance the whole sum to us, we will debit the Congress with the moneys advanced to those gentlemen.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient servants,

By order: PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.  
To His Excellency General *Washington*.

*Account of Moneys advanced to the Commanders of the Continental Troops at NEW-YORK, by the Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety of the Colony of NEW-YORK, viz:*

1776, February 10, to General <i>Lee</i> ,	- -	£400 0 0
February 28, to General <i>Lee</i> ,	- -	1,000 0 0
March 26, to General <i>Thompson</i> ,	- -	120 0 0
April 1, to General <i>Heath</i> ,	- -	810 4 5½
		<u>£2,330 4 5½</u>

*List of Companies recruiting in the Counties of ALBANY, TRYON, and CHARLOTTE, and placed to the Fourth, or Colonel WYNKOOP's Regiment, viz:*

Captain *Cornelius Van Santvoordt*, eighty-nine men, at *Albany*.

Captain *Samuel Van Veghten*, forty-seven men, including Officers.

Captain *John H. Wendel*, forty-nine men, including Officers.

Captain *Gerrit S. Veeder*, thirty-eight men.

Captain *Herman Vosburgh*, seventy men, including Officers.

Two Companies in *Tryon* County, recruiting; no return.

One Company in *Charlotte* County, recruiting; no return.

*The following Companies are placed to the Second, or Colonel CLINTON's Regiment, viz:*

Captain *Griffin*, complete; on duty in *Suffolk*, by order of General *Heath*.

Captain *Rosekrans*, seventy-seven men; at the fortifications in the Highlands.

Captain *Davis*, complete; on duty in *Suffolk* County.

Captain *Jackson*, complete; at the fortifications.

Captain *Belknap*, complete; at the fortifications.

Captain *Swartwout*, fifty men; at the fortifications.

Captain *Childs*, no return made; *Dutchess* County.

Captain *Roe*, nearly full; *Suffolk* County.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, now sitting in the City of New-York.

I, John McDonald, Miner, who was appointed by your Honours, with the most punctual instructions relative to lead-mines, obeyed, in compliance with the request contained in said instructions, and proceeded, with all convenient despatch, to the *Little Nine Partners*, where I carefully applied myself in working and examining for lead and copper, in order to bring the just account of the state and quality of the same, which is as specified in the following manner: *Jonathan Landon*, Esq., conducted me to a limestone hill, where, at random, I took the dimensions from the northeast and southwest fallings of the ground, being one mile in length, in breadth half a mile, and in height about forty rods. There I found said mines, the veins of ore in which appear running the breadth of the mountain, (lying west and east,) in ledges of limestone mixed with white flint, where, some years ago, a company of adventurers had sunk several shafts or pits in pursuit of lead and copper, as I am acquainted of; and that amongst their trials are two principal pits, one of which is thirty feet deep, and the other fifty feet deep, where they found the best discoveries, of about seven inches diameter lead ore, of a continued vein; but the aforesaid company was under the necessity of dropping their proceedings of working the pits deeper on account of the water rising, anent which I am fully informed by Mr. Harris. The disappointments of the water might easily be prevented, by driving levels from its proper advantageous situation to these discoveries; which would undermine and carry off the water by a level. Both pits are now full of stones, water, rubbish, and timber; which timber, being the support from the beginning, got damaged by the overload, which occasioned it to fall over. Mr. Harris engaged to make discovery of lead ore: therefore the said Mr. Landon and I made applications to one Mr. Fish, (in whose property Mr. Harris had made a promising discovery of lead,) for leave to break and search the ground, which he would not grant, for reasons best known to himself. So that Mr. Harris's chief discovery was not explored by me. My sincere advice, from the skill and knowledge found in mining concerning what is necessary to be done first, is, to clear and repair the two shafts or pits, on purpose to find out the certainty or truth of Mr. Harris's information, in conjunction with the rest of the proprietors; and if the discoveries be found agreeable to information, the undertaking company must advise their miners to prosecute the same in all its proper branches of working it regularly, according to the directions of the sufficient inspector appointed to see each trial properly and well executed conformable to the mining regulations, so as not to be affronted in his undertaking. I am certain that the bounds wherein the veins do frequently lie of continuation are well situated, and likely to yield lead ore; therefore the schemes to work it properly may be put in execution without the least mistakes by any person who was qualified or bred in mining. I made discovery of both lead and copper in several places, but found small veins, which were very good of its quantity. I inspected other mines in *Marbletown*, of *Ulster* County, but found nothing worthy of reporting; but received intelligence of good mines which were wrought about forty years ago, being of large bodies of ore, as I am informed by gentlemen of distinction. They are to write to your Honours of all the particulars concerning several mines. Mr. Smith Lawer had not proper informations to conduct me any where, but was to write to his Committee. It would be proper to open and repair several shafts or pits formerly sunk at the *Little Nine Partners*.

All which is concluded, after this is most humbly submitted by your Honours' most obedient humble servant,

JOHN McDONALD, Miner.

To the Committee of Safety for the Province of New-York.

#### GARRET ABEEL TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

About two years ago I went up the Lakes, at the head of the *Susquehanna*, where my father has land. At the house of one *Smith*, who lives on one of the lots, I was informed by him that on one of the other lots near the Lake were two hills of native sulphur; that a creek ran through the hills, whose bottom was sulphur; that he had brought some of it

to his house and run it in a cake in a shovel; that by the flame and smell, he knew it to be sulphur. When I got to *Albany* I asked *John R. Bleecker* about it, as he had surveyed and laid out the lots. He confirmed it, and said that the creek was distinguished in the map by the *Sulphur Creek*. It is about fourteen miles from the *Mohawk River*, and it may with little trouble be also carried down the *Susquehanna* by water as far as *Harris's Ferry*, and, after a little land carriage, to *Philadelphia*.

GARRET ABEEL.

#### Serious Questions, addressed to the Congress, and all other Legislative bodies in AMERICA.

1. Do not the tyrants of *Europe* think they have a right to dispose of their subjects in the same manner that a farmer in this country disposes of his live-stock?
2. Have not the inhabitants of *Poland* been divided between *Austria*, *Prussia*, and *Russia*, without their consent?
3. Did not the Court of *Spain* lately exchange *St. Domingo* for *Louisiana*; and were not many of the *French* subjects in the latter country imprisoned and put to death for refusing to submit to the *Spanish* Government?
4. Did not the *Genoese* sell *Corsica* to the Court of *France*; and has not *France* (after many unsuccessful attempts to conquer that Island) since disposed of it to the King of *Sardinia*?
5. Do not all parties agree that the Court of *Britain* will soon find that it is impossible to subdue or govern *America* by force?
6. Will not mistaken notions of dignity, revenge, and a despotism rendered furious by disappointment, lead the said Court to adopt the partition spirit of the times, and to divide the *American* Colonies with the other Powers of *Europe*?
7. Is it not probable that *Russia*, in refusing the twenty thousand men she had promised the King of *Britain*, is waiting only for an offer of a share of the dominion of the Colonies after they are subdued?
8. Has not Mr. *Rigby* (one of the abandoned junto of *St. James's*) declared in the House of Commons that *Canada* was a dead weight upon the Empire?
9. Have not the Ministry (despairing of the reduction of the Colonies) employed *Dean Tucker* to prove that the independence of the Colonies would be an immense advantage to *Great Britain*?
10. Suppose *France* should grow weary in listening to our whining cries after our mother country, and, instead of striking a blow to draw off the *British* Armies and Fleets from our coasts, should accept of *Canada* as a condition of neutrality, and upon condition of her conquering it?
11. Suppose the Southern Colonies should be offered to *Spain*, on condition of her neutrality, or assistance in the reduction of them?
12. Suppose the campaign of 1777 should open with *Russian*, *French*, *British*, and *Spanish* Armies, on our coasts, what would be our situation?
13. Is there any time in which a nation or people can form alliances, or declare themselves free, to greater advantage than when their affairs are in a prosperous condition?
14. Should the *American* Colonies neglect the present critical moment of asserting and securing their freedom, is it not probable that a few months will put it out of their power of doing it forever?
15. What must we think of those men who use their influence in Assemblies, and in the Congress, to obtain Colony instructions to prevent the Delegates from assenting to the only possible measure that can save the Colonies from ruin?
16. Will not all the blood that shall be shed in *America*, after the next six months, lie at their door?
17. Are not all instructions to oppose measures leading to Independence big with as much folly as mischief?
18. Does not every measure of the Congress, except submission, lead directly or indirectly to Independence?
19. Considering that we are now totally independent of *Great Britain* in every act of Government, will not the instructions of our Assemblies convey to the Court of *Britain* and the other *European* Courts, ideas of the basest hypocrisy in the Colonies?

20. If it should be discovered next fall that a Declaration of Independence this spring would have terminated the war, or removed it from our borders, what will be the feelings of those men who oppose it by Provincial Instructions?

21. Will their factious zeal then be called patriotism, or will their avarice, ambition, and servility, then be characterized by the Courtly phrases of timidity, or weak nerves?

22. Does not the fate of the fugitive or deserted Tories in *Boston* and *New-York* furnish a useful lesson to all rulers not to oppose the tide of popular prejudices, and to rely no more upon the protection of *British Arms*?

23. Considering the perfidy and obstinacy of the King, is not a Declaration of Independence of the Crown as just a measure now, as a Declaration of an Independence upon the Parliament was some years ago?

24. Is it not now equally necessary to our security and happiness?

25. Will it not be just, therefore, hereafter to confound the folly and fate of those who oppose the former, with those who have opposed the latter?

New-York, April 25, 1776.

#### TO THE FRIENDS OF OUR AMERICAN NAVY.

An exact list of the number of men employed in the Provincial Ships and Privateers during the last war, in *America*:

<i>Nova-Scotia</i> ,	- - - - -	300
<i>Massachusetts-Bay</i> ,	- - - - -	2,300
<i>New-Hampshire</i> ,	- - - - -	500
<i>Rhode-Island</i> ,	- - - - -	1,500
<i>Connecticut</i> ,	- - - - -	900
<i>New-York</i> ,	- - - - -	1,200
<i>Pennsylvania</i> ,	- - - - -	1,060
<i>Maryland, Virginia, and the other Southern Colonies</i> ,	- - - - -	1,000
		<hr/> 8,760

Besides these, many of the Merchantmen who were letters of marque, carried from fifteen to forty sailors.

When we add to these the number of *American* sailors who were pressed in the beginning of the war, to man the *English* fleet, the proportion of sailors belonging to the Continent would not amount to less than twelve or fourteen thousand. The trade of *America* at the commencement of the present war with *Great Britain* being one-third at least greater than it was at the conclusion of the last war with *France*, the number of sailors in *America* must have increased in the same proportion. It is true, many of the men who manned our privateers were landmen; but as the same objects, (namely, prizes,) are held out at present as were in the last war, and as there is now added to these the glory of establishing the freedom of the Colonies, there is reason to presume a greater proportion of landmen will embark in the present war by sea, than in any former one. Twenty thousand men, employed in ships of suitable force would be sufficient to guard our coasts and trade against all the Navy that *Britain* could spare from her harbours and foreign dominions to molest us. And *America* can spare that number of men for the purpose, without impoverishing her land forces, or without putting a check to her agriculture or manufactures.

New-York, April 25, 1776.

#### ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN BIDDLE.

Ship *Alfred*, at New-London, April 25, 1776.

SIR: You are to make what despatch you can to clean your brig, and you may take the ballast out of the bomb-brig; and what more you want you must make up with stores. You must apply to Mr. *Shaw* for whatever you may find necessary. When you get ready I desire you may take care of the merchant vessels, and convoy them clear of the land, if the coast is so clear that you can do it with safety to them; and make whatever despatch you can to *Providence* for further directions, as I intend to be there as soon as possible.

Yours, &c.,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To *Nicholas Biddle*, Esq., Commander of the *Andrew Doria*.

#### ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, April 25, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Governour *Browne*, requests me to use my influence with your Honour, that he may have leave sometimes, on parole, to go as far as where he can go to church. And as he is a gentleman of character, I make no doubt you will give him as much liberty as is consistent with the publick safety; and further he cannot expect.

I am, with great respect, your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

#### SAMUEL TUFTS TO BENJAMIN GREENLEAF.

Newburyport, April 25, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: We took the freedom of addressing you by letter the 23d instant by Mr. *Noble*. For fear of that letter not coming to your hands in season, we would request the favour of you to communicate to the honourable General Court, that we have, agreeable to their order, received and paid for twenty-eight hundred and forty-seven pounds weight of saltpetre, and twenty-one pounds since the 23d. We should esteem it a favour if they would give order for the same. Many persons are now waiting to deliver, and, from good information, four or five thousand pounds weight will be presented in a few days, from the towns around and to the eastward. We should esteem it a favour of the honourable Court to order such sums of money as will enable us to fulfill the trust reposed in us.

We are, with respect, (by order, and in the absence of Captain *Edward Sawyer*, I subscribe,) SAMUEL TUFTS.

To the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq.

#### PELHAM (NEW-HAMPSHIRE) COMMITTEE.

Whereas, *Hugh Tallant*, of *Pelham*, in the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, did, on or about the first of *May* last, act the part of an enemy to his country in many respects: Said acts being proved before the Committee of Inspection for *Pelham*, in the Colony aforesaid, the Committee laid him under a restriction, viz: that he should not be found off from his own farm, on the peril of his life; which he deliberately and willingly signed; yet soon broke over that obligation and insulted the Committee to the utmost that words could express, which he still continues to do; and applied by a petition to the honourable Provincial Congress for a new hearing, which was granted, to be before the Committee of three towns, in conjunction, finally to determine the case. Being assembled, and the case tried, they found said *Tallant* guilty; and set up the judgment of the former Committee, and resolved that said *Tallant* should be confined to his farm by two sufficient bondsmen, and pay the cost that had been, from time to time, or be committed to close jail.

And whereas, one *Samuel Little*, Esq., of *Hampstead*, did pass his word to bring said *Tallant* to the Committee, at twelve o'clock the next day, he was allowed to have the care of him that night by the influence of one of the Committee, who passed his word for said *Little's* fidelity. But it plainly appeared that the said *Little* had agreed with the said *Tallant* to let him get away and make his escape, and pretended (though falsely) that he could not help it; then the said *Little* gave to the Committee a forfeiture bond to bring the said *Tallant* within twenty days from that time, but hath not brought him, though requested; by which it appears, that the said *Little* is an abetter and upholder of the said *Tallant's* villany and inimicalness, and a rescuer and deliverer of a Tory in his villany, &c. Therefore, this is to caution all persons not to have any dealings with either of the aforesaid enemies to truth and liberty, (which are inseparably connected,) as they would in so doing incur the displeasure of all that are true friends to the *American* cause, &c.

Per order:

BARNABAS GIBSON, *Chairman*.

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE, DATED HALIFAX, APRIL 25, 1776.

By the arrival of the *Milford*, in *Nantasket-Road*, on the 26th *March*, I was honoured with your Lordship's despatches of the 5th of *January*, with a copy of his Majesty's instructions for Major-General *Clinton's* conduct to the



southward, as well as other letters, duplicates, and enclosures of a distant date, which I defer answering by the present conveyance, of a small, unarmed sloop, returning to *England*, in the service of the Navy, as I intend to write fully by the *Harriet* packet lately arrived, and to sail in a few days with Governour *Legge*; wherefore I shall confine myself, in this, to a few particulars more immediately necessary to be communicated to your Lordship for his Majesty's information, accompanied by duplicates of my despatch from *Nantasket*, to be delivered by Judge *Brown*.

The Forty-Seventh Regiment of foot sailed from hence the 20th instant, for *Quebeck*, under convoy of the *Niger* frigate, which may be a seasonable relief, should it arrive before the force sent from *England* early in the spring, as mentioned in your Lordship's letter of the 5th of *January*. Captain *Stanton*, of the Fourteenth Infantry, who arrived here on the 21st in the *Harriet* packet, informs, that this reinforcement was the regiment of foot; and as I trust that two regiments will be sufficient to preserve the town until the arrival of the troops from *Europe* intended for that quarter, I do not propose sending any more from hence. The officer who set out for *Quebeck* in the winter, as taken notice of in my letter to Lord *Dartmouth* of the 16th of *January*, not being yet returned, I have no account of any kind from thence.

The fleet and transports sailed in two divisions from *Nantasket-Road*, the last with the Admiral, on the 27th of *March*, and got in here the 2d instant. But I am sorry to inform your Lordship that a brig, loaded with valuable goods, chiefly belonging to persons deemed to be highly disaffected to Government, not being ready to sail with the fleet, has since been taken by three armed vessels, after parting company with the *Niger* frigate left to convoy her, and some other vessels in the same situation. A Midshipman was on board, with a sergeant and twelve soldiers, for her protection, who, after defending themselves with great obstinacy, were at length compelled to surrender. We feel this loss the more at present, as there were a quantity of shoes on board, which are much wanted for the soldiery, as well as woollen articles that would have been very useful to them.

By some masters of vessels who had been prisoners at *Salem*, and obtained liberty to return to *England*, we learn that the Rebel General is gone to *New-York*, with a part of his Army, having before detached a large reinforcement to *Canada*, and those left behind were erecting works upon *Fort-Hill*, in the town of *Boston*. By the arrival here of Captain *Wallace*, commanding the *Rose* frigate, I am also informed, that the Rebels are fortifying *Rhode-Island*; but I do not apprehend they can prevent his Majesty's troops from taking possession of it, when the strength of the Army will admit of a division for that important service, as it can be approached by shipping in every part.

*New-York* being the greater object of the two, and the possession of it more extensive in its consequences, as well as more conducive to the credit of his Majesty's arms, will be my principal aim, when enabled to proceed thither by a sufficient supply of provisions, since both services cannot be undertaken with the present force; and it is become highly necessary that the first exertion of the Army should be directed to the most important purposes, to check the spirit which the evacuation of *Boston* will naturally raise among the Rebels. In this disposition, it is probable that their leaders, urged by the people, and flushed with an idea of superiority, may be the readier brought to a decisive action, than which nothing is more to be desired, or sought for, by us, as the most effectual means to terminate this expensive war; and I have the greatest reason to be sanguine in my hopes of success, from the present health and high order of the Army. If this cannot be effected before the reinforcements arrive from *Europe*, it is most likely that they will act upon the defensive, by having recourse to strong intrenched situations, in order to spin out the campaign, if possible, without exposing themselves to any decisive stroke.

In consequence of his Majesty's approbation for the appointment of an Adjutant-General to this Army, I have appointed Lieutenant-Colonel *Patterson*, of the Sixty-Third Regiment, to that office, having a thorough confidence in his abilities and military knowledge. Major *Kemble*, having long done the duty of Deputy Adjutant-General, and being

nearly connected with General *Gage*, I should hope your Lordship will be pleased to recommend him to his Majesty's favour, upon this appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel *Patterson*. It is with pleasure I affirm, that Major *Shirreff*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, has been lately honoured with a mark of his Majesty's favour.

Many of the principal inhabitants of *Boston*, under the protection of the Army, having no means of subsistence here, apply to me to find them a passage to *Europe*, which they cannot otherwise get than at a most exorbitant rate: they have my assurance, that the first transport which can be spared shall be given up for this purpose. I am sorry to inform your Lordship that there is an absolute necessity for issuing provisions to the whole of them (about eleven hundred) from the King's stores, without any prospect of stopping it. It must be confessed, that many, having quitted the whole of their property and estates, some of them very considerable in value, are real objects of his Majesty's most gracious attention.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Grant*, of the Fortieth, and Captain *Payne*, of the Eighteenth Regiments, sent to *Georgia* and the *West-Indies* to purchase some supply of provisions, have arrived with a small quantity, of which I have given the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury a report. A further supply was engaged, and may be daily expected from the latter place; and I have accounts, that a victualling ship for the Army, blown off the coast in the winter, had got into the Island of *St. Christopher*, much damaged, but was nearly repaired, and would sail directly for *Halifax* about the 24th of *March*, so that I may hope for a speedy relief in this essential article.

Advices received from Major-General *Clinton* this day, dated in *Cape-Fear River*, the 26th of *March*, mention that the armament destined to the southward was not arrived; and I enclose, for your Lordship's information, a narrative of what has lately passed in *North-Carolina*, with the copy of a letter from Governour *Martin* to Major-General *Clinton*.

#### ADVICES FROM ADMIRAL SHULDHAM.

Admiralty Office, London, June 8, 1776.

By letters received from Vice-Admiral *Shulldham*, dated at *Halifax*, the 25th of *April* last, it appears that, on the 15th of that month, Captain *Furneaux*, of the *Syren*, one of the frigates under his command, took a brigantine belonging to the Rebels, which was carrying from *Philadelphia* to *Charlestown*, in *South-Carolina*, a company of Artillery, consisting of a Captain, commissioned by the Continental Congress, and seventy-nine men, most of whom have since entered into his Majesty's service with General *Clinton*. It also appears that the other cruisers of his squadron had intercepted and taken forty-four merchant ships and vessels belonging to his Majesty's rebellious subjects in *North-America*; and that Captain *Barclay*, of the *Scarborough*, who had been sent to *Savannah*, in the Province of *Georgia*, for provisions, had liberated thirteen vessels richly laden, which had been seized and detained there by the Rebels.

And the Admiral transmits, with the above-mentioned letters, the following account which he had received from Captain *Tyringham Howe*, of his engagement in the *Glasgow*, with five armed ships and vessels of the Rebels, viz:

"On *Saturday*, the 6th of *April*, 1776, at two A. M., *Block-Island* then bearing northwest about eight leagues, we discovered a fleet on the weather-beam, consisting of seven or eight sail; tacked and stood towards them, and soon perceived them to be two or three large ships, and other square-rigged vessels; turned all hands to quarters, hauled up the mainsail, and kept standing on to the northwest with a light breeze and smooth water, the fleet then coming down before it. At half-past two, a large brig came within hail, and seemed to hesitate about giving any answer, but still kept standing towards us; and, on being asked what other ships were in company with her, answered, the *Columbus* and *Alfred*, a twenty-two-gun frigate; and almost immediately a hand-grenade was thrown out of her top. We exchanged our broadsides. She then shot ahead, and lay on our bow, to make room for a large ship, with a top-light, to come on our broadside, and another ship ran under our stern, raked as she passed, and then luffed up on our lee-beam, whilst a brig took her station on our larboard-quarter, and a sloop kept altering her station occasionally.

At four, the station of every vessel was altered, as the two ships had dropped on each quarter, and a brig kept astern, giving a continual fire; bore away, and made sail for *Rhode-Island*, with the whole fleet within musket-shot on our quarters and stern. Got two stern-chase guns out of the cabin, and kept giving and receiving a very warm fire. At day-light, perceived the Rebel ships to consist of two ships, two brigs, and a sloop, and a large ship and a snow, which kept to windward as soon as the action began. At half-past six, the fleet hauled their wind, and, at seven, tacked and stood to the south-south-west. We had one man killed and three wounded by the musketry from the enemy."

The following is a state of the Rebel armed vessels above mentioned:

*Alfred*.—Commanded by *Hopkins*; twenty nine-pounders on the lower, six ten-pounders on the upper, deck; two hundred and twenty men, including sixty marines.

*Columbus*.—Commanded by *Whipple*; eighteen nine-pounders on the lower, ten six-pounders on the upper, deck; two hundred and twenty men, including sixty marines.

*Andrew Doria, Brig*.—Commanded by *Biddle*; sixteen six-pounders on the upper deck; one hundred and thirty men, including thirty marines.

*Cabot, Brig*.—Commanded by *Hopkins, Jun.*; fourteen six-pounders on the upper deck; one hundred and twenty men, including thirty marines.

*Providence, Sloop*.—Commanded by *Hazard*; twelve six-pounders on the upper deck; ninety men, including twenty-eight marines.

The *Glasgow* had twenty guns—nine-pounders; and one hundred and fifty men.

By letters lately received from Vice-Admiral *Young*, dated at *Antigua*, the 3d of *March*, and from Vice-Admiral *Gayton*, dated at *Jamaica*, the 28th of that month, it likewise appears that the cruisers under the command of the former had seized twenty-six, and those under the command of the latter, nine, ships and vessels, either belonging to, or employed in carrying on a trade with, his Majesty's rebellious subjects in *North-America*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED BERMUDA, APRIL 26, AND CONTINUED TO MAY 1, 1776.

The people in this Island are zealous in the *American* cause, and appear willing to do everything in their power to promote it. The Governour, who has become very obnoxious, has been threatening the inhabitants with cruisers, stationed at each end of the Island, and troops; but no man of sense can believe so useless and expensive a measure will ever be adopted. The vessels in here from the Islands, give an account of the disposition of the people there, which is very far from meriting the indulgence shown their property in the late resolution for reprisals. In *Antigua* and *Barbadoes*, an *American* is not safe, either in his person or property, if he is known to be friendly to the Continental interest. And they exult in the prospect, or rather hopes, of a total reduction of the Colonies by Administration; one consequence of which, they are promised, will be, the confining the *American* commerce, in the *West-Indies*, absolutely to the *English* Islands. This may be relied on to be the present temper of the Islands in general.

This Island suffers much. One hundred and twenty vessels are now on hand, unemployed, and the people happy if they can keep from an absolute famine; for the produce of this Island is next to nothing at all. Vessels proper for privateers might be taken up here to good advantage, and guns for them purchased, as there are a great number of good ones, of those used in the late war, now on hand. A number were lately purchased and shipped, as I heard, and more may be had, of four to nine-pounders. Mr. *Jennings* has a fine ship on the stocks, of eighty feet keel, which may be launched soon, and would make a fine privateer. He would be glad to sell her, and I believe could procure the guns for her.

A sloop this instant arrived from *Antigua*, and brings accounts that twenty-one sail of transports, under convoy of two men-of-war, sailed the beginning of this month for the Continent, from *Antigua*; and, by the Captain, the report of the disposition of the people of that Island and *Barba-*

*does*, towards the Colonies, is confirmed, with many aggravating circumstances. The situation and present state of this Island demands the attention of the Continental Congress; and I have had several conferences with Mr. . . . on the subject. It is unnecessary to attempt a particular description of an Island as well known as this; but you well know that, by the accounts given in to Congress, the number of its inhabitants were set about fourteen thousand, (one half blacks,) and the quantity of provision annually imported into the Island was then stated, which, moderate as it appears, is much more than the inhabitants will hereafter be able to pay for, unless they can be put on a different footing from their present one. Their negro men are all of them seamen and mechanicks—such as coopers, ship-carpenters, and blacksmiths; and the produce of their labour makes nine-tenths of the support both of their masters and fellow-slaves, there being no employ worth mentioning for either the female slaves or children, as the land is absolutely fit for nothing but the growth of cedar. It is well known that almost the whole of that trade and ship-building, which employed them and their slaves, depended on their intercourse between the *American* Colonies on the Continent, and foreign parts. This ceasing, throws them instantly into distress, without stock of provision, and without the means of paying for it, could it be procured; and on a soil incapable of supplying them, were they to cultivate every inch of it. This is simply their present situation, which greatly alarms them. The Governour has threatened them with sending for vessels of force. In such case, instant famine is inevitable, unless they can subsist on fish alone; and if they cannot, by some means, procure speedy supplies from the Continent, they will be in the same unhappy situation. Sensible of this, the inhabitants have had meetings, and have chosen a large Committee, of which . . . is Chairman; and the inhabitants are contributing all in their power to ward off the impending danger; but any relief they may obtain can be only temporary, (momentary, I may say,) unless the Continent takes them immediately under their protection. This is, I conceive, neither impracticable, nor would be attended with any very heavy expense, and the consequences might be very beneficial to the Colonies.

It is hardly possible for a person never on these Islands, (for they amount to hundreds of little ones,) to form an idea of them and their harbours. It is sufficient to say that they are the most difficult of access in the world, and some of the safest when entered. On the south side there is no water for anything more than a whale-boat, over a reef running the whole extent, at about half a league from the shore. At the west end, where we landed, there is a channel through the rocks and shoals, which extend near two leagues off shore, but so winding that it requires a skilful pilot to bring you through; and, in the best weather, it is alarming to a stranger to see the rocks on every side, and under him, (their clear white shining through the water,) as he passes, and finally enters, where the high land, on each side, is not a musket-shot from the centre of the channels. On the north side, the breakers run almost out of sight of land, through which there is one passage, but so difficult that the Islanders themselves make little use of it. At the east end the harbour is more capacious than this at the west, but equally difficult and easily defended; but when you have once entered either of the harbours, you may have your choice of a number of lesser ones, formed by the little broken Islands, between which is generally good depth of water and safe anchorage.

This, from my own observation and inquiry, is the natural situation of the Island, which, running between the northeast and southwest, every vessel passing between *Great Britain* and the *West-Indies*, unless driven out of their course, sails within about one hundred leagues of one of its extremities. This considered, it is evident they being fortified, so as to make a safe harbour for our cruisers, the whole *West-India* trade must be intercepted, and that by a small fleet of swift-sailing frigates and sloops. I am no judge of the expense of such fortifications; but gentlemen of some acquaintance with such affairs estimate it low; and as to a land force, the most trifling (even the Militia of the Island, properly supplied with stores) would be sufficient to guard a country as impenetrable, after landing, as it is inaccessible.

There are a sufficient number of cannon on the Island for that purpose, and to arm a number of cruisers besides; and the inhabitants, I am confident, would receive you as their best friends; and my confidence of this is founded on their situation. As the Continent is driven into a naval war, it must be a principal question in what manner the trade of *Great Britain* can be most advantageously attacked; and as the Parliament have, in effect, closed with the Congress, in the stopping all commerce between the Continent and *Great Britain*, or other *British* dominions, it must be the policy of *America* to intercept, as far as possible, their intercourse between each other, as well to supply ourselves as to distress them. To effect which, some harbour or harbours must be pitched upon, convenient for the purpose, and secured; and the question will be, are those of this Island the best? I think they are, for the reasons hinted at above, and for the probability that the enemy, unsuspecting of such a manœuvre, and intent on blocking up the ports on the Continent, may receive a heavy blow in their *West-India* commerce, before they are aware of or guarded against it; and if they attempt to defeat such a design, it must be by drawing off their forces from our coast, for a while at least.

These hints I submit to maturer consideration, and to the present turn of political measures; but a minute inquiry into the practicability and expense of such a scheme will cost neither time nor money worth mentioning; and I wish it may be made by some person of better judgment than I conceive myself, or, perhaps, my informers here, to be.

MAJOR GIST TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, April 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your instructions, I am now to make application to you to appoint a General Court-Martial, for the trial of *Christian Castler*, a soldier in Captain *Ramsay's* Company, who is charged with attempting to shoot a non-commissioned officer, who commanded a party on duty, of which *Castler* was one; the particular circumstances being regularly inquired into by a Court appointed for that purpose, who found him guilty of the charge, and are of opinion that a General Court-Martial, appointed by the commanding officer, is not competent to pass sentence on the prisoner for so capital a crime, and beg leave to refer him to a superior court, to be tried for his life.

I am, with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

M. GIST.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN NICHOLSON.  
[No. 132.]

Annapolis, April 26, 1776.

SIR: We consider the Schooner *Resolution* to be fitted out only as a tender for the Ship *Defence*; and therefore have given you directions to put officers, &c., on board, out of your own ship, as you may think best for the publick service. We are, &c.

To Captain *James Nicholson*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO COMMISSIONERS IN CANADA.

Philadelphia, April 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The late disturbances in *Canada*, owing to an insurrection of a number of the inhabitants, have, for some time, occupied the most serious attention of Congress; in pursuance of which, they have come into sundry resolves, calculated both to increase our military force in that country, and to allay the fears and apprehensions of the people. Of this latter kind is the resolve I herewith transmit, by order of Congress, to you.

In addition to the four battalions now on their march to *Canada*, the Congress have, since the receipt of General *Schuyler's* last letter, ordered six more to be sent there as soon as possible.

With sincere wishes for your health, and success in your important engagements, I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable *Benjamin Franklin*, *Samuel Chase*, and *Charles Carroll*, Esquires, Commissioners in *Canada*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, April 26, 1776.

SIR: The intelligence contained in your last letter, and the papers transmitted therewith, being of the utmost importance, the Congress have paid them the attention which they deserved. It is, indeed, to be lamented, that the misconduct of our troops should have given occasion to the *Canadians* to proceed such lengths as to commence hostilities. New-raised recruits (such as those of the United Colonies) cannot immediately be brought to submit to exact discipline and subordination, without having recourse to that love of liberty, and aversion to military restraint, which are natural to freemen. To account for this, it is sufficient to observe, that to make men soldiers is the work of time and labour, even in countries where the genius of the Government has prepared men for that kind of despotism which is indispensably necessary in an Army.

Though it is much to be wished that the subaltern officers in *Canada* had exerted themselves more in keeping the troops in order, yet I am apt to think the utmost vigilance could not have totally prevented all irregularities. But we were compelled, unprepared, hastily to take up the weapons of self-preservation, and have, consequently, had numberless difficulties to struggle with; of which the expedition into *Canada* has been a continued scene. This is the true source of all our misfortunes, with which you are too well acquainted to make it necessary for me to repeat them.

I cannot help suspecting that the defection of the *Canadians* is more the result of policy than inclination; not that I believe they have any more inclination for one side than the other; but finding the force of the United Colonies in *Canada* fell much short of expectation, they naturally throw themselves into the scale which they believe begins to preponderate. It is not, however, material at present, what are the causes of the late insurrection, any further than to provide a remedy against the evil. Congress have accordingly passed sundry resolves, adapted both to conciliate the affections of the *Canadians*, and to operate on their apprehensions as to the strength of the Colonies, having ordered ten battalions into that country, and given directions to Mr. *Trumbull* and Mr. *Lowrey* to forward to you four thousand barrels of pork; they have also directed ten thousand pair of shoes, and ten thousand pair of stockings, to be sent to you for the use of the Continental Army in *Canada*.

I have it in charge from Congress to desire you to pursue the best means for furnishing such other necessary articles as may be wanted for the Army in *Canada*, having regard to such of them as the Commissary in that Province can supply; and, also, that you inform them what quantity of gunpowder you have received for *Canada* since the 1st of *January* last; and that you go on to give the earliest notice to Congress, of the occasion for the supplies of such necessities as it may not be in your power to procure.

I transmit, herewith, sundry resolves of Congress, under the hand of the Secretary, for your future directions and conduct; and have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JAMES WARREN.

Philadelphia, April 26, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to acquaint you that they have been pleased to accept your resignation as Paymaster-General of the Army, and that there are Superintendents of the Treasury appointed, to whom you are to render your accounts and vouchers, which I will do myself the pleasure of putting into their hands, if you think proper to forward them to me for that purpose.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *James Warren*, Esq.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, April 26, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from Congress to direct your immediate attention to the enclosed resolve, for the purchase of two thousand barrels of pork, which, when purchased,

you will forward, in the most expeditious manner, to General *Schuyler*.

As it is of great importance the Army in *Canada* should be well supplied, you will exert yourself to effect this purchase as speedily as possible. Whenever you send or draw for the money, your bill on me for twenty thousand dollars shall meet with due honour.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Mr. *Trumbull*, Commissary-General, at *New-York*.

COLONEL WAYNE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, April 26, 1776.

SIR: By order of his Excellency General *Washington*, I have sent Major *Haussegger* (the bearer hereof) to *Philadelphia* to bring up the remainder of my battalion, which, with five others, are to march to *Canada* immediately. I must therefore request that you will use your influence to supply my regiment with arms. The Major will render a list of the number wanted.

The three companies that are here were obliged to march without a single waistcoat, and but one shirt per man, and most of them too small, although made of the worst of linen. I therefore beg you to give orders to the Commissaries to supply the remainder as soon as possible. I am not unacquainted with your important situation and the multiplicity of business on your hands, but necessity obliges me in this instance to apply to you. I must therefore beg pardon for this freedom, and hope you will not be troubled in future by any applications of this nature by, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANTHONY WAYNE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL IRVINE.

New-York, April 26, 1776.

SIR: Immediately upon receipt of this letter, you are desired to march the remainder of your battalion directly to this city, in order to embark for *Albany* on your route to *Canada*.

The Congress have been pleased to order that, upon your march or embarkation from hence for *Canada*, the pay of your men shall be the same as those of other regiments, employed in the same service, to-wit: six and two-thirds dollars per month. Of this you will please to inform them.

I shall depend upon your making despatch; and am, sir, yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *William Irvine*, of the Sixth *Pennsylvania* Regiment.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, April 26, 1776.

SIR: When you did me the honour of a visit at *Norwich* on my way to this place, I recommended to you the recommendation I had received from Congress for sending four battalions from hence to reinforce our troops in *Canada*. I now beg leave to inform you that, in compliance therewith, on *Saturday* and *Sunday* last I detached four regiments thence under the command of Brigadier-General *Thompson*; and by an express received last night, am ordered by Congress, in addition to those already gone, to send six more immediately. Our regiments being incomplete and much wanting in numbers, I need not add that the Army here feel a sensible diminution from this detachment, and when the second is gone, will be weak indeed, considering the importance of this place, the many extensive posts which must be guarded for its defence; and, added to this, almost the whole of our valuable ordnance, stores, and magazines, will be deposited here. For these reasons it appears to me expedient that some mode should be adopted without loss of time, by this, your, and the *Jersey* Governments, for throwing in immediate succours upon the appearance of the enemy, or any case of emergency.

I have written to the Congress of *New-Jersey* upon the subject, praying them to form such regulations respecting their *Militia* (they being the only resource we have) that assistance may be had on the earliest notice of an approach

of the enemy, for preventing the fatal and alarming consequences which might result from the common, tedious, and slow method generally used for obtaining their aid; and would take the liberty of mentioning, that if the same should be done by you and your honourable Council respecting your *Militia*, or such part of them as are most contiguous to this place, that the most salutary ends might be derived therefrom. The benefits flowing from a timely succour being too obvious for repetition, I shall propose, with all possible deference, for your consideration, whether it will not be advisable to have some select corps of men appointed, under proper officers, in the western part of your Government, to repair to this place on the earliest notice from the General, or officer commanding here, of the appearance of an enemy.

If it should be thought necessary upon an emergency, in the first instance to resort to you for all the ordinary forms to be gone through before any succours can be ordered in, it is to be feared that the relief would be too late to answer any good purposes. This, however, I shall submit to you, in full confidence of your most ready assistance on every occasion, and that such measures as appear to you most likely to advance the publick good on this and every other instance, will be most cheerfully adopted.

I am, sir, with great esteem, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the United Colonies, commanded by Colonel McDougall, April 26, 1776.

Commissioned Officers present: One Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major.

Staff Officers present: One Adjutant, one Quartermaster, one Surgeon, one Mate.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.						RANK AND FILE.							Wanting to complete.	Alteration since last return.		
	Commissioned.			Non-Commissioned.													
	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Drums and Files.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Discharged.	Deserted.
Capt. Willet.....	1	1	1	1	4	2	11	1	1	1	1	12	68	1	1	1	1
Capt. Johnson...	1	1	1	1	4	1	14	3	1	1	1	24	66	1	1	1	1
Capt. Varick.....	1	1	1	1	3	1	37	6	1	1	1	43	37	23	4	15	1
Capt. Ledyard....	1	1	1	1	3	2	43	7	1	1	1	57	23	1	1	3	1
Capt. Lyons.....	1	1	1	1	4	2	58	12	1	1	1	77	3	4	1	1	1
Capt. Brown.....	1	1	1	1	3	2	8	1	1	2	1	12	68	2	1	2	1
Capt. Van Wyck..	1	1	1	1	4	2	26	3	1	1	1	30	50	1	1	6	1
Capt. Wiley.....	1	1	1	1	3	2	15	5	1	2	1	22	58	3	1	2	1
Total.....	7	7	7	7	28	13	212	38	1	1	1	277	3	363	33	7	37

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO REPAIR TO PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

In Council, April 26, 1776.

To WALTER SPOONER, GEORGE PARTRIDGE, and JONATHAN GROUT, Esquires:

You being appointed by this Court to repair to *Pittsfield*, on the 14th day of *May* next, and to make proper inquiry into the cause of the matters of complaint subsisting there, and report the same to the General Court, at their next *May* Sessions: You are to give notice to all the towns in the County of *Berkshire*, of your meeting them at *Pittsfield* aforesaid, by directing the Sheriff of the said County to notify their clerks may attend, as the said towns shall appoint. When you are so met, you are to inquire into the cause of the disquiet subsisting there, and let them know that it is the expectation of this Court that all the inhabitants of this Colony will do their utmost endeavour to support the Government, as recommended by the Continental Congress; that at a time when *Great Britain* is exerting her utmost strength to destroy these Colonies, or subject them to the lowest degree of vassalage, it is the

indispensable duty of every individual to unite in every measure which will give force and energy to an opposition thereto; that it is with great concern that this Court find so many of the inhabitants of that County endeavouring to break the union of this Colony, by suggestions that this Court are disposed to deprive the inhabitants of this Colony of any of the rights they are entitled to as freemen, but that they look more favourably upon their conduct from consideration of their local circumstances; and to assure them that this Court is disposed to remove every real grievance which, by any of the laws of this Colony, it may hereafter be made to appear that the inhabitants labour under; and, in general, that you will take such measures to restore quiet and harmony in that County as shall appear to you most proper after you have heard their complaints. In all which you will regard the honour of Government, and the rights and privileges of the people. Finally, you are to make report of your proceeding herein to the Great and General Court, as your opportunity directs.

ELDAD TAYLOR, *per order*.

APPOINTMENT OF PIERCE LONG, NAVAL OFFICER OF PORTSMOUTH.

Colony of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }  
April 26, 1776. }

To PIERCE LONG, Esquire:

Pursuant to a recommendation from the honourable Continental Congress for regulating trade, and permitting the inhabitants of these Colonies to trade with some of the European nations, under certain limitations:

You are hereby appointed an officer for the Port of *Piscataqua*, and fully authorized and empowered to procure registers, signed by the President of the Council, for all vessels outward-bound belonging to this Colony; enter and clear all vessels coming in and going out of said port; having a strict regard and obedience to the regulations and directions of the Continental Congress, but by no means to counteract the same; taking such reasonable fees as may be an adequate reward for your service, and no more; and to continue in said office until the determination of the Council and Assembly thereon.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE, DATED WHITEHALL, APRIL 27, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I have the honour to send you the embarkation returns of the first division of the *Hessian* troops, which division, or the greatest part of it, being arrived at *Spithhead*, and the detachment of guards being embarked, the whole have orders to proceed to sea immediately, under the instructions contained in the enclosed copies of my letters to Lieutenant-General *Heister*, and to the Lords of the Admiralty.

It was hoped and expected that Lord *Howe* would have proceeded with this embarkation; but the necessary arrangements respecting the very important commission of offer of pardon and negotiation, in which he and you are joined, make that very doubtful; and therefore the transports will probably proceed under convoy of the *Preston*, on board which Commodore *Hotham* hoists his broad pendant.

Lord *Howe* will, it is hoped, not be detained many days here, and, therefore, there is the greatest probability that, if the embarkation should proceed without him, his Lordship, being in a single ship, will arrive before the troops, and in time to settle all the arrangements that may be necessary to be made in consequence of their destination.

I have already acquainted you (in my letter of the 28th March, of which I now enclose a duplicate) that the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments would probably embark about the 20th instant. They are certainly by this time all on board, and, I hope, ready to sail from the *Clyde*; and, enclosed, I send you a copy of my letter of orders to Sir *William Erskine*, the commanding officer of those corps. His Majesty has been pleased to give the rank of Colonel in *America* to him, that he may be employed by you as commanding the Brigade of *Highlanders*. You can be no stranger to his character as an officer, though you may not have served in the Army with him. You may depend upon his answering your expectations, in whatever service you may employ him.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN ROGERS.

[No. 133.]

Annapolis, April 27, 1776.

SIR: We this moment received the original, of which the enclosed is a copy; and as matters of a very interesting nature have lately been discussed in Congress relative to our Province, which will be laid before the next Convention, it will be very proper that as many of our Deputies should be here as can be spared from Congress, to represent what passed there. We request you will comply with the within requisition, if possible.

We are, &c.

To John Rogers, Esq., Philadelphia.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO BENJAMIN HARRISON, JUN.

Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having ordered two hundred and fifty thousand dollars to be sent to you for the use of the Continental troops, I do myself the pleasure of forwarding the same herewith.

By the enclosed receipt you will perceive I have paid Messrs. *Willing & Morris*, of this city, forty thousand dollars, which you will consider as part of the two hundred and fifty thousand. The money is packed up in three boxes and committed to the charge of Captain *West*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Benjamin Harrison, Jun., Esq., of Berkeley, Charles City County, Virginia.

P. S. I have also forwarded, by this opportunity, to the Committee of Safety of your Colony, fifty thousand dollars, to be exchanged for specie. Should they be so successful as to get more than that sum in specie, I have requested them, by order of Congress, to draw on you for all they can procure above it; in which case, you will take care that their drafts are duly honoured.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will receive herewith the sum of fifty thousand dollars, which I am commanded by Congress to request you will use your utmost endeavours to exchange into specie, in order to remit it to the Continental Treasurers.

I beg, however, you will not confine yourselves to that sum, but exert yourselves to procure all the specie in your power. Should you be so successful as to get more than fifty thousand dollars in specie, you will please to draw for all such sums on the Paymaster in Virginia, who has orders to pay such drafts. Your zealous and uniform attachment to the cause of *America* makes it unnecessary to use any arguments to call your particular attention to this request of Congress.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Committee of Safety of Virginia.

P. S. Please to deliver the enclosed commissions to the Commissary and Mustermaster.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed resolve of Congress, respecting the Rifle Battalions and Independent Rifle Companies, would have been transmitted sooner, had it not been omitted through a mistake.

I do myself the pleasure of forwarding at this time several resolves of Congress, relative to such parts of your letters as have hitherto come under consideration. I propose writing more fully by Mr. *Palfrey*, who will set out for *New-York* on Monday. In the mean time, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General Washington, at New-York.



JOHN ADAMS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 23d, I received yesterday, and it put me in a good humour, the benefit of which I feel to this moment, and shall continue to experience a long time.

Were you idle enough to read the tales in the *London* papers and magazines a few years ago, concerning the *Cock-Lane Ghost*, and the others concerning a man of six feet high who leaped into a quart bottle and corked himself up? Do you remember that a great part of the nation, perhaps a majority, believed these marvellous lies to be true? If you recollect these things, you will not wonder that the tales of Commissioners to treat with Congress should have gained credit with many in *America*, nor will you wonder that many pretend to believe them who do not.

I think with you, that it requires a faith which can remove mountains to believe that liberty and safety can ever be hereafter enjoyed by *America*, in any subjection to the government of *Great Britain*. Dependence and subordination to *Great Britain*, always indeterminate and nonsensical expressions, if they mean anything, must now mean perpetual animosity, discord, civil war; encroachment and usurpation on one side, and discontent, mutiny, sedition, riot, and resistance, on the other; unless it terminates in downright submission, and that no doubt would be followed with persecution and imprisonment, scorn and insults, blocks, halts and gibbets.

Your opinion of *Indians*, and the best policy in our management of them, may be right for anything that I know; but as I know little of them, I always leave the measures relating to them to gentlemen who know a great deal. It is said they are very expensive and troublesome confederates in war, besides the incivility and inhumanity of employing such savages, with their cruel, bloody dispositions, against any enemy whatever. Nevertheless such have been the extravagancies of *British* barbarity, in prosecuting the war against us, that I think we need not be so delicate as to refuse the assistance of *Indians*, provided we cannot keep them neutral. I should not hesitate a moment in this case.

That we have been a little tardy in providing for *Canada* is true, owing to innumerable difficulties. However, we have been roused at last, and I hope have done pretty well. If you think we have not, let me know it, and whatever you may think further necessary, if it is not done, it shall not be my fault.

I am grieved to find the least intimation of langor among my countrymen in fortifying *Boston* and its harbour. I have not written a letter since we received news of your success in driving the enemy from that town, without stuffing it with exhortations as well as plans for the fortification of that harbour. *Warren* writes me that they have sent a Committee to fortify the harbour, so that I hope it will be done. I hope General *Washington* will send one.

Your opinion of the difficulties General *Howe* will meet with in attempting to get up the *St. Lawrence* early, gives me great comfort. God send him wind and sea enough.

Am sorry to learn there are so many Tories where you are. They must be watched. But there is one measure which I think should lessen the number of them. If the Provincial Congress and Committee of Safety could be convinced of the propriety, utility, and necessity of following the virtuous and glorious example of *South-Carolina*, in instituting a complete Government in that Colony, I think there would be a great revolution of sentiment in the city, and through the whole Province, and most of their divisions and distractions removed. The Tories will have a pernicious influence, and will be indefatigable in their intrigues, insinuations, and cabals, in every Colony, while every one of them holds an office under a King. When "thrones, dominations, principedoms, powers," in the language of *Milton*, are excluded from their ideas of Government, Toryism will be disarmed of its sting.

You ask me what you are to think of *Robert Morris*? I will tell you what I think of him. I think he has a masterly understanding, an open temper, and an honest heart; and if he does not always vote for what you and I should think proper, it is because he thinks that a large body of people remains, who are not yet of his mind. He has vast designs in the mercantile way; and no doubt pursues

mercantile ends, which are always gain; but he is an excellent member of our body.

Pray continue to write me, for a letter from you cures me of all anxiety and ill-humour for two or three days at least, and besides that, leaves me better informed in many things, and confirmed in my good resolutions for my whole life.

Yours without disguise, &amp;c.

JOHN ADAMS.

To General *Gates*.

P. S. There is a Major *Wrixon* here, a fine sensible fellow, a Field Officer in *Germany* last war, a man of letters, sense, and spirit, the best principles. I wish you were a Major-General and he Adjutant-General. What say you to it?

JOHN JAY TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress having been informed of a very extraordinary oath ordered by Governour *Tryon* to be administered to passengers in the late packet, whereby they bound themselves not to disclose anything relative to *American* affairs except to the Ministry, have appointed a Committee (of which I am one) to ascertain this fact.

I must therefore request of you, gentlemen, to appoint proper persons to examine into this matter, and, if possible, ascertain the truth of the report, by affidavits taken before the Mayor, or one of the Judges of the Superior Court.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOHN JAY.

To the honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

JOHN JAY TO COLONEL MCDUGALL.

Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

DEAR COLONEL: Accept my thanks for your friendly letter of the 16th instant, and its enclosures, which contain useful as well as agreeable information. I am glad to see *New-York* doing something in the Naval way, and think the encouragement given by your Convention to the manufacture of arms, powder, saltpetre, and sea-salt, does them honour.

Many of the reasons you allege for delaying taxation are weighty, and I confess did not occur to me. It is certainly unreasonable to impose on the city, in its present circumstances, so great a share of the publick expenses.

The late election, so far as it respects yourself, has taken a turn I did not expect, and am at a loss to account for, except on the principle of your holding a military office, or that mutability which, from various causes, often strongly marks popular opinions of men and measures in times like these. But whatever may have been the reason, I am persuaded that the zeal you have shown and the sacrifices you have made in this great cause will always afford you the most pleasing reflections, and will one day not only merit, but receive the gratitude of your fellow-citizens. Posterity, you know, always does justice. Let no circumstance of this kind diminish your ardour; but by persevering in a firm, uniform course of conduct, silence detraction and compel approbation.

I am much obliged to you for your kind attention to my house; and be assured that I shall omit no opportunity of evincing the esteem and sincerity with which I am your friend and humble servant,

JOHN JAY.

To Colonel *J. McDougall*.

CASSANDRA TO CATO.

I have engaged in the present political controversy with a design to be of service to my country. On an impartial inquiry into the present state of the *British* Constitution, it appears to me that it is out of the power of the *British* Legislature to give us security for the future enjoyment of our rights and liberties; and on this ground I have opposed a reunion. I have examined everything advanced by you on the subject, and find them wide of the mark. The point with me has ever been, what will secure our liberties? The question of interest is ever determined thereby. National prosperity and national happiness are incompatible with national slavery. It is of small consequence to *America*, whether God has granted a King to the People of *Britain*

or not, or whether the Constitution of their Government answers excellently to the inhabitants of that Island, if dependance on that excellent form of Government is big with slavery and ruin to *America*.

If you mean not to hold your countrymen in suspense until the day of salvation is past, I call upon you to prove that *Great Britain* can offer any plan of constitutional dependance which will not leave the future enjoyment of our liberties to hope, hazard, and uncertainty, as the *Forester* has finely expressed it; and that if she can, there is a probability she will. If the one is impossible, or the other altogether improbable, yourself must acknowledge it is time to part.

By the Constitution of *Great Britain*, the present Parliament can make no law which shall bind any future one. For as the author of *Lex Parliamentaria*, or Law of Parliament, observes, page 77, when treating of the power and authority of Parliaments, "Though it be apparent what transcendent power and authority the Parliament hath, and though divers Parliaments have attempted to bar, restrain, suspend, qualify, or make void, the power of subsequent Parliaments, yet could they never effect it. For the latter Parliament hath ever power to abrogate, suspend, qualify, explain, or make void, the former, in the whole, or in any part thereof, notwithstanding any words of restraint, prohibition, or penalty in the former. For it is a maxim in the law of Parliament, *quod leges posteriores priores contrarias abrogant*." Therefore should any Parliament give up, renounce, and forever quit claim to the right of making laws to bind us in any case whatever, yet it can constitutionally stipulate for no longer than that one sitting. They have as full power and authority to revive and enforce the claim at their next sitting as if such renunciation had never taken place. Is it wisdom, then, or is there safety in entering upon terms of accommodation with a power which cannot stipulate for the performance of its engagements? If we are foolish enough to do this, must not our future security depend entirely on the will of a *British* Parliament, *i. e.* of a *British* Ministry? This, in my opinion, must form an insuperable obstacle to reconciliation in the mind of every honest man and sincere lover of liberty on the Continent.

A second reason against reconciliation is, that the *British* Constitution is so effectually undermined by the influence of the Crown, that the People of *Britain* have no security for the enjoyment of their own liberties, and therefore *America* can never be safe in being dependant on such a State.

The author of "An Historical Essay on the *English* Constitution," printed *Anno* 1771, says: "I shall not hesitate to date the decline of our Constitution from the Revolution. *William* the Third and his Parliament began the practice of restraining the elective power of the People, by the Legislative authority—a power that might become ten thousand times more dangerous to the elective rights of the People than the Crown could ever possibly be. For whenever the active parts of a Government, founded upon the common rights of mankind, shall usurp a power to restrain or destroy those rights from whence they derive their authority, that State is not far from destruction.

"Thus the primary law of our Constitution, the first principle upon which it was founded, which had stood the test of twelve hundred years, and been the admiration of ages, was now reduced to the common level of a nuisance, to be corrected by Acts of Parliament. Our Legislative authority is, by its own nature, confined to act within the line of the Constitution, because it is only vested with a trust by the People, to the end they may protect and defend them in their rights and privileges. And therefore it is a contradiction in terms to say they have a right to consent to any that may restrain or destroy them. Their consent to this law was a notorious violation of the trust reposed in them." For, "upon this principle our Constitution may be one thing to-day, and another thing to-morrow. It is this, and that, or anything that our Legislative authority, for the time being, shall think proper to make it. But the prevailing faction of those days, after sowing divisions among the People to destroy their power and weaken their force, obtained a law, under pretence of providing for the distemper of the times, by which they have lost—nay, what have they not lost? They have lost the distinguishing character between freemen and slaves! They have lost the distinguishing character of *Englishmen*! They have lost what the most

tyrannical of Kings of *England* could never force from them! They have lost what their forefathers have been spending their blood and treasure to defend for these thousand years! They have lost the greatest jewel that ever any People possessed! They have lost their constitutional and natural liberty, their birthright and inheritance derived from *God* and Nature! They have lost their constitutional redress for all their grievances! They have lost their all, their everything, by that damnable Septennial Law."

To my quotations from this invaluable essay, I beg leave to add the following, as perfectly applicable to *America*; and the foregoing extracts will not only justify, but enforce the doctrine it contains, to every honest heart:

"To deduce our rights from the principles of equity, justice, and the Constitution, is very well; but equity and justice are no defence against power. You must take your constitutional rights under your own protection, and that quickly too, or they will be lost forever. Protect and defend them as the apple of your eye from danger, or as you would your wives and children from destruction. And never desist from using every remedy" in your power, "till you have established them on a foundation never more to be shaken, either by King or Parliament." A Constitution that affords no check against its own servants can yield no security to us.

He who has the nomination of the Officers of Government has the whole power of that Government in his own hand, and may do with it as he pleases. This is abundantly proved by the present ruinous state of Government in every Colony, where the King or a Proprietor had the nomination. Liberty will never flourish in such a Government. "By the Constitution of the *Saxon* Government (says the author first quoted) no officer, either civil or military, or even ecclesiastical, could be invested in his office, or exercise any jurisdiction or authority over freemen, without the free election of those freemen over whom he was to exercise such authority. And it is for this reason, more especially, that the People of *England* were denominated free; for that by the ancient Laws and Constitution of the Kingdom, they had this just and natural right, viz: the free election of their Magistrates and Governours; without which our ancestors thought all our liberties were but a species of bondage. For of what use can liberty be to him whose person or estate is subject to officers, &c., set over him without his consent?" How different from, and how much superior to our present form of Government, was the *Saxon*, or old Constitution of *England*.

These three considerations form, in my opinion, an insurmountable obstacle against a reunion with *Great Britain*. The man who has not thought upon these points is ill qualified to judge of the necessity of Independence, or the inevitable ruin attendant on reunion.

My objections are radical, reaching to the root of the evil; and if a radical cure cannot be obtained in one way, it ought to be obtained in another. To skin over the wound would be madness. I therefore once more entreat you either to point out a complete remedy for these defects, and prove it more easily attainable than a complete delivery by a Declaration of Independence, or to give no further opposition to the measure. He who cannot see a fair prospect of removing these defects, and yet wishes to see *America* return to a state of dependance, has something else in view than the liberties of his country.

CASSANDRA.

N. B. No good man can agree to any terms which will not give perfect security; and a division must therefore be intended by every man who attempts to prepare the minds of the ignorant and unwary to accept of anything else. As every writer on the side of dependance has hitherto studiously evaded the point, it appears they design, if possible, to effect a division. Take care, then, ye good People of *America*, not to be duped by distinguished Tories.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New York, April 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In answer to your favour of the 25th, delivered to me yesterday, I shall beg leave to inform you that it was my design to have included the Militia of this city in the two thousand or two thousand five hundred men which I thought might be wanted upon an emergency; but whether common prudence may not dictate the expediency of ex-

tending your views to a greater number, in case of necessity, is submitted to the wisdom of your Board.

The signals which I intended should convey the first notice of the approach of an enemy's fleet, you will find in the enclosed paper; but if you will please to appoint a Committee of your body, I will desire the Brigadiers *Sullivan*, *Greene*, and Lord *Stirling*, to meet them, and adopt a better, if a better can be thought of. *New-Jersey* is already advertised of these signals.

If the four battalions which were directed to be raised under the command of the Colonels *McDougall*, *Clinton*, *Ritzema*, and *Wynkoop*, are placed under the immediate care of the Committee of Safety for this Colony by Congress, I should be glad to know how far it is conceived that my powers over them extend, or whether I have any at all. Sure I am that they cannot be subjected to the direction of both; and I shall have no small reluctance in assuming an authority I am not vested with powers to execute; nor will my solicitude (further than as a well-wisher to the cause) on account of arms for, and returns of, these regiments continue, if they are not considered as within the line of my command. It becomes, therefore, my indispensable duty to be ascertained of this matter, and to know whether these regiments cannot be ordered out of the Colony, for instance to *New-Jersey*, if necessity should require it.

It would give me singular pleasure to advance you the sum asked for; but the low state of our cash, and heavy demands upon the Paymaster, render it altogether impracticable at this time. The Quartermaster and Commissary are both wanting money, and cannot be supplied; nor can General *Ward* get what he had sent for to pay the five regiments to the Eastward, till a fresh supply arrives, of which Congress is informed. General *Heath*, since my arrival here, has obtained a warrant upon the Paymaster for money to replace the sum which your Committee kindly lent him; and, to the best of my recollection, General *Thompson* told me that he also meant to do the same. These matters shall be inquired into.

With great respect, I remain, gentlemen, your most obedient, and most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

FREE CITIZEN TO THE CHAIRMAN OF NEW-YORK CITY COMMITTEE.

New-York, April 27, 1776.

Mr. GARRET ABEEL:

"*Free Citizen*" presents his best compliments to you, and informs you that, by Lord *Drummond's* orders, there were sent to the store of *Hugh Wallace*, next door to *John Morton's* dwelling, four cases, which were very heavy, and hooped with iron, containing military stores; the cartman could only carry two at once. I am of opinion there were more than what I saw; therefore please to inform yourself further, as you have it in your power, being the Chairman of the Committee and a good citizen.

To Mr. *Garret Abeel*, Chairman of the City Committee.

CAPTAIN MILLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Utrecht, April 27, 1776.

I send you this, by express, to inform that at dawn of day this morning a small sloop came down the river; the sentry on *Staten-Island* hailed her, as also those on our side; but she would not come to; each of the sentries fired several guns at her, which she disregarded, and passed under a smart breeze to the *Asia* man-of-war. Our lower sentry informs me that when she came near the *Asia* she hoisted a blue flag, and they sent out a barge to meet her. I have just observed her going to the *Hook*. Where she came from I cannot learn, but imagine from *New-York*. She bore off from our shore so much it was impossible we could stop her passage.

HENRY MILLER, *Captain*.

To His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, *New-York*.

THOMAS PALMER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, April 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: After sundry applications to Captain *Berrien* for cash, by letter from him this day he informs us that

it must now be obtained by a draft on the Provincial Congress; and at the same time informs us that there is no money in the Treasury.

A state of what business we have done, and the necessary expense we have gone into, will naturally show the necessity we are in for cash. We have erected one large store-house, forty feet by thirty-four; one barrack, eighty feet by twenty, two stories high, with a cellar under the half of it; a bake-house, sixteen feet by fourteen; a guard-house, twenty feet by fourteen; a large necessary, for soldiers; all which are now completely finished: a barrack, for officers, commissary, &c., forty feet by twenty, to be raised this day; a magazine, twelve by eighteen feet, walls eight feet thick, so far complete as turning the arch on the top will finish it. We have, besides this, timber for another large barrack, eighty by twenty feet, which will be the last we intend building; besides this, we have the timber and plank for the platform of the battery. We have been obliged to send to *Albany* for two loads of boards and plank. And the boatman's wages for vessels to quarter the soldiers in, besides all the lime and nails which we have had engaged in the country, have been necessary articles; all which have amounted to a considerable sum, and we are daily dunned for cash, and have it not in our power to satisfy these demands on us, without your assistance. We have, however, already advanced one hundred pounds, of our own cash, to such persons as have been most in necessity.

From the above state of facts, you will easily conceive that we must soon have a supply of cash, as not only the necessary materials for the buildings, but many workmen, want their pay; we therefore desire you will furnish us with one thousand pounds, in cash, and please to pay it to the bearer hereof, Captain *John Berrien*, and charge it to us, for the use of the Continent at this post.

The battery goes on pretty well, considering the assistance we have had. We have one line for mounting cannon complete, except the platform, which in a day or two will be finished. Another line, calculated to mount seven cannon, the parapet complete, and the merlons above half up; but we seldom make out more than between eighty and ninety labourers per day, although we have part of five companies here—four Continental and one Minute company—but two of them only are full, and they are Captain *Belknap's* and Captain *Billings's*; Captain *Swartwout's* has now about twenty-two, and Captain *Rosekrans's* forty men; Captain *Drake's* Minute company is reduced from fifty-seven to thirty-three men, by means of his men inlisting into the Continental companies. Numbers of the men are sick, deserted, and gone home on parole, which reduces the labourers to the above number; and those that do turn out as labourers, for want of proper officers to command them, do but little, they conceiving themselves by no means under the command of the Commissioners. The little time we had Captain *Cushing* to command here, the men laboured well. Captain *Billings*, with his company, is ordered to join his regiment, and sets out on *Monday* next; when he is gone we shall have but a small party for labourers. I am of opinion that, in case we could have to turn out every day one hundred men, and the men under such command as to work faithfully eight hours in a day, we could complete the whole work to be done here in about six or seven weeks, at farthest, from this date; that is, by that time the batteries would be complete to mount thirty-five or forty cannon, and the buildings will be complete in less time. But cash we must have, and beg you will furnish Captain *Berrien* with it as soon as possible.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS PALMER, *for self*.

Mr. *Gilbert Livingston* is now in the country on necessary business for the use of this garrison.

To the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.

GENERAL THOMPSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

*Albany*, April 27, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here on *Thursday*, and the whole party got up yesterday. Colonel *Greaton's* Regiment marched yesterday, and I have ordered Colonel *Patterson's* to follow him to-day, *Bond's* to-morrow, and *Poor's* on *Monday*; but as there are not more boats than will transport

the baggage of one regiment at a time, and those boats cannot go to the *Half-Moon* and return the same day, I am apprehensive I shall not be able to march more than one regiment in two days.

I passed *Fort Montgomery* in the night, and had not an opportunity of viewing it; but, from what I can learn, it would be proper to send an Engineer there, to see how the works are laid out, and the plan executed.

Colonel *Baldwin* writes your Excellency concerning intrenching tools, and Captain *Badlam* writes to General *Gates* about artillery-men, &c. The bearer, Captain *Van Buren*, will immediately proceed to this place with such articles as you may think proper to order for *Canada*, and I believe everything they have mentioned is very much wanted.

As soon as Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment marches from hence, I shall go to the *Half-Moon*, and see that carriages are provided to forward the troops from that place; and shall take every method in my power to reach *Quebeck* as soon as possible, though, from the many carrying-places and embarkations, I am doubtful whether we shall arrive in less than three weeks.

I have not heard any intelligence from *Canada* that can be depended on, but believe, if I can get to *Quebeck* with my party before General *Carleton* receives reinforcements, all will be well.

I understand that cash is much wanted, and pork very scarce to the northward. I hope a sufficient quantity of both will be sent us.

Doctor *Adams*, of the Eighth Regiment, having resigned, Colonel *Poor* requests Mr. *William Parker* may be appointed in his stead, if agreeable to your Excellency.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
WILLIAM THOMPSON.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.  
Fort George, April 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I had the honour to receive your favour of the 15th instant, at *Ticonderoga*, on the 25th, on which day the remainder of *Maxwell's*, *De Haas's*, and *Burrell's* Regiments, moved from thence. I stayed to see *St. Clair's* and their baggage across the portage and embarked, and at six in the evening set out for this place, which I reached at five yesterday morning.

Being restricted by Congress to build no more than one hundred batteaus, and eighty of these being occupied by the troops above-mentioned, General *Thomas*, the Commissioners, the artillery and stores, provisions, and Captain *Stephens's* company, with the mortars and shells, I have only twenty new ones left, and thirty-seven of those built last year; the whole of which will carry no more than fifteen hundred. I have, however, ventured to construct an additional number; and such a number of carpenters are now employed as will daily build for the conveyance of fifty men. Hence, I hope no considerable delay will be experienced; but I fear the troops in *Canada*, when joined by those coming up, will be in want of pork before a supply can be thrown in, as we have not one hundred and fifty barrels of pork left at this place and *Ticonderoga*, and those that are gone in could not take more than one hundred barrels, exclusive of ten days' provisions, which was issued to them at *Ticonderoga*.

Yesterday afternoon, *Bennett* delivered me your Excellency's letter of the 19th. I find the troops are arrived at *Albany*, and I fear they will be much retarded in their march to *Skeneborough*, for want of carriage, as all the forage in this country is expended, and the grass only begins to peep. The season has been remarkably severe. The ice had not left the lake on *Friday* last, when we crossed, so that we were obliged to break through the ice for many miles.

Enclose you a copy of a letter received on the 25th from General *Arnold*, together with a return of the troops before *Quebeck*; the first I have had from *Canada*.

I am perfectly in sentiment with you, my dear General, that we ought to engage the *Indians* to co-operate with us; but I fear it will be a difficult, if not an impossible task to accomplish, unless *Canada* should be entirely in our possession. You will be able to form an idea of their present temper and disposition from the enclosed copy of a journal of Mr. *Deane*, the Interpreter.

I have written to Mr. *Wisner* for powder, and hope he will send some; there is much too little in *Canada*. The licentiousness of our troops, both in *Canada* and in this quarter, is not easily to be described; nor have all my efforts been able to put a stop to those scandalous excesses. I shall, however, continue to give the most pointed orders, and shall hope for a more becoming conduct in future.

I have reason to think that General *Thomas*, who left *Ticonderoga* on *Sunday*, will reach *Quebeck* to-day or to-morrow, and that the Commissioners will arrive about the same time at *Montreal*. They parted with me on *Wednesday*, with a fair wind.

Our military chest is exhausted, and we are deeply involved in debt. Ten thousand pounds will hardly pay what I am personally bound for on the publick account. Should it be replenished by Congress, how is it to be drawn out for the current expense of the day? as I cannot be justified in granting warrants whilst I have the happiness to find your Excellency in this department, without your leave and approbation; and yet the force of necessity will oblige me to trespass, before I can be honoured with your commands on this head.

The vessels on *Lake Champlain* are sufficient to convey five hundred men to *St. John's*; but no sailors are yet arrived. The Convention of *New-York* have been written to long since to send them.

A vile ague seized me some days ago, but Doctor *Franklin* and the other gentlemen administered such a number of doses of *Peruvian* bark, that it has left me, and hope that I shall last at least this campaign. I shall not fail to advise you of every occurrence in this quarter.

Before I heard of your arrival at *New-York*, I ordered all Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, which is levying in the vicinity of *Albany*, to this place and *Ticonderoga*, excepting two companies, which I judged it prudent to leave in *Troy* County. I also directed Colonel *Wynkoop*, with three companies of his, to repair to *Ticonderoga*. These will be barely sufficient to send on the provisions and stores for *Canada*, and open a communication by the way of *Wood-Creek* to *Lake Champlain*, which Congress has ordered me to do; but I fear those troops will not come up, as I find General *Putnam* had already ordered them to *New-York*. I shall be under the disagreeable necessity of detaining *Van Schaick's* Regiment (which is also raising in the neighbourhood of *Albany*, and is destined for *Canada*) at these posts, until relieved by those I have mentioned, or some other.

If half of those to be employed on the communication to *Canada* are supplied with arms, it will suffice, as four-fifths of them must be constantly at some kind of labour.

I am, with the most affectionate and respectful sentiments, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,  
PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Return of the Forces of the United Colonies, which passed FORT GEORGE, in their way to CANADA, between the 12th and 26th APRIL, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	Colonels.	Lieut. Col's.	Majors.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Privates.
Colonel Maxwell's.....	1	1	3	10	8	183		
Colonel De Haas's.....	1	1	2	4	3	110		
Colonel Burrell's.....	1	1	5	15	21	350		
Colonel Van Schaick's.....	1	1	3	4	5	62		
Colonel Sinclair's, supposed to be about.....	1	1	1	1	1	500		
Total.....	5	5	12	39	38	1205		

Captain *Stephens's*, of the Artillery, unknown, as he went by the way of *Otter-Creek*. Captain *Romans's* passed me in the night, on *Lake George*.

Besides the above, part of *Porter's*, *Burrell's*, *De Haas's*, and *Maxwell's* Regiments, had not reached *Canada*, when General *Arnold's* return was made.

Montreal, April 20, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I hope you will pardon my neglect in not writing you for so long a time, when I acquaint you that I have, from time to time, communicated every material intelligence to General *Wooster*, who, I make no doubt, has

transmitted the same to you. The 1st instant he arrived at the camp before *Quebeck*. On the 2d, I had, on an alarm, occasion to mount my horse, who unluckily fell on me, and violently bruised my lame leg and ankle, which confined me until the 12th, at which time I left the camp, and arrived here yesterday. Had I been able to take an active part, I should by no means have left the camp; but as General *Wooster* did not think proper to consult me in any of his matters, I was convinced I should be of more service here than in the camp, and he very readily granted me leave of absence until recovered of my lameness.

Enclosed is a list of our force before *Quebeck*; which I am sorry to say is so very inconsiderable, and illy supplied with every requisite to carry on a siege, that I am very dubious of their success. The 2d instant, we opened a battery of three guns, and one howitzer, on *Point Levi*; another battery of six guns, two howitzers, and two small mortars, on the *Heights of Abraham*, and one of two guns at the traverse, were nearly completed when I came away. To supply the whole, there are only three or four tons of powder and ten or twelve of shot, no Engineer, and few artillery-men. Two fire-ships—one at *Orleans*, and one at *Point-aux-Trembles*—were nearly completed, to attempt burning their ships, as soon as the ice will admit of it. We have few seamen (and not one good commander) to man those vessels, or I should conceive great hopes of their success.

Our Army are supplied with provisions to the 10th of *May*, after which time their only resource for meat is from below. This country (which is not plentiful at best) is nearly exhausted of beef. We can procure a supply of flour, if furnished with cash. I am now stretching our credit for that purpose, which is at a low ebb.

I cannot help lamenting that more effectual measures have not been adopted to secure this country in our interest, an object which appears to me of the highest importance to the Colonies. Colonel *Hazen*, who is a sensible judicious officer, and well acquainted with this country, has shown me his letter to you of the 1st instant. I am sorry to say I think most of his remarks but too true; and that if we are not immediately supported with eight or ten thousand men, a good train of artillery, well served, and a military chest well furnished, the Ministerial troops, if they attempt it, will regain this country, and we shall be obliged to quit it; the fatal consequences of which are too obvious.

On my way up I carefully examined the Rapids of *Richelieu*, fifteen leagues above *Quebeck*, which appear to me a very important post. The channel runs near the shore, and few ships can go up without anchoring near the shore, at the foot of the Rapids, where a battery of ten or twelve guns, and three or four gondolas above, will, in my opinion, effectually secure the pass, as no ships larger than a frigate can go up. I have despatched Lieutenant *Johnson*, of the train, to *Crown-Point*, for four eighteen and eleven twelve-pounders, with what shot are at that place, for the above purpose, as we have very little time to fortify. I have directed him to bring down a gondola, which, I am told, is at *Crown-Point*. We ought to have six or eight of them immediately, to secure the river, and prevent our communication being cut off with the Army before *Quebeck*. The row-galley that was at *St. John's* has been driven over the fall and stove to pieces, and the gondola cut to pieces, so that we have only one gondola, mounting a twelve-pounder, in a shattered condition. Timber and plank for those ordered to be built here have been procured, and nothing will be done until they arrive from below. Intrenching tools are much wanted; we have very few.

I have found it necessary to order Colonel *Bedel*, with two hundred men, to the *Cedars*, a very important post, fifteen leagues above this, to prevent any goods being sent to the upper country, and to guard against a surprise from the enemy or their *Indians*. I have also sent a Captain and sixty men to *Carrinyon*. We have left at this garrison about five hundred men, about half of whom are waiting an opportunity to return home. We are waiting with the greatest anxiety to receive supplies of money and ammunition from below. Everything is at a stand for want of those resources, and if not obtained soon, our affairs in this country will be entirely ruined.

I am, with great respect and esteem, dear General, your obedient and humble servant,  
BENEDICT ARNOLD.  
To General *Schuyler*.

*A Return of the Troops before QUEBECK, in the service of the United Colonies, MARCH 30, 1776.*

REGIMENTS.	Effectives.	Sick.	Total.	DISORDERS.
Colonel Warner's.....	102	271	373	Small-Pox by inoculation.
Major Cady's.....	82	50	132	Do. do.
Colonel De Haas's .....	225	-	225	Do. do.
Major Brown's Detachment...	38	132	170	Do. do.
General Wooster's.....	42	48	90	Do. do.
Colonel McDougall's.....	76	115	191	Small Pox, great and various.
Colonel Van Schaick's.....	81	77	158	Various.
Colonel Clinton's .....	207	20	227	Various.
Colonel Holmes's.....	91	23	114	Various.
Colonel Livingston's.....	206	-	206	Various and wounded
General Arnold's.....	117	50	167	
Captain Wool's Artillery.....	31	-	31	
Colonel Dugan's.....	123	-	123	
Colonel Maxwell's.....	216	-	216	
Colonel Fellows's.....	82	-	82	
Total .....	1719	786	2505	

Since which, have joined of different Regiments, 350.

N. B. Fifteen hundred of the above men are at liberty the 15th of *April*; probably one-half of them will be retained in the service.

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

EXTRACT OF A JOURNAL, ETC.

*March 21st, 1776.*—Set out from *Kanonwaroharo* in company with the *Oneidas* and the deputation from the seven Tribes in *Canada*, to attend the meeting of the *Six Nations* at their Central Council-House at *Onondaga*. In our way we stopped at *Kanaghshorage*, a small village inhabited by the *Onondagas* and *Tuscaroras*, about sixteen miles west of *Oneida*. Here we spent four days. The two first were taken up in condoling the death of *Tharondawagon*, the principal *Tuscarora* Sachem, who lately died at the *German Flats*. We were joined in the condolence by a large party of the *Quigogas*, who overtook us here on their return home from the Settlements upon the *Mohawk River*. The two last were waiting for replies to several messages, which, both before and after our arrival, had been despatched from this place to *Onondaga*. The *Mohawks*, it seems, who came from *Niagara* to attend the Congress at *Onondaga*, in one of their drunken frolics, threatened to take my life if I presumed to appear at the Council. The Sachems heard it with concern; and, as soon as they were sober, asked them whether it was really their fixed design. They assured the Chiefs it was, and that my life should end upon my arrival at *Onondaga*. The Sachems seeing them determined in their bloody purpose, immediately despatched an express to this place, to prevent my proceeding any further, declaring that my death would be the certain consequence of my appearing at their meeting. This the people of the place informed us of upon our arrival, and also that they had immediately despatched a messenger to *Onondaga*, desiring to know what they intended to do in the affair, and whether they thought themselves able to recapitulate the speeches made by the Commissioners, without any assistance; adding, that if they could do it themselves, they would consent to my being absent. They assured us that they expected an answer every minute. But no answer arriving, the *Oneidas* despatched another message to the *Onondagas*, desiring to be informed whether it was their full determination that I should not attend the Council, and declared that they would not move from this place until they received an answer. While we were waiting, arrived *Little Abraham*, the *Mohawk* Sachem, on his way to the meeting, accompanied by a certain *Mohawk* lately from *Niagara*, who was confederated with the murderous villains at *Onondaga*.

There was a meeting called upon their arrival; when *Little Abraham* publicly questioned the *Mohawk*, whether he knew of any such designs being formed against me. He assured him it would be in vain to lie or equivocate in the affair, for that the truth would appear. The fellow appeared somewhat embarrassed, but at last confessed that they had, in their way from *Niagara*, in conjunction with some of the *Senecas*, agreed to make me a prisoner if I came to *Onondaga*, or to kill me in case my friends should interpose in my behalf. They seemed not only to think his account



true, but that the *Onondagas* too much favoured their wicked designs, otherwise they would, before now, have banished those evil-minded persons from their Council-Fire, and have desired us to proceed.

No news arriving from *Onondaga*, my friends sent another message to the *Onondagas*, desiring an immediate answer to their first message, and *Abraham*, the *Mohawk*, engaged to talk with his deluded countrymen, and if possible dissuade them from their cruel purpose.

The 25th instant, a messenger arrived from the *Onondagas*, desiring us to proceed forward directly, assuring me that I need not be under any apprehension of danger, for that these evil-minded persons had laid aside their wicked design. This message arrived towards evening; whereupon a Council was immediately called, consisting of the *Oneidas*, *Caughnawagas*, and *Tuscaroras*, in which it was concluded best that I should proceed with them to *Onondaga*, after they had engaged to defend me to the utmost of their power should any violence be offered me, though they finally submitted the matter to my own determination. A sense of duty induced me to proceed.

The female Governesses of the town, and those who were present from *Oneida*, hearing of my purpose, took the matter into their consideration, and about eight in the evening presented the following speech:

"BROTHER: We, the female Governesses, take this opportunity to speak a word, and let you know our minds. In truth, our hearts have trembled and our eyes have not known sleep since you have been here, while we consider the danger that appears to us to threaten you at *Onondaga*, and the dreadful consequences that must ensue, should some fatal blow be given you. We desire you to consider well of those things, and to return back from this place."

To which the following answer was made:

"SISTERS, FEMALE GOVERNESSES: I sincerely thank you for what you have said and the concern you appear to have for my safety; but, Sisters, possess your minds in peace, and let it not offend you if I do not comply with your request. I am sent by the great men upon important business, and must proceed as far as directed."

Early the next morning a messenger was despatched to the *Onondagas*, to inform them of our numbers, and desire them to provide us lodgings upon our arrival.

We were met on our way a few miles from the town, and informed that we could not all be accommodated together, but must be disposed of by two and three in a place. This I perceived was very disagreeable to my companions, nor did they fail to express their suspicions of some unfriendly design. A consultation upon the affair was immediately held, in which it was determined to encamp all together abroad. We marched from this place in an *Indian* file, as usual, only with this difference, that the warriors were directed to march together, and take me under their particular care. In this form we travelled till we came within about half a mile of the Council-House, where, about sunset, we encamped in a grove, the hemlocks furnishing us with beds. The next day passed in constant, though fruitless expectation, of being called to the Council; but none of the Sachems were to be seen or heard of, for father *Bacchus*, it seems, had called them to a party of pleasure, in order, beforehand, to make some compensation for the tedious abstinence they had to observe during the business of the meeting.

On the 28th we were called to the Council. This day was employed in their usual introductory speeches, viz: to wipe the tears from each other's eyes mutually, to cleanse each other's seats from blood; and, lastly, quite to remove that load of grief which obstructed their utterance, that they might freely disclose their minds to each other. After these ceremonies were over, I made a short speech to the assembly informing them of my business into their country, by whom sent, &c. They appeared well pleased, and the Speaker thanked me that I had come, and desired me to be under no apprehension of danger, but possess my mind in peace; adding, that he hoped I would send for something to wash the taste of the tobacco out of their mouths. To which it was answered, that no provision had been made for that purpose, as it was taken for granted that those who kindled the Council-fire always provided wherewith to wash the mouths of those whom they had called to sit around it.

The 29th: returned again to the Council. The business

of the day was introduced with speeches of condolence addressed to the *Caughnawagas* and *Tuscaroras*. After they were ended, *Teyawanronde*, the *Onondaga* speaker, answered the speeches of condolence made by Mr. *Butler* and the *Senecas* upon the death of *Otgwendagoghte* and several others, who were killed in *Canada* last summer by the arms of the United Colonies. Several new trees, as they expressed it, were then raised in the room of those who were fallen, and their names published to the *Six Nations*; after which *Sakayongwaraghton*, the *Seneca* Sachem, in a speech he made to the *Oneidas*, informed them that he had heard they had been to General *Schuyler* to ask leave to go to *Niagara*, take Mr. *Butler* prisoner, and bring him down to *Albany*; and also, that the General was well pleased with their proposal, and thanked them for their friendship and zeal, and promised them a reward of two hundred and fifty dollars if they would present him with either Mr. *Butler's* person or scalp. He then advised the *Oneidas*, in case the report he had heard was true, carefully to think what they were about, and not to prosecute their designs any further. The *Oneidas*, in vindication of their conduct, repeated the whole affair from first to last, and showed that the report was false and malicious. They acknowledged they had heretofore interposed in favour of some of their old friends and neighbours who had involved themselves in trouble on account of their practices against the Colonies, but now declared to the whole Confederacy that they never would do it again in any instance, but let the white people conduct their own affairs as they pleased. Then ended the business of the day.

30th.—Five speeches of Colonel *Butler* were repeated in publick. The first was to put them in mind of the Council-fire kindled last summer at *Oswego*, that they might recollect the speeches then made them. In the second, he desired them to consider and weigh, as it were in a balance, the speeches that should be made to them both by himself and the *Bostonians*, that they might see (agreeable to the *Indian* expression) who spoke most of peace. In the third, he told them that he was much grieved and almost ready to weep to see the division of sentiment that subsisted among the *Six Nations*, and begged of them to heal the breach, and become of one mind. The fourth informed them the King would cross the sea two months hence, to talk of peace with the *Bostonians*, and that if they would not listen to him, he would then chastise them. He also advised his brethren, the *Six Nations*, to observe a perfect neutrality in the present quarrel, and to mind nothing but peace. Lastly, he informed them, in his fifth speech, that he was about to kindle a Council-fire at *Niagara*, both for the *Six Nations* and the Western Tribes, one month and a half hence, when he would speak to them of nothing but peace.

The above is the substance of Colonel *Butler's* speeches to the *Indians* at the late meeting held at *Niagara*, as they were repeated by *Sorighhovane*, a *Seneca* Sachem, who closed with declaring that he had now unburdened his mind, and laid the whole of Mr. *Butler's* speeches before the assembly. But two of the *Mohawks*, who were present at *Niagara* when the aforesaid speeches were delivered, declared soon after at different times and to different persons, that the *Senecas* had concealed one of Colonel *Butler's* speeches. And one of them told another *Mohawk*, a friend of mine, that the reason of their concealing it was because I was present, and that he would publish it himself before the meeting was dissolved, if the *Senecas* did not. This the *Senecas* were informed of, which soon proved productive of another speech, addressed in the name of the *Senecas*, *Onondagas*, and *Mohawks*, to the other three tribes of the Confederacy, and proposed to their consideration.

The 31st was taken up in uniting the minds of the Confederated tribes, and in mutual assurances of their fixed determination to observe a strict neutrality in the present quarrel; and that they would invariably pursue the paths of peace, and also in framing replies to Colonel *Butler's* speeches.

April 1st.—A speech was addressed in the name of the *Senecas*, *Onondagas*, and *Mohawks*, to the other tribes in the Confederacy, in which was proposed to their consideration the propriety of addressing the Commissioners directly, representing the distressed situation the *Six Nations* were reduced to, for want of clothing, powder, &c., and to request a trade as usual, particularly that the door might be opened at Que-

beck, for goods to pass that way into their country. The passage at *Fort Stanwix* was also to be mentioned, which they were to desire not to be stopped. This was proposed to them, and the propriety of making such an address submitted to their determination.

The affair was deferred until to-morrow. This afternoon the speeches delivered by the Commissioners, at a late treaty held at *Albany*, were repeated to the whole assembly, who were convened for that purpose, upon a large green before the Council-House. The speeches seemed to engage their attention, and pretty general approbation, though it appeared to be the opinion of the Council, that the belts were not to be returned, or exchanged, as the Commissioners had desired that their talk might remain at *Onondaga*, as a testimony to after generations of the love and affection of the Twelve United Colonies. Upon our return to our encampment this evening, the subject of the address was introduced, and unanimously disapproved of by the *Oneidas*, the *Tuscaroras*, and the deputation from the seven tribes in *Canada*.

The next morning, the *Quigogas* came to see their brethren, the *Oneidas*, and desired to know their sentiments respecting the propriety of the address. The *Oneidas* answered, that they had disapproved of such an address at present, and could wish to have the *Six Nations* exercise patience a little while longer, and defer the matter till some future meeting, at *Albany*, which they expected would be some time the ensuing summer. The *Quigogas* were much dissatisfied with this reply, and insisted that the address ought to be presented as soon as possible, upon the meeting of the Council.

The *Oneidas*, in a decent manner, delivered their sentiments respecting the matters submitted to their determination, together with their reasons, &c., and desired it might at least be deferred till some future meeting, at *Albany*. The *Senecas*, *Onondagans*, and *Mohawks*, immediately went out to consult upon the affair. While they were out, the account of the reduction of *Boston* arrived; and upon their coming in, being told that I had received a letter from General *Schuyler*, desired to hear the contents of it directly. I read them the speech addressed by the General to the *Six Nations*, giving an account of the above important transaction. A variety of passions appeared in the faces of the assembly upon the recital. Some seemed much elated with joy, and others as much depressed with vexation and disappointment. *Tegawanonde*, the *Onondaga* speaker, then proceeded to answer the *Oneidas*, and finally declared that such a speech should be addressed to the Commissioners, in the name of the whole *Six Nations*; adding that there would be an alteration in their minds, if their requests were not complied with. *Saghnagenrat*, an *Oneida* Sachem, then rose and expressed his joy and thankfulness, that they had determined to petition for a trade, as usual; to desire that the passage by *Fort Stanwix* might not be shut up by the forces of the United Colonies; but particularly, that they had determined to have the door open for goods to come up from *Quebeck*. He assured them that he rejoiced at the prospect of the King's finding a passage that way into the country of the *Six Nations*, "who will then (said he) be a happy people indeed. And as for your belt, by which you mean to speak, it will, upon the first sight of it, bear away the mind of *Thoniyoudakayon*, (General *Schuyler*), and you will, without doubt, obtain your whole request." This ironical form of address was heard in much silence by the opposite party, though I suppose they will, notwithstanding, persevere in their design.

*Saghnagenrat* then addressed himself to the whole assembly, and assured them that the *Oneidas* and *Tuscaroras* were unalterably fixed in their determination not to interfere in the present quarrel, or endeavour to obstruct or hinder, by words or otherwise, any of the military operations of the contending parties, while they themselves were uninjured; which was fully confirmed by a speech delivered by one of the principal warriors of the *Oneida* and *Tuscarora* tribes.

The *Oneidas*, &c., could not account for the perseverance of the *Senecas*, &c., in their design of addressing the Commissioners, any other way than by supposing that Colonel *Butler* had made a speech to them for that purpose, as afterwards, by the confession of a particular person, appeared really to be the case; and was, I suppose, the speech which the *Senecas* concealed from the publick, on account of my being present.

This day the Council-fire was extinguished. This evening the *Quigogas* came to see us, and settled all difficulties subsisting between them and their brethren, the *Oneidas*, and renewed and strengthened their ancient covenant of brotherhood, &c.

3d.—Set out from *Onondaga*, and arrived safe at *Oneida*, without meeting anything very worthy of observation.

The above sketch of the late transactions at *Onondaga* are respectfully submitted to the honourable Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, in the Northern Department, by their very humble servant,

JAMES DEANE.

GENERAL THOMAS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Montreal, April 27, 1776.

SIR: I have been so unfortunate, by reason of the lakes being blocked with ice, as not to be able to reach this city until last evening; and the troops which were at *Albany* and *Fort George*, waiting for the opening of the lakes, have not yet arrived on this side; but as they are on their way, hope to see them in a few days.

I have endeavoured to inform myself from General *Arnold*, and other gentlemen in this city, of the state of our Army before *Quebeck*, and in other parts of the Province of *Canada*. I find that the troops who engaged only to the 15th of *April* are mostly on their return home, and cannot be prevailed upon to continue longer in the country; and by the information given me, have no reason to expect that when those who are on their way here shall arrive, the whole will much exceed four thousand, exclusive of the small number of *Canadians*, who have, and are likely to engage in the Continental service.

The artillery, powder, &c., are not yet arrived, and little or no preparations made, as I expected there would have been, for the defence of the country; not an artificer, as I can find, for building boats or floating batteries, which are, in my opinion, very necessary to defend the river, nor a person who understands the use of artillery, except those who are confined in *Quebeck*. The provisions are not more than sufficient to victual the troops to the 10th of *May*, and the Continental currency has but little credit, which makes it extremely difficult to discharge the debts contracted among the inhabitants, whose dispositions are not so friendly as heretofore, owing partly to their not being paid so punctually for their services as they were promised, and partly to their disappointment in not seeing the number of troops coming into the country which they had been taught to expect. When I mention the quantity of provisions, I mean the provisions already here, exclusive of three hundred barrels of pork which General *Schuyler* is sending forward.

The Committee of Congress have not yet arrived; and unless, on their arrival, they can give credit to the Continental currency, we shall be subjected to many inconveniences. I am not at present able to make out a perfect return of the troops here, but shall as soon as in my power.

From the situation of things, your Excellency will judge whether double the number of troops mentioned above will be more than sufficient for the defence of this Province, should there be a reinforcement of the Ministerial troops, as there is the utmost reason to suppose there will be, as soon as the navigation of the river will permit, especially considering the little dependance that is to be made on the *Canadians*.

I should have been happy could I, consistently with truth, have given a more pleasing account of the state of our affairs in *Canada*; but it is my duty to represent facts as they are.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, April 27, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your two letters of the 20th and 22d instant. Of the lead ore which is raising at *Middletown*, in this Colony, but a small quantity is yet smelted. The work is going on, and hope you may be supplied with lead from thence ere long. We are not furnished with as experienced workmen as we could wish; the only workman whose experience may be depended on is at present unfit for duty.

Some arms are wanted to furnish our troops at *New-London*; we have nearly sufficient for that purpose. When these are supplied, hope we shall be able to furnish some for the Continental service. Our Assembly is near sitting. Shall consult them on the subject of your requests.

The quantity of powder arrived in this Colony on Continental account is not so large as was represented. This Colony has powder arrived in *Philadelphia*, which is proposed to be exchanged for what is here. Whether this will take place, am not yet acquainted. I promise myself that this Colony will be refunded the quantity mentioned in mine of the 16th *February* last, which was lent for Continental service: the security of this Colony renders it absolutely necessary.

The account I mentioned to you at *Norwich*, I have desired the Commissary-General to receive the money for; the vouchers are already transmitted, and I suppose are in your hands.

I am, with great esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 4, 1776.]

Lebanon, April 27, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 12th instant, with the commissions, &c., directed to our General Assembly, are received, and will be laid before them; likewise another of the 17th, with the enclosure for Commodore *Hopkins*. After perusal, I immediately sealed and forwarded it, agreeable to direction. I wrote to Mr. *Shaw* to furnish me with intelligence, that I might act agreeable to the spirit of the resolves of Congress. Enclosed is a copy of his letter and enclosure to me.

Fortifying the harbour of *New-London*, and securing the navigation of the *Sound* to the Colonies, are objects which demand the most serious and early attention.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

New-London, April 25, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is an invoice of the weight and size of thirty-four cannon received from Admiral *Hopkins*, ten of which are landed at *Groton*, viz: three twenty-four-pounders, two eighteen-pounders, and five twelve-pounders. The remainder are at *New-London*, and are mostly fitted on carriages. He has landed a great quantity of cannon ball, and shall pick out such as are serviceable. Mr. *Ledyard*, I suppose, has carriages already made for the guns at *Groton*; so that we shall have the carriages, rammers, &c., ready to pay a compliment to any of the *British* ships, let them come as soon as they please.

The mortars and shells General *Washington* desired might be sent to *New-York*; and the Admiral has sent them. The remainder of the cannon are partly sent to *Newport*, and part on board the fleet, which he wants to carry to *Newport*. I showed him the resolve of Congress relative to their being delivered here; but he says they cannot be taken out.

The nine-pounders are but ordinary guns, the others are all very good and new. Colonel *Knox*, a gentleman whom General *Washington* desired to take a particular view of the harbour, thinks that it would be best to have four of the twelve-pounders mounted as field-pieces—two on each side of the river; which you will consider of.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. When all the shot and iron wheels are landed, will send you an account of the number of each and size.

Invoice of thirty-four Cannon, received of Admiral *HOPKINS*, viz:

3 twenty-four-pounders, 2 eighteen-pounders, 5 twelve-pounders, sent to *Groton*; 8 twenty-four-pounders, 2 eighteen-pounders, 4 twelve-pounders, 10 nine-pounders, left in *New-London*. The nines are old poor guns.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, April 27, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of your Excellency's letter of the 18th instant, and immediately took measures for carrying your designs respecting the vessels into execution.

I have enclosed a letter, containing accounts, &c., from Doctor *Brown*; and an account from Mr. *Singletary*, and wait your directions respecting them. There are several accounts, similar to Mr. *Singletary's*, yet unsettled. Should your Excellency approve those accounts, they cannot be paid until the arrival of more money.

I am, sir, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

Boston, April 27, 1776.

To His Excellency General WASHINGTON:

SIR: The Petition of *Stephen Brown*, Physician, humbly sheweth, that on the 23d of *September* was passing up *Kennebeck* River, and was called upon by Mr. *Joseph Farnsworth*, Commissary of the Provincials, (bound on an expedition to *Quebeck*,) to attend all the sick that came within the sphere of my visitings up and down the river, and strictly enjoined it on me to attend them with the utmost of my skill and vigilance. I, according to his desire, attended all that came within the compass of my practice, and traveled even to the distance of fifty miles up river above *Fort Halifax*, and twenty miles down river at *Brunswick Fort*, with the utmost fatigue, the roads being bad and difficult to find. Prostrating (my accounts with my orders from the Commissary) before you, considering the trouble of traveling from the eastward to *Boston*, which is no less than one hundred and sixty miles, for my reasonable compensation, leaving my patients at the same time, I hope you will consider me, benevolent sir.

May this be worthy your mature consideration, so far as tends to my honest satisfaction; which is the humble deprecation of your Excellency's obedient and very humble servant,

STEPHEN BROWN.

COLONEL MCINTOSH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Savannah, in Georgia, April 28, 1776.

SIR: I wrote to your Excellency the 16th of *February* and 8th of *March*, to which please to be referred; and now enclose you a report of our battalion, made to me this day, which I deferred sending you before, in expectation of our officers coming in with all their recruits; but the distance they were obliged to go rendered it impossible.

I am informed that Captain *Colson* is on his way, with his company nearly complete; and, with the other recruiting officers, may make above seventy or eighty men more than the report; and is altogether above half the complement of the battalion, which is more than the oldest battalion in *South-Carolina* can boast of yet, though near twelve months' standing, and their encouragements so much greater, their bounty being twenty-five pounds, *South-Carolina* currency, with the like sum for clothes, besides their rations and pay, which is also better than ours. And if the ease in which the poorest people generally live in the Southern Colonies, and the prejudice they have to any regular service, on account of the restraint that anything of a strict discipline requires, is considered, I flatter myself your Excellency will think we have not been idle. Chief of the men are enlisted for twelve months; some for eighteen; and a few who would not engage for more than six months, whom I have admitted, as I had no directions about the time, and could not tell how soon we might have occasion for them.

Our Province allows six dollars per man, inlisting money; and, upon application, have raised it now to eight dollars; which is still too little for the bounty of the men, and expense of the officer, whose pay is so small that they can barely afford to live in an extravagant country like this, where there are no kind of manufactures, and the small remains of goods advanced to two or three hundred per cent. Indeed, I fear we shall be at the greatest loss to make out clothing of any kind for them, or, what is far worse, proper arms.

The officers who are not recruiting, employ all their time in training themselves and the battalion; on which specta-

tors are pleased to pay high compliments for the proficiency they have already made, and appearance of the men, &c.

The *Raven* and *Cherokee* are the only two ships-of-war which remain now stationed at *Tybee*, in the mouth of *Savannah River*; with whom we have no kind of communication.

Several armed vessels infest our other inlets to the southward, and made several captures, which we cannot prevent, as we have not a single vessel of any force; but they have always been driven off the shore when they attempted to get a supply of provision.

We are informed there are two thousand men now in *St. Augustine*, lately arrived, and that they expect more daily; but this wants confirmation, as I think in that poor, starved Colony, they must be much pinched for provision. This Province is now raising a troop of sixty horse, to prevent their getting any cattle from our Southern boundary; and another troop, of a like number, to protect our Western settlements from the insults of *Indians*, who are like to be troublesome.

All things considered, I certainly think this Colony should have a considerable force to defend and secure it, as its safety is of the utmost consequence to the great cause of the Continent. The troops of our neighbouring Province are all upon Provincial establishment, and at a distance; therefore, their assistance may depend upon many circumstances.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

LACHLAN McINTOSH.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief.

A Return of the strength of the GEORGIA Battalion, April 28, 1776.

COMPANIES,	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Fifers.	Sentinels.
Captain Francis Harris's.....	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	24
Captain Oliver Bowen's.....	1	2	-	3	1	1	1	20
Captain John McIntosh's.....	1	2	1	4	2	1	-	19
Captain Arthur Carney's.....	1	2	1	4	4	-	-	48
Captain Thomas Chisholm's.....	1	2	1	4	4	1	1	47
Captain John Green's.....	1	2	-	4	4	-	-	39
Captain Chesley Bostick's.....	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	29
Captain Jacob Colson's.....	1	2	-	2	-	1	-	10
Total.....	8	15	5	24	18	5	3	236

A Return of the present state of the GEORGIA Battalion, April 28, 1776:

	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Fifers.	Sentinels.
On Guard.....	-	1	-	1	2	1	1	30
For Guard.....	-	1	-	1	2	1	1	30
On Furlough.....	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	11
Recruiting.....	6	4	1	3	1	-	-	1
Sick.....	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	10
Attending Sick.....	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Armourers.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Prisoners.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	5
Officers' Servants.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Off Duty.....	-	2	3	18	10	1	1	136
Total.....	8	15	5	24	18	5	3	236

24 Sergeants, 18 Corporals, 5 Drummers, 3 Fifers, 236 Rank and File—286 enrolled. By the information I have, I suppose our recruiting officers may have about seventy or eighty men more, who are not come in yet.

LACHLAN McINTOSH, Colonel.

Savannah, in Georgia, April 28, 1776.

Colony of GEORGIA:

Whereas the unwise and iniquitous system of Administration, obstinately persisted in by the *British* Parliament and Ministry against the good People of *America*, hath at length

driven the latter to take up arms, as their last resource, for the preservation of their rights and liberties, which *God* and the Constitution gave them:

And whereas an armed force, with hostile intentions against the People of this Province, having lately arrived at *Cockspur*, his Excellency Sir *James Wright*, Baronet, the King's Governour of *Georgia*, in aid of the views of Administration, and with a design to add to those inconveniences which necessarily flow from a state of confusion, suddenly and unexpectedly withdrew himself from his Government, carrying off the Great Seal of the Province with him:

And whereas, in consequence of this and other events, doubts have arisen with the several Magistrates how far they are authorized to act under their former appointments, and the greatest part of them have absolutely refused to do so, whereby all judicial powers are become totally suspended, to the great danger of persons and property:

And whereas, before any general system or form of Government can be concluded upon, it is necessary that application be made to the Continental Congress for their advice and directions upon the same; but, nevertheless, in the present state of things, it is indispensably requisite that some temporary expedient be fallen upon to curb the lawless and protect the peaceable:

This Congress, therefore, as the Representatives of the People, with whom all power originates, and for whose benefit all Government is intended, deeply impressed with a sense of duty to their constituents, of love to their country, and inviolable attachment to the liberties of *America*, and seeing how much it will tend to the advantage of each to preserve rules, justice, and order—do take upon them for the present, and until the further order of the Continental Congress, or of this or any future Provincial Congress, to declare, and they accordingly do declare, order, and direct, that the following Rules and Regulations be adopted in this Province—that is to say:

1st. That there shall be a President and Commander-in-Chief appointed by ballot, in this Congress, for six months, or during the time above specified.

2d. That there shall, in like manner and for the like time, be also a Council of Safety, consisting of thirteen persons, (besides the five Delegates to the General Congress,) appointed to act in the nature of a Privy Council to the said President or Commander-in-Chief.

3d. That the President shall be invested with all the Executive powers of Government not inconsistent with what is hereafter mentioned, but shall be bound to consult and follow the advice of the said Council in all cases whatsoever; and any seven of the said Council shall be a quorum for the purpose of advising.

4th. That all the Laws, whether common or statute, and the Acts of Assembly which have formerly been acknowledged to be of force in this Province, and which do not interfere with the proceedings of the Continental or our Provincial Congresses, and also all and singular the Resolves and Recommendations of the said Continental and Provincial Congresses, shall be of full force, validity, and effect, until otherwise ordered.

5th. That there shall be a Chief Justice and two Assistant Judges, an Attorney-General, a Provost-Marshal, and Clerk of the Court of Sessions, appointed by ballot, to serve during the pleasure of the Congress. The Court of Sessions, or Oyer and Terminer, shall be opened and held on the second *Tuesday* in *June* and *December*, and the former rules and method of proceeding, as nearly as may be, shall be observed in regard to summoning of Juries, and all other cases whatsoever.

6th. That the President or Commander-in-Chief, with the advice of the Council as before-mentioned, shall appoint Magistrates to act, during pleasure, in the several Parishes throughout this Province; and such Magistrates shall conform themselves as nearly as may be to the old establishment, form, and methods of proceeding.

7th. That all Legislative powers shall be reserved to the Congress; and no person who holds any place of profit, civil or military, shall be eligible as a Member either of the Congress or Council of Safety.

8th. That the following sums shall be allowed as salaries to the respective Officers, for and during the time they shall serve, over and besides all such perquisites and fees as have been formerly annexed to the said Officers respectively:

To the President and Commander-in-Chief, at and  
after the rate, per annum, of (sterling) - - - £300  
To the Chief Justice, Do. - - - - - 100  
To the Attorney-General, Do. - - - - - 25  
To the Provost-Marshal, Do. - - - - - 60  
To the Clerk of the Court, Do. - - - - - 50

The above is the Report of the Committee ordered to devise a temporary Constitution or form of Government, with the Amendment made in Congress scratched out, April 15, 1776, which Colonel *McIntosh* begs leave to enclose.

EDMUND PENDLETON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Williamsburgh, April 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In Committee of Safety we have received intelligence from *North-Carolina* that they are sending off a number of their Tory prisoners, to be kept partly in *Pennsylvania*, others in your Province, and the remainder in our Province. We have, at their request, sent a guard to escort them (twenty-six designed for *Pennsylvania* and twelve for your Province) to *Alexandria*, to which place you will please to despatch directions where you mean to have yours kept, and appoint a proper guard for conveying them, and also for escorting those for *Pennsylvania* through your Province.

We need not hint the necessity of using caution to prevent their escape, as their return to *Carolina* may be attended with bad consequences.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,  
EDMUND PENDLETON, *President*.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

*List of Prisoners destined for MARYLAND.*

1. Captain *William Garner*.
2. *Aaron Vardie*, Wagonmaster.
3. Captain *Lyman York*.
4. *Samuel Devenny*, (shot Captain *Dent* in cold blood.)
5. *Stephen Lesney*—the same.
6. *Frederick Croft*—the same.
7. Captain *John Piles*.
8. *John Piles*, Jun.
9. Ensign *Thomas Brawford*.
10. Captain *David Jackson*.
11. Captain *Robinson York*.
12. Captain *Alexander McCra*.
13. Lieutenant *Kenneth Stuart*.

J. ROGERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

April 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I shall endeavour to comply with the request in your favour received this morning by express. I am just recovering from a severe attack of the gout, and find myself much relaxed and weakened; but I am in hopes of being able to set off on *Wednesday* next, and of getting to *Philadelphia* time enough for such of the *American* gentlemen as intend to be at the Convention, to attend the first day of its meeting.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

J. ROGERS.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

STEPHEN WEST TO GABRIEL DUVAL.

Woodyard, Sunday Night, April 28, 1776.

SIR: Two men of Captain *Stone's* Company, (*Thomas Norris* and *George Thomas*.) stopping here for quarters, I had some discourse with them relative to the troops stationed near us, viz: at *Port-Tobacco*; and am sorry to hear that they have no arms. I have been so closely engaged at work for other people that I have done but little for myself in fixing and finishing my barrels. I have just heard of one which I think is every way as indifferent as any I shall have. The rest of the bayonets will be better, and most of the guns larger and stouter. Yet this one I think superior to any I have seen made in the country, and every way better finished.

This gun, reckoning only twenty-two shillings and six pence for the barrel, stands me five pounds seven shillings and six pence. Supposing the barrels at *Harris's* price, (thirty-

five shillings,) would bring the piece to six pounds two shillings and six pence; and that would leave me fifteen shillings for my trouble and profit, collecting materials, &c. Few officers, I believe, have so good and well furnished pieces. The *Pennsylvania* gunsmiths contracted with the *Virginia* Convention for five pounds six shillings and three pence, with wooden rammers, and the sample no way comparable to this. My barrels have all been proved. If the honourable Council of Safety chooses to take what I have at the price above, of six pounds two shillings and six pence, I will engage to furnish a quantity in a short time, (say fifty,) equally good and well finished; and many of them every way much better. Some I have that belonged to the troops under *Forbes* and *Stanwix*, that I think superior to any I ever saw, every way. These are in hand, repairing and fixing; and when done will be wonderfully large and good. I paid a high price for them, and cannot afford them for less than six pounds two shillings and six pence. I shall have many fine pieces, fit for officers—guns that cost three and four guineas at *London*, which I have equipped with swivels and bayonets, and made all very fine and complete. I have had an offer from the *Virginia* Convention, by their agents, which I decline, our own people wanting. Please to take care of this gun and bayonet, and show them to the Council of Safety. If they think proper to contract with me, I will deal cordially and honourably with them, and put good arms into their hands. The stocks will all be in that taste, but many much stouter and handsomer.

I want brasses for mounting. You see I am forced to put polished iron or steel guards. Mr. *Peale* will be at *Annapolis* on *Tuesday*; if you have opportunity, let me hear from you on this subject, and the opinion and determination of the Council of Safety. These men (the bearers) can give them some account of the valuable pieces we have in hand.

My barrels, in general, are three and-a-half feet long, three-quarters bore, for an ounce ball; but some of them are of a large size. I have also some neat carbines for officers. If the Council choose wooden ramrods, I shall abate five shillings, but the others are far the best. You will see none such as mine, unless in very particular pieces.

I am, with much regard, sir, your obedient servant,

STEPHEN WEST.

To *Gabriel Duwall*, Esquire.

E. WRIXON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read April 29, 1776.]

Philadelphia, April 28, 1776.

SIR: Having been favoured with Mr. Secretary *Thomson's* letter, written by order of the honourable the Continental Congress, notifying their appointment of me to the office of Chief Engineer of the Continental Army in *Canada*, with the rank of Colonel, I must take the liberty to request that you will do me the favour of assuring the Congress of the high and grateful sense I entertain of the honour conferred by their appointment, and also of the unhappy necessity that obliges me to decline it; being convinced by fourteen years' service, during which my whole time and thoughts were directed in the military line, that the rank of Colonel would not enable me to do justice either to their honours, or to myself.

I must now, sir, request that you will be so kind as to excuse the trouble I have given you; and believe that I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your very humble and obedient servant,

E. WRIXON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the honourable the Continental Congress.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN ADAMS, DATED PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 28, 1776.

Yesterday I received two letters from you, from the 7th to the 14th of *April*. It gives me concern to think of the many cares you must have upon your mind. Your reputation as a farmer, or anything else you undertake, I dare answer for. Your partner's character as a statesman is much more problematical.

As to my return, I have not a thought of it. Journeys of such a length are tedious and expensive, both of time and money; neither of which is my own. I hope to spend the next Christmas where I did the last, and after that, I hope



to be relieved; for by that time I shall have taken a pretty good trick at helm, whether the vessel has been well steered or not. But if my countrymen should insist upon my serving them another year, they must let me bring my whole family with me. Indeed, I could keep house here with my partner, four children and two servants, as cheap as I maintain myself here with two horses and a servant at lodgings.

Instead of domestick felicity, I am destined to publick contentions. Instead of rural felicity, I must reconcile myself to the smoke and noise of a city. In the place of private peace, I must be distracted with the vexation of developing the deep intrigues of politicians, and must assist in conducting the arduous operations of war, and think myself well rewarded if my private pleasure and interests are sacrificed, as they ever have been and will be, to the happiness of others.

You tell me our jurors refuse to serve, because the writs are issued in the King's name. I am very glad to hear that they discover so much sense and spirit. I learn from another letter that the General Court have left out of their bills the year of his reign, and that they are making a law that the same name shall be left out of all writs, commissions, and all law processes. This is good news too. The same will be the case in all the Colonies very soon.

You ask me how I have done the winter past. I have not enjoyed so good health as last fall. But I have done complaining of anything. Of ill health I have no right to complain, because it is given me by Heaven. Of meanness, of envy, of littleness, of ———, of ———, of ———, I have reason and right to complain; but I have too much contempt to use that right. There is such a mixture of folly, littleness, and knavery in this world, that I am weary of it; and although I behold it with unutterable contempt and indignation, yet the publick good requires that I should take no notice of it by word or by letter. And to this publick good I will conform.

You will see an account of the fleet in some of the papers I have sent you. I give you joy of the Admiral's success. I have vanity enough to take to myself a share in the merit of the *American Navy*. It was always a measure that my heart was much engaged in, and I pursued it for a long time against the wind and tide, but at last obtained it.

You take it for granted that I have particular intelligence of everything from others, but I have not. If any one wants a vote for a commission, he vouchsafes me a letter, but tells me very little news. I have more particulars from you than any one else. Pray keep me constantly informed what ships are in the harbour, and what fortifications are going on. I am quite impatient to hear of more vigorous measures for fortifying *Boston* harbour—not a moment should be neglected. Every man ought to go down, as they did after the battle of *Lexington*, and work until it is done. I would willingly pay half a dozen hands myself, and subsist them, rather than it should not be done immediately. It is of more importance than to raise corn.

If the small-pox spreads, run me in debt. I received, a post or two past, a letter from your uncle at *Salem*, containing a most friendly and obliging invitation to you and yours, to go and have the distemper at his house, if it should spread. He has one or two in his family to have it.

The writer of *Common Sense* and the *Forester* is the same person. His name is *Paine*, a gentleman about two years ago from *England*, a man who, General *Lee* says, has genius in his eyes. The writer of *Cassandra* is said to be Mr. *James Cannon*, a tutor in the *Philadelphia* College. *Cato* is reported here to be Doctor *Smith*, a match for *Brattle*. The oration was an insolent performance. A motion was made to thank the orator, and to ask a copy; but opposed with great spirit and vivacity from every part of the room, and at last withdrawn, lest it should be rejected, as it certainly would have been, with indignation. The orator then printed it himself, after leaving out or altering some offensive passages. This is one of the many irregular and extravagant characters of the age. I never heard one single person speak well of anything about him, but his abilities, which are generally allowed to be good. The appointment of him to make the oration was a great oversight and mistake.

The last Act of Parliament has made so deep an impression upon people's minds throughout the Colonies, it is looked upon as the last stretch of oppression, and that we are hastening rapidly to great events. Governments will be up

everywhere before midsummer, and an end to Royal style, titles, and authority. Such mighty revolutions make a deep impression on the minds of men, and set many violent passions at work. Hope, fear, joy, sorrow, love, hatred, malice, envy, revenge, jealousy, ambition, avarice, resentment, gratitude, and every other passion, feeling, sentiment, principle, and imagination, were never in more lively exercise than they are now, from *Florida* to *Canada* inclusively. May God in His providence overrule the whole for the good of mankind. It requires more serenity of temper, a deeper understanding, and more courage than fell to the lot of *Marlborough*, to ride in this whirlwind.

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COLONEL DAYTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Elizabethtown, April 28, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Having this day, in obedience to order from the General, begun my march for *Canada*, I have nominated the Reverend *James Caldwell* for Chaplain; and who, I suppose, must supply the other *Jersey* Battalion, as there is no other appointed, if he is to serve no more than the battalions. It is the request of Colonel *Ogden*, who is present, and, I make no doubt, of Colonel *Hines* likewise, that their battalion may be joined with mine—that is, the First and the Third. Mr. *Caldwell* cannot get ready to march sooner than next week, and desires that his commission may be sent to him at this place as soon as possible. If the Committee of Safety for this Province had been sitting, perhaps it would have been proper to have saved you this trouble by applying to them; but they are adjourned, and the members say they have not any directions for the appointment of Chaplains.

I am, sir, with all due respect to you, and the other honourable members, your most obedient and humble servant,

ELIAS DAYTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

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JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, April 28, 1776, Evening.

SIR: I have the honour of yours of the 26th instant, enclosing a resolve of Congress directing me to purchase and forward to General *Schuyler* two thousand barrels of pork for the supply of the Army going into *Canada*. On my arrival in this city I was informed that General *Lee* had ordered four thousand barrels for the same service, which quantity, since that time, I found was not purchased, but was delayed for want of further orders, as General *Lee* had left the command here. I conceived that quantity would be wanted in that department; therefore, as want must be guarded against, and pay for the pork seemed a difficulty in procuring it, I immediately engaged to furnish it on the delivery in this place. This I informed General *Washington* of on his arrival, and he was pleased to approve my engagement. Since that, I find six regiments more are ordered by Congress into *Canada*; and though you do not mention the two thousand barrels now ordered to be in addition to the four thousand barrels, yet I shall order it in that manner, unless I am directed to the contrary by yours on the return of the post. I am sure the whole quantity of six thousand barrels will be wanted for the forces going into *Canada* before supplies of the growth of the coming season can be had; however, if Congress should direct otherwise, I shall be glad to receive their orders, which shall always be punctually observed on all occasions by me while I have the honour to serve them.

I received a letter last evening from our mutual good friend, Mr. *Burr*, announcing the death of the venerable and amiable Madam *Hancock*, last *Thursday* morning. I most devoutly condole with you on the melancholy occasion of the death of one of the best of women, and one most deservedly and peculiarly dear to you and your good lady.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

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GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL GRIDLEY.

New-York, April 28, 1776.

SIR: It gives me much concern to hear from every one who comes from *Boston* that those works that were laid out

for its defence are in little more forwardness than they were when I left that town. Who am I to blame for this shameful neglect but you, sir, who were to have them executed? It is not an agreeable task to be under the necessity of putting any gentleman in mind of his duty, but it is what I owe to the publick. I expect and desire, sir, that you will exert yourself in completing the works with all possible despatch; and do not lay me under the disagreeable necessity of writing to you again upon this subject.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Richard Gridley*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

New-York, April 28, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 23d instant. The reason why I did not hitherto represent the state of your Colony to Congress was in expectation of your forwarding unto me a sketch of it in writing. I shall take the first opportunity of doing it; and if my recommendation thereof has any weight with that august body, it will give me much pleasure to render service to your Colony. I am very glad that Colonel *Knox* has taken a view of *Newport*, and hope the directions he has left will be attended with all the good consequences you mention. We have no Engineer that can possibly be spared from hence; indeed, we are very deficient in that department. The state of this place is such, that had we any more than we have there would be full employment for them. Colonel *Babcock's* misfortune is truly pitiable. The incontestable proofs which he has given at *Cambridge* and since of a distempered mind must, to every one acquainted with them, show how unfit he must be to command the forces of your Colony.

I am, with very great regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*.

P. S. The only Engineer we had to spare is sent off to *Canada*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BAYLEY.

New-York, April 29, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 23d instant, with Mr. *Metcalf's* plan, and Captain *Johnson's* Journal, of the route from *Newbury* to *St. John's*. The representation that was transmitted to me by the hands of Colonel *Little*, I had sent to Congress. Mr. *Witherspoon* has been since sent to examine or explore a route; but I hear he is still at *Cohoos*.

The time of the Congress is so taken up with many objects of consequence that it is impossible for them to attend to everything; and as it is of importance that every communication with *Canada* should be made as free as possible, it is my opinion and desire that you set about the road you propose as soon as possible. As you must be the best judge, who to employ, you will please to take the whole upon yourself. We cannot, at this time, spare soldiers; you must therefore engage such men as you know will do the business faithfully and well. As to their wages, you must agree with them on the most reasonable terms, and I doubt not that you will, in this and every other instance, serve your country with integrity, honour, and justice. As you go on, you will, upon every opportunity, keep me advised, and I will provide for the expense, which you will be careful in making as light as possible.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Jacob Bayley, Esq., *Newbury*.

P. S. I send you by Mr. *William Wallace* two hundred and fifty pounds, lawful money, to begin with.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO GENERAL THOMPSON.

New-York, April 28, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Safety of this place have exhibited an account against the Continent; and, amongst other sums, there is one hundred and twenty pounds charged as being advanced to you. The General has forgotten what passed between you and him in respect to the disposal of that money; he therefore requests the favour of you to in-

form him the reason as soon as possible. General *Sullivan* is preparing to join you with six battalions.

Wishing you success, health, and happiness, I remain, with great esteem, sir, yours, &c.

S. MOYLAN, C. G. M.

To Brigadier-General *Thompson*.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO COLONEL NICOLL.

New-York, April 28, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to inform you that it is not in his power to furnish you with arms, many of the troops here being deficient in this instance. He has laid the intelligence had of you about those at *Kingston* before the Committee of Safety, but has not yet received their answer.

His Excellency requests your most diligent attention to the works, and that they may be carried on with all possible expedition.

The troops here, when on fatigue, and only then, are allowed a gill each of Continental rum per day. The rations in no other instance are increased.

Enclosed you have a copy of the intercepted letter you sent to his Excellency. The original he will keep himself for some time, and wishes you to make such inquiries respecting it as you may think necessary and prudent and tend to a discovery of the design, and give him the earliest notice of the same.

I am, sir, yours, &c.

To Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, Commanding at *Fort Constitution*.

CAPTAIN BELKNAP TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, April 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By the bearer hereof, Ensign *Hunter*, I send you the Muster-roll of my company, taken by Colonel *Thomas Palmer*, agreeable to your orders. The Muster-roll will show nine men short of my number, which I have actually inlisted, but are since deserted, and strolling out of the way. I expect soon to collect them, when I shall make out my return to you completed. My billeting bill also comes per bearer. You will please to furnish the bearer with every necessary for my company allowed by the warrant, except blankets, which I have procured. The balance of billeting money I shall expect, and one month's pay for my men I shall be glad to receive, as many of them have families, who are under such necessitous circumstances that obliges me to make advance to them from time to time.

I remain, gentlemen, with esteem, your most obliged and humble servant,

JOHN BELKNAP, *Captain*.

To the President of the Committee of Safety, now convened in *New-York*.

THOMAS PALMER TO FREDERICK RHINELANDER.

Fort Montgomery, April 28, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed map I sent down two months ago, and about ten days ago it was found in the boatman's house, not sent. I now send it per bearer, (Mr. *Anning Smith*.) who promises to deliver it with his own hand. The proper use you know, it being the original partition map. Being in haste, I say no more at present, but am, sir, your most humble servant,

THOMAS PALMER.

To Mr. *Frederick Rhineland*, Merchant, *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 4, 1776.]

Fort George, April 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last night I was honoured with your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing sundry resolutions of Congress, which shall claim my closest attention the moment the troops under the command of General *Thompson* are past *Ticonderoga*. He and they arrived at *Albany* on the 24th instant.

General *Thomas*, I have reason to believe, reached *Quebeck* yesterday. Doctor *Franklin* and the other gentlemen reached *Montreal* on the same day, and the last of the troops, with the cannon, military stores, and some provisions, I dare

say will be at *St. John's* to-day. I saw them set out from *Ticonderoga* on *Thursday*, and left it myself the evening of the same day, and arrived at four the next morning at this place, where I am doing all in my power to prevent a detention of the troops coming up for want of craft.

Last night I received the enclosed information from *Albany*, and shall take such measures as, I trust, will effectually defeat the diabolical designs of those miscreants. If any are taken in arms, I think they should be capitally punished, to deter others by the example; but I dare not venture to do it unless I have the permission of Congress.

As General *Washington* is now in this department, it would be out of order to address Congress on any military subject otherwise than through him. I have lately written to him fully, and enclosed a letter from General *Arnold*, which will doubtless be laid before you.

The Deputies of the seven *Canada* tribes, as they passed here, addressed me, and requested to know if they should deliver *Johnson's* bloody belts here, or in *Canada*. I directed it to be done in *Canada* by the Commissioners. Copy of it, with a copy of Mr. *Deane's* Journal, I shall do myself the honour to transmit you in a few days, being too much engaged at present to do it.

I am, dear sir, with the best wishes, most respectfully,  
your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable the President of Congress.

MICHAEL RYAN's testimony respecting inlisting Men for the King of GREAT BRITAIN.

*Michael Ryan* says he was informed by a friend of his that there were troops raising in this County in the Ministerial service; that *Samuel Anderson*, of *Pownall*, has a commission; that *Joseph Anderson* is a Lieutenant in Sir *John Johnson's* Regiment, who is to be Colonel; that *Joseph Anderson* has inlisted a number of men; that *Alexander Doyle* is a Sergeant; that he was also informed that they had raised twenty-two thousand men in this and *New-Jersey* Government; and that they had commissions from one *Rogers*; that he received the above information from *Charles Gordon*, of *Cambridge*, a blacksmith; and that there were five men inlisted in this city.

The Committee took the above information into consideration; and thereupon

Resolved, That the said *Michael Ryan* be requested immediately to go up to *Cambridge*, and make all the inquiry possible in the above matter.

April 23, 1776.—The said *Ryan* being further examined, says, in addition, that *Alexander Doyle* was to march to Sir *John's* yesterday, with an account of the success of his officers respecting the inlisting of men, and to have two or three *Indians* to mark the road from *Johnstown* to *Saratoga*, or thereabouts, in order to march the troops that are raising for the Ministerial service to Sir *John's*, to be joined by a number of *Indians*, to march to *Canada* to reinforce *Quebeck*; that one Captain *Gray*, near *Albany*, had inlisted upwards of one hundred men. Further says, that *John Munro* has inlisted upwards of eighty men; and that the said officers swear all the men; and that the pay of the privates is one shilling and six pence sterling, besides two hundred acres of the forfeited lands, wherever they choose to take it; that Sir *John* has already given deeds or bonds to those inlisted for the performance; that Captain *Samuel Anderson* has already salted up seven beeves for their use; that there are in this town sixteen barrels of flour, some pork, and some guns, for said use; that Governour *Tryon* issued out the commissions; and that Sir *John* is to be General of the said troops. That he had this information from the said *Charles Gordon*.

MICHAEL RYAN.

Sworn to the 23d of April, 1776.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Providence, April 28, 1776.

SIR: I am to acknowledge your kind indulgence in putting your Colony vessels under my care. The bearer, Captain *Niles*, has behaved like a good officer—has followed my orders, and been beneficial to the fleet. He has now on board some shells and one mortar for General *Washington*, which he will take out at *New-London*, or carry to *New-*

*York*, as your Honour thinks fit; but I believe his schooner would be fitter for service if she were ballasted with iron, which, he tells me, cannot be procured nearer than *New-York*.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, April 28, 1776.

SIR: By Mr. *Harrison's* letter of the 22d instant, I am informed your Excellency cannot supply me with the cash I wrote for. I am very sorry, as there are many demands on the Commissary and Quartermaster, which are not all of a late date. I have made out warrants for the payment of the five regiments here, for the month of *February*, and have found it necessary to give warrants for the payment of the men on board the *Hancock*, *Franklin*, and *Harrison*, privateers; otherwise they must have been hauled up.

I have made inquiry respecting the arrival of powder at *Cambridge*, since your Excellency's departure, and am informed by Mr. *Barber* that none has arrived.

I have given all attention in my power to the works. The fortress on *Fort-Hill* is in good forwardness; there are now eight twenty-four pounders and two twelves mounted and furnished, ready for action. The Court agreed to have a fortress built at *Castle-Point*, which is nearly finished, and I intend to have the cannon mounted in it this week. The work at *Charlestown-Point*, I expect, will be completed in seven or eight days. Our works and other business have been much retarded for want of teams.

Captain *Fellows*, (the gentleman I sent to *Beverly* to view the ship *Jenny* and the brigantine,) has just returned, and informed me that he, with Commodore *Manly* and Captain *Bartlett*, viewed the above vessels, and are all of opinion that neither of them is fit for the service.

As there are several of the enemy's armed vessels which cruise in this bay that are larger than our privateers, I wish that a ship of sufficient force to take them might cruise this way.

I am, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

MAJOR HOBART TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Abington, April 29, 1776.

SIR: I have sent you three hundred and thirty pots to *Roxbury*, to Major *Ruggles*, to store for you. I should be glad you would send me the cash by Captain *Brown*, of *Abington*, for yourself and Mr. *Robert Harrington*. I beg you to move to the House and Council the affair of my making guns for the Province, as it is so great an affair, and so hazardous, that they will consider me in case I should be a great sufferer. I have made four trials, and made one good cannon, and am obliged to repair the furnace with grindstone of our materials, of clay matted. The stones we had stood, but were so badly cut that we put so much clay to make tight, that it run out.

Sir, I am, with respect, your most humble servant, &c.,

AARON HOBART.

To Mr. *Richard Devens*, Esquire.

N. B. In case the one is sent to *Watertown*, you may send me one hundred pounds, by Sergeant *James Husey*, the runner.

To the honourable the Representatives of the General Court, assembled at *WATERTOWN*:

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Please to look over the humble petition of *William Clark*, *William Bishop*, *Alexander Gordon*, *Charles Hickey*, and *Peter Mackoy*, prisoners, and now confined in *Worcester Gaol*. Gentlemen, this petition humbly sheweth, that we are very willing to go to work, as we are almost naked, and unwilling to become a burden to the country, but had rather go out and work for our living, when it shall please you, gentlemen, to give orders for our enlargement, as we have been a long time imprisoned. *William Clark* was taken *December 9th*, 1775, in a trans-

port, by Captain *Manly*, and has ever since been confined; *William Bishop* was taken at *Machias*, June 12th, 1775, in Admiral *Graves's* tender; *Alexander Gordon*, a regular, was taken at *Nantasket-Beach*, January 1st, 1776; *Charles Hickey*, a regular, taken at *Charlestown*, January 8th, 1776; and *Peter Mackoy*, a regular, taken July 17th, 1775, at the advance-post, *Bunker-Hill*.

Gentlemen, we humbly beg you will look over the petition of your humble servants, and grant us our enlargement.

We are yours.

Worcester Gaol, April 29, 1776.

#### LONDON COMMON COUNCIL.

At a Common Council holden at *Guildhall*, on *Monday*, the 29th of *April*, 1776,

*Resolved*, That the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor be requested to move the following Resolution in the House of Commons: "That his Majesty's Colonies in *America* be continued upon the same footing of giving and granting their Money as his Majesty's subjects in *Ireland* are, by their own Representatives." And the other Representatives of this city, and such other members of this Court as are members of Parliament, are requested to support the same.

#### ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE EXPORTATION OF ARMS, ETC., TO AMERICA.

Brussels, April 29, 1776.

An Ordinance has been published here, prohibiting the supplying the *English* Colonies in *America* with Warlike Stores, and also the exportation during the term of one year of Warlike Stores from the sea-ports; of which the following is a translation:

"*MARIA THERESA*, &c., &c., &c., to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

"Our most dearly beloved brother, the King of *Great Britain*, having required us to take proper measures for preventing the subjects of the Provinces under our dominion in the Low Countries from furnishing succour to the inhabitants of the *English* Colonies in *America*, actually in rebellion against their mother country; and as, in consequence of the friendship and good understanding subsisting between us and his Majesty, we are desirous to testify to him our zeal to second the views which so greatly interest the good of his service; we have, by advice, &c., ordered and decreed, and do order and decree the points and articles following:

"*Article I.* We forbid all our subjects, of what rank and condition soever, to furnish, directly or indirectly, by their own ships, or by foreign ships, any succour to the *Americans*, subjects of *Great Britain*, in Artillery, Arms, Powder, Flints, or other Ammunition, or Implements or Instruments of War, under pain to the offenders of the confiscation of such effects, and a fine of one thousand florins, to be paid by the Captain or owner, whose ship may be detained and sold for the recovery of the said fine.

"*Art. II.* We forbid provisionally during the term of one year, under the same penalties, the exportation of every kind of Arms, Ammunition, Instruments, or Implements of War, from our sea-ports, without a special license from our Council of Finances; which shall not be granted but on examination of the case, and taking the necessary precautions to ascertain the destination of those effects, and to prevent their being transported to the *English* Colonies in *America*.

"This we give in command, &c."

#### EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WILMINGTON, NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED APRIL 29, 1776.

By two men who arrived here last night, after making their escape from the men-of-war below, I find there are a number of prizes, to the amount of thirty sail. They say five transports arrived a few days past from *Corik*, being part of a fleet of forty-five sail, viz: thirty transports, ten store-ships, one fifty-gun ship, two frigates, and two bombs, with nine regiments on board, destined for this place; which are expected to land when the whole fleet arrives. This is generally believed here, as the ships were seen off on *Monday* by the pilots. The Militia, who have been but a few days discharged, are coming in fast, and who, with the Continental forces already here, will be able to make a good stand.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN HOLDEN.

[No. 134.]

Annapolis, April 29, 1776.

SIR: We are informed that you have a schooner which sails well, and will carry about four or five hundred barrels of flour. If you incline to let us have her on freight to the *West-Indies*, we will take her of you, and insure her to the sum she may be valued at. Her loading is now ready at *Baltimore* town. Let us hear from you by return of this boat, or by some earlier opportunity.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Jeremiah Holden*.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN VALIANT.

[No. 135.]

Annapolis, April 29, 1776.

SIR: We are informed that you have a sloop which sails well, burden about forty tons. If you incline to let us have her on freight to the *West-Indies*, we will take her of you, and insure her to the sum she may be valued at. Her loading is now ready at *Baltimore* town. Let us hear from you by return of this boat, or by some earlier opportunity.

We are, &c.

To Captain *John Valiant*.

#### PETITION OF DR. POTTS.

[Presented 29th April, 1776, and referred to Mr. Harrison, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Goldsborough, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Rodney.]

To the Honourable the Delegates of the United Colonies in Congress assembled:

The Petition of *JONATHAN POTTS*, Doctor in Physick, sheweth:

That upon an application lately made in behalf of your petitioner to be appointed Director of the Hospital intended to be erected for the Army in the Middle Department, your Petitioner was encouraged by many Members of your honourable House to hope for such appointment, as soon as it should be found necessary to form such an establishment; that, by the movements of the Army since that time, it appears the Hospital under the direction of Doctor *Morgan* will be placed in the Middle Department, and your petitioner is informed it will be necessary to establish one in *Canada*.

He therefore prays he may be appointed Director of the Hospital there; and hopes, by a constant and faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him, he will merit the approbation of the honourable House. And he will ever pray.

*JONATHAN POTTS*.

#### ADDRESS TO THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT ELECTORS OF PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, April 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Were any words capable of expressing the importance of exerting yourselves to maintain the character I have addressed you by, I could wish, from the bottom of my heart, to find them, and set them in due order before you. I tremble to reflect what a party there is in this City, who, either in plain words or tantamount insinuations, espouse the cause of tyranny. You have read their insidious publications; you have remarked their zeal for a reconciliation and a reunion with *Great Britain* on constitutional principles. This proposal, gentlemen, is a mere phantom, a lure, a pitfall to catch you in. In the first place, no man ever did or can show what this constitutional dependance on *Great Britain* is, or can be, which will secure our liberties. And, in the second place, no terms have been, nor at all probably will be offered us, besides those of unconditional submission to the supremacy of the Parliament in all cases whatsoever. Certainly no better have appeared from the other side the water; and, when pressed on the subject, the sticklers for reconciliation acknowledge they know of no other, and yet urge you to maintain our connection with *Great Britain* upon the best terms we can obtain. If such men are not advocates for absolute tyranny, I have no conception of the meaning of the words. To be commercially connected with our friends in *Great Britain* would doubtless be very pleasing to us all; but to be subject to the destroyers of *British* as well as *American* liberty, is what none but an ignorant slave, or an insidious tool, would propose and strive to persuade you.

The Constitution of this Province is the *Shibboleth* of this

very loyal party. Every sensible man must know that the King of *Great Britain* had so material a share in the government of this Province, that the legislative nor executive powers in it can proceed one ace without him; and well did a worthy Grand Juror object to inquiring anything respecting the crown and dignity of a man who has rendered the idea of a crown detestable to the whole Western World. The Constitution is, therefore, (by the breach of Royal faith in refusing to govern according to solemn compact with all his people,) broken to pieces; and the Committee of Inspection were greatly right in proposing to call a Convention to take the state of the Province into consideration. It is easy to judge from what quarter the proposal for a more equal representation at last came. It was concluded this manœuvre would have a tendency to quiet the people, by taking one of the most unanswerable objections to the present Administration out of their mouths. You cannot, however, forget that this partial redress was a very late one, and only conceded to prevent a radical reformation.

The Patriots, notwithstanding, persuaded themselves that, in the then critical situation of affairs, it was best to acquiesce in a measure which they hoped would keep us united, rather than risk a dissension in the too violent opposition to rooted prejudices, which was necessary to clear the way for the re-establishment of a real free Constitution, on the only firm basis of our *Anglo-Saxon* ancestors. But remember, fellow-citizens, that, in the transaction of *May* 1st, you are to consider yourselves as rather acting upon a renewed system, than with too scrupulous attention to any unreasonable custom that may have crept into your old one. On this head you will suffer me to be something particular. The custom has been to deny the right of voting to all persons who have come from *Germany*, &c., until they have been naturalized, and taken such oaths as men nowadays much object to; and, what seems peculiar to this city alone, all men below the estate of fifty pounds are precluded. Now, I must profess myself of the *Forester's* opinion, that every man in the country who manifests a disposition to venture his all for the defence of its liberty should have a voice in its Councils. Persons so object as to have neither will nor sentiment of their own are readily distinguished, and cannot give much trouble. Burgesses, according to the excellent author of an Historical Essay on the *English* Constitution, "were elected by every resident inhabitant that paid his shot and bore his lot."—p. 28. This, I will affirm, is the ancient, free Constitution, which every honest man will venture his blood to restore. "There were three things," says the same author, in the next page, "essentially necessary to form a *Saxon* Government, which they applied to every case where a combined interest was concerned; and these were, a Court of Council, a Court of Law, and a Chief Magistrate. A Court of Council, to consider what was for the benefit of the whole society." Now, such a Court of Council can hardly be expected from a Qualification Law like that of Queen *Anne*, vesting the elective power only in the hands of the opulent. To such a pernicious partiality it is owing that the poor in *England* are loaded with excises on the indispensable necessities of life. Every man who pays his shot and bears his lot is naturally and constitutionally an elector in a city. And, more especially, I will affirm, that every citizen who has armed and associated to defend the Commonwealth is and should be an elector; and every non-associator and stickler for dependancy on the power that is now in actual depredation of our rights, liberties, and all that is dear to us, should be kept far from our Councils; and, unless they very speedily mend their destructive manners, sent to the haunts of despotism, where they may mix with their congenial spirits, and, with all the gratification of his Infernal Majesty's august courtiers, solace themselves in constant contemplation of human misery.

AN ELECTOR.

TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[Read April 30, 1776.]

Philadelphia Jail, April 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having the favourable opportunity of Doctor *McLean*, I would beg leave to lay before the Continental Congress a faithful and true account of the causes and circumstances that induced me to enter on this unfortunate expedition. Lamenting, with the most sincere grief, this

unhappy and unnatural contest, and wishing to avoid being active on either side, I endeavoured to remove to my lands I have on the *Mississippi*, in *West-Florida*, from the disagreeable scene; but being prevented by some very aggravating and unfortunate circumstances from accomplishing this design, I went to *Norfolk*, with intention (I own) to join his Majesty's arms, even as a volunteer, until something better should occur. When I arrived there, notwithstanding my own recent injuries, I disapproved of their violences so much that I resolved to follow my profession in the town in a private way; but, unfortunately for me, some expression of moderation of mine to Lord *Dunmore* and others caused me to be accused of being a spy. This ridiculous suspicion was so strong that Captain *Squire* threatened to carry me on board the *Otter* as a prisoner, and his Lordship sent a file of men to bring my servant before him for examination. This being cleared up, and finding that the inhabitants were leaving *Norfolk*, I had a prospect of being appointed Surgeon of some of his Majesty's ships; but in the meantime being offered the commission of Surgeon to the new regiment on this intended expedition, and persuaded by Colonel *Connolly*, (whom I never knew before, and conceived to be a regular officer,) I very inconsiderately accompanied him, which I am now sorry for; but then, every concurring circumstance, particularly these suspicions against me, prevented me from refusing. Deceived by misrepresentation and false appearances, I was led into the snare, which proper reflection (had I not neglected it) would have made me avoid. But I absolutely and solemnly disclaim all knowledge of setting the *Indians* loose on the defenceless inhabitants; that and every other species of inhumanity I deprecate and abhor. I arrived at *Norfolk* on the 5th of *November*, 1775; we left it on the 13th; and, on the 20th, were made prisoners in *Maryland*, where we were closely confined. On the 29th of *December* I escaped, with despatches for the garrison of *Detroit* and *Illinois*, (for purposes which you already know, having got the letters,) and had a bill on Captain *Lord* for two hundred dollars to supply me with necessaries, being obliged to leave my clothes and go in disguise, not as a reward, which I despise and scorn—in that light no man would have made such an attempt; but from what I have since discovered, I have also great reason to repent this. I was retaken over the *Alleghany* Mountains on the 10th of *January*, and immediately brought to this city, where I have been ever since, very closely confined, to the real prejudice of my health, perpetually shut up in a very close, damp room, without air or exercise. I beg leave, gentlemen, to assure you that my health is greatly impaired; that my hands and feet frequently swell up suddenly to such a degree as to be entirely useless for a considerable time afterwards, besides a loss of appetite. I am also very often seized with violent pain and extreme sickness, and fainting, so that unless you will be so kind as to enlarge me, I really think my life will soon be greatly endangered; I therefore earnestly solicit an enlargement on parole as a particular favour in these circumstances. If you will be so good as to grant me this, I solemnly promise that whatever place or terms you may prescribe me shall be most strictly and religiously adhered to.

Understanding there have been injurious reports of me, I also would beg leave to declare, that every party or personal prejudice, pique, or resentment, I absolutely disclaim or despise. Devoted to *Britain*, and a friend to *America*, I most sincerely wish for a reconciliation on constitutional principles, and lament the effusion of blood on both sides with unfeigned concern. No man would more cheerfully than I venture his life in the cause of *America* against any power but *Britain*, to which education and nature inspire me with a reverential attachment. A sincere friend to freedom, I never wished the liberty of a *British* subject to be abridged throughout the wide extended empire; and I was so far from thinking the obnoxious acts of Parliament just, or of disapproving of a steady constitutional opposition to them, that nothing could have induced me to join or be active on either side, but the impossibility of remaining neutral. I then engaged in favour of the country to which I was attached by nature and by birth, but with the melancholy and painful reflection that even victory in reality was loss, and with ardent wishes for a speedy and amicable adjustment. These, gentlemen, are and ever have been, my true, undisguised sentiments; and I hope my sincerity will



not give offence, being intended only to exculpate myself from misrepresentation. I beg leave again to assure you that I have suffered much by this very close confinement, particularly in my health, which is almost destroyed; and I hope, for that reason, you will be so kind as to grant this earnest solicitation for enlargement. Any restrictions you think proper shall be inviolably observed by, gentlemen, with due respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN SMYTH.\*

P. S. Being restricted from pen and ink, I am obliged to write with a lead pencil, which probably may render this illegible; if so, I could wish to be brought before you, where I will engage to be as candid as if upon honour, or even on oath.

ALLAN CAMERON TO THE CONGRESS.

[Read April 30, 1776.]

Philadelphia Jail, April 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I make no doubt, from what I have heard lately, but that I have been represented to you in a very odious and desperate light; but in justice to myself must say that few men lament the commencement and dreadful continuance of the present unhappy disputes between *Great Britain* and her *American Colonies* more than I do; and no man wishes more for a speedy reconciliation upon an honourable and firm basis, that both may revert to their former happy state, which all the world besides so much envied. However, induced by the opportunity and request of my uncle, Doctor *McLean*, I shall give you an exact account of the circumstances that caused me to enter upon this unfortunate expedition: Finding a northern climate necessary for the recovery of my health, I took passage from *St. Augustine* with the Fourteenth Regiment, and arrived in *Norfolk* some time in *October* last, still intending to take the first opportunity of proceeding north from thence to *Boston*, where I meant to have joined his Majesty's Army. His Excellency Lord *Dunmore* finding this my intention, offered me a commission in a new regiment in this intended expedition with Colonel *Connolly*, which I accepted; but at the same time must inform you that I never understood, nor have I any reason to think, that Colonel *Connolly* had any such orders as to bring down the *Indians* indiscriminately upon the inhabitants, much less upon defenceless women and children, as is reported. And notwithstanding my sincere and real attachment to the *British* Constitution, I freely own and say, that I would have no share in such an undertaking. On the 20th of *November* last I was taken prisoner, ever since which time I have been closely confined, so that my health is now greatly impaired thereby; often seized with sudden sickness, pains, faintings, with loss of appetite, and formerly a spitting of blood, and am apprehensive that in a short time even my life will be endangered; for this reason, gentlemen, I would beg the favour of you to admit me to an enlargement on a parole, upon such honourable terms as you may demand, and, if granted, I shall strictly adhere to, until exchanged by mutual agreement or these unhappy disputes otherwise determined.

In great expectation that you will release me from this

\* This deplorable condition to which I was reduced at length moved even the iron heart of the Jailer to compassion, and he entreated me to make application to the Congress for the preservation of life; observing, that although he was restricted from allowing me pen, ink, and paper, he would send me a pencil and a card.

Determined never to acknowledge or submit to the authority of the Congress, unless by compulsion, I was much at a loss in what manner or for what purpose to address them; and I concluded only to request that they would either render my confinement supportable, or order me to immediate execution, which I infinitely preferred to my present situation of being destroyed by inches. This I transmitted to them by the Jailer, written with a black-lead pencil upon the back of a common playing card.

They then ordered me to be brought before them; and excepting some insidious attempts to corrupt my principles, behaved towards me very politely, making apologies for what had past, and promising better treatment in future, at the same time declaring their astonishment at my desperate attempt, as they called it, of reaching *Detroit* or *Illinois* alone (for I had not divulged the circumstance about *Barclay*) and on foot, at that rigorous season of the year, through a barbarous and hostile country, and without friends, money, or resources.

But although they promised to render my confinement more supportable, yet I was ordered back to prison almost in the same situation as before, for my situation was very little amended by them.—*SMYTH'S Tour*, II. 286.

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most disagreeable situation, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

ALLAN CAMERON.

JOHN CONNOLLY TO THE CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, February 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have for some time past been indulged with the privilege of walking in the Jail for the benefit of the air, and flattered myself that such enlargement would tend to facilitate my recovery; but unhappily find myself disappointed. My infirm state of health and present condition cannot fail to touch the humanity of every feeling individual; and in whatever light I may appear as an enemy, yet my distress as a prisoner, aggravated by the cruel addition of pining sickness, must command the attention of every generous heart.

My difference in political opinion, and the causes instigating me to action, however criminal they may appear, I can, with the integrity of a man of honour, assert arose from a sense of duty and gratitude too powerful to be combatted by any contrary arguments.

I have now languished near four months in close imprisonment, and my physician has never given over his visits as ineffectual towards my recovery without exercise and the open air. I shall not presume to dictate to you, gentlemen, but cannot avoid intimating that my treatment appears particularly severe. Conscious as I am of unblemished honour, when the security of my person is demanded my sensibility is deeply wounded to find you prefer the strength of a Jail to effect that purpose. Political reasons may urge this severity; but permit me to assure you that, whatever may be your determination with regard to me hereafter, I shall be equally ready to obey your summons if enlarged upon parole, as immured within these walls.

If you will be good enough to allow me to attend my brother into the country for the benefit of my health, and prescribe such bounds as you may judge proper, my honour shall inviolably determine me to pursue your directions. However different we are in sentiment, there remains no doubt of the sincerity of his political professions; and therefore in the hands of such a person, who will become responsible for my appearance whenever demanded, my person will be perfectly at your disposal. Whether I am to be admitted to a chance of recovery of health, or sentenced to drag on a miserable existence (possibly) for a few weeks longer, is what I flatter myself you will be kind enough speedily to determine upon.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN CONNOLLY.

*March 9th.*—I visited Major *Connolly* yesterday, and found him still so much disordered that I fear nothing will effectually cure him but such exercise as cannot easily be had within the enclosure of the Jail. Riding on horseback, I believe, is the only remedy that will remove the cause of his disorder, which is occasioned entirely by a relaxation of his nerves.

B. RUSH.

COLONEL LOWREY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Amwell, New-Jersey, April 29, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 20th instant, with the resolve of Congress respecting the purchase of pork. I immediately sent off two men to buy and engage the quantity ordered. I have engaged between five and six hundred barrels, and a quantity of gammons, which shall forward to General *Schuyler* as fast as possible. One of the men I sent out to buy pork is not yet returned; what he has bought I do not yet know. I shall buy and forward all I can. If my orders had been sooner, it would have been in my power to have purchased the quantity much lower and sooner. I had a large part of it myself, but sold most part of it before I received your orders, for the use of the troops at *Amboy* and *Staten-Island*.

I intended coming to *Philadelphia* myself this week, but am obliged to go immediately to *New-York*, to pay off and settle with the two *Jersey* Battalions, who, I am informed, are both ordered to *Canada*.

Have sent the bearer, Mr. *James Wright*, for the money; please to give him an order on the Treasurer for fifteen

thousand dollars. He will immediately come to me at *New-York*, as I shall want some of the money to pay off the troops. If any commands, please to write me by Mr. *White*.

I am, with due regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS LOWREY.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE NEW-YORK DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[Read May 2, 1776.]

In Committee of Safety, New-York, }  
April 29, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: On the 23d *March* last we wrote to you upon a subject of the utmost importance: the command of the Marine Department on the lakes. Our application was occasioned by a letter from General *Schuyler*, a copy of which we then enclosed to you. The General in that letter informed our Congress that, in case Major *Douglass* should decline that command, there was no person he would more willingly have to command the vessels than Captain *Wynkoop*; and requested, at any rate, to send him up the soonest possible, with a sufficient number of sailors for the two schooners and sloops. We further informed you, that we immediately sent for Captain *Wynkoop*, communicated to him the General's letter, and sent him, with a copy of it, to Major *Douglass*; that he was then in service, and that it would be at least two months before he could attend at the lakes, if his health would permit; that we thereupon wrote him a letter, a copy of which, and of his answer, we also enclosed to you. In our letter to him we also gave him a gentle reproof for his uncertain answer to *Wynkoop*, and signified that we expected his immediate answer, and in case of his acceptance, he should stand ready for the execution of his duty at a minute's warning, whenever the service should require it. In his answer he informed us: "I told Captain *Wynkoop* what I now tell you, that whenever I receive orders from the Congress or General, I was willing to comply, if my health would permit; and as Captain *Wynkoop* is desired by the General to get his men and go up, I beg you would assist and forward him; and if I am not called upon, shall endeavour to serve my country in some station of as much importance as to command the lakes." We further reminded you in the above-mentioned letter, that the season was so far advanced that the service would suffer if the vessels on the lakes were not immediately employed. And conceiving that Major *Douglass's* indetermination would make room for a new appointment, we took the liberty, through you, to recommend Captain *Wynkoop* as a person who was bred a mariner, had frequently been master of mercantile vessels, had served with reputation last war, both in the land and sea service; that we then thought him (as we still do) an officer of merit; and that we had heard his conduct in the last campaign highly applauded, conceived him to be worthy of the trust, and that from General *Schuyler's* letter, the appointment would not be disagreeable to him. We further informed you that Captain *Wynkoop* would not continue in the marine service under Major *Douglass*; but that, nevertheless, we had prevailed on him, with the argument of danger that the service would suffer, to engage seamen and proceed to the General with all possible despatch. To this letter we have hitherto not been favoured with an answer; but have heard a report that some order from the Continental Congress has been sent to Major *Douglass* to repair to the post assigned him. General *Schuyler*, still attentive to the importance of the service on the lakes, in a letter of the 4th instant to General *Thompson*, who furnished us with a copy of it, writes thus: "Will you be so good as to request the *New-York* Congress that the sailors may be sent up without delay." In consequence of this we sent for Captain *Wynkoop*, being convinced of the impossibility of sending up the seamen without an officer, and engaged him to enlist the men, and to proceed to put the vessels in order, under the present uncertainty of his station, on condition that he be permitted to quit the service in case he should be superseded. Of this we informed General *Schuyler*, by letter of the 25th instant, of which Captain *Wynkoop*, who is gone up with his seamen, is the bearer.

After what has been said in recommendation of Captain *Wynkoop*, we shall presume to say no more than that, in case

Major *Douglass* should decline, we hope this fresh instance of Captain *Wynkoop's* zeal for the publick service, added to his former merit, will have sufficient weight with the Congress to confirm him in that command which was destined for Major *Douglass*.

We herewith send you the Petition and Remonstrances of *New-York*, for redress of grievances.

Major *Benedict*, of the first *New-York* Battalion, conceiving himself unfit for that office, has made a voluntary resignation, by which that Majority has become vacant. On this occasion we conceive it to become our duty to hold up two candidates for the choice of Congress. Major *Barnabas Tut-hill*, of Colonel *Holmes's* Regiment, of the last year's levies, and the person who, from an attention to rank, we put on the list of Lieutenant-Colonels for the present levies, is one. He was an officer in the last war, and we have never heard of anything to his disadvantage, either in civil or military character. Captain *Marinus Willet* was in service during the last war, and was Captain in the last year's *New-York* levies; and, with an attention to his rank as second Captain in the First Battalion, and when Captain *Weisenfels*, who was the first Captain, was promoted to a Lieutenant Colonelcy, we recommended Captain *Willet* for the Majority; but by some mistake, as we conceive, Captain *Benedict*, the second Captain of the Fourth Battalion, was preferred to him. Captain *Willet* cannot, in our opinion, have a better recommendation than General *Schuyler's* letter to us of the 4th *March* last, which is literally as follows, to wit: "When an officer has acted with remarkable attention and propriety, it becomes a duty in his commander to give publick testimony of it. Such has been the conduct of Captain *Willet* during the last campaign; he is therefore entitled to the attention of his country." For these reasons we beg leave to hold up Captain *Willet* as another candidate for the Majority.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient, and very humble servants,

By order: PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.

To the Gentlemen Delegates for *New-York*, in Continental Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, April 29, 1776.

It is with great concern I learn from every hand, that your works for the defence of *Boston* and the harbour go on exceedingly slow. I must entreat you, therefore, to push Colonel *Gridley* on to a diligent and faithful discharge of his duty in this particular. We cannot possibly tell where the enemy will pitch their tents next. If *Boston* is left open and unguarded, it may be a temptation to go there; but at any rate, no time should be lost in putting the town in the best posture of defence the nature of the case will admit of. I shall be glad, in your next, to receive a particular account of what has been done towards fortifying the harbour.

Four regiments, to wit: *Poor's*, *Patterson's*, *Greaton's*, and *Bond's*, are already gone off for *Canada*. *Reed's* and *Stark's* will embark this day for *Albany*, on their route to the same place; and four others will follow in a day or two.

I am, sir, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, April 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you on the 24th instant, and now, to inform you that, in addition to the four regiments detached from hence under General *Thompson*, I am ordered by Congress to send six more. This detachment will be under the command of General *Sullivan*, and consists of two of the Eastern regiments, (*Reed's* and *Stark's*), and of four of these Provinces. The two first will embark to-day, the others will be pushed forward as soon as possible.

I have spoken to the Commissary to send forward a supply of provisions. He says that he is taking measures for that purpose, and that it shall be done. The powder you wrote for I shall attempt to furnish, and as early as in my power, the augmentation of the Army in *Canada* necessarily requiring a large increase to that which was there before.

The Congress have sent three boxes of money, said to contain three hundred thousand dollars. They are thus far

on their way to you, and will be transmitted by General *Sullivan*. I wish, and doubt not but that you will, make every preparation at *Albany* for expediting the troops to *Canada*. The situation of our affairs there calls aloud for despatch and the most vigorous exertions.

A Mr. *Ray*, of this city, has informed Colonel *Ritzema* that a Mr. *Philip Van Rensselaar* has above three thousand stand of arms in his possession at *Albany*. Do make strict inquiry into the matter, and if any can be had, send them here immediately, Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, and others now raising, being greatly deficient, I may say almost destitute, and without any.

I am, dear sir, with great esteem, yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*.

Colonel JAMES REED's receipt for three hundred thousand Dollars, for General SCHUYLER.

New-York, April 29, 1776.

Then received from General *Washington* three boxes, said to contain three hundred thousand dollars, to be delivered to General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

JAMES REED.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

New-York, April 29, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: Since my arrival at this place, I have been favoured with two or three of your letters, and thank you for your kind and frequent remembrance of me. If I should not write to you so often as you do to me, you must attribute it to its true cause, and that is, the hurry and multiplicity of business in which I am constantly engaged, from the time I rise out of my bed until I go into it again.

I wrote to you a pretty full account, just before I left *Cambridge*, of the movements of the two Armies, and now refer you to it. Since that time, I have brought the whole Army which I had in the *New-England* Governments (five regiments excepted, left behind for the defence of *Boston*, and the stores we have there) to this place; and eight days ago I detached four regiments for *Canada*, and I am now embarking six more for the same place, as there are reasons to believe that a push will be made there this campaign, and things in that country not being in a very promising way, either with respect to the *Canadians* or *Indians*. These detachments have weakened us very considerably in this important post, where, I am sorry to add, there are too many inimical persons. But as our affairs in *Canada* can derive no support except what is sent to them, and the Militia may be called in here, it was thought best to strengthen that quarter at the expense of this; but I am afraid we are rather too late in doing it. From the Eastern Army, under my immediate command, it was impossible to do it sooner.

We have already gone great lengths in fortifying this city and the *Hudson River*. A fortnight more will put us in a very respectable posture of defence. The works we have already constructed, and which they found we were about to erect, have put the King's ships to flight; for, instead of lying within pistol-shot of the wharves, and their sentries conversing with ours, whilst they received every necessary that the country afforded, they have now gone down to the *Hook*, near thirty miles from this place, the last harbour they can get to; and I have prevailed upon the Committee of Safety to forbid every kind of intercourse between the inhabitants of this Colony and the enemy. This I was resolved upon effecting; but I thought it best to bring it about through that channel, as I now can pursue my own measures in support of their resolves.

Mrs. *Washington* is still here, and talks of taking the small-pox; but I doubt her resolution. Mr. and Mrs. *Custis* will set out in a few days for *Maryland*. I did not write to you by the *Squire*, because his departure, in the first place, was sudden; in the next, I had but little to say. I am very sorry to hear that my sister was indisposed when you last wrote. I hope she is now recovered, and that your family are well. That they may continue so, and that our once happy country may escape the depredations and calamities attending war, is the fervent prayer of, dear sir, your most affectionate brother,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To John Augustine Washington.

# PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United Colonies.

Whereas an intercourse and correspondence with the ships-of-war, and other vessels belonging to and in the service of the King of *Great Britain*, is highly detrimental to the rights and liberties of the said Colonies:

And whereas the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*, taking the same under their consideration, on the 18th ultimo, did resolve and order "That no inhabitant of the said Colony, on any pretence, or for any purpose whatsoever, either in person or in writing, should, directly or indirectly, presume to have or maintain any intercourse whatsoever with any Ship belonging to or employed in the service of the said King, or with any of his Officers or Ministers, or with any person or persons on board the same, on pain of being dealt with in the severest manner;" notwithstanding which, there is reason to believe that sundry base and wicked persons, preferring their own present private emolument to their country's weal, have continued to carry on the same, particularly some who, under pretence of coming to the market of this city by water, have put themselves, their vessels and effects, in the way of the said ships-of-war, for the purposes of giving intelligence, and furnishing them with supplies of provision, and have been taken:

To the end that such evil and pernicious practices may be remedied and prevented in future, I hereby publish and declare, that if any person or persons shall hereafter presume to have, hold, or continue to carry on such intercourse, or any kind of correspondence whatsoever, or furnish and supply the said ships-of-war, and other vessels in such service, with provisions and necessities of any kind, that he or they, so offending, will be deemed and considered as an enemy or enemies to the rights of the said Colonies, and, if apprehended, will be treated accordingly.

And I do hereby will and require all officers and soldiers in the Army under my command, and most earnestly entreat all persons well attached to the interest of the said Colonies, to use their utmost care and diligence for preventing the same, and apprehending and securing all persons who shall be guilty thereof.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, in the City of *New-York*, this 29th of April, Anno Domini 1776.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 29, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 27th, we have received. In answer to which, we would inform you that we shall, as soon as possible, take measures for putting our Militia in such a situation as to afford the Army the most speedy and effectual assistance in our power, whenever you shall think it necessary to call for their aid, either for the defence of this or the neighbouring Colonies.

We thank you for the information respecting the signals, fixed upon below, to give intelligence of the approach of an enemy. We assure you, sir, we meant not by our letter to intimate the least desire of being consulted in that matter, for which the gentlemen of the Army must be more competent than ourselves; but as you intimated that similar signals might possibly be of service in assembling the Militia in the neighbourhood of this city, and the adjacent parts of *New-Jersey*, we proposed to appoint a Committee to wait upon you, sir, that we might be informed of any plan that you might have thought of for that purpose.

We omitted, in our last, to inform you that we have not been entirely inattentive to the subject of this part of your recommendation. Every regiment of our Militia has its place of rendezvous appointed, and riders are fixed at different stages in this and the neighbouring Colonies, to alarm the country in case of invasion; but if, upon consideration, we shall judge that signals may be of service in calling in our Militia more speedily than can be done in that way, we shall communicate to you our determinations on that head.

We are sorry to find there was a possibility of misunderstanding the passage in our letter respecting the four batta-

lions raising in this Colony. Be assured, sir, that we never considered them as under our direction, except so far as concerned the forming and equipping them; and if you will be pleased to refer yourself to our last letter, the distinction taken therein between the four battalions and *Van Schaick's* Regiment, will convince you that we meant nothing more than, in obedience to Congress, to have the completing of them for the command of the Continental General; nor do we esteem them so pointedly under our direction in this respect as to exclude your solicitude, as Commander-in-Chief, to have them speedily completed and armed—a solicitude highly becoming your station, and which, instead of affording the least ground for umbrage, serves to heighten the opinion which your former conduct has invariably taught us to entertain of your vigilant attention to the important duties of your office, and of your zeal for the defence and security of the rights of this much injured country. You have an unquestionable right to know the state of the regiments raising in this Colony; and it has given us no small concern that we have not been able to procure the necessary returns from the Counties, (though we have some time since taken the proper steps for that purpose,) to enable us to give you other than a very partial and unsatisfactory information on that head. We enclose you a return, by which you will find the First Battalion is most deficient. The return is from information which came to hand since we had the honour of writing our last letter to you.

We send you herewith a blank warrant, containing our terms of enlistment, which are substantially a copy of the resolutions of Congress. But upon these we would observe, that although it appeared to us that the defence of this Colony was the primary or more immediate object for which the four battalions were designed, yet we took particular pains to inform the recruiting officers that we did not conceive that to be the only object; but that they would be liable to be ordered into any of the neighbouring Colonies, (Canada excepted,) where the commanding officer in this department should judge their assistance to be necessary, for repelling the invasions of our common enemy.

We hope, sir, that the general nature of the cause we are engaged in, the generous attention of the Continent to the defence and security of this Colony, and the readiness of our neighbours to come to our assistance from time to time, when they have apprehended us to be in danger, will serve to exclude from our minds the narrow distinction of Colonies, and teach us to esteem the *British* Fleets and Armies as much our enemies while on the coasts of *Connecticut*, *New-Jersey*, or *Carolina*, as if they lay in the *East River*.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day, enclosing the resolve of Congress on the subject of arming the *New-York* Battalions. In answer to which, we beg leave to refer you to our letter of the 25th instant, and to assure you that we shall exert ourselves, by every means in our power, for their being properly armed and accounted.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient and very humble servants.

By order: PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

*List of Officers recruiting in the City and County of ALBANY, and number of Men enlisted for each Company.*

In Committee, Albany, April 11, 1776.

*Cornelius Van Santvoort*, Captain; *Abraham Becker*, First Lieutenant; *Obadiah Vaughan*, Second Lieutenant; *David Becker*, Ensign—eighty-nine men enlisted.

*Samuel Van Veghton*, Captain; *John Hoogkerk*, First Lieutenant; *John Ball*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Everts*, Ensign—forty-seven men enlisted, officers included.

*John H. Wendall*, Captain; *John C. Ten Broeck*, First Lieutenant; *John Welch*, Second Lieutenant; *John Ostrander*, Ensign—forty-nine men enlisted, officers included.

*Garret S. Veeder*, Jun., Captain; *Solomon Pendleton*, First Lieutenant; *David Bates*, Second Lieutenant; *Ephraim Snow*, Ensign—thirty-eight men enlisted.

*Herman Vosburg*, Captain; *Barret Slates*, (*Salisbury*), First Lieutenant; *Isaac Bogart*, Second Lieutenant; *Si-*

*las Howard*, Ensign—seventy men enlisted, officers included.

The two Companies of *Tryon* County.

*Henry O'Hara*, Captain, *Charlotte* County.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 27, 1776.

The Committee took the Letter and Return from the Committee of *Albany* into consideration; and thereupon

*Ordered*, That the Companies within-mentioned, the two *Tryon* County Companies, and Captain *O'Hara's* Company, compose Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment.

And *Resolved and Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Lieutenant-Colonel *Philip Cortlandt* the sum of one thousand Pounds, out of the first moneys that shall come into the Treasury, for the recruiting and billeting of Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment.

That Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt* proceed to *Albany*, to forward the recruiting of the said Regiment; that he wait on his Excellency General *Washington* for such directions as he may choose to give; and that he call on Colonel *Wynkoop*, in his way, for his aid, direction, and assistance.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, *Secretary*.

*List of the Field Officers of the four Battalions ordered to be raised for the defence of the Colony of NEW-YORK.*

First Battalion: *Alexander McDougall*, Colonel; *Herman Zedtwitz*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Benedict*, Major.

Second Battalion: *James Clinton*, Colonel; *Henry B. Livingston*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Peter P. Schuyler*, Major.

Third Battalion: *Rudolphus Ritzema*, Colonel; *Frederick Weisenfels*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Fisher*, Major.

Fourth Battalion: *Cornelius D. Wynkoop*, Colonel; *Philip Cortlandt*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Nicholson*, Major.

The following Companies are placed in Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, viz:

Captain *Billings*, a full Company, at the Fortifications in the Highlands; ordered down.

Captain *Denton*, a full Company, at *New-York*.

Captain *Riker*, a few men.

Captain *Hardenburgh*, full, at the Fortifications; ordered down.

Captain *Horton*, no return made.

Captain *Hobby*, the like.

Captain *Hutchens*, nearly full, at *New-York*.

Captain *Pearce*, the like; ordered to the city.

Besides the above Regiments, Colonel *McDougall's*, and that raising in *Albany* and *Tryon* Counties, the following Companies, at the time of the last returns to the Committee, consisted of the following number of men, and will be speedily regimented:

Captain *Swartwout*, fifty men, at the Fortifications.

Captain *Rosekrans*, seventy-seven men, at the Fortifications.

Captain *Bellnap*, full, at the Fortifications.

Captain *Jackson*, full, at the Fortifications.

Captain *Griffin*, full, } On duty in *Suffolk* County,

Captain *Davis*, full, } by order of General *Heath*.

Captain *Roe*, nearly full, }

Captain *Childs*, no return made.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Committee-Chamber, New-York, April 29, 1776.

Whereas the honourable the Continental Congress, by their Resolves of the 13th instant, have permitted the sale and use of such Teas as then remained on hand, and upon which no duty had been or should be paid, and to prevent the Tea holders from availing themselves of the scarcity which a stoppage of the future importation thereof might occasion, and exacting exorbitant prices; they resolved that Bohea tea ought not to be sold in the smallest quantity, at a higher price than at the rates of three-fourths of a dollar (or six shillings *New-York* currency) a pound; a price which this Committee think generous, and will fully compensate the importer for extraordinary expense, risk, and loss of in-

terest by being kept so long unsold; therefore we cannot entertain the least doubt that any person will hesitate a moment to comply with the said Resolve.

And whereas it is further recommended in the said Resolve, that the prices of all other Teas shall be regulated by the Committees of the Town or County where they are sold: This Committee therefore resolve, that Congo ought not to be sold by the smallest quantity for more than sixteen shillings the pound; Souchong for more than twenty shillings a pound; nor Hyson for more than thirty-two shillings a pound; and that should any person or persons in this City or County be found so lost to publick virtue and love of their country, and so stimulated by avarice, as to ask or give more than the aforesaid prices for any of the said Teas; upon proof thereof appearing to this Committee, such delinquents may be assured that, without distinction of persons, their names shall be held up to the publick as violators of the Resolves of the Congress, and enemies to the United Colonies.

A true copy of the Minutes. Published by order of the Committee.

JOSEPH WINTER, *Secretary.*

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL WASHINGTON.

SIR: We are sorry to trouble your Excellency so often, only our health, as well as our duty to our fellow-creatures, makes it necessary, having upon us the strongest symptoms of a contagious distemper; and being confined in a close room, together with three other gentlemen, they undoubtedly have the greatest reason to be apprehensive of its consequences. As we believe it foreign from your intention to endanger our lives, or the lives of others, we should be glad if you will order our case to be looked into.

We remain your humble servants,

THOMAS R. HARRIS, *Master's Mate,*  
WILLIAM METCALFE, *Midshipman,*  
*Of His Majesty's Ship Savage.*

City Jail, New-York, April 29, 1776.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Providence, April 29, 1776.

SIR: An express having arrived here from *Philadelphia* this evening, with the enclosed letters for you, we were at a loss whether to forward them to *Newport*, or to keep them till your return; but having opened that from the Marine Committee at *Philadelphia*, and finding it to contain matters requiring the greatest despatch, have therefore now forwarded them by express, hired on purpose to reach you before morning.

We are, sir, your humble servants,

JOHN BROWN, *for the Committee.*

To Admiral Hopkins.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Monday, April 15, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

On the Memorial of Messrs. *Doraison* and *Gourridge & Co.*, granted them liberty to purchase some convenient Vessel, capable to carry forty Horses, and load the same with Horses and Stores for them, fifteen barrels of Pork, thirty barrels of Flour, forty barrels of Beef, forty firkins of Hogs' Fat, and the residue of the cargo in Lumber, of Staves, Heading, and Hoops, and proceed with them to *Cape Francois*; that they have liberty, according to their own undertaking and engagement, to bring into this Colony, as soon as may be, every kind of Military and Naval Stores, Molasses, Sugar, Sulphur, Blankets, Linen, and any kind of coarse Cloths; and the Governour is desired to grant him a permit accordingly.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Robert Niles*, for four hundred Pounds, for the use of the Schooner *Spy*; and to render his Account when required. Order drawn 15th of *April*, 1776, and sent to Mr. *Simeon Gray*.

*Nathaniel Backus* and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires,

are appointed to liquidate the Schooner *Spy's* Accounts, and make returns as soon as may be.

To SETH HARDING, Esquire, Captain of the Armed Brig DEFENCE, belonging to the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

You are hereby ordered forthwith to enlist as many men as you can, at *New-London*, for the service, to complete the complement of one hundred and twenty men. You are further ordered, on the request of Admiral *Hopkins*, to join the *American* fleet under his command, and proceed with him on a short cruise against our enemies, observing such orders as shall be given by the Admiral, under the same regulations as the rest of the Continental fleet, during the time for which the Admiral may make such cruise; always subject to the orders of the General Assembly of this Colony, or the further orders of the Governour and Council of Safety.

A copy of the above was sent as Orders to Captain *Harding*, 15th of *April*, 1776, by hand of Mr. *Simeon Gray*.

To ROBERT NILES, Captain of the Armed Schooner SPY:

You are hereby ordered, on the request of Admiral *Hopkins*, to join the *American* fleet under his command, and proceed with him, on a short cruise against our enemies, observing such orders as shall be given by the Admiral, under the same regulations as the rest of the Continental fleet, during the time for which the Admiral may make such cruise; always subject to the orders of the General Assembly, or the further orders of the Governour and Council of Safety. If the Admiral has no occasion for your service, you will go on to pursue the orders you have already received.

The above order was sent by Mr. *Simeon Gray*, *April* 15, 1776.

*Voted*, To furnish Captain . . . . ., General *Thaddeus Burr*, Esq., Captain *Samuel Broome*, and Major *David Dimon*, of *Fairfield*, with five hundred pounds weight of Powder, to set forth an Armed Vessel against the enemies of *America*; said Powder to be by them replaced or paid for in cash, at the election of the General Assembly, or the Governour and Council of Safety, in a reasonable time.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquire, be a Committee to employ some persons, in proper ways, to raise or procure four hundred weight of black Lead, at the Lead-Mines, at or near *Union*, for the use of Cannon founding at *Salisbury*, and transport the same to *Salisbury*, for said purpose.

*Voted*, That Mr. *David Brooks*, of *Haddam*, be, and he is hereby, appointed Lieutenant of the Row-Galley under command of Captain *Tinker*.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquire, be, and they are hereby, appointed a Committee to take care of and provide for the Continental Prisoners brought into this Colony by Admiral *Hopkins*, and ordered to be kept in *Windham* County Jail, and to order, direct and govern said Prisoners, in the most prudent manner they can, until further orders from the Continental Congress, the General Assembly, or the Governour and Council of Safety.

*Voted*, That each of the Row-Galleys belonging to this Colony be provided with twenty Lances and Poles, and twenty Tomahawks or Hatchets, by the persons who furnish said Galleys, for the service.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Esquire, be, and they are hereby, appointed a Committee to take care of, and provide for Governour *Browne*, and Messrs. *Irving* and *Babbage*, lately brought as Prisoners from *New-Province*, and treat them with that humanity and kindness which is shown to other Continental Prisoners of their rank or quality, who are kept in this Colony.

*Voted*, That *Prosper Wetmore*, Esq., Sheriff of *New-London* County, forthwith transport to the Town of *Windham* all the Prisoners committed to him by order of Captain *Hezekiah Bissell* and Mr. *Jonathan Trumbull*, a Committee appointed by his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety, to take care of the Prisoners lately brought to *New-London* by Admiral *Hopkins*; and that said Sheriff deliver said Prisoners, in his custody, at and within the County Jail, at *Windham*, in the County of *Windham*, to



the Sheriff of said *Windham* County; and said Sheriff of said *Windham* County is hereby ordered and directed to receive all said Prisoners at the hands of the said *New-London* County Sheriff, and them hold and keep in safe custody and confinement, in said *Windham* County Jail, until further orders from the General Assembly, or his Honour the Governour and his Council of Safety.

Monday, April 22, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Allowed a Bill in favour of Colonel *Samuel Abbot* for two Pounds eight Shillings, for service done in buying Guns for the Troops in the Continental service last year; and ordered a Draft on the Committee of Pay-Table accordingly. An Order drawn April 22, 1776, and delivered to Colonel *Jabez Huntington*.

Allowed to *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., an Account of twenty-nine Pounds seventeen Shillings and three Pence, *New-York* currency, to pay for Duck by him purchased for the Colony use; and ordered a Draft on the Pay-Table accordingly. Order drawn April 22, 1776, and taken by himself.

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour is desired to write to Colonel *Isaac Sears*, to answer such Drafts as Captain *Ephraim Bill* shall make upon, for building and furnishing the Colony Ship for service.

Allowed a Bill in favour of Captain *Edmund Badger*, for one Pound twelve Shillings and six Pence, lawful money, for going a journey to *Providence*, in the Colony service; and ordered a Draft on the Committee of Pay-Table. Order drawn April 22, 1776, and delivered to Mr. *Wales*.

*Voted*, To draw on the Pay-Table for four hundred Pounds, in favour of *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esq., for carrying on the Fortifications at *Groton*, and render his Account. Order drawn April 22, 1776, and delivered to *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esquire.

*Voted*, That *Ebenezer Ledyard*, Esq., in behalf of this Colony, apply to Mr. *Jonathan Chester*, of *Groton*, for liberty for the Engineers, at the Fortifications at *Groton*, to survey as much of said *Chester's* Land as shall be wanted for the use of the Fort there, and agree with said *Chester* upon some good men to appraise such Land on oath, to be purchased by the Colony, and make report thereof to the General Assembly, in May next.

*Voted*, That *Prosper Wetmore*, Esq., Sheriff of *New-London* County, be, and he is hereby, directed forthwith to transport *Thomas Russell*, *David Arnott*, *William Cook*, and *William Willson*, Continental Prisoners, now in his custody, to *Windham*, in the County of *Windham*, and there deliver the said Prisoners to the Keeper of the Jail, in *Windham*, in the County of *Windham*, within said prison, who is likewise hereby required to receive said Prisoners, and them safely keep, within said prison, until they shall come out thence by order of the Continental Congress, the General Assembly of this Colony, or his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety.

*Voted*, That Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esq., take care and provide for four Continental Prisoners now in the custody of *Prosper Wetmore*, Sheriff of *New-London* County; which Prisoners are, by order of the Governour and said Council, of this date, ordered to be transported to *Windham* County Jail, and confined therein until further orders.

*Voted*, That his Honour the Governour, upon application of Captain *John Deshon*, be desired to draw on the Pay-Table for such sum as his Honour on consideration shall think best to allow to said *Deshon*, for the present necessity, for the support of the Troops at *New-London*. April 23, 1776, Order drawn for four hundred Pounds.

Monday, April 29, 1776.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphelet Dyre*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Joshua West*, *William Williams*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Colonel *Dyre* and Colonel *Williams* made report of their late journey to *Philadelphia*, &c., &c., and many other things discoursed, &c.

*Moved*, That a Committee may be appointed to take care of the Prisoners sent to *Windham* from on board of Commodore *Hopkins's* Fleet, and who are now confined in prison there; and thereupon, Colonel *Eliphelet Dyre*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Nathaniel Wales*, *Samuel Gray*, and *Constant Southworth*, Esquires, are appointed a Committee to take care of, oversee, and direct the said Prisoners; and, if they shall think proper, to take the Parole of any Officers there, and suffer them to be at large, and to dispose of the men as they think, to be at labour, and on their refusal or ill behaviour of any, to be remanded, and dealt with at the discretion of the said Committee, according to the orders of the Governour and this Council. Copy given.

*Simeon Gray* exhibited his Account for entertaining the Committee or this Council, from their first meeting till this time, and for sundry services as Express to sundry places, amounting in the whole to thirty-five Pounds seven Shillings and five Pence; which is allowed, and ordered to be drawn for.

Mr. *Miner*, the Commissary for the *Stonington* Company, present, moves for a further sum of Money, &c.

And *Voted*, That the Committee of Pay-Table draw on the Treasurer for the sum of two hundred and fifty Pounds, for said Esquire *Miner*, to be improved and accounted for by him in that capacity. An order given and delivered him.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn by the Committee of Pay-Table on the Treasurer, in favour of *William Lux*, of *Norwich*, to pay for Iron and Labour in building Carriages for Cannon in the Colony's use, to render his Account. Order drawn and left at the Governour's.

Allowed Mr. *Alden's* Account, of thirteen Shillings and four Pence, for entertaining Colonel *Dyre* and Colonel *Elderkin*, several times, when attending Council, &c.

*Voted*, That *Adam Babcock*, Esq., of *New-Haven*, be allowed to purchase of Colonels *Elderkin* and *Wales*, two hundred pounds of Gunpowder, for the use of his Privateer, now fitting out; and in the meantime, if need be, Colonel *Fitch*, of said town, is directed to lend him the same quantity, out of the Colony stores, until he can obtain and replace it from said Colonels *Elderkin* and *Wales's* Manufactory, or otherwise. Copy given and delivered Mr. *James Rice*.

*Voted*, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table for four hundred Pounds, in favour of Captain *James Rice*, of *New-Haven*, for expenses of fitting the Colony Brig and building the Row-Galley *Whiting*, and expenses in the Colony service, and to render his Account. Copy given.

*Voted*, That *Zadock Brewster* is appointed Lieutenant of the Row-Galley under the command of Captain *Theophilus Stanton*.

*Voted*, That Captain *Theophilus Stanton* be admitted to pick out four Cannon at *New-London*, for the use of the Row-Galley under his command, and see that the same be properly bored and fitted for the service. Copy given. Dismissed.

To the Honourable JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Governour of the Colony of CONNECTICUT, and President of the Committee of War:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: As Mr. *Joseph Hillard* has applied to us, the civil authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection, for the town of *Killingsworth*, to assist in introducing him to your Honour, and the other respectable gentlemen the Committee of War, as a man of industry and mechanical invention, so that his disposition may be indulged, and his abilities exercised for the good of his distressed country, in some proper station and character; we beg leave to inform your Honour, and the rest of the honourable and worthy gentlemen of the said War Committee, that the said *Joseph Hillard*, the bearer hereof, (an inhabitant of this town,) is a man of steadiness and despatch in business he engages in; is of uncommon genius and readiness of invention in mechanicks and mechanical operations, and has sundry times applied the power of the screw to surprising effect, especially in weighing and getting off vessels, by storms left upon the shore.

As he has been at the expense of furnishing himself with a proper apparatus for the successful application of this mechanical power, both in a perpendicular and horizontal direction, your Honour, with the rest of the Committee, can better judge whether he may not be useful in the Continental Army, in handling heavy cannon, placing them in or removing them from their carriages, as there may be occasion, or in relieving ships from any of those distresses the violence of storms, or the superior force of the *British* Navy, may unhappily force them into upon our shores.

As he has served two years in the Army last war, and has acquired a general knowledge of the operations of war and military exercises; is also a man of peculiar activity and observation, and is desirous of being serviceable to these United Colonies in some proper and useful sphere; we presume to recommend him to such appointment or direction as, in your superior wisdom, may appear most likely to introduce him into the publick service of these Colonies, in a capacity you may judge him most likely to be serviceable in. As to particular instances of his successful use and application of the screw, &c., he is able, and doubtless will himself give you a just and more circumstantial account, if it be desired.

We subscribe, your Honour's most obedient and humble servants,

DANIEL REDFIELD,	} <i>Selectmen of Killingsworth.</i>
NATHAN GRISWOLD,	
BENONI HILLARD,	} <i>Committee of Inspection for said Town.</i>
STEPHEN LANE,	
SAMUEL SHETHAR,	
JOHN WILSON,	
SAMUEL CRANE,	
DANIEL REDFIELD,	} <i>Justices of the Peace.</i>
ELNATHAN STORRERS,	
THEOPHILUS MORGAN,	
AARON ELIOT,	

Killingsworth, April, 1776.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, April 29, 1776.

SIR: *David Waterbury*, Jun., of *Stamford*, Esquire, Colonel of a regiment from this Colony in the Northern Department the last year, and at the taking of *St. John's* and *Montreal*, and lately in service at *New-York*, with Major-General *Lee*; at all times behaved with bravery and honour.

When you have a vacancy in the Army answerable to his rank, do heartily recommend him to your kind notice and regard.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

SUBMISSION, RECONCILIATION, OR INDEPENDENCE?

"Had the spirit of prophecy directed the birth of a publication," it could not have fallen upon a more fortunate period than the time in which *Common Sense* made its appearance. The minds of men are now swallowed up in attention to an object the most momentous and important that ever yet employed the deliberations of a People.

There are but three methods we can take: either to submit unconditionally, that is, to the mercy of Parliament; to be again dependant on the footing of 1763; or to set up a Government of our own. *Common Sense*, like a ray of revelation, has come in seasonably to clear our doubts, and to fix our choice.

As to absolute submission, it would be an insult to my countrymen to show its inexpediency.

The second is more specious; but would prove not much less destructive. Should we revert to our former dependence, that power, which has attempted to conquer us by open force, will doubtless employ her policy to divide us, though a reconciliation were made, the most perfect of its kind; because it is her interest to keep us divided. Disputes about our boundaries will be excited and fomented, and every artifice employed to render a future union impracticable: but if *Great Britain* should use no endeavours to divide us, Colony will naturally be jealous of Colony, while we have no Continental Supreme Legislature to con-

nect our separate interests, and while every dispute between the Provinces must be carried to that inimical Court, whose interest it is to foment, not to decide the quarrel. That spirit of union in which we are so happy at present, once broken, cannot be easily re-established. Reason tells us, that thirteen powerful States as these Colonies will, separately, be fifty years hence, unconnected of each other—nay, worse, jealous of each other—never yet were, and probably never will be united. This is built on a supposition that a reconciliation can last fifty years; I am persuaded it would not last half the time. I am firmly persuaded, if a reconciliation was effected, and at the end of fifty years we should declare Independence, we should be very little united—nay, not united at all; our property being increased we should be more timid in risking it.

History shows us, that the noblest and most successful stands for liberty have been made by the weakest, poorest, and least populous States: witness *Sparta*, *Athens*, *Rome* in its infancy, *Holland*, and *Corsica* the unfortunate. History hardly affords an instance of a Nation's recovering their liberty when they were ancient, numerous, rich, and powerful.

'Tis next to a miracle to bring over the inveterate in an ancient, the interested in a rich, and the parties in a numerous people, to an entire and solid union; the solid union of many distinct Provinces is a phenomenon of the cometary kind—so remarkable, it does not happen for ages; and so fortunate when it does, it would be a wilful murder of posterity not to improve it.

It is acknowledged on all hands, if a reconciliation were to take place that it would be a temporary one. Whigs and Tories confess the Colonies will one day fall off from *Great Britain*. If this should happen fifty years hence, and the Colonies be disunited, what will be the consequence? Several distinct Empires will be set up. The Southern Provinces may form one, the Northern another, and *Canada* a third. Perpetual discord, obstinate rivalry, and ambitious contests for dominion, like those of *Carthage* and *Rome*, will follow; till the standard of absolute Government is established by the victorious Empire over the rest; and thus, if we neglect the present union, this land of freedom may become as tyrannical as *Siam* or *Bengal*.

I appeal to you, O! Philanthropists! who are breathing for peace, and to you, ye Tories! who are preaching dependence, whether the most prudent method for ourselves, and the most peaceful for posterity, is not to set up Independence, and to continue the war till that Independence is established and acknowledged. Those who cannot subscribe to these opinions had better see them at large in that excellent pamphlet, *Common Sense*, from which they are for the most part taken. It is unnecessary to add, that if we reject the two first, viz: Submission and Dependence, we must of consequence be Independent.

F. A.

Boston, April 29, 1776.

C. W. F. DUMAS TO DOCTOR FRANKLIN.

Utrecht, April 30, 1776.

SIR: I received on the 6th instant at the *Hague*, from Mr. *Thomas Story*, the despatches of the 19th *December*, 1775, of which he was the bearer.

I am deeply penetrated by the honour done me, and the confidence reposed in me by the Committee appointed by the General Congress to maintain the correspondence between the *American* United Provinces and *Europe*, and of which you, sir, are one of the worthy members. I shall die content if the remainder of my life can be devoted to the service of so glorious and just a cause. I accept, therefore, joyfully, the commission you have bestowed, and whatever you may think fit to give me in future; and I promise a hearty good will and an untiring zeal. I hope my ability will justify the favourable opinion you entertain of me. This promise on my part is, in fact, an oath of allegiance, which I spontaneously take to Congress; receive it as such.

When I remarked in my last letter to you, "that all *Europe* wishes you the most happy issue in your defence of your liberty," I meant the unprejudiced, equitable, humane, *European* publick; in a word, the citizens of universal society—men in general. You must except from this number the holders of *English* funds, and those Courts of *Europe* who have an understanding with *England*. These, far from

assisting you, will sacrifice you to their interests or their fears. The allies which, under such circumstances, are suitable for you, are *France* and *Spain*; for it is their interest that you should be free and independent of *England*, whose enormous maritime power fills them with apprehensions. I have, therefore, opened myself to the *French* Minister, and a copy and translation of your requests and letters of credence to me have been for a fortnight in his hands. In the conversation I had with this Minister I observed, that the wishes of his nation are for you. He said that there was one difficulty in affording aid to the Colonies: if they should be reconciled with *England*, they would assist her against the power which had aided them, and would imitate the dog in the fable. I had no reply to make to this, except that, in this case, reasonable beings were concerned; that if they saw the object was not to deprive them of the liberty for which they were contending, but to assure it to them, they would not be so ungrateful as to join, against their benefactors, those who wished to destroy that liberty. Finally, he desired to know from me positively, what I would ask for the Colonies of his Court. I answered, that you wished to be informed:

1. If the King of *France* would, from motives of humanity and magnanimity, interpose his mediation on behalf of an oppressed people, and effect a reconciliation, which should preserve to them all the liberties they formerly enjoyed.

2. In case such a reconciliation could not be effected, would the Nations subjects of the House of *Bourbon*, be willing to accede to an alliance with the Colonies, with the advantages of an immense commerce?

He was pleased with the former proposition to offer to his young King the glory of conferring peace on the subjects of others as well as on his own. The other proposition is not disagreeable to him, were it not for the dreadful war which would ensue in *Europe*. I then delivered to him, together with your letter, a memorial, showing how important it was for *France* not to allow the subjugation of the Colonies. The whole was sent to his Court about a fortnight since; and if the answer should be delayed, it will be of no disadvantage. Meanwhile, we have gained this advantage, that an opening is made, which must dispose *France* in your favour, and engage her to tolerate and secretly to encourage even any assistance your vessels can derive from *France*, *Spain*, and the *Indies*. I have, therefore, in the extract, copied exactly what you pointed out to me as the most necessary, as engineers, arms, munitions, &c.

I have done all this with the most profound secrecy. The person of whom I have spoken to you required it from me, and promised it in return, so that no one in this country, excepting he and I, knows anything of it. It is more advantageous to you and safer for me that I should not be known as your agent.

Mr. *Story*, not daring to take two letters with him to *England*, one for *Arthur Lee*, the other for Mrs. *Hannah Philpotts Lee*, left them in safe keeping with me; and he did well. I learn by two letters, which I have received from Mr. *A. Lee*, of the 20th and 23d of *April*, that on Mr. *Story's* landing in *England*, they took from him a letter which I had sent by him for Mr. *Lee*; fortunately it was not signed with any true name, and could give no information to your adversaries. They have, therefore, committed this additional violence to no purpose. I have sent those letters to a friend at *Rotterdam*, according to the request of Mr. *Lee*, and that friend informs me, under date of *May* 3d, that he has forwarded the packet by a Captain of a sloop, one of his old friends, who promised him to deliver them himself to the address which I put upon them by Mr. *Lee's* directions. The sudden departure of the vessel will prevent me from informing you whether they have been safely delivered. I shall do it by some future opportunity. I joined to the packet a cipher for Mr. *Lee*, like that I sent to you, but grounded on different words, so that we shall be able to communicate with each other in perfect safety. I informed him, also, that I had the honour of writing you frequently; so that he can send his letters through me, if he has no better way.

I know an engineer, over thirty years of age, able, experienced, and very well qualified not only in his branch, but in the whole art of war; in a word, a fine officer, but very inadequately rewarded. I shall not be able to speak with him for several weeks, when I will propose to him the ser-

vice of the Colonies. But as he is a widower, without means, and has several children, it will probably be necessary, if he accepts, to make him some advances to enable him to go over. I will give you an account in due time of the conversation I shall have with him.

I have endorsed to-day your bill of exchange of one hundred pounds sterling to the order of M. *Rey*, Bookseller, at *Amsterdam*. Good reasons prevented me from doing it sooner and at any other place than *Amsterdam*. May the conscientious use which I shall make of this fund entirely satisfy your wishes, and the confidence with which you have honoured me. I am persuaded of the generosity of Congress, and I pray Heaven that I may deserve, by my services, to be the object of it, when God shall have blessed their labours for the welfare and prosperity of the Colonies, either by a firm and sincere reconciliation, or by the success of your righteous and just arms. In reality, I hope much more than I fear on this point. The wisdom of Congress, so constantly manifested, the perfect union and harmony which prevail there, encourage me more and more. By this rare, happy, and admirable union, much more surely than by all the alliances in the world, you are, and you will finally be superior to your enemies, however formidable they may appear. *Concordiâ res parvæ crescunt, discordiâ maximæ dilabuntur*; may this great truth and the sublime words of *Themistocles* to *Euripides*, who raised a weapon against him in the Council, "Strike but hear," be constantly present to your minds and hearts, as well as to those of your constituents. What power will then be able to withstand yours? Ascribe the freedom of this address to the enthusiasm with which I am animated for your union, the noblest edifice that liberty has ever reared. In it, centres all that the political world contains attractive for me.

I thank you, sir, for your fatherly kindness to the two *French* gentlemen. They are young, and ought not, therefore, to entertain even the idea of being an instant a burden to any one, and a useless load to society.

I am very glad that the statement of the points in dispute between *Great Britain* and the Colonies has been approved, so far as to cause it to be printed for the instruction of your friends the *Canadians*. This is the only effect of that paper, for the printer not having sold enough of his journals to be at any other expense than the impression, has ceased to pay the author of those pieces. I have obtained his address, for the purpose of engaging him to assist me in refuting the *Jew Pinto*, whose venal pen has been employed in the most insolent manner against the *Americans*. A certain person, whom you know, regrets having allowed himself to be dazzled by his financial system, so far as to approve it without reserve in a letter, or advertisement, at the head of the *Treatise* on "Circulation;" for although there are some good things in it here and there, yet that person has long since been enlightened in regard to many false brilliants, which the *Jew* passed off for genuine.

As for the *Idea on Government and Royalty*, I learn with pleasure that it has been agreeable, and that the time will perhaps come when it will receive more attention. This idea renders me more happy and proud than if I had written the *Iliad*; for I think with *Phædrus*, *nisi utile est quod facimus, stulta est gloria*. It is a seed, which I thought myself bound to sow in your country, the only place in the known world where it could spring up. I consider that idea more and more practicable and true, and of all political systems the most completely proof against all objections. It requires only to be developed. God grant that we may soon be able to do it in peace and at leisure. I shall then beg you, sir, with the estimable and learned author of the *Pennsylvania Farmer*, to correspond with me on this subject, and to prove it, if not to our contemporaries, at least to posterity.

I thank you, sir, for the *Journal of Congress* from the 10th of *May* to the 1st of *August*, 1775, which you have had the kindness to send me; be good enough to complete it by sending what precedes and follows; for we have here nothing authentick relating to your affairs. All that we know of you, we get from the *Gazettes*, imperfectly, by scraps, in a vague and uncertain manner, a mixture of truth and falsehood.

*May* 9th.—I have just received the following letter without signature: "You will, perhaps, be tempted to come to the Fair at the *Hague*. I shall have the honour to renew the expressions of my sincere esteem. I shall be at your

orders every day at noon, or sooner, if you will write me from your lodgings to let me know what hour will be most convenient for you. We shall be able to moralize some moments upon subjects which we have already discussed. I have but little to say to you, which I shall do with a sincerity and candour which I trust you will approve."

I shall make this visit *Saturday* night, so as to return here *Sunday* night or *Monday*, not being able to do it otherwise. I shall send this letter to-day to *Amsterdam*, as they tell me the vessels will else sail without it. I shall therefore give you an account of the conversation in another letter, either by the same vessel or by some other. I am sorry to be obliged to leave you in suspense on a subject so interesting.

Receive, sir, for all the Members of Congress in general, and for yourself, Mr. *Dickinson*, and Mr. *Jay*, in particular, the sincere assurances of my profound respect.

DUMAS.

To *B. Franklin*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of Secret Correspondence.

#### GEORGIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Council of Safety, 30th *April*, 1776: Present: *John Wereat*, *Benjamin Andrews*, *George Walton*, *John Girardeau*, *Samuel Salters*, *Jonathan Bryan*, *Daniel Roberts*.

Resolved, That the following Address be presented to his Excellency the President; and that Messrs. *Wereat* and *Roberts* do wait on his Excellency to know when he will be pleased to receive the same.

"GEORGIA:

"To His Excellency ARCHIBALD BULLOCK, Esquire, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of GEORGIA: The Address of the Council of Safety for the said Province:

"May it please your Excellency:

"The long session of the late Congress, together with the season of the year, called particularly for a speedy recess; and the House having adjourned while you were out of town, it becomes more particularly necessary for us to address your Excellency. All, therefore, with unfeigned confidence and regard, beg leave to congratulate, not only your Excellency on your appointment to, but your country on your acceptance of, the supreme command in this Province.

"It would be needless and tedious to recount the various and yet multiplying oppressions which have driven the people of this Province to erect that Government which they have called upon you to see executed; suffice it, then, to declare, that it was only an alternative of anarchy and misery, and, by consequence, the effect of dire necessity. Your Excellency will know that it was the endeavour of the Congress to stop every avenue of vice and oppression, lest the infant virtue of a still more infant Province might in time rankle into corruption; and, we doubt not, that, by your Excellency's exertions, all the resolutions made or adopted by Congress will be enforced with firmness, without any regard to any individual, or any set of men; for no Government can be said to be established, while any part of the community refuses submission to its authority. In the discharge of this arduous and important task, your Excellency may rely on our constant and best endeavours to assist and support you."

Messrs. *John Wereat* and *Daniel Roberts*, waited on the President; who informed them that he would be ready to receive their Address on to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

May 1, 1776.—The Board waited on his Excellency the President, with their Address, to which he was pleased to give the following Answer:

"To the Honourable the Members of the Council of Safety of the Province of GEORGIA:

"HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I am much obliged to you for your kind expressions of congratulation on my appointment to the supreme command of this Colony. When I reflect from whence the appointment is derived—that of the free and uncorrupt suffrages of my fellow-citizens, it cannot fail to stimulate me to the most vigorous exertions in the discharge of the important duties to which I am called by our Provincial Congress. While I have the advice and assistance of gentlemen of known integrity and abilities, I doubt

not but I shall be enabled to enforce and carry into execution every resolve and law of Congress. And, as far as lies with me, my country may depend I will, with a becoming firmness, and the greatest impartiality, always endeavour to cause justice in mercy to be executed.

ARCHIBALD BULLOCK.

At a meeting of the Council of Safety, May 2, 1776:

GEORGIA.

By His Excellency ARCHIBALD BULLOCK, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of GEORGIA, in Council:

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the honourable the Continental Congress have, among other things, resolved, that the venders of Dry Goods ought not to take advantage of the scarcity that might be occasioned by the Non-Importation Agreement, under pain of being declared inimical to the liberties of *America*: And whereas, the Provincial Congress have resolved, that whoever shall depreciate the Currency of this Province, shall forfeit all right to protection from said Congress, or any authority acting under it: And whereas, it hath been represented to me in Council that several persons in this Province do, notwithstanding the above resolutions, sell their goods at a most exorbitant price, to the great prejudice of the inhabitants of this Province, especially the poor: I have, therefore, thought fit, with the advice and consent of the Council aforesaid, to issue this my Proclamation, notifying to all persons whom it doth concern, that if they persist in their unwarrantable proceedings they will be subject to the pains and penalties annexed to the foregoing resolutions, and their names published accordingly.

ARCHIBALD BULLOCK.

#### JOHN DENT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, April 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In conformity to the appointment of *George Plater*, Esquire, and myself, by your Honours, to co-operate with the Commissioners from *Virginia* in erecting beacons on the river *Potomack*, we have fixed the different stations for the same to the number of twenty, whereof thirteen are in *Maryland*, viz: one in *Prince George's*, nine in *Charles*, and three in *St. Mary's*; averaging about five miles from each other. To accomplish which we have advanced the sum of thirteen pounds and four-pence-half-penny, a moiety of the charge for a boat and hands, together with a draftsman, exclusive of our own expenses; which I flatter myself will be allowed.

We have likewise agreed upon the form of the alarm post; which is to be a kind of an iron grate, suspended by a chain, on the end of a sweep, fixed with a swivel, so as to be turned agreeable to the wind. And as a further sum of money will be wanting to have them erected, which, with submission to your Honours, I think may be done with greater convenience and despatch by the Committees of Observation, (under our direction,) hope you will order the same into their hands, or otherwise, as you may think proper.

I am, gentlemen, with due esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN DENT.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

#### LUX AND BOWLY TO MARYLAND COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, April 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As Captain *Patterson* does not choose to proceed in the *Fortune*, we have engaged Captain *Sund* to proceed the voyage, with your approbation; and for that purpose he waits on you. The brig is ready, and we think it the fairest opportunity to push out. We send you, enclosed, some letters we just received from Mr. *Vanbibber*, by which you will see his situation, and that it is necessary to support him.

We would recommend to order the Captain to *St. Martin's*, as Captain *Vanbibber* directs. You will please to give the Captain his orders, and despatch him as soon as is convenient.

A gentleman from *North-Carolina*, yesterday, brings us the account of their taking a tender, with old *Goodrick*, of

*Virginia*, on board; he saw him put into *Halifax* Jail; and we have an account to day that the *Roebuck* is on shore, on a shoal called the *Hen-and-Chickens*, just to the southward of *Cape Henlopen*, and that the Province ship, and another, with all the gondolas, were gone down to take her.

We are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your obliged obedient servant,

LUX & BOWLEY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Please to return Captain *Vanbibber's* letters.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having accepted the resignation of the Honourable *James Warren* as Paymaster-General, have been pleased to appoint *William Palfrey*, Esquire, to succeed him in that Department. I have written to Mr. *Warren* to acquaint him that there are Superintendents of the Treasury appointed, to whom he is to render his accounts and vouchers. I have also directed Mr. *Winthrop* to deliver to Mr. *Palfrey* the cash and papers in his possession belonging to the office.

Your several letters have been duly received, and, as soon as Congress shall have come to a determination thereon, I will do myself the pleasure of forwarding the same, at which time I will write more fully. In the interim, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In order to give success to the expedition into *Canada*, nothing is so much wanted at this juncture as a supply of specie. General *Schuyler* says it is absolutely necessary; and the Congress have received from him the most pressing letters on that head.

Should the Army be compelled to evacuate *Canada*, it is impossible to say what will be the consequences, or where the mischief may end. It becomes us, therefore, as we regard our country and its best interests, to exert every nerve to guard against so fatal an event. For this purpose, and as a step of the utmost importance, I am commanded by Congress earnestly to request you to take the most speedy and effectual measures to collect as much hard money as possible, and to send the same to General *Schuyler*. Whatever sum you may collect for this use, you will please to draw on me for the amount, and the bills shall be honoured.

The unprepared state of the Colonies on the commencement of the war, and the almost total want of every thing necessary to carry it on, are the true sources from whence all our difficulties have proceeded. The fact, however, furnishes a most striking proof of the weakness or wickedness of those who charge them with an original intention of withdrawing from the Government of *Great Britain*, and erecting an independent Empire. Had such a scheme been formed, the most warlike preparations would have been necessary to effect it.

From the distinguished ardour and zeal of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* in the *American* cause, I am persuaded you will pay all the attention to this request of Congress which the importance of it demands.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

[Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*; *New-Hampshire*; Governor *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*; Governor *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*.]

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO WILLIAM WINTHROP.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

SIR: The Honourable *James Warren* having resigned his commission as Paymaster-General, the Congress have been pleased to appoint *William Palfrey*, Esquire, to succeed him in that Department. I am, therefore, to request you will immediately deliver to him all the cash and papers in your

possession belonging to the office; and am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To *William Winthrop*, Esquire.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

In Marine Committee, Philadelphia, April, 1776.

SIR: As it is essentially necessary for promoting the service that full and speedy information of the state and condition of the enemy's fleet in the different parts of *America* should be communicated to you, from whence you may be the better enabled to act with vigour and success in your naval department, we therefore write to acquaint you that, from the best information, the force in *Virginia* at this time consists of the *Liverpool* frigate, Captain *Bellew*, of twenty-eight guns; the *Otter* sloop, Captain *Squires*, of sixteen guns; the *William*, an armed ship of ten guns, with Lord *Dunmore*; the *Erlbeck*, a large store-ship, with some small guns. It is said and believed that both the *Liverpool* and *Otter* are exceedingly weak from the want of hands, their men being chiefly employed on board a number of small tenders fitted out by Lord *Dunmore* to distress the trade on the coast of *Virginia* and Bay of *Chesapeake*. His Lordship has now between one hundred and one hundred and fifty sail of vessels, great and small, the most of which are prizes, and many of them valuable; these, so far from being any addition in point of strength, will rather weaken the men-of-war, whose hands are employed in the small vessels. The force at *Wilmington*, in *North-Carolina*, you will observe by the enclosed extracts of letters.

Whether you have formed any expedition or not, the execution of which will interfere with an attempt upon either or both of the above fleets, we cannot determine; but if that should not be the case, there is no service, from the present appearance of things, in which you could better promote the interest of your country, than by the destruction of the enemy's fleet in *North-Carolina* or *Virginia*; for as the seat of war will most probably be transferred in the ensuing campaign to the Southern Colonies, such a manœuvre, attended with success, will disconcert, or at least retard, their military operations for a length of time, give spirit to our friends, and afford them an opportunity of improving their preparations for resistance. These reasons, sir, added to your known spirit and inclination to serve *America*, will, we make no doubt, sufficiently weigh with you to undertake that service.

The *Roebuck*, Captain *Hammond*, of forty guns, is now in *Lewistown* Road. You will observe by the papers that Captain *Barry*, in the Brigantine *Lexington*, has taken an armed tender with twenty-five picked men, commanded by a Lieutenant of the *Liverpool*; which is a loss they cannot easily provide for—the want of men. Should you come to the southward and determine to go into the *Chesapeake*, advise us of the time of your sailing, that orders may be given to the different armed vessels on the coast, as also to those in the *Chesapeake*, and the Commander-in-Chief in *Virginia*, to co-operate with you in the attack. As you were directed by a former instruction, in case you determine to proceed into *Chesapeake* Bay, “that you should despatch a swift-sailing vessel to reconnoitre the coast, and gain intelligence of the strength of the enemy,” we now remind you of that instruction, and desire you would send a vessel for that purpose from the fleet.

Wishing you success, we are, sir, with esteem, your most obedient servants,

JOHN HANCOCK,      GEORGE REED,  
STEPHEN HOPKINS,    RICHARD HENRY LEE,  
JOSEPH HUGHES,      SAMUEL HUNTINGTON,  
R. ALEXANDER,      JONATHAN D. SERGEANT.

To Commodore *Hopkins*.

TO THE FREEHOLDERS AND ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

MY FELLOW-CITIZENS: I did expect that those innovators who, for a few weeks past, have been attempting to bring about a revolution in the happy Constitution of this Province, would have been satisfied with declamation, and relied upon the artful performances they have published, to convince the judgment of the respectable freeholders and



electors of this city that their measures are desirable. But, alas! they themselves are afraid to trust to their arguments; they know their fallacy; they know that their plot is so thinly covered that men of reflection and consideration, men who have lived under the generous plan of liberty, which has been handed down by our forefathers for any length of time, are not to be gulled into their visionary scheme; and are now, by a bold stroke, attempting to take the election of four members for this city out of the hands of the lawful electors, and give to a new set of men the only privilege which subjects can rely on as a security for their liberty.

I need not tell you that the piece I have in my view is that signed *An Elector*; a piece, give me leave to say, that contains treason—the worst of treason—treason against the Constitution. The scope of this performance is, to destroy the right of election; for if every stickler for dependancy on *Great Britain* is to be kept far from our Councils, I will undertake to say that two-thirds at least of the electors of this city will lose their voices. Conscious of this, they want to deprive them of their votes, and give the power to those only who have already fixed their sentiments in favour of independence, without regard to their age, condition, or their knowledge of our Constitution. We well know that a great number of the Associators in this city are minors and apprentices, a great number of them new men lately arrived among us, who know not the happy form of the Government of *Pennsylvania*; yet these are the persons who are to elect Representatives for this city to guard the Constitution against invaders. Our author supposes, and perhaps truly, that such men, if they are permitted to vote, will be easily influenced to vote for that party who raise them to consequence by giving them the rights of citizens before the law and Constitution of the Province entitle them; and men thus rewarded beforehand for the part they are to act, are the only persons who can be relied on to carry their point.

This writer impudently takes it for granted that all men who oppose the scheme of Independence are advocates for absolute tyranny. Were this once proved, as it has been often asserted, the contest would be at an end, and we should all unite in hand and heart for their beloved *Utopian* plan; but it never has, it never can be proved. The opposers of Independence in every publick body, from the Congress downwards, and in the mass of the people, are the true Whigs, who are for preserving the Constitution, as well against the secret machinations of ambitious innovators as against the open attacks of the *British* Parliament; they are the men who first set on foot the present opposition, and who, I trust, will, if they are permitted to go on, bring it to a happy conclusion.

In the second paragraph, this writer discovers the true motives of his party: He tells us “the idea of a Crown is rendered detestable to the whole Western World.” What a daring falsehood is this! When have the Western World authorized you, Mr. *Elector*, thus to speak their sentiments? Do you not know that you stand contradicted by the voice of the Representatives of all those Colonies who have yet spoken their minds upon the subject? Is there one Colony whose Representatives, either in Assembly or in Convention, have taken upon them to instruct their Delegates to favour the whim of Independence and a Republick? You know there is not.

We are told in the last paragraph that a preclusion of all men below the estate of fifty pounds from voting seems peculiar to this city alone. From this hint I collect that the writer has deceived you in calling himself an *Elector*. What elector in this city can be found that is so ignorant of our Constitution? There is not a man in the Province who speaks *English* but knows that this circumstance is not only not peculiar to this city, but universal throughout the Province, and not this Province only, but the *Delaware* Government and *Maryland*. In *New-Jersey* none but a freeholder has a right to vote for Representatives; and when a Convention was lately chosen to represent that Province, the people who were not freeholders complained that they were excluded, and demanded to be admitted to that right upon “the terms of the free Constitution of *Pennsylvania*.” Their demand was thought reasonable, and granted, and they remain perfectly satisfied. Surely thou must be a stranger in this Province, or thou wouldst have known its Constitution

better. But the Boroughs in *England*, those sinks of corruption, that rotten part of the *British* Constitution, are to be used as a precedent for the free States of *America*. “Burgesses were elected by every resident inhabitant who paid his shot and bore his lot; this I will affirm is the ancient free Constitution, which every honest man will venture his blood to restore.” These are our author’s words. Now these Burgesses are the Representatives of those venal Boroughs in *England*, against which every honest man now so justly complains. At their first institution they were allowed to send members to Parliament to represent the trading part of the Kingdom, as the Knights of the Shires represented the farmers, who were freeholders; but the very doctrine our author holds up rendered them the servile tools they are at present. Every resident was allowed to vote, whether he had property or not; the majority (being men of little or no property) were, in a course of time, easily brought to part with their votes to acquire a little property; and this put their votes in the power of one or two men of property, who bought them in order to sell them at an advanced price to the candidates. The Ministry in a course of time became the principal purchasers, and now engross the whole race of Borough-jobbers; and hence arises their power to attempt to enslave us. The wise *Pennsylvania* Legislator, seeing these blemishes in the *English* Constitution, guarded against them by his Charter to this Province; he fixed the qualifications of electors to such a standard as secures us from bribery, by excluding necessitous poor from a vote, who, perhaps, might be induced to part with it for a mess of pottage, and at the same time allows every man to exercise that right who is so little elevated as to be owner of property to the value of fifty pounds. This generous plan of Government, which has set the name of *Penn* on a footing with *Solon* and *Lycurgus*, is now to be laid waste, to let in the ambitious, Republican schemes of a set of men whom nobody knows.

Permit me, my fellow-citizens, to warn you against the arts of these men. They are attempting to hurry you into a scene of anarchy; their scheme of Independence is visionary; they know not themselves what they mean by it. We are already, to every necessary purpose, independent of *Great Britain*, and are now fighting to secure good terms of reconciliation. If we continue upon this ground, *Great Britain* will soon be brought to reason, and our liberty be established on the most lasting foundation. If, on the other hand, we should leap in the dark, and declare to the world that we will have no connection with *Great Britain*, what do we get by it? Will it frighten *Great Britain* into our terms? It will not. Will it secure us any foreign assistance? We know not that it will, but have every reason to think the contrary. Will it strengthen the hands of our friends in *England*, and our advocates in the Parliament? Alas! it will have directly the contrary effect; it will unite the whole force of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* against us—a force that has hitherto been much divided, from an opinion that we only seek peace, liberty, and safety, in a constitutional connection with *Great Britain*. Will it lessen the influence and weaken the hands of the Ministry? No, but the reverse; it will confirm the unjust, the untrue reflections cast upon us by the Ministerial hirelings, that we took up the sword to establish an independent Empire, and will probably save them from destruction. They deceived the Parliament by such information into the present unnatural war; and if they do not make good that information, they must fall a sacrifice to the resentment of a deceived, enraged nation; but if we can be driven into a declaration of it, (whether by Ministerial influence or Republican ambitious partisans, is of no consequence,) the foresight of the Ministry will be applauded, and they supported in their unjust measures. Indeed, it is so much the interest of the Ministry to procure a declaration of Independence, that I cannot help suspecting that it is countenanced by their hirelings, and took its first rise from their influence. Did we know who were the first broachers of the doctrine here, it would be worth while to inquire into their connections in *England*, and we might probably find that the wheel so violently turned here has some secret connection with the Ministerial machine at home.

Suffer not yourselves, therefore, to be either cajoled or frightened out of your Charter liberties and privileges. Exert yourselves in the choice of men whom you know

to have the publick good at heart; and give every countenance and support to the officers who conduct the election in preserving the Constitution inviolate; so shall ye be instrumental in preserving your country, and have the pleasure of enjoying liberty while you live, and transmitting it to the latest posterity.

CIVIS.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

A tradesman being asked why the principal merchants and gentlemen in *Philadelphia* were so much against Independency, replied: The gentlemen are chiefly of a certain connection, which speaks for itself, and may be properly called the family compact of *Pennsylvania*; and our great merchants are principally those who have gotten the whole trade into their hands, and, in consequence, are making immense fortunes at the expense of the People. None but capital houses dare now risk a trade. These great merchants, therefore, buy our produce cheap, and set what price they please on the goods they import. If affairs continue any time in their present condition, they will have the whole wealth of the Province in their hands, and then the people will be nearly in the condition that the *East-India* Company reduced the poor natives of *Bengal* to; whereas, were Independence declared, so that the Powers of *Europe* could tell *Great Britain* that they did not trade with Rebel subjects, they would push in as quick as possible, and strive which should secure the greatest trade to themselves. This would soon bring down the price of goods at present so much complained of, put an end to their monopolizing schemes, and destroy their present prospect of making enormous estates at our expense. Their golden harvests would then be at an end, and all ranks and conditions would come in for their just share of the wealth which would flow in upon us from all quarters. Would you have men, says he, to be for Independency, who gain as much upon one ship's cargo now, as they did formerly by ten, purely because Independency is not declared? What is the ruin of their country to men who make from fifteen to twenty thousand pounds per month profit? They will rise, let who will fall. This is the connection which *Cato* boasts of. Some few there are, I agree, who value no private interest when their country is at stake; but they make no part of this combination. Above ninety of these merchants, having drawn in a few of our friends, who saw not their designs of destroying the influence of patriotick Committees, sent in a most insulting Remonstrance to our Committee of Inspection, denying their power, and refusing to submit to their decisions, merely because they attempted to moderate the extravagant price of their goods, and keep them within such limits as would enable the common people to purchase what they wanted. One of this junto, combined against *North-America*, declared that he would shed blood before Independency should take place. Another, in a publick company, said there was a large number of the first men on the Continent who would publicly declare against the Congress, and oppose them as soon as they declared for Independency. A third said, he would submit to the claims of Parliament rather than see these Colonies independent; and a fourth, when told there was not the least prospect of *Great Britain* accepting any other terms than absolute submission, and the giving up a number of our principal patriots to the halter, replied, "Well, and if they have committed crimes against the State deserving of death, why should they not suffer?" Some of these are at the head of the party that oppose Independency, and these are the terms they expect to bring us to. They have been repeatedly called upon to declare what are the terms of reconciliation which they will accept, and the arguments to support its propriety. But they evade the matter. And as to arguments, they have something more substantial in view; they have the certain prospect of rising on the ruins of their country. Here is the true cause of their opposition.

This appears to me to deserve the publick notice. And if such a Remonstrance as is above hinted at, has been handed to the Committee of Inspection, I hope they will publish it, with the names of the signers affixed to it, that the people may know who are their friends, and who are against them.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

TO THE ELECTORS AND FREEHOLDERS OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: A late law of this Province having appointed the election of four additional Members of Assembly for this city, to be held to-morrow, and the choice of fit persons for this trust being a matter of the highest importance, it has been thought proper, in a brief and plain way, to submit a few things to your serious consideration on this great occasion.

The chief blessings which a People can enjoy under a free Government, depend upon a fair and equal representation; the having frequent elections of those to whom they consign the care of their rights; and holding these elections in such a way, that every person entitled by law to a vote may exercise that most valuable of all privileges, agreeable to his own reason and conscience, without being overawed by the threats of power or party.

The late law has provided for the first of these three things, viz: a more equal representation. And our prudent ancestors, in their former laws, by the method of ballot, have provided for the two latter in such a way as hath rendered our Constitution the admiration of all our neighbours. But the best laws are of no signification, if a People become insensible of their value, or inattentive to their execution. The office of a Burgess for the City of *Philadelphia* is as great and honourable a trust as can fall to the share of any freeman of *Pennsylvania*; and yet a stranger, who had observed what a small proportion of the electors of this city have thought it worth their while to step from their houses to give a vote, in some late instances, would imagine either that we hold this privilege at a cheap rate, or that we have nothing at stake in our Representatives; and this neglect has lately been construed against us, by an anonymous writer, into a tacit approbation of new doctrines, by no means agreeable to the general sense of the good people of this city.

A question has lately been started, which has greatly changed our political ground, and has driven all our little distinction of parties entirely out of sight. It is, whether united, as heretofore, we shall continue our resistance to an oppressive Ministry till we can bring vengeance on their heads, and open the door for renewing our happy connection with the People of *Great Britain*; or whether, without waiting to know clearly whether this be possible or not, we shall, by our own act, shut the door against reconciliation, immediately declare ourselves a separate people, and run the risk of all the evils which may follow.

Upon one side of the question, we have every publick declaration of the Continent; the avowed design of our taking arms into our hands; the ardent desire of multitudes of good men deeply interested in the consequences; the sense of this Province, uniformly expressed from the beginning; and of some neighbouring Provinces, just renewed in their latest transactions. On the other side, we have the publication of nameless writers, setting themselves up in opposition to publick bodies, striving to inflame the passions, and lead us on to schemes of dangerous and uncertain event, wholly inconsistent with our original purposes.

If peace can be obtained upon safe terms, no good man can think, without horror, upon the pursuit of new schemes which present nothing to us but a long stoppage of our trade and commerce, an immense increase of our taxes, changes in our civil Governments, the consequent uncertain situation of our lives and properties, the ruin of families, intestine divisions, and all the calamities attendant upon civil war. There is this essential difference between a declaration of Independence, as it hath been called, and the continuing our defence upon the present foundation: in the one case, a conviction of her error, on the part of *Great Britain*, may restore peace and tranquillity; in the other, we leave no room for such a conviction to operate in our favour. On the contrary, the tools of power will strive to verify their predictions, that we were aiming at a separation from the beginning. They will thereby seek to raise the indignation of the world against us, and to unite the whole *British* Nation in a fixed enmity. They will exert every engine to defeat our schemes, and practise every art, in every Court in *Europe*, to injure our credit.

As prudence and regard to ourselves can never direct us to give an enemy such an advantage, or to pursue such a conduct till the last extremity, it becomes one of the most

weighty concerns that ever employed our attention, to be careful what sort of men we intrust with the conduct of our affairs during the ensuing five months; in which time we shall probably be able to judge whether reconciliation be yet possible. If violent men, who have predetermined this great question, should be our choice, the guilt of every rash measure, into which we may be hurried, will lie at our own door. But if the majority of voices shall be given to those who are known to be firm in the defence of *American* rights, friends to the Constitution of this Province, visibly interested in its prosperity, and, at the same time, desirous of peace upon honourable terms—everything will be safe in their hands. If the fatal necessity should evidently arise which will justify new declarations and a change of measures, such men will never dissent from the general voice of their constituents.\*

Upon this single consideration, the matter now rests. All other distinctions are vain and trifling. Let unnecessary heats be avoided, and every man give his voice, according to his conscience, with that freedom which ought to distinguish a people in the exercise of one of their most sacred rights, under the sanction of the best laws. This is not a time either for timidity or rashness; and threats or abuse will only disgrace those that make use of them. In this light, a most daring publication is to be considered, which has just appeared over the signature of *An Elector*. At a time when all *America* is contending, among other things, for the Charter rights of one of the Provinces, he calls upon the people of this city to trample the Charter of this Colony under their feet; to act upon a novel system; to pay no regard to the legal qualification of voters; not to those sacred laws by which every man, who becomes a citizen of

*Philadelphia*, has agreed to be bound. This would be giving a fatal stab to our liberties, and may teach us what we are to expect should we suffer men professing such principles to get the direction of our affairs.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER TO CHARLES CARROLL.

Philadelphia, April 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: To-morrow will determine the question of Dependance and Independence, in this city, by the election of four additional members of Assembly. It will, from what I can learn, be carried in favour of the former, if there is not a division in the party about their men. It is expected that the contest will not end without blows.

I have been present at two meetings of our Delegates, (the last I am but this moment returned from,) to consult upon the principal points to be discussed in Convention, and the Delegates to attend. There will be another meeting this evening or to-morrow, when they will be finished and agreed upon. I believe Mr. *Goldsborough* and Mr. *Johnson* will be the Delegates. The points as to the Governour's staying, and representation, will be determined, I think, as you and my brethren would wish, with the latitude of being varied by the Convention, as circumstances may cast up.

I shall be happy if my poor endeavours here have or shall be instrumental towards the reconciliation of the two Shores, and settling those two material points, as it will be the means of obtaining forgiveness from my brethren for my abrupt departure from *Annapolis*. You must be my advocate. It was a maddened fit that came upon me; and it appeared to me, from a previous question or two, that, if I had asked leave

gesses at the election, (1st of May,) as will be sure to promote, to accept, and adopt all such measures. These are the schemes that are now ardently pursued by those men.

23d.—Near eight o'clock, I went, with J. B. Smith, to Colonel *Hancock's*, to deliver a Remonstrance from the Committee to Congress, we being appointed for that service; the which he received very politely, and promised to perform and favour us with the result of Congress thereon.

25th.—Went to Jacob *Schwimer's*; met sundry persons there; went thence to the sign of "Rotterdam," in Third-street; stayed till the ticket was settled for Inspectors, and three persons to put into practice the resolve of Assembly for disarming Non-Associators; thence to meet the Committee at William *Thorn's* School-room, where we concluded and fixed the ticket for four Burgesses, viz: George *Clymer*, Colonel *Roberdeau*, Owen *Biddle*, and Frederick *Kuhl*; but to be kept a secret from the public till after our next meeting, on Second Day night, at that place, at seven o'clock.

27th.—Past two o'clock, went to Kensington, where a number of persons (not much short of one hundred and fifty) were collected, in order to get the upper-deck beams into both the frigates building there. The same was completed, without any accident happening, by six o'clock in the evening. I then came away with Frederick *Kuhl*, James *Davidson*, and James *Cannon*, to whose house I went, and drank coffee.

28th.—After supper, Joseph *Lecond* and myself took a walk down to Plumstead's wharf, in order to see what readiness the two ships-of-war were in, as they were under sailing orders, occasioned by an express that arrived about three o'clock this afternoon, who left *Lewistown* about six o'clock last night, sent by land from Henry *Fisher*, giving an account that the man-of-war the *Roebuck*, pursuing a vessel, had, that afternoon, run ashore on the *Brandywine Shoals*, and was then, to appearance, fast. The vessels were nigh ready, as we learned, and would sail in the morning.

May 1st.—At nine o'clock, A. M., went to William *Thorn's* School-room, by appointment; from thence to my son's; thence to Coffee-House, and so home; from there down to Draw-bridge; thence to the State-House; stayed till one o'clock; went in company with Thomas *Paine*, and dined at son *Christopher's*; went back to the State-House; engaged till past five o'clock; then went with James *Cannon* to his house; drank coffee there; then we returned to the State-House; stayed till eight o'clock; then I came home, ate supper, and went back; stayed till past ten o'clock, the Sheriff having proclaimed to close the poll in half an hour. This has been one of the sharpest contests, yet peaceable, that has been for a number of years, except some small disturbance among the *Dutch*, occasioned by some unwarrantable expressions of Joseph *Swift*, viz: That except they were naturalized, they had no more right to a vote than a Negro or an *Indian*. And, also, past six o'clock, the Sheriff, without any notice to the public, closed the poll, and adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow, and shut the doors. This alarmed the people, who immediately resented it—flew to the Sheriff and to the doors, and obliged him again to open the doors, and continue the poll till the time above prefixed. I think it may be said with propriety, that the *Quakers*, *Papists*, *Church*, *Allen* family, with all the Proprietary party, were never, seemingly, so happily united as at this election, notwithstanding *Friends'* former protestation and declaration, of never joining with that party, since the club or knock-down election. "Oh! tell it not in *Gath*, nor publish it in the streets of *Ascalon*," how the Testimony is trampled upon."

About midnight, casting up the poll, it turned out thus, viz: Samuel *Howell*, 941; Andrew *Allen*, 923; George *Clymer*, 923; Alexander *Wilcox*, 921; Thomas *Willing*, 911; Frederick *Kuhl*, 904; Owen *Biddle*, 903; and Daniel *Roberdeau*, 890.—Marshall.

April 1st, 1776.—About three o'clock, went to James *Cannon's*; spent good part of this afternoon and evening, till eight o'clock, there, in conversation with Thomas *Paine*, Dr. *Young*, James *Wigdon*, and Timothy *Mutlack*; came away about eight o'clock, by the cry of "fire;" went home; thence up town, where the whole malt-house and new front-house of Robert *Hare* was in flames; went with Colonel *Roberdeau* to the Powder-Magazine, where a number of us attended with an engine, which played upon the Magazine, and other buildings adjacent, for fear of sparks.

5th.—Dined at home with James *Cannon*; we then went to Paine's; stayed some time; thence, Cannon and I went to Dr. *Young's*; not at home; we went up to Kensington; found him and several friends there, at work on board the frigate building by Messrs. *Eyre*; we joined them in assisting what we could, till night; then came home.

6th.—Near two o'clock, set off for Kensington, in order to assist, with a number of fellow-citizens, in getting the lower-deck beams on board the frigate building by Messrs. *Eyre*. I presume there came not short of one hundred, who stayed till they were all put on board—in which were included three parts of the Light-Infantry, of First Battalion, who came in warlike array; came away just at dark.

9th.—Near seven o'clock, went to Committee-room, at Philosophical Hall; came away before ten; at which meeting, Townsend *Spikeman* attending, owned he refused and could not take the Continental money; he refusing to appeal, his case was ordered to be published.

11th.—After dinner, went to Kensington, where a number of inhabitants met, in order to assist in getting the lower-deck beams in the ship that was building for man-of-war, by Bruce & Co.

16th.—News confirmed of our fleet's arrival at New-London, and of the arrival of General *Washington* at New-York; some particulars, see in *Evening Post*, No. 193. Near seven o'clock, went to Committee-room, at Philosophical Hall; came home past ten; great debate about rescinding the prices some time past affixed to sundry articles by the Committee. This debate arose from a Remonstrance now presented by sundry citizens.

18th.—Near seven o'clock, went to Committee-room, at Philosophical Hall, (called by summons,) where the rights and powers of the Committee were discussed, and proved to be invested in them by the votes of Congress, and the call and nomination of the people at large; and that the regulations they had entered into were well founded; yet, in order to promote peace and harmony at this time, a vote was passed, (contrary to my approbation and that of many others present,) that a remonstrance be sent to Congress, requesting them to explain some former resolves. A Committee was appointed for that purpose, to draft it, and bring it to the next meeting for approbation. At this meeting, after Committee was over, many stayed, and appointed sixteen members present to confer with the Committee of Privates, and the Patriotick Society, respecting the candidates for Burgesses, on the 1st of May next. Agreed to meet to-morrow evening.

19th.—Near seven o'clock, went to William *Thorn's* School-room, Videll's Alley. Met a number of persons appointed to consult upon persons proper to be returned as four Burgesses from this city, on the 1st of May. Came away past nine o'clock, having adjourned to seven o'clock to-morrow evening, at same place. I was chosen Chairman; James *Cannon*, Secretary.

20th.—Went thence to James *Cannon's*. Past seven o'clock, went with him to William *Thorn's* School-room, as by appointment last night. Came away about ten o'clock.

21st.—Many, I understand, were the private meetings of those called Moderate-men, (or those who are for reconciliation with Great Britain upon the best terms she will give us, but by all means to be reconciled to or with her,) in order to consult and have such men carried for Bur-

in form, I should not just then have obtained it, though it had been agreed before that, so soon as there was a full Council, I might go where I pleased. My health required a jaunt, and I found considerable relief whilst on my journey; but my giddiness has again returned, and I must set out for *Maryland* as soon as I possibly can.

I have, I think, almost brought *R. H. L.* to shame. He has the impudence and assurance of the devil. He at first justified *Purviance*, and denied that General *Lee* had directed the Governour to be seized; and brought his brother *Frank* to pledge his honour that the fact was not so. I concealed from them that I had a copy of the General's letter in my pocket, nor do they yet know I have it. I shall this day show it to some gentlemen that were present when they roundly asserted and assured me that I had been misinformed. Colonel *Harrison* has written to his friends in the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, that they must apologize to our Council for the insult. We are highly applauded, in this city, for our spirited conduct in the late conspiracy, for such I must term it.

Adieu. My best respects to my brethren, whom I hope to see on *Sunday* in *Annapolis*.

Yours, sincerely and affectionately,

DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. I have written in the greatest hurry.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, April 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I perceive by the tenour of your favour of yesterday, that my letter of the 25th has given umbrage, which I am sorry for, as it was not most distantly in my ideas to give any.

Three things led me to suspect that the *New-York* Battalions were not upon the same establishment of the other Continental troops: current report, an implied exception in the order for detaching six more battalions to *Canada*, and that part of your letter signifying that four of these battalions were to be raised under your immediate direction; which intimation, coming in corroboration of the two first reasons, (for I never had any information of this matter from Congress,) led me to believe that you intended it as a gentle hint that I was not to consider them in the same light I did the others. It was not to be wondered at, therefore, that I should wish to know the extent of my authority over them, that my conduct might be regulated thereby; or, that I should be so solicitous in arming regiments raised for local purposes as those for the general service, when the latter are also greatly deficient in this essential point. These were the ideas that filled my mind at the time of writing. If the extreme hurry, occasioned by a variety of business which is continually pressing upon me, clouded the meaning I wished to convey, I can only add that it never was, and I hope never will be, my intention to give unprovoked offence. Of this your Committee may be once for all assured, that it is my earnest wish to co-operate with them in every measure which can conduce to the general good; and that if I should at any time differ with them in the means, I shall feel my share of the concern; being, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Committee of Safety at *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 2, 1776, and referred to the Committee on the Eastern Department.]

New-York, April 30, 1776.

SIR: I mean through you, sir, to do myself the honour of laying before Congress a copy of an address transmitted them some time ago by the Assembly of *Rhode-Island*, which Governour *Cooke* favoured me with in the month of *January*, at the same time requesting me to interest myself in procuring a body of forces on the Continental establishment for the defence of that Colony. I doubt not but the address, and subject of it, have had the attention and consideration of Congress before now; but if they have not decided upon the matter, I would beg leave to mention that I have made

inquiry into the situation and condition of the Colony, and find it to be as stated in the address; and with all deference to the opinion of Congress, conceive it highly necessary and expedient that they should adopt some measures for relieving their distress, and granting the aid prayed for. The importance of it in the chain of union; its extensive sea-coast, affording harbours for our shipping and vessels, at the same time exposing and subjecting the inhabitants to the ravages and depredations of our enemies; the zeal and attachment which it has shown, and which still actuates it toward the common cause; their incapacity to pay a sufficient number of men for its defence, should they be able to furnish them after so many engaged in other services; these, and many other reasons which are too obvious to mention, plead powerfully for the notice and attention of Congress, and seem to me to claim their support.

Having thus stated the matter to Congress for their consideration, agreeable to my promise to Governour *Cooke* when I had the honour of seeing him in my way here, I shall leave it with them, not doubting but they will duly weigh its importance, and give such assistance as they may think reasonable and just. What they chiefly wish for is, that the troops they have raised may be taken into Continental pay, and commanding officers be appointed by Congress.

I have the honour to be, with much regard, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

Providence, January 15, 1776.

We, the General Assembly of the *English* Colony of *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, beg leave to represent to you the state and condition of said Colony, and to request such assistance as our situation and the welfare of the United Colonies shall appear to require.

Soon after the conclusion of the late glorious war, in the successes of which the Colonies had so considerable a share, we were alarmed with divers acts of the *British* Parliament, strongly indicating a design to divest the Colonies of those rights which are essential to the freedom of a People, and which they had enjoyed, with but few innovations, from their first settlement. The Act passed in 1765 for levying stamp duties in *America*, and many subsequent Acts, manifested that design so clearly as to leave no room for a doubt. This Colony, ever tenacious of its liberties, zealously took a part in all the common measures entered into for the common safety.

When at length the Ministerial troops, by the attacks at *Lexington* and *Concord*, had reduced us to the necessity of immediately taking up arms, or submitting to a slavery which, at the distance we are placed from the seat of the power to be exercised over us, must be the most absolute and terrible that we can form an idea of, this Colony, notwithstanding its exposed situation, did not hesitate; it did not wait for the example of more powerful Colonies; but, conforming itself to the spirit of the resolutions of the honourable the Continental Congress for 1774, ordered a body of men to be raised and marched to the encampment near *Boston*.

Unfortunately for the inhabitants, this Colony is scarcely anything but a line of sea-coast. From *Providence* to *Point Judith*, and from thence to *Pawcatuck River*, is near eighty miles. On the east side of the bay, from *Providence* to *Seconet Point*, and including the east side of *Seconet* until it meets the *Massachusetts* line, is about fifty miles; besides which are the navigable rivers of *Pawcatuck* and *Warren*. On the west side of the bay the Colony doth not extend twenty miles, and on the east side not more than eight miles from the sea-coast above described. In the Colony are also included the following Islands: *Rhode-Island*, about sixteen miles in length; *Conanicut*, nine; *Block-Island*, nine; *Prudence*, seven; and the smaller Islands *Patience*, *Hope*, *Gold-Island*, and several others; all which are cultivated and fertile, and contributed largely to the publick expenses. The greater part of the above-mentioned shores are accessible to ships-of-war.

By an exact estimate, taken in the year 1774, the whole number of inhabitants in the Colony amounted to fifty-nine thousand six hundred and seventy-eight. The town of *Newport* contained nine thousand two hundred and nine, was the principal place of trade, and paid above one-sixth part of the

publick taxes. A very considerable commerce was also carried on from *Providence*; and several small towns in the Colony were also concerned in trade and navigation. Ship building was a great branch of business; in short, the inhabitants of the Colony derived their subsistence almost wholly from commerce.

The convenient situation of this Colony for receiving supplies from the other Colonies for the Continental Army near *Boston*, we suppose, was the principal reason why so great a number of the King's ships have been stationed in our bay; we having had for above seven months past, two ships of twenty guns, one of sixteen, a bomb ketch, and about eight tenders, who have made prizes of more vessels belonging to this Colony than have been lost by any other; have put almost a total end to commerce; have committed repeated depredations in different parts of the Colony; have kept our coasts constantly alarmed, and obliged the inhabitants to keep almost continually under arms.

The once flourishing town of *Newport*, by the loss of trade, and consequent cessation of all business, instead of being able to contribute to the expenses of the war, hath been reduced to so deplorable a state, that we have been obliged to grant money out of the general Treasury for the support of their poor; and many of the wealthy inhabitants have not only left the town, but the Colony. *Conanicut* and *Prudence*, lately the scenes of the most wanton and savage desolation and barbarity, are deserted. *New-Shoreham*, from its situation, is rendered worse than useless to the Colony; and the other Islands will no longer be of service to any but the enemy.

The troops sent by this Colony to the Army near *Boston*, amounted to about one thousand seven hundred, inclusive of officers, of which two hundred and fifty are in Colonel *Arnold's* detachment in *Quebeck*. Many have entered on board the armed vessels fitted out by General *Washington*, particularly almost every officer and seaman in the brig commanded by Captain *Martindale*, unfortunately taken and carried into *Boston*, belonged to this Colony; and of the others, the greater part by far have reinlisted in the Continental service, so that very few of them have returned, or can return. We fitted out two armed vessels for the protection of our commerce and coasts, which carried upwards of one hundred men, one of which is now at *Philadelphia*, in the Continental service, with the greater part of her crew.

Above a hundred men have also been enlisted for the Continental Navy. We have also built and equipped two row-galleys, to carry fifty men each. Besides these extraordinary exertions, we were alarmed in *October* last with the arrival of a number of transports from *Boston*, destined to procure fresh provisions for the Ministerial Army. To prevent their obtaining supplies was an object of such great importance as obliged us to send a number of Minute-men upon the several Islands to defend the stock, which created a most enormous expense.

When the Assembly met in *November*, a regiment of five hundred men was ordered to be raised for the defence of *Rhode-Island* and the other Islands; notwithstanding which we have been obliged repeatedly to call forth our Minute-men. To prevent the great charge of which, we have augmented the regiment, ordered to be raised in *November*, to seven hundred and fifty men, exclusive of a company of artillery consisting of one hundred and five men, with their officers; and have also voted another regiment of seven hundred and fifty men to be immediately raised and equipped; besides two hundred and thirty-eight artillery-men for the management of thirty-four field-pieces ordered to be procured and placed in the several towns upon the sea-coast. We have ordered sixty cannon (eighteen and twelve-pounders) to be cast, and have already sent a vessel with a very valuable cargo, to purchase powder and other warlike stores, and are fitting out another, which will soon sail.

From the above representation of our situation, exertions, and losses, and the depredations of the enemy, which are not exaggerated, the exhausted state of the Colony, and its utter inability to maintain the present force established and voted, as well as to take any further measures to defend itself, will clearly appear. We need not observe to you the great importance of *Rhode-Island*, or the damages that would be sustained by the enemy's possessing themselves thereof—its harbours and the adjoining *Narraganset Bay* being great-

ly superior to any other in *America*; and its convenient situation with respect to the sea and the other Colonies, making it still more important.

We therefore request that you will give the earliest attention to this address; and have no doubt that you will take the most proper measures for defending the Colony; otherwise *Rhode-Island*, and the other Islands in the Bay, with the surrounding sea-coast upon the Continent, must be depopulated, and the Colony entirely ruined.

We submit the foregoing to your judicious determination; and are, with great respect and confidence, your Honours' most obedient and most humble servants.

Signed at the request and in behalf of the General Assembly,

NICHOLAS COOKE, *Governour*.

To the Honourable the Delegates of the United Colonies now convened in General Congress in *Philadelphia*.

#### GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 27, 1776.

(Parole, *Camden*.)

(Countersign, *Chatham*.)

The riotous behaviour of some soldiers of the Continental Army, yesterday, and the evening before, has filled the General with much regret and concern; and lays him under the disagreeable necessity of declaring, that if the like behaviour should be practised again the authors will be brought to the severest punishment, if taken, or treated as a common enemy if they dare to resist. Men are not to carve out remedies for themselves. If they are injured in any respect there are legal modes to obtain relief, and just complaints will always be attended to and redressed. It should be the pride of a Soldier to conduct himself in such a manner as to obtain the applause and not the reproach of a people he is sent to defend; and it should be the business, as it is the duty of an Officer to inculcate and enforce this doctrine.

The honourable the Continental Congress having been pleased to order a Brigadier-General and six more Battalions to be immediately sent to *Canada*, his Excellency directs the Colonels or commanding officers of the Regiments of *Stark*, *Reed*, *Wayne*, *Irvine*, *Dayton*, and *Winds*, to prepare their corps for immediate embarkation. The Quartermaster-General will forthwith provide vessels, and the Commissary-General provisions; and General *Sullivan* will order every Regiment to embark, and sail with all convenient expedition.

The honourable the Continental Congress, in consideration of the four last-named Regiments being ordered out of the Middle Colonies, are pleased to direct them to be put upon the same pay with those already upon more remote service; which pay is to commence from the first day of *May* next.

Colonel *Stark's* and Colonel *Reed's* Regiments to be ready to be mustered to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, upon the Common, near the Park of Artillery.

All Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, at present absent from the Regiments commanded by the Colonels *Wayne*, *Irvine*, *Dayton*, and *Winds*, are forthwith ordered to join their respective Corps.

Colonel *McDougall's* and Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiments to parade on *Monday* morning, at ten o'clock, upon the Common, to be reviewed.

*William Hains*, of Captain *Denton's* Company, in Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Baldwin* was President, for "Desertion:" The Court finding the prisoner guilty of the charge, do sentence him to be whipped twenty-five lashes on his bare back. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution on *Monday* morning, at the head of the Regiment.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 28, 1776.

(Parole, *Manchester*.)

(Countersign, *Ponsonby*.)

The Commanding Officers of Regiments and Corps are to be careful that the men are made perfectly well acquainted with all Orders that issue for the government of the Army; and are not to be less diligent in enforcing obedience thereto. Yesterday a number of Colonel *Irvine's* Regiment were found in different places firing their pieces, and wasting their ammunition, under pretence of not knowing they were acting contrary to Orders.

The Articles of War are to be read at least once a week,



to every Company in the Army, that neither Men nor Officers may plead ignorance against any of the Rules and Regulations therein contained.

Colonel *Winds's* and Colonel *Dayton's* Regiments to be mustered on *Tuesday* morning, at eight o'clock, upon the Common, where the Commissary-General of Musters will attend. The Muster-Rolls of those Regiments to be prepared immediately.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 29, 1776.

(Parole, *Dunning*.) (Countersign, *Glynn*.)

The Army to be ready to encamp upon the ground marked out by the Quartermaster-General, on *Wednesday* morning, at eight o'clock. Colonel *Mifflin* will, upon the application of commanding officers of Regiments and Corps, supply the necessary tents and camp-equipage, straw, and fire-wood. The troops are to be brigaded and encamped in the following order: The first Brigade on the right, the second upon the left, and the fourth in the centre; the Regiment of Artillery in the rear of the Park of Artillery, which is to be formed upon the ground assigned for that purpose. The Regiments are to be brigaded as follows, viz:

First Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Heath*: *Learned's*, *Bailey's*, *Prescott's*, *Reed's*, and *Baldwin's*.

Second Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Spencer*: *Parsons's*, *Wyllly's*, *Huntington's*, *Arnold's*, and *Ward's*.

Third Brigade, under the command of Brigadier-General *Greene*: *Hand's*, *Hitchcock's*, *Varnum's*, and *Little's*.

Fourth Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General the Earl of *Stirling*: *Webb's*, *Nixon's*, *McDougall's*, and *Ritzema's*.

The Third Brigade, under Brigadier-General *Greene*, to encamp upon the ground marked out upon *Long-Island*. The Companies of *Virginia* and *Maryland* Riflemen to be included in *Lord Stirling's* Brigade.

As Captain *Van Dyck*, commanding the Grenadier Company of the City of *New-York*, has, by letter, acquainted *Lord Stirling* that the Circular Battery, to the northwest of this city, is now complete, and the General being informed that the said Grenadier Company did, on the first alarm of danger from the enemy, voluntarily undertake to erect the said battery, and have themselves, in a most masterly and neat manner, finished the same, the General, justly ad-

miring such an example of spirit and perseverance, and highly esteeming a body of men possessed of the noblest virtues of good citizens, desires his thanks to be thus publicly given to the Company of Grenadiers, for this instance of their ready compliance with his wishes.

The officers and men of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment to be dismissed from the Laboratory, and prepare for embarkation.

The Regiment of Artillery are immediately to furnish a sufficient number of men for that duty.

Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment are to remain in their present encampment until further orders.

Colonel *Wyllly's* Regiment are to occupy the Barracks at present possessed by Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment.

The Quartermaster-General, with the Field Officers of the Regiment of Artillery, are, with proper assistants, to assemble at sunrise to-morrow morning, at *Bayard's Hill*, to mark out the ground for the Artillery Park, and for the encampment of the Regiment of Artillery.

Head-Quarters, New-York, April 30, 1776.

(Parole, *Sacchridge*.) (Countersign, *Oliver*.)

All Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, belonging to any of the Regiments now in or going to *Canada*, to parade to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, in the street opposite to General *Sullivan's* Quarters, near the *Bowling Green*, to receive his orders.

All Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, are strictly commanded, upon no pretence whatever, to carry anything out of their Barracks, or the houses they at present occupy, that belongs to such Barracks or houses; neither are they to injure the buildings within or without. All damages wantonly done to the houses where the troops are quartered, to be paid for by the troops quartered in them. The Commanding-Officers of Companies to deliver to Colonel *Brewer*, Barrackmaster, a list of the names of those quartered in each house, his own name at the head of the list, and the Regiment to which he belongs. Immediately upon the troops encamping, the Quartermaster-General and Barrackmaster to examine the condition the houses are left in, and secure them in the best manner, and make their report to the General.

General *Greene's* Brigade to encamp to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, upon the ground marked out upon *Long-Island*.

General Return of the Army of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief; Head-Quarters at NEW-YORK, April 28, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Since last Return.							
	Commissioned.			Staff.			Non-commissioned.																				
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieuts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.													
Colonel Hand's.....	1	1	-	4	6	5	7	1	1	1	1	-	22	7	429	11	23	38	10	511	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Reed's.....	1	1	1	5	7	7	5	-	1	1	1	-	28	14	375	37	42	6	-	460	1	-	180	-	-	-	-
Colonel Learned's.....	1	1	1	8	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	428	29	43	56	-	556	-	-	84	2	-	-	-
Colonel Nixon's.....	1	1	1	7	8	4	7	1	1	1	-	1	28	14	318	43	39	35	-	438	-	1	202	1	-	-	-
Colonel Stark's.....	1	1	1	6	7	7	6	-	1	1	1	-	30	13	363	32	30	18	-	443	2	3	197	-	1	1	-
Colonel Prescott's.....	1	1	1	7	7	4	7	-	1	1	1	1	27	14	343	39	42	9	-	433	1	1	207	-	-	-	-
Colonel Varnum's.....	1	1	1	6	8	5	4	-	1	1	1	-	26	14	275	9	13	88	1	386	-	2	254	-	-	-	-
Four Companies of Colonel Parsons's.	1	1	1	2	4	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	7	5	141	5	3	2	-	151	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	7	5	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	23	16	281	14	26	46	-	367	2	-	273	1	-	2	-
Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	7	8	3	6	1	1	1	1	-	28	15	322	5	33	137	-	497	-	1	143	-	-	-	-
Colonel Reed's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	8	-	1	1	1	-	27	15	446	36	49	15	-	546	2	1	94	1	-	-	-
Six Companies of Col. Huntington's..	1	1	-	2	6	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	18	12	277	26	52	20	-	375	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Webb's.....	1	1	1	6	7	5	6	-	1	1	-	1	31	12	395	40	23	80	12	550	1	4	90	2	-	-	-
Five Companies of Colonel Arnold's.	-	-	1	4	5	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	17	10	175	26	22	34	3	260	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Ward's.....	1	-	-	6	8	6	8	1	1	1	1	1	31	14	440	23	19	9	-	491	-	2	149	1	-	-	1
Colonel Wyllly's.....	-	1	1	4	6	7	8	1	-	-	-	-	29	15	437	26	45	19	4	531	1	-	109	2	-	-	-
Colonel Bailey's.....	1	1	1	7	7	6	6	-	1	1	1	1	30	15	442	15	42	52	-	551	-	1	89	-	-	-	-
Colonel Baldwin's.....	1	1	1	4	5	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	17	11	282	32	63	125	-	502	1	2	138	-	-	-	4
Three Companies of Col. Wayne's...	1	-	1	3	3	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	11	5	207	23	1	2	1	234	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Colonel Woods's.....	1	-	1	2	4	4	7	-	1	1	1	1	28	15	391	64	5	30	17	507	-	1	133	-	1	8	-
Colonel McDougall's.....	1	1	1	7	7	3	8	-	1	1	1	1	28	13	212	38	1	25	1	277	3	-	363	33	-	7	37
Five Companies of Colonel Ritzema's.	1	-	-	4	4	4	4	-	1	1	-	-	16	8	212	22	-	2	-	236	-	-	84	-	-	-	4
Colonel Dayton's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	-	1	1	-	-	32	16	600	-	-	-	-	600	-	-	40	-	-	-	-
Four Companies of Colonel Irvine's...	-	1	-	4	4	4	4	-	-	-	-	1	16	8	310	7	16	-	-	333	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total .....	21	19	19	132	149	124	138	10	21	21	15	13	582	297	8,101	602	632	848	52	10,235	14	19	2,829	46	2	19	48

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

Return of the Regiments going on command to CANADA, April 28, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.														RANK AND FILE.						Wanting to complete.	Since last Return.					
	Commissioned.				Staff.		Non-commissioned																				
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieuts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deseried.
Colonel Irvine's.....	1	1	1	7	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	682	.	.	.	.	682	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Colonel Wayne's.....	1	1	1	7	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	610	.	.	.	.	610	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Colonel Dayton's.....	1	1	1	7	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	640	.	.	.	.	640	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Colonel Reed's.....	1	1	1	5	7	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	28	14	275	37	42	6	.	460	1	.	180	.	.	.	.
Colonel Stark's.....	1	1	1	3	7	5	6	.	1	1	1	1	30	13	363	32	30	8	.	443	2	3	197	.	1	1	.
Colonel Woods's.....	1	1	2	4	4	7	.	.	1	1	1	1	28	15	391	64	5	30	17	577	.	1	133	.	1	8	.
Total.....	6	5	6	39	42	42	2	6	6	6	6	4	182	90	3,091	133	77	54	17	3,372	3	4	510	.	2	9	.

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

COLONEL NICOLL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Constitution, April 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Enclosed you have a return of the state of the fortifications under my command ; by which you will readily see that the men in general are very deficient in arms, and more especially the standing companies. I think it would be prudent to have them armed as soon as possible, as there are many disaffected persons in the adjacent Counties of *Westchester* and *Dutchess*, who, in case of an attack at *New-York*, (if they knew our weakness,) might attempt to take the garrisons by surprise. I have been informed that one Captain *Menos*, a half-pay officer from *Dutchess* County, has gone off, about the 20th instant, with forty men, supposed to join the Ministerial Army.

There is no ammunition at *Fort Montgomery* for small arms, but one quarter-cask of powder, and forty-eight pounds of musket balls, which I got of the Commissioners ; and they produced instructions from Congress not to let any of the powder be made use of without their further order ; but as there was a necessity for it, I prevailed with them to let it go. I have given orders to Lieutenant *Stephens* (of the artillery) to have it made up into cartridges for the use of that garrison. Gun-flints we are destitute of. No physician has been ordered here yet, and a number of the men in garrison are sick and lame, and cannot have proper means used for their recovery.

The time for which one of the Minute-Companies, now at this fortress, is inlisted, will expire in about fifteen days. If your Excellency thinks it proper more should be called in, I should be glad of an order for that purpose as soon as possible. In the mean time you may rest assured, sir, that nothing shall be wanting on my part to secure the different posts under my command ; and for that purpose the work shall be forwarded to the utmost of my power.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL, Commanding Officer.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, at Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

WILLIAM BEDLOW TO JOHN BERRIEN.

Fort Constitution, April 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 24th and 26th instant, have received, with the two padlocks. We note your answer from the Committee of Safety respecting the proposed barrack near the battery on *Bun's Hill*, and readily obey that and every other direction from that honourable Board ; but we should be wanting in the duty of our office not to mention, that the battery ordered by the Continental Congress, of eighteen pieces of heavy cannon, to be erected on said hill, will be the most respectable at this post. The barracks now here will be at too great a distance for relief, in case of an attempt to surprise it by night. This the Engineer (who, we are informed, is the chief in the Continental service, and came here with Major-General *Thompson*, to view this post, in their way to *Canada*) joined us in ; and, also, thought it absolutely necessary, that a block-house, or

small redoubt, should be erected on the high rock, between the *Gravel-Hills* and the other works to the westward, in order to keep open the communication between both, and cover the *Gravel-Hill*. A block-house, we judged, would be expensive ; so are about a redoubt of four cannon, to be built of those large pieces of timber which had been ordered by *Romans*, and which we have no other use for at present, filled in with earth. This eminence on the rock, Engineer *Smith*, and every gentleman of the Continental Congress and officers of the Army who have come here, have always pointed out to us to be fortified. Four guns here, with fourteen on the *Gravel-Hill*, will make out the eighteen ordered by the Continental Congress. The necessity of having the battery on the *Gravel-Hill* as well taken care of in winter as summer, arises from our being surrounded with a number of disaffected people, who might, in one hour, at night, destroy it.

We are obliged to you for the information respecting our accounts, and flatter ourselves that the Committee of Safety have that confidence in us, to think that we shall be extremely careful in not putting the publick to any unnecessary expense. We beg you will get the check-book, with the bag it was in, and send us, as we kept no copy of it. *Brewer*, the carpenter, Colonel *McDougall's* negro, *Colrain Time*, with others that were and are here employed, we want, in order to settle their accounts.

From the Continental Congress's resolves of *February* 15th, sent us by the Provincial Congress, we are to erect a work on the east side of the river, opposite the *West-Point*, to mount thirty cannon. Will not a barrack be wanting there ? As we have many very good six and four-pounders here, should be glad to know from the Committee of Safety, if we may make carriages for them, as they will be wanted ; doubtless we shall not get heavy cannon for all the works. We had forgot to mention that we are satisfied respecting Mr. *McCarty's* account for the boards by *McKey*, and beg you will settle it with him, or his order. It is not our fault it was not paid long ago. We wrote to him last fall about it, but never received any answer.

We are, dear sir, with regard, your humble servants,

WILLIAM BEDLOW.

To John Berrien, Esq., Commissioner of Fortifications of *Hudson's River*.

CAPTAIN BELKNAP TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Montgomery, April 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This morning my Lieutenant arrived from *New-York*, by which I am informed that I am in Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, with which I am well satisfied. But by a list of the arrangements in his regiment, it appears I am the fifth Captain in rank, and Captain *William Jackson* the fourth ; therefore in rank before me. You may remember, gentlemen, that I waited on you immediately on filling up my company ; which was the 9th of *March*. Captain *Jackson* had not then waited on you, neither was his company filled at that time. My company by the 10th of *March* was in actual service. You will please to remember, at the same time, that I mentioned that in particular, and insisted

that no one ought to rank before me who had not filled his company, and made report to you before that date, except the companies of last year; upon which, I had the promise of your honourable House that no one should, and that you were determined to make that a rule. I humbly conceive that, in your hurry of business, it has happened by mistake. I therefore beg and insist that it may be altered, and I placed in my proper rank; which I make not the least doubt at present will be done. But should that not be the case, I cannot accept a commission in rank behind Captain Jackson; but, notwithstanding, will serve my country in the rank I now stand placed, by virtue of my warrant.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your most humble servant,

JOHN BELKNAP, Captain.

To the New-York Committee of Safety.

CORNELIUS STEENROD TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

Cortlandt Manor, April 30, 1776.

To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK:

Whereas, I have received a permission to enlist a Company for the service of this Colony, and to be ready with my Company by the 11th of May next; I desire to know whether I am expected to march from home that day, or to be at York that day; and likewise, where my men are to be reviewed, as I want to go by water from Horse Neck; and, as some of my men are not well able to fix with clothing so soon, whether I may come with about fifty men, and leave an officer to bring the others afterwards.

Your answer will much oblige your Honours' humble servant,

CORNELIUS STEENROD.

To the Honourable Chairman of the Provincial Congress of New-York, or Committee of Safety.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Montreal, April 30, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have the pleasure to acquaint you of the safe arrival of the gentlemen from Congress, in good health and spirits. At a council of war held this morning, it was agreed to fortify at Richelieu and Jacques Cartier, two important posts, the last eleven, and the former fifteen leagues above Quebec; also, to set on foot and build immediately four row-galleys, or gondolas, at Chambly, under my direction; and that Colonel Hazen have the overseeing the workmen, procuring materials, &c.; of which, I make no doubt, the Committee of Congress will advise you, as also our prospects and resources in this country, which are very slender. I hope no time will be lost in hurrying on provisions, &c.

On my arrival here, I sent Colonel Hazen to command at St. John's, Chambly, &c. I have this minute received a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Buell, acquainting me of his being appointed to command at those places, and having orders to build a store-house; for which purpose, there are no materials to be procured at present. I fancy you have not been apprized of the store-rooms at St. John's and Chambly, which are capable of holding two thousand barrels of provisions, and want little repairing.

We have engaged a number of French carpenters and batteaumen, to be employed at Chambly, under the direction of Colonel Hazen, who is so well acquainted, both with the falls and inhabitants of the country, that a more useful man could not be employed at these posts. Perhaps you will think best that Colonel Buell should remain at this place, or go down to Richelieu, where I apprehend he will be of the greatest service; his want of the French tongue is a great hindrance to business here.

I should be glad that the small hausers and anchors at Ticonderoga might be sent to St. John's for the gondolas, and if fifty or a hundred good seamen could be engaged out of the troops coming up, to man them, with proper officers to command them, it will forward the matter much.

We have received no material advice from Quebec lately; our last was the 24th ultimo, when our batteries were playing on the town. Expect soon to hear their effect.

I am, very respectfully, dear General, your obedient and humble servant,

BENEDICT ARNOLD.

To General Philip Schuyler.

CAPTAIN WHIPPLE TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Providence, April 30, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I have had the honour to serve under you in the last French war, and I believ'd to your satisfaction; and since my arrival at Philadelphia, where I was appointed by the honourable Continental Congress to the command of the ship Columbus, I have strictly obeyed your commands, and done all in my power for the honour of the fleet, to the best of my knowledge.

The night we fell in with the Glasgow man-of-war, two of my Lieutenants were on board the two prizes we had taken, and fourteen of my best seamen. When we were running down on the ship, getting in order to engage, and quartering the men in the places of those that were absent, the Glasgow suddenly hauling to the northward, brought me to the southward of her, and brought her directly into your and Captain Hopkins's wake. I hauled up for her, and made all sail with my three topgallant sails. Captain Hopkins then beginning the fire, the Glasgow returning the same, and my being in her wake, and as far to the leeward as she, it instantly deadened all the wind, which put it entirely out of my power to get up with her. I used my utmost endeavour, but in vain. Before I had got near enough for a close engagement, the Glasgow had made all sail for the harbour of Newport. I continued chase under all sail that I had, except studding sails, and the wind being before the beam, she firing her two sternchasers into me, as fast as possible, and my keeping up a fire with my bow guns, and now and then a broadside, put it out of my power to get near enough to have a close engagement. I continued this chase till you thought proper to hoist a signal for my return into the fleet. I accordingly obeyed the signal; and, on our arrival at New-London, I found that a report was spread, (from the Alfred and Cabot,) that I was a coward, and many other ill-natured and false aspersions. If I did not do my duty, it proceeded not from cowardice, but from want of judgment. The inhabitants of New-London, and others, by means of those cruel aspersions, look on me with contempt, as a man not serving the country in my station. The circumstance of having a family of children to be upbraided with my supposed cowardice, and my own character rendered infamous through the Thirteen United Colonies, is an indignity I cannot bear. If I am a coward, I have no business in the service of this Continent. I therefore request that there may be a Court-Martial called, that I may be tried by my brother officers of the fleet, and either acquitted with honour, or broken with disgrace. I ask no favour of them. If I should be broken, the publick will then have a right to despise me. If I can obtain no satisfaction in this way, I should be under a necessity to return you my commission. I will then thank the Congress for the honour they intended me, and curse those who first spread the infamous report. I have never yet mentioned the matter to any one. If your Honour had let me come to Newport when the Scarborough man-of-war lay there, as was my request, I might perhaps have convinced the world that I am not a coward; but this is now out of my power.

I am, &c.,

ABR. WHIPPLE,

To Esek Hopkins, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the American Fleet.

P. S. Your Honour will observe that it was in the night when we bore down upon the Glasgow, which rendered it difficult to see when she altered her course.

TO THE FREEMEN OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Salem, April 30, 1776.

MY BRETHREN AND FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: The general voice of the People now seems to be, to break off all commerce with the button-makers of Great Britain. Indeed, we have not the least need to keep it up. Very good buttons are manufactured in Concord in this Colony; and the trade will soon spread through all the United Colonies. The "voice of the People is the voice of God" always. If this voice should be unanimous with respect to the prohibition of the forementioned commerce, (dropping metaphor,) the question is, What must next be done in regard of our own Colony? As a member of it, my advice is, that, after the approaching election, the Council and House of Representatives of the people unite in one congregation, consult,

debate, and determine conjunctly, by such majorities of votes as they shall agree upon. To act separately is aping the two Houses of Parliament in the *British* Constitution, which is a relict of the old feudal system, which was founded in injustice, and supported by lawless tyranny. I appeal to common sense, for which *Americans* are distinguished, whether the two Houses, acting separately, can enter into each other's sentiments and views so fully as in conjunction; and whether acting separately (each having a negative upon the other) has not a direct tendency to breed ill-will and resentment, which, for humanity's sake, let be avoided. Let there be no distinction but what wisdom and virtue make. Instead of a Governour, I would advise the Representatives of the people to choose, for the sake of despatch in business, one or more of the wisest of their number to act in the Executive department during the session, and in the recess of the Assembly.

In your next election of Representatives, let your eyes, my brethren, be upon the wise and virtuous of the land. Perhaps there never was, nor ever will be, an assembly which will have more important matters to debate and determine upon.

For *God's* sake, and for the sake of mankind, if we make any alterations, let us shun the errors of our ancestors in the reigns of *Henry VIII.* and *Queen Elizabeth.* They got rid of one Pope, indeed, but at the same time set up another. Examine with candour, my brethren, and you will find a great deal of contemptible, but superstitiously-worshipped, rubbish, both in Church and State, which has been swept down to us from heathenism and popery, by the great net of time. It is now high time to examine the net, cull out the good fishes, and cast the bad away! If we act as Providence now most evidently points out we should act, we shall have the honour of being "fellow-workers with *God*;" and *America* will soon become "the glory of all lands" for the equity of its civil Government, and "the joy of the whole earth" for the purity and practice of the Religion of *Jesus Christ.*

MASSACHUSETTENSIS.

#### PROCLAMATION.

At the Court at *St. James's*, the 1st day of *May*, 1776; Present: The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas his Majesty was graciously pleased, by his Royal Proclamation, bearing date the 22d day of *March* last, to promise and declare that the bounties of three pounds for every Able Seaman, and two pounds for every Ordinary Seaman, fit for his Majesty's service, should be paid in the manner thereby directed, to every such Able and Ordinary Seaman, not above the age of fifty nor under the age of eighteen years, who should, on or before the 30th day of *April*, then following, enter themselves to serve in his Majesty's Royal Navy, either with the Captains or Lieutenants of his Majesty's ships, or the chief officers on board such tenders as should be employed for raising men for the service of the Royal Navy; and it being judged expedient for his Majesty's service that the said bounties should be continued to be paid for some longer time, his Majesty, with the advice of his Privy Council, doth therefore order, and it is hereby accordingly ordered, that the time limited for payment of the said bounties be prolonged and extended from the said 30th day of *April* to the 30th day of *June* next, inclusive; whereof all persons concerned are to take notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

STEPHEN COTTRELL.

#### HAMPDEN AGAINST INDEPENDENCE.

Williamsburgh, Virginia, May 1, 1776.

In my last, I endeavoured to show that a constitutional Independence, founded on the ancient Charters and original contracts of the Colonies, and warranted by the laws of nature, ought to have been the object of our wishes from the beginning of the dispute. I mean such an Independence as would have given us a total exemption from Parliamentary Government, under the allegiance of the Crown of *England.* I will now proceed to show why we ought still to have in view this great object of a constitutional Independence, and that the necessity of a total separation from *Britain* does not yet arise.

Those who cry out incessantly for an immediate subver-

sion of our ancient political system, would do well to consider the subject in all its points of view, and look forward into the probable consequences. They will find, from a thorough knowledge of the history of mankind, that the *British* Constitution, when conducted on its pure and true principle, is the most perfect form of Government which ever yet has been invented by the wit of man. Every writer on politicks agrees in this point. All nations acknowledge the truth of the assertion. This beautiful system of legislation, which so equally tempers and combines the different forms of Democracy, Aristocracy, and Monarchy, secures a sufficient degree of liberty to the People, while it curbs the ambitious strides of their rulers. It is free from those numerous evils which arise out of either of the other forms, and ought forever to be the object of a wise People. We should remember that the primary object of the dispute was a restoration of this Constitution; and, when reduced to the dire necessity of taking up arms in defence of our invaded rights, it is our duty to avoid sullyng so fair a cause by an unjustifiable subversion of the whole system, with the determined purpose of never sheathing the sword till we have recovered our rights. We should deem the re-establishment of our original, our constitutional Independency, a sufficient fruit of our victory. Let us resolve in our minds all the benefits which we have derived from our original country. She hath ever been to us an outwork of defence against the ambitious and potent Nations of *Europe.* She hath served as a guide and a governour, to prevent and to heal those civil dissensions which mutual jealousy and emulation are too apt to excite in Colonies growing up in each others neighbourhood. To the influence of her excellent Constitution we are indebted for that peace and prosperity which we have formerly enjoyed; and while we continue to live in the full possession of our rights, under the gentle rule of the Crown of *England*, we must go on progressively in that boundless career, of which there is no other instance in history, until the seat of Empire shall be transferred from *Britain* to *America.*

Such is the prospect on one side. Let us now see what the opposite view will present us. A publick declaration of absolute Independence will exclude us forever from terms with *Great Britain*, and either create us a perpetual enemy, who will have it in her power to check our prosperity, or reduce us to the most abject state of slavery. The events of war are uncertain; and however much we may be elated with our present successes, every wise politician will keep within his own grasp the means of promoting a continuance of success, or of securing the best terms on a reverse of fortune. The People of *England* have manifested an early inclination to do us justice, while we contend for our constitutional liberties, and the Ministry have found it difficult to recruit their armies; but the moment a Declaration of Independency comes out, every man in *England* will become our enemy. Numbers in *America*, too, who have been foremost in their opposition to unconstitutional oppressions, will conscientiously stand forth against the idea of innovation. Already the evil has begun. *Pennsylvania* and the *Jerseys* have declared for a constitutional connection; the two *Carolinas* for a total separation. What the event will be, let those reflect that have thrown the deadly cause of disunion among us. Why say anything about it? If we are victorious, we shall have it in our power to command our own terms; but if the battle goes against us, what terms can we then expect, or where can the evil end?

I will venture to go further. Were we this moment triumphant in all the success of victory, I should still think it for the interest and happiness of *America* to enjoy the benefits and advantage of a free trade, and a constitutional Independence, under the allegiance of the *British* Crown. A system of absolute Independence would burst asunder the bands of religion, of oaths, of laws, of language, of blood, of interest, of commerce, of all those habitudes, in fine, which hold us united among ourselves, under the influence of the common parent. Who sees not that such a rending to pieces must reach the entrails, the heart, the very life of the Colonies? Should they have the good fortune to escape the fatal extremity of civil wars, will it be an easy matter for them to agree on a new form of Government? Is it probable that they will establish a form on the same salutary principles as the old one; or is it practicable? If they should incline to do so, who among us has pretensions to

the Throne? But if, as is most probable, Democracies or Aristocracies should be the modes, who does not feel himself a considerable loser by the change? Was every Colony to become a distinct and separate State, what endless divisions among them! Should such a number of little Commonwealths (where the diversity of laws, the inequality of riches, the variety of possessions, must sow in secret the seeds of opposition in interests) be disposed to form a confederated union, how adjust the rank which each should hold in it, and the influence which each should possess, in proportion to their respective risks and importance? Jealousy, and a hundred other passions, which so early divided the States of *Greece*, would spread discord through a multitude of Colonies, rather associated by resentment and indignation against *Britain*, (which are but transitory and galling ties,) than by the sober and well-weighted principles of a natural and permanent union. Their confederacy will continue no longer than the necessity of opposing the common enemy. When that necessity ceases, the turbulent spirit of conquest will break loose, the strong will overrun the weak, and they will mourn for the peaceful influence of the parent country. All these considerations seem to evince that an eternal divorce from *Britain* would be a great and grievous misfortune to these Colonies.

But, say the friends of innovation, it is both unnatural and inconvenient for the Sovereign of *America* to reside at three thousand miles distance. This I look upon to be one of our greatest blessings. A King at a distance can never have that personal influence which we find to be the cause of every subversion of the rights of the People; and although some inconveniences may arise from his distant situation, the good by far overbalances the evil.

Others have asked, How can we again be reconciled to a People who hath declared us Rebels, or acknowledge allegiance to a King who has violated the rights of the subject, and broke through the barriers of the Constitution? I answer, that I care but little for their declarations; for as long as we have the power of retaliation in our hands, they will not dare to treat us as Rebels; and although I detest the principles of *George III.*, and shall think it my duty, at all times, to oppose his unjust encroachments, yet I mean to preserve the Constitution, by restraining the King. All men are intoxicated with power; and it is the duty of the People to watch over those who must of necessity be invested with supreme command. The same caution holds good in Monarchies, Aristocracies, and Republics.

But, I am told, your scheme is merely visionary; the People of *England* will never agree to such a reconciliation as renders the Crown independent of Parliament. Let us beat them into compliance. They will be glad to receive us on those terms, rather than lose us altogether. And while we acknowledge allegiance to the Crown of *England*, let us assert our natural, our constitutional rights to a free Government, and oppose an invincible resistance to every shadow of Parliamentary resistance over these Colonies.

With much more show of reason, it is alleged that necessity and our common safety call out aloud upon us to separate forever. The advocates of this doctrine tell us, that as long as we continue under the allegiance of the Crown of *England*, the Nations of *Europe* will not lend us any assistance. And have we, then, so bad an opinion of our own strength as, in despair, to call in the assistance of foreigners? No, say they; but surely an alliance with foreigners will be an advantage to us, by enabling them to supply us with the necessaries for carrying on the war; that on a declaration of Independence, and not before, our seas and rivers will be crowded with *French* and *Spaniards*; a ready market will be had for our produce; and gold and silver will pour in apace. Alas! I fear it will prove but a golden dream, out of which we shall awake restless, dissatisfied, and in despair. The very reverse appears to me to be the most probable. While *Britain* remains mistress of the seas, and blocks up every inlet into our country, how are the *French* and *Spaniards* to get in amongst us? Have we not seen her an overmatch for *France* and *Spain* united? And while she continues in alliance with *Russia* and *Holland*, is it not probable that she will beat the rest of the united world on that element? But I will suppose *France* and *Spain* able to lend effectual assistance; yet I affirm that it is neither their interest to give it, nor our interest to accept of it, with

a view to absolute Independency. Cut the knot which ties Old *England* to the New, and soon would the Northern Colonies, alone, possess more force than they now have united with *Britain*. This vast Continent, let loose from every connection in *Europe*, would enjoy the liberty, the command of all her own movements. It would then become a measure of equal importance and facility for her to seize those lands whose treasures might supply what the mediocrity of her own productions denies her. Her independent position would enable her to complete the preparations for invasion, before the rumour of them would reach the *European* climates. She might choose her enemy, the field, and the moment of her victories. Her thunder would always discharge itself on coasts where it was least expected, on seas but feebly guarded by distant States. Those countries, for the defence of which forces were sent over, would be conquered before they could be succoured. They could neither be recovered by treaty, without great sacrifices, nor prevented from again falling under that yoke from which an enfeebled hand had delivered them. The Colonies of these States would hasten to acknowledge a master who would offer them no conditions so vexatious as that of their own Government; or else, animated by the example of the *English* Provinces, they would break the chain which fastens them so shamefully to *Europe*.

Sound policy, then, will prevent the rival Nations of *England* from precipitating, by their secret Councils, by clandestine succours, or by open assistance, the total Independence of *America*, which can only deliver them from a neighbouring rival, by giving them a conqueror at a distance. I will go further, and assert, however paradoxical it may appear, that although the other Nations of *Europe* will not assist in bringing about a total separation, it will be their true interest to join the *Americans* in that constitutional Independence which gives them a free trade under the allegiance of the Crown of *England*.

*England*, it is true, derives the influence she is mistress of, especially in the New World, from the extent and population of her Northern Colonies. It is they who put it in her power to attack at all times, with advantage, the isles and the continent of other nations, to conquer their lands and to ruin their commerce. But let it be considered that this Crown hath, in the other quarters of the globe, interests which may run counter to her progress in *America*, which may hamper or retard her enterprises there, and which may annihilate her conquests by the necessity of restitutions.

*France* and *Spain* have nothing more to gain from a total separation of the Colonies, but what they will receive from their independent trade under the Crown of *England*. They have a great deal more to lose. This reasoning, it is said, may hold good with respect to *Spain*, but the *French* Territories in *America* are so insignificant that an extensive commerce with the Continent, and the prospect of a powerful fleet, will vastly overbalance the other considerations. And can we be serious in our wishes to aggrandize the power of *France*—that nation who lately aspired at universal empire, and only wanted a fleet to carry her scheme into execution? Shall we be such short-sighted politicians as to furnish her with that fleet? Soon would she give laws to the whole *American* Continent. Or, suppose the power of *France* should be only an equal match for *Britain*, what shall we gain by the conflict? A diversion of the *British* forces, perhaps, in our favour. But is it not more probable that the contending Powers, being wearied with their mutual losses, would join to divide the Colonies between them?

Thus, every great and powerful motive combines to mark the line of *American* politics—the rights of a free trade, under the Crown of *England*, and the power of granting supplies as the free gift of the People, until, in the fulness of time, the seat of Empire shall be transferred from *Britain* to *America*.

HAMPDEN.

#### NORTHAMPTON COUNTY (VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Northampton County, Virginia, }  
May 1, 1776. }

Captain *Duncan Hill*, Commander of the Schooner lately loaded with Flour, formerly commanded by Captain *Kell*, laid his Instructions from the honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland* before the Committee, and desired their advice therein. The Committee accordingly took his case



under consideration, and are of opinion that, agreeable to his Instructions, he may make a trial to get out of the Capes; the Committee being of opinion there is a possibility (though very little probability) of his escaping the Tenders.

Extract from the Minutes:

DRURY SMITH, C. Committee.

Northampton County, Virginia, }  
March 20, 1776. }

Personally appeared before me, one of his Majesty's Justices of said County, *Thomas Kell*, Master of the schooner *Dolphin*, of and from *Baltimore*, *Robert Bailey* Mate, and *William Cunningham* Seaman, and made oath on the Holy Evangely of *Almighty God*, that on the 12th day of *February*, 1776, they sailed from *Baltimore*, bound for the Island of *Martinico*, and on the 26th ultimo, being between the *Horse-Shoe* and *Cape Henry*, were chased by two of the King's row-boats and one tender, which caused them to bear away and run into *Cherry-stone*, for the safety of the vessel and cargo, and there waited for a favourable opportunity to run to sea; and further, these deponents declare that, on the 4th of *March*, a sloop tender attempted to come into said harbour in order to take them out, but was prevented by running aground; and further declare that, on the 18th instant, a sloop tender came in and took possession of said schooner *Dolphin*, hove up her anchor, and made sail, in order to run her out, and at the extreme of the harbour they run aground; after which said tender plundered and took from said *Dolphin*, salt and fresh provisions, together with cordage, cabin furniture, &c.; and on the 19th the said tender made another attempt to carry out the schooner *Dolphin*, but was repulsed and prevented by two Companies of Minute-men, one Company of Regulars, and several of the Militia; and finding that said schooner *Dolphin* could not get out with safety, and consulting the Committee in the County of *Northampton*, their advice was, to land the said cargo, and then for the said Captain to proceed up to the owners for further orders from Council of Safety. And the deponents protest against the said tenders and row-boats for their detention, damages, &c., which they and their owners have or may sustain from the said tenders and row-boats.

Given under my hand the date above.

HENRY GUY.

CAPTAIN SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore Town, May 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Campbell* by this conveyance resigns his commission of First Lieutenant in my company, in order to be of more essential service to his country, by distressing the trade of our enemies in a privateer, fitted out by a gentleman of this town.

If it does not interfere too much with a plan you may have laid down for promotions in the Regular service, I shall be exceedingly happy to have my Second Lieutenant appointed to the vacancy. He is very capable, and more acquainted with the men and their dispositions, and of consequence can be of more use in the company, than a stranger.

Should you have determined to raise the officers according to their seniority, I doubt not you have heard of Mr. *Kid's* character, (who is eldest Second Lieutenant,) and I rest satisfied you will not promote any person who is not equal to it. Should you not have promised the Ensigny that will be vacant, I shall be happy to have my brother *James* in the service. He has been in the Independent Company of this town ever since its formation, and understands the duty as well as most young officers.

I am, gentlemen, your obliged and most obedient servant,

SAMUEL SMITH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

JAMES CAMPBELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 1, 1776.

SIR: Several gentlemen here are desirous to send me out in a privateer from this place; my own inclination also leads me to go, having been accustomed to the sea service. We have taken great pains to get a vessel fit for the purpose,

and think we have succeeded. You will receive enclosed the commission with which I am honoured; retaining the utmost gratitude and respect for the publick from whom I had it. I hope to have the testimony of my brother officers, that I served with vigilance and attention since my appointment, and beg leave to assure you that no consideration would induce me to leave the service, but the hopes of being more useful in another department. I entered into the service a volunteer, and now quit it with regret. I looked on the commission I held as a testimony of the publick confidence and esteem, and shall endeavour in my new capacity to merit the attention that was paid me.

I shall go to *Philadelphia* to-morrow, to purchase such necessaries as cannot be got here, and make application for a commission for the vessel. Could I obtain a few lines from your honourable Council, signifying that I was in the land service of this Province, it would no doubt facilitate my business, and be of service to me. We are much distressed for canvass; I know of none, private property, to be had. Could your honourable Council spare us any, would forward our enterprise, and enable us to fit out with more expedition than will be otherwise in our power.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES CAMPBELL.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

COLONEL WARE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have just been informed by Dr. *Weisen-thall*, that the small-pox prevails in several parts of this town, which renders a fear that other officers, myself, and several soldiers, are in danger of taking the infection, as our duty requires our passing frequently by houses where it is. The Doctor has advised me to be inoculated immediately, as a person of my age must be in great danger who takes it in the natural way. I have therefore thought it my duty to state the matter to you, and wait your instructions thereon; and hope if you should disapprove of inoculation, that you will contrive some method of getting the troops encamped without the town. *Whetstone Point* would be the most proper station, could we be provided with tents and other camp utensils; but neither of the officers has a tent, nor do I think it in their power to furnish them, as proper cloth is not to be had.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your very humble servant,

FRANCIS WARE.

To the Maryland Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM LUX.

[No. 136.]

Annapolis, May 1, 1776.

SIR: The Council of Safety, upon consideration, some days ago, of the impracticability of square-rigged vessels escaping the enemy in their way to their several ports of destination, did conceive that small sharp-rigged vessels would more probably meet with success. We have therefore thought it most advisable to send the cargo of the brig *Fortune* to the *West-Indies* in such vessels, and for that purpose have written to persons who, we are informed, can furnish us with them. In the mean time we would direct that the cargo of the brig should not be unloaded, but kept on board until you have further instructions from us. Captain *Vanbibber* cannot be much if any in advance, after the arrival of the *Hannah*, and the bill he has drawn.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *William Lux*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO HUGH YOUNG.

[No. 137.]

Annapolis, May 1, 1776.

SIR: We send you enclosed a letter to the Committee of *Baltimore* County, and request you would present it to them, and then get the schooner *Ninety-Two* ready as soon as possible, and let the Captain call on us for instructions.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Hugh Young*.

P. S. We have not yet received the letter from Captain *Beath*.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO JAMES WARREN.

Philadelphia, May 1, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I am exceedingly desirous that measures of defence should be first attended to, and have place of every other undertaking, and shall be most happy to hear that the Capital and its valuable harbour is well fortified, and something done for the other sea-ports; that your powder-mills are at work; that manufactures of lead and sulphur are attended to, and preparation made for casting cannon; that the Committees of Correspondence throughout the Colony are ordered to make returns of the manufactures of fire-arms, employed or unemployed, and that measures are taken to erect public works; that the established forces, whether Continental or Colonial, are well armed, equipped, and ready for action. When this is done, (and I think with a little assiduity it may be accomplished,) the Colony will be in a situation to receive the enemy; and they being informed thereof, as they generally are of our weakness or strength, will carefully avoid another visit.

I think it may be demonstrated that the Eastern District alone is able, of itself, to declare Independency. The Colony of *South-Carolina* has behaved nobly in taking up Government, choosing a Governour, &c.; and the Convention of *North-Carolina* have unanimously voted to follow their example. *Virginia* is always to be depended upon; and so fine a spirit prevails among them that, unless you send some of your cool patriots among them, they may be for declaring Independency before Congress is ready.

I am glad you approve the proposal for instructions, and can with pleasure inform you that *North-Carolina* has taken off from her Delegates the restriction relative to this matter, and, as I am informed, has left them at liberty to vote for a final separation from *Great Britain*.

Your friend as ever,

E. GERRY.

To Mr. James Warren.

CAPTAIN SIMON'S PETITION TO CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.  
[Read May 3, 1776, and referred to Mr. McKean, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. J. Adams.]

To the Honourable Continental Congress now sitting, the humble Petition of PETER SIMON and ISRAEL AMBROSE sheweth:

That on the 10th of *January* last they sailed from the Island of *Saltatuda* on board of the sloop *Sally*, loaded with salt, molasses, rum, paper, wine, &c., bound for *North-Carolina*; on the 14th of *February* was taken near *Cape Hatteras* by the armed sloop *General Gage*, *George Sibble*, Commander, who, for the want of a Prize-Master, put *James McKnight* (the Mate of Captain *Radden*, who was taken the day before) on board the aforesaid sloop *Sally*, as Prize-Master, as the said *McKnight* had agreed to enter into their service. The said sloop *General Gage* took your petitioners on board, and ordered the said *McKnight* to proceed to *Cape Fear* with the sloop *Sally*; but that night a hard gale came on, which drove the sloop *Sally* to the northward; after which, the said *McKnight* run the vessel on shore, in order to convert her to his own use; to accomplish which he has misrepresented every circumstance to the honourable Congress to obtain their order to dispose of the said sloop *Sally* and cargo, contrary to the orders and instructions given to the said *McKnight* and the Committee of *Burlington*. The said *McKnight* has broken open our desks and trunks, and secreted one hundred half-johannes, wearing apparel, arms, &c.; also has not given any account of one-half the goods that were saved out of said sloop *Sally*, to the prejudice of your petitioners' three thousand pounds; therefore, we pray you may take it in your great wisdom to restore our sufferings, and prevent our being robbed by such imposters on our country. And your petitioners will ever pray.

PETER SIMON.

Philadelphia, May 1, 1776.

Claim of JAMES MCKNIGHT to the honourable Continental Congress.

To wearing apparel, linen, a watch, &c. - -	£25 0 0
To wages due to the time I was taken, - - -	4 0 0
To sundry articles which I carried as a venture, -	7 0 0
	<u>£36 0 0</u>

The sloop *Charming Sally* was cleared out from *Dominica* to *Newfoundland*, as I saw the clearance of her on board the sloop *General Gage*; to which I could be qualified if called upon.

The above is a low estimate of things belonging to me on board the sloop *Joseph*, Captain *Radden*, when taken by the sloop *General Gage*, on the 14th of *February*, 1776.

JAMES MCKNIGHT.

Memorandum of Sundries in my Chest when taken by the Sloop GENERAL GAGE, February 14, 1776, viz:

1 chest; 88 johannes and 27 dollars, which were found in the hands of *McKnight*; 6 white shirts, and some check ones (2 or 3); 3 cravats; 2 coats, (one never worn); 4 waistcoats; 4 pairs of breeches; 1 pair of drawers; 12 pairs of stockings; 1 pair of shoe-buckles; 1 pair of knee-buckles; 1 pair of shoes, not worn; 3½ pieces of linen; 2 pieces of checks; 2 beaver hats; 1 straw hat; 1 quadrant, and all my books; 1 pocket-book, with sundry papers; 6 plates; bed and bedding; 3 pocket handkerchiefs; 1 parcel of fine thread.

ISRAEL AMBROSE.

Inventory of the Sloop SALLY's Cargo, JAMES MCKNIGHT Prize-Master, viz:

1,300 bushels of salt; 14 hogsheads of molasses; 120 gallons of rum; 65 reams of writing paper; 1 hoghead and 27 demijohns of claret wine; 27 dozen bottles of *French* cordials; 5 cases of oil of olives and anchovies; 4 ankers of brandy; 150,000 pins; 24 pairs of wool-cards; 10 pieces of linen and checks; 500 pounds of shot; 1 cask of powder; 150 pounds of coffee; 4 umbrellas; 100 yards of osnaburghs; 4 beaver hats; 1 Negro man; 1 suit of velvet; 1 suit of black cloth; 1 suit of light-coloured cloth; 1 suit of purple cloth; 2½ dozen of shirts; 2 dozen of neck-cloths; 3 dozen of handkerchiefs; 4 dozen of silk and thread stockings; 3 dozen of linen waistcoats and breeches; 4 pairs of silk breeches; several pairs of woollen and leather breeches; 2 chintz night-gowns; several short coats; great coat and cloak; ½ piece of cambrick; 8 yards of crimson silk; 1 dozen pairs of *French* laced ruffles; bedding; table-linen; musket; sword; pistols; 2 blunderbusses; quadrant, and other instruments; small library of books.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

New-York, May 1, 1776.

SIR: The bearers, Captain *Schalch* and Doctor *Gill*, prisoners of war, having been removed here from *Schenectady* and *Albany*, in order to be sent to some place in the country, and having behaved as becometh gentlemen of honour in the above-named places from whence they have come; and as they are desirous of being stationed in *New-Jersey*, at *Burlington* or *Trenton*; on account of the healthiness of the climate, as well as the small family of a wife and five children which the said Captain has hopes of receiving from *Quebeck*; they have, by a gentleman of our Committee, applied to me to request that your Excellency will be pleased either to station them at and about the aforesaid towns, or to permit them to remain here until they shall have the pleasure of waiting on General *Washington* for the purpose aforesaid, who, they doubt not, has, by the letter directed to him, been informed of their character and behaviour in the places they were last in. The gentleman who introduced them to me is well acquainted with them, and has known the Captain for many years, and I can confide in his representation of them as men of the clearest honour.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

GARRET ABEEL,

Chairman of the General Committee.

To His Excellency Major-General Putnam.

JOHN SNYDER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Kingston, May 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas the command of the First Regiment in *Ulster* County has devolved on me as Colonel thereof, I do hereby enclose you a state of the said regiment as to the number of men; and as to arms and accoutrements we may supply ourselves, and nearly complete now;

but ammunition is very scarce, especially powder, for none is to be had here. If your honourable Board could procure a quantity of powder, and send it up to the care of such person as you may judge proper, to be kept and disposed thereof to the regiment if necessity should require it, with directions how and in what manner we shall answer for the same, it would be satisfactory to the publick; for we have a general complaint for that article. And further, I must acquaint your honourable Board that the Captain of the Troop of Horse has been promoted to the office of Major of the abovesaid regiment; and therefore it is necessary that new commissions should be made out for the said troop, which I desire you will do, and send them to me, to wit: A Captain's commission for *Sylvester Salisbury*, Esq.; First Lieutenant, *Petrus Myndertse*, Esq.; Second Lieutenant, *Cornelius C. Newkirk*; Cornet, *Cornelius J. Dubois*; First Quartermaster, *James Rive*; Second Quartermaster, *Tobias Dubois*. And also desire two commissions to fill the vacancies in Captain *Mattys Dederick's* Company, to wit: First Lieutenant, *Petrus Post*; and Ensign's commission for *Thomas Van Staenburgh*. I desire the commissions may be sent by the bearer; and in so doing you will oblige your sincere friend and humble servant,

JOHANNES SNYDER.

To the President of the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-York*, now convened in *New-York*.

State of the number of Officers and Privates of the First Regiment of Militia afoot in *ULSTER County*, viz:

Colonel, *Johannes Snyder*; Second Colonel, *Jonathan El-mendorph*; First Major, *Adrian Wynkoop*; Second Major, *Philippus Hooghteling*; Adjutant, *Abraham A. Hasbrouck*; Quartermaster, *Jan Van Dusen*, Jun.

	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Non-Com-missioned.	Privates.
First Captain, <i>Evert Bogardus</i> .....	2	1	8	68
Second Captain, <i>Jan. L. De Witt</i> .....	2	1	8	50
Third Captain, <i>Hendrick Schoonmaker</i> .....	2	1	8	50
Fourth Captain, <i>Mattys Dederick</i> .....	1	0	8	48
Fifth Captain, <i>Lucas De Witt</i> .....	2	1	8	59
Sixth Captain, <i>Moses Cantyn</i> .....	2	1	8	50
Seventh Captain, <i>Gerardus Hardenbergh</i> .....	2	1	8	50
	13	6	56	385

Kingston, May 1, 1776.

To the Deputies of the several Counties of the Province of *NEW-YORK* in the honourable Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety, of the said Province:

The Memorial of *DIRCK LEFFERTS*, of the City of *NEW-YORK*, sheweth:

That some time in the month of *February* last past, a party of the Minute-men of the County of *Westchester*, under the command of Colonel *Drake*, came to the country-house of your memorialist, and upwards of thirty of them were quartered upon him at his house, where he frequently furnished them with many necessaries and conveniences, viz: firewood, vegetables, cider, &c.; that the said men have continued at his said house until now, or very lately; that after they had been there for some time, the said men, by order of Engineer *Smith*, (he supposes,) went upon the woodland of your memorialist, which he had purchased for his own particular use, to supply his family with firewood, and cut down and destroyed a great part of the trees then growing on the said land, and almost entirely ruined the young wood there; and although the said wood may have been cut down to be used in building the Fort at *Horne's Hook*, (as your memorialist supposes it was,) yet as he has sustained great loss, and been put to great expense by the said men having been quartered upon him, and having cut down and destroyed his wood, whereby a greater part of the burden hath fallen upon him than is his part in proportion with the rest of his fellow-citizens; he prays the Congress or Committee of Safety to take the matter into their consideration, and to grant him such redress and compensation as they in their discretion may think reasonable, and adequate to the loss and damage he hath sustained.

DIRCK LEFFERTS.

May 1, 1776.

COMMISSIONERS IN CANADA TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read May 16, 1776.]

Montreal, May 1, 1776.

SIR: After some difficulty and delay in getting through the ice of *Lake George*, we arrived here on *Monday* last, and were very politely received by General *Arnold*, who at present commands in this post.

It is impossible to give you a just idea of the lowness of the Continental credit here, from the want of hard money, and the prejudice it is to our affairs. Not the most trifling service can be procured without an assurance of instant pay in silver or gold. The express we sent from *St. John's*, to inform the General of our arrival there, and to request carriages for *La Prairie*, was stopped at the ferry, till a friend passing changed a dollar bill for him into silver; and we are obliged to that friend (Mr. *McCartney*) for his engagement to pay the calashes, or they would not have come for us. The general apprehension that we shall be driven out of the Province as soon as the King's troops can arrive, concurs with the frequent breaches of promise the inhabitants have experienced, in determining them to trust our people no further. Therefore the utmost despatch should be used in forwarding a large sum hither, (we believe twenty thousand pounds will be necessary,) otherwise it will be impossible to continue the war in this country, or to expect the continuance of our interest with the people here, who begin to consider the Congress as bankrupt, and their cause as desperate. Therefore, till the arrival of money, it seems improper to propose the Federal union of this Province with the others, as the few friends we have here will scarce venture to exert themselves in promoting it, till they see our credit recovered, and a sufficient army arrived to secure the possession of the country.

Yesterday we attended a Council of War, the minutes of which we enclose. The places proposed are proper to prevent the further progress of the enemy in case they should oblige us to raise the siege of *Quebeck*. The plank and timber for the gondolas are all prepared and ready at *Fort Chambly*, and some of the carpenters are arrived from *New-York*; others are to be engaged here; and as hard money is necessary for these, we have agreed to advance some out of what the Congress put into our hands for our own subsistence, to be replaced when cash shall arrive.

We understand that the troops before *Quebeck* have not now ten days' provision; but hope, as the lakes are now open, supplies will soon reach them.

We have directed the opening of the *Indian* trade, and granting passports to all who shall enter into certain engagements to do nothing in the upper country prejudicial to the Continental interests.

We hope to-morrow to obtain an account of our debts that ought instantly to be paid. If, besides what is necessary for that purpose, we had a sum to manage, by opening a bank for the exchanging Continental bills, it is supposed that we might thereby give a circulation to these bills. The twenty thousand pounds above-mentioned will, we think, answer both these purposes. We are told that not less than the eight thousand ordered by Congress will be a sufficient Army for this quarter. As yet there are but about three thousand, including those now passing down to *Quebeck*, who are just come over the lakes. The small-pox is in the Army, and General *Thomas* has, unfortunately, never had it.

With great respect to yourself and the Congress, we have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servants,

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,  
SAMUEL CHASE,  
CHARLES CARROLL of Carrollton.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

At a Council of War, held at Head-Quarters, *April 30*, 1776:

Brigadier-General <i>Arnold</i> , President.	} Members.
The Hon. <i>Benjamin Franklin</i> ,	
The Hon. <i>Samuel Chase</i> ,	
The Hon. <i>Charles Carroll</i> ,	
Brigadier-General <i>Woedtke</i> ,	
Colonel <i>Moses Hazen</i> ,	
Colonel <i>De Haas</i> ,	

Agreed, that it is immediately necessary to take post at

and fortify the shore and island at the Falls of *Richelieu*, with a number of cannon, not exceeding twenty pieces, under the direction of such persons as General *Thomas* or the Commanding Officer in *Canada* shall appoint for that purpose.

Agreed, that it is necessary immediately to fortify the Post at *Jacques Cartier*, with a number of cannon, &c., not exceeding ten pieces, and that the Commanding Officer in *Canada* give directions for that purpose.

Agreed, to build immediately, at *Chambly*, six gondolas, of a proper size to carry heavy cannon, to be under the direction of General *Arnold*, who will employ Colonel *Hazen* to oversee and direct the workmen.

BENEDICT ARNOLD, *Brigadier-General*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM REVEREND JOHN CARROLL,  
ONE OF THE AMERICAN COMMISSIONERS TO CANADA,  
DATED MONTREAL, MAY 1, 1776.

We have at length come to the end of our long and tedious journey, after meeting with several delays, on account of the impassable condition of the lakes; and it is with a longing desire of measuring back the same ground that I now take up my pen to inform you of my being in good health, thank *God*, and of wishing you a perfect enjoyment of yours.

We came hither the night before last, and were received at the landing by General *Arnold*, and a great body of officers, gentry, &c., and saluted by the firing of cannon, and other military honours.\* Being conducted to the General's house, we were served with a glass of wine, while people were crowding in to pay their compliments; which ceremony being over, we were shown into another apartment, and unexpectedly met in it a large number of ladies, most of them *French*. After drinking tea, and sitting some time, we went to an elegant supper, which was followed with the singing of the ladies, which proved very agreeable, and would have been more so if we had not been so much fatigued with our journey. The next day was spent in receiving visits and dining in a large company, with whom we were pressed to sup, but excused ourselves in order to write letters, of which this is one, and will be finished and dated to-morrow morning.

I owe you a journal of our adventures from *Philadelphia* to this place. When we came to *Brunswick*, in the *Jersey* Government, we overtook the Baron de *Woodtke*, the *Prussian* General, who had left *Philadelphia* the day before us. Though I had frequently seen him before, yet he was so disguised in furs that I scarce knew him, and never beheld a more laughable object in my life. Like other *Prussian* officers, he appears to me as a man who knows little of polite life, and yet has picked up so much of it in his passage through *France* as to make a most awkward appearance.

When we came to *New-York*, it was no more the gay polite place it used to be esteemed, but it was become almost a desert, unless for the troops. The people were expecting a bombardment, and had therefore removed themselves and their effects out of town; and the other side, the troops were working at the fortifications with the utmost activity. After spending some disagreeable days at this place, we proceeded by water up to *Albany*, about one hundred and sixty miles. At our arrival there, we were met by General *Schuyler*, and entertained by him during our stay with great politeness and very genteelly. I wrote to you before of our agreeable situation at *Saratoga*, and of our journey from thence over *Lake George* to *Ticonderoga*; from the latter place we embarked on the great *Lake of Champlain*, about one hundred and forty miles to *St. John's*. We had a passage of three days and a half. We always came to in the night time. Passengers generally encamp in the woods, making a covering of the boughs of trees, and large fires at their feet; but

\* MONTREAL, May 1, 1776.—On Sunday last arrived here Baron *Woodtke* and Colonel *De Haas*, with Mr. *Joseph Terry*, of this place, accompanied by several other gentlemen of the Army; and on Monday, the Committee of the honourable Continental Congress for establishing and regulating the Continental affairs in this Province, with the celebrated Doctor *Franklin* at their head. They were received on the beach at the *Post de Vadonvil* by General *Arnold*, and the friends to liberty, and a salute was fired from the Citadel. Being escorted to Head-Quarters, they and a number of friends to liberty spent the evening with decent mirth.

as we had a good awning to our boat, and had brought with us good beds, and plenty of bed-clothes, I chose to sleep aboard.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Providence, May 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours I received per express this day, dated in *April*, and observe the contents. Shall endeavour to give you a state of the Navy under my command; and shall begin with the time we arrived in *New-London* River, where we landed sick people, not fit for duty, in the hospital, which I provided with difficulty: seventy-two from the *Alfred*, thirty-four from the *Columbus*, fifty-eight from the *Andrew Doria*, seventeen from the *Cabot*, sixteen from the *Providence*, and five from the *Fly*; in all two hundred and two people, which weakened the fleet so much that I applied to General *Washington* and got an order for two hundred men; about one hundred and seventy of whom I got on board the fleet; when I came to sail with our fleet, in order to speak with the fleet at or near *Newport*; but the *Alfred* got ashore near *Fisher's Island*, and was obliged to be lightened to get her off, which we did without much damage. In the mean time *Wallace* and his whole fleet left *Newport*.

We sailed from *New-London* on the 24th *April*, and met nothing; the next day the weather proving rough we put in here, where we have landed upwards of one hundred sick men; and there are daily more taken down with some new malignant fever. I was making all the despatch possible to procure provisions and stores, in order for a three or four months' cruise, when I received by the same express General *Washington's* orders to send his men immediately to *New-York*; which I must comply with.

I had brought round here twenty-six heavy cannon, for the defence of the town of *Newport*, and by that service expected to obtain liberty to enlist men out of the Government troops to have made up my complement; but if the cannon must be taken away I cannot ask it with modesty, and if I do, I am in doubt whether it would be granted.

I am ready to follow any instructions that you give at all times; but am very much in doubt whether it will be in my power to keep the fleet together, with any credit to myself or the officers that belong to it; neither do I believe it can be done without power to dismiss such officers as I find slack in their duty. I left the sloop and the *Andrew Doria* at *New-London*, unloading stores; when I get a return of what they land, shall immediately transmit it to you. I ordered the *Andrew Doria* to careen there, which I hear is done. Should be glad you would give orders what should be done with the *New-Providence* sloop, which I wrote my brother about.

Enclosed you have a copy of Captain *Whipple's* request to me, which suppose I shall grant, and expect that may bring on some more inquiries; but do not expect anything which may now be done will mend what is past.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Marine Committee.

ADMIRAL HOPKINS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, May 1, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 25th of *April*, per express, have received. Am very much obliged to you for the use of your men, and shall despatch them to *New-York* immediately, in the sloop *Providence*, Captain *Hazard*; although we still continue to be sickly on board all the vessels, so that it will be impossible to go to sea with the fleet, before we get recruited with hands, which will not easily be done.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ESECK HOPKINS.

To General *Washington*.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Watertown, May 1, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: The Tories dread a declaration of Independence, and a course of conduct on that plan, more than death. They console themselves with a belief that the

Southern Colonies will not accede to it. My hand and heart are full of it. There will be no abiding union without it. When the Colonies come to be pressed with taxes they will divide and crumble to pieces. Will a Government stand on recommendations? It is idle to suppose so. Will *Canada* ever join us without Independence and Government? They will not. Can we subsist, and support our trading people, without trade? It appears more and more every day in the country and Army that we cannot. Nay, without a real Continental Government our Army will overrun us, and people will, by and by, sooner than you may be aware of, call for their old Constitutions; and as they did in *England* after *Cromwell's* death, call in *Charles* the Second. For *God's* sake let there be a full Revolution, or all has been done in vain. Independency, and a well planned Continental Government, will save us. *God* bless you. Amen and amen.

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq.

#### BOSTON TOWN MEETING.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of this Town, by adjournment, on *Wednesday, May 1, 1776*, the following gentlemen were chosen a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, viz:

Hon. Samuel Adams, Esq.,	John Pitts, Esq.,
Hon. John Hancock, Esq.,	William Cooper, Esq.,
Joseph Greenleaf, Esq.,	Mr. Peter Boyer,
Nathaniel Appleton, Esq.,	Captain Edward Proctor,
Mr. William Dennis,	Mr. Edward Church,
Oliver Wendell, Esq.,	Captain Isaac Phillips,
Major Richard Boynton,	Thomas Crafts, Esq.,
Captain John Bradford,	Major Paul Revere,
Captain William Mackay,	Captain John Pulling,
Colonel Nathaniel Barber,	Major Abiel Ruddock,
Mr. William Powell,	Mr. Thomas Hitchborn,
Caleb Davis, Esq.,	Mr. Benjamin Hitchborn,
Mr. John Sweetzer,	Mr. Perez Morton.
John Browne, Esq.,	

#### ELEAZER RUSSELL TO COLONEL JOSHUA WENTWORTH.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, May, 1776.

SIR: When you offered me the Association to subscribe, my indisposition was so great that I could hardly speak or think; therefore, entreated you to call again, or give me leave to wait on you when able.

Respect to publick authority inclines me much to sign it; but as I am utterly unable to comply with the letter of it, can by no means do it without restriction and reserve.

The article of defending the country with arms is explicit and peremptory; which the total loss of health makes me incapable of—my constitution rent for three successive years with paralytick fits, seldom able to walk a mile without assistance, often falling headlong when crossing a floor, and always confined in cold or damp weather.

There is also an original scruple on my mind, strengthened by more than thirty years' reflection, on the subject of the lawfulness of shedding human blood of any nation, except for crimes condemned by human laws founded on the divine.

A thought never entered my heart but what was replete with the tenderest emotions for the country in its bleeding state. My duty is clear in submitting to the powers now in being in the Colony, and my disposition fixed to serve the publick in every view consistent with the above description of my health, and the rights of conscience as expressed in a late resolve of the Continental Congress.

It is you, sir, I have immediately to do with in this affair; and if you will please to make these thoughts known to any of the Committees, or Court, that may be proper, I think it will excuse, I am sure it will oblige, your respectful and most humble servant,

ELEAZER RUSSELL.

To *Joshua Wentworth*, Esq.

#### COSMOPOLITAN.—NO. X.

To the Inhabitants of the *AMERICAN Colonies*:

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: It was hard, it was cruel, to have *British* laws imposed upon us against our repeated petitions, in the face of our most solicitous remonstrances. It was mean, it was irritating, to have standing

armies forced into our towns, and ships-of-war stationed in our harbours, and we ourselves denied a law for our safety, the means of defence, in case of unjust violence and lawless depredations. His policy was to keep us defenceless, unprepared, and unarmed, that we might fall an easy prey to the intended invasion. Hence, and from his innate aversion to everything not instamped with the characters of slavery, was his repeated reprobation, in their virgin purity, of bills for a new necessary regulation of the Militia, and for the prevention of bribery and corruption, those bulwarks of the publick peace, integrity, and safety.

We have gradually and insensibly been departing from our once happy Government, by the practices of those whose interest it was to filch away the liberties of the subject. Men, the first in ability and rectitude, have been dismissed from the service of the country, for no other reason but their unshaken attachment to her interest; and others, the servile minions of power, placed in their stead, and crammed down the throats of the people. Wealth was accumulated, and offices monopolized by the few; of consequence their influence increased, and their power dangerously augmented. The power in the hands of the people was diminishing in the same proportion as individuals became great and wealthy by the administration of publick justice. Under the combined influence of the Justices of the Peace, officers of the Militia, Judges and officers of the Courts, and other standing Magistrates and officers, a Republican Government, with a Monarchical check, was rapidly degenerating into an Aristocracy, the most oppressive and arbitrary of all Governments. I do not mention it as alone peculiar to the late demolished set of Magistrates; some others, perhaps, would have done the same. It is the lot of mortals, it is incident to humanity. Few, very few, are fortified against the bewitching charms of power, and the pleasant sweets of emolument. However, it evinces the necessity of two political maxims—the necessity in all Governments, both of a limited delegation of power in point of time, and a frequent resort to first principles.

My dear countrymen, when I recollect your descent, your loyalty, your worthy achievements, with the motives of your conduct, I feel the workings of a laudable pride, and the flame of vanity kindling within me. But the fire of indignation burns fierce when I consider how you have been galled by Parliamentary pressure, and Majestrical power; how petitions for redress have been the occasion of adding insult to cruelty, and increasing the weight of your wrongs, of procuring sneers from your bosom enemies, and frowns from a deluded Sovereign, at first pocketed by an *American* Minister, and then branded with infamy, despised, spurned at, and trampled under foot. Groundless, scandalous, and vexatious, have been the refined appellations to mark the character of the whole community—intolerable oppression to a man susceptible of the suggestions of an *English* heart. History may unfold the dangers of thus wantonly sporting with the feelings of a spirited people. For this, *Charles I.* lost his head, and *James II.* the *British* Crown. But to return. When I review your past sufferings, how you have been cramped and obstructed in the making of necessary laws; your Militia discouraged; your Magistrates appointed with the advice of a maimed hebdomadal Council; your agents refused pay, to prevent the possibility of complaints, however necessary; your castle surrendered; your manufacturing house attacked; your harbours invested with a powerful fleet; your capital with a lawless soldiery; your Representatives made to give way to a Standing Army, kept in duress, dissolved, prorogued, adjourned, and harassed about, with a great expense to their constituents, for no other reason but because they refused to betray their trust, and submit to a wanton exercise of arbitrary power; your ears wounded by horrid oaths; your eyes with wretched scenes; your persons with frequent indignities; your *Sabbaths* profaned; your religion despised; the morals of the young corrupted; innocence seduced, and chastity abused; your countrymen butchered; your property destroyed; your laws trampled upon; your Governour and your Judges made independent; a Board of Commissioners constituted; Courts of Admiralty established; their jurisdiction enlarged, and trial by Juries in many instances taken away, and others greatly impaired; and, finally, how every branch of your Constitution, principle of law, and maxim of freedom,



were swept away by the present Parliament, enthroned in thunder, and a most pacifick community involved in tumult and in blood. When I ruminate on these, with many other oppressions, and take into consideration recent piratical depredations, I am staggered in believing any *American* so abject as not to be diverted from sinister pursuits, and roused to opposition. Sure I am, that there is no man of true wisdom and a manly spirit, but would sacrifice his all, and risk his very life, rather than run the venture of having the one controlled, and the other commanded by a power so monstrous as the one from whence those calamities flowed.

In addition to these, others, the constant attendants of a conquered country, will be our lot, and the portion of posterity, unless in this critical moment we play the man, and defend our rights. It is not duty to leave wealth or honours to coming generations; but indispensable is the obligation to bequeath them liberty, and this, by the tenderest ties of interest, and the strongest cords of affection. It is the dictate of nature, a principle of self-preservation, when the laws of equity, the sanction of Charters, and the fundamentals of the Constitution are found insufficient to restrain the violence of domination, to arm and to fight. The character of a soldier is respectable, and his duty noble, when discharged in opposition to tyranny, in defence of the rights of mankind. A cockade unprostituted is a badge of greatness, a mark of goodness. It procures friendship, commands respect, and adds a dignity to the person who wears it. There is something godlike in hazarding in defence of one's country. The present hostile invasions are such as to demand all our resentment, and to arouse all our courage. The inheritance transmitted by our great forefathers, the safety of our friends, liberty purchased by the best blood of our ancestors, the surest, the fairest, the brightest jewel we possess, which alone communicates dignity to peace, and renders life a blessing, are all at stake. If we fail in our necessary duty, our land will become the price of conquest, the plunder of foreigners; and the effect of this conquest will be ruin and destruction to its present inhabitants, poverty and slavery to their immediate and remote successors. It is enough to fire with an invincible resolution rather to be wrecked in the storm, than to survive, the subjects of slavery, or the objects for a military execution.

We have passed the *Rubicon*; there is no retreat. What a *Hutchinson* has planned, a *George* has executed. The long and black catalogue of measures projected by the former, has been sanctified by the latter, and adopted by *Britons*. They received them with eagerness, carried them into their Senate, and made them their own. They are therefore principals in a felony, sufficient to wean from all attachments. Considering how we have been oppressed, and (if we may judge of the future by the past) how we shall be oppressed, if viewed as subordinate, instead of allied; it pleads strongly for bursting asunder those imaginary bands which have too long chained us to misery; for to contemplate the doctrines of Independency, and in earnest to inquire whether, if totally afloat from a state on which, as such, we were never dependant, we cannot, by the compass of common sense, weather the storm, and steer safely into the harbour of absolute freedom. The characters of Kings, as contained in the story of the world, have been made up of knaves or of fools. The former have been monsters for extravagancies, barbarity, and dissipation; the latter, like a weak ship in a violent tempest, with a vast sail, and no rudder. Examples are numerous.

A worthless villain having filled the ears of a foolish King with false stories of the *Jews*, he issues his Proclamation for their utter extirpation, and to kill at pleasure, and seventy thousand were slain. If a frantick fancy come into the head of a drunken whore, (the famous *Thais*,) *Persepolis*, a Royal city of *Persia*, must be burnt by the hand of *Alexander*. If the man after *God's* own heart is smitten with the charms of *Bathsheba*, *Uriah* must be murdered. If a dancing wench please *Herod*, half his kingdom is at stake, and the most venerable of mortal heads must be sacrificed to the rage of her impure mother. If *Helena*, the daughter of a King, the most beautiful woman of her time, run away with a young rake, *Troy* must be reduced to ashes by a ten years' siege. But if the son of a King ravish a woman, Kings must be expelled.

The instances of weak, wicked, and barbarous exercises

of Monarchical power, which caused the *Tyber* to swell with blood under the Emperors, are too many, and too horrid to be described. The history of the dreadful contest for the Throne between the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, which fattened the fields with human gore; of the cruel carnage of the bloody *Mary*, who blackened the air with gibbeted men; the mad pranks of *Henry VIII.*, *Charles I.*, and *George III.*, are too notorious to need repeating. Thus bewitching and metamorphosing is power; thus fluctuating is Government, and wretched the governed, under the capricious wantonings of Regal domination. Surely it is enough to destroy in the breast of thinking beings that mysterious veneration for the crowned monsters; to exclude them from every system contrived for happiness; and to prepare the formal bills for our perpetual divorce from such political fornicators.

Attempts will still be made by the artful and wicked to create animosities, dissensions, and party strife. We trust the penetration of the times will be sufficient to discover their intentions, and resent the affront. If we become strangers to magnanimity, harmony among ourselves, integrity, and personal courage; if we yield to the cautions of a timorous moderation, to the maxims of a temporary interest, to the lullings of an unmanly repose, or the misplaced orders for State connections; if betrayed by cowardice, perverted by cunning, or subdued by power,—all will be gone, all dependant upon the momentary will of a Prince, or his minions in office. Happiness and liberty, property and life, will become matters of gracious indulgence; rights and privileges, the *meums* and *tuums* of private interest, will be no more. The sublime doctrines of *jure divino*, of a *British* or an *American* *Dr. Sacheverel*, will form our creed; the irreligious edicts of an unprincipled Senate regulate the conscience; the subtlety of a jacobitish Chief Justice direct our contemplations, whips and swords procure submissions, the terror of chains and the horrors of a prison secure subjection.

Having, in a general way, touched upon those calamities which demonstrate the dangers that we have been, and still are exposed to, unless repelled by vigorous, timely, and united exertions; I shall suffer the pen which has too long trespassed on the reader's patience to drop from the hand ever ready for the service of the publick; and as an atonement for dwelling thus long on a character so justly odious to every honest man as the hero of our paper, I drop him likewise with ineffable contempt, never to be stooped for again.

*Friends and Fellow-Christians*: That you may constantly implore His aid who winds up the chain of eternal events, coops in space, and dwells in the fields of immensity; that wisdom from on high, firmness, magnanimity, and a sagacity that lifts up the curtain of futurity, may pervade the bosoms of our Senatorial bodies; that the tears of *America* may be bottled in the vials of Heaven; that the LORD GOD of GODS, the LORD GOD of GODS may gird on the sword of his Majesty, and lead on our host to the battle; that our Generals may know no fear; that the feet of our soldiers may be like the roaring of lions, and their faces firm as the mountains; that the fountain of their life may be shielded by the spreading hand of Omnipotence; that their injuries may be healed with celestial balsam; that the blood of those who breathe out their souls at open wounds, may flow into the veins of a crucified Saviour; that they may exchange the present weapons of their warfare for crowns and for diadems; that every man, woman, and child, where, when, and whomsoever he be, may have discernment of their duty, and integrity and courage to discharge it; that the enemy may come out in one way, and retreat in ten; that their plots may be discovered, themselves taken in their own craftiness, and their sroward Councils hurled headlong; that their cannon may refuse to roar, and the winds to wave their hoisted banners; that health may encircle our camps, success repair to our standard, and adversity stand trembling at a distance; that *America* may rise triumphant, blossom as the rose, and swell with increasing splendour, like the growing beauties of the Spring, bearing in her right hand the great Charter of Salvation, the Gospel of the Heavenly *Jesus*, and in the left the unfolded volumes of Peace, Liberty, and Truth, until the sturdy pillars of Nature shall totter into ruin, and the whole fabrick of Creation retumble into chaos,—is the daily prayer of

COSMOPOLITAN.

JOHN BAXTER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore Town, May 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Permit me to take this opportunity of acknowledging the grateful sense I entertain of the honour done me by the late Provincial Convention held for this Province, which honourable body you now represent, in appointing me a Lieutenant in the Fourth Company of the Regulars, raised for the defence of this Province. An opportunity now offers, by embracing of which, I am fully convinced I can equally serve the *American* cause, and, peradventure, reap considerable private advantage; and inasmuch as I am well assured that numbers of gentlemen, with superior abilities, and, I hope, with equal zeal and attachment, will gladly accept of my berth, I therefore humbly beg leave to resign my commission, which I have sent you enclosed; most ardently wishing that *America* in general, and this Province in particular, may ever be successful in their struggle for the glorious cause of liberty.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect, your very humble servant,

JOHN BAXTER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

CHARLES CARROLL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Mount Clare, May 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed were brought to me yesterday, by Mr. *William Smith*, which I promised him I would transmit to you by the first opportunity. I sent for Mr. *Hopkins*, as you desired, and directed him to send half the linens to *Annapolis*, by the *Defence* or her tender; but they had set off before he returned to town. Be pleased to write to him, whether he may hire a boat and now send them with safety to you. I have been so much out of order that I have not been able to call on Colonel *Ware* about the tents, but will do it as soon as I possibly can.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

CHARLES CARROLL.

To the Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 138.]

Annapolis, May 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We understand from Captain *Nicholson*, that you have now got your boom down at *Whetstone Point*. We desire, therefore, the schooner *Ninety-Two* may no longer be detained, and have ordered Mr. *Young* to despatch her immediately. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SMALLWOOD.

[No. 139.]

Annapolis, May 2, 1776.

SIR: Upon considering the representation made by Major *Gist*, relative to *Christian Castler*, the Council of Safety are of opinion that his case comes properly under the seventh Article of War, and that he cannot be punished with death; and therefore that the appointment of a Court Martial by the Council of Safety is unnecessary.

We are, &amp;c.

To Colonel *William Smallwood*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, May 2, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby directed to station thirty-five men, with a proper officer, of your battalion, at the *False Cape*, to protect the navigation, and do duty there, until further orders.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To the Officer commanding the Battalion of Continental Troops in *Delaware* Government.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, May 2, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 22d ultimo, and am sorry to inform you that it is not in my power at this time to refund to your Colony the powder lent the Continent,

our magazines here being very low, and the pressing demands from *Canada* obliging me immediately to forward sixty barrels thither. Should any inconvenience result to the Colony from not having it, it will give me much uneasiness. You may rest assured that as soon as I possibly can, I will make a return of it.

The Commissary-General has not presented the account yet; when he does, it shall immediately be paid.

I am, sir, with esteem, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL JAMES CLINTON.

New-York, May 2, 1776.

SIR: Having received information that there is a number of arms at one *Wiltsey's*, at the *Fishkills*, among the officers' baggage which came from *St. John's*, I request and authorize you to make inquiry about them, and to secure all you can find.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *James Clinton*, Third *New-York*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL WARD.

New-York, May 2, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency having heard that the Regiments stationed on *Dorchester-Heights* and *Bunker-Hill* are not employed in carrying on the works for the defence of *Boston*, from some misapprehension in you that they were to be kept constantly there, I am commanded by him to signify to you that he never had it in idea that they were to be exempted from the common round of duty and fatigue, and that he expected them to give every assistance you might judge necessary, for expediting and completing the fortifications, &c. I am, sir, yours, &c.

R. H. HARRISON.

To Major-General *Ward*, *Boston*.

COLONEL LEARNED TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, May 2, 1776.

SIR: With regret I must humbly represent my case to your Excellency. Being so indisposed in body that I am absolutely rendered unfit to serve the much injured and distressed publick with that alacrity and usefulness I could wish, or the importance of the cause requires; yet my heart and greatest wish is that your Excellency may receive renown, and the United Colonies' arms still be distinguished with success and victory, and in *God's* own time every worthy member in this struggle return to and enjoy his own habitation in peace.

But at present must request to absent myself from the Army in the manner your Excellency shall prescribe; and if it shall be thought most expedient I should be dismissed the Continental service, if my past conduct is equal, should pray I may be dismissed with honour and supported home. In obtaining this, I shall have fresh instances of your Excellency's favour; and lay me under new obligations ever to remain your very humble servant,

EBENEZER LEARNED.

To the Hon. His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO ROGER SHERMAN.

New-York, May 2, 1776.

SIR: I have been favoured with your letter of the 25th ultimo, which should have answered sooner, but waited for an opportunity of consulting Colonel *Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General, on the subject of shoes, who informs me that the full quantity, (say ten thousand pair,) ordered by Congress, will be wanted for the Army. I have therefore directed Mr. *Ogden* to continue the shoemakers at work in *Jersey*, and have also employed others here. Stockings are not to be procured in this city; they must be got at *Philadelphia*, and money must be sent here to pay for the shoes.

Enclosed you have a return of shoes already delivered here. Hempen and yarn stockings will be the most suitable.

As our election for Delegates is to be on the 14th in-

stant, I shall defer my return to *Philadelphia* till that is over. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

FRANCIS LEWIS.

To *Roger Sherman*, Esquire, at *Philadelphia*.

ISAAC SEARS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, May 2, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency will please excuse my writing to you on a subject that it is most probable you will have taken up before this comes to hand; but as it is the business of the Provincial Congress at *New-York* to first see that the resolves of the Continental Congress are carried into execution, I must suppose your Excellency would not interfere with them, unless you should see an absolute necessity for it; and it is a duty I owe to my country to use my utmost endeavours to preserve and keep inviolate the laws of the Continental Congress.

I must now acquaint your Excellency that, before I left *New-York*, I heard many of the tea holders say they would have a dollar the pound for their tea, (if it should get to that, would it stop there?) and since I have been here, information has been given me that some of the tea holders have begun to sell their tea at eight shillings, which has induced the tea holders in this Colony to refuse selling their tea till they see what *New-York* intends to do. I think it would be a very dangerous consequence to sell the tea higher than the Congress has limited it; for it would lay a foundation for violating every law the Continental Congress has made, and may hereafter make, whenever it suits the mercenary merchant to line his pocket with cash; and it is scandalous to the highest degree for the merchant to sell the tea higher than the limited price; for the Continental Congress has limited it to one shilling and six-pence per pound higher than the tea holders asked for it last fall, which pays them a very large interest; and as to my part, I am entirely satisfied with the price; although I have as much tea by me as would advance my estate largely, were the tea holders to violate the resolves of the Congress; for I make not the least doubt but they would soon get twenty shillings a pound for it. I had thirty-nine chests in this Government; and since I returned from *New-York* have opened the sale by the small quantity, at six shillings, *New-York* currency, and sold about ten chests; but shall now stop till I see the event of what will be done in *New-York* respecting that article, as, if there is not a stop put to the use of it, the tea that I sell at the limited price may be sold by others at twenty shillings per pound.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient, and very humble servant,

ISAAC SEARS.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

CAPTAIN DELAPLACE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 8, 1776]

Weathersfield, Connecticut, May 2, 1776.

Captain *Delaplace*, of his Majesty's Twenty-Sixth Regiment, begs leave to acquaint the honourable the Continental Congress that, by their late resolves respecting the prisoners in their custody, he, as an individual, lies under many particular and severe hardships, to wit: his private stock at *Ticonderoga*, consisting of forty-five sheep, eleven horned cattle, household and kitchen furniture, besides many other articles, such as three fusils, a silver-hilted sword, a silver mounted hanger,—the whole amounting to two hundred pounds sterling and upwards; for which no account has ever been made him, though assured by Colonels *Allen* and *Arnold* that he should be no loser by the leaving such property behind him. As to the second particular wherein he is a sufferer, that he must refund, from the time of his arrival at *Hartford* as a prisoner, being the 21st of *May* last, (1775,) what has been allowed from the General Assembly for the maintaining him, his wife, two children, and a servant, amounting weekly to seven dollars per week.

Having thus laid before their Honours the particulars of his sufferings, begs their assistance, for which he shall esteem himself highly honoured; and is, with the greatest respect, their most obedient servant,

WILLIAM DELAPLACE, Captain 26th Regiment.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress.

N. B. Captain *Delaplace* begs leave to acquaint the honourable the Continental Congress, that he wrote to his Excellency General *Schuyler* concerning the within mentioned particulars, but has not, as yet, obtained any assistance from him.

NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN., TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

New-London, May 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received a line from Captain *Hopkins* to put as much provision on board the *Andrew Doria* as will serve them for three months; which I shall comply with, and imagine she will be ready to sail by *Saturday* next.

I received a line from *Bedford*, and my friend writes me that he has delivered the five hundred weight of powder to Governour *Cooke's* order; so I shall take that quantity out of the powder you landed here.

We have two deserters here that came from the brig that is at *Block-Island*, they say the ship *Cerberus* has thirty-two eighteen-pounders, and two hundred men; and that the people at *Block-Island* tell them all they know. The ship sails very fast. I am, sir, your humble servant,

NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

To *Essex Hopkins*, Esquire, Commander-in-Chief of the American Fleet, at *Providence*.

COMMISSIONERS FOR RESTORING PEACE IN THE COLONIES.

Whitehall, May 3, 1776.

The King has been pleased to order letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, constituting and appointing *Richard Lord Viscount Howe*, of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and the Honourable *William Howe*, Esq., Major-General of his Majesty's forces, and General of his Majesty's forces in *North-America* only, to be his Majesty's Commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in *North-America*, and for granting pardons to such of his Majesty's subjects there, now in rebellion, as shall deserve the Royal mercy.

His Majesty hath also been pleased to appoint *Henry Strachy*, Esquire, to be Secretary of the said Commission.

WORCESTER COUNTY (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Observation for Worcester County, }  
May 3, 1776. }

In pursuance of the Resolves of the Convention, Mr. *Elijah Shockley* made return of his Company of Militia, consisting of eight Non-Commissioned Officers and fifty Privates; by which return it appears that the said *Elijah Shockley* is duly elected as Captain, *James Johnson* as First Lieutenant, *Stephen Bacham* as Second Lieutenant, and *Elijah Carey* as Ensign, of said Company.

Signed by order:

R. DENNIS, Clerk.

To the *Maryland* Council of Safety.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I forgot to get from you a copy of the letter which I wrote by Captain *Smith* to the gentlemen of the *Baltimore* Committee when at *Annapolis*. Please to order your clerk to furnish me a copy thereof per return of Captain *Smith*; which will oblige, gentlemen, your humble servant,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN.

To the Council of Safety.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO HENRY YOST.

[No. 140.]

Annapolis, May 3, 1776.

SIR: In *November* last you contracted with the Council of Safety for the delivery of seventy-five muskets, with worms, steel ramrods, bayonets with steel blades, &c., on or before the 1st of *May*, to the Council of Safety, at the city of *Annapolis*, and received one hundred and fifty pounds currency per advance. We are now in great want of the guns, and the time being past, we request you would let us have them as soon as possible, or at least as many as you have ready; they may be delivered to the order of Major *Price*, at *Fredericktown*. We also expect you will comply with your further contract for the delivery of twenty-five

muskets, with like accoutrements, at *Georgetown*, per month; the time commences on the 14th of this instant. We are much surprised that we have not had some guns delivered us heretofore from your shop. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Henry Yost*, *Frederick County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JOHN UNSOLD.

[No. 141.]

Annapolis, May 3, 1776.

SIR: On the 14th of *December*, 1775, you entered into an engagement to make and deliver, on or before the 1st day of *May*, 1776, to the Council of Safety, or their order, at *Georgetown* or *Baltimore* town, eighty good, substantial, proved muskets, three and a half feet in the barrel, three-fourths of an inch in the bore, with double bridle-locks, black-walnut or maple stocks, and plain, strong brass mounting, bayonets with steel blades seventeen inches long, steel ramrods, double screws, priming wires and brushes fitted thereto, with a pair of brass moulds to cast twelve bullets on one side, and on the other side to cast shot of such a size as the musket will chamber three of them. Twenty-nine muskets, very roughly made, with pickers and wipers, and one bullet mould, have been delivered; but not one bayonet. The residue of the arms, and the bayonets, &c., are immediately wanted. The Province has been greatly disappointed by your non-compliance with your contract; we therefore require you will immediately send them, on pain of answering all the evil consequences that may ensue. We are, &c.

To Mr. *John Unsold*, *Frederick County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL WARE.

[No. 142.]

Annapolis, May 3, 1776.

SIR: We leave Colonel *Ware* entirely at large on the point of inoculation; we think it the safest method of taking the small-pox, but would have him judge of the risk; we are doubtful tents cannot be provided for some time. Captain *Fulford* comes up to make some inquiries for us; if it lies in your way to assist him, we should be obliged to you for it. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Francis Ware*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO FREDERICK COUNTY COMMITTEE.

[No. 144.]

Annapolis, May 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We send you enclosed a list of prisoners transmitted to us from *North-Carolina*, who are to be kept in custody in this Province. We request you would make the best inquiry you can into the circumstances and condition of the persons, and have those kept that you may think entitled to any indulgence in some room or rooms in *Fredericktown* under a proper guard; the others in the publick prison there, until the Tory-House is got ready, which we hope will be done soon. The Convention from *North-Carolina* have sent us no state of the prisoners' particular cases, nor anything more than we enclose you a copy of; they are to do it soon. Should any of the prisoners incline to hand any state of their case in writing to us, we should be obliged to you to forward any such, and we will consider the affair more fully hereafter, and give instructions, if any be necessary, what further we would have done. The immediate expense will fall, we suppose, on this Province; but surely *North-Carolina* or the Continent will reimburse us. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL MAGRUDER.

[No. 145.]

Annapolis, May 3, 1776.

SIR: We request you would appoint a proper guard to convey the prisoners from *North-Carolina* that will be delivered to you at *Georgetown*, from thence to *Fredericktown*, there to be delivered to the Committee of Observation, to whom we have written on the occasion. The Province will be answerable to you for reasonable expenses.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Zadock Magruder*.

COLONEL HAND TO ANDREW ALLEN.

[Read May 4, 1776, and referred to Mr. Reed, Mr. Sergeant, and Mr. Huntington.]

Philadelphia, May 3, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave through you to inform the honourable Continental Congress that, in consequence of their resolution of the 15th ultimo to recruit and reinlist the Rifle Regiment, I have, with the approbation of the Commander-in-Chief, ordered a number of officers and men on that service. In full confidence that the honourable Congress would be pleased to advance a fund for the purpose of recruiting, to be deducted from the future pay of the regiment, I have directed the officers (who will be here to-morrow) to call on me for money. As the country is much drained of men, and the inlisting for two years a matter of novelty, we will be obliged to advance each man a month's pay on his inlisting, which, for the seven companies now to be completed, will amount to one thousand three hundred and forty-seven pounds ten shillings, *Pennsylvania* currency, allowing each man to receive advance as private, exclusive of the sum allowed for inlisting each recruit, and for subsistence of the officers and recruits until they join the regiment, which I am unacquainted with, and beg the Congress will please to ascertain.

As arms are scarce, and those now in the regiment are the property of the soldiers, it will be necessary to detain those belonging to the men that will not re-engage, and pay them the value, which will be a charge against the recruits. Money for this purpose I must also request the honourable Congress will be pleased to permit me to draw for, as soon as I know the sum wanted.

A decent pride being one of the most necessary constituents of a soldier, and as nothing contributes more to a man's good opinion of himself than dress, I trust that the Congress will advance me a sum sufficient to purchase a complete uniform dress for the Rifle Regiment. I am convinced it will be of great utility, and contribute much to the good of the service; and as it will be deducted by easy stoppages from their pay the ensuing year, the Continent can suffer no loss.

As at the time the Rifle Regiment was raised the Congress thought it proper to allow no more than one drummer or fifer to a company, and as the regiments since raised are allowed a drummer and a fifer to each company, which is absolutely necessary; I therefore pray that I may have the same indulgence.

I have only to add, that his Excellency has laid his commands upon me to use the utmost diligence in recruiting; and that I am, sir, with much respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD HAND,

Colonel of First Continental Regiment.

To *Andrew Allen*, Esq., in Continental Congress.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 3, 1776, and referred to Mr. Sherman, Mr. Floyd, and Mr. Sergeant.]

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, May 3, 1776.

SIR: This Committee having considered the petition of Mr. *Oswell Eve*, are of opinion it should be laid before the honourable Congress; and they take the liberty of sending it to you for that purpose; at the same time, they certify that Mr. *Eve* has at different times, upon the recommendation of this Board, shown his works and improvements to such gentlemen as were appointed from this and the neighbouring Colonies to view the same.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN NIXON, Chairman.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL WYNKOOP.

New-York, May 3, 1776.

SIR: Since the Adjutant-General's letter to you of the 1st instant, I have received from the Committee of Safety a note of the companies belonging to each regiment, and the places where they are stationed; by which I find that four of the companies belonging to Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment are at *Fort Montgomery* and *Fort Constitution*, which will answer the purpose intended when the order was sent

to you to repair thither, which order I now think proper to countermand, as I have received by express from General *Schuyler* a letter, wherein he mentions the necessity of having a regiment stationed on the communication between *Albany* and *Canada*; you will therefore, sir, on receipt hereof repair to *Albany*, and obey such orders as you may receive from General *Schuyler* respecting your regiment.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Wynkoop*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, May 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favour of the 27th ultimo yesterday evening, with its several enclosures; and in part answer thereto, refer you to mine of the 29th, which probably will have come to hand ere now. But lest any accident has prevented it, I will again inform you that, in obedience to an order of Congress, I have detached six more regiments, under General *Sullivan*, in addition to those under General *Thompson*, to reinforce our Army in *Canada*; all of which, except a few companies, are embarked; and as the situation of our affairs in that quarter is not so promising as we could wish, and an early arrival of them may be of infinite advantage to us, I shall repeat my request, and in full confidence trust, that you will do everything in your power to hasten their march. I have sent forward with them sixty barrels of powder, which is all that can be spared from hence at this time, which I hope will arrive safe. The Commissary I have been importunate with; he tells me eight hundred barrels of pork are gone to *Albany*, and that he every day expects a further quantity from *Connecticut*, which he will order to you as soon as it comes, without stopping here. You will also receive three boxes of money, said to contain three hundred thousand dollars, which, from my letter from Congress accompanying them, are for *Canada*: yours probably will be more particular. But I should think, my dear sir, if the whole will not be more than sufficient to pay the troops and the claims there, (though some of it might be intended for you,) that it will be advisable to send it forward. You will have it in your power to get a further supply before long to satisfy your engagements; those in *Canada*, either with our men or others, should not remain unpaid at this critical and interesting period; you, however, will be better able to judge what should be done in this instance than I possibly can. With respect to your military chest, when replenished, I see no impropriety in your giving warrants as usual; it seems to be necessary, and of consequence must have my approbation.

The Quartermaster has forwarded a parcel of intrenching tools and other necessities, with about five hundred tents, the latter to be equally and properly distributed among this last detachment: no more can be had at this time. You will also receive the chain which General *Lee* ordered, which I think should be sent to and fixed at the place it is designed for with all possible expedition: it may be of great service and benefit. In respect to sailors to cruise and pass in the lakes, on the 24th ultimo I gave a warrant to a Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop*, for two hundred and seventy-six and two-thirds dollars, for a month's advance pay for himself, officers, and men, who are engaged in that service; of this I then advised you, and of their different pay, that you might take an account of it, and know what they are to receive in future.

I am exceedingly sorry you should have been so indisposed. I had hoped you would get perfectly restored, so as not only to have seen the end of this campaign, but your great labour and unwearied assiduity in the cause of your country crowned with success and the blessings of freedom. You have my most fervent wishes for it.

I have just received an arrangement of the companies allotted by the Committee of Safety to Colonels *Wynkoop* and *Clinton* for their regiments, a copy of which you have enclosed, by which you will see they are differently arranged from what you expected or I knew; I have therefore countermanded an order which was issued to Colonel *Wynkoop* before, and directed him (the companies at *Albany* being in his regiment) to repair immediately to you for such directions and orders respecting his regiment as you may judge

necessary to give. This you will employ at the posts you mentioned for the communication. I can spare no more from hence, the ten regiments already detailed having weakened us here too much. The four companies of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment at the Highland fortifications I intend shall remain there, for carrying on and garrisoning those works, and which will be joined by another. Those on *Long-Island* will be kept there.

I am, dear sir, with sentiments of great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

PETER T. CURTENIUS TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, May 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have no bed-cases, nor cartouch-boxes, &c. These articles are in possession of Mr. *Roorback* and *Norwood*, who are not authorized to deliver any to my orders; therefore Captain *Jackson* will require an order on each of them for what he will want.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

To the Committee of Safety.

N. B. One bed-case for two men is the allowance.

MESSRS. SECRETARIES: Please to remember, when you make out orders, that *Norwood* has the guns and pouches, and *Roorback* the bed-cases, irons, trammels, pails, shovels, and tongs.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED NEW-YORK, [MAY 3,] 1776.

Soon after I received your letter, I sent for Colonel *Sears*, Mr. *John Smith*, and some others, whom I knew to be staunch, to spend an evening with me, that I might converse with them upon the subject. It would not do to show your letter, or even hint that I had received it; but an opportunity for introducing the subject soon offered. A Captain of my guard came and reported that the Committee of Safety had sent some persons to the main guard, who had no complaint lodged against them. I immediately sent to the Committee, and they sent a Sub-Committee to wait upon me. I asked them what charge they had to lay against the prisoners. They informed me, one was a Collector, who had not accounted for the money he had collected, and had abused their Congress; the others were in for different crimes. I told them that I could by no means consent to have free citizens subjected to trials by Court-Martial; they must try them by proper courts, if such there were; and if not, the offenders must run at large till necessity obliged them to constitute the proper courts. This opened the door for me, and I took advantage of it. The Sub-Committee thanked me for my care over the liberties of their fellow-citizens, and owned the necessity of taking up Government. *Sears*, *Smith*, &c., were strongly of that opinion, and all went home perfectly satisfied, and without suspecting the conversation was anything more than accidental.

The next day *Greene* and I were ordered to the jail, to see some prisoners of war. There I found some persons in for robbery, and one for murder. As I found I had good success in the beginning, I determined to keep on, and frequently took occasion to mention the great difficulty which must attend their present state; that it would be tyrannical to execute those persons without a trial; to try and execute them by process, in the name of a King with whom we were at war, would be absurd; and if neither of these methods were taken, they must, whether guilty or not, suffer perpetual imprisonment. The argument took effect; and even Tories themselves acknowledged it was best to take up Government till reconciliation should take place. This doctrine pleased me well; for I knew if Government was once assumed, upon whatever motives, they would find that the *Rubicon* was passed, and that they could never return to their ancient form.

I then, by the advice of my Privy Council, drew up a piece purporting to be a Petition to the Committee of Safety, to request leave from the Continental Congress to take up Government. This piece I enclose you; and though badly written, it steers so directly between Whigism and Toryism, that no person can tell whether it was drawn by a Whig or



Tory. My Privy Council informed me that it had the desired effect. The Whigs were fond of it, because, if it took effect, their point was carried, and no retreat could ever take place; the Tories were fond of it, because it held up the damned reconciliation they were seeking after.

Being well informed of my success, I thought it time to sound our Colonel. I sent for him. We conversed freely upon the matter of taking up Government. He owned the necessity of it, and said it would be carried into execution, at all events, at the meeting of their Convention. He informed me that almost every person began to see the necessity; and that the instructions then drawing up for their Delegates mentioned nothing about effecting a reconciliation, but to protect and defend *America*. When I found him in the true way to happiness, I dismissed him and attacked others. To Tories, I painted the evils attending their present state; to Whigs, I held up the advantage of seizing the precious moment. I soon found my party increase with surprising rapidity.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the Colony of NEW-YORK.

The Petition of HENRY DAWKINS, a Prisoner now in custody, in behalf of an order from the said Congress, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner, understanding that a certain *Philip Youngs* is apprehended on account of being concerned with your unfortunate Petitioner in counterfeiting the Continental and other money; in order to protect the innocent, feels bound, by all the ties of humanity and conscience, to declare that the said *Philip Youngs* hath never, directly or indirectly, been concerned in the aforesaid counterfeiting, printing, or passing of the said bills; and that all information on that account is absolutely groundless, as your Petitioner declared the same to Captain *Wool*, at the house of *Nathaniel Williams*, at *Huntington*, on the *Sunday* your Petitioner was apprehended. Your Petitioner therefore humbly hopes that the Congress will consider the matter, and discharge the said *Philip Youngs* from his confinement; which obligation shall ever be acknowledged by the Congress's distressed, humble servant,

HENRY DAWKINS.

Old City-Hall, May 3, 1776.

To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esq., President of the Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 14, 1776. Referred to Mr. Livingston, Mr. Jefferson, and Mr. J. Adams.]

Fort George, May 3, 1776.

SIR: I am just now honoured with your favour of the 20th of *April*, enclosing sundry resolutions of Congress, which I shall minutely attend to, as far as I may be able.

The lead found at *Crown-Point*, I have been under the necessity of ordering to *Canada*. It did not exceed three tons and a half, and no more can be procured there. We have not ten pounds either in *Albany*, *Ticonderoga*, *Crown-Point*, or this place, and we should not be long left destitute of so necessary an article.

The want of money to pay our debts, the scarcity of forage, and the immense quantity of baggage with which our troops encumber themselves, are so many sources of inexpressible distress to me. I fear that, notwithstanding every possible exertion, the Army in *Canada* will suffer, as the pork comes very slowly from *Albany*. "The people in general," as Mr. *Livingston*, in a letter of the 1st instant, observes, "are resolved not to ride until they are paid off. Some thousands are now owing to them, and they have not wherewith to purchase provender." I shall hasten to *Albany* the moment I have seen General *Thompson* from hence, and I hope to meet with some better success in forwarding provisions, as I have requested Mr. *Livingston* to signify to the people that money is on the way from *Philadelphia*, which I hope may prove true.

I do not apprehend that there is any just foundation for the fears entertained by the people of *New-Jersey*. About one hundred and fifty *Indians* are now at *Albany*, and I cannot believe that any hostilities will be commenced by others while they remain there. The *Senecas* and *Cayugas*

are not friendly; but I believe they will not act against us, from prudential motives, and I cannot think we have anything to fear from the others.

Mr. *Douw* is purchasing goods at *Albany*, for the *Indians* now there. It is absolutely necessary to be done, that they may go home well satisfied.

Some of the people mentioned in the affidavit I did myself the honour to transmit you in my last, have been apprehended and lodged in Jail at *Albany*. I cannot learn that they had much success in procuring adherents.

The Commissioners arrived at *St. John's* on the 27th; and, on the 28th ultimo, twenty-four batteaus, with troops, &c., &c., had already arrived, and the others were momentarily expected. I believe the whole are now before *Quebeck*.

I have found myself under the necessity of building a number of batteaus, far exceeding what Congress ordered. One hundred and thirty are now built, and I propose to complete them to two hundred; but if more troops should be sent, even that number will be insufficient.

Commodore *Douglass* is not arrived, nor is a single sailor come up; so that I shall be obliged to send on the provisions in batteaus from hence to *St. John's*; and for this arduous service, I have only seventy men of the troops raised for the defence of this Colony, the others being not yet come up, if raised, which I much doubt.

I am perfectly recovered of the ague, and hope to be able to endure any fatigue, and to go through any service I may be called to.

I am, with the most unfeigned respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort George, May 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since I did myself the honour to address your Excellency, on the 27th ultimo, I have had no intelligence from *Quebeck*.

*John Carroll*, in a letter of the 28th *April*, dated at *St. John's*, has advised me of the safe arrival of himself and his brothers, the Commissioners, at that place on the preceding day. He adds, that twenty-four batteaus, with troops, had already passed that place, and that the remainder were momentarily expected, as the wind was fair. It continued so the 29th and 30th, so that I have great reason to believe the whole, together with the heavy cannon, are arrived before *Quebeck*.

In hopes of a supply of ammunition from below, I sent on all that was here, and at every other post. Mr. *Wisner*, in a letter of the 29th *April*, informs me that I may immediately expect about three tons of powder. I will detain no more here than what may barely suffice, and send the rest on to *Canada*. Your Excellency will please to order some lead to be forwarded to me.

Colonels *Greaton* and *Patterson's* Regiments are arrived at *Ticonderoga*; the former is to move thence to-day, and the latter to-morrow. Colonel *Bond's* arrived here last evening, and crosses *Lake George* to-day. Colonel *Poor's*, which I expect to-morrow, will not be detained a moment. I shall attend General *Thompson* to *Ticonderoga*, and arrange matters in that quarter, and then hasten to *Albany*, to push on pork, which comes on very slowly, as the wagoners refuse to ride until they are paid off, and we have not a farthing of money. I have written to *Philadelphia* for it, but I fear the service will suffer before I can procure it from thence. Is it not possible to send some from the military chest with you?

Besides several deserters which we have in custody, Captain *Romans* and some of his men are expected here, against whom heavy and numerous complaints are lodged by the inhabitants, and I fear too well founded. On the former, I am under the necessity of ordering Courts-Martial to sit, although I know it is not strictly military, whilst your Excellency is in this Department; but the occasion, I hope, will excuse me with you. I wish some direction for my future conduct in such cases.

Our Army in *Canada* will expend near fifty barrels of pork per day; and before any fresh provisions can be procured there, it will be necessary to send seven thousand barrels of pork, which they will expend.

I have not heard anything from Colonel *Wynkoop*. I had him much at *Ticonderoga*.

Be pleased to present my compliments to the gentlemen of your suite.

I am, dear sir, with every affectionate wish, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

PHILIP SHEARMAN TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Dartmouth, May 3, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of the 18th *March*, per Captain *Jenne*, together with the guns and shot. Permit us to return you our sincere thanks for your publick services, and in a particular manner for those necessary engines of defence sent us by Captain *Jenne*. The shot which will not answer for us, we shall convey, by the first opportunity, either to *Providence* or *Howland's Ferry*.

We are your and the country's most obedient and humble servants.

Signed in and on behalf of the Committee of Inspection for the town of *Dartmouth*, by

PHILIP SHEARMAN, Clerk.

To Commodore *Eseck Hopkins*, on board the Ship *Alfred*.

GENERAL WARD TO COLONEL WARREN.

Boston, May 3, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received this morning from Mr. *Derby*. If the General Court should send an express to Congress, I should be very desirous that he might come through *Boston*, to carry my despatches to the southward.

I am, sir, your obedient humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To Colonel *Warren*, *Watertown*.

Ipswich, May 2, 1776—5 o'clock P. M.

SIR: I am now on my way from *Newburyport* to *Salem*, from whence I proposed sending the following advice per express; but meeting with an opportunity by one of your officers, I embrace it, and inform you that about two o'clock this afternoon Captain *John Lee* arrived at *Newbury*, from *Bilboa*, in twenty-nine days, and informed me that on the 14th of last month, in longitude forty-five from *London*, he spoke a vessel from *Plymouth* in *England*, who informed him that, three days before, he parted with a fleet of sixty sail of transports, bound for *Boston*, under the command of Admiral Lord *Howe*, having on board twelve thousand *Hessian* troops. He saw and read the *London* papers down to the 12th *March*, from which, and by the Captain of the vessel, he learned that there were twenty-seven Commissioners on board this fleet, and that they were directed if possible to adjust matters; if not, they were ordered to risk everything to penetrate into the country; if not able to effect this, then to burn and destroy all in their power.

*Burgoyne* was near sailing, with four thousand *Hanoverians*, for *Quebeck*, and a number of regiments are gone to the Southern Colonies. The Ministry had quieted the *Prussian* Monarch by paying him all his demands. *France* and *Spain* had objected against any *Russians* coming this way. This is the purport of what I had from the Captain, who is a man of veracity. I advised the gentlemen at *Newbury* to collect what further they could and inform you. Please inform the Court of this matter.

I am, &c.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

To General *Ward*.

P. S. Captain *Lee* could not obtain leave to bring any *English* papers, but only to read them.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, May 3, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday afternoon a vessel arrived at *Newbury* from *Bilboa*, in twenty-nine days, the Captain of which informs that, on the 14th of *April*, in longitude forty-five from *London*, he spoke a vessel from *Plymouth* in *England*, who informed him that, three days before, he parted with a fleet of sixty sail of transports, bound for *Boston*, under the command of Admiral *Howe*, having on board twelve

thousand *Hessian* troops; that twenty-seven Commissioners were on board this fleet; that they were directed, if possible, to adjust matters with the Colonies; if not, to penetrate, at the risk of everything, into the country; if this could not be effected, then to burn and destroy all in their power. That General *Burgoyne* was near sailing with four thousand *Hanoverians* for *Quebeck*; that a number of regiments are gone to the Southern Colonies; that the King of *Prussia* was made quiet by having all his demands complied with; and that *France* and *Spain* had objected against any *Russians* coming to *America*.

Commodore *Manly* declines going on another cruise until he has a larger ship; and he says he cannot recommend his First Lieutenant for the command of the vessel he last sailed in.

Frequent applications are made to me to appoint Commanders of the privateers, and for other matters, which no person here is authorized to transact.

I am, in great haste, your Excellency's obedient humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

THOMAS CUSHING TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, May 3, 1776.

SIR: By order of a Committee of the General Court of this Colony, whereof I have the honour to be Chairman, I enclose you a copy of a piece of intelligence which is of the greatest importance, received by Captain *John Lee*, a gentleman who may be depended upon. We would humbly submit it to your Excellency whether, as the *British* troops left this Colony in disgrace, they will not return here to retrieve their character. On this occasion we take leave to suggest to your consideration whether it would not, considering the number which are gone out of this Colony, be for the publick safety to reinforce the detachment under General *Ward's* command as soon as may be, as the regiments under his command are by no means full.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

[At the bottom of the Letter, in *Washington's* hand, and written with a pencil, are these words:]

General *Washington* would remark on this letter, that one of the five Regiments left at *Boston* was complete, and that the other four contained the average of those brought away.

THOMAS CUSHING TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 10, 1776, and referred to the Committee on the state of the Eastern Colonies.]

Watertown, May 3, 1776.

SIR: The General Court of this Colony have appointed a Committee, whereof I have the honour to be Chairman, to give you the following interesting intelligence:

Captain *John Lee*, a gentleman who may be depended upon, arrived at *Newbury* on the 2d instant, in twenty-nine days from *Bilboa*, and gives information, that on the 15th of *April* he fell in with a brig from *Plymouth*, bound to *Newfoundland*, the master of which informed him that, three days before, he parted with a fleet of sixty sail of transports, under the command of Lord *Howe*, having on board twelve thousand *Hessians*, bound to *Boston*, together with twenty-seven Commissioners; that General *Burgoyne*, with four thousand *Hanoverians*, sailed, or was to sail, about the same time for *Quebeck*. *Lee* says he read the *English* papers on board the brig, by which it appears that the Parliament had voted to pay foreign troops; and that the King of *Prussia's* demands on *Britain* were complied with; that the people of *England* were very desirous of a settlement; and that the Commissioners were to use their utmost endeavours to effect it, which, if they failed in, the forces were to lay waste the whole country, if they could.

Mr. *Guardoqui*, of *Bilboa*, by his letter, dated 27th *March* last, writes to *Isaac Smith*, Esq., by Captain *Lee*, in these words: "No other news from *England*, but that seventeen thousand three hundred *German* troops were going to *Boston* and *Quebeck*, some of which were embarking about three weeks ago."

This intelligence appears to the General Assembly of this Colony too important to the whole Continent not to be

forwarded to you by express. Where these troops will endeavour to begin their ravages is uncertain; but as the *British* arms were brought into disgrace by General *Howe's* being compelled to abandon this Colony, it is reasonable to suppose that they will endeavour to regain their honour in the place where they lost it. And we should be guilty of injustice, as well to the other United Colonies as to this, if we should not inform your Honours, that this Colony is by no means in a good state of defence, a great number of our arms being carried away in the Continental Army, and to *Canada*; and our powder, which we supplied the Army with, being eight tons at least, not being replaced, wherefore we cannot have that dependance on our Militia which we otherwise should have; and the detachment of Continental forces under General *Ward's* command being, as we apprehend, insufficient to repel a heavy attack, there being but five regiments, and they not half full.

We are by no means solicitous about the particular interest of this Colony; nor do we wish ourselves to be excused from being the more immediate object of their relentless rage; but, for the sake of the publick cause, we wish ourselves in a situation fit to receive them with that spirit which they have been taught to expect in men fighting for the freedom of *America*. The attention which the Congress has shown to the safety of this Colony, as well as the whole of the United Colonies, gives us reason to hope that they will neglect nothing that can tend to our relief and protection.

I am, sir, with great respect to the Congress, your most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS CUSHING.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

Salem, Thursday Evening, 9 o'clock, May 2, 1776.

The Committee of *Salem* have this moment received the following intelligence by *Richard Derby*, Jun., from *Newburyport*, who says that he this day, about one o'clock, talked with Captain *John Lee*, then just arrived, in twenty-nine days from *Bilboa*, who says that on the 15th of *April*, he fell in with and was on board a brig from *Plymouth*, in *England*, bound to *Newfoundland*, the master of which informed him that, three days before, he parted with a fleet of sixty sail of transports, under the command of Lord *Howe*, having on board twelve thousand *Hessians*, bound to *Boston*, together with twenty-seven Commissioners. That General *Burgoyne*, with four thousand *Hanoverians*, sailed, or was to sail, about the same time with the fleet above-mentioned, to go to *Quebeck*. That he (said *Lee*) read the *English* papers on board the brig, by which it appeared that the Parliament had voted pay for the foreign troops; that the King of *Prussia's* demands on *Great Britain* had been paid; that the people in *England* were greatly desirous of a settlement, and that the Commissioners were to use their utmost efforts to that end, which failing, the troops were to lay waste the country, if in their power.

*Isaac Smith*, Esq., showed us a letter from Mr. *Guardoqui*, (brought by *Lee*.) in which is the following paragraph:

"No other news from *England*, but that seventeen thousand three hundred *German* troops were going to *Boston* and *Canada*, some of which were embarking about three weeks ago. May *God* preserve you, is the hearty wish of  
"JOSEPH GUARDOQUI & SON."

Dated *Bilboa*, March 27, 1776.—Directed to *Isaac Smith*, Esq.

The foregoing intelligence the Committee of Safety thought it their duty to communicate by express to the honourable Court.

By order of the Committee:

TIMOTHY PICKERING, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the General Court of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

THOMAS CUSHING TO THE GOVERNOURS OF RHODE-ISLAND AND CONNECTICUT, AND PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Watertown, May 3, 1776.

SIRS: By order of a Committee of the General Court of this Colony, whereof I have the honour to be Chairman, I enclose you a copy of a piece of intelligence which may be depended upon. As the *British* troops were driven in a hasty manner from this Colony, we think we have reason to

expect that they will endeavour to retrieve their character in the same place; we therefore ardently wish that you would hold a number of Militia Regiments in readiness to reinforce us, or to give us the same assistance you may depend upon from us, should the attack be made on your Colony.

I remain, with great respect, your most humble servant,  
THOMAS CUSHING.

LORD GEORGE GERMAINE TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, May 3, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Brown*, to whom you intrusted your important despatch to Lord *Dartmouth*, of the 21st of *March*, arrived here this afternoon, and I immediately laid it before the King.

The enclosed duplicates of the letters which have been written to you since that from Lord *Dartmouth*, of the 22d *October*, which you say was the last you had received, and the copies which I also send you of Mr. *Robinson's* letters, will show that every possible attention has been given to your situation, as well in explaining to you the measures which had been taken for an early reinforcement of your Army, as in sending out ample supplies of provisions and stores of every sort.

The miscarriage of the despatches has been very unfortunate, and your not having received supplies would have been fatal, but for the step you very prudently took of withdrawing from the town of *Boston*, which, under the circumstances you have stated, is a measure very much approved by the King, and in the execution of which you have given the fullest proof of his Majesty's wisdom and discernment, in the choice of so able and brave an officer to command his troops in *America*.

You will see by my despatch to you of the 18th of *November*,\* 6th and 27th of *December*,† 5th of *January*,‡ 1st and 7th of *February*,§ 28th of *March*,¶ and 27th of *April*,¶ that every possible effort has been used to give you such a force and to send you such supplies, as would enable you to act with effect in the course of this summer, and at the same time to secure the possession of *Canada*, and reduce the Southern Colonies to obedience.

With respect to that part of the force destined to those different objects, which is to reinforce the Army under your immediate command, you will see that the Army sent to the southward has orders to join you as early as possible, and to hazard nothing that may defeat that junction. You will also see that the *Highland* Corps, amounting to eight thousand two hundred men, is actually arrived at *Spithead*, and will probably sail to-morrow or next day, in company with a detachment of guards, amounting to one thousand and ninety-eight men, and there is great hope that it will not be long before the remainder of the *Hessians*, computed at about four thousand, will be ready to proceed.

The transports for the reception of General *Burgoyne's* regiment of Light Cavalry, and for about eight hundred draft horses, are also fitting in the river; and those articles of military stores demanded in the returns transmitted, with the different letters I have received from you, have been either already sent, or are now preparing to be sent, as far as we have been able to procure them.

With regard to that part of the force which is destined for the service in *Canada*, consisting, exclusive of the early relief sent out with the *Isis*, of seven regiments from *Ireland*, one from *England*, and a body of near five thousand foreign troops: those regiments sailed from *Cork* the 8th of *April*, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Frazer*; and the first division of *Brunswickers*, amounting to about two thousand men, together with the *Hanau* Regiment, and the Twenty-First Regiment from *Plymouth*, also sailed under the command of Lieutenant-General *Burgoyne*, on the 7th of *April*; and from the time at which they sailed, and the fair wind they have had since, they are by this time in the River *St. Lawrence*; and you will, I trust, have been early enough apprized of this arrangement to have prevented you in your design of sending any part of your force to *Quebeck*, for it is of consequence, in every light, that it should be kept entire.

\* By the *Triton*. † By the *Milford* Frigate. ‡ By the *Greyhound*. § By the *Milford* Frigate. ¶ By a Packet express from *Boston*. ¶ By another Packet.

Under these circumstances of preparation, the King had entertained a well grounded hope that an early and effectual impression would have been made, either in *New-England* or *New-York*; and that the supplies which have been sent out would have arrived in time to have enabled you to have maintained yourself at *Boston* until a force was collected adequate to some decisive blow. The failure of these supplies is a very unfortunate event; but, though in your situation at *Halifax*, you will, for a time, be further removed from those places where the force you have under your command must ultimately be employed, yet, as I see you have taken the proper measures, in leaving cruisers off the coast of *New-England*, that the ships which may arrive from *England* may still join you with security, you will soon, I trust, have it in your power to carry on operations to the southward.

This change in your situation appearing in your letters to have been adopted for the temporary purpose of convenience, and the better to enable you to disengage yourself from the embarrassment that might obstruct a more decided operation, will, therefore, induce no alteration of the plan to send the *Hessians* and Guards to *Rhode-Island*, according to my instructions to Lieutenant-General *Heister*; and they will of course take post there (if practicable) if they find no orders from you to the contrary. As they cannot, however, be supplied from hence with a sufficient quantity of artillery and intrenching tools, you will endeavour to send them what you think adequate to that service. The *Hessians* have their regimental field-pieces. Some light three-pounders are on board an ordnance store-ship that sails with them; and the number of cartridges, which I understand is about thirty rounds per man, will be made up to sixty out of the stores at *Portsmouth*; but they must depend upon you for intrenching tools, though every effort will be made to collect what can be procured at *Portsmouth* and the Tower, and to put on board the transports as much as they can receive.

By the intelligence we receive from time to time of what is passing at *New-York*, it seems as if the Rebels had determined to oppose a landing at that place, and for that purpose to collect a large force there; but of this, it is most likely you will receive certain and better accounts than we can get. I send you, however, the latest intelligence we have from that quarter, because it points out the particulars of the defence the enemy are preparing to make, and it may, in that respect, be of some use to you. The plan you propose for attacking *New-York* as soon as possible, is becoming that spirit and vigour with which you always act; but as such large reinforcements are going to you, I wish they may arrive before the time of carrying it into execution, that your force may be so increased as to render your success more certain.

I am, &c.,

GEORGE GERMAINE.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Williamsburgh, May 4, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I am just returned from *Suffolk*, and the posts below, and the post is just going out; so that this must rather be considered as an apology for not writing than as a letter. In a few days I shall set out for *Carolina*, but before I set out shall send you a full description of our state and situation. We want arms, medicines, and blankets, most cruelly; indeed, we want some battalions. I wish, dear General, you would prevail on the Congress to increase the pay of our Engineers—it is too wretched; no men qualified for the business will serve on the terms. Enclosed is an uncouth return of our force.

Adieu, dear General. Yours respectfully, and affectionately,

CHARLES LEE.

VIRGINIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read May 13, 1776.]

Williamsburgh, May 4, 1776.

SIR: We have your favour of *April* 23d, with several resolutions of Congress, commissions for the officers of our Army, and instructions and bonds for those who shall apply for letters of marque and reprisal; to all which we shall pay due attention.

Feeling, as we do, the warmest resentment for the unme-

rited and repeated severity meditated against *America*, by a despotick and unrelenting Administration, fully manifested, had any doubts remained of it, by their last act retrospectively sanctifying every instance of rapine, violence, and plunder, without distinction of circumstances, provided an *American* was the suffering object, we shall not fail to strain every nerve for defeating their cruel attempts, and, as far as may be in our power, to carry into execution the several resolutions of Congress to effect this purpose.

For, and by order of the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

EDMUND PENDLETON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SIM.

[No. 143.]

Annapolis, May 4, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed we send you a copy of *Edmund Pendleton*, Esq.'s letter to us relative to the prisoners from *North-Carolina*. We request you would give the necessary orders for conveying those intended for *Pennsylvania* through *Prince George's* County to *Queen Anne's*, where a proper guard will be appointed to receive them and conduct them to *Baltimore* town. Those twelve intended to be kept in custody in the Province, we think it would be best to have them sent under guard by water to *Georgetown*, and request you would give the necessary orders for that purpose. There Colonel *Magruder* will receive and convey them to *Fredericktown*, and deliver them to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County, to whom we have likewise written on the occasion. The Province will be answerable to you for reasonable expenses.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Joseph Sim*.

P. S. In case any letters or papers should come for us by the guard, send them forward by express.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE WOOLSEY.

[No. 146.]

Annapolis, May 4, 1776.

SIR: We contracted with you on the 9th of *February* last for the brig *Rogers*, to proceed on a voyage to the foreign *West-Indies* on account of this Province, and advanced you one thousand eight hundred pounds towards purchasing a cargo of flour for her. We have not since then heard from you on that subject, nor doth it appear to us that you have done anything therein; we therefore request you would acquaint us, by the return of Captain *Fulford*, what you have done in this matter; and oblige, sir, yours, &c.

To Mr. *George Woolsey*, *Baltimore* Town.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, May 4, 1776.

SIR: Since writing the foregoing, (see letter *April* 26th,) I have it further in charge from Congress to desire you to inform them whether the Continental commissions sent to you for the officers of the troops raised by *Connecticut* the last campaign, were delivered or offered to them, or any and which of them, and whether any and which of them accepted or refused the same; and particularly, whether commissions were offered to Colonel *Waterbury* and Colonel *Easton*, and whether they refused accepting them; and also to desire you, in case Major *Douglass* declines to take the command of the vessels on the lakes, that you appoint Captain *Wynkoop* to that command, and inform Congress thereof by the first opportunity.

I have the honour to be, &c.

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Albany*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, May 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am commanded by Congress to request you will inform them whether the Continental commissions which were sent to you, for the officers of the troops raised by *Connecticut* the last campaign, were delivered or offered

to them, or any, and which of them; and whether any, and which of them accepted or refused the same; and particularly whether commissions were offered to Colonel *Waterbury* and Colonel *Easton*, and whether they refused accepting them.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Committee of Safety of *New-York*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, May 4, 1776.

SIR: A vacancy having happened in the First *New-Jersey* Battalion by the promotion of Lieutenant-Colonel *Winds*, the Congress thought proper to elect Mr. *Ogden* to supply his place.

Lord *Stirling*, in his letter of the 18th of *March* last, among other things, informed the Congress that, by this appointment, Major *De Hart* and the battalion considered themselves "exceedingly hurt;" and enclosing a memorial from Major *De Hart* and the officers of that regiment, he strongly hinted and expressed a hope that the Congress would supersede Mr. *Ogden* and appoint Major *De Hart*, or some other officer of the battalion, in his stead.

This letter, with the memorial enclosed, having been committed, and a report made thereon, the Congress came to sundry resolutions, which I have the honour to enclose; and am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. You will please to order Colonel *Ogden* to join his Regiment.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, May 4, 1776.

SIR: You will on receipt hereof, give orders to the officers of the battalion of which you are Lieutenant-Colonel, to join their respective companies; which, if you do not find complete, let an officer from each go on the recruiting service; and if in want of arms, you must apply to the Committee of Safety to procure them for you if possible. There are four companies belonging to your regiment now stationed at *Fort Montgomery* and *Fort Constitution*. You will repair thither, and if no superior officer is there, you must take the command and look to the works now carrying on there, which you must exert yourself in seeing finished as soon as possible. The three companies of your regiment stationed on *Long-Island* are to remain there; the other company you will order to join you at the fort, with all convenient speed.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO COLONEL NICOLL.

New-York, May 4, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to inform you that he received yours of the 30th ultimo, with a state of the fortifications; and it gives him much concern that the men are so deficient in arms. He imagined the want was great, but nothing like what it appears to be. He has taken every method in his power to obtain a supply, but without any effect; and has applied to the Committee here, who say they are using the only means they have for getting them. How they will succeed cannot now be determined.

His Excellency desires that you will make strict inquiry about Captain *Menos*; and if the fact is as you have represented, that he be taken and secured, if it can be done, though, most probably, he will have entirely escaped before now, if he went away on the 20th ultimo.

His Excellency will have orders given on the Commissary of Artillery and Ordnance Stores, for four or five barrels of powder and other necessary ammunition, which, on account of their great scarcity and difficulty in procuring, he desires

your greatest care and attention to, and that they may not be wasted or embezzled.

Doctor *Foster*, one of the Physicians of the General Hospital, has been directed to send you a Surgeon, who will probably be with you now in a day or two.

When the time of the Minute Company expires, you are not to call in others.

Another company, of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, will be ordered to join the four already with you, as soon as it is recruited and made up.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, *Fort Constitution*.

WILLIAM PALFREY (PAYMASTER-GENERAL) TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 8, 1776.]

New-York, May 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Agreeable to the order of the honourable Congress, I applied to Mr. *Winthrop*, who delivered me the books and papers belonging to the office of the Paymaster-General, and also cash to the amount of ninety-two thousand three hundred and seventy dollars, for which I have given him a receipt. I now do myself the honour to transmit you a state of the office, to *Saturday*, 4th *May*, which I shall continue to do weekly, as I think it highly necessary the Congress should be often acquainted therewith, that they may make the necessary provision.

When I undertook the office, I intended to have transacted the business of it without the assistance of a clerk; but I now find that, unless I am allowed such assistance, I cannot do that justice to it I could wish, as the General has informed me that, besides the usual business, I must examine all the abstracts, and draw the warrants; which was never before done in the office, though doubtless very proper. It is also highly necessary I should have some person with me on whom I can depend, in case I should, by sickness or any other accident, be prevented from executing the duties of my office; and as other officers in the Staff (say Adjutant-General, Quartermaster-General, Commissary-General, and Barrackmaster-General) are allowed clerks, I make no doubt the honourable Congress will see the necessity of it, and grant me the same indulgence.

When General *Washington* left *Cambridge* a considerable sum was left with Colonel *Warren* for payment of the troops stationed there. As his commission is now suspended, I should be glad to know whether any, and what steps will be taken for paying those troops; whether Congress will appoint a person for that purpose, or whether it must go through my hands. Your speedy answer would be very agreeable.

The General just now showed me a letter from General *Ward*, wherein he complains that money is much wanted for that Department. You will be pleased to represent the matter to Congress, that they may take such order upon it as shall seem meet.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM PALFREY.

To *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of Congress.

To the Right Honourable the President and Members of the Provincial Convention of the Province of NEW-YORK:

The humble Petition of WILLIAM DUER, of the County of CHARLOTTE, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner on the 16th of *April* last, was regularly chosen one of the Deputies to represent this County in Provincial Convention for the ensuing year, by a very large body of the principal freeholders and freemen, who have all signed the General Association, and are unfeignedly attached to the cause of *American* liberty.

That *John Williams*, *Alexander Webster*, and *William Malcolm*, of *New-York*, have been likewise chosen for Deputies in several Districts; and that the elections in none of the Districts, where such persons were chosen, were held either on the day, or in the manner appointed by the Provincial regulation of the 12th of *March* last; but that, on the contrary, the most malicious falsehoods, arts, and threats, were



made use of to influence the minds of the electors, by the very persons who held the polls in some Districts, and that many persons were admitted to vote, by no means qualified as the law directs.

That the Committee of the County of *Charlotte* met on the 1st of *May*; and notwithstanding the irregularity of the election, in the Districts of *New-Perth*, *Skenesborough*, *Black-Creek*, and *Granville*, they decided the election in favour of the persons above-mentioned, without waiting for the poll-lists from several townships, in which your Petitioner was elected, or granting a scrutiny agreeable to his earnest application; although the union of the County much depended on an impartial decision of the merits of this election.

That the only reason that your Petitioner has ever heard offered for this precipitate step, was the non-attendance of the members for the Districts of *Kingsbury*, &c., in order to produce their poll-lists on the 1st of *May*; although no positive order to that effect was, (as your Petitioner is credibly informed,) at the preceding meeting of the 29th of *March*, ever entered on the Minutes of the Committee. A strange conclusion! from which it may be inferred that the orders of the Committee, however irregularly specified, are to be inexorably observed, like the laws of the *Medes* and *Persians*, even at the hazard of the union of the County, whilst the positive ordinances of your honourable body may be dispensed with, by the mere caprice of the Chairman of the County Committee.

Your Petitioner further begs leave to represent, that several members of the County Committee, instead of judges, made themselves parties to the merits of the election; by which means the jealousies and dissensions which have arisen in the County, from the designs of turbulent, interested, and ambitious persons, and from an inadequate representation of the freeholders and freemen in the County Committee, have much increased.

That your Petitioner, at the earnest request of several of the principal freeholders and freemen in this County, offered himself a candidate to represent them in Convention, flattering himself that, from an impartial representation of the political management of affairs in this County, the inhabitants might be rescued from that anarchy and oppression with which they are threatened.

That the most wicked and false aspersions have been thrown out to discourage his exertions, by the arts and influence of men who are strangers to integrity, and the true principles of civil liberty; and that the Committee have unhappily given their sanction to such unworthy attempts.

That your Petitioner is, nevertheless, conscious of his zealous attachment to the grand cause, and pledges himself to prove to the satisfaction of your honourable House the truth of these assertions, and the purity of his zeal for the happiness and union of this country.

He therefore humbly prays, that the Deputies now offering themselves for this County may not be permitted to take their seats in your honourable House, as the legal Representatives of this County; and that any proceedings with respect to your Petitioner, and the Committee of this County, may be suspended until his arrival in *New-York*, which he flatters himself will be about the 14th instant.

Your Petitioner is at present engaged in procuring true lists of the qualified votes in the different Districts, and in collecting other materials to prove to the satisfaction of this House the lamentable state of this County, and the urgent necessity there is that the wisdom of your body should interfere to save it from anarchy and oppression. Your Petitioner, therefore, flatters himself that this may plead in excuse should he not be present on the first day that the new Convention meets.

This Petition is presented in behalf of upwards of two hundred of the principal freeholders and freemen of the County, to the westward of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, whose sacred rights of election, your Petitioner esteems it his duty to defend from the usurpation of any body of men whatsoever.

They were the legal majority at the close of the poll had a regard for justice and the ordinances of your House prevailed. He therefore considers himself one of their legal Representatives; and your Petitioner, &c.,

WILLIAM DUER.

*Appendix.*—The election in the different Districts where

*John Williams*, *Alexander Webster*, and *William Malcolm*, were chosen, opened on the following days, at the places mentioned: *New-Perth*, 23d of *April*; *Black-Creek*, 22d of *April*; *Skenesborough* and *Granville*, on the same day, between the 1st and 16th of *April*. W. DUER.

New-York, May 4, 1776.

COLONEL GEORGE CLINTON TO RICHARD VAN WYCK.

Fishkill, May 4, 1776.

SIR: I herewith enclose you General *Washington's* order to me, to make the necessary inquiry relative to a number of arms he was informed was in *Wiltsy's* store, with the baggage of officers taken at *St. John's*, and to secure the same. Agreeable to which, I beg you will secure said arms, as I am informed they are removed from *Wiltsy's* store, and are now in your possession; and transmit to me as expeditiously as possible, the officer's name and rank, and where he now is, who stored them at Mr. *Wiltsy's*; the number of arms, and every other circumstance which may come to your knowledge respecting the same, authenticated by affidavits of the facts, where in your power. And if it shall appear that he has in this respect violated the articles of capitulation, I would advise, in such case, he be secured from escaping until the pleasure of Congress shall be known as to his conduct.

I am, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE CLINTON.

To *Richard Van Wyck*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Rombouts* Precinct, *Dutchess* County.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort George, May 4, 1776, ten o'clock, A. M.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's favours of the 24th and 29th of *April*, are this moment come to hand.

To-morrow evening I shall furnish batteaus sufficient to carry the remainder of General *Thompson's* Brigade to *Canada*; but as we can build only four a day, the troops must necessarily be detained some time, unless part of the batteaus should return from *Canada*, which I ordered to be done when the first left this. To supply so large an Army with provisions will require the greatest attention and alertness. Nothing shall be wanting on my part.

I believe Mr. *Ray's* information is groundless, as all the arms Mr. *Rensselaer* (who is conductor at *Albany*) has, were purchased by my order; and I cannot think he has a sufficiency for the troops raising at *Albany*. I shall direct him to send your Excellency a return.

I shall procure more carpenters, that the troops may be despatched the soonest possible; and hope four days hence to build six batteaus a day. One regiment will be able to cross *Lake Champlain* in vessels, and I shall find means to get it to *Ticonderoga*, without waiting for batteaus to pass *Lake George*.

I am, with every sentiment arising from respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO ALBANY COMMITTEE.

Fort George, May 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am this moment advised by express from General *Washington*, that six regiments were to leave *New-York* after the 29th of *April* last. The First Brigade, under General *Thompson*, came unexpectedly on me, and has distressed me much. The addition of that now coming under General *Sullivan*, I do not know how to get on to this place, without stopping the transportation of provisions; and if that is done, our Army already in *Canada* must suffer, if not starve. In this truly distressing dilemma, I apply for your aid without hesitation, and with the fullest confidence to receive it, as I have had such repeated instances of your readiness to promote the good of the common cause, and to relieve my distresses.

Permit me, then, to wish you to write circular letters to the Committees in every District, to try to procure all the

carriages they possibly can, and to send them up without the least loss of time. They will be paid at the rate of three pounds ten shillings per trip; or if employed at any intermediate post between this and *Albany*, they will have at the same rate, according to the distance; and for such as live above eight miles below *Albany*, an allowance at the rate of ten shillings for every thirty miles will be made for coming to *Albany*. I wish them to come provided with forage for at least ten or twelve days; and as three hundred thousand dollars have left *New-York* the beginning of this week, I promise that none of them shall return home unpaid, and that I will give orders for paying all arrears for past services.

I am, gentlemen, with every sentiment that arises from respect and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,  
PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Sub-Committee of the City and County of *Albany*.

P. S. Whatever expenses the District Committee may be at in procuring the carriages, I will most cheerfully repay.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, May 4, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 29th of *April* has just come to hand. Agreeable to your desire, I shall give an account of

what has been done towards fortifying the harbour. The Forts on *Fort Hill* in *Boston*, *Charlestown Point*, and *Castle Point*, are almost completed, with a number of heavy cannon mounted in each. A work is in good forwardness on *Noddle's Island*; and a detachment of the Army is at work at *Castle Island*, repairing the batteries there. A number of hulks are preparing to sink in the channel.

I have employed the troops here to the greatest advantage in my power; have ordered all the men not on actual duty to turn out on fatigue every day, not allowing any superfluous cooks or waiters; and upon receiving intelligence of a *British* fleet being on its passage this way, I directed all the officers to turn out with their men upon the works, which they cheerfully complied with, and are constantly upon fatigue with their men. I have set every wheel in motion which I could move to advantage, and shall neglect nothing in my power in order to give the enemy a proper reception if they should pay us a visit.

I have enclosed a return of this division of the Army.

I am to inform your Excellency that I have just received a letter from the President of the Congress, by which I am informed the Congress has accepted my resignation. The sooner I am relieved the more agreeable it will be to me, as my health has declined much this spring.

I am, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,  
ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

A Return of the Division of the Continental Army, commanded by Major-General WARD, stationed at BOSTON, CHARLESTOWN, DORCHESTER, and BEVERLEY; BOSTON, May 4, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	Commissioned Officers present.					Staff Officers.					Non-Com- missioned.	Effective Rank and File.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Weekly Re- turn.										
	Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Invalids.	Dead.	Deserted.	Discharged.	Recruited, not join'd.
6th. Whitcomb's.....	1	-	1	8	8	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	27	15	343	25	8	31	-	415	1	-	225	18	-	7	1	12
14th. Glover's.....	1	1	1	7	6	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	23	16	222	13	7	51	17	313	1	-	326	8	-	6	-	-
16th. Sargent's.....	1	1	1	5	5	6	7	-	1	1	1	1	24	16	331	25	14	126	20	516	-	-	124	15	-	1	-	-
18th. Phinney's.....	1	-	3	4	4	5	1	1	1	1	-	-	27	16	307	68	9	4	3	435	-	-	105	1	-	1	-	-
27th. Hutchinson's.....	-	1	1	7	6	7	7	-	1	1	1	1	26	15	483	39	21	66	-	610	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total.....	4	3	4	31	29	31	32	3	4	5	4	4	127	78	1691	153	59	322	40	2289	2	-	880	42	1	18	1	12

Commissioned, Staff, and Non-Commissioned Officers, absent and unfit for duty in this Division.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	Dead.	Recruiting.	Wanting to complete.	Total.
Colonels.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Lieutenant-Colonels.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Majors.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Captains.....	2	1	3	3	1	-	-	10
First Lieutenants.....	1	-	3	2	-	5	-	11
Second Lieutenants.....	3	2	-	1	1	2	-	9
Ensigns.....	-	-	1	3	2	2	-	8
Chaplains.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Adjutants.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quartermasters.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Surgeons.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mates.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sergeants.....	11	4	7	6	1	2	2	33
Drums and Fifes.....	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2

PELEG WADSWORTH, Major-Brigade.

Return of Capt. EDWARD BURBECK's Company, in Colonel KNOX's Regiment of Artillery, BOSTON, May 3, 1776.

	Captain.	Capt. Lieut.	First Lieut.	Sec'd Lieut.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Fife & Drum.	Matrosses.	Total.
Fit for duty.....	1	1	1	2	2	5	5	5	2	20	41
On command at <i>Dorchester</i> .....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	7	12
On command at <i>Cambridge</i> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3
Sick, absent.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
On furlough.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deserted.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Discharged.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total.....	1	1	1	3	3	6	6	6	2	39	65

PELEG WADSWORTH, Major-Brigade.

By Major-General CLINTON, Commander of his Majesty's Forces in the Southern Provinces of NORTH-AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a most unprovoked and wicked Rebellion hath for some time past prevailed, and doth now exist, within his Majesty's Province of *North-Carolina*; and the inhabitants, (forgetting their allegiance to their Sovereign, and denying the authority of the Laws and Statutes of the Realm,) have, in a succession of crimes, proceeded to the total subversion of all lawful authority, usurping the powers of Government,

and erecting a tyranny in the hands of Congresses and Committees of various denominations, utterly unknown and repugnant to the spirit of the *British* Constitution; and divers people, in avowed defiance to all legal authority, are now actually in arms, waging unnatural war against their King; and whereas all attempts to reclaim the infatuated and misguided multitude to a sense of their error, have unhappily proved ineffectual: I have it in command to proceed forthwith against all such men, or bodies of men in arms, and against all such Congresses and Committees, thus unlawfully established, as against open enemies to the State.

But, considering it a duty inseparable from the principle of humanity first of all to forewarn the deluded people of the miseries ever attendant upon civil war, I do most earnestly entreat and exhort them, as they tender their own happiness, and that of their posterity, to appease the vengeance of an injured and justly incensed nation, by a return to their duty to our common Sovereign, and to the blessings of a free Government, as established by law; hereby offering, in his Majesty's name, free pardon to all such as shall lay down their arms and submit to the laws, excepting only from the benefit of such pardon *Cornelius Harnett* and *Robert Howe*. And I do hereby require that the Provincial Congress, and all Committees of Safety, and other unlawful associations, be dissolved, and the Judges allowed to hold their Courts according to the laws and Constitution of this Province; of which all persons are required to take notice, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost peril.

Given on board the *Pallas* transport, in *Cape-Fear River*, in the Province of *North-Carolina*, the 5th day of *May*, 1776, and in the sixteenth year of his Majesty's reign.

H. CLINTON.

By command of General *Clinton*:

RICHARD REAVE, *Secretary*.

To the Magistrates of the Province of *North-Carolina*, to be by them made publick.

COLONEL MAGRUDER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Rock-Creek, May 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your orders yesterday evening, and should have been glad to have known the number of prisoners that were to be at *Georgetown*. I sent off a guard of six men well armed, and if they wanted assistance to apply to some officers at town.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

ZADOCK MAGRUDER.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

GERRARD HOPKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to an order received from you this day, I have sent one half of every kind of linen which was in the magazine, viz: forty pieces rolls, seventy-four pieces hessings, forty-five pieces osnaburghs, and two and a half reams cartridge-paper, it being all the paper now in the magazine. I shall render an account by Captain *Fulford* of all the stores now in the magazine. The muskets which came in Captain *Tibbet* were delivered to Captain *Nathaniel Smith*, agreeable to an order from you, which was all I have had in the magazine, except one received from Major *Gist*, which he bought for the Province. I did not agree with the skipper, *Paul Miller*, for the freight of the linens; you will please settle with him.

I am your most humble servant,

GERRARD HOPKINS, *Son of R.*

To the Honourable the Council of Safety.

P. S. Captain *Smith* has fifty-five muskets.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 7, 1776, and referred to Mr. J. Adams, Mr. Braxton, and Mr. Duane.]

New-York, May 5, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 30th ultimo, and observe what Congress have done respecting the settlement of the Paymaster's accounts. This seems expedient, as he is out of office, and I am certain will be attended with but little, if any difficulty, nothing more being necessary than to compare the warrants with his debits, and the receipts he has given with his credits. I wish every other settlement as easy, and that a Committee was appointed to examine and audit the accounts upon which the warrants are founded, particularly those of the Quartermaster and Commissary-Generals. They are long, and of high amount, consisting of a variety of charges—of course more intricate, and will require time, and an extraordinary degree of atten-

tion to adjust and liquidate in a proper manner. Upon this subject I did myself the honour to write you a considerable time ago.

Having had several complaints from the officers in the Eastern Regiments, who have been and are engaged in recruiting, about the expense attending it, and for which they have never yet been allowed anything, though the officers in these Governments have, as I am informed; I shall be glad to know whether the allowance of ten shillings, granted to the officers for every man enlisted by the resolve of Congress in — is general and indiscriminate, or confined to the Middle District. If general, must I have retrospect to the time of the resolve, and pay for the services since, or only for future enlistments?

In a letter I wrote Congress the 25th of *December*, I enclosed one I had received from *Jacob Bayley*, Esq., about opening a road from *Newbury* to *Canada*. I have received another of the 15th ultimo; and from his account, and the intelligence I have from others upon inquiry, I have no doubt of the practicability of the measure, and am well informed that the distance will be considerably shortened, insomuch that our people going from any part of the *New-England* Governments, eastward of *Connecticut River*, to *Canada*, or returning from thence home, will perform their march in five or six days less time, than by coming or going any way now used; add to this, that the road may be so conducted as, it is said, to go to the *River Missisque*, from whence the water carriage to *St. John's* is good, except forty odd miles; or to be carried so far to the northward as to keep clear of the lakes altogether, and afford an easy pass into *Canada* at all seasons. The advantages resulting from this route being so great and important, I have advanced Colonel *Bayley* two hundred and fifty pounds to begin with, and directed him to execute his plan. No doubt it will require a more considerable advance to accomplish it, but that will soon be sunk. The expense saved from taking off six days' pay and provisions from the soldiers returning to the Eastward Governments at the expiration of this campaign, will be almost, if not more than equal to the charge incurred in opening it; if not, as in all probability there will be often a necessity for sending detachments of our troops to *Canada* from those Governments, and for others to return, it will soon be repaid.

By a letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 27th ultimo, I find General *Thompson* and his brigade were at *Albany*; General *Sullivan* with the last, except three or four companies of Colonel *Wayne's* Regiment not yet come, is embarked and gone, and probably will soon be there. I am apprehensive, from General *Schuyler's* account, they will not proceed with the wished-for expedition, owing to a difficulty in getting teams and provender for cattle necessary to carry their baggage, and a scarcity of batteaus at the lakes for so large a number, though he is taking the utmost pains to procure them. Should they be stopped for any time, it will be exceedingly unfortunate, as their going from hence has weakened us here much, and our Army in *Canada* will not be strengthened. I have sent with the last brigade sixty barrels of powder, and other stores and intrenching tools, a supply being asked for; also the chain for a boom at the Narrows of *Richelieu*, and the three boxes of money, brought by Mr. *Hanson*; and have written to General *Schuyler* to have the boom fixed as soon as possible. The Commissary, too, has forwarded about eight hundred barrels of pork, and is in expectation of a further quantity from *Connecticut*, which will go on without stopping here. As the magazine from whence the Northern and Eastern Armies will occasionally receive supplies of powder will probably be here, and our stock is low and inconsiderable, (being much reduced by the sixty barrels sent to *Canada*,) I shall be glad to have a quantity immediately forwarded. Our stores should be great; for if the enemy make an attack upon the town or attempt to go up the *North River*, the expenditure will be very considerable. Money, too, is much wanted; the regiments that are paid have only received to the 1st of *April*, except those of *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* which are gone to *Canada*—they are paid to the last of *April*. By a letter from General *Ward* I find his chest is just exhausted, the money which was left with him for the payment of the five regiments at *Boston* and *Beverley* being almost expended by large drafts in favour of the Commissary and Quarter-

master, and in fitting out the armed vessels. I would here ask a question, to-wit: Whether, as Mr. Warren's commission is superseded by Mr. Palfrey's appointment, it will not be necessary to fix upon some person to pay the troops there, or are the payments to go through his hands? He does not incline to do anything in the affair without the direction of Congress.

I have enclosed you a return of the last brigade detached, and, also, of the forces remaining here; and as it is a matter of much importance to know the whole of our strength from time to time, and to see it at one view, for regulating our movements with propriety, I wish it were a direction from Congress to the commanding officers in the different districts, to make monthly returns to the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army of the state of the troops in their departments, and also of the military stores. Such direction will probably make them more attentive than they otherwise would be. I could not get a return of the Army in Canada all last year.

I beg leave to lay before Congress a copy of the proceedings of a Court-Martial upon Lieutenant Grover, of the Second Regiment, and of his defence; which I should not have troubled them with, had I not conceived the Court's sentence upon the facts stated in the proceedings, of a singular nature; to be by no means adequate to the enormity

of his offence; and to be of an exceedingly dangerous and pernicious tendency. Upon these principles, I thought it my duty to transmit the proceedings to them, in order that they may form such a judgment upon the facts stated as they may conceive right and just, and advancive of the publick good. At the same time I would mention to Congress, that I think it of material consequence that they should pass a resolve, cutting off the right of succession in the military line from one rank to another, which is claimed by many upon the happening of vacancies, (upon which principle this offence seems to have originated, in a great measure, and the extraordinary judgment in this instance to be founded,) declaring that no succession or promotion can take place upon any vacancy, without a Continental commission giving and authorizing it. It is of much consequence to check and entirely suppress this opinion and claim, which is becoming too prevalent, and has an obvious tendency to introduce mutiny and disorder; or if they conceive the claim good, and that it should take place, that they will declare it, so that the point may be settled and known in future.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

Return of the Regiments going on command to CANADA, April 28, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.						Wanting to complete.	Since last Return.							
	Commissioned.						Staff.		Non-Commissioned.																		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
	Colonel Reed's.....	1	1	1	5	7	7	5	-	1	1	1	-	28	14	375	37	42	6	-	460	1	-	180	-	-	-
Colonel Stark's.....	1	1	1	2	2	2	6	-	1	1	1	-	30	13	363	32	30	18	-	443	2	3	197	-	1	1	-
Colonel Wayne's.....	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	-	1	1	1	1	32	16	640	-	-	-	-	640	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Irvine's.....	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	-	1	1	1	1	32	16	682	-	-	-	-	682	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Dayton's.....	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	-	1	1	1	1	32	16	640	-	-	-	-	640	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Winds's.....	1	-	-	2	4	4	7	-	1	1	1	1	28	15	391	64	5	30	17	507	-	1	133	-	1	2	-
Total.....	6	5	6	39	4	12	42	2	6	6	6	4	182	90	3,091	133	77	54	17	3,372	3	4	510	-	2	9	-

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

General Return of the Army of the United Colonies, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief; Head-Quarters at NEW-YORK, May 5, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.												RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Since last Return.								
	Commissioned.					Staff.		Non-Com-missioned.																			
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
Colonel Hand's .....	-	1	-	3	4	2	6	1	1	-	1	15	6	428	13	20	36	10	507	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Learned's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	1	1	1	1	32	16	415	43	36	63	-	557	-	-	83	2	1	-	2	
Colonel Nixon's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	29	14	376	41	38	32	3	450	-	1	190	2	-	1	1	
Colonel Prescott's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	5	6	1	1	1	28	15	342	36	40	11	-	429	1	1	211	-	-	-	3	
Colonel Varnum's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	5	4	1	1	1	27	14	274	3	13	75	1	366	-	2	274	5	-	2	-	
Colonel Parsons's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	-	1	1	1	29	15	467	21	55	14	1	558	-	-	82	3	1	5	2	
Colonel Hitchcock's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	6	1	1	1	1	26	16	311	19	12	48	-	390	2	-	250	16	-	-	-	
Colonel Little's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	6	7	1	1	1	29	16	337	14	18	121	-	490	-	-	150	-	-	2	2	
Colonel Reed's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	-	1	1	1	29	15	434	44	34	24	-	546	1	1	94	2	-	-	3	
Colonel Huntington's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	1	1	1	1	26	15	418	32	31	33	8	522	2	-	118	8	1	-	-	
Colonel Webb's .....	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	-	1	1	1	31	12	427	36	21	61	14	556	1	4	84	4	-	-	1	
Five Companies of Colonel Arnold's ..	-	-	-	5	2	2	3	4	-	1	1	17	10	182	23	19	35	4	263	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Colonel Ward's .....	1	-	-	6	2	2	8	1	1	1	1	31	14	425	33	17	17	-	492	1	2	148	-	-	-	-	
Colonel Wyllis's .....	-	1	1	6	6	7	7	-	1	1	1	27	15	437	41	31	26	5	540	-	-	100	9	-	-	-	
Colonel Bailey's .....	1	1	1	6	6	6	7	-	1	1	1	32	15	450	29	21	51	-	551	-	1	89	4	-	-	2	
Colonel Baldwin's .....	1	1	1	4	5	6	4	1	1	1	1	17	11	287	31	66	122	-	506	1	2	134	-	1	-	1	
Colonel McDougall's .....	1	1	-	4	8	5	7	1	1	1	1	29	16	202	38	2	34	5	281	2	-	359	-	1	-	50	
Seven Companies of Col. Ritzema's ..	1	-	-	7	7	7	7	-	1	1	-	27	14	393	18	4	2	-	417	-	-	115	-	-	1	3	
Total .....	15	15	13	115	126	107	118	11	17	17	15	13	481	249	6,565	515	478	815	48	8,421	11	14	2,481	56	5	13	71

HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

Return of the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the United Colonies, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq., May 5, 1776.

	Colonel.	Lieutenant-Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Captain-Lieutenants.	First Lieutenant.	Second Lieutenant.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Matr.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fife's.	Matros-es.	Total.
Present, fit for duty.....	1	1	-	7	9	8	12	-	1	1	1	1	25	27	40	30	1	183	358
Sick, present...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	11	15
Sick, absent....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	7	12
On command...	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	5	1	45	72
On furlough...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	1	1	1	8	11	8	14	1	1	1	1	1	25	34	52	37	14	246	557

Two Cadets, exclusive of the above.  
Four deserted since last Return.  
HORATIO GATES, Adjutant-General.

NEW-YORK, ss.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the line, held at Head-Quarters, in the City of New-York, by order of His Excellency George Washington, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the Thirteen United Colonies, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them, April 29th, 1776.

- Colonel BALDWIN, President.
- Captain Butler,

Captain Brewster,

Captain Brown,

Captain Symonds,

Captain Clap,

Lieutenant Wheeler,

Lieutenant Walker,
- Lieutenant Hoyt,

Lieutenant Thompson,

Lieutenant Fowler,

Lieutenant Brazier,

Lieutenant Haws,

Lieutenant Phelps.

WILLIAM TUDOR, Judge Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant Grover, of Captain Wilkinson's Company, in the Second or Colonel Reed's Regiment, brought before the Court and accused of insulting Captain Wilkinson, disobeying his orders, and giving him insolent and abusive language.

Lieutenant Grover being arraigned on the above complaint, pleads Not Guilty.

Evidence in support of the complaint.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hartley deposes: Yesterday morning Colonel Reed's Regiment was parading. Happening to be near the quarters of that regiment, observing there was some talk at Captain Wilkinson's Company, I went up to it. There stood two or three officers talking about the Captain heading the company, when Lieutenant Grover said he did not know who was the Captain, nor where to find him—whether in Heaven or Hell. Upon this speech the men raised a loud laugh. The air and manner of Lieutenant Grover was insulting, and, in my opinion, very provoking.

Major Trumbull: I was with Colonel Hartley yesterday morning, at the time he has mentioned. I went up to Captain Wilkinson's Company, where stood Colonel Reed, Captain Wilkinson, the prisoner, and another subaltern. Colonel Reed observing, in good humour, that there were four likely officers standing together, the prisoner asked who they were. Colonel Reed replied, the officers of this company. The prisoner said he did not know who his Captain was. Yes you do, answers the Colonel; here he is, (pointing to Captain Wilkinson.) On this Lieutenant Grover said he did not know where to find his Captain—whether in Earth, Heaven, or Hell. This speech produced a laugh among the company. Lieutenant Grover affected to act the Captain, and assumed airs of much superciliousness.

Colonel Reed: Soon after Captain Wilkinson arrived in town, about ten days ago, in my room, I introduced Mr. Wilkinson to Lieutenant Grover and Lieutenant Maxwell, as their Captain; upon which Captain Wilkinson took out two commissions, and presented one to each of them; they refused to accept the commissions; Lieutenant Grover said he would not take a commission under Captain Wilkinson. I then tendered the commissions to them, which they refus-

ed to receive. The same day, in Brigade orders, Captain Wilkinson was declared the commander of the company in which the prisoner was Lieutenant. Captain Wilkinson has been more than once upon duty since this. Yesterday morning, when the men were parading to be mustered, Lieutenant Grover presented me a muster-roll of the company. Finding Captain Wilkinson's name not inserted, I asked him how that omission happened. He replied he did not know who his Captain was. I observed he must have known that Captain Wilkinson was. What answer he gave me I forget. I confirm the substance of Major Trumbull's deposition.

Sergeant Adams. Question: Did not Captain Wilkinson yesterday, when his company was marching off the parade, order Lieutenant Grover to march the men to the barracks, as he was unacquainted with them?

Answer: He did. Lieutenant Grover replied he wanted himself to go to his barrack, and immediately walked off. I marched the men to their quarters. Yesterday morning, in Lieutenant Grover's room, the prisoner asked Captain Wilkinson if he had done the business he undertook, (meaning as I understood, the making up a muster-roll.) I don't know what reply the Captain made him.

Question: Did the prisoner tell Captain Wilkinson that he was as capable of making a muster-roll as of doing anything else?

Answer: He did, in a sneering manner.

Question: Did Lieutenant Grover tell Captain Wilkinson that he was not a man of honour, or he would not have come into the company?

Answer: Yes, he did.

Lieutenant Maxwell. Question: Have you heard Lieutenant Grover say that if Captain Wilkinson was put over him he would not obey him?

Answer: I have heard the prisoner say, if Captain Wilkinson was put over him he should not choose to obey him, but would quit the service. Yesterday morning, when the company was parading, Captain Wilkinson said the place was inconvenient, and it would be best to parade the men somewhere else. Lieutenant Grover replied, he might parade them on top of the house. This was angrily said, and in hearing of the men.

Q. M. Fry. Confirms Major Trumbull's deposition.

Sergeant Davis. Yesterday, when the company was marching from the place where they had been mustered, Captain Wilkinson asked Lieutenant Grover to march the men to their barracks. Lieutenant Grover replied in anger, he wished the Captain would do it himself; and went off. I have several times heard Lieutenant Grover say he should not choose to obey Mr. Wilkinson.

The evidence being finished in support of the complaint, the prisoner moves the Court that he may have time till tomorrow to procure evidence.

The Court consent to the motion, and the further hearing of this case is postponed till Tuesday, 30th April, at nine o'clock, A. M.

April 30.—The Court resume the consideration of the case of Lieutenant Grover, adjourned from yesterday.

Lieutenant GROVER produced the following witnesses.

Colonel Stark. At Winter Hill, before any Captain was appointed to the company of which the prisoner was Lieutenant, I heard General Sullivan promise Lieutenant Grover that no person should be put over him except Captain Ogden, if he could help it.

Colonel Reed. Confirms what Colonel Stark deposes, and adds, that all the men in that company were inlisted by the prisoner and Lieutenant Maxwell.

The Court being cleared, after the maturest consideration are of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of insulting Captain Wilkinson and disobeying his orders. But it not being in the power of the Court to affix any punishment for said offence other than cashiering, imprisonment, or fine, and the Court not being of opinion that the prisoner is so far guilty as to merit cashiering, do adjudge that the prisoner be mulcted of one half month's pay.

LOAMMI BALDWIN, President.

LIEUTENANT GROVER'S DEFENCE.

GENTLEMEN: As I am called before this respectable Court, pray indulge me a few moments. When I first took



out orders to raise men, I inlisted a number of men, in good credit and of good estates. On their desire I promised them that I would not return them till I found who their Captain was to be. We came down to Colonel *Reed*, at *Winter-Hill*, and he went with me to Brigadier-General *Sullivan*, and we talked of this affair; the General told me that there never should be a Captain put over me, if Captain *Ogden* did not come, if he could help it: Witness Colonel *Reed* and Colonel *Stark*. I relied on his promise, and I spared no pains nor money. I have inlisted forty-four with the assistance of one Sergeant. After some time I heard that Mr. *Wilkinson* was appointed my Captain. I informed General *Sullivan* of it; he told me if he was, he did not know it; I then was easy. After we came to this city, it was put in Brigade orders that Mr. *Wilkinson* was to take the command of the company that was called Captain *Ogden's*. I then went to the General again with Lieutenant *Maxwell*, and told him we were uneasy and the company very much cast down; after some talk, the General told us he would inform his Excellency of this matter, and may be, he will make this easy for you all, for Captain *Wilkinson* tells me he expects to be Major. All this time Mr. *Wilkinson* never came to see nor speak to any of the company, save in the Colonel's room he offered me my commission. I did not hear him speak. Colonel *Reed* told me that was my company. Last Sunday Mr. *Wilkinson* came in my room; I was much disturbed when he said he was come to take the command of this company, and called for the muster-rolls. For him to step in at this time, when I was looking for some help from the General; to think Mr. *Wilkinson* never inlisted but one man; and I had such promises, and spent so much money in raising this company, it set me in a passion. I did not treat him like a gentleman.

THOMAS GROVER, Lieutenant.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read May 8th, and referred to Mr. S. Adams, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Rodney, Mr. R. H. Lee, and Mr. Whipple.]  
New-York, May 5, 1776.

SIR: I have so often and so fully communicated my want of arms to Congress, that I should not have given them the trouble of receiving another letter upon this subject, at this time, but for the particular application of Colonel *Wayne*, of *Pennsylvania*, who has pointed out a method by which he thinks they may be obtained. In the hands of the Committee of Safety at *Philadelphia*, there are, according to Colonel *Wayne's* account, not less than two or three thousand stand of arms for Provincial use; from hence, he thinks, a number might be borrowed by Congress, provided they are replaced with Continental arms as they are brought into the magazine in that city. At a crisis so important as this, such a loan might be attended with most signal advantages, while the defenceless state of the regiments, if no relief can be had, may be productive of fatal consequences. To give Congress some idea of our situation with respect to arms, (and justice to my own character requires that it should be known to them, although the world at large will form their opinion of our strength from numbers, without attending to circumstances,) it may not be amiss to enclose a copy of a return which I received a few days ago from the forts in the Highlands, and add, that by a report from Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, of the 29th ultimo, there appeared to be only ninety-seven firelocks and seven bayonets belonging thereto, and that all the regiments from the eastward are deficient from twenty to fifty of the former. Four of those companies at the fortifications in the Highlands belong to Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment; but in what condition the residue are on account of arms, and how Colonel *Wynkoop's* men are provided, I cannot undertake to say, but am told most miserably, as Colonel *Dayton's* (of *New-Jersey*) and Colonel *Wayne's* (of *Pennsylvania*) also are. This, sir, is a true, though melancholy description of our situation; the propriety therefore of keeping arms in store, when men in actual pay are wanting them, and who, it is to be presumed, will, as they ought, bear the heat and burden of the day, is submitted with all due deference to the superior judgment of others. I cannot, by all the inquiries I have been able to make, learn what number of arms have been taken from the Tories, where they lie, or how they are to be got at.

The Committee of Safety for this Colony have assured me that no exertions of theirs shall be wanting to procure arms; but our sufferings in the meanwhile may prove fatal, as men without are in a manner useless. I have therefore thought of employing an agent, whose sole business it shall be to ride through the middle and interior parts of these Governments, for the purpose of buying up such arms as the inhabitants may incline to sell, and are fit for use.

The designs of the enemy are too much behind the curtain for me to form any accurate opinion of their plan of operations for the summer's campaign. We are left to wander, therefore, in the field of conjecture; and as no place—all its consequences considered—seemed of more importance in the execution of their grand plan than possessing themselves of *Hudson's River*, I thought it advisable to remove, with the Continental Army, to this city, so soon as the King's troops evacuated *Boston*; but if the Congress, from their knowledge, information, or belief, think it best for the general good of the service that I should go to the Northward, or elsewhere, they are convinced, I hope, that they have nothing more to do than signify their commands.

With the greatest respect, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

A Return of the state of the Garrison at FORT CONSTITUTION, April 23, 1776.

NAMES OF THE CAPTAINS.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates fit for duty.	Privates sick.	Privates absent by leave.	On command.	Deserted.	Guns fit for use.	Guns unfit for use.	Bayonets.	Cartouch boxes.
Captain William Jackson's Company.....	1	3	4	4	2	62	9	1	-	-	11	-	5	
Captain Thomas Moffat's Company.....	1	2	3	3	2	40	4	-	-	-	31	-	5	
Capt. John Wisner's Company.....	1	1	3	3	2	34	3	1	-	-	36	-	1	
Total strength.....	3	6	10	10	6	136	16	2	-	-	68	1	11	31

ISAAC NICOLL, Commanding Officer.

A Return of the state of the Garrison at FORT MONTGOMERY, April 29, 1776.

NAMES OF THE CAPTAINS.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates fit for duty.	Privates sick.	Privates absent by leave.	On command.	Deserted.	Guns fit for use.	Guns unfit for use.	Bayonets.
Capt Andrew Billings's Company.....	1	1	2	2	2	55	12	-	6	10	5	2	2
Captain James Rosekrans's Company.....	-	2	4	4	2	56	8	3	-	1	5	-	3
Capt. Abraham Swarwout's Company.....	-	2	2	1	1	21	15	-	-	-	13	2	4
Captain John Belknap's Company.....	1	1	3	4	2	52	11	3	1	7	4	14	-
Captain Uriah Drake's Company.....	1	3	4	4	-	24	-	-	-	-	14	-	5
Total strength.....	3	9	15	15	7	208	46	6	7	18	41	18	14

A true copy of the Return made by Captain *Billings*, examined and compared at *Fort Constitution*.  
ISAAC NICOLL, Commanding Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, May 1, 1776.

(Farole, Shelbourne.)

(Countersign Townshend)

The Majors of Brigade are to see that every Regiment, in their respective Brigades, take their proper share of all duties that the service requires.

After Orders.

Colonel *McDougall's* and Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiments to be mustered on *Saturday* morning, at ten o'clock, upon the Common, near the Laboratory, where the Commissary-General of Musters will attend.

Head-Quarters, New-York, May 2, 1776.

(Parole, Granby)

(Countersign, Wilkes)

The First, Second, and Fourth Brigades, to encamp to-morrow, in the forenoon; each Regiment to be drawn up on their Regimental parade, at eight o'clock in the morning, and directly march to the ground marked out for their encampment, when they are immediately to pitch their tents. The Quartermaster-General will provide camp-equipage, wood, and straw, necessary for the encampment.

The Brigadier-General, or officers commanding, will attend to the encampment of their respective Brigades, and see that one Regiment does not encroach upon another, but encamp exactly upon the ground assigned.

The Chief Engineer, Lieutenant-Colonel Putnam, to send every evening the details for the working parties wanted for the next day, to Major-General Putnam, who will provide boats, and give the necessary orders for marching them to the places where they are to work; and will also direct the intrenching tools to be properly distributed.

Corporal John Weaver, of Captain Williams's Independent Company of Riflemen, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Baldwin was President, for "getting drunk when on duty:" the Court find the prisoner guilty of the charge, and do sentence him to be reduced to the ranks, and whipped thirty lashes on his bare back.

John McGarra, of Captain Stephenson's Independent Company of Riflemen, tried at the above General Court-Martial, for "mutinous behaviour," is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to be whipped fifteen lashes on his bare back.

Samuel Londers and Abner Fuller, of Captain Bissell's Company, in Colonel Huntington's Regiment, tried at the above General Court-Martial, for "desertion:" the Court finding the prisoners guilty of the charge, do sentence each of them to receive thirty lashes on his bare back.

The General approves of the foregoing sentences, and orders the execution of them to-morrow morning, at guard mounting.

The General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Baldwin is President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, New-York, May 3, 1776.

(Parole, Albany)

(Countersign, Quebec)

A General Court-Martial of the line, consisting of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, and ten Captains, to sit to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to try all such prisoners as shall be brought before them. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

Frederick Roach, a Matross in the Regiment of Artillery, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Baldwin was President, for "insulting and striking Captain Hull, and for insulting some inhabitants on Long-Island:" The Court finding the prisoner guilty of the charge, do sentence him to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back.

Edward McCartney, of Captain Hardenburgh's Company, in Colonel Ritzema's Regiment, tried at the above General Court-Martial, for "desertion," is found guilty by the Court, and by them sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back.

John Maxfield, of Captain Tyler's Company, in Colonel Huntington's Regiment, tried by the above General Court-Martial, for "desertion:" The Court finding the prisoner guilty of the charge, do sentence him to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his naked back, for said offence.

Charles Bowen, of Captain Potter's Company, in Colonel Dayton's Regiment, tried by the above General Court-Martial, for "desertion," is found guilty by the Court, and sentenced to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back.

The General approves of each of the foregoing sentences, and orders them to be put in execution to-morrow morning, at guard mounting.

Head-Quarters, New-York, May 4, 1776.

(Parole, Montreal)

(Countersign, St. John's)

The weather proving wet and cold, the Regiments that did not encamp yesterday are to remain in their present quarters until Monday morning, when they are to march, and encamp upon the ground assigned them.

The undernamed officers are appointed by the General to oversee the works laid out by the Engineer: Captain

Chapman, of Colonel Prescott's Regiment, Lieutenant Cole, of Colonel Wyllis's Regiment, Lieutenant Fish, of Colonel Learned's Regiment, and Lieutenant Goodall, of Colonel Reed's Regiment.

The Colonels, or commanding-officers of Regiments, are to be particular in obliging their Quartermasters constantly to attend to the cleaning the streets of their encampment; and especially to the digging and fixing the necessaries in the place appointed for that purpose; which are every morning to be lightly covered with fresh earth, and at stated times filled up, and new ones dug; to the end that all obnoxious and unwholesome smells be prevented from infecting the camp. The Quartermasters are also carefully to see all filth and carrion, in or near their encampments, immediately buried.

The honourable the Continental Congress have been pleased to appoint William Palfrey, Esq., to be Paymaster-General of the Army of the United Colonies; he is to be respected and obeyed as such.

Colonel Parsons's and Colonel Huntington's Regiments to be mustered in the front of their encampment, upon Tuesday morning next. They are to prepare their Rolls accordingly. The Mustermaster-General will attend at eight o'clock.

William Winslow, soldier in Captain Johnston's Company, in Colonel McDougall's Regiment, tried at a late General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Baldwin was President, for "desertion," is acquitted by the Court. The General orders the prisoner to be released from his confinement; and wishes he could add his approbation of the proceedings of the Court-Martial.

Head-Quarters, New-York, May 5, 1776.

(Parole, Franklin)

(Countersign, Chase)

The Commanding-Officers of Regiments to send a return to the Quartermaster-General of the Armourers and Smiths in their respective corps; when such as are necessary for the service of the Army will be drafted.

Colonel Wyllis's and Colonel Arnold's Regiments are to be mustered in the front of their encampment, upon Wednesday morning next, at eight o'clock, when the Commissary-General of Musters will attend.

The officers commanding the guards in and near the encampment, are to be particularly attentive to prevent any waste or depredation being committed upon the fields, fences, trees, or buildings, about the camp. Turf is not permitted to be cut, unless by the express orders of the Chief Engineer; and any non-commissioned officer or soldier, who is detected cutting any of the trees or shrubs, or destroying any of the fences, near the camp, will be confined, and tried for disobedience of orders. The Quartermaster-General will supply a certain quantity of boards for flooring for the tents of every Regiment; which are on no account to be converted to any other use.

The officers and soldiers ordered upon command, under Lieutenant-Colonel Tupper, of which a roll is this day delivered to the several Brigade-Majors, are to be continued upon that command until further orders; and the Regiments they are severally drafted from are to have an allowance in the roll of duty accordingly.

COLONEL CHAMBERS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Utrecht, (Long-Island, New-York,) May 5, 1776.

SIR: By Lieutenant Docherty I send to your Excellency one Peter Pillyouse, who was taken yesterday coming from the Asia man-of-war; he was taken by Mr. Docherty, who commanded the picket-guard at that time, and will let you know the particulars; from your humble servant,

JAMES CHAMBERS, Lieutenant-Colonel.

To His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

COLONEL GEORGE CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Windsor, May 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On my arrival here I went immediately to Fishkill, to make inquiry about the arms said to be stored at Wiltsy's. I find that, about a week ago, a certain Duncan Campbell, a Major in the Ministerial Army, taken on board the enemy's vessels at the mouth of the Sorrel, came to the Fishkill, on board of an Albany sloop, landed there, and

put in *Wiltsy's* store a number of chests and trunks, containing (as he said) officers' baggage, for which he took *Wiltsy's* receipt. He had a pass from General *Schuyler* to go to *Fredericksburgh*, in *Dutchess* County, with his baggage, which he showed *Wiltsy*, and applied for assistance to take his chests, &c., there; but being disappointed in getting teams for the purpose, they lay some days in the store; in which time, some little boys, playing in the store, discovered that one of the chests, which had been nailed down and lashed with a rope, but had partly got open, contained fire-arms, of which they acquainted Mr. *Wiltsy*, who immediately gave the Committee of the Precinct notice thereof. The Committee met, opened the chest, found it contained thirteen officers' pieces, with a paper, on which was written the owners' names, fastened to each; seven broadswords, and some pistols. The Committee ordered all the chests (nine in number) to their Chairman's house, about ten miles back in the country, where they now are, as yet unopened; but from their extraordinary weight, it is probable they are all filled with arms. The trunks which contained baggage only are not detained—I believe taken away by *Campbell*. The Committee have appointed to meet and open all the chests on *Monday* next, and have summoned *Campbell* to attend them. In this I fear they have been over-prudent, for if guilty he will fly for it—it is reported, and I believe, he has already.

It will be out of my power to attend the Committee to open the chests, as my business calls me to *Kingston* (forty miles distant) on that day. I have, therefore, sent the Chairman your order to me, enclosed in a letter, of which I now send you a copy. And as he is an active man, warmly engaged in his country's cause, I doubt not but everything will be done, as well for securing the arms as *Campbell*, if necessary; and as soon as I receive their report, I will transmit it to you.

*Fredericksburgh* is a neighbourhood in which several *Scotch* half-pay officers (of course disaffected persons) live; among the rest *Menos*, mentioned in the letter you showed me. I cannot learn with certainty that he is gone off, though it is confidently said many persons in that place have lately absconded.

I am, with the highest esteem, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE CLINTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

JOHN COLLINS TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Newport, April 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I congratulate you on the success of your cruise with the Continental fleet; and hope, nay, expect to see the day when the *American* fleets will give laws on the *Atlantick* Ocean. It will give me great pleasure to see your fleet riding in the harbour of *Newport*. The present motions in this town, I make no doubt, you are well informed of. We received with joy the ten cannon you sent us, and expect to get them mounted before this week is out, in proper forts and batteries. We have ten of our old twenty-four and eighteen-pounders mounted, and two that you sent us; and hope you will send as many more as you conveniently can.

I am, with great regard, your humble servant,

JOHN COLLINS.

To *Eseck Hopkins*, Esq., Admiral of the Continental Fleet, *New-London*.

PRESENTMENTS OF THE GRAND JURY AT GEORGETOWN, SOUTH-CAROLINA.

I. When a People, ever dutiful and affectionate to that system of Government formed for their happiness, and under which they had long lived, find that, by the baseness and corruption of their rulers, those laws which were intended as the guardians of their sacred and unalienable rights, are impiously perverted into instruments of oppression; and, in violation of every social compact, and the ties of common justice, every means is adopted by those whom they instituted to govern and protect them, to enslave and destroy them: human nature and the laws of *God* justify their employing those means for redress which self-preservation dictates. It is with the most joyful sensibility we

behold this once happy country, amidst all the evil attempts of her *British* enemies to enslave and oppress her, and whilst she is involved in all the tumults of war, still fix that system for which she is contending, by forming a Constitution of Government the most equitable and desirable that human imagination could invent, thereby convincing the world of the justice of her intentions, and her own regard to the rights of mankind. The present Constitution of Government, formed by the late Congress of this Colony, promises to its inhabitants every happy effect which can arise from society. Equal and just in its principles, wise and virtuous in its ends; we now see every hope of future liberty, safety, and happiness confirmed to ourselves and our posterity, and the possession of which our own virtuous perseverance must render perpetual. Every good citizen will joyfully exult at those considerations; and when he finds himself living in a community where virtue alone is sovereign, where tyranny is banished, and every system of oppression held as detestable, earnestly endeavour, regardless of every danger, to support these glorious advantages against any hand that dares to molest them. And should there be a wretch so lost to every humane principle, whose heart but harbours the least dissatisfaction in such a situation, we hold him as unworthy the society of men.

II. We cannot but express our unfeigned satisfaction in the choice of the present publick officers acting under our Constitution, the method of their appointment being founded on the strictest justice and impartiality, the duration of their power being consistent with every principle of safety to the people, and the characters of such as are now in appointment so confided in from their well-known personal merits.

III. When we reflect on the general harmony which now prevails in this part of the Colony, and are sensible how soon the good effect of our present Government must appear to every one, we promise to ourselves the happiness of soon seeing this oppressed and much injured Colony enjoying a state of freedom and felicity unknown before.

And lastly: We beg leave to return our sincere thanks to the Honourable Mr. Justice *Mathews* for his truly patriotick and spirited charge delivered to us at the opening of this session, and to request that these our sentiments and thanks be printed in the publick papers.

BENJAMIN YOUNG, *Foreman*.

May 6, 1776.

VIRGINIA ASSEMBLY DISSOLVED.

Williamsburgh, May 10, 1776.

Last *Monday*, May 6, forty-five Members of the House of Burgesses met at the Capitol pursuant to their last adjournment; but it being their opinion that the people could not now be legally represented according to the ancient Constitution, which has been subverted by the King, Lords and Commons of *Great Britain*, and consequently dissolved, they unanimously dissolved themselves accordingly.

The same day, the General Convention of Delegates from the Counties and Corporations in this Colony met at the Capitol.

INDEPENDENCE IN BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

To CHARLES PATTERSON and JOHN CABELL, Gentlemen Delegates for the County of BUCKINGHAM, now in General Convention:

The Address and Instructions of the Frecholders of the said County.

As you were elected and deputed by us to fill the most difficult and important places that the Representatives of this County were ever appointed to act in, we cannot, in justice to ourselves and posterity, forbear to give some instructions concerning the discharge of your great trust. In this we have the example of many; but would not tie you down in a manner too strict and positive. Though a general confidence in your honesty and wisdom may be required; yet, in some great and leading questions, it may not be unnecessary to take the sense of your constituents: we give you ours in the plainest, easiest, and best method it can be collected. If it does not agree with the general opinion, we trust, at least, it will be pardonable. Actuated by a warm and sincere regard for the interests and rights of mankind,

and a deep sense of our present situation, we wish to think and proceed aright in affairs of such great consequence; and are willing, therefore, to submit our opinions to the candid judgment of the publick.

The unhappy dispute between *Great Britain* and these United Colonies seems now arrived to a crisis, from whence events ought to take place which, at the beginning, we believe, were in contemplation of but few, and even by them viewed at a much greater distance. When dissensions first arose, we felt our hearts warmly attached to the King of *Great Britain* and the Royal family; but now the case is much altered. At that time we wished to look upon the Ministry and Parliament as the only fountains from which the bitter waters flowed, and considered the King as deceived and misguided by his counsellors; and were therefore led to think that he might, in a proper time, open his eyes, and become a mediator between his contending subjects. The measures, however, still pursued against *America* leave no room to expect such an interposition from motives of goodness and affection, or with concessions, which may be justly required. Our enemies denounce our ruin, from the whole tenour of their conduct; and the King's speeches, and addresses, resolutions, and acts of the Parliament, are evidently concerted to carry their great favourite point. Prospects of a reconciliation have opened themselves to some; but they, we fear, were only the ignorant, credulous, and unwary; and even to them they must, ere this, have closed with more threatening appearances. The gracious receipt of a Continental petition, and the bare mention of Commissioners, have been severally construed good marks of reconciliation and peace, by those who too fondly hoped what was generally desired.

When the *British* Parliament assumed an absolute power over us, and attempted to exercise that power, an opposition was formed in the United Colonies, the most pacifick which could be adopted, with any probability of success, in the last resort, should our enemies persist in their measures, and endeavour to drive us into submission by force. This opposition became a great offence in their eyes: our petitions were treated with contempt, our actions termed rebellious, and arms used to subdue us. As the Colonies seemed determined, from the first, to maintain their rights, and the rights of a free people, they were obliged to repel force by force; and, for the effectual purpose thereof, as occasions required, to take into their own hands the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial powers of Government. This was a necessary consequence, and no settled and permanent opposition could be made without it. They violated the faith of Charters, the principles of the Constitution, and attempted to destroy our legal as well as natural rights. We could do nothing without forming at least a temporary Government of our own, by laying aside that part, and dispensing with those forms, of the old Constitution, which were incompatible with our safety or success. They have broken through positive laws, and express acts of Assembly, as well as the ties which unite man to man in general affection; by which means they have become felons and enemies under those laws. In the struggle, the lives of hundreds have been destroyed; flourishing towns burnt down and demolished; property seized and taken, secretly and openly; thousands reduced from easy and affluent circumstances to poverty and distress; and all the horrors of an expensive and dreadful war experienced. We have opposed with arms, and persevered in our measures, with a resolution to maintain our rights, and regarded no law heretofore made but as it was found consistent with such a laudable design. Both sides grew every day more and more incensed, from circumstances which always arise in such contests; and that general confidence, so necessary to the support of every kind of Government, seems entirely annihilated, without a prospect of reunion of affections sufficient to restore it; it becomes daily more out of their power and farther from their inclinations to put us on the footing we stood at the close of the last war, or repair the great damages we have sustained; which, if they should ever confess their errors, and desire to close with us on the terms we have hitherto offered, they must, in justice and reason, agree ought to be done.

Besides, the welfare of ourselves and future generations obliges us to turn matters over in every point of view, and consider what has been the issue of contests most similar to our own. As virtue or publick spirit cannot be thoroughly

lost in any country, but must survive in the breasts of many individuals, so it would be too sanguine to imagine that any country is without some men of ambitious and selfish views, who, taking the advantage of favourable opportunities and an unsettled state, turn the scale too much to their own side, and destroy the liberty or fix the chains of their country. This evil we find generally arises in or after civil broils, when the people have no established Government, or are led, from a sense of danger or unlimited confidence, to give themselves up blindly to their leaders. This misfortune, we hope, will never happen among us; nor do we believe that, at this time, there is any influence or inclination to effect or desire it. However, it is better to prevent evils than have them to remedy; and no precaution can be too great for the attainment of every valuable end to mankind. When things are fixed in a point beyond the present, many advantages may probably accrue; we, therefore, your constituents, recommend and instruct you, as far as your voices will contribute, to cause a total and final separation from *Great Britain* to take place as soon as possible; or, as we conceive this great point will not come within your immediate province, that, as far as in your power, you cause such instructions to be given to the Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress; that you weigh well the importance of the matter, and endeavour to lodge power in the hands of those whose honesty, wisdom, and love for their country, will direct them to use it for the publick good; that, as far as you conceive are admitted, you cause a free and happy Constitution to be established, with a renunciation of the old, or so much thereof as has been found inconvenient and oppressive; and that you endeavour to fix a publick jealousy in this Constitution, as an essential principle of its support.

In the present unsettled state of affairs, when the Government erected among us is confessed on all hands to be only temporary, for the immediate purpose of opposing the arbitrary strides of *Great Britain*, and effecting a reconciliation with the mother country; when the contest is between subject and subject, with the established power of peace and war at the head of our enemies, and our professions and actions tend only to bring about a reconciliation, we have not the least room to believe that any foreign nation will espouse our cause in an open and an avowed manner; but when we lay aside these considerations, and bid the last adieu, some foreign power may, for their own interest, lend an assisting hand, settle a trade, and enable us to discharge the great burdens of the war, which otherwise may become intolerable.

Here, again, we would direct you, as far as relates to your Province, to beware of any other than commercial alliances with foreigners; and to keep their armies off your shores, if possible. We ask for a full representation; free and frequent elections; and that no standing armies whatever should be kept up in time of peace. We trust you will use your utmost care and circumspection at this trying crisis, that, as *America* is the last of the world which has contended for her liberty, so she may be the most free and happy. She has many advantages which others in nearly her circumstances have not known, arising from her situation and strength, and the experience of all before to profit by. View well the defects in other Governments, and consider the visible causes which reduced them from freedom to slavery, or raised them from slavery to liberty; and learn by these examples. It was by a Revolution, and the choice of the people, that the present Royal family was seated on the Throne of *Great Britain*; and we conceive the Supreme Being hath left it in our power to choose what Government we please for our civil and religious happiness; and when that becomes defective, or deviates from the end of its institution, and cannot be corrected, that the people may form themselves into another, avoiding the defects of the former. This we would now wish to have effected, as soon as the general consent approves, and the wisdom of our councils will admit; that we may, as far as possible, keep up our primary object, and not lose ourselves in hankering after a reconciliation with *Great Britain*.

Good Government alone, and the prosperity of mankind, can be in the Divine intention; we pray, therefore, that, under the superintending providence of the Ruler of the Universe, a Government may be established in *America*,

the most free, happy, and permanent, that human wisdom can contrive, and the perfection of man maintain.

Published by order of the Committee:

ROLFE ELDRIDGE, *Clerk.*

CHARLES MAC IVER TO ROBERT TOWNSHEND HOOE.

Alexandria, May 6, 1776.

SIR: As I have never been concerned in drawing Petitions or Memorials, and have no patterns of such writings, may I hope your honourable Convention will condescend to grant the contents of this paper a hearing, destitute as it will be of form.

I would humbly represent, that I have for many years interested myself in plans of emigration, which, though they may seem directly intended for the benefit of particular people, yet were also originally intended, and eventually calculated, for the emolument and prosperity of this Continent, wherein I have been long disposed to end my days.

Though more instrumental in these emigrations than any individual I have heard of, others reaped the benefit of my designs, whilst I lost time and money by the unpunctuality, clashing interests, selfishness, indolence, and inattention of various people on both sides of the *Atlantick*.

When the spirit of emigration was largely diffused among the common people, some people of superior rank took advantage of it; and, desirous to fatten on the ignorance and dependance of their poorer countrymen, conceived the design of diverting them into clusters, resembling the clanships of their native country. At the same time I was deceived by some, and disappointed in my expectations of others on this side, which obliged those I had instructed and retained as my assistants on the other side to look for employment elsewhere. Employers they readily found, and some, both employers and assistants, have made fortunes, of which the greatest part might have been fixed in *America*, could I have got the *Virginians* to adventure. As I have wasted many years depending on a successful issue of my designs, so I have contracted such a relish for them as has disqualified me, in some measure, from the pursuit of other business, though I understand a variety.

Wherefore, though you promised no support to the plan of which you have heard the sketch, which, as a member of Convention, you did not think it your duty nor for the interest of your constituents to do; yet, agreeable to what you thought the Convention would encourage, give me leave to represent that the address necessary to engage any kind of emigration is no more than a necessary part of the plan I showed you. I have never failed to persuade the poor and disinterested of my country with whom I had opportunities of conversing, except in very few instances, wherein they were tampered with and supported by men of superior wealth, and principles widely different. I therefore entertain little doubt of success of engaging artisans, of whom my former plans required no inconsiderable number.

The wisdom of the honourable Convention may devise some plan of alluring and interesting the affections of such people, whether by removing every civil or religious stumbling-block, if such exists, or some temporary or permanent accommodation equally inviting.

The last paragraph solely regards the plan you propose to support in Convention. I would now beg leave to address you, and such other members of your honourable body as it may suit to adventure as individuals, or in mercantile adventures or copartnerships. To such I would intimate that I have not relinquished the design of diverting a considerable part of the tide of emigration to the districts of *Potomack*, on which I had in a more particular manner fixed my affections. My hopes are founded on a proper acquaintance with what appertains to this subject, and the best instruments in *Scotland*, and in the north of *Ireland*.

If, in these pursuits, I can procure such appointments from the Convention and individuals as may enable me to pursue my design with incessant application among the various ranks of life, and to shift my situation as often as it is proper and necessary so to do, I have little doubt of acquitting myself a useful member of your community.

Whatever selfishness may be laid to the charge of this undertaking, I beg it may also be known that I have long been inclined to repose my hopes of political happiness on the prosperity of *America*, to which few of her own sons have

been attached with such a fervour of enthusiasm. If the honourable Convention is pleased to enjoin it upon me as a necessary task, I doubt not of procuring such consistent evidence of this, as they may also please to accept as an earnest of the zeal and fidelity with which I propose to serve them. And as a further security against any egregious imposition, I would humbly propose that one or more sensible and candid friends of the Convention, residing in *Europe*, may have a power to disburse my appointments with such precaution that I may not long eat the bread of idleness, nor be allowed to triumph in my ingratitude to the country and magnanimity of the Convention. At the same time let me beg the honourable Convention may give me assurances of support and redress against the selfishness, caprices, or tyranny of any persons intrusted with such a power.

Too much address, secrecy, and precaution on all hands cannot be used in this business; for, notwithstanding I may have as many advantages on the whole, from the country of my birth, from the nature of my education, and the manner of my life, as most men; yet unknown dangers from private attacks, publick oppression, or despotick laws, may start in the prosecution of this business.

In hopes of all the support you and other sons of liberty can give this undertaking, (which, for various reasons, cannot commence at a more proper period than the present,) I respectfully remain, sir, your obliged and humble servant,

CHARLES MAC IVER.

To *Robert Townshend Hooe*, Esquire.

ROBERT POTTENS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 6, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Sometime ago I did myself the pleasure of waiting on you with two letters of recommendation, one from *William Lux*, Esquire, the other from Major *Gist*, intimating that I was willing to serve this country as far as my abilities were able. As I am informed there are at present some resignations, I hope your Honours will be so kind as to think of me, and grant any commission that you may think my character most deserving of; or if not now, at any time hereafter that may be most convenient. I hope if I am so happy as to be granted a commission, that I shall discharge my trust with fortitude and honour, and shall never be backward when occasion requires.

I have the honour to subscribe myself, honourable sirs, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT POTTENS.

To the Honourable the *Maryland* Council of Safety.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Observation for Baltimore County, }  
May 6, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: We received your letter of the 1st instant. Mr. *Young* had liberty to take the schooner *Ninety-Two* at our last meeting. We have the pleasure to inform you that our boom is now laid down, and so far secured that we judge the vessels sunk at *Whetstone* may be removed. You will therefore please to give orders for that purpose as soon as you think proper.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., *Chairman*,  
WILLIAM LUX, *Vice Chairman*,  
WILLIAM BUCHANAN, JAMES CALHOUN,  
JOHN STERRETT, WILLIAM BOYD,  
B. GRIFFITH, WILLIAM AISQUITH.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

GEORGE WOOLSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your favour of the 3d instant by Captain *Fulford*, and observe the contents; and never was so much surprised as on the receipt, and your informing me that you never heard from me since the 9th of *February*, which was the time I contracted with you for the brig *Rogers*; and, also, that it does not appear to you that I have done anything. In the purchase of her cargo, it certainly must appear to you that, when the Committee took the vessels here to sink for the safety of this town, mine was



detained as well as all others; and I do suppose that *Charles Carroll*, Esquire, must know that was the case. However, soon after the *Otter* was here, Mr. *William Lux* was going to *Annapolis*, and I requested him to let you know that my brig was detained, and the cargo ready to put on board her, and requested your further instructions. On his return he told me that you had not any further orders to give me; but if you had any further you would send them to me hereafter; on which account I thought it was unnecessary to give you any more trouble, but resolved to load the vessel as soon as possession was given me, unless orders had come from you to the contrary. Last *Monday* they gave me possession, and I now have nine hundred barrels on board her, and I shall have her ready for sea this week; and I hope in the end shall give you every necessary satisfaction, though you seem to think, by what you say in your letter, that I have not laid out the publick money properly. If I had been one of those kind of men, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, of this town, would not have given me a letter to any friend he had, and that time I contracted with you, to give me a few lines to *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esquire, your President. However, I must confess I was to blame to trust to any man, and see now I should have written you in preference of sending by Mr. *Lux*; but if he has deceived me I cannot help it now, but shall, for the future, never depend on him or any other man on such business.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WOOLSEY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 6, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: We return you the following list of Companies of Militia formed in this County agreeable to the resolves of the late Convention, viz:

- In *Gunpowder, Upper Hundred*: Captain, *James Gittings*; *Zaccheus Onion*, First Lieutenant; *Sutton Gudgeon*, Second Lieutenant; *Philip Chamberlain*, Ensign—containing eighty-three men, officers included.
- In *Middle River, Lower*: Captain, *John Tully Young*; *John Gorman*, First Lieutenant; *Philip Colvin*, Second Lieutenant; *William Galloway*, Ensign—containing seventy-five men, officers included.
- In *Back River, Lower*: Captain, *Job Garretson*; *John Long*, First Lieutenant; *William Groves*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Stansbury*, Ensign—containing sixty-three men, officers included.
- In *Back River, Lower*: Captain, *John Mercer*; *Benjamin Buck*, First Lieutenant; *William Clark*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin Stansbury*, Ensign—containing fifty-five men, officers included.
- In *Polapses, Lower*: Captain, *Josias Bowen*; *William Maccubbin*, First Lieutenant; *Vincent Green*, Second Lieutenant; *Job Smith*, Ensign—containing sixty-one men, officers included.
- In *Gunpowder, Upper*: Captain, *John Standiford*; *Edward Oldham*, First Lieutenant; *James Ogelvie*, Second Lieutenant; *Shadrach Green*, Ensign—containing fifty-three men, officers included.

The above Companies, together with Captain *William Cromwell's*, and Captain *James Bosley's*, already returned, we recommend to compose one Battalion.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., *Chairman*,

WILLIAM LUX, *Vice Chairman*,

ANDREW BUCHANAN,

JOHN MERRYMAN, JR.,

JAMES CALHOUN,

THOMAS SOLLERS.

DARBY LUX,

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PREESON BOWDOIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, May 6, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Matthews* was some time last fall sent a prisoner by Lord *Dunmore*, in a sloop from *Norfolk* bound to *Boston*; but on the passage was retaken by the *Lee* privateer, and carried into some port in *New-England*. This gentleman, since his return to *Virginia*, told me that he had informed your Excellency that the sloop in which he was

retaken had been partly the property of myself and brother; but unjustly seized by Captain *Collins*, and that you told him if I would prove the property you would have her paid for. This I shall be able very amply to do, by some papers I expect from *Virginia* next post. If your Excellency can find time from your more important business, shall esteem it a favour if you will inform me whether it will be necessary for me to come to *New-York* myself, or whether sending the papers will do.

Your answer will much oblige, sir, your most obedient servant,

PREESON BOWDOIN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, May 6, 1776.

SIR: I have this day drawn on you in favour of Mr. *Matthew Irvine*, for ten thousand dollars, payable at six days sight, it being the one half of the twenty thousand dollars ordered by Congress to be placed in my hands for the purchase of two thousand barrels of pork, for the subsistence of the Army going into *Canada*; which I hope will meet your approbation and payments.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

COLONEL MCDUGALL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, May 6, 1776.

SIR: The officers of the four battalions raised last year in this Colony have been allowed but a single ration; nor have they had any allowance for billeting money even while they were recruiting. The expenses they were exposed to in the northern campaign were great, far beyond those in the *English* Colonies, owing to the high charges attending the carriage of the necessities they wanted on that service, which they were subject to, as there were not boats sufficient on the lakes to transport stores for them. This occasioned them to fall a prey to the avarice of the Suttlers. They are making frequent application to the Convention, Committee of Safety, and to me, for an allowance of rations, or billeting, to compensate for those expenses, or to put them on the same footing with the other Continental troops who served at *Cambridge*; but we are utterly at a loss how to settle with them for this demand, as we are destitute of any rule for it. I must, therefore, beg your Excellency to inform me what rations were allowed at *Cambridge* to the officers of the Army, in order that the settlement with the officers of those battalions may be made.

It is with no small reluctance I trouble the General with this request; but I hope the pressing nature of the case (as a settlement of this matter will be advancive of the reputation of the service) will be a sufficient apology for your Excellency's very humble servant,

ALEXANDER MCDUGALL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL RITZEMA TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Monday, May 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The daily complaints for the want of pay of Captain *Hutchings's* men, and their disorderly behaviour in consequence thereof, give me the utmost uneasiness; it being impolitick to act *en militaire* with soldiers who have large arrears due to them. Some of these men say they have three months' pay due.

Mr. *Van Zandt* directed me to pay no moneys to Captain *Hutchings*, as he had received several sums at different times from the Committee, besides fifty pounds from me for blankets. As this matter, gentlemen, is of the utmost importance, I shall be extremely happy in your settling it without delay; and if you have been imposed upon, or the soldiers defrauded, that the delinquent be punished with the utmost severity. If the fault is in the soldiers, they shall have their reward at the hands of a Court-Martial.

The mustering of my regiment being put off last *Saturday* for the incomplete state of Captain *Riker's* Company, and the absence of Captain *Pearce*, your direction respecting the former, as the regiment is to encamp to-morrow, and

the General's desire of having it complete in every respect, will much oblige, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

RUD. RITZEMA.

To the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*.

RETURN OF PRISONERS IN JAIL, NEW-YORK, MAY 6, 1776.

In health: Officers, 5; Sailors, 2; Pilots, 2; Inhabitants, 2.

Sick, in Jail: Sailors, 2.

Sick in the Alms-House: Sailors, 1; Farmers, 1.

Total: Officers, 5; Sailors, 5; Pilots, 2; Farmers, 1; Inhabitants, 2.—15.

Officers in Jail: *Joseph Woolcomb, William McDermont, William Alder, Thomas B. Harris, William Medcalf*.  
Sailors, in health, in Jail: *Francis Chimes, Jeremiah Reardon*.

Sailors, sick, in Jail: *Michael Conry, Caesar Freeman*.

Sailor, sick in Alms-House: *John Gibbons*.

Farmer, sick in Alms-House: *Peter Burnett*.

Pilots, in Jail: *Henry Kilgrove, Ryner Vanhousen*.

Inhabitants, in Jail: *Thomas Varnom, Belshazzer Cramer*.

The Jailer has been threatened by the prisoners; he wants a guard. Doctor *Van Buren* heard them.

JACOBUS SWARTWOUT TO COLONEL GEORGE CLINTON.

Rombouts Precinct, May 6, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your request and General *Washington's* order, we have secured the arms brought to this Precinct, with Ensign *Duncan Campbell*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, to the following amount, viz: Seven fowling fusils, one double-barrel fusil, four regimental fusils, with four bayonets; one *French* musket, one gun-barrel, six steel-mounted swords, two silver-mounted swords, one silver-mounted hanger, one silver-mounted pistol, one Highland pistol, four pouches with belts, three sword-belts, one powder-horn, (engraven,) one powder canteen, one hand-saw. We shall wait his Excellency General *Washington's* orders where to have them directed.

I am, sir, in behalf of the Committee of *Rombouts* Precinct, your very humble servant,

JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, Chairman.

To Colonel *George Clinton*, in *Ulster* County.

PHILIP VAN RENSSELAER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, May 6, 1776.

SIR: I think it my indispensable duty to acquaint you that the small arms now in store, unfit for service, cannot be made fit for service this season by the armourers in this place, and the neighbouring places. I applied to General *Thompson* for his armourers, but he was of opinion that they would be wanted in *Canada*. I therefore give you this early notice, and beg that some armourers may be sent as soon as possible to repair the publick arms. Great numbers of the troops that come from *New-York* have arms unfit for service, and numbers without any at all.

I am your most humble servant,

PHILIP VAN RENSSELAER.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL THOMPSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort George, May 6, 1776.

SIR: I arrived at this place the 4th instant, and have since been detained by bad weather and contrary winds. *Greaton, Patterson*, and *Bond's* Regiments have been gone from here some days. *Greaton's* and *Patterson's* have left *Ticonderoga*; and I expect *Bond's* will be also gone from there before *Poor's* can reach that place. I hope to set out tomorrow morning, with the last of my party, and expect in ten days to be in or near *Quebeck*.

General *Schuyler* does everything, indeed much more than I thought was in the power of man to do, in forwarding the troops and provisions. A number of *Poor's* Regiment, and six or seven men of Captain *Nelson's* Company, have deserted on the march.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM THOMPSON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COMMISSIONERS IN CANADA TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.  
[Read May 18, 1776, and referred to Mr. Livingston and Mr. Jefferson.]

Montreal, May 6, 1776.

In our letter of the 1st instant, we informed you of the lowness of the Continental credit in this Province, and the necessity of a speedy supply of hard money. Unless this very essential article arrives soon, our forces will suffer exceedingly from the want of many necessaries, particularly flour, which might be laid in much cheaper here than it could be supplied from *New-York*, provided gold or silver could be procured to purchase it. It is very difficult to keep soldiers under proper discipline without paying them regularly. This difficulty increases in proportion to the distance the troops are removed from their own country. The want of money frequently constrains the commanders to have recourse to violences in providing the Army with carriages, and other conveniences, which indispose and irritate the minds of the people. We have reason to conclude that the change of sentiments, which we understand has taken place in this Colony, is owing to the above-mentioned cause, and to other arbitrary proceedings. If hard money cannot be procured and forwarded with despatch to *Canada*, it would be advisable, in our opinion, to withdraw our Army, and fortify the passes on the lakes, to prevent the enemy, and the *Canadians*, if so inclined, from making irruptions into, and depredations on, our frontiers. We have given orders for the return of Mr. *Fraser* to this city; and we now have under consideration the confinement of the other gentlemen particularized in our instructions.

At *Fort George* we had an interview with the Deputies of the seven Indian tribes of *Canada* to the Great Council at *Onondaga*; they were on their return home from this Council. They informed us that the result of their deliberations was to maintain a perfect neutrality during the present contest. That they had received the hatchet from Colonel *Guy Johnson*; but being a sharp weapon, and liable to wound their bosoms, they were resolved no longer to keep it, but to deliver it up to us. Since our arrival in this city, we have had another conference with the same Deputies, which terminated in a confirmation of their former promises—not yet complied with, but delayed only to give time for the assembling of all their tribes, that the hatchet may be given up with the consent of the whole, and with greater solemnity. We judged it expedient to make them a small present; and we think it will be necessary to make them another more considerable when the hatchet is delivered up.

We are informed that our debts in this Colony amount to ten thousand pounds, exclusive of what is due to Mr. *Price*. We have hitherto obtained a list amounting only to between three and four thousand. It will be necessary to appoint persons to settle these accounts.

With great respect to yourself and the Congress, we have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servants,

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,

SAMUEL CHASE,

CHARLES CARROLL, of *Carrollton*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, May 6, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's favour, in which you assure me that you will recommend this unhappy Colony to the Continental Congress, hath been laid before the General Assembly, to whom it gave great satisfaction.

I enclose you a copy of Colonel *Babcock's* dismissal. The office of Brigadier-General is still kept vacant, in hopes that the brigade will be put upon the Continental establishment, and that a Commander-in-Chief will be appointed by Congress.

I also enclose a copy of an act discharging the inhabitants of this Colony from allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*, which was carried in the House of Deputies, after a debate, with but six dissentient voices, there being upwards of sixty members present. I may also inform your Excellency that the Delegates from this Colony are instructed and authorized to join with the major part of the Delegates in entering into treaty with any Prince, State, or Potentate, for the security of the Colonies, and to adopt any other measures that may be thought prudent and effectual. This instruction passed *nem. con.* The Lower House afterwards

passed a vote for taking the sense of the inhabitants at large upon the question of Independence; but the Upper House represented to them that it would probably be discussed in Congress before the sense of the inhabitants could be taken and transmitted to the Delegates, in which case the Colony would lose their voice, as the Delegates would be laid under the necessity of waiting for instructions from their constituents; and further observed, that the Delegates, when they should receive a copy of the vote renouncing allegiance to the *British King*, and their instructions, could not possibly be at a loss to know the sentiments of the General Assembly. Upon this the matter was dropped.

I have the satisfaction, also, to inform your Excellency that, at a very full town-meeting of the inhabitants of *Newport*, held last *Monday*, it was unanimously voted to enter into the defence of the town; and last *Thursday* a considerable body of them began to work upon the fort to be erected upon *Brenton's Point*. This happy event I have great hopes will make us a united people, and root up every seed of disaffection in the Colony.

I take the liberty once more to press your Excellency in behalf of the Colony, the defence of which must be abandoned, unless we receive assistance from the Congress.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. By this day's post I have forwarded to Mr. *Hopkins* an instruction from the General Assembly, directing him to make immediate application to Congress to put our troops upon the Continental establishment.

Rhode-Island, in General Assembly, }  
May Sessions, A. D. 1776. }

Whereas, it hath incontestably appeared to this Assembly that *Henry Babcock*, Esq., Colonel of a Regiment in the service of this Colony, is at times deprived of the perfect use of his reason, and thereby rendered unfit to command; it is voted and resolved, that the said *Henry Babcock* be, and he is hereby dismissed from the command of said Regiment; and that office is hereby declared vacant.

A true copy—Witness:

HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

Colony of Rhode-Island, &c., in General Assembly, }  
May Sessions, 1776. }

*An Act Repealing an Act entitled "An Act for the more effectual securing to his Majesty the allegiance of his Subjects in this his Colony and Dominion of RHODE-ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS," and altering the form of Commissions, of all Writs and Processes in the Courts, and of the Oaths prescribed by law.*

Whereas in all States existing by compact, protection and allegiance are reciprocal, the latter being only due in consequence of the former: And whereas *George III.*, King of *Great Britain*, forgetting his dignity, regardless of the compact most solemnly entered into, ratified, and confirmed, to the inhabitants of this Colony by his illustrious ancestors, and till of late fully recognized by him; and entirely departing from the duties and character of a good King, instead of protecting, is endeavouring to destroy the good people of this Colony, and of all the United Colonies, by sending Fleets and Armies to *America*, to confiscate our property, and spread fire, sword, and desolation, throughout our country, in order to compel us to submit to the most debasing and detestable tyranny; whereby we are obliged by necessity, and it becomes our highest duty; to use every means with which *God* and nature has furnished us, in support of our invaluable rights and privileges, to oppose that power which is exerted only for our destruction:

*Be it, therefore, enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That an act entitled "*An Act for the more effectual securing to his Majesty the allegiance of his subjects in this his Colony and Dominion of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*," be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

*And be it further enacted by this General Assembly, and by the authority thereof it is enacted*, That in all commissions for offices, civil and military, and in all writs and pro-

cesses in law, whether original, judicial, or executory, civil or criminal, wherever the name and authority of the said King is made use of, the same shall be omitted; and in the room thereof the name and authority of the Governour and Company of this Colony shall be substituted, in the following words, to wit: "*The Governour and Company of the English Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*;" that all such commissions, writs, and processes, shall be otherwise of the same form and tenour as they heretofore were; that the courts of law be no longer entitled or considered as the King's courts; and that no instrument in writing of any nature or kind, whether publick or private, shall in the date thereof mention the year of the said King's reign: *Provided, nevertheless*, That nothing in this act contained shall render void, or vitiate any commission, writ, process, or instrument, heretofore made or executed, on account of the name and authority of the said King being therein inserted.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the oaths or engagements to be administered to the officers appointed in this Colony shall be as follows, to wit:

*General Officers*.—"You, . . . , being by the free vote of the freemen of this Colony of *Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations* elected unto the place of . . . , do solemnly engage to be true and faithful unto this said Colony, and in your said office equal justice to do unto all persons, poor and rich, within this jurisdiction, to the utmost of your skill and ability, without partiality, according to the laws established, or that may be established, by the General Assembly of this Colony, as well in matters military as civil; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

*Deputies*.—"You, . . . , being chosen to the place of a Deputy, to sit in the General Assembly, do solemnly engage, that you will be true and faithful to the Colony of *Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*; and that you will do equal right and justice to all persons who shall appeal unto you for your judgment in their respective cases, according to the laws established, or that may be established, by the General Assembly of this said Colony; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

*Judges of the Superior Court*.—"You, . . . , being by the General Assembly of this Colony chosen to the place of a Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Jail Delivery, in and throughout the Colony, do solemnly engage to be true and faithful to this said Colony, and to execute the office unto which you are chosen as aforesaid, with fidelity, to the best of your skill and knowledge, according to the laws established, or that may be established, by the General Assembly of this said Colony; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

[Publick Notaries, Clerks of the Superior and Inferior Courts, Justices of the Inferior Courts, and Sheriffs, to take the same oath as the Justices of the Superior Courts, *mutatis mutandis*.]

*Grand Jurors*.—"You, *A B*, being of the Grand Inquest, on behalf of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*, do hereby promise to make a true return to this Court of all such bills as shall be presented to you, or such breakers of law as shall come to your knowledge; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

*Petit Jurors in Civil Causes*.—"You, *A B*, being of this Jury of Trials, shall well and truly try the issue of this case, and all cases that shall be committed unto you from this Court, between the parties plaintiff and defendant, according to law and evidence; and to keep together until you agree of a verdict in the case or cases committed to you, and make true return of the verdict or verdicts unto this Court, and to keep your own and fellows' secrets; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

*Petit Jurors in Criminal Cases*.—"You, *A B*, being of this Jury of Trials, shall well and truly try, and true deliverance make, between the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Rhode-Island and Providence Planta-*

tions and the prisoner at the bar, according to law and evidence; and to keep together until you are agreed of a verdict or verdicts in the case or cases that shall be committed to you from this Court, and to keep your own and fellows' secrets; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

*Town Officers.*—"You, *A B*, do hereby solemnly engage to be true and faithful unto this Colony of *Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*; and that you will well and truly, according to the laws established, or that may be established by the General Assembly of said Colony, execute the office of . . . for the ensuing year, or until another be engaged in your room, or you be legally discharged therefrom; and this engagement you make and give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury."

*Military Commissioned Officers.*—"You, *A B*, being by the General Assembly chosen and elected unto the place and office of . . . , do solemnly swear to be true and faithful unto this Colony of *Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations*, and to the authority therein established by the General Assembly; and you do also further engage well and truly to execute the office of . . . , to which you are elected, according to your commission; and to perform and observe all the laws made and provided for the support and well ordering of the Militia, without partiality; and that you will observe and follow such orders and instructions as you shall from time to time receive from your superiors: so help you *God*."

*Clerk of a Company of Militia.*—"You, *A B*, do solemnly swear well and truly to perform and execute the office of Clerk of the Company, or trained band, under the command of *C D*, to the utmost of your skill and ability, without partiality, according to the laws of this Colony which relate to your office: so help you *God*."

A true copy:—Witness,  
HENRY WARD, *Secretary*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO THOMAS CUSHING.

Providence, May 6, 1776.

SIR: At the request of the General Assembly, I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 3d instant, and to inform you that in case of an attack upon the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, this Colony will afford all the assistance in our power to give. Orders have been given to several of the Colonels of Militia to hold their regiments in readiness.

The enclosed act passed the Upper House unanimously, and the Lower House by a vast majority, there being upwards of sixty members present, and only six votes against it.

I am, with great regard, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq.

ADAM BABCOCK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, May 6, 1776.

SIR: I heard, a few days since, that you Excellency had fitted out an armed vessel, under the command of Captain *Perrit*, to cruise to the southward. Should that be the case, I beg leave to propose that a vessel I have fitted out, commanded by Captain *Brooks*, may go out in company with her; which will make them both quite secure against anything they may chance to meet with in getting off the coast, except they should fall in with a man-of-war. The little vessel I have fitted mounts six three-pounders, with swivels, blunderbusses, and small arms for fifty men, which she carries, and is already manned, and is a prime sailer. She will sail the beginning of next week, but will wait till *Thursday* for your Excellency's vessel, if in the mean time I am informed that she will be ordered here, and to keep company with my vessel till both are clear of the coast.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and regard, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

ADAM BABCOCK.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

GENERAL WARD TO COLONEL WARREN.

Boston, May 6, 1776.

SIR: I would inform you that, last evening, a man made his escape from *Lovell's Island*, in this harbour, who appears to be an honest *American*. He informs that yesterday he was on board the man-of-war which lies in *Nantasket*, and that an officer of the Navy told him the fleet and troops from *Halifax* were expected to return soon to this place; and that they intended to land their troops below, and march to *Boston* by land, while the man-of-war made an attack by water. The same account was given by another man who made his escape from the same man-of-war the night before last. What regard ought to be paid to these accounts you will determine. I thought it my duty to give you the information, that you might acquaint the General Court therewith.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the Honourable *James Warren*.\*

JAMES WARREN TO JEDEDIAH PREBLE.

In the House of Representatives, Waterford, }  
May, 1776. }

SIR: Last fall this Court made choice of you for their Truckmaster to the *Penobscot* Tribe of *Indians*. We trust you have been duly acquainted with your appointment, as your son was in town when you were appointed. This Court have lately received a letter from said *Indians*, dated the 22d of last *November*, complaining to us that they were not satisfied with their present Truckmaster: they say he detains them a long time when they come to trade with him. Their chief complaint is the want of despatch. They desire that Mr. *Lowden* may be appointed their Truckmaster. We have promised them that their case shall be considered as soon as may be after the meeting of the next General Court. You are sensible, sir, that it may be attended with very ill consequences to have these *Indians* uneasy. We desire you to search into the cause of their complaints, and report to the next General Court on or before the second *Wednesday* of their first meeting.

JAMES WARREN.

To the Honourable *Jedediah Preble*, Esq.

COLONEL GILMAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, May 6, 1776.

MOST RESPECTED GENTLEMEN: My officers here make a great complaint for the want of paper. They cannot receive the necessary orders, and make proper returns of their companies, for want of that article. By the best information I can get, the officers and non-commissioned officers in the Continental Army are allowed that article. I should be glad that the matter might be considered, and that you would grant such relief as you in your wisdom may think best. My command here is attended with some considerable difficulty, the soldiers being very mutinous, (Captain *Dearborn's* Company in particular,) not owing to their officers being backward in their duty, but from a notion that the Artillerymen have no right to build fortifications. I have ordered that company over to *Sevey's Island*, in hopes to have them in some better order. Five of the said company are now under trial of a Court-Martial for mutinous behaviour.

You may remember, gentlemen, when you were down here I mentioned something concerning boats to reinforce *New-Castle*, in case we should be attacked by the enemy: I am of the same opinion still, and think it worthy of your consideration. I have almost completed the battery on *Church-Hill*. Should have done it long ago, if the wind and weather had not prevented getting turf. We have

\* IN COUNCIL, May 7, 1776.—The Committee of both Houses to whom is referred the consideration of a letter from General *Ward*, have considered the same; and, from various circumstances, are led to conclude that the probability of the enemy's return to this Colony is such as renders it highly necessary that part of the Militia be called to the lines near *Boston*, with all possible despatch; and that due care be immediately taken to provide proper magazines of provision, and a sufficient supply of intrenching tools and camp utensils, for their use and support. All which is humbly submitted.

J. WINTHROP, per order.

PEREZ MORTON, Deputy Secretary.

begun to enclose *Fort Washington*, and hope, in a short time, to have it in a good way. I will endeavour cheerfully to comply with your orders at all times, and exercise my small talents in the glorious cause we are now contending for.

I am, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient servant,

DAVID GILMAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. I think we are neglected with regard to Chaplain. The men are badly provided with arms: I fear the Muster-masters did not discharge their duty in that respect. Flints are much wanted, and cannot be had.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN DEMPSTER, OF THE TRANSPORT BLUE-MOUNTAIN VALLEY, DATED NEWRY, IRELAND, MAY 7, 1776.

I wrote you, from *America*, the misfortune which befel me in the loss of my ship; but as you probably never received it, I will inform you of the misfortunes that have befallen me from my leaving the *Downs* till my arrival in *Ireland*. I left the *Downs* towards the end of *October* last, when that dreadful gale of wind drove so many ships ashore on the coasts of *England* and *Ireland*; but I escaped from that tolerably well. The remainder of my passage was one continued gale of wind, until my arrival on the coast of *America*, where I found my ship disabled in every respect, being leaky, &c., having had a thirteen weeks' passage. The moment I came off *New-York*, I sent my chief mate on shore by a pilot-boat, in order to get on board the ships-of-war lying there, to demand assistance in carrying the ship into *New-York*, where we might refit, in order to proceed to *Boston*, our intended port; but unluckily for me, as I afterwards learned, my mate was taken prisoner, and was obliged by threats to discover what the ship was, where bound, and of no force. Upon this intelligence, they fitted out four armed vessels, with about sixty men each—in all upwards of two hundred men—an overmatch (as you may easily believe) for a ship with four small guns, and sixteen hands in all, after being thirteen weeks at sea, and hardly able to keep the ship from sinking. When the vessels made their appearance, I took them for vessels from the men-of-war, the officer who commanded the party being dressed in the uniform of a Lieutenant of the Navy, and I did not then know my mate was taken prisoner. They boarded the ship in every part, and carried her about ten or twelve miles up a river, where two of the King's ships lay, to a place called *Elizabethtown*, making a prize of the ship and cargo, and myself a prisoner upon parole. After the *Americans*, by order of the Congress, had unloaded the ship, by an order from that same power, I was set at liberty conditionally—that I should not go near either the Army or the Navy, but return to *Britain* the first opportunity, which I gladly embraced by coming home in the *Catharine*, Captain *Moore*, bound for *Newry*; and happy was I to get away, lest they had recalled this indulgence. I arrived here the 5th of *May*, after a pleasant passage of five weeks, and shall proceed with all speed.

JOHN HAMILTON DEMPSTER.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read June 17, 1776.]

Charlestown, South-Carolina, May 7, 1776.

SIR: Having on the 3d instant arrived at this town, duty would have led me without loss of time to have made returns of the Continental forces raised in this Colony, their situation, arms, stores, &c.; but found the military department of this Colony established in a different way from that which is Continental. By virtue of the resolutions of the Provincial Congress, the military was committed to the Council of Safety, upon the dissolution of that body after forming a Constitution for the Colony. It has since been assigned, by an ordinance of the Legislature, to his Excellency the President, from whom the officers derive their commissions, as well those of the Provincial regiments as of the Militia; so that at present I have little more to do than to receive the civilities of the gentlemen here, equally hospitable and polite.

The President having candidly disclosed to me that the troops of this Colony are not on the Continental establishment, and that the reasons why are at large laid before and submitted to the decision of the honourable the Continental Congress, I shall not, therefore, attempt any detail of, nor observation upon them, further than express my opinion that the difficulties might all have been obviated, and the troops stood on the common footing. On the other hand, such is the activity and publick spirit of the officers, the great merit and distinguished abilities of the President, procuring to him the common suffrage of this country, that I see no reason to apprehend the publick service should suffer in his hands. In the mean time, I shall here wait the further orders of Congress, begging only to be favoured with these as early as may be convenient. I shall also obey the orders of General *Lee*, to whom I now write, or return to *North-Carolina*, in case the enemy should gain footing there. I should be unpardonable to omit the very friendly reception given me by the President, to which, in a gentlemanly style, he has added a series of good offices. The great loss of this country is its want of men, and the misfortune of so many malcontents, said to be about two thousand or upwards. A number of the better sort of these are coming over; but the greater part of them are said to be of the *canaille*, who probably want to avail themselves of a day of publick calamity, for the abject purposes of rapine and plunder. Four thousand men, I think, have been voted by this Government; of that number, about two thousand are now raised, and many officers out recruiting. Some accounts from *Georgia* speak of two thousand *British* troops being at *St. Augustine*; not generally believed. The Continental troops at *Georgia* are about four hundred; and when joined by the Militia, are, by the gentlemen here, estimated at one thousand. I shall, however, write to the Colonel of that battalion. For the North Government, we hope for considerable numbers, and a short time will probably bring one of the *Carolinas* into action, as appears by a late accession to the fleet at *Cape-Fear*. Happy for these Colonies, (particularly *South-Carolina* and *Georgia*,) should the Insurgents, the domesticks, and *Indians*, be restrained.

I have the honour to be your most obedient and most humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. Captain *Conner* is come forward, in order to serve, as was proposed, in the character of Brigade-Major.

GENERAL LEE TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 14, 1776, and referred to the Committee to whom a former letter from General Lee was referred.]

Williamsburgh, May 7, 1776.

SIR: I find the part I have acted in the business of Mr. *Eden* has given great umbrage to the Council of *Maryland*. I take the liberty of enclosing to you a copy of my letter to that Board on the occasion. As I hope it will appear to the Congress a full explanation and justification of my conduct, I shall not trouble them any more on the subject.

Five transports with troops are arrived at *Cape-Fear*; I shall, therefore, set out on *Thursday* for *Wilmington*, by the way of *Halifax*. When we consider, sir, the vast extent of the vulnerable parts of this country; the numerous navigable intersecting waters; the multitude of slaves; that we have not more than five thousand regulars fit for duty in the Province; that of these five thousand, not more than three are properly armed; that to arm them, (defectively as they are,) the Province has been driven to the necessity of disarming the Minute-men,—I say, sir, when these circumstances are considered, I shall appear, I hope, reasonable in entreating the Congress to spare us if possible some battalions, and of those battalions which are best armed. If indeed, our Minute-men were properly furnished with muskets and ammunition; if our rivers were already secured in the manner I propose, I should think myself capable of baffling all their attempts with our present force; but situated as we are, my anxiety for the common safety obliges me to solicit a reinforcement.

A letter from one of your members informs me that five thousand blankets and five thousand pair of shoes are on the road, for the use of this Army. They are much wanted. The



number is, I believe, sufficient. We are, as I observed before, wretchedly in want of medicines, as well as of a director to our Hospital. Doctor *McClurg* is a very able man, and universally esteemed qualified for the office. The pay of the Regimental Surgeons, established by Congress, is so low that it is in this part of the world (where the common country practice of surgery is singularly lucrative) impossible to find capable men who will accept; but I am in hopes that the Convention will make such additions, out of the Provincial purse, as to enable us to fill the commissions with proper and competent persons. Now I am on the subject of pay, sir, I must beg leave to urge the necessity of considerably increasing that of the Engineers. It is impossible that men qualified for this important office should be prevailed upon to serve on such miserable terms. You have no *American* Engineers; they must of course be foreigners; and foreigners expect, in their language, *de quoi manger*; that is, something which will enable them to eat and drink. Twenty dollars per month will not enable them to eat, drink, and wear linen, or, indeed, any kind of clothes; besides, it must be considered that these gentlemen are obliged, by the nature of their duty, to make more journeys than other officers; that horses must be purchased and fed; that the expenses of travelling are, in the Southern Provinces, very high. From these reasons, and many others, the pay of Engineers ought to be, as it is in all other services, greater than that of other officers. Upon the whole, sir, I really do not think that they ought, or can do with less than forty dollars per month, and rations at least for their horses. On more moderate terms, I am persuaded, you cannot procure men equal to the task. As the corps is distinct and not numerous, this necessary addition of pay will be an expense beneath the consideration of the Congress.

Colonel *Richard Henry Lee* informs me that it was not the intention of the Congress that Captain *Innis's* company should be reduced to make way for *Arundel's*, but that they should both be established. I think, sir, it would be a useless expense. Captain *Innis*, who must, I am sure, be an excellent officer in any other department, professed himself ignorant in this branch. His officers were equally ignorant. *Arundel* has got possession of the company, and by his activity and knowledge will, I am persuaded, make them fit for service; indeed, to establish an artillery company, Captain, subalterns, and non-commissioned officers, being entirely composed of novices, can answer no end or purpose. It is my opinion, therefore, sir, that, instead of these two companies proposed, the addition of thirty or forty men to Captain *Arundel's*, and two subaltern officers, will not only be better, but that it promises more advantage to the service. Now I am on the subject of Captain *Arundel*, I beg leave to remind the Congress of what I mentioned with respect to his expenses on the road. There is one circumstance, of which, sir, I could wish to be ascertained: Is the expense of the defence of these rivers, (that is, the construction of row-galleys, floating batteries, tenders, &c.) to be brought to the account of the Continent, or of the Province? I wish to be ascertained on this head, because if it is at the expense of the latter, I shall regularly propose to the Convention, or Committee of Safety, every scheme which may be attended with expense, before it is entered upon.

If the Quartermaster-General, or his Deputies, when they despatch any teams from *Philadelphia* with powder, or other necessities, were to purchase the horses throughout, for the Continental use, instead of hiring them, the saving would be considerable—for in this country the hire is intolerably dear; so great, indeed, that I have ventured to order a number of teams to be purchased.

I have just received a vague return of the forces of *North-Carolina*, of their powder and cannon. It does not appear that they have of effective regulars, properly armed, more than two thousand; of powder, more than two ton and a half; and as to cannon they are almost totally destitute. As the enemy's advance guard, if I may so express myself, is actually arrived, I must, I cannot avoid detaching the strongest battalion we have to their assistance; but I own I tremble at the same time at the thoughts of stripping this Province of any part of its inadequate force. I am puzzled how to direct my motions, from the uncertainty of the enemy's plan; but not dispirited, as I am confident that the Congress will afford me every relief in their power, and am

not in the least diffident of the courage and zeal of the men and officers.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress.

P. S. I have as yet heard nothing of Mr. *Stabler*, the Engineer. I ought, in fact, to have at least half a dozen, for we have a variety of posts to throw up, and there is not a man or officer in the Army that knows the difference between a chevaux-de-frise and a cabbage garden. I wish the Congress would indulge me with Mr. *Smith*, whom I know to be an able and active man. *Massenbaugh* is a treasure. A little hurt in my hand obliges me to write by the pen of my Secretary.

General *Lee* presents his compliments; sends an extract of a letter just received from Major *Hendricks*, of *Hampton*, as it may be of consequence; dated 6th May, 1776:

"A few days ago the *Liverpool* frigate, with two merchant brigs, set sail (as I have since learned) for *Delaware* River, in order to give the *Roebuck* their assistance in getting her off some flats, where she is grounded, in nine feet water, somewhere about the mouth of the *Brandywine*. This is told us by a Captain *Ryson*, who is now on shore on his parole. I must confess I do not much like these people coming on their parole so often, as I make no doubt but many of them are as fond of carrying intelligence as bringing any. Three or four days ago the sloop *Nautilus*, of eighteen guns, came up, and now lies in the road, in the *Liverpool's* station—a glorious opportunity for our fleet if they were now here."

Williamsburgh, May 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I find that I am extremely censured not only by your Board, but by a multitude of others, for my letter to Mr. *Purviance*, with respect to the seizure of Mr. *Eden's* person and papers; but I really think, when the circumstances are explained, the censure will appear unjust, and that I was neither violent, assuming, nor precipitate. When the Secretary of State's letter to your Governour was put into my hands, I naturally concluded that, could we possess ourselves of all Mr. *Eden's* papers, the whole machinations of the Ministry might be discovered; that this discovery might enable us to prevent their effects, and perhaps defeat the whole plan. The possession of these papers could not be hoped for without previously securing his person; and to accomplish this, the utmost secrecy and expedition were necessary. Now, sir, as I imagined you had no troops at *Annapolis* to execute the purpose, (but in this I find I was mistaken,) and as I knew there were troops in readiness at *Baltimore*, and as there was no Continental General or other officer in *Maryland*, Mr. *Purviance*, Chairman of the Committee on the spot where I had conceived troops alone to be stationed, occurred to me as the only person to whom I could, with propriety and effect, make application. Had I known, sir, that a regiment, or any troops, were stationed at *Annapolis*, I should undoubtedly, sir, have addressed myself to you as President of the Council of Safety.

It is said, sir, that *Maryland* was out of the district of my command; that, consequently, to intrude myself into the business and concerns of that Province, was assuming and arrogant. I really conceive, sir, that when the safety, or very being of the whole community appears at stake, the part I have acted in this affair cannot with justice be esteemed arrogance. I did not presume authoritatively to order; but as one servant of the publick, earnestly to entreat and conjure another servant, who alone appeared to me to have the means in his hands, to take a certain step of the last importance to the publick cause. I must repeat, sir, that my reason for addressing myself to Mr. *Purviance*, at *Baltimore*, proceeded entirely from my ignorance of there being any troops at *Annapolis*, and not (as I have been told has been thrown out) from any diffidence in your virtue and decision. I suppose the Committee of Safety here viewed it in the same light; for I read my letter to them, and it was approved of. In times like these, sir, I conceive that, when we have received sufficient evidences of any treasonable practices being carried on, and that when it appears to us that

the immediate seizure of a particular traitor's person may lead to discoveries on which the salvation of the State may depend; that when the utmost secrecy and expedition are necessary to the seizure of his person, it is the duty of a good citizen not to delay a single instant, if a single instant's delay may prevent the execution. This was the manner I thought it my duty to proceed in, in the case of *Mr. Wormley*, on the discovery of his correspondence with the enemy: I gave orders for the security of his person and papers, and then referred the affair to the proper tribunal—the Committee of Safety. The measure was so far from giving umbrage or creating jealousy, that it met with their unanimous approbation. If this method is proscribed, at a juncture like the present, the great check on dangerous correspondence and conspiracies will be taken off. If Councils are to be held previously to the seizure of any traitor's person or papers, notwithstanding the strongest evidences against him, I am much mistaken if every traitor does not slip through your hands. I must now, sir, conclude, with assuring you, and the respectable body over which you preside, that if they suppose me capable of aiming or wishing to extend the military authority, or trespass on the civil, they do me the most cruel injustice. Although I was bred in the Army, I thank *God* the spirit and principles of the citizen were ever predominant; and I solemnly declare that if I thought it possible I should ever be so far intoxicated by military command as to harbour a wish injurious to the civil supremacy in all things, I would now, whilst I retain my senses, beg leave to divest myself of my present office, and serve as a volunteer in the glorious cause in which I have embarked my person, fortune, and reputation. What I did in this affair I did in the character of a common, zealous member of the community, not of an officer. What appeared irregular or offensive in the mode, I hope I have explained to your satisfaction; and I intreat that it may be entirely attributed to a mistake, for which I am heartily concerned, as it has prejudiced me in the opinions of men whose esteem I am most ambitious of obtaining.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., President of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOSEPH TURNER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, May 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The three hundred pounds, received by Lieutenant *Adams*, being nearly expended in providing necessities for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company, now in *Port-Tobacco*, and the Committee for this County not meeting till this day week, I take the opportunity, by Lieutenant *John Halkerston*, to draw on you for one hundred and fifty pounds, currency, for the purpose of paying for further provisions for said company, the Commissary not having as yet prepared for their support, and no certainty as to what time he will be in readiness for that purpose. On *Saturday* next, one week's board for the soldiers will be due, which amounts to upwards of fifty pounds, and I have only twenty-six pounds and some odd shillings this day in hand, of the former sum; out of which there is rent likewise due for a house hired as a barrack for said men; for which reasons I hope your Honours will not fail sending the sum now wrote for.

I am doubtful that any considerable number of blankets cannot be got in this County, (hitherto only eight blankets have been collected, and those delivered to Captain *Beall*, for the use of his men, who are still in want of more,) notwithstanding proper persons have been appointed by the Committee in every district of the County for the purpose of collecting them.

I am, sirs, your most humble servant,

JOSEPH TURNER, Treasurer for *Charles County*.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Baltimore Town, May 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed paper contains the opinions and sentiments of a certain *Alexander Magee*, an inhabitant of this County, which appear to this Committee to be dangerous and inimical to the cause in which *America* is

now embarked. On examining the man, he avowed some of them, and equivocated as to others; and as he appears to have some influence among the common people, the Committee thought it their duty to order him into custody, and to be kept safe till your further directions can be obtained. If you choose that he should be sent down to you, please to direct in what manner, and by whom to be guarded down, and at whose expense, as the commanding officer here apprehends he has no authority to act in the matter, further than to guard him till your answer can be received.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

ANDREW BUCHANAN, V. C.

THOMAS HARRISON,

JAMES CALHOUN,

WILLIAM AISQUITH,

JOHN MERRYMAN, JUN.

JOHN COCKEY,

JOHN BOYD.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

*Sentiments, Opinions, and Assertions, of ALEXANDER MAGEE, abstracted from a short conversation on MONDAY, the 29th of APRIL, 1776: Present, Doctor WILLIAM LYON, Mr. ROBERT LYON, and myself, viz:*

That enrolling and mustering was taking up arms against the King; that it was flying in the face of, and destroying the Constitution; that it was perjury to such as had taken the oath of allegiance; that the King and Parliament had a right to reclaim the *American* Charters as forfeited; that the *American* opposition to *Great Britain* is not calculated or designed for the defence of *American* liberty or property, but for the purpose of enslaving the poor people thereof; that the *Americans* were wrong in disputing the matter with *Great Britain*, so far as an appeal to arms, for which they had neither officers, men, nor discipline; that it was owing to the liberality and forbearance of *Great Britain* she had not convinced us of our error ere now, two years being hardly sufficient to rouse her to a war with *France* or *Spain*, much less with her own subjects; but that after the great slaughter we should suffer the ensuing campaign, those who survived would think better of it; that he (*Magee*) would join the King's troops if he had an opportunity; that signing a paper did not alter the heart, and he knew there were thousands among us who had enrolled that were still of his way of thinking; that he would never pay any fine as a non-enroller, and would shoot any person who should attempt to execute his effects for that purpose.

Test:

WILLIAM BUCHANAN.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 147.]

Annapolis, May 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The quantum of salvage on Mr. *Hudson's* ship depends, in Congress, on the length of time she was in possession of the tenders in *Patapsco River*; and we request, (as it will occasion a great deal of trouble and expense to bring witnesses for the purpose before our Board,) that you will immediately take, and transmit to us, the affidavits of such persons as are best acquainted with the time of the capture and recapture, that we may communicate them to our Deputies.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

In Committee of Safety, Philadelphia, May 2, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Miles*, *George Clymer*, *James Mease*, *John Cadwallader*, *Samuel Howell*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Joseph Parker*, *George Ross*, *Robert White*, *James Biddle*.

Upon application of Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for a sum of Money for the use of *Matthias Slough*, who is appointed by the Assembly to provide necessities for the Troops raising in the pay of this Province, and for a sum of Money for himself, for the use of the said Troops; by order of the Board two Orders were drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., one for two thousand Pounds, in favour of Colonel *Miles*, for the use of said *Slough*, and one other for one thousand Pounds, in favour of said *Miles*, for use aforesaid.

Upon application of *Samuel Smith*, for the payment of five Fire-Locks purchased by him in *Bucks County*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *John Nixon*, Esq., and others, the Committee of Accounts, for thirteen Pounds fifteen Shillings; which is directed to be charged to account of Arms purchased for Congress.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver Colonel *Samuel Miles* what Provincial Rifles he may have, taking receipts for the same.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Nixon* and Captain *White* be a Committee to direct the fitting out, to cruise in the *Cape-May* Channel for the protection of the trade of this Province, four of the Guard-Boats now built, and under the command of Captains *Lawrence*, *Gamble*, *Greenway*, and *Hans*.

*Resolved*, That this Committee in future meet every *Tuesday*, *Wednesday*, *Thursday*, and *Friday*, precisely at nine, and sit till two o'clock, each day; and if any Letters or business of consequence should be delivered, or come to the knowledge of the Secretary, on any other day, that he immediately acquaint a Member of the Board therewith, that the other Members may be called together if thought necessary.

—  
In Committee of Safety, May 3, 1776.

Present: *John Nixon*, Chairman, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Samuel Howell*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *James Biddle*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

*Resolved*, That the Pilot, to be employed on board the Provincial Ship, be allowed sixteen Dollars per month, and two rations of Provisions per day.

*Robert Towers* reports his having delivered, the 26th of *February* last, to Captain *Loxley*, the following articles for the use of his Company of Artillery Associators:

2 Brass twelve-pound Cannon, with travelling Carriages, Rammers, Sponges, Wadhooks, Ladles, Tillers, and Budge-Barrels; 12 pounds of Ship Match; 2 twelve-pound Linestocks; 2 twelve-pound Port-Fire Stocks and Hooks; 2 twelve-pound Tompions, Straps, Drag-Rope, and Pins; 90 twelve-pound Round Shot, fixed with wood-bottoms and Flannel Cartridges, filled; 150 twelve-pound Tin Canisters of Grape-Shot and Flannel Cartridges—these are made up ready to be delivered; 2 twelve-pound Tin Tube-Boxes; 250 twelve-pound Tin Tubes, part filled; 1 Gunner's Quadrant; 1 Ammunition Cart; 8 Powder-Horns; 2 dozen Port-Fires; 2 Lanterns.

Reports his having received from Congress, the 28th of *March*, sundry casks of Powder, weighing 12,056½ pounds, and 250 stand of *Dutch Arms*.

Reports his having received into store, per his Return of 3d *April*, from *John Lowrey*, 36 lbs. of Lead; *John Pinchbeck*, 8 Fire-locks; Provincial Works, 93 lbs. of Saltpetre; *James Clyhe*, 8 lbs. of Saltpetre; *Robert Evans*, 7 lbs. of Saltpetre; *James Edge*, 1½ lbs. of Saltpetre; *John Cutting*, 6 ounces of Saltpetre; *John Zane*, 2. 0. 0. Brimstone; Captain *Morgan's* Infantry Company, 477 Cartridges.

That he has delivered to Captain *White* 5 pieces of Sail-Cloth; to *James Clyhe*, 2 lbs. of Powder, to pay for Saltpetre; to *Daniel Toppam*, 2 lbs. of Powder, to pay for Saltpetre; to Captain *Morgan's* Light Infantry, 1,634 Cartridges and 500 Flints; to *Robert Evans*, 1½ lbs. of Powder, to pay for Saltpetre; to *Matthew Strong*, for his Look-out Boat, 5 Fire-locks, 48 Cartridges, 15 Flints, and 8 Swivel-Balls.

Reports his having purchased and received from different persons, as per his Return of the 21st of *April*, the following Fire-locks, with a Return of the number of Arms in store: 55 Fire-locks, purchased by *Robert Towers*, and repaired; 7 Fire-locks from *Edward Pole*; 4 Fire-locks from *William Rush*; 9 Fire-locks from Captain *Enion Williams*; 15 Fire-locks from Captain *John Williams*; 44 Fire-locks from Colonel *St. Clair*; 19 Fire-locks from *Wilcox De Haven*; 10 Fire-locks from *Henry Wynkoop*; 4 Fire-locks from *Caleb Davis*; 70 Barrels from Colonel *St. Clair*; 136 new, 142 *Dutch*, 12 new, from *Wills & Towne*; 17 new, from *Lewis Prahl*—462 Fire-locks in the whole, and 70 Barrels in store on the 21st of *April*.

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In Committee of Safety, Monday, May 6, 1776.

Present: *Robert Morris*, Vice-President, *Owen Biddle*, *Robert White*, *Alexander Wilcocks*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun.,

*James Biddle*, *George Clymer*, *John Nixon*, *Daniel Roberdeau*.

Upon application of Captain *Rice* for a sum of Money for the payment of the Men employed for sinking the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, by order of the Board an Order was drawn in his favour, on *John Nixon* and others, the Committee of Accounts, for one hundred and fifty Pounds, for said purpose.

Orders were this day sent to the Commanding Officer of the Fleet and Artillery Company at *Fort-Island*, to call every boat and soldier to their stations, and each to prepare for immediate action, and to suffer no officer or man to leave their station without the license of this Board or the Commanding Officer.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Nixon* and Captain *White* be desired immediately to go to *Fort-Island*, and give every necessary advice to assist the Officers in carrying the above orders into execution.

The officers and men of the Armed Boats now in town, except Captain *Bois's*, were this day directed to go immediately to their stations at *Fort-Island*.

The Vice-President having occasion to leave the Board, Mr. *Clymer* was appointed Chairman.

By order of the Board Captain *Hazlewood* was directed to send down the Fire-Vessel, and two chains of the Fire-Rafts, and to dispose of them in the most convenient situations near *Fort-Island*.

Upon the application of the Commissioners of *Lancaster County*, for a sum of Money for the payment of Fire-locks, &c., making in that County for the use of this Province, by order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of *William Webb*, for the use of the Commissioners and Assessors of said County, for one thousand Pounds, for the use aforesaid.

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In Committee of Safety, May 7, 1776.

Present: *Robert Morris*, Vice-President, *Joseph Reed*, *James Mease*, *George Clymer*, *James Biddle*, *Samuel Miles*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Daniel Roberdeau*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *John Cadwallader*, *David Rittenhouse*.

An express having arrived last night from *Port-Penn*, informing that two ships-of-war, a topsail schooner, and three smaller vessels, supposed to be tenders, were in sight of *Port-Penn*, at half past eleven o'clock, on *Monday* last; the Board, in consequence thereof, gave orders to Captain *Reed* to order down the thirteen armed boats, under the command of the senior officer, with directions to proceed down the river; when they must concert the best method to attack, take, sink, destroy, or drive off said vessels, if possible, but to be careful in exposing any of the boats to capture or destruction; and to send down the fire-sloop commanded by Captain *Gamble*, with one other officer, and four or six men, with some bedding and other necessities; also, a six or four-oared boat; and to acquaint the officers and men in the fire-sloop that, for their encouragement in performing any effectual service, this Board will reward them handsomely. At the same time the Commissary was directed to send down a sufficient quantity of provisions for the supply of the people in this expedition. And, upon application of the Board to the Secret Committee of Congress, an order was procured directing Captain *Wickes* to supply the boats with as many volunteers as may offer; which order was sent to Captain *Reed*.

The Vice-President leaving the Board, Mr. *Clymer* was appointed Chairman.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Colonel *Samuel Miles*, for the use of the Provincial Troops under his command, one thousand pounds of Gunpowder, and two thousand pounds of Lead, or as great a part thereof as is in store, and to put up twenty rounds of Powder and Ball for two Guard-Boats.

*Resolved*, That the Committee heretofore appointed to procure Pikes, do order to be made immediately an additional number of one thousand Pikes and two hundred Pitching-Axes, for the use of this Province.

*Resolved*, That all Recruiting Officers who may happen to enlist Apprentices, or Indented Servants, not knowing them to be such, shall be entitled to receive the reasonable expenses attending their enlistments.

*Resolved*, That the following Recommendation be made publick at the Coffee-House of this City :

In Committee of Safety, May 7, 1776.

There being a very pressing necessity for a large quantity of Lead for the publick use, in the defence now formed for the security of the liberties of this country, it is most earnestly recommended to all the inhabitants of this City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, to send in to *Robert Towers*, Commissary, for this purpose, all such Lead as they may have in use in their families, and about their houses—such as draft-weights, window-weights, and clock-weights; and it is hoped that this requisition will be cheerfully complied with, when every individual considers that he thereby does essential service to his country; and that iron weights may be procured to supply his convenience. The liberal price of six pence per pound will be allowed.

Quarter after five o'clock, P. M., May 7, 1776.

At a special meeting of the Committee of Safety,

Present: *Robert Morris*, Vice-President, *John Nixon*, *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *Samuel Howell*, *James Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Andrew Allen*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Jun., *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Parker*.

Upon information of Captain *Richard Peters*, that Captain *Proctor* has inlisted a certain *John Malcom*, a Lock-maker employed in the Manufactory of this City, by order of the Board Captain *Proctor* was directed to send up the said *Malcom* to Captain *Peters*, to be employed in the said Manufactory.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Robert Hardie* be, and he is hereby, appointed Captain of one tier of Fire-Rafts; and that his Commission be dated 27th of *March* last.

By order of the Board an Order was drawn on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., in favour of *John Diesler*, *Peter Brecht*, and *John Reithmeyer*, for one hundred and eight Pounds fifteen Shillings, the amount of one hundred and fifty Cartridge-Boxes, Belts, &c., made in *Berks* County, for the use of this Province, as certified by the Commissioners of said County; which Order was this day delivered Captain *Hausman*.

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to deliver to Colonel *Matlack*, for two hundred Riflemen, twenty-three rounds of Powder, and a proportionate quantity of Lead; and to deliver for the use of Captain *De Lancey's* Company fifteen Cartridge-Boxes and Bayonet-Belts.

*Resolved*, That the several Battalions of Associators be requested to parade on the Common this afternoon, to examine their Arms and Accoutrements, and see that everything is in good order for action, if this Committee should find occasion to call them thereto. (Directed to the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions of Associators.)

By order of the Board *Robert Towers*, Commissary, was directed to send down to *Chester*, for the use of the Provincial Troops under the command of Colonel *Miles*, sixty Fire-locks.

*Resolved*, That *Jacob Hiltimer*, who takes the above Fire-locks down to *Chester*, be furnished with a Guard.

That Captain *Lloyd*, or the Commanding Officer of the Provincial Troops, furnish six Men for the above Guard.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, May 7, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote you by Mr. *Palfrey*, on the 30th of last month, I have not been honoured with any commands from Congress relative to your letters, except the enclosed resolve,\* which I am ordered to forward to you.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*, at *New-York*.

\* IN CONGRESS, May 6, 1776.—Whereas, General *Washington* has requested directions concerning the conduct that should be observed towards Commissioners said to be coming from *Great Britain* to *America*,

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be informed that Congress suppose, if Commissioners are intended to be sent from *Great Britain* to treat of peace, that the practice usual in such cases will be observed, by making previous application for the necessary passports or safe conduct; and on such application being made, Congress will direct the proper measures for the reception of such Commissioners.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Philadelphia, May 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since I had the honour of writing on the 30th of *April*, upon the subject of collecting specie for the support of our Army in *Canada*, I have nothing further in charge from Congress, at this time, but to transmit you the enclosed resolve;\* and have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

JAMES DUANE TO THE ASSEMBLY OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Treasury Office, Philadelphia, May 7, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: The Congress having, on the 17th of *February* last, appointed a Standing Committee for superintending the Treasury, and, on the 1st *April*, among other things, resolved, that all Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, and Committees of Safety, Commissaries, Paymasters, and others entrusted with publick moneys, should, within a reasonable time after being called upon for that purpose by the Committee of the Treasury, produce their accounts at the Treasury Office, in order to their being settled and adjusted, we are, in pursuance of the said regulations, to request your honourable body will be pleased to give orders that an account be rendered of the expenditure of the Continental moneys which, by the acts of Congress, have passed through your hands into the Office, with the proper vouchers, that the same may be settled and adjusted here, and reported, for the final allowance of Congress.

I have the honour to be, in the names of the Superintendents of the Treasury, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JAMES DUANE, JUN., *Chairman*.

To the Honourable *James Warren*, Esq.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 10, 1776, and referred to the Committee on the state of the Eastern Colonies.]

New-York, May 7, 1776.

SIR: At a quarter after seven this evening, I received, by express, a letter from *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, Chairman of a Committee of the honourable General Court, covering one to them from the Committee of *Salem*; copies of which I do myself the honour to lay before Congress, that they may judge of the intelligence contained therein, and direct such measures to be taken upon the occasion as they may think proper and necessary. I would observe, that supposing Captain *Lee's* account to be true in part, I think there must be a mistake either in the number of troops or the transport ships. If there are no more ships than what are mentioned, it is certain there cannot be so many troops; of this, however, Congress can judge as well as myself; and I submit it to them whether, upon the whole of the circumstances, and the uncertainty of their destination, if they were seen at all, they choose that any forces shall be detached from hence; as they will see from the returns transmitted yesterday that the number of men now here is but small and inconsiderable; and, what is to be regretted, no small part of those without arms. Perhaps by dividing and subdividing our force too much, we shall have no one post sufficiently guarded. I shall wait their direction, and whatever their order is, shall comply with it as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be, with much respect, sir, your most humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. I have, by the express, a letter from General *Ward*, containing a similar account to that from the *Salem* Committee, and by way of Captain *Lee*.

Should the Commissioners arrive which are mentioned, how are they to be received and treated? I wish the direction of Congress upon the subject by return of the bearer.

\* IN CONGRESS, May 4, 1776.—*Resolved*, That the Cannon and other stores in *Boston*, which were originally purchased and provided by and at the expense of the Colonies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, be considered as belonging to the Colony that so purchased and provided them; and that all the other Cannon left in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* by the *British* forces be presented to the said Colony.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL McDUGALL.

New-York, May 7, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour upon the subject of rations; and, agreeably to your request, have enclosed a list of rations allowed the officers of the regiments before *Boston*. Those in service the 1st of *July* have been allowed from that time; others appointed to office since, from the dates of their commissions.

Having never given any direction about the officers alluded to, or any others, except those that were immediately under my command, I would observe that I do not mean to do it in this instance, as they were acting in a distinct and different district.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,  
 To Colonel *A. McDougall*, First *New-York*.  
 GEORGE WASHINGTON.

WHITEHEAD HICKS TO JOHN MCKESSON.

Tuesday, 2 o'clock, May 7, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you last week relative to an order of the Congress about the persons who had moved out of town, which, as I was exempted from military duty, I conceived did not apply to me, and desired you would get that explained; but I have not received any answer from you. As I am now in town, and shall go out this evening, should be glad to hear from you.

I am, sir, your humble servant,  
 To *John McKesson*, Esq.  
 WHITEHEAD HICKS.

ALEXANDER MONCRIEFF TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, May 7, 1776.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety:

This I am to acquaint you, that I am under the necessity of resigning the office of being your Jail-keeper, which this honourable Board conferred upon me the 24th *April*, 1776. While I do return my sincere thanks to the honourable Board for the preferment, be pleased to give me an audience before this honourable Convention, and I will give my candid reason for my desire of resigning.

I am, with sincerity, your most obedient servant,  
 ALEXANDER MONCRIEFF.

JOHN MCKESSON TO ABSENT MEMBERS.

New-York, May 7, 1776, 2 o'clock.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress has now waited two days for the attendance of the Members of your County to make a House and proceed to business. All the other Counties present complain of you.

When the gentlemen from *Westchester* were here on *Saturday*, they engaged that a representation of their County should attend on *Monday*. There are publick clamors from all quarters for want of money, and a Congress. I have it in command from the gentlemen present to request the attendance of a quorum from your County; and that if any of you on whom this express should call cannot set off immediately, and travel to the City-Hall without a stop or rest, that, in that case, you send to some gentleman who will attend.

Some gentlemen say that *Westchester* ought to pay the express, and the whole expense of the Members attending here while they are absent.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOHN MCKESSON.

To *Lewis Graham*, *Joseph Drake*, *Stephen Ward*, *Robert Graham*, and *Joseph Paulding*, Esquires, and the other Deputies of *Westchester* County, or any three of them.

JOSEPH BLANCHARD TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

New-York, May 7, 1776.

Gentlemen of the Committee of Safety, now convened in the City of *NEW-YORK*:

As I am under an accusation of carrying on a communication with some of the seamen on board the ships lying near *Sandy-Hook*, I hope you will indulge me in laying the matter before you, which I will do according to the best of my remembrance.

Captain *Darby's* evidence, which you have minuted, is very just as to what I said about there being a communication from persons in this city to the ships. If he said anything about my sending books on board, that is wrong, for I neither bought nor sent any, nor anything else except a small memorandum blank-book, quarter of a hundred of goose quills, and one small bottle *Turlington's* balsam; which I sent Colonel *Fanning*, by Mr. *Nixon*. The books were bought of one *Green*, by the Colonel's negro, as I learned to-day from Mrs. *Hatch*. I never saw them, but heard her say they were sent. While Mr. *Nixon* went on board the *Dutchess*, I often wrote to Colonel *Fanning*; my letters were always delivered to him open; nor did I ever send one to him sealed since he went on board. The last letter I received from him is dated the 20th *April*, I think, and enclosed an order I had sent to receive some money for me from one *Pell*, who I thought was on board the *Asia*. I gave an order to this *Pell* to receive of Mr. *Banyar*, and bring to me, fifteen pounds, expecting him back immediately with the money; but instead of bringing me the money, he went on board the *Asia*, as I learned afterward by the man that carried him. By the last letter I received from the Colonel, I had some small hopes of getting the money, which was the occasion of my sending him the last letter, enclosing the order as before, and the map he wrote for; which letter contained nothing but a desire to him to use his utmost to get that money, and to send up a return of a warrant of survey, executed by Mr. *Bancker* and myself. I did not think there was any harm in this small piece of negotiation, as not one word was written about anything but about the money, the return of survey, that his deed was ready for him, and that I hoped he had received the quills, &c.

Not one word of news, or anything about politicks, was ever hinted either from him to me, or me to him, in any letter that passed between us. As to the Governour, I never wrote him one word, nor ever received any kind of message from him of any kind whatsoever. Captain *Gibbs* says I could tell what I was arrested for, though he never mentioned anything of the occasion to me. When he was examining over my papers, he saw a letter directed to the Governour, which he spoke something about, and viewed it with more attention than he had other papers; and my calling to mind the discourse I had with Captain *Darby*, and that I had sent letters on board, concluded it must be that. That I had carried on a correspondence on board is not denied; but then it will not follow that it was criminal, unless it was so in sending the last letter after the Committee had resolved to the contrary. He also mentions that he found in my room General *Sullivan's* marching orders. That is true; and at first I did not recollect much about it, but after a little while I remembered that I picked it up in Lieutenant *Fisher's* house, which was much frequented by the *Jersey* officers. What led me to look on it particularly, was my seeing General *Sullivan's* name to it; and as I knew him when he was a young man, I looked to it to see the handwriting. I have not the least remembrance of putting it into my pocket, nor do I remember anything about it afterwards, till I saw it on the table where Mr. *Gibbs* found it; but this I can positively declare, that I never did, nor thought of making any kind of use of it in any respect, except it was just to look it over out of curiosity; nor do I conceive what use could be made of it, that could not have been as well effected without it; for these orders were as publick as anything in town; nor was the least secrecy observed about them. The business wrote about to Lord *Stirling*, I effected by letter to Colonel *Fanning*, so Major *Rogers* said there was no occasion of delivering it. I knew the contents, and went several times to my Lord's on purpose to deliver him the letter, but could not see him. As to my using the officers ill that informed against me, (if I did,) it was occasioned by my being confined in such a manner; had any of them come to me for information about conveyance, I would have freely given them all the information I was possessed of, which, in short, I had done before, which I thought they would not have disputed, on the least reflection on the openness which appeared in me in our former conversation on that head. My ill-treatment of them is much exaggerated; neither were they altogether silent in their retorts.

As to every tittle of what I have written above, I can be qualified to the truth, and will if desired. When any man's trial depends on his own confession, the whole



should be taken, and not any one part. My political principles are known by some of this Committee, and I defy even envy itself to say that I ever said or did anything disapproving of the measures now pursuing by the Continent to free *America* from the oppression designed her by *Great Britain*; but always thought, and often said, that the *American* opposition was just, and I heartily wished it success. I will cheerfully attend the honourable Committee whenever they shall see fit, and give any satisfaction to them in my power concerning these matters; and rest their most obedient and most humble servant,

JOSEPH BLANCHARD.

To the Honourable Committee of Safety, now sitting in the City of *New-York*.

COLONEL NICOLL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Constitution, May 7, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY; I received your two letters of *April* 25th and *May* 4th, the 5th of this instant. Your Excellency may rest assured that I shall do everything in my power to forward the works. It would be of great service if the Congress would order a few hogsheads of rum here, so that the fatigue party might have a gill a-piece per day, as the fatigue is hard. My orders are that every man, except the sick, lame, those on guard, and those last relieved, work every day.

There are a number of Tories sent to *Fort Montgomery* from *Dutchess County*, by order of the County Convention, to be put to hard labour till the further order of the Convention. I have ordered the commanding officer there, if any more of these disaffected people should be sent there, not to receive them, or send them to *Fort Constitution*; as I think it wrong to send so many of these people to a garrison that is so weak. And it remains a doubt with me, as they are our prisoners, whether we should oblige them to do hard labour or not. I hope your Excellency will be pleased to give me some directions about them. One of those disaffected people told me yesterday that the report about Captain *Menos's* going away was false, and that he lived near him.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, and very humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL, *Commanding Officer*.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

FRANCIS ABBOTT TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Charlestown, No. 4, Sunday morning, May, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received by the post *Sunday* evening your letter and the five hundred dollars. I have received accounts of three of the teams being cast away, and all are gone from this town, and I am going off myself. The post from *Ticonderoga* informs me the wagons that went first had arrived at *Otter Creek*, and got over all the worst of the way. I propose to go from *Otter Creek* to *Skenesborough*, which is a trifle farther, but the roads much better, and the remainder must be by water, if possible. As for the tent-poles all getting into the camp, it is impossible, and I wish I had burnt them in this town. Pray inform Mr. *Harris* all the cannon will be on the road, as I come back. Three teams are just arrived, that could not get more than fifteen miles; but I hope for a blessing to attend the remainder of this journey.

I subscribe myself, your humble servant, friend, and well-wisher,

FRANCIS ABBOTT.

To the *New-Hampshire* Committee of Safety.

P. S. Excuse my not being more pithy, and particularly on news, for I am in haste.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE, DATED HALIFAX, MAY 7, 1776.

As I did not in my last, of the 25th of *April*, particularly acknowledge the receipt of despatches by the *Milford* frigate, I have now the honour to specify the following from the Earl of *Dartmouth*, viz: of the 27th of *October*, 8th of *November*; circular of the same date; copies of letters to Lord *William Campbell* and Governour *Martin*, of the 7th

of *November*; duplicates of the 22d, 27th, and 28th of *October*, 8th of *November*, and a triplicate of the 22d of *October*.

Your Lordship's despatches were, circular of the 10th of *November*, and duplicate; 18th of *November*, and duplicate; copy of instructions to Major-General *Clinton*, 6th of *December*; letter of the 23d of *December*, and 5th of *January*.

In your Lordship's despatch of the 5th of *January*, mention is made of a separate letter, wherein I may expect the honour of his Majesty's commands for the operations of the ensuing campaign, which is not yet received. I hope my design of removing with the Army from hence to *New-York*, as soon as I am enabled by a supply of provisions, may not meet with the King's disapprobation, although it should take place before I receive the letter in question, for every instant we remain here must increase our embarrassments. The fogs sitting in upon the coasts may delay the fleet upon its passage, occasion a separation, and thereby prevent the Army from acting in full force upon its arrival; the enemy will be better prepared for our reception, and the reinforcements from *Europe* may arrive before us. From these considerations, I shall, at all events, get away from hence without a moment's unnecessary delay; but I tremble when I think of our present state of provisions, having now meat for no more than thirteen days in store, with the possibility of supplies not arriving before the fogs take place; after which time the ships may be a month upon the coast, without being able to get into port. The frost being now out of the ground, the works for a temporary security to the dock-yard were begun this day.

By the addition of vessels taken into the service, and of arrivals at this port since leaving *Boston*, we shall have a sufficient quantity of tonnage for the removal of the Army from hence, without the inconvenience of the officers and soldiers being crowded, which was experienced on our way to this port. The greatest part of the women and children will be left, and subsisted at the usual allowance, of half a ration for each woman, and one quarter for a child; in which a supply of rice (lately arrived from *Georgia*) will be a principal article.

By this opportunity I have sent to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury an estimate of the forage expected from the Bay of *Fundy*; and if we have not a sufficient quantity of hay for the Seventeenth Dragoons, that regiment will be left, to follow the Army as soon as it can be procured; it is now in cantonments, in the neighbourhood of *Windsor*, for the convenience of getting hay.

I have also sent to their Lordships a return of seamen engaged in the *West-Indies*, who are put into transports, and are a very seasonable assistance. It is at the same time humbly submitted to their Lordships' consideration, if it would not be an expedient measure to send out a naval store-ship, for furnishing the transports with the several articles of rigging and stores, which they greatly need at present, particularly pitch and tar; likewise, a victualling ship for their seamen, who have no other supply than from the Army stores.

Lieutenant-Governour *Oliver*, five of the Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and some of the inhabitants from thence, go to *Britain* at this time. The Honourable *Peter Oliver*, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature, whose steady zeal and attachment to Government is well known to General *Gage*, and to whose counsel and judgment I have been indebted on many occasions, accompanies Governour *Legge*, in the *Harriet* packet; and that your Lordship may know the number of persons who removed from *Boston*, I enclose a list of them, taken at this place, as well as a list of those embarking.

The stores destroyed, and left by the different departments, on the late removal of the Army, will appear from the enclosed returns. I must own, in the ordnance branch they have exceeded my expectations; but in that of the forage, it was inevitable from the want of shipping.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands, for a more explicit account of the expedition to *Falmouth*, which was intrusted to Lieutenant *Mowat*, of the Navy, assisted by a detachment of marines and artillery, I have re-examined the officer who commanded this detachment, and find that his orders from General *Gage* were, to embark on board several armed vessels the 6th of *October*, 1775, and to aid and assist Lieutenant *Mowat* in annoying and destroying all

ships and vessels belonging to the Rebels on the coast and in the harbours, to the eastward of *Boston*; that they first examined the harbour of *Cape-Anne*, and finding an attack upon it inexpedient, they proceeded to *Falmouth*, and laid the armed vessels before the town, on the evening of their arrival; after which Lieutenant *Mowat* sent an officer on shore, with a summons to the inhabitants to deliver up their arms and ammunition, acquainting them at the same time that his orders directed him to destroy the town if they did not comply with his demand, of which they should be allowed two hours to consider and to remove their women and children. Shortly after, three persons, deputed by the inhabitants, came on board, requesting a longer time; and it was agreed to wait their answer until eight o'clock next morning; about which hour the same persons returned, and reported that the inhabitants were determined to wait their fate. Within half an hour a signal was made by Lieutenant *Mowat*, the vessels began to cannonade, and several carcasses were thrown into the town, which set fire to the houses, and, in a few hours, consumed the greatest part of them; a detachment was then landed, who completed the destruction, and re-embarked without loss. The small vessels in the harbour were burnt, sunk, or brought away the 18th of *October*, and the armament returned to *Boston* the 5th of *November*, without attempting anything further.

Your Lordship was informed in my last that Lieutenant-Colonel *Grant* had returned from *Georgia*, where he had been sent with two transports, and one hundred and seventy rank and file, under convoy of the *Scarborough* frigate, to procure rice for the Army. He found the country in open rebellion, the Governour and many of the King's friends prisoners at large, others disarmed, and all legal authority subverted; a vessel sunk in the narrow part of their river, the town of *Savannah* garrisoned by five hundred men, and batteries raised in the commanding grounds, to obstruct the passage of the ships. Every means were used to convince the people that his designs were not hostile, that everything required should be paid for, and their trade protected. To this they were at one time reconciled; but the violence of the mob soon overset his intentions. The only measure left was to secure the ships then in the river, by surprise; which was effected by the detachment going up *Back River* in boats, with two or three small armed vessels, through an intricate channel, and little known, while the larger armed vessels proceeded up the ordinary passage by way of feint, engaged their attention, and these met with every opposition the enemy could make from their cannon, or with small arms. The plan succeeded: eighteen vessels of different sizes were rescued, and brought down the back channel; more ships would have been brought off had the detachment been stronger. Such were the rage and disappointment of the people on this occasion that they set fire to the *Inverness*, a large ship richly laden, with a view of destroying the rest.

Sir *James Wright* and his family narrowly escaping the search of a detachment of one hundred and fifty men sent to seize him, got on board the *Scarborough*, and is now here, intending to sail for *England* by this opportunity. This detachment, disappointed in their principal aim, fired upon a Sergeant's party, sent ashore for wood, which the non-commissioned officer returned, and retired to his boat, with the loss of one man killed and scalped, one wounded, and one missing. The Rebels, on the approach of troops in boats, quitted the spot.

The quantity of rice obtained by Lieutenant-Colonel *Grant* is one thousand and eighty-three tierces, for which certificates were given to the owners, as the price could not be ascertained under such circumstances. Sir *James Wright* is the principal proprietor.

A private trader from *Waterford* arrived this morning, with as much beef and pork as will supply the Army six days, which, though a small circumstance, may not be displeasing for your Lordship to know in the present situation of things.

THOMAS EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, May 8, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIRS: When last in *Annapolis*, I left my account with you for inspection. There was a charge in the account current for bringing my company to station, the

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amount of which was left blank. Enclosed I send you an account of sundry expenses which I paid, which, after deducting what is allowed for recruiting, and the charge allowed for a fifer, leaves fourteen pounds nine shillings and eleven pence due me by the promise of that account, which I hope you will allow, as otherwise I shall be so much loser. The balance due, exclusive of that, is eighty-four pounds twelve shillings and ten and a half-pence, which I will esteem as a favour if you will send me by return of the bearer, Mr. *William Lux*. I have paid several sums since my last account for sick soldiers, which I doubt not will be allowed, as it is by order of your Surgeon. I am getting hunting shirts made for my company, of home-made linen, which I bought and paid Mr. *Edward Parker* for, at three shillings and nine pence per yard. I have in that consulted with Colonel *Ware*, who thinks with me that they will not come much dearer than osnaburghs, the linen being much broader, and one shirt will be worth two; I therefore hope you will allow it.

I have the honour to be, honourable sirs, your very humble servant,

THOMAS EWING.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN HINDMAN.

[No. 148.]

Annapolis, May 8, 1776.

SIR: We received your letters, and are sorry to hear you do not approve of the muskets sent you from *Chester*; they were taken from Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Matrosses, at *Baltimore*, but a few days before, and Mr. *T. Smyth* says they appeared all to be in good order, except a few. They had been in constant use for some time, and are of the best sort belonging to the Province, although not new. Whatever repairs are wanting for them we desire you will have done as soon as possible. We would have you purchase the muskets you mention, at seventy-five shillings each, and are glad to hear you can get cloth to clothe your company. We desire it may be made up as soon as it can be done.

The price you are asked for houses at *Oxford* for barracks is most extravagant; and much higher than, from the information we have received, ought to be given; and we request you would endeavour to procure them, or others, at a lower rate. Camp-kettles are an article that cannot be procured in this Province; we have procured you some pots, which we conceive, as you are now and may for some time, remain at your barracks, will well answer every purpose you have occasion for at present. Platters we shall have ready for you next week, and will send by first opportunity; and we have enclosed to you two orders on the Treasurer of the *Eastern Shore* for one hundred and sixty-six pounds, your subsistence money to the 3d of *May*, and two hundred and fifty pounds for the purchase of cloth, and the purposes you have mentioned; and for which you will hereafter render us account.

We are, &c.

To Captain *James Hindman*.

COLONEL EASTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 9, 1776, and referred to Mr. McKean, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Wythe.]

Philadelphia, May 8, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I beg leave to give you the trouble of this. I have been in jail three weeks, and having no prospect of being set at liberty, I now humbly apply to your Honour, having no friends to assist me in this part of the world. I am sued for fifteen hundred pounds, *York* currency, and I owe my creditors about nine hundred pounds more, *York* currency. I have due two thousand pounds, lawful money. My creditors have a landed security of what I value at three thousand pounds, lawful money. In several letters they have received from me since I came to this place, I have offered my land and my outstanding debts at an honest appraisal; in short, I have done everything in my power to get a settlement, but have heard nothing from them. There is no such thing as obliging people to pay their debts in the *Massachusetts*, by the resolves of the honourable Congress.

I ought to be on my way to *Canada*: the settlement with the Commissioners appointed by Congress requires it;

a settlement of my regimental accounts of five captains still in the service at *Canada*, and getting the stores and vessels taken by the regiment appraised, the court of inquiry to be holden there in regard to Major *Brown* and myself, and many other important matters, all urge it; in short, I am in pain to see the event of *Quebeck*.

I have, with my one hundred and fifty men at the *Sorel*, taken more for the Continent, on board *Prescott's* savage fleet, than three times over to pay all my debts, viz: one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five barrels of provisions, including three hundred and sixty-five firkins of butter, at sixty shillings per barrel, amounting to five thousand five hundred and five pounds. The eleven sail of vessels were of no small advantage to the Continent in transporting General *Montgomery's* Army to *Quebeck*; not to mention smaller matters, but not to forget *Ticonderoga*. May not my honour be taken till I can go to *New-York*, and try to settle my affairs, and if I cannot do it to return to jail again? I understand Savage *Prescott* is gone off on a parole. His Excellency General *Washington* was pleased to observe, in a letter I laid before the honourable Committee on my affairs, at the City Tavern, that I had merited from the publick, though I am accused by General *Arnold*. I live in the faith that it is in the power of the honourable Congress to relieve me, consistent with their true dignity; and believe they will at any rate, as I think they cannot be losers by me.

Honoured sir, please to use (if it is not inconsistent) your influence to liberate the unhappy man, when it can be of no advantage to any creditor to keep me here. I humbly beg your counsel in the matter.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES EASTON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

Philadelphia, May 8, 1776.

Made his escape from the Jail of this city, yesterday, in the evening, a certain *Moses Kirkland*,\* called Colonel *Kirkland*, belonging to *South-Carolina*, confined in the said Jail by order of the honourable Congress, for practices inimical to this country. He is a stout corpulent man, between fifty and sixty years of age, about five feet ten inches high, of a swarthy complexion, fresh coloured, and wears his own grey hair tied behind. He had on a green coat faced with blue velvet, a blue velvet waistcoat, and brown

\* COPY OF A LETTER FROM MOSES KIRKLAND,

To the Honourable HENRY LEARNANCE, Esqr, and president of the Council of Safety at Charles Town in South Carolina

May it please your Honour

To permit me Leave To make my Excuse to you and the other Gentlemen for my not Coming out of the Tamar manawar to your House the night that you was so good as to send Mr William Tucker aboard in your boat with a promis from you and Mr Cannon and Locock That I should be portected in your House and that my Proposals to the Congress should be conuaid By you Gentle to them which you did not Doubt would Be agreed to: now those proposials ware so good: I Cant Butt with Shame ness of face make my Excuse for not Excepting of Them: the Reason wase this which I Hope Mr Tucker acquainted you with it wase Late In the night when he Came a board Captain Thornsbery and Ennis Boath ware in the Cabin with me and new of my Goyrn upon Deck and as I Told Mr Tucker it wase not posable for us to Go of the Ship with out Been fired at and Brought to and If I went Down and acquaintd them fore: I Humbly Beg the fuivor of you to move to the Counsel of Safety to Haue me Remove from Hear Before them as I may haue the pleshor To haue a hearing Before them as I Cant Butt haue hopes that when thay Com to Be made acquaintd With al my Conduct thay will have pity on me and Grant me such Release as thay in thire Wisdom shall se Best I am willing to giue al the Security in my power for my Good Behaiour I have Rote to Colonal Thomson and to Mr Cannon to Be my Security for my Traviling from here on my perrole of Honour to your house at Charles town on my Receiueing a surtificate from you for that porpose I shall send my Little Son to Mr Cannon in the first uessel that sails which will be in a fue Day Time and you may depend on my Trauiling through the Cuntry of Being al the Seruis to the Cause I Can as I am now Conuince of the Stranth of America So pray Sir fail not In Grantting my Portion and I shal Be in Duty Bound to Euer pray for you:

And am with Dew Respect may it pleser your Honnor your Honour most obedient And Verry Humble Ser t,

MOSES KIRKLAND.

17th Janury, 1776 at the Gael of phi Ladelphia

CHARLES-TOWN, March 30, 1776.

The above is a true Copy, taken from the ORIGINAL LETTER written by *Moses Kirkland's* own hand, and sent to the Honourable Colonel *Laurens*, and by him laid before the Congress.

Certified by

PETER TIMOTHY, Secretary to the Congress.

velvet breeches. Had also a brown coat and waistcoat, and may possibly have taken other clothes with him. It is said he crossed over *Delaware* at *Cooper's Ferry* last night, and it is supposed will either endeavour to get on board one of the men-of-war in the river, or at *Sandy-Hook*. The publick are earnestly desired to endeavour to apprehend this dangerous enemy to the *American* cause; and a reward of one hundred dollars is hereby offered to any person or persons that shall take and bring him back to the Jail of this city, and all reasonable charges paid.

N. B. The printers of the several newspapers in the Colonies are desired to insert this advertisement.

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 9, 1776, and referred to Mr McKean, Mr. Samuel Adams, and Mr Wythe.]

New-York, May 8, 1776.

SIR: Having been informed that the contract I made with the Provincial Convention of this Colony in behalf of the Continent, is thought by the honourable Continental Congress disadvantageous to the publick, I beg leave to explain the motives on which I founded my proposals: Having seen an advertisement in the publick prints, requesting all those who were willing to contract for victualling the Army of the United Colonies to be stationed in this Province, to send their proposals sealed to the Provincial Convention, who were then sitting; what particularly induced me to make tender was, that I thought few persons in this city would be concerned in so great an undertaking; and as I had always an earnest desire to serve my country, and being brought up to business, was confident that the Representatives of this Colony would not be displeased should the contract fall in my hands. These considerations, with the prospect that the emolument arising therefrom would be adequate to the trouble and expense that such a contract would naturally create, induced me to offer proposals, which were esteemed the most advantageous to the Continent of any delivered, and finally I contracted to victual the Army. But as I am informed the honourable Continental Congress are of opinion that my contract is very injurious to the publick, and although I earnestly wish to be in the service of the Continent, having met with considerable losses, and altogether thrown out of business by the present unhappy disputes, yet I esteem it my duty, and shall always prefer the good of the *American* cause to my private interest; I will, therefore, with the utmost cheerfulness, resign my contract, should the Congress in their wisdom think it expedient.

I have the honour to be your most obedient, humble servant,

ABRAHAM LIVINGSTON.

To the President of the Honourable Continental Congress.

EVE PROVOOST TO NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-York, May 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Being informed that my son *David Provoost*, a passenger on board the brig *Amazon*, lately taken by the men-of-war at the Hook, is detained a prisoner on board the *Asia* man-of-war, I beg leave to ask the favour of the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety to use their influence with his Excellency General *Washington*, to permit some person to go on board the *Asia*, in order to treat about my son's releasement; as it is peculiarly hard upon him, who had nothing to do with the vessel or cargo, to be detained a prisoner almost at my own door.

Your kind offices, therefore, to effect, if possible, my son's discharge, will much oblige, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

EVE PROVOOST.

RETURN OF COLONEL MALCOLM'S REGIMENT, NEW-YORK, MAY 8, 1776.

*William Malcolm*, Colonel; *Isaac Stoutenburgh*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Alner*, Major.

*Jonathan Blake*, Captain; *Joseph Cheesman*, First Lieutenant; *Prentice Bowen*, Second Lieutenant; *James Black*, Ensign—Brown Buffs.

*William Dewitt*, Captain; *George Fisher*, First Lieutenant; *John M. Foght*, Second Lieutenant—Rifle Company.

*John Laboyreaux*, Captain; *John Fish*, First Lieutenant; *William Adams*, Second Lieutenant; *John Thomson*, Ensign—Grenadiers.  
 Rev. *Joseph Treat*, Chaplain; *John Sanford*, Adjutant; *Aaron Gilbert*, Quartermaster.

June 6, 1776.—I have received the above gentlemen's commissions, being fifteen in number, as also commissions for Colonel *Stoutenburgh* and myself.

WILLIAM MALCOLM.

COMMISSIONERS IN CANADA TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read May 18, 1776.]

Montreal, May 8, 1776.

SIR: With this you will receive copies of our two preceding letters. We find ourselves obliged to report the necessity of sending immediately the supply of hard money therein mentioned. We have tried in vain to borrow some here for the immediate occasion of the Army, either on the publick or on our own private credit. We cannot even sell sterling bills of exchange, which some of us have offered to draw. It seems it had been expected and given out by our friends, that we should bring money with us. The disappointment has discouraged everybody, and established an opinion that none is to be had, or that the Congress has not credit enough in their own Colonies to procure it. Many of our friends are drained dry; others say they are so, fearing, perhaps, we shall never be able to reimburse them. They show us long accounts, no part of which we are able to discharge, of the supplies they have furnished to our Army, and declare that they have borrowed and taken up on credit so long for our service, that they can now be trusted no longer, even for what they want themselves. The Tories will not trust us a farthing, and some who, perhaps, wish us well, conceiving that we shall, through our own poverty, or from superior force, be soon obliged to abandon the country, are afraid to have any dealings with us, lest they should hereafter be called to account for abetting our cause. Our enemies take the advantage of this distress, to make us look contemptible in the eyes of the *Canadians*, who have been provoked by the violences of our military, in exacting provisions and services from them without pay—a conduct towards a people who suffered us to enter their country as friends, that the most urgent necessity can scarce excuse, since it has contributed much to the changing their good dispositions towards us into enmity, and makes them wish our departure; and, accordingly, we have daily intimations of plots hatching and insurrections intended, for expelling us on the first news of the arrival of the *British Army*. You will see from hence that your Commissioners themselves are in a critical and most irksome situation, pestered hourly with demands, great and small, that they cannot answer, in a place where our cause has a majority of enemies, the garrison weak, and a greater would, without money, increase our difficulties. In short, if money cannot be had to support your Army here with honour, so as to be respected, instead of being hated by the people, we report it as our firm and unanimous opinion, that it is better immediately to withdraw it. The fact before your eyes, that the powerful *British* nation cannot keep an army in a country where the inhabitants are become enemies, must convince you of the necessity of enabling us immediately to make this people our friends. Exclusive of a sum of money to discharge the debts already contracted, which General *Arnold* informs us amounts to fourteen thousand pounds, besides the account laid before Congress by Mr. *Price*, a further sum of hard money, not less than six thousand pounds, will be necessary to re-establish our credit in this Colony. With this supply, and a little success, it may be possible to regain the affections of the people, to attach them firmly to our cause, and induce them to accept a free Government; perhaps to enter into the Union; in which case the currency of our paper money will, we think, follow as a certain consequence.

With great respect to yourself, and the Congress, we have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servants,

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,

SAMUEL CHASE,

CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

CHARLES MILLER TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

[Read May 23, 1776, and referred to Mr. Whipple, Mr. Gerry, and Mr. F. Lee.]

Boston, May 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 29th ultimo was duly received, and observe the contents. It gives me pleasure to find that my appointment to this office is agreeable to you. You may depend on my utmost endeavours to serve the cause I am employed in. There is a considerable quantity of damaged butter, fat, hard bread, raisins, barrels old pork, &c., the latter of which article I am now selling from sixty-six shillings and eight pence to seventy-two shillings per barrel. In your letter you desired I would have them properly inspected. I am at a loss to know whether you intended there should be persons appointed to inspect it, or whether it should be left to me to determine which is good or bad. I would recommend to have all that is bad sold at publick vendue, if agreeable to you, as I think they will sell for as much or more that way than at private sale. As to the liquors, I should be glad to know the cost of them, which will be a guide to me in the sale. The prize flour will be baked into hard bread, and it is very likely the ships will want a considerable quantity, which, I suppose, may be supplied by an order from Mr. *Cushing*. I shall acquaint Major *Frazer* with what you wrote respecting the essence of spruce.

There is a great demand here for pork. I suppose I can sell a considerable quantity at about eighty shillings per barrel, provided it is agreeable. You will find by the receipt given Mr. *Avery*, that there are considerable quantities of provisions here more than will be wanted for the Army for twelve months to come—whether it would not be best to sell such quantity as will not be wanted. By Mr. *Avery's* order, I have supplied this Colony with a considerable quantity of pork, beef, and fish. I should be glad to know whether I am to continue supplying the same if wanted, and whether I must get the cash for it, or let it remain charged to the Colony. We are every day expecting the Fleet and Army to return here with double force; if they should, they will take more provisions than would be agreeable to me.

This Colony has not as yet done anything worth mentioning towards the protecting of this town. Three or four ships, and about three thousand men, would take it again with great ease. Yesterday a privateer schooner from *Marblehead* took (in plain sight from this town) and carried into *Lynn*, two large brigs, loaded with beef, wine, and butter.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

CHARLES MILLER.

To *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General, at New-York.

P. S. There is a quantity of salt at *Jamaica Plains*, for which Mr. *Blaney* sent to me for a receipt; but not knowing the quantity there was, and having received no order to bring it into *Boston*, I desired him to let it remain in the care of the person in whose store it was, until I heard from you.

JEREMIAH WADSWORTH TO JOHN BROWN.

Boston, May 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In the month of *September* last, the brigantine *Polly*, *Giles Sage* master, from *Jamaica* and *Hispaniola*, laden with rum, sugar, and cotton, whereof *Matthew Talbott*, Esq., of *Middletown*, in *Connecticut*, and myself, were owners, was taken by the *Nautilus* man-of-war, brought into this port, and here condemned by a Court of Admiralty, and sold. I now find that some part of her cargo, viz: twenty-one bags of cotton, containing two thousand three hundred and eighty-three pounds, are in the store of *George Erving*, Esq., and am informed that you have taken the same under your care, in behalf of this Colony, believing it to be the estate of the said *George Erving*, Esq., or some other persons inimical to this country. But I am able to make proof that the said cotton was actually brought in said brigantine *Polly*, and was the property of us, the said *Talbott & Wadsworth*, and we conceive it still to be our property, not believing that the unjust capture made of our estates hath in anywise changed the property. We therefore lay before you our claim, and desire you will

deliver the cotton to some person by us authorized to receive it. I should have applied to you, gentlemen, in person, but as you were not sitting to-day, and I being obliged to go out of town, desire you will transact the whole matter with Mr. *Benjamin Clarke*, whose receipt for the cotton, or any other matters to us belonging, shall be as effectual as if signed by us. I am further to inform you that *Richard Alsop*, Esq., late of said *Middletown*, was concern-

ed in some part of the cargo of said brigantine, and that I am empowered by his administratrix, Mrs. *Mary Alsop*, to transact for her, as well as for *Matthew Talbot*, Esq. As by said power determined, Mr. *Clarke* will appear.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,  
JEREMIAH WADSWORTH.  
To *John Brown*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee in *Boston*.

## MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

At a Great and General Court, or Assembly, of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, begun and held at *Watertown*, on *Wednesday*, the 26th day of *July*, 1775, and continued by a prorogation and adjournment to *Wednesday*, the 13th of *March*, 1776.

Wednesday, March 13, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

A Letter from *Stephen Moylan*, Esq., relative to the capture of the Vessel *Friendship*, Captain *Holmes*. Read, and committed to *Thomas Cushing* and *Jedediah Foster*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Ellis*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Colonel *Orne*, are joined.

Mr. *Sullivan* came up with a message from the House to inform the Board that the House had now a quorum of Members present, and were ready to proceed to business.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to examine the Accounts of the several Commissaries appointed to supply the Sea-Coast Forces.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., is joined.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 14, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, Thomas Cushing, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Letter from Mr. *Gerry*, with another Letter said to come from *Philadelphia*, reported, as their opinion, that a Committee be appointed to transmit the Memorandum and Day-Books, with files of Letters mentioned in Mr. *Gerry's* Letter, to our Delegates in Congress; and also to obtain an account of all the Powder lent by this Colony to the Continental Army; and report the same to this House.

Read, and accepted, and Deacon *Cheever*, Mr. *Partridge*, and Mr. *Ellis*, are appointed a Committee for the purpose therein expressed.

In Council: Read, and concurred; consented to by fifteen of the Council.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That Mr. *Sullivan* and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to revise the Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, &c., and report what is proper to be done.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., is joined.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following Field-Officers, viz:

*John Goodwin*, Second Lieutenant of a Company raised in the County of *York*, and stationed at *Falmouth*, under the command of *Tobias Lord*, in the room of Lieutenant *Webber*, who declines.

*William Lithgow*, Captain of the Company raised in the County of *Lincoln*, and stationed at said *Falmouth*, in the room of *Benjamin Patten*, who declines.

*Robert Edgcomb Nason*, Second Lieutenant of Captain *Benjamin Hooper's* Company, stationed at *Falmouth*, in the room of Lieutenant *Chadbourn*, who declines.

*George White*, First Lieutenant of the same Company, in the room of the said *William Lithgow*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: Ordered, That the Account of *James Sullivan*, Commissary, be committed to the Committee appointed to consider the Accounts of the Commissaries of the Sea-Coast Forces.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 15, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Ordered, That the Committee on Muster-Rolls, in making up the same, be directed to consider the pay of a Second Major at seven Pounds per month.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Joseph Miscer*, in full for the loss of his Gun at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, the sum of one Pound sixteen Shillings.

Whereas Committees were appointed by this Court, in several Counties in this Colony, to procure subscribers, who should certify under their hands what sum of hard money each subscriber would exchange for Continental Bills, but no Bills have been granted for that purpose:

Therefore Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to each person belonging to either of the Committees aforesaid, such sum or sums as shall appear to the honourable Council that they severally may be able to exchange for hard money; and that the said Committee pay the said hard money to the Treasurer of this Colony, for the use of the *Canadian* expedition, and take his receipt for the same; they severally to be accountable to this Court.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Rolls be, and they hereby are, directed to make up the Muster-Roll of Captain *James Perry's* Company, in Colonel *Paul Dudley Sargent's* Regiment, to the 12th of *August*, for the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers borne on said Roll; they having received no pay from the Continent before that date, as appears by a Certificate on said Roll from the Colonel.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 16, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In Council: Resolved, That *John Winthrop* and *Thomas Cushing*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to prepare a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony now at the Congress at *Philadelphia*, representing that as the *British* Troops, now at *Boston*, are about removing from thence, in consequence of which a considerable part of the Continental Army may be removed from this Colony to the southward, by which means this Colony will be left in almost a defenceless state; and to desire them to use their influence with the Congress, in case any motion should be made for the removal of the Army, that they would leave a sufficient number of forces within the Colony for its defence.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Cooper*, Colonel *Orne*, and Mr. *Sullivan*, are joined.

Petition of *James Holmes*, setting forth: That in the transport-ship called the *Friendship*, lately cast ashore on *Cape Cod*, whereof he was master, he had a considerable sum of money, (his own private cash,) to the amount of three hundred and seventy-five dollars, the whole of which,



together with a gold watch and his wearing apparel, were taken from him by the captors of the ship; part of the money has since been expended in bringing the crew of said ship to Head-Quarters, so that only two hundred and twenty-five dollars now remain in the captors' hands; by which means your Petitioner is reduced to the most necessitous circumstances, destitute of a single farthing to subsist on, in a country where he has neither friends nor connexions, and where he has no other dependance but on the characteristic benevolence and hospitality of the *Americans*. He recognises with gratitude your Honours' recommendation to the captors to return his wearing apparel, and he humbly begs that you will add to that recommendation a return of his private moneys, in order that he may be able to support himself in some degree of reputation, till he shall have an opportunity to return home.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Selectmen of the Town of *Truro*, that they return to Captain *James Holmes* seventy-five Dollars, part of the cash he claims as his private property on board the *Friendship*, lately run ashore in said town, for said Captain *Holmes's* necessary support, till trial of said vessel can be had, or further order of this Court.

Whereas the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace and Inferior Court of Common Pleas, for the County of *Worcester*, according to the time appointed by law, should be holden at *Worcester*, in said County, on the last *Tuesday* of *March* instant: And whereas the Courts of General Sessions for the Peace, for the last *December* term for said County, is adjourned to *Monday*, the 25th instant, *March*: And whereas no business of great importance can be transacted at said Courts, and sundry of the Justices and officers of said Courts are members of this Court, which is likely to continue sitting beyond the time appointed for holding said Courts; and it is probable that matters of great importance may require the attendance of all the members of this Court at that time:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That said Courts be, and hereby are, adjourned unto the second *Tuesday* in *June* next, being the time at which the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and Court of General Sessions of the Peace, for said County, are by law appointed to be holden at *Worcester* aforesaid; and that all pleas, processes, writs, actions, and suits, issued or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable, and having, and that should have had day in said Courts, if the same had been holden the said last *Tuesday* in *March*, or at the adjournment of *December* Court, shall be returnable and have day in said Courts, on the said second *Tuesday* in *June* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall then be proceeded, tried, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes as effectually as if said Courts should have been held on the said last *Tuesday* of *March*, or at the time to which the Court held in *December* last was adjourned.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of the Town of *Groton*, the sum of twenty-six Pounds five Shillings and seven Pence, in full of their account of Provisions supplied the Colony.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to *Thomas Windship*, the sum of one Pound four Shillings, in full for a Gun lost in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Lieutenant *Nathan Wheeler*, the sum of seven Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence, in full for his services as a subaltern officer in Colonel *Doolittle's* Regiment, from the 23d of *April* last to the 1st day of *July*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *William Dodge* and others, the sum of fifty-seven Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, in full for Provisions supplied by them to the Eastward settlements.

The Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down with the following Message to the House, viz:

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

"As the manufacture of saltpetre in this Colony is, by your encouragement, arrived to a good degree of perfection,

and it is probable that what has and may hereafter be done to encourage the same will soon produce a sufficiency for our own use, yet there is another article no less necessary for the making of gunpowder, viz: sulphur, in the manufacturing whereof very little or no progress has yet been made. It is very certain that there are in this Colony good minerals for that purpose. The neglect of the people to enter into that branch of business must be owing to the short time in which a premium is promised to them for the manufacturing of it, or to some other cause yet unknown.

"The importance of this matter ought to engage the most serious attention of this Colony. We therefore most earnestly recommend the same to your further consideration; and that you will take such measures as to you shall appear proper for the obtaining that necessary article."

Signed by fifteen of the Council.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Catharine Alexander*, the sum of five Pounds twelve Shillings and four Pence, in full discharge of her account of losses her late Husband sustained at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *John Cummings*, the sum of three Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence, in full discharge of his account for the losses he sustained at the battle of *Charlestown*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Amos Dole*, the sum of six Pounds twelve Shillings, in full discharge of the account of the losses he sustained at the battle of *Charlestown*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Heirs of *Joseph Hibbard*, deceased, the sum of one Pound four Shillings, in full for the loss of a Gun at the battle of *Charlestown*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Richard Sawtell*, *Jonas Nagus*, and *Jonas Wright*, the sum of six Pounds twelve Shillings, in full discharge of their accounts for losses sustained at the battle of *Charlestown*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Eliphelet Hastings*, the sum of nineteen Shillings and six Pence, and to the Selectmen of *Waltham*, the sum of seventeen Shillings, in full of their accounts for losses sustained at the battle of *Charlestown*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Heirs of *Amos Wheeler* deceased, the sum of three Pounds sixteen Shillings and six Pence, in full for the losses he sustained at the battle of *Charlestown*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General for this Colony be directed to procure and deliver to Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, two hundred weight of Gunpowder, for the use of the Sloop *Mackias Liberty* and the Schooner *Diligent*, he being accountable to this Colony for the same.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, March 18, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable Walter Spooner, William Sever, Joseph Palmer, Michael Farley, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following Officers, viz:

*Solomon Gorham*, First Lieutenant of the Company stationed at *Gloucester*, under the command of Captain *Daniel Warner*, in the room of *John Low*, who declines serving.

*Andrew Woodbury*, Second Lieutenant of the same Company.

*John Chandler*, First Lieutenant of a Company in said *Gloucester*, under the command of Captain *Bradbury Saunders*, in the room of *Isaac Somes*, who declines serving.

*William Kinsman*, Second Lieutenant of said Company, in the room of said *Chandler*.

*Ebenezer Low*, First Lieutenant in Captain *Giddins's* Company, in said *Gloucester*, in the room of *Jabez Lane*, who has joined the Continental Army.

*Jeremiah Foster*, Second Lieutenant in the Company

last mentioned, in the room of *Moses Atkinson*, who has likewise joined the Continental Army.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Whereas by a former Resolve of this Court, relative to the rank of Officers on the station at *Gloucester*, some difficulty has arisen,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Officers in that department be ranked in the following manner, viz: *Daniel Warner*, First Captain; *Bradbury Saunders*, Second Captain; *William Pearson*, Third Captain; and *Daniel Giddins* a Fourth Captain.

A Bill for repealing an Act passed by the Great and General Court at their session in *February* last, entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coast of *America*, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same," having passed the House of Representatives to be engrossed:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

Mr. *Sullivan* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that Mr. *Cooper*, the Speaker *pro tem.*, being absent, they had appointed Mr. *Freeman*, the Clerk, to act in that capacity.

*Resolved*, That such of the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Boston*, as have continued there till this time, do lay before this Court, as soon as may be, a list of the names of all such persons in the said town as have countenanced, aided, or in any way assisted our enemies, or have appeared to act an unfriendly part to the liberties of *America*, while the said town was in possession of the *British* Troops, that such measures may be taken with regard to those persons as may be judged necessary for the security of the Town and Colony; and the Secretary is directed forthwith to transmit a copy of this Resolve to *John Scollay*, Esq., to be communicated.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Rawson* be of the Committee to consider the Accounts of the Commissaries for the Sea-Coast Forces, in the room of Mr. *Ellis*, absent.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That the Petition of *Rufus Putnam*, (respecting Captain *Peter Ingersoll's* carrying off the Muster-Roll of one of the Companies, with a warrant on it, in Colonel *David Brewer's* Regiment,) be committed to Major *Goodwin* and Colonel *Sartel*, with such as the honourable Board may join.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Eldad Taylor*, Esq., is joined.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Elisha Dickerson*, the sum of four hundred Pounds, for the use of Colonel *Porter's* Regiment, now on their march to *Canada*.

Whereas *Moses Gill*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee appointed to settle the Accounts remaining unsettled on the books of the Committee of Supplies, and to collect balances due to the Colony on the said Accounts; and, also, to take care of several cargoes of Vessels belonging to the Colony, has now in his hands three hundred Pounds, in silver money, which is the property of the Colony, and which he received of Captain *Shaw*, master of the Schooner *Macaroni*, and the said *Gill* being desirous of being discharged thereof,

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said *Moses Gill*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, directed to pay the said sum to the Treasurer of this Colony; and the said Treasurer's Receipt shall be a discharge for the same.

An engrossed Bill entitled "An Act for repealing an Act made and passed by the Great and General Court at their session in *February* last, for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coast of *America*, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, to consider the state of the Province, and report what is proper to be done for the immediate defence and government thereof.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *William Sever*, *Walter Spooner*, *John Winthrop*, and *Jedediah Foster*, Esquires, are joined.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *Thomas Burnham* as Adjutant of the *Essex* Regiment, to reinforce the *American* Army, till the 1st of *April* next, in the room of *John Peabody*, who declines.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, on the Petition of *Joseph Eaton* and others, representing the state of several Towns in the County of *Lincoln*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., is joined.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, March 20, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Whereas the Judge of the Court of Justice for the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, and *Middlesex*, appointed in pursuance of an act of the General Court at their session in *November* last, entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coast of *America*, and for erecting a Court to try and condemn all Vessels that shall be found infesting the same," has appointed certain days for holding his Court for that purpose, at *Ipswich*, viz: the 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 28th, and 29th days of *March* instant; and it being inexpedient that these Courts should be held until some further regulation shall be made relative to the proceedings therein:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Court aforesaid, appointed to be held on the days aforesaid, which are not already elapsed, be adjourned until *Monday*, the 1st day of *April* next, to be held at *Ipswich*, in the County of *Essex*; and all processes, pleas, and every matter and thing whatsoever which might or could have been heard, considered, and determined by the said Judge, in virtue of the appointment of those days for that purpose, shall and may be determined by him on the said 1st day of *April* next, and they are hereby continued accordingly; and all jurors and witnesses who have been summoned to attend in pursuance of the appointment aforesaid, shall be hereby holden, and are accordingly directed, to attend said Court, on the said 1st day of *April* next, and shall be liable to the same penalties for non-attendance as if the said Court had been held on the days appointed for holding the same.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Joseph Bacon*, the sum of seventy-two Pounds, in full for his services as a Post-Rider from *Woodstock* to *Cambridge*, from the 25th of *April* last to this time.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *Ebenezer Morton* as Second Lieutenant of the Company stationed at *Falmouth*, under the command of *Briant Morton*, in the room of *Levi Loring*, who declines.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to take into custody all and singular the Stores of every kind purchased by this Colony for the use of the same, and not particularly appropriated; and the Committees, or other persons who may have any of the Stores aforesaid in their possession, are hereby directed to deliver the same accordingly.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne* and Captain *Partridge*, with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and confer with him at large on the

subject of the removal of any or all of the Continental Forces now in this Colony.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred, and *Thomas Cushing, Esq.*, is joined.

*In the House of Representatives:* Ordered, That . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, to consider what is proper to be done with respect to appointing some person to preach a Sermon on the ensuing general election.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred, and *John Winthrop, Esq.*, is joined.

Ordered, That the Committee on the Muster-Rolls of the Army make up the Roll of Captain *James Keith*, in Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, to the 15th of *August* last.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Richard Devens, Esq.*, and others, a Committee of this Court to procure Fire-Wood for the Continental Army, the further sum of one thousand Pounds, to enable them to pay for said Fire-Wood, as they have already or may hereafter agree for, to supply the Army aforesaid, they to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, March 21, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*In the House of Representatives:* Ordered, That . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, to prepare an Address to his Excellency General *Washington*, before he shall set out for the Southern Colonies.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred, and *William Sever, Esq.*, is joined.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Deacon *Stickney*, for the use of *John Nichols*, the sum of eight Pounds, in full of his losses at the battle of *Lexington*.

*In the House of Representatives:* Resolved, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Cushing*, and Mr. *Story*, together with such as the honourable Board may join, be a Committee to take into immediate consideration the best measures proper to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred, and *Walter Spooner* and *Samuel Holten, Esquires*, are joined.

The Committee of both Houses, to whom was referred the Petition of *Rufus Putnam*, showing that Captain *Peter Ingersoll*, in Colonel *David Brewer's* Regiment, with the assistance of the said *Peter Ingersoll* and Ensign *Thomas Burnham*, had made up a Muster-Roll of his Company, and presented it to the Committee of Muster-Rolls to be examined and to have a warrant for payment; and as there is no roll or warrant found with the Colony Treasurer to pay the soldiers, by which they are kept out of their just dues, having attended that service, beg leave to report: That they found there was a Muster-Roll presented to the Committee of Rolls, and by their minutes, and by a duplicate in the Secretary's Office, that a Muster-Roll of Captain *Peter Ingersoll* was passed in Council, and a warrant to the Treasurer was ordered for payment of the same, on the 9th of *February* last; also inquired of the Treasurer if there was any such roll lodged with him, but found none; and the Treasurer informed the Committee that he hath not seen such roll; wherefore your Committee are of opinion that the said *Peter Ingersoll* and Ensign *Thomas Burnham* be directed forthwith to attend this Court for examination touching the matter.

ELDAD TAYLOR, per order.

*In the House of Representatives:* Read, and accepted.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 22, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the Town of *Boston* be directed to use the utmost vigilance and industry to find out every person in that town who is actually infected with the small-pox, and cause them to be collected in some several house or houses, in the most westerly part of the town, and with the greatest diligence and care effectually to cleanse all infected places other than those to which the infected persons shall be removed; and that in case it should so happen that the said distemper should break out anew, that the infected person or persons be removed immediately to the place assigned for those who are now infected; and that the said Selectmen be also directed, from time to time, very particularly to advertise the publick of the state of the small-pox during its continuance there; and that Mr. *Pitts*, a member of this Court, and one of the Selectmen of *Boston*, be directed to take a copy of this Resolve, attested by the Secretary, and communicate the same to his brethren, the said Selectmen, as soon as may be.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to confer with his Excellency General *Washington* at large on the subject of the removal of any or all of the Continental Troops now in this Colony, beg leave to report:

That your Committee waited upon General *Washington*; and upon conferring with him on the subject above-mentioned, they were informed by his Excellency that, as the *British* Troops were about leaving the harbour of *Boston*, he had thought it necessary to order five regiments to the southward, and that as soon as the *British* Army and Navy were sailed, and had absolutely taken their departure, he should order away the rest of the Continental Troops, excepting three or four regiments, which, together with the Militia inlisted to tarry till the beginning of *April*, he should leave to take care of the lines, the military stores, and to assist in fortifying the Harbour and Town of *Boston*; that he had already ordered some works to be thrown up on *Fort-Hill*, and he supposed the Government would take some effectual measures to fortify *Castle-Island*, and such other places as would be necessary to secure the town and harbour.

Your Committee mentioned to the General that the several towns through this Government had delivered out their stocks of powder in order to supply the Continental Army, and desired to know whether his Excellency was now able to refund the Colony the quantity of powder they advanced for the Continent. The General answered, that he did not know what quantity the Army had been supplied with, and should be glad the Court would furnish him with an account of the same, in order that he might resolve them upon this head.

Your Committee further inquired of the General, whether he should be willing to spare to this Colony a regiment or two, that consisted of seamen, provided the Colony would supply him with an equal number of other men in their room. He replied he should be ready to make the exchange as soon as the men were produced.

THOMAS CUSHING, per order.

*In the House of Representatives:* Read, and committed to the Committee of both Houses appointed to take into consideration a Letter from His Excellency General *Washington*.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred.

*In the House of Representatives:* Ordered, That the Letter from General *Washington*, of this day, be committed to . . . , with such as the honourable Board may join, to consider the same and report.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred, and *William Sever, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, and Benjamin Lincoln, Esquires*, are joined.

Whereas some of the Soldiers who have been engaged in the service of this Colony the year past are deceased, and the Estates left by the said deceased are not sufficient to influence any person to administer thereon:

Therefore Resolved, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is, directed and empowered to pay unto the Heirs next akin to the above-mentioned Soldiers, the respective sums that may be due to them on the Muster-Rolls, on the said Heirs producing a certificate from the Selectmen of the town where the said deceased Soldiers had their abode, that they are the Heirs next akin to the said deceased, and that there is not estate enough to influence the Heirs to take administration.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Receiver-General aforesaid is hereby directed to pay unto the Soldiers engaged in the service of this Colony, the several sums that have been stopped out of their wages for Fire-Arms, on their producing certificates from the persons from whom they received the said Fire-Arms, that they have returned the same, and that they have satisfied the owners of such Arms for the use thereof.

*In the House of Representatives: Ordered*, That . . . . ., be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, to procure the Resolves of the Continental and Provincial Congresses printed.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and Benjamin White, Esquire, is joined.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to James Prescott, Esquire, the sum of four Pounds eighteen Shillings and eight Pence, in full for the loss sustained by his son Benjamin being killed in the battle of Bunker's Hill.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to James Prescott, Esquire, the sum of five Pounds, for the use of David Kemp, in full of his losses in the battle of Bunker's Hill.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Elisha Frizell, the sum of three Pounds, in full for a Gun and Bayonet broken in the battle of Bunker's Hill.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 23, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncey, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, and Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed the 20th instant, to consider what is proper to be done with respect to appointing some person to preach a sermon on the ensuing general election, have attended that service, and beg leave to report, as their opinion, that the ancient method of appointing a Preacher on the day of election, which was by the Council and House of Representatives alternately, be still continued; and that as the House of Representatives made choice of the Preacher in the year 1774, and no choice hath been made since that time, either by the Council or House of Representatives, the choice for the present year lies with the Council. JOHN WINTHROP, *per order*.

Read, and accepted, and thereupon *Resolved*, That the choice of a person to preach the Election Sermon for the present year lies with the Council.

Petition of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, and the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Bristol, setting forth: That the said Justices, on the second Tuesday of March current, in obedience to a law of this Colony, repaired to Taunton, in the said County of Bristol, in order to open the aforesaid Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Court of Common Pleas, and enter upon, do, and complete the business assigned them to do at said Courts; that upon the approach of the said Justices, with the other officers of said Courts toward the door of the Court-House there, a number of persons, to the amount of fifty at least, (many of whom were armed with clubs and guns, most of whom are known to said Justices,) assembled in a riotous manner, and violently opposed and prevented the entrance of said Justices into said Court-House, and with force and arms assaulted and beat the said Justices, Sheriffs, &c., and using opprobrious, profane, insulting, and menacing language to the said Justices, outrageously drove them and the other officers of said Courts from said Court-House; whereupon the said Justices were obliged to repair to a house other than that provided by said County, to carry on and open the business of said Courts, to the great inconvenience of all concerned, not being able by their authority to raise sufficient force to imprison, repel, or disperse said rioters. Wherefore the said Justices entreat your Honours to devise some means for the effectual prevention of such unjustifiable proceedings for the future, that the Justices of the several Courts in this Colony may proceed without fear or dismay to administer impartial justice through the land.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Province.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Heirs of the several Soldiers killed in the battle of Bunker's Hill, the sum of forty-two Pounds sixteen Shillings, in full of said losses in the battle.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain Reuben Dow, the sum of four Pounds seventeen Shillings, in full for the losses he sustained at the battle of Bunker's Hill.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to a number of Soldiers in Captain Reuben Dow's Company, the sum of twenty-seven Pounds one Shilling and five Pence, in full for the losses they sustained in the battle of Bunker's Hill.

Whereas the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, and Inferior Court of Common Pleas, for the County of Barnstable, according to the time appointed by law, should be holden in Barnstable, in the said County, on the first Tuesday of April next: And whereas sundry of the Justices and officers of the said Courts are members of this Court, which is like to continue sitting beyond the time appointed for holding said Courts; and it is probable that matters of great importance may require the attendance of all the members of this Court at that time:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Courts be, and hereby are, adjourned to the last Tuesday of June next, being the time at which the Inferior Court of Common Pleas and Court of General Sessions of the Peace, for the said County, are by law appointed to be holden at Barnstable aforesaid; and that all pleas, processes, writs, actions, and suits, issued, or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other things and matters returnable and having, and that should have had day in the said Courts if the same were holden the said first Tuesday of April next, shall be returnable and have day in the said Courts on the said last Tuesday of June next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall then be proceeded on, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes as effectually as if the said Court should have been held on the said first Tuesday of April next.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to examine the Commissary's Accounts, beg leave to report: That they have examined the Account of James Sullivan, Esq., and find the same right cast, well vouched, and conformable to the establishment ordered by this Court for the sea-coast service; that provision, and other necessary articles, have been purchased, and cash advanced for sauce money, &c., to the amount of eight hundred and thirty-seven pounds seventeen shillings and three pence two farthings; that there remained on hand the 1st of March, seven thousand four hundred and ninety-six pounds of flour, five thousand three hundred and eighty-four pounds pork, ten thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine pounds of beef, (including wastage) and some large quantity of cord wood; also, that a balance of one hundred and sixty-five pounds two shillings and eight pence two farthings, in cash, appears to be due to this Colony, which sum, together with the articles before mentioned, (on hand,) the said James Sullivan, Esq., be further accountable to this Court therefor.

CHARLES CHAUNCEY, *per order*.

Read, and accepted.

The Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down with the following Message to the House:

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

"The Secretary will herewith lay before you two letters from the Committee of Newburyport, one dated the 24th of February last, and the other the 13th instant; wherein you will observe that the order of the Court of the 8th February last, relative to fixing for the sea, and manning with fifty men each, the Sloop *Machias Liberty*, and the Schooner *Diligent*, hath not been fully executed; that it is not in the power of said Committee to do it; and that if said vessels are manned it must be from the eastern part of this Colony. Considering the danger that would attend the suffering said vessels to leave the harbour, in which they now are, with so few men as are enlisted to serve on board, (which are a number little more than sufficient to sail them;) the great delay it would cause to attempt the recruiting and marching

men the distance of two hundred miles at this season of the year; that the present appearances of our affairs are materially different from what they were when said order of Court was made, and that there is good reason to believe that one, if not both of the vessels, are unfit, in their construction, for what they are designed; the Council thought it their duty to lay this matter before you, and recommend it to your immediate consideration."

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* morning.

Monday, March 25, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Whetcomb, Joseph Gerrish, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*In Council: Resolved*, That *Benjamin Lincoln* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House may join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, and request, as this Colony is greatly weakened by the destruction of its fortifications and warlike stores by our enemies, and will be more so on the removal of the Continental Army, as a large proportion of the men and arms therein are from this Government; that he would further consider the exposed state of this Colony, and if it is consistent with the general interest, he would continue here six Regiments of Continental Troops, and two Companies of the Train of Artillery, for the defence thereof, instead of three or four Regiments his Excellency informed this Court he intended to leave.

*In the House of Representatives: Read*, and concurred, and *Mr. Cooper*, *Mr. Brown*, and *Mr. Nichols*, are joined.

Whereas, by the request of Doctor *John Greenleaf*, he is excused from being of the Committee to receive Saltpetre:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Mr. Samuel Tufts*, of *Newburyport*, be, and he hereby is, appointed to receive all the good and merchantable Saltpetre made within this Colony, which may be brought and delivered to him at *Newburyport*, before the 1st day of *June* next, with a certificate from the Selectmen of the town wherein it was made, that said Saltpetre was made in such town, within this Colony; and he is hereby directed to pay the persons so delivering the same seven Shillings per pound.

And that the said *Samuel Tufts* may be enabled to comply with the above direction,

It is further *Resolved*, That he be furnished from the Treasury of this Colony with the sum of one thousand Pounds, he to be accountable to this Court for the same, and to deliver the Saltpetre he may so receive to the order of this Court; and the Secretary is directed to send to the said *Samuel Tufts* an attested copy of the above.

Whereas the Mandamus Counsellors, Commissioners of the Customs, and others, the open and avowed enemies to the rights of their country, and the cause of liberty, have been compelled, by the terror of the *American* arms, and an apprehension of the resentment of a justly incensed People, to depart the Town of *Boston*, at any time since the 19th *April*, 1775, and before the 20th *March* instant; abandoning not only their Houses and Real Estates, but also, in their hasty and precipitate flight, their personal and other moveable effects, to a very considerable value:

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Brown*, *Mr. Cooper*, *Mr. Rawson*, *Mr. Pitts*, and Colonel *Sartel*, be a Committee to repair to the Town of *Boston*, and there take, or cause to be taken, just and true accounts of said Houses and Real Estates, personal and other moveable effects, the property of the before-mentioned Mandamus Counsellors, and others; to commit the charge and care of said estates and effects to such suitable persons as they may judge proper; and to make report of their proceedings hereon as soon as may be, that this Court may take such further order thereon as may be necessary and fitting.

*In Council: Read* and concurred, as taken into a new draft.

Petition of *Abijah Burbank*, of *Sutton*, setting forth that your Petitioner is owner of the stream, land, and dam in said Town of *Sutton*, which was lately viewed by a Committee of the honourable House, in order for the erecting a Powder-Mill; that, in consequence of a late resolve of the General Court for encouraging the building two Powder-Mills

within this Colony, and from an earnest desire of supporting the great and important cause of *America*, by his endeavours to supply the publick with that very important article of gunpowder; your Petitioner is induced to apply to your Honours, and humbly prays that your Honours would grant him license, agreeably to said resolve, to erect a Powder-Mill within the said Town of *Sutton*, in such place as the major part of the Selectmen of said town shall approve of.

*Resolved*, That the prayer thereof be granted, and that said *Abijah Burbank* have liberty to build a Powder-Mill on the stream in his Petition mentioned, on the encouragements of this Court for erecting two other Powder-Mills.

*In the House of Representatives: The House* made choice (by ballot) of the following gentlemen for Field-Officers of the sixth Regiment of Militia in the County of *Worcester*, viz: *John Golden*, Colonel; *Levi Bridgman*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Job Cushing*, Major; *Moses Wheelock*, Second Major.

*In Council: Read*, and concurred.

It being represented that there are many valuable articles on *Castle-Island*, the property of this Colony, which are now exposed to embezzlement and waste:

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be directed immediately to cause all such articles to be collected, and deposited in some place where they may be kept safe, for the future benefit of this Colony.

And further *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General, before he shall proceed in this matter, be directed to apply to his Excellency General *Washington* for his advice relative thereto.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, March 26, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of Doctor *Samuel Cooper*, setting forth that he has, among many others, been a great sufferer through the infamous violence and robbery of the *British* Troops lately driven from *Boston*; that his house has been plundered, the greatest and most necessary part of his furniture carried away, as well as considerable part of his library; he therefore prays that your Honours may be pleased to grant him a warrant or order for such articles as he may find necessary from out of the goods left by the enemies to their country who have followed the Army, your Petitioner holding himself accountable to your Honours for the same.

*In Council: Read*, and committed to *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join.

*In the House of Representatives: Read*, and concurred, and *Mr. Caldwell* and *Mr. Wheeler* are joined.

Petition of *Richard Derby*, Junior, praying for liberty to fix out three vessels for the *West-Indies*.

*In Council: Read*, and committed to *Thomas Cushing*, Esquire, with such as the honourable House shall join.

*In the House of Representatives: Read*, and concurred, and Colonel *Orne* and Captain *Batchelder* are joined.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, March 27, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *William Sever* and *Thomas Durfee*, two of the Committee for building and equipping sundry armed vessels, praying liberty to alter one from a sloop to a brigantine.

*In Council: Read*, and committed to *Moses Gill*, Esq., with such as the honourable House shall join.

*In the House of Representatives: Read*, and concurred, and . . . . . are joined.

*In Council: Ordered*, That *Thomas Cushing* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency *George Washington*, and present him with the following Address.

*In the House of Representatives: Read*, and concurred, and *Mr. Sullivan*, Colonel *Orne*, and Major *Hawley*, are joined.



*"To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the United American Colonies :*

*"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: When the liberties of America were attacked by the violent hand of oppression; when troops hostile to the rights of humanity invaded this Colony, seized our Capital, and spread havoc and destruction around it; when our virtuous sons were murdered, and our houses destroyed by the troops of Britain; the inhabitants of this and the other American Colonies, impelled by self-preservation and the love of freedom, forgetting their domestick concerns, determined resolutely and unitedly to oppose the sons of tyranny.*

*"Convinced of the vast importance of having a gentleman of great military accomplishments to discipline, lead, and conduct the forces of the Colonies, it gave us the greatest satisfaction to hear that the honourable Congress of the United Colonies had made choice of a gentleman thus qualified; who, leaving the pleasures of domestick and rural life, was ready to undertake the arduous task. And your nobly declining to accept the pecuniary emoluments annexed to this high office, fully evidenced to us that a warm regard to the sacred rights of humanity, and sincere love to your country, solely influenced you in the acceptance of this important trust.*

*"From your acknowledged abilities as a soldier, and your virtues in publick and private life, we had the most pleasing hopes; but the fortitude and equanimity so conspicuous in your conduct, the wisdom of your counsels, the mild, yet strict government of the Army, your attention to the civil Constitution of this Colony, the regard you have at all times shown for the lives and health of those under your command, the fatigues you have with cheerfulness endured, the regard you have shown for the preservation of our Metropolis, and the great address with which our military operations have been conducted, have exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and demand the warmest returns of gratitude.*

*"The Supreme Ruler of the Universe having smiled on our arms, and crowned your labours with remarkable success, we are now, without that effusion of blood we so much wished to avoid, again in the quiet possession of our Capital. The wisdom and prudence of those movements which have obliged the enemy to abandon our Metropolis will ever be remembered by the inhabitants of this Colony. May you still go on, approved by Heaven, revered by all good men, and dreaded by those tyrants who claim their fellow-men as their property. May the United Colonies be defended from slavery by your victorious arms; may they still see their enemies flying before you; and the deliverance of your country being effected, may you, in retirement, enjoy that peace and satisfaction of mind which always attends the good and great; and may future generations, in the peaceful enjoyment of that freedom, the exercise of which your sword shall have established, raise the richest and most lasting monuments to the name of Washington."*

Thursday, March 28, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Walter Spooner*, of *Dartmouth*, setting forth: That a Petition was presented from the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Dartmouth*, to this Court, setting forth that the harbour in said town was of great importance to the publick; and after a full inquiry into the state of said harbour, the honourable Court passed a resolve that a company of seventy-five men, including officers, should be stationed there for the defence of said harbour; and also resolved that ten pieces of iron ordnance, with a suitable quantity of ordnance stores. And it was further ordered that the sum of three hundred pounds should be deposited in the hands of your Petitioner, for the purpose of procuring the cannon and stores; but your Petitioner hath not been able to procure the cannon, though care and pains have been taken therefor. And being informed that there is a considerable number of cannon in and near *Boston*, some of which may not be needed for the common defence, therefore your Petitioner prays that he may be allowed to purchase, or be indulged with the loan, of a few pieces of cannon, for the immediate defence of said harbour. And your Petitioner

further prays that a Captain may be appointed to raise and take the command of the seventy-five men, agreeably to the said resolve; and also to provide a Commissary to provide for said company.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the Commissary-General be directed to deliver to the Petitioner, for the purpose mentioned in his Petition, four of the Cannon on *Castle-Island*, which belong to this Colony, from among those reported to be spoiled, if they can be repaired, of a size not less than those which will carry a nine-pound ball; and the Petitioner is directed to cause them to be repaired as soon as may be.

*In the House of Representatives: Ordered*, That the Letter from *Robert H. Harrison* requesting liberty for Captain *William Wood*, of *Whitehaven*, to return to *England*, be committed to Mr. *Pitts* and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join.

*In Council: Read*, and concurred, and *Moses Gill*, Esq., is joined.

*In the House of Representatives: Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne* and Captain *Partridge*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to lay the account of Powder supplied the Army at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, since the 10th of *June* last, before his Excellency General *Washington*.

*In Council: Read*, and concurred, and *Moses Gill*, Esq., is joined.

*In the House of Representatives: Ordered*, That Colonel *Orne* and Major *Bliss*, together with such as the honourable Board shall join, be added to the Committee on the state of the Province.

*In Council: Read*, and concurred, and *Thomas Cushing* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, are joined.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, March 29, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable William Sever, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Charles Chauncy, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Junior, Esq., be, and he hereby is, permitted to fix out one large Vessel, or two small ones, for a voyage to the foreign *West-Indies*, and back to this Colony again, and to export in said vessel or vessels three hundred empty Molasses Hogsheads, and other Lumber, to the value of two hundred and twenty Pounds, lawful money, it being the amount of Powder and Fire-Arms lately imported by him into the Town of *Salem*, the said *Derby* giving bond with sufficient sureties to the Receiver-General of this Colony, in the sum of two thousand Pounds, conditioned that there shall not be taken on board, or exported in said vessel or vessels, any produce of the United Colonies, more than the above-mentioned sum of two hundred and twenty Pounds, in empty Molasses Hogsheads and Lumber; and that said vessel or vessels shall not proceed to any of the *British West-India* Islands, but that they shall return to some port in this Colony with their effects, the Island of *Nantucket* excepted.

*In the House of Representatives: Ordered*, That the Letter from *Tristram Dalton*, Esquire, to the Honourable *Moses Gill*, Esq., relative to the Brigantine *Unity*, Captain *Corbit* late master, be committed to Mr. *Cushing* and Major *Cross*.

*In Council: Read*, and concurred, and *Charles Chauncy*, Esq., is joined.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *William Henshaw*, the sum of eighteen Pounds eight Shillings and six Pence, in full for his wages in the service of this Colony, as an Adjutant-General.

*In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of the following Commission Officers of the Forces stationed at Dartmouth, viz: Benjamin Dillingham, Captain; Manasseh Kempton, First Lieutenant; Eleazer Hathaway, Second Lieutenant; William Talman, Commissary, for said forces.*

*In Council: Read*, and concurred.

*Resolved*, That the Colonels, or commanding officers, of the Regiment of Militia of this Colony, last raised in consequence of a resolve of Court, as a temporary reinforce-

ment of the Continental Army, observe the directions which they have or may receive from his Excellency General *Washington*, with regard to making up their Pay Rolls or Abstracts; and in case his Excellency shall decline to pay them agreeable to said resolve, that said officers receive pay so far as the General thinks reasonable, and lay the remainder of their demands before this Court for consideration and allowance.

Whereas the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of *Plymouth*, according to the time appointed by law, should be holden at *Plymouth*, in the said County, on the second *Tuesday* of *April* next: And whereas sundry of the Justices and officers of the said Court are members of this Court, which is likely to continue sitting beyond the time appointed for holding said Court, and it is probable that matters of great importance may require the attendance of all the members at that time:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Court be, and hereby is, adjourned to the first *Tuesday* of *July* next, being the time at which the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for said County is by law appointed to be holden at *Plymouth* aforesaid; and that all pleas, processes, writs, actions, and suits, issued, or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable, having, and that should have had day, in the said Court, if the same were holden the said second *Tuesday* of *April* next, shall be returnable and have day in the said Court, on the said first *Tuesday* of *July* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall then be proceeded on, heard and determined, to all intents and purposes, as effectually as if said Court should have been held on the said second *Tuesday* of *April* next.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Samuel Felch*, the sum of two Pounds ten Shillings, in full for a Greatcoat lost in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Nathan Wheeler*, the sum of two Pounds eight Shillings, in full for a Gun lost at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *Jonathan Mitchell*, Esq., Colonel of the Forces stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, in the room of *Joseph Frye*, Esq., in the Continental service.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration a Letter from *Robert H. Harrison*, of the 27th instant, directed to *James Warren*, Esquire, requesting that Captain *William Wood*, lately taken by a Privateer owned by several private gentlemen, may be indulged the liberty of proceeding to *England*, beg leave to report, by way of Resolve:

*Resolved*, That Captain *William Wood*, lately taken by two Privateers owned by persons in this Colony, be permitted, with his crew, to proceed to *Cape-Anne* and *Newburyport*, for *England*, he having given his parole of honour never to act offensively against the United Colonies of *North-America*.

*Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and he hereby is, directed to pay out of the publick Treasury, the sum of three thousand Pounds, to the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Walter Spooner*, *Moses Gill*, Esquires, Major *Thomas Durfee*, *Daniel Davis*, *Stephen Cross*, and *Josiah Batchelder*, the Committee appointed to import ten thousand barrels of Flour, one hundred tons of pig Iron, &c., to enable them to pay the freight and charges of said Flour and Iron; each of the said Committee to be accountable to this Court for such sum or sums as he shall receive.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Samuel Bradish*, the sum of twenty-nine Pounds five Shillings and eleven Pence, in full for boarding, nursing, and doctoring, for the wound he received in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of eighty Pounds seventeen Shillings and three Pence, in full of the wages due to the Officers and Soldiers on Captain *Daniel Lothrop's* Roll.

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

"The Committee of Council, appointed to sit during the

recess of the General Court, received a letter from General *Washington*, on the 26th of *February* last, requesting that a number of the Militia in the neighbouring towns might be directed to repair to the lines at *Dorchester* and *Roxbury*, upon a signal given. In consequence of this application, the Committee immediately summoned the Colonels of several regiments to attend, and engaged them to hold themselves and their respective regiments in readiness, to march when called upon. They accordingly marched, and did duty there for a few days. The Secretary will lay before you the General's letter, and the minutes of the proceedings of the Committee thereon. We recommend it to you to consider what measures may be proper to be taken with regard to making compensation to those regiments for their service.

"In the name and by order of the major part of the Council:

"WALTER SPOONER."

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, March 30, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *Walter Spooner*, *John Winthrop*, *Caleb Cushing*, *Thomas Cushing*, *Joseph Gerrish*, *John Whetcomb*, *Jedediah Foster*, *James Prescott*, *Eldad Taylor*, *Charles Chauncy*, *Samuel Holten*, *Jabez Fisher*, *Moses Gill*, *John Taylor*, *Benjamin White*, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Isaiah Thomas*, the sum of thirty-seven Pounds, in full of his account for Printing for the Colony.

*Ordered*, That *William Frost*, Commissary of the Forces stationed at *Falmouth*, be directed to receive all the Moneys now in the hands of Mr. *James Sullivan*, late Commissary.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Thaddeus Maxwell*, a wounded soldier, the sum of two Pounds seven Shillings, in full of his expenses in recovering from his wounds.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary-General be directed to deliver to the Honourable *Walter Spooner*, Esq., four pieces of Cannon, now in *Boston*, to fortify the Harbour of *Dartmouth*.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take under consideration the information of the Committee of Correspondence, &c., for the Town of *Mendon*, against *Joseph Butler* and *Asa Butler*, for altering two Bills of Credit of this Colony, beg leave to report: That we find said information is true, by the confession of the said *Joseph* and *Asa*, and other corroborating circumstances, and that the said *Joseph* and *Asa* are both minors and soldiers in the Continental Army, and appear very humble and penitent, and stand ready to throw themselves upon the mercy of this Court, and abide their determination.

JOHN TAYLOR, per order.

Read, and *Ordered*, That Mr. *Fuller* be directed to take bond for the appearance of the said *Joseph* and *Asa*, at the Superior Court of Judicature, &c., to be holden at *Worcester*, in and for the County of *Worcester*, in *September* next.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *David Bancroft*, for the use of *Daniel Bucknam*, Jun., the sum of one Pound sixteen Shillings, in full for transporting a Field-piece from *Sutton* to the Camp.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of sixty-five Pounds thirteen Shillings four and a half Pence, to the Officers and Soldiers on Captain *Lemuel Stewart's* Roll, on the expedition to *Ticonderoga* and *Crown Point*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

Monday, April 1, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *James Otis*, *Caleb Cushing*, *Joseph Gerrish*, *John Whetcomb*, *James Prescott*, *Eldad Taylor*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *Charles Chauncy*, *Samuel Holten*, *Jabez Fisher*, *Moses Gill*, *John Taylor*, *Benjamin White*, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *John Brown*, a wounded soldier, the sum of eight Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence, in full for his nursing and boarding.

*Resolved*, That all the Accounts exhibited against this Colony, for Powder, Lead, and Flints, delivered to the Minute-men and others, agreeable to a Resolve of this

Court, passed *January 17, 1776*, be, and they hereby are, committed to the Standing Committee on Accounts, and the said Committee are directed to allow such of the said Accounts as shall be authenticated by sufficient vouchers or proper evidence that the said Powder, Lead, and Flints, were expended in battle, or left in Camp for the use of the Army, and no other.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed the 19th instant, to apply to the Selectmen and the several Committees of the Town of *Boston* for a list of those persons now there remaining, who have appeared to be inimical to the United Colonies of *America*, have attended that service, and have obtained from the said Selectmen and Committees a list of sundry persons whom they judge to be of that character, with a state of facts and witnesses to support them; which list they beg leave to report.

JOHN WINTHROP, *per order*.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and Ordered, That Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to take the said Report, and Papers accompanying it, under consideration, and report what may be proper to be done with the persons named in said Papers.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Caleb Cushing*, *James Prescott*, and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, are joined.

Ordered, That Captain *Partridge*, Captain *Goodman*, and Colonel *Thompson*, be of the Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done with those persons in *Boston* who have appeared to be inimical to the United Colonies, in the room of Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, and Colonel *Orne*, engaged on other business, and that said Committee sit immediately.

Resolved, That Colonel *Davis*, Colonel *Thatcher*, Captain *Brown*, Major *Fuller*, Colonel *McIntosh*, Mr. *Dix*, and Mr. *Hall*, be a Committee to procure such a number of Teams as his Excellency General *Washington* shall judge necessary to transport such Military Stores, Baggage, &c., as he may have occasion to send to *Rhode-Island*, and that the said Committee wait on his Excellency to know the terms upon which he expects the same to be procured, and that they proceed upon the business immediately.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration a Letter from *Tristram Dalton*, Esq., of *Newburyport*, and the Papers accompanying the same, relative to the Brigantine *Unity*, and her Cargo, now lying in the *West-Indies* by reason of the death of Captain *Michael Corbit*, Master of said Brigantine, in the service of this Colony, report by way of Resolve:

Resolved, That *John Brown*, *Moses Gill*, and *Abraham Watson*, Esqrs., be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed to employ some suitable person to proceed immediately to *St. Thomas*, and dispose of said Brigantine and her Cargo, in such manner as they shall think will be most for the interest of this Colony; and send or bring home the nett proceeds of said Vessel and Cargo in cash, or such articles as he shall think most advantageous to the Colony.

Also, Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, unto *Isaac Noyes*, one of the mariners belonging to the Brigantine *Unity*, the sum of twenty-eight Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence, for his wages, and the further sum of two Pounds five Shillings, for his expenses from *York* to this place, and other services, in full to this date.

General WASHINGTON's Answer to an Address from the General Court of the 27th ultimo, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: I return you my most sincere and hearty thanks for your polite Address; and feel myself called upon by every principle of gratitude to acknowledge the honour you have done me in this testimonial of your approbation of my appointment to the exalted station I now fill; and, what is more pleasing, of my conduct in discharging its important duties.

"When the counsels of the *British Nation* had formed a plan for enslaving *America*, and depriving her sons of their most sacred and invaluable privileges, against the clearest remonstrances of the Constitution, of justice, and of truth; and to execute their schemes, had appealed to the sword, I esteemed it my duty to take a part in the contest, and more especially, when called thereto by the unsolicited suf-

frages of the Representatives of a free People; wishing for no other reward than that arising from a conscientious discharge of the important trust, and that my services might contribute to the establishment of freedom and peace upon a permanent foundation, and merit the applause of my countrymen and every virtuous citizen.

"Your acknowledgment of my attention to the civil Constitution of this Colony, whilst acting in the line of my department, also demand my grateful thanks. A regard to every Provincial institution, where not incompatible with the common interest, I hold a principle of duty and of policy, and shall ever form a part of my conduct. Had I not learned this before, the happy experience of the advantages resulting from a friendly intercourse with your honourable body, their willing and ready concurrence to aid and to counsel whenever called upon in cases of difficulty and emergency, would have taught me the useful lesson.

"That the Metropolis of your Colony is now relieved from the cruel and oppressive invasion of those who were sent to erect the standard of lawless domination and to trample on the rights of humanity, and is again open and free for its rightful possessors, must give pleasure to every virtuous and sympathetic heart; and being effected without the blood of our soldiers and fellow-citizens, must be ascribed to the interposition of that Providence which has manifestly appeared in our behalf through the whole of this important struggle, as well as to the measures pursued for bringing about the happy event. May that Being who is powerful to save, and in whose hands is the fate of Nations, look down with an eye of tender pity and compassion upon the whole of the United Colonies. May He continue to smile upon their Councils and arms, and crown them with success whilst employed in the cause of virtue and of mankind. May this distressed Colony and its Capital, and every part of this wide-extended Continent, through His divine favour, be restored to more than their former lustre and once happy state, and have peace, liberty, and safety, secured upon a solid, permanent, and lasting foundation.

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

Read, and ordered to be entered on the Records of this Court.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Timothy Whiting*, the sum of two Pounds six Shillings, in full of his account for losses sustained in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Timothy Whiting*, to the use of *John Lewis*, the sum of one Pound seven Shillings and four Pence, in full of his losses at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Plymouth*, viz:

*John Cushing*, Jun., Esq., Colonel, in the room of *Anthony Thomas*, who declines serving.

*Jeremiah Hall*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, in the room of *John Cushing*, Jun., elected Colonel.

*John Clap*, Jun., Esq., First Major, in the room of *Jeremiah Hall*, Esq., elected Lieutenant-Colonel.

*David Tilden*, Esq., Second Major, in the room of *Nathaniel Cushing*, who declines serving.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to several persons in Captain *William Scott's* Company, the sum of fourteen Pounds fifteen Shillings, in full for the losses they sustained in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

Resolved, That there be paid to Mr. *Michael Hodge*, for the use of the Committee of Correspondence, &c., for *Newburyport*, the sum of nine hundred and fifty Pounds eighteen Shillings and two Pence, in full discharge of their Accounts exhibited to this Court, for fitting out the two Armed Vessels called the Sloop *Machias Liberty* and Schooner *Diligent*, commanded by Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*, which was done by order of this Court.

Further Resolved, That the sum of twenty-one Pounds four Shillings and five Pence, be allowed and paid to Mr. *Michael Hodge*, for the use of *Jackson*, *Tracy & Tracy*, in full discharge of their Account exhibited to this Court, for sundry Supplies which the said Captain *Jeremiah Obrien*

received of said *Jackson, Tracy & Tracy*, for the use of the two abovesaid Armed Vessels, before the Committee of Correspondence for *Newburyport* received the order of Court.

The Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down to the honourable House, with the following Message, viz :

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives :

"The Council are informed that there are a number of Cannon on *Castle-Island*, which have been no further injured by our enemies than having been spiked up ; and as they may be immediately wanted for the defence of this Colony, the Council recommend to the honourable House that they take the earliest opportunity to employ some suitable persons to unspike the touchholes ; and that garrison-carriages, and other necessary implements, be provided for them, that they may be fit for use.

"In the name and by order of the Council :

"JAMES OTIS."

Whereas this Court has received information that *John Parke*, the Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Army of the United Colonies, and *Richard Duff*, his Clerk, are arrested at the suit of *William Thompson*, Merchant, in an action of trespass, whereon the said *Thompson* complains that the said *John* and *Richard* broke and entered his dwelling-house, and made an assault on his person, and broke his household furniture in said house very much ; and it being suggested to this Court that the said *John* and *Richard* entered said house by order of their superior officers, to quarter soldiers there, and it appearing to said Court that, in the present state of our publick affairs, the producing suits against persons employed in said Army for their entering the houses and enclosures of the inhabitants of this Colony, in support of said Army, would have a tendency more dangerous than the suspending such suits for the present :

It is therefore *Resolved*, That there shall be no Suit produced or prosecuted, nor any Writ or Precept served on any Officer or private Soldier now in, or that have been in, the Army aforesaid, the last or present campaign, for any entry by them made on Houses or Lands in this Colony, while they were in the service of the said Colonies ; and all Sheriffs, and other officers, are commanded to take notice and govern themselves accordingly, and that they do not execute or return any Writ against such person now in their hands, or that shall hereafter be delivered them, until this Court shall further consider of this matter, and reconsider this Resolve.

Whereas his Excellency General *Washington* has directed the Surgeon-General of the Continental Army to procure what Medicines may be obtained in the Town of *Boston*, for the use of said Army ; and as it appears there are Drugs of various kinds left in the Shops and Stores of *Sylvester Gardner* and *William Perkins*, late inhabitants of *Boston* :

Therefore *Resolved*, That whatever Drugs and Medicines are found in the Stores or Shops of the above-mentioned *Sylvester Gardner* and *William Perkins*, (fled from *Boston*;) be delivered to Doctor *Morgan*, Surgeon-General of the Continental Army ; and any person or persons who have the care of the said Drugs or Medicines are hereby directed to deliver the same accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed to inform himself with respect to the number of Cannon now lying at *Boston* and *Castle-Island*, which are the property of this Colony ; and that he cause to be cleared out and repaired all those which he judges can be made fit for use.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Witherton* and Mr. *Whitney* be on the Committee appointed to procure Teams to transport the Baggage and Stores of the Army to *Rhode-Island*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Samuel Holten, Michael Farley, Jabez Fisher, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Joseph Palmer, Esquires.

On the Petition of *William Cushing*, Esq., praying for a grant as Justice of the Superior Court :

*Resolved*, That there be granted to the Petitioner the sum of two hundred Pounds, in consideration of his faithful services in time past, which shall be in full until this time, that Court not having met any time within a year past.

Whereas one *John Rich*, who was master of the Sloop *Success*, and sent to this Court by the Committee of Safety of *Majorbigwaduce*, for supplying the enemy in *Boston* some time past with Provisions or necessaries for their subsistence ; the facts appearing by the depositions and papers attending said *Rich* to be true,

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said *Rich* be committed to some Jail in this Colony which the Council shall direct, until the further order of this Court, upon failure of his giving bond with sureties agreeable to a former Resolve of this Court.

*Ordered*, That the said *Rich* be sent to the Jail at *Ipswich*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to *George Kilbourn*, the sum of seven Pounds three Shillings and six Pence, in full of his account for nursing and boarding two Soldiers wounded in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

Petition of the Committee of Correspondence for the County of *Worcester*, in Convention, setting forth: That your Memorialists, solicitous for the peace and good order of the County, see with concern that the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace and Common Pleas, are ordered to be opened before the new fee-table is established, which the good people of this County are grieved at, esteeming the late fee-table too high and exorbitant ; that the wages of the officers in the Army bear too great a proportion with those of the privates, which your Memorialists humbly conceive to be the reason why the Army is so long in completing, by which means the Colony is put to extraordinary cost in raising levies ; that having but one Register in the County for recording deeds, &c., renders securities precarious, by being more exposed to casualties than if there were a Register's Office kept in each town, which would save great expense of money and time to the inhabitants of the County.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Province.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to inquire of Monsieur Le Baron de *Woodtke*, Chevalier del order de *St. Jean de Jerusalem* et de *Malta*, relative to the design the Captain, in whose vessel he came, had of going into *Boston*, &c., report: That from the account the Baron gave of the matter, there was reason to suppose the *Frenchman* designed to go into *Boston* with his cargo ; but upon his being heard in his own justification, and the evidence given by Captain *Folger*, who left the *West-Indies* but a few days before him, the Committee were of opinion that, on the whole, it was best to give him up his papers, and admit him to sell his cargo. The Committee are further of opinion, that the Honourable *James Otis*, Esq., before whom the Baron was examined, and by whom he was forwarded to the Council, had great reason to suppose the master had formed a design of going into *Boston* ; that his Honour's conduct herein merits applause, and that the account of the expenses be laid before the Committee of Accounts for examination and allowance.

Read, and accepted.

Petition of *Caleb Green*, for and in behalf of *John Akin*, *Joseph Russell*, *Henry Wait*, *John Barrow*, *William Taylor*, and *Walter Wood*, setting forth: That the said *John Akin*, as Master of the Sloop *Greyhound*, and the said *Russell*, *Wait*, *Barrow*, *Taylor*, and *Wood*, as Mate and Mariners, sailed some time in *March* last, in the Colony service, for *Philadelphia* ; that on the 27th or 28th day of *March*, being on their return from *Philadelphia*, they were taken by one of the tenders belonging to the King of *Great Britain* ; that one *Wallace*, the Captain of the tender, is ready to exchange the said Captain and Mariners for as many prisoners being delivered to him ; and he threatens, unless a speedy exchange is made, to send the said Master and Mariners to *Great Britain* ; wherefore your Petitioner, for and in behalf of the said Master and Mariners, humbly prays that the honourable Court would order an exchange of prisoners, that thereby the said Master and Mariners may not be put to any further hardship and damage.

*Resolved*, That *Caleb Green*, the within petitioner, be allowed to receive of the Prison-keeper of *Taunton*, six persons who have been taken from the Navy, under the command of one Captain *Wallace*, now in *Newport*; the said *Caleb* giving his bond to the Sheriff of the County of *Bristol*, to and for the use of this Colony, in the penal sum of one hundred Pounds, conditioned that in case he shall not exchange the prisoners as aforesaid, whom he shall receive for the above *John, Joseph, Henry, John, Taylor*, and *Wood*, he will return the prisoners whom he shall receive for the above persons, to the Prison-keeper in said *Taunton*, within fourteen days from the time he shall receive said prisoners; and the Keeper of said Prison is hereby directed to conform himself according to this order, provided the said *Caleb Green* shall give security as above directed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

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Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, John Winthrop, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Bartelemi Wasanis*, setting forth: That he is an inhabitant of the Island of *St. Domingo*, from whence he set sail in *January* last for the Colonies. That your Petitioner had the misfortune, when he approached this coast, to meet with adverse winds and stormy weather, which drove his vessel on shore on *Cape-Cod*, where he saved the most of his cargo, (being molasses,) which he afterwards sold the most part of to the Commissary-General of the Continental Army, for which your Petitioner must take paper money. Your Honours must be sensible such money will be of no service to your Petitioner in the *French West-Indies*. Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honours to grant him liberty to purchase some oil, spermaceti candles, lumber, and a small quantity of provisions, for the use of *St. Domingo* only. Your Honours will require no arguments to convince you that the *French* must give up trading with the *English* Colonies, if they are under a necessity to carry away nothing but paper money. Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honours to take his case into consideration, and give him such relief as to you in your wisdom shall seem meet.

Read, and committed to *Thomas Cushing* and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, with Mr. *Ellis*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Colonel *Lovell*.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider the Petition of *Bartelemi Wasanis*, have attended that service, and report as their opinion: That his case, as set forth in said petition, being somewhat singular and distressing, the prayer thereof be so far granted that he have liberty to purchase oil, spermaceti candles, lumber, and a small quantity of provisions, not exceeding one thousand Pounds in the whole, (being nearly the nett proceeds of his cargo,) and the same to ship for the sole and only use of the Island of *St. Domingo*; the said Petitioner to give bond, with one sufficient surety, to the Receiver-General of this Colony, in the penal sum of one thousand Pounds, that said oil, candles, lumber, and provisions, shall be safely landed in said Island, the danger of the seas and enemies only excepted; and upon sufficient certificate being produced to the Receiver-General of this Colony for the time being, that said effects have been landed as aforesaid, excepting only as aforesaid, that then said bond shall be cancelled by such Receiver-General.

JOSEPH PALMER, per order.

Read, and accepted, and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the prayer of said Petition be so far granted that the Petitioner have liberty to purchase Oil, Spermaceti Candles, Lumber, and a small quantity of Provisions, not exceeding one thousand Pounds in the whole, being the nett proceeds of his cargo, and the same to ship for the sole and only use of the Island of *St. Domingo*; the said Petitioner giving bond, with one sufficient surety, to the Receiver-General of this Colony, in the penal sum of one thousand Pounds, that said Oil, Candles, Lumber, and Provisions, shall be safely landed in said Island, the danger of the seas and enemies only excepted; and upon sufficient certificate being produced to the Receiver-General of this Colony for the time being, that said effects have been landed as aforesaid, excepting only as aforesaid, that then said bond shall be cancelled by such Receiver-General.

*Ordered*, That *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esq., be of the Committee on the state of the Province, in the room of *William Sever*, Esq., who is absent.

An engrossed Bill, entitled "An Act to prevent the forging Bills of Publick Credit," having passed the House of Representatives to be engrossed,

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to lay before this Court a sketch of *Boston Harbour*, and examine and report particularly the number of passages there are for ships into the same, &c., have attended the business assigned them, and report the sketch of the Harbour of *Boston* herewith, and the following answers to the questions proposed in our commission:

"How many passages are there for ships into the Harbour of *Boston*, and what distance are they from the Capital?"

Strictly speaking, there are but three: The northmost, (between *Pulling-Point* and the north end of *Deer-Island*,) a narrow and very crooked channel, running on the back of *Apple-Island*, seldom used except by fishing vessels and light coasters; this passage is about four miles from *Boston*. The next is the ship-channel, which leads from the Light-House through the Narrows, and enters the harbour between the east end of *Long-Island* and the south point of *Deer-Island*, (here the passage in at *Broad-Sound* unites with this,) and is about five miles from *Boston*. The other leads from the Light-House, south from *George's Island*, through *Nantasket-Road*, and runs between *Rainsford-Island* and *Long-Island*, and enters the harbour between the west head of *Long-Island* and the east head of the *Moon*, so called; this is about the same distance from *Boston*.

"What is the depth of the water in and the width of the channel at each passage, the height of the land adjoining, and the distance therefrom to the opposite side of the channel?"

As the northern passage is not navigable for the smallest ship of war, the Committee make no further observation relative to it. The next is the ship-channel, which leads through the Narrows, (here the water is about five fathoms deep at low water, width of the channel uncertain, perhaps fifty rods, and the adjoining lands low,) and enters the harbour between *Long-Island* and *Deer-Island*, as aforesaid. The width of the channel at the entrance is about three-quarters of a mile.

The adjoining land, on the south side of the channel, viz: *Long-Island*, is about ninety feet high, and little more than three-quarters of a mile to the opposite side of the channel; depth of water from six to fourteen fathom.

The other passage, viz: between *Long-Island* and the *Moon*, so called—width of the channel, about eighty rods; depth of the water, thirteen feet. The adjoining land, viz: the *Moon*, ninety-four feet high; distance therefrom to the opposite side of the channel, three-eighths of a mile.

"Whether it is necessary to the best good of the Colony and its Capital, that all the passages to the Town of *Boston* should be open; and what are the advantages and what are the disadvantages which will result from stopping either; and which, if any, ought to be stopped?"

Your Committee are of opinion that it is not necessary to the best good of the Colony, or the Capital thereof, that all the passages thereto should be kept open; for if the passage to the Narrows only is stopped, or the depth of water reduced, there will be sufficient passages left open for all merchant ships; as it hath been affirmed, by persons skilled in military and maritime affairs, that a fleet of ships, with a leading gale of wind and flood tide, pass with so great velocity as to run little or no hazard in passing by a strong fortification, as was experienced at *Quebeck*, in the course of the last war. If so, it seems to be as necessary to reduce the depth of water in the Narrows, as it is to fortify the Island, or any other places; because it is there only that capital ships of war can pass, and therefore there, above all other places, as it is easiest effected, their efforts to enter the harbour should be effectually obstructed.

"Where can fortifications be erected most easily to resist the enemy in their attempts to enter the Harbour aforesaid?"

On the east end of *Long-Island*, and on the Island called the *Moon*, (on the east head thereof,) and on the east head of *Pettick's Island*, with necessary redoubts.



"Can a communication be kept up between said posts and the main, in case of a siege, and are they commanded by any neighbouring hills?"

Redoubts and block-houses on the eminences of *Long-Island*, (one of which is the only neighbouring hill that commands the east head thereof,) with proper covered ways from one to the other, will secure a retreat to the *Moon*, which communicates with *Squantum-Neck* at low water, almost dry shod. The post on the east head of the *Moon*, so called, is not commanded by any neighbouring hills. *Pettick's Island* is so near the town of *Hull*, that a safe retreat to it is covered by the guns of the proposed fort thereon; besides, they may retreat the length of the Island to the town of *Braintree*. This point is commanded only by a hill on the same Island, and a garrison there may be supplied with water, and a retreat be secured from it by some redoubts, &c.

"Whether at all times these posts can be supplied with water?"

No doubt but they may, as there appears to be springs of fresh water on all these Islands.

Your Committee beg leave further to suggest, that in case it should be thought proper to reduce the depth of water in the channel at the Narrows, and erect a fortification on the east head of *Long-Island*, it would be difficult, if not impossible, for the enemy to remove the obstruction in the Narrows, as it is open to the fire from such fortification. That if the Narrows are stopped, the capital ships can have no safe harbour above the Light-House; below it, they cannot ride, save to the westward of *George's Island*, called *Nantasket-Road*, which may at all times be commanded by a battery on the east head of *Pettick's Island*.

That the passage in, by the way of *Broad-Sound*, so called, is very difficult navigation; but that there is, as your Committee are informed, four fathom of water. It is possible that vessels between the size of frigates and what are called capital ships, although they never have attempted, yet in case the Narrows should be stopped, may in future attempt to pass to the Capital that way; therefore, as the channel is very narrow between what is called the *Middle-Ground* and *Castle-Island*, whether it would not be best to reduce the depth of water there also.

That besides these posts above-mentioned, there are many others which may be fortified with small expense, and will promote the general design of securing the harbour aforesaid, and the neighbouring towns.

BENJAMIN LINCOLN, *per order*.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and Major *Hawley*, Mr. *Sullivan*, Mr. *Nichols*, Mr. *Phillips*, and Colonel *Orne*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to consider the same, and the sketch of the Harbour of *Boston* accompanying, and report what places they apprehend are proper to fortify, without delay.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *John Whetcomb*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *Joseph Palmer*, and *Moses Gill*, Esquires, are joined.

Whereas this Court have received information that considerable parts of the Real and Personal Estates of the Mandamus Counsellors, Commissioners of the Customs, and other open and avowed enemies to the rights and liberties of *America*, who have departed this Colony since *April 19th, 1775*, are now in the occupation and possession of persons who have clandestinely taken the same, and others under pretence of gift, sale, or attachment, claim a right to hold and enjoy such Estate and effects, by which practices the publick or individuals may be greatly injured:

For prevention whereof, *Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to take inventories of, and secure, till the further order of this Court, the Estate and effects of said absconders, in the Town of *Boston*, be, and hereby are empowered to cause any such person or persons, as they know, and have good cause to suspect have in their occupation, or possession, any Estate, late the property of the aforesaid Mandamus Counsellors, &c., and them to examine thereon, and, if need be, to require answers upon oath, respecting the concealment or conveyance of said effects as the law allows in similar cases with respect to the effects of intestates; and said Committee are also authorized and directed to take into their possession and secure such Estate and effects, as also the Estate and effects of any persons in *Great Britain*, which, by virtue and powers of attorney, were under the

care and direction of said Mandamus Counsellors, &c., until the further order of this Court, any attachment or civil process made or commenced since the 19th of *April* last notwithstanding.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Eleazer Warner*, the sum of two Pounds, in full for the loss he sustained in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, April 4, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That the Resolves of Congress, just received, be committed to . . . . . with such as the honourable Board may join, to consider the same and report.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Joseph Palmer* and *Samuel Holten*, Esquires, are joined.

*Ordered*, That the Colonels of the late reinforcement to the Continental Army do make up their Rolls, and lodge them for examination and allowance.

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the erecting a Monument to the memory of the Honourable Major-General *Joseph Warren*, beg leave to report, that they have attended that service, and find that the place where his body was buried is discovered, and that the Lodge of Freemasons in this Colony, whereof he was late Grand Master, are desirous of taking up the said deceased's remains, and, in the usual funeral solemnities of that Society, to decently inter the same, and that his friends are consenting thereto. Wherefore your Committee are of opinion that the said Lodge have leave to put their said intentions into execution, in such a manner as that the Government of this Colony may hereafter have an opportunity to erect a Monument to the memory of that worthy, valiant, and patriotick *American*.

JAMES SULLIVAN, *per order*.

Read, and accepted, and the said Lodge has leave to put their intentions as aforesaid into execution accordingly.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to *Jonathan Crosby*, the sum of five Pounds eight Shillings, in full of his account of losses sustained in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Moses Richardson*, the sum of one Pound four Shillings, in full for a Greatecoat lost by him in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

*In Council*: The Council having been informed by Mr. *John Kinney* and Mr. *Thomas Black*, that a small sloop, loaded with *English* goods, from *Boston* to *Halifax*, having on board a certain *Jolly Allen*, and six or more other Tories, with about twenty women and some children, was cast on shore about a week since at *Provincetown*, upon the Cape, and that said vessel has the small-pox on board:

Therefore *Ordered*, That *Benjamin Greenleaf* and *Joseph Palmer*, with such as the honourable House may join, be a Committee to consider what is proper to be done relative to this affair, and report.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and concurred, and Mr. *Fabian*, Colonel *Mitchell*, and Colonel *Freeman*, are joined.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Benjamin Ball*, the sum of four Pounds nine Shillings, in full for the losses his son met with in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, April 5, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquire.

*In Council*: *Ordered*, That *Joseph Palmer*, with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to give directions for the fortifying *Boston Harbour*.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and concurred, and *Nathan Cushing*, Esq., is joined.

Memorial of *William Sever* and *Thomas Durfee*, setting forth: That your Memorialists were, by this honourable Court, with others, appointed of a Committee for building and equipping sundry armed vessels, which were proposed to be rigged sloops; that your Memorialists are of opinion the two vessels they are now building for that purpose are of such size that it will be very inexpedient to rig them as sloops. They therefore request that they may be authorized and directed by your Honours to rig and fix the said vessels as brigantines. Your Memorialists would also represent to your Honours, that they are unable to purchase duck for sails for the said vessels; and if your Honours think proper, they pray that the Commissary-General be directed to supply them with eighteen bolts of duck, out of the Colony stores, for each of the said vessels.

Read, and committed to *Moses Gill*, Esq., with *Mr. Perry* and Captain *Cutter*.

The Committee of both Houses, to whom the foregoing Petition was committed, have considered the same, and are of opinion, that *William Sever* and *Thomas Durfee*, Esquires, two of the Committee for building and equipping sundry armed vessels, have leave to rig the two vessels they are now building into brigantines, instead of sloops, as was first intended, brigantines being of more general service, and best answering their intended use. Your Committee are also of an opinion, that it will be expedient for *William Sever* and *Thomas Durfee*, Esquires, part of the Committee aforesaid, to receive from *Richard Devens*, Esq., the Commissary-General of this Colony, thirty-six bolts of duck, which will be necessary for the furnishing said brigantines with sails.

MOSES GILL, *per order*.

Read, and accepted, and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the said *William Sever* and *Thomas Durfee*, Esquires, accordingly rig the two vessels they are now building into Brigantines, instead of Sloops, and that they receive from *Richard Devens*, Esquire, the Commissary-General of this Colony, thirty-six bolts of Duck, wherewith to furnish said Brigantines with sails.

*Ordered*, That the Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done with those persons in *Boston* who have appeared to be inimical to the Colonies, be directed to consider what is proper to be done with the effects of such as may be confined by order of Court, and report.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lovell* and Colonel *Dwight* be of the Committee on Commissaries' Accounts, in the room of *Mr. Wheeler* and *Mr. Rawson*, absent.

The Committee appointed to consider what is proper to be done relative to a sloop having on board *Jolly Allen* and others, said to be cast ashore at *Provincetown*, on *Cape-Cod*, take leave to report as their opinion: That a Committee be appointed to repair to said *Provincetown* forthwith, and there take such measures as may be needful to prevent the persons who were on board said sloop from making their escape, or from communicating the infection of the small-pox to any of the inhabitants. The said Committee likewise to take the most effectual measures for the securing the said sloop, with all the cargo and effects on board; and in case any part thereof has been taken out and distributed, that they collect the whole thereof, and cause the same to be deposited in such manner as that it may be forthcoming at the order of this Court, taking as particular inventory thereof as they conveniently can. The said Committee to be authorized to require the aid of the sea-coast men stationed there, or of any others, as they may think proper, for the fully accomplishing this business.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF, *per order*.

Read, and accepted,

And *Ordered*, That *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, Esquire, with Major *Demick* and Colonel *Cobb*, be a Committee for the purpose mentioned in the above Report.

*Ordered*, That *Jedediah Foster* and *Jabez Fisher*, Esq's, be of the Committee to concur and pay Accounts, in the room of *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., excused, and *John Taylor*, Esq., absent.

Whereas, there hath been exhibited to this Court, by their Committee, a list of persons now residing in the Town

of *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, who are apprehended to be inimical to the interest of the United Colonies, and of this Colony; and as their being suffered to go at large may be attended with danger to the publick, as well as afford them an opportunity of escaping from justice:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Honourable *Joseph Palmer* and *Benjamin White*, Esq's, *Joseph Greenleaf*, *Samuel Niles*, *Thomas Penniman*, *Theophilus Cushing*, and *Thomas Crafts*, Esquires, Justices of the Peace in and for said County, be, and they or either of them are hereby directed immediately to issue their warrant, directed to the Sheriff of said County, his Under Sheriff, or either of his Deputies, or the Constables of any town within said County, requiring him or them forthwith to apprehend and bring before them, or the major part of them, at such place in said County as they shall appoint, the bodies of all the persons contained in said list, viz: *John Lovell*, Jun., *Samuel Danforth*, *Timothy Prout*, *George Lush*, *Hopstill Capen*, *Augustus Moore*, *Thomas Amory*, *Thomas Edwards*, *Edward Wentworth*, *William Clarke*, *John Field*, *William Perry*, *John Erving*, Esq., *Stephen Greenleaf*, Esq., *John Timmins*, *James Perkins*, *Ralph Inman*, *Richard Green*, *Daniel Hubbard*, *Joseph Turell*, *Nathaniel Carey*, *Edward Hutchinson*, *Doctor Miles Whitworth*, *John Hunt*, *tertius*, *Nathaniel Brindley*, *Isaac Greenwood*, *Doctor Isaac Rand*, Jun., *Doctor James Lloyd*, *John Hodgson*, *Doctor Thomas Cast*, *Samuel Minott*, *Edward Davis*, *Downe Cheever*, *Joseph Laughton*, *Jeremiah Allen*, *Samuel Bradstreet*, *Doctor James Pecker*, *Samuel Wallis*, *Richard Billings*, *Benjamin Phillips*, *John Haskins*, *Shubael Hewes*, *Bar. Wall*, *John Stevens*, *William Davies*, *John Homans*, *John Magner*, *John Rice*, *Simoon Stoddard*, *Caleb Blanchard*, *John Bryant*, *Captain Conner*, *Shippy Townsend*, *Thomas Clemens*, *Joseph Clark*, *Edmund Gookin*, *Ambrose Vincent*, *Moses Pucher*, *John Howe*, *Rufus Green*, *Benjamin Green*, *Benjamin Green, Jr.*, *William Wait Wallis*, *Jeremiah Jones Jenkins*, *Charles Whitworth*, *Ebenezer Allen*, one *Blaisdel*, *Stephen Fullerton*, *Samuel Gore*, *Ebenezer Norwood*, *Richard Madden*, *John Tufts*, *John Fillis*, *Samuel Bulfinch*, *William Downe Cheever*, *Jacob Wendell*, one *Hoffin* a Dutchman, *John Green*, *William Parker*, *Andrew McKean*, *Thomas Turner*, *Job Prince*, *John Gray*, *William Rodgers*, and *Thomas Mewse*; all of whom are now residing in said *Boston*; together with many others, in said *Boston*, which are, or may be complained of, having designs to act, or having acted against the rights of this or the other United Colonies, or of having in any manner aided, abetted, or assisted, the enemies of the United Colonies, or either of them. And the said Justices of the Peace, or the major part of them, are directed, as soon as may be, strictly to examine said persons, and to consider the evidence that may be procured and laid before them in the premises, and that they, without delay, safe secure all such persons, which they may judge have acted, or are acting as enemies, spies, or traitors, to this or the other Colonies, either by taking sufficient bonds, payable to the Treasury of this Colony, for their good behaviour, or appearance at some Court proper to try them, or causing them to be committed to Jail, as the nature and aggravation of their several crimes may admit or not admit of bail, or the apprehension of danger to the publick from their going at large, may require.

CALEB CUSHING, *per order*.

Read, and accepted.

Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, setting forth: That the said inhabitants apprehend themselves very insecure in their habitations, being deprived of their arms by the perfidy of General *Gage*; and as many of the ships of the enemy are in this harbour, and may at any time be brought up to cannonade the town, and again disperse the inhabitants aforesaid, having no sufficient batteries to repel or keep them back, the inhabitants therefore, in duty to themselves, and to save the Continent the expense of again repelling the enemy, and to prevent further depredation, humbly pray your Honours that some proper steps may be immediately taken to prevent the return of the enemy, either by erecting forts at proper passes, sinking hulks in the channels, or otherwise secure said town in such manner as your Honours may think best, that the present inhabitants may continue, and the dispersed may return, without fear of future molestation.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Stephen Rice*, for the use of the Selectmen of *Hardwick*, in full of their Account for Bread, &c., supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Moses Gill*, Esquire, for the use of the Selectmen of *Princetown*, the sum of eighteen Pounds fifteen Shillings and seven Pence, in full of their Account for sundries supplied the Army.

The Petition of Dr. *Samuel Cooper*, praying the loan of some Tories' Household Furniture; read again, and recommended to Mr. *Sullivan* and Colonel *Sawyer*, with *Moses Gill*, Esquire.

The Committee appointed to consider whether the encouragement already given for erecting Powder-Mills is sufficient, reported: That as the bounty already offered has proved insufficient for the purposes designed, a Committee be forthwith appointed to erect a Powder-Mill in the Town of *Sutton*, at the expense of this Colony, with all possible expedition, and on the best plan for manufacturing Gunpowder.

AZOR ORNE, *per order*.

Read, and accepted, and Mr. *Edward Putnam*, and Mr. *Abijah Burbank*, of *Sutton*, are appointed a Committee for the purpose above expressed.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Jun., Esquire, and Mr. *Josiah Batchelder*, Jun., or either of their orders, thirty-two bolts of Duck, to be applied for the use of two armed vessels which they are to build and equip for the service of this Colony.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take under consideration the Petition of the Rev. Doctor *Cooper*, beg leave to report the following Resolve:

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to take an inventory of the Estates belonging to the persons who have fled from *Boston* with the *British* Fleet and Army, be, and they hereby are, ordered and directed to deliver the said Dr. *Cooper* so much Household Furniture, of the Estates aforesaid, as he may find necessary to furnish his House with, he giving his receipt to said Committee therefor, and being accountable to this or some future General Court of this Colony for the same.

Read, and accepted, and the said Committee are directed to deliver to Dr. *Cooper* so much Household Furniture, as aforesaid, as he may find necessary to furnish his House with, he giving his receipt therefor to said Committee, and being accountable for the same to the General Court.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Guild*, Mr. *Bent*, Mr. *Perry*, Captain *Hodges*, and Colonel *Smith*, be of the Committee to procure Teams for the Deputy Quartermaster-General and Colonel *Knox*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, April 6, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, John Taylor, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *Jonathan Brown*, as First Major of the Seventh Regiment of Militia in the County of *Middlesex*, in the room of *William Hildreth*, who declines serving.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Whereas the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize, and General Jail Delivery, for the County of *Middlesex*, according to law should be holden at *Concord*, in the said County, on the second *Tuesday* of *April* current: And whereas several of the Justices and officers of the said Court are members of this Court, which is likely to continue sitting beyond the said time, and it is probable that matters of great importance may require the attendance of all the members of the Court at that time:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Court be, and hereby is, adjourned to the fourth *Tuesday* of *October* next, being the time at which the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery for the said County, is by law appointed to be holden at *Cambridge*, in the County

aforesaid, and that all pleas, processes, writs, actions, suits issued or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable, and having, and that should have had day in the said Court if the same were holden the said second *Tuesday* of *April* current, shall be returnable and have day in the said Court on the said fourth *Tuesday* of *October* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall then be proceeded on, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes as effectually as if said Court were held on the said second *Tuesday* of *April* current.

A Bill for amending an Act passed in *November* last, entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels, &c.," having passed the House of Representatives to be engrossed:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

*Ordered*, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be directed immediately to take a view of *Noddle's Island*, and report to this Court what time it will probably take a Regiment, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, to perform the business of fortifying said Harbour.

Petition of *Israel Stoddard* and *Woodbridge Little*, of *Pittsfield*, setting forth: That in the months of *May* and *June* last past, your Petitioners, at different times, were apprehended and conveyed before the Committees of this and several neighbouring towns, on a general suspicion that your Petitioners were not duly attached to the rights and liberties of their country, and with a professed design to obtain from them some assurances that they would adhere to the resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress, or any future General Assembly of this Colony. That your Petitioners, before said Committees, acknowledged that they had dissented from many of their fellow-countrymen with respect to some measures which had been adopted and pursued; but still declared that, in all their conduct, they were willing to conform to the resolutions aforesaid, and to contribute their proportion towards the general support and defence of our constitutional rights and privileges; of all which your Petitioners gave assurances to the declared satisfaction of said Committees. That said Committees, with respect to one of your Petitioners, resolved that he should pay all the costs that said several Committees should judge proper, standing committed until he should comply; though, at the time of the trial of your other Petitioner, said Committees omitted to make such particular resolve, but soon after discovered their determination to be the same respecting each of your Petitioners. That your Petitioners made various objections against such determination, as unprecedented, unwarranted, and arbitrary; but finally agreed that if said Committees would show that, by virtue of any resolve of the General or Provincial Congress, they were authorized and empowered thus to tax us in costs, that we, your Petitioners, would readily respond the same, and that we did not think ourselves holden to do it. Whereupon your Petitioners have been unmolested till of late respecting the payment of the said costs, though it has been a matter of constant complaint and uneasiness in this town. That your Petitioners have ever since carefully obeyed and strictly adhered to the resolutions of the Continental Congress, Provincial Congress, and General Assembly of this Colony, and are still disposed to do the same, though we have the unhappiness to live in that part of the Colony where some of the resolves and orders of the General Court are at least called in question, if not really contemned and disobeyed; and thus to do, we think ourselves holden not only by our afore-mentioned engagement, but by virtue of every consideration which can influence a good member of society to desire to avoid the mischiefs of a state of anarchy and confusion on the one hand, and to obtain the blessings of order and good government on the other. That the Committee of this town, not finding themselves otherwise empowered to tax and recover said costs, have procured it to be inserted, amongst other things, as an article in the warrant of our annual town-meeting for the present year, "to see if the town will direct their said Committee what method to take to recover pay for handling persons that appeared to be inimical to their country for time back and future." Whereupon the town, by their vote, (in which all persons who had a pretence of demands for costs were allowed to act,) have

directed their Committee to tax said costs, both back and future; and in case of refusal of payment, to commit the person refusing to Jail, or otherwise confine him as they shall think proper; all which your Petitioners think to be repugnant to the first principles of *English* liberty, and an unreasonable and illegal exercise of the powers with which towns in this Colony are invested. Your Petitioners cannot but be humbly of opinion, that so long as they make the resolves of the General Congress, and of this honourable Court, the rule of their conduct, and are disposed to support and obey the good and wholesome laws of this Province, they are entitled to protection, and are to be viewed and treated as friends to the general cause of *America*, and are to be relieved against all arbitrary and illegal attempts of any person or any body of men whatsoever. Your Petitioners, therefore, most humbly pray that this honourable Court would take the premises into their wise consideration, and that they would make such orders and resolves as shall give your Petitioners relief from the affront of the said town order and vote, if your Honours in your wisdom shall judge proper.

On reading and considering the foregoing Petition:

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of the Town of *Pittsfield* have day on the second *Wednesday* of the first session of the next General Court, or Assembly for this Colony, to show cause in the said Court, if any they have, why the prayer of the said Petition should not be granted; and that, in the mean time, all the proceedings against the said Petitioners, or either of them, on the vote and order of the said Town of *Pittsfield*, mentioned in the said Petition, so far as the said vote relates to such costs and charges as are therein mentioned, shall be stayed. And for the notifying the inhabitants of the said town of the contents of the said Petition, and this order thereon, that the Petitioner cause the Town Clerk of said *Pittsfield* to be served with a copy of the said Petition and this Order, attested by the Secretary, as soon as may be.

Read, with the Answer and Papers accompanying it, and *Ordered*, That the same be committed to Colonel *Sartel*, Mr. *Davis*, Captain *Washburn*, with *Thomas Cushing* and *Benjamin White*, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: *Ordered*, That Mr. Speaker, Captain *Cutter*, and Colonel *Thatcher*, be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board shall join, to consider his Excellency General *Washington's* Instructions to General *Ward*, and report.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *James Otis* and *Caleb Cushing*, Esquires, are joined.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

Monday, April 8, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *James Otis*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Caleb Cushing*, *Joseph Gerrish*, *John Whetcomb*, *Eldad Taylor*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *Charles Chauncy*, *Michael Farley*, *Samuel Holten*, *Moses Gill*, *Benjamin White*, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be directed to pay out the stoppages made by the Officers for Arms and Cartridge-Boxes, supplied by any private persons, in the same manner as for those supplied by the Towns or Officers.

On the Petition of *Thomas Jones*, Commissary of the Forces stationed at *Naushan*, praying for directions respecting the building Barracks for said Forces,

*Resolved*, That the said Commissary be, and he is hereby directed, with the assistance of the Soldiers on said station, to build as many Log-Houses with the timber on said Island as will be sufficient for the reception of seventy or eighty men, and the said Commissary is further directed to procure nails and boards sufficient to build Cabins and cover the roofs of said Houses.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Thomas White*, the sum of four Pounds sixteen Shillings, in full for two months wages as a Sergeant in the Continental Army, he not being made up in any Muster-Roll for said service.

Petition of *Jonathan Lowder*, setting forth: That he has been employed as a Gunner at *Fort Pownall*, under the command of *Thomas Goldthwait*, Esq., and has done his duty in said office to the acceptance of his commander and other

officers, humbly prays your Honours that they would grant him a warrant for his pay due to him on said *Goldthwait's* Pay-Roll, for the Garrison of *Fort Pownall*.

*Resolved*, That *Jonathan Lowder* have leave to draw his Pay that is made up to him on Captain *Goldthwait's* Pay-Roll, for his services as a Gunner at *Fort Pownall*; and the Treasurer of this Colony is ordered to pay the same.

Whereas it is represented that sundry persons have procured, and are now using means to procure, from without this Colony, quantities of Saltpetre, or the materials therefor, partly wrought, with a view to receive from the Treasurer of this Colony the price and premium promised for such as should be manufactured within this Colony: Wherefore, for the prevention of any such fraudulent practices and impositions taking place, it is

*Resolved*, That all such persons as are or may be appointed by the General Court to receive and pay for Saltpetre manufactured within this Colony, be directed, and they hereby are directed, not to receive and pay for any quantity that may be brought to them respectively for the use of the Colony, until the person or persons bringing the same shall take an oath—which the persons appointed to receive the same as aforesaid are hereby authorized to administer—agreeable to the form following, viz: "You, *A B*, solemnly swear that the whole quantity of Saltpetre now presented by you was manufactured within this Colony; and that neither the whole nor any part of the materials from which it was extracted were brought from any place without the limits of the Colony. So help you God."

Whereas an order passed this Court, that *Caleb Green* have liberty to receive six persons out of the *Taunton* Jail, taken from the Navy, under the command of Captain *Wallace*, at *Newport*, in order to redeem the same number of men lately taken by him on their passage from *Philadelphia* to *Dartmouth*; and as there were but five in said Jail, for which five he hath received five men taken on their passage aforesaid, one yet remains on board *Wallace*:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That *Charles Arnold* be allowed to receive of the Prison-keeper in *Concord*, one man, (a sailor, if may be,) giving his bond to the Sheriff of the County of *Middlesex*, or the Keeper of said Jail, for the use of this Colony, in the penal sum of fifty Pounds, conditioned, that in case he shall not exchange the Prisoner whom he shall receive from *Concord* Jail for one *Joseph Russell*, now on board the said *Wallace*, he shall return the Prisoner to the said Prison-keeper in *Concord*, within fourteen days from the time he shall receive him, the said Prisoner; and the Keeper of said Prison is hereby directed to conform himself according to this order, provided the said *Arnold* shall give security as above directed.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Roger Deuch*, and others, the sum of fifty-two Pounds eighteen Shillings and seven Pence, in full of their Account for taking care of the Sick in Colonel *Woodbridge's* Regiment.

Petition of *John Kenney*, setting forth: That one Captain *Atkins*, of *Truro*, in the County of *Barnstable*, was employed by the Committee of said town, to escort the Prisoners taken in the *Friendship*, Captain *Holmes*, master, and had a sum of money delivered him by said Committee to bear the charges thereof; and that the said Captain *Atkins* employed your Petitioner to cart their baggage to *Plymouth*, and encouraged your Petitioner he should be paid for the same out of the money put into his hands by said Committee; notwithstanding, the said *Atkins* now refuses to pay a farthing; and your Petitioner is informed that there is an order of Court for the said baggage to be delivered up to the Prisoners; your Petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honours would allow him a reasonable reward for his services, or order Mr. *Bartlett*, in whose hands the goods were left, not to deliver them to the owners till they pay the charge of transportation.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Truro* be directed to pay *John Kenney* so much of his Account petitioned for as shall be thought just by said Committee, out of the Money found on board the *Friendship*, and lodge their Account with the Judge of Admiralty of *Plymouth*, for allowance.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, and Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Starkweather* be excused from any further attendance on the Committee appointed to examine the Rolls of the Minute-men and Sea-Coast Men; and that Mr. *Hobart*, Colonel *Coffin*, and Captain *Hayden*, be on the Committee in the room of Mr. *Starkweather*, Mr. *Turner*, and Mr. *Rawson*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Godfrey* be of the Committee on his Excellency General *Washington's* Instructions to General *Ward*, in the room of Mr. Speaker, excused.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State, to *Richard Thissell*, the sum of four Pounds four Shillings, in full discharge of what his Son lost at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

Deposition of Dr. *John Warren*, who testifies and says: That on or about the 29th day of *March* last past, went into the Work-House of the Town of *Boston*, lately improved as an Hospital by the *British* troops stationed in said town, and upon examining into the state of a large quantity of Medicine there by them left, (particularly in one room, supposed to have been by them used as a medicinal store-room,) he found a great variety of medicinal articles lying upon the floor, some of which were contained and secured in papers, whilst others were scattered upon the floor loose. Amongst these medicines observed small quantities of what he supposed was white and yellow arsenick intermixed; and then received information from Dr. *Samuel Scott*, that he had taken up a large quantity of said arsenick, from over and amongst the medicine, and had collected it chiefly in large lumps, and secured it in a vessel. Upon receiving this information, desired him to let him view the arsenick; with which he complied, and judge it to amount to about the quantity of twelve or fourteen pounds. Being much surprised by this extraordinary intelligence, he more minutely examined the medicine on the floor, and found them to be chiefly capital articles, and those most generally in great demand; and judging them to be rendered entirely unfit for use, he advised Dr. *Scott* to let them remain, and by no means meddle with them, as he thought the utmost hazard would attend the using them. They were accordingly suffered to remain, and no account was taken of them.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the above Deposition be committed to *Samuel Holten*, Esq., with Mr. *Whiting* and Mr. *Freeman*.

The Committee appointed to consider what Fortifications are necessary to be made for the security of the Harbour of *Boston*, beg leave to report: That the Forts upon the Heights of *Dorchester-Neck* have not one cannon left. It is thought that there ought to be field-pieces or small cannon in both of them. The works upon the point of *Dorchester*, next the Castle, are planned too large for present use; but it is supposed that three small batteries erected there, of three or four cannon each, may greatly annoy the enemy's ships in their passage up the channel to *Boston*, and will also secure the communication between said point and *Castle-Island*; upon which Island it is thought by some Engineers that there ought to be six or eight cannon, upon the highest point of it, pointed in such manner as most effectually to rake the channel, and prevent ships of the enemy from coming up. Upon *Fort-Hill*, in *Boston*, is a fort laid out, upon which are four pieces of cannon, mounted; two others are brought to the foot of the Hill. The fort appears to be well constructed, and eight or ten pieces of heavy cannon are thought sufficient for it. The enemy's works at the *Hay Market* Fortification and the *Brick Kilns* ought to be demolished as soon as possible, and the pickets, timber, plank, platforms, &c., saved for our own use. The platforms may be saved whole, and floated to any of the Islands or *Dorchester-Point*, for our use. Many cannon, &c., are said to be upon wharves, in stores, &c., in *Boston*; which ought to be collected, examined, and proved. There are Barracks belonging to the Continent, which may be appraised and taken for Colonial use.

The 8th instant, a boat belonging to the enemy chased two of our boats up nearly to *Noddle's Island*, in full daylight; and there is reason to suspect that they have been up

in the night very near to the Town of *Boston*. This conduct seems to demand an immediate water guard by night.

It is also thought by some of the Engineers that hulks ought to be immediately sunk in the channel; and they may be raised again when the fortifications are finished. It is likewise thought best that there should be two or three pieces of cannon, with a proper breastwork, immediately placed upon the south end of *Noddle's Island*, before the lower works are finished. This, with two or three armed vessels within the harbour, will probably intimidate the enemy, otherwise they will grow bold and impudent.

From the consideration of the premises, it is moved that this representation be laid before the Committee upon the state of the Colony, and that they be desired to consider whether the publick may not be greatly served by the appointment of an officer to direct and superintend the demolition of the works to be demolished, and preserve the materials that may be useful to us; also to direct and superintend the erecting such works, in such manner, as may be ordered; and also to collect, examine, and prove, such cannon, &c., as may from time to time be discovered, and to make weekly returns to this Court of his doings in these premises: Provided that nothing be done herein which may interfere with the orders given to the Continental General for the time being, commanding upon this department.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Whereas it is apprehended that some of the inhabitants of this Colony may be induced, from a regard to their own interest, to employ their vessels the ensuing season in the business of fishing; and in order to avoid the inconveniences they may be exposed to by an act of Parliament, prohibiting all manner of trade and commerce with the United Colonies, and declaring forfeited all such vessels and cargoes, &c., as shall be taken belonging to the same, may make over the property of their vessels to some inhabitants of *Nova-Scotia*: To the intent, therefore, that no inhabitant of this Colony may unwarily go into such a method of conduct,

It is *Resolved*, That if any inhabitant of this Colony shall, upon any pretence whatever, transfer his property in any vessel to an inhabitant of the Province of *Nova-Scotia*, he will thereby violate a Resolve of the Congress prohibiting all intercourse with the inhabitants of that Province, and of course may expect to be obliged to submit to the pains and penalties due to such an offence.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Whereas, it is represented that sundry persons have procured, and are now using means to procure from without this Colony, quantities of Saltpetre, or the materials therefor, partly wrought, with a view to receive from the Treasury of this Colony the price and premium promised for such as should be manufactured within this Colony; wherefore, for the prevention of any such fraudulent practices and impositions taking place,

It is *Resolved*, That all such persons as are, or may be appointed by the General Court, to receive and pay for Saltpetre, manufactured within this Colony, be directed, and they hereby are directed, not to receive and pay for any quantity that may be brought to them respectively for the use of the Colony, until the person or persons bringing the same shall take an oath, which the person or persons appointed to receive the same as aforesaid are hereby authorized to administer, agreeably to the form following, viz:

"You, *A B*, do solemnly swear that no part of the Saltpetre now presented by you, was extracted from materials in any measure wrought in any place from without this Colony; but that the process of the manufacture of the whole thereof was begun, carried on, and finished within the limits of this Colony. So help you *God*."

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *New-Braintree*, the sum of twenty-three Pounds fifteen Shillings, in full of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army.



*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Noah Goodman* and *William Pyncheon, Junior*, a Committee to procure Flour for the Colony, the sum of three hundred Pounds, to enable them to pay for the same.

A Letter from *Jonathan Glover*, Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence of *Marblehead*, respecting a number of Tories taken on board a vessel from *Boston*, bound to *Halifax*. Read, and committed to *Joseph Palmer, Esq.*, with Colonel *Coffin* and Mr. *Hobart*.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of Captain *Benjamin Gage*, as First Major of the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Essex*, in the room of Major *Perley*, who declines.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice (by ballot) of *James Converse*, as Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Worcester*, in the room of *Joseph Gilbert*, deceased; and also of *Stephen Rice*, as Lieutenant-Colonel of the same Regiment, in the room of *Joseph Gilbert*, first appointed to that office, who was elected Colonel.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Petition of *John Story*, setting forth: That he was appointed by the late Congress as sub-Commissary under Mr. *Pigeon*, to Colonel *Little's* Regiment; that he faithfully attended on the said Regiment, and on Mr. *Pigeon*, from day to day, in order to discharge the trust committed to him, from the middle of *June* to the 1st of *August*, as appears by the annexed account and certificate, for which he received no allowance. He therefore prays your Honours would be pleased to order that he be paid the amount of his account for his trouble, and such a sum for his expense as your Honours may think proper.

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the said *John Story*, the sum of five Pounds five Shillings, in full of his Account for serving as sub-Commissary to Colonel *Little's* Regiment.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, April 11, 1776:

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Charles Chauncy, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Petition of *Jacob Martin* and *Nathaniel Perley*, of *Ipswich*, in the County of *Essex*, setting forth: That one of your Petitioners was at the Island of *St. Peters*, (which lies eastward of *Cape Breton*;) he applied to the commanding officer of said place for powder, who presented him with a small quantity, although the Island's stock was but small; that the commanding officer appeared very friendly to the *American* cause, and much pleased with their proceedings, upon your Petitioners' giving him an account of some of them. That Monsieur *La Beav*, the principal merchant in said Island, (by whom the others are much influenced,) promised one of your Petitioners, if he would covenant with him, he would obligate himself to deliver him seventy-five barrels of powder next *May*, and that if it was not in the place he would send to *France* for it. That if this honourable Court will permit your Petitioners to go with their vessel to the said Island of *St. Peters*, or some other *French* Islands, with a load of lumber, they will oblige themselves, in what penalty this Court shall order, to bring at least as much powder and warlike stores into this Colony as the value of the lumber they may carry out is, (provided their vessel is not lost or taken,) and will give ample security for their performance; also, that they will deliver the same to such persons as this Court shall appoint, at such prices as this Court gives to others. That your Petitioners make no doubt of obtaining the value of their lumber there in powder and warlike stores, which they humbly think will be of considerable advantage to this Colony. Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honours to take this matter under your wise consideration, and, if it shall seem meet, grant them leave to go in their vessel with a load of lumber to the said Island of *St. Peters*, or some other *French* Islands, for the purpose aforementioned.

Read, and committed to Mr. *Story* and Colonel *Orne*, with *Benjamin Greenleaf, Esq.*

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of the Town of *Athol*, the sum of sixteen Pounds eight Shillings three Pence half-Penny, in full of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That the Sheriff of the County of *Barnstable* be, and he hereby is, directed and fully authorized and empowered, immediately to take into his possession all such *India Tea* and *English Goods* as were brought into *Barnstable* in a vessel lately arrived there, belonging to one *Solomon Davis*, and commanded by one *Prince Gorham*; and that he store the same in some convenient place, till the further order of this Court; and that the Sheriff aforesaid cite the said *Solomon Davis* and *Prince Gorham* to attend this Court forthwith, to answer their conduct, by serving them with an attested copy of this Resolve.

Petition of *William King*, of *Great Barrington*, setting forth: That he being appointed to raise a company last campaign in Colonel *John Fellows's* Regiment, he effected the same, and was accordingly commissioned by the Congress of this Colony; that Mr. *Samuel Brewer* was returned to serve as Lieutenant, and Mr. *Gamaliel Whiting* as Ensign of said company; that previous to the issuing said commissions, viz: on the 6th day of *May* last, said Mr. *Brewer* was, by general orders, appointed Adjutant-General of the Army at *Roxbury*, in which station he continued till he was appointed Major of Brigade, in which last station he continued till the close of the campaign. Mr. *Brewer* was, however, commissioned Lieutenant, and Mr. *Whiting* Ensign, of said company, in consequence of the aforementioned return to Congress. General *Thomas*, who then commanded the Army at *Roxbury*, being acquainted with the promotion of Mr. *Brewer*, and judging that a company complete with men ought likewise to be provided with officers, ordered that Mr. *Whiting* should do duty and be obeyed as Lieutenant, and Mr. *Nathaniel Crittenton* as Ensign of said company; who did their duty and took their rank accordingly in their company and regiment, and agreeable thereto were commissioned by the Continental Congress. Your Honours' Memorialist therefore has on the Muster-Roll of his company borne Mr. *Whiting* Lieutenant, and Mr. *Crittenton* Ensign; but finding he must make oath that the officers borne on said Roll were commissioned by Congress as he had borne them, declined taking the oath; and should Mr. *Brewer* be borne Lieutenant and Mr. *Whiting* Ensign on said Muster-Roll, an equal difficulty would accrue in taking the subsequent part of the oath prescribed, viz: "That they did duty accordingly," for Mr. *Brewer* never did a tour of duty in the company; Mr. *Whiting* did the duty of Lieutenant, and Mr. *Crittenton* the duty of Ensign, to the end of the campaign. By reason of the aforesaid difficulties and embarrassments, the Muster-Roll aforesaid is not passed, to the great damage of said company, thirty-three of whom are now in the Continental Army, and in great want of their pay, as are those who have returned home. Your Memorialist begs leave further to observe, that, being under marching orders, will be obliged to leave the said Muster-Roll unsettled, unless some way be provided in which it may be passed.

*Resolved*, That the Petitioner be directed to bear on his said Muster-Roll the names of the said *Gamaliel Whiting* as Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Crittenton* as Ensign, and that upon the said Petitioner making oath that the said Lieutenant and Ensign have served and done duty agreeable to the return made by the said Muster-Roll, the Committee appointed to examine the Muster-Rolls be, and hereby are, directed to pass said Roll in the same manner as if the said Lieutenant and Ensign had been commissioned to those respective offices, the said *Brewer* having been commissioned Lieutenant, and the said *Whiting* Ensign, in anywise notwithstanding.

*Voted*, That Beating Orders should be sent to the following gentlemen for inlisting the Regiment to be raised to fortify the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, viz:

In the County of *Suffolk*: *Aaron Guild*, Captain; *Ebenezer Dean, Jun.*, Lieutenant; *John Ellis*, the third, Second Lieutenant.

In the County of *Essex*: *Samuel King*, Captain; *Silas Marble*, First Lieutenant; *Benjamin Peabody*, Second Lieutenant.

In the County of *Middlesex*: *Abishai Brown*, Captain; *Elijah Danforth*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Richardson*, Second Lieutenant.  
In the County of *Bristol*: *Zebedee Reading*, Captain; *Isaac Fisher*, First Lieutenant; *Abel Babbit*, Second Lieutenant.  
In the County of *Worcester*: *Jonathan Cavit*, Captain; *David Bouty*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Davidson*, Second Lieutenant. *Nathaniel White*, Captain; *Ebenezer Sanderson*, First Lieutenant; *William Warner*, Second Lieutenant.  
In the County of *Hampshire*: *Josiah Smith*, Captain; *Richard Talley*, First Lieutenant; *Noah Warren*, Second Lieutenant.  
In the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*: *Nathaniel Winslow*, Captain; *Joseph Griffith*, First Lieutenant; *John Gill*, Second Lieutenant.

Whereas it is necessary for the common safety that the Ordnance and Stores be removed according to the directions of his Excellency General *Washington*: And whereas it has been made to appear to this Court that Teams necessary to transport the same cannot be procured in the ordinary way:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony be, and they hereby are, ordered to give all possible aid and assistance to Colonel *Henry Knox*, of the train of Artillery, in removing and conveying said Ordnance and Stores through this Colony, on their way to *New-York*; and in case the inhabitants of said Colony refuse to supply Teams or other necessary means of conveyance, said Selectmen, or any two of them, in any town in this Colony, are empowered and directed to impress in said town, so many Teams as are necessary for the purposes aforesaid, said *Knox* paying a reasonable price for the same.

Whereas it is of the greatest importance not only to the inhabitants of *Boston*, but of this whole Colony, that the Town and Harbour of said *Boston* should be effectually fortified and secured against any attacks from the enemy; and as the Continental Forces left and stationed in and about said town are not sufficient, in the judgment of this Court, with the variety of other important duties assigned them, to throw up and defend all those works which sound policy would dictate for the purpose aforesaid:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That there be immediately raised eight Companies, consisting of one Captain, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and seventy-seven Privates; which Companies shall constitute one Regiment, to be under the field command of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, Field-Officers, Captains, and Subalterns; all of which shall be appointed by this Court and commissioned by the Council; the Non-Commissioned Officers shall be chosen by their respective Companies, and each Officer and Private Soldier shall be holden to serve from the day of their engaging or inlisting in the said service until the 1st day of *December* next, unless the service should admit of their discharge sooner. And the Officers of the several Regiments and Companies of Militia in the respective Counties in this Colony are hereby directed, without fail, to afford their utmost assistance in the raising of the said Companies with the greatest despatch, as they regard the interest of their country, and the approbation of this Court.

And it is *Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid to each of the Officers and Soldiers, as wages for every calendar month during their continuance in the said service, the following sums respectively, viz:

Colonel, - - -	£12 0	Sergeant, - - -	£2 8
Lieutenant-Colonel, - - -	9 12	Corporal and Drummer, - - -	2 4
Major, - - -	8 0	Fifer and Private	
Captain, - - -	6 0	Soldier, - - -	2 0
First Lieutenant, - - -	4 0		
Second Lieutenant, - - -	3 10		

And the time of service of each Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier shall be computed from the fourth day next preceding their marching from home to the time of their discharge, and allowing for return home; that is to say, at the rate of one day for every twenty miles travel; also there shall be allowed one penny per mile to each man to compensate his expenses in his travel to the place of rendezvous,

and at the same rate to bear his expenses in his return home, his travelling expense to the Camp to be paid by himself, and each man to be compensated at the rate abovesaid upon his arrival at the Camp.

And it is further *Resolved*, That each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private Soldier shall be equipped and provided with a good effective Fire-arm and Bayonet, a Cartridge Box, Knapsack, and Blanket; and no Non-Commissioned Officer and Private Soldier shall be allowed to pass muster without he is equipped and provided.

And it is further *Resolved*, That said Regiment shall be allowed and supplied with the following subsistence, viz: One pound of bread per day; half pound of beef and half pound of pork, and if pork cannot be had, one and one-fourth pound of beef, and one day in seven they shall have one and one-fourth pound of salt fish instead of one day's allowance of meat per day, if to be had; one pint of milk, or if milk cannot be had, one gill of rice, per day; one quart of spruce or malt beer, or one pint of cider, per day, if to be had; one gill of peas or beans, or other sauce equivalent, per day; six ounces of butter per week; one pound of good common soap for six men per week; half pint of vinegar per week per man if it can be had.

And there shall be appointed by this Court for said Regiment, one Adjutant, one Chaplain, one Commissary, one Quartermaster, one Surgeon, and one Surgeon's Mate, to be upon the following establishment of pay by the calendar months, viz:

Adjutant, - - -	£5 10	Quartermaster, - - -	£3 0
Chaplain, - - -	6 0	Surgeon, - - -	7 0
Commissary, - - -	4 0	Surgeon's Mate, - - -	4 0

And the Commissary-General is hereby directed, as soon as a Commissary is chosen for the above purpose, to deliver to him a sufficient number of Tents, utensils to cook in, and Intrenching Tools for said Regiment.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by this Court to purchase Wood and Hay for the Continental Army, be directed to apply to the Quartermaster-General of the Continental Forces, or his Deputy, or under Quartermaster, for a settlement of their Accounts, and for the whole amount of the several sums due to this Colony for Wood and Hay, which the said Committee have purchased and sent to the said Army, and for such sum or sums as are due to them for their services and expenses. And the said Committee are further directed, upon their receiving of the said Quartermaster such sums which are due as aforesaid, to make report thereof to this House, and likewise to pay back the Moneys they received out of the Colony Treasury for the aforesaid purpose of purchasing said articles, to *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Receiver-General, and take his receipt therefor.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, April 12, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That the form of the Beating Orders and Inlistment for raising one Regiment, consisting of seven hundred and twenty-eight men, into this Colony service, to defend and secure the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, on the establishment made by this Court from the 9th of this instant, *April*, until the 1st day of *December* next, be as follows, viz:

"To . . . . .  
"You are hereby empowered immediately to inlist a Company, to consist of eighty-eight able-bodied and effective men, including non-commissioned officers and privates, as soldiers in the service of this Colony, to defend and secure the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, (the non-commissioned officers to be raised by their respective Companies,) and cause them to pass muster as soon as possible.  
". . . . . day of . . . . 1776."

"We, the subscribers, do hereby severally inlist ourselves into the service of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to serve in a Company whereof . . . . . is Captain, until the 1st day of *December* next, unless the service should admit of our discharge sooner; and each of us do engage to furnish and carry with us into the service, a good effective

fire-arm and bayonet if to be obtained, cartridge-box, knapsack, and blanket; and when formed, we engage to march to the Town of *Boston*, or such place within this Colony as the General Court of said Colony shall appoint; and do hereby oblige ourselves faithfully to observe and obey all such orders as we shall from time to time receive from our superior officers."

*In the House of Representatives: Resolved*, That the following Officers and Seamen be appointed for each of the Vessels now building by this Colony, and the pay per month allowed them, agreeable to the sums affixed, viz:

Captain, - - -	£8 0 0	Carpenter's Mate, £2	4 0
Lieutenant, - - -	5 8 0	Surgeon, - - -	7 0 0
Second Lieutenant, - - -	5 0 0	Surgeon's Mate, - - -	4 0 0
Master, - - -	4 0 0	Quartermaster and	
Mate, - - -	3 0 0	Master-at-Arms, - - -	2 10 0
Boatswain, - - -	3 0 0	Pilot, - - -	2 18 0
Boatswain's Mate, - - -	2 4 0	Cook, - - -	2 4 0
Steward, - - -	2 8 0	Drummer, - - -	2 4 0
Gunner, - - -	2 8 0	Sixteen Boys, at - - -	1 0 0
Gunner's Mate, - - -	2 4 0	Eighty Seamen and	
Carpenter, - - -	3 0 0	Marines, - - -	2 0 0

All of which Officers, Seamen, and Marines, shall furnish themselves with a good effective Fire-arm, Cartouch-box, Cutlass, and Blanket.

*And be it further Resolved*, That the Captains be appointed as soon as may be; which Captains, when chosen, shall return a list of persons suitable for the other offices, and shall proceed to enlist the number of Seamen, Marines, and Boys, proposed.

And for further encouragement to said Officers, Seamen, and Marines,

It is further *Resolved*, That they shall be entitled to one-third of the proceeds of all captures that shall be by them made, and finally condemned, to be distributed in such manner as this Court shall hereafter determine; and the said Vessels shall be armed and mounted with at least twelve carriage-guns, all one size, viz: six-pounders; and with a proper number of swivels and cohorns. And the honourable Council are hereby desired to commission them to cruise against all property, agreeable to the late resolves of the honourable Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers of the Regiment to be raised for the defence of *Boston*, &c., be paid one month's advance wages.

Petition of *John Ashley* and others, in the County of *Berkshire*, setting forth: That from our known attachment to that order and subordination which is necessary for the existence and well-being of society, we are set up by a few unthinking, rash, and designing men, as the butts of popular resentment, and are (as well as your Honours) by them represented as seeking our own private emolument only at the expense of the interest of the people. And although every step by us taken to lay open and manifest the conduct of these incendiaries is, by them, blazed abroad as an evidence of our guilt and rapacity, yet we should hold ourselves inexcusable if, at the present alarming crisis, we should neglect to inform your Honours of some late transactions which have taken place in this country.

The Reverend *Thomas Allen*, of *Pittsfield*, for a long time past seems to have been restless in his endeavours to raise the prejudice of the people against the present Constitution of this Colony, and the Legislative and Executive authority of the same; in order to effect which, and prevent the Court of Sessions sitting at *Pittsfield*, on the last *Tuesday* of *February* last, he, with his associates, procured a meeting of divers people of this country, by the appellation of Committee of Inspection, to be called at *Pittsfield*, on the last *Monday* of said *February*; previous to which meeting, and in order properly to prepare the minds of the people of *Richmont* (who of late had almost unanimously voted to adhere to and support the present Constitution of Government) to fall in with the schemes of said *Allen*, he, on a *Sabbath* evening, in said *Richmont*, delivered a discourse, in the form of a Sermon, to a large number of the inhabitants of said *Richmont*, and, among other things, informed his auditory that the present Constitution of this Colony, as established in consequence of the advice and recommendation of the Continental Congress, is oppressive, defective, and rotten to the very core; that it ought not, by

any means, to be submitted to; that your Honours and the honourable House of Representatives were a number of designing men, who sought after emolument for yourselves, your children, and friends, without any regard to the good of the people, and that you ought to be opposed; and many such like things, which will appear by the depositions herewith sent to your Honours. The people, being accustomed to pay great regard to the sacred character of a priest, and to receive for truth and sound doctrine everything delivered by a clergyman, the aforementioned harangue, together with Mr. *Allen's* private exhortations and advice, had the desired effect, and the people were inflamed to the degree the preacher designed. The time of the meeting of the aforementioned Committees being come, Mr. *Allen* (though not a member of the same) appeared as the chief agitator and spokesman, and, after having read a pamphlet called *Common Sense*, as his text, and made great reflections upon the General Assembly of this Colony, as his doctrine and improvement, he produced a large number of resolves by himself previously compiled, which were put and voted by a majority of the people present; a copy of which resolves, together with the protests of the dissentients, we herewith send to your Honours. The people being inflamed, no Court was suffered to sit, and they immediately took away such commissions from the civil officers of the County on which they could lay their hands, and we are reduced to a state of anarchy and confusion. We would hope the people may soon see the folly of their proceedings, and return to a sense of their duty; but as long as such incendiaries are tolerated, it is hardly to be expected. We hope your Honours will take some wise steps for our relief.

Read, and committed, with the Papers accompanying it, to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

The Treasurer of this Colony having represented to this Court the necessity of his being furnished with one or more Iron Chests, for the better security of Colony property,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Receiver-General, be, and he hereby is, directed to take into his possession the Iron Chests, together with the Weights and Measures, Steelyards and Scales, which belong to this Colony, and were in the hands of *Harrison Gray*, the former Treasurer, the said *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, giving his Receipt for said articles to the Committee appointed by this Court to take into their possession the effects of enemies to the liberties of *America* in the Town of *Boston*, said Committee rendering an Account of the same to this Court.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of this Court appointed to see to the fortifying of the Harbour of *Boston*, be directed immediately and without fail to procure the removal from *Castle-Island* all the Cannon and Carriages thereon, which are capable of being made fit for use; and if the removal of the said Cannon and Carriages cannot be effected without incurring an expense to this Government, that the said Committee be, and hereby are, directed to effect the said business, whatever expense may be necessary therefor.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lovell* be of the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston*, in the room of Mr. *Sullivan*, excused.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Brown*, of *Boston*, be on the Committee appointed to see to fortifying the Harbour of *Boston*, in the room of Mr. *Cushing*, excused.

*Resolved*, That for the more effectually fortifying and securing the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, the Committee already appointed for that purpose be, and they hereby are, directed and empowered to purchase a sufficient number of old Ships or Vessels, and cause them to be sunk in the Channel between the *Middle-Ground* and *Castle-Rocks*, so called, in said Harbour, for preventing any Vessels of above two hundred tons entering the same; and that the said Committee execute said orders without loss of time, and lay their Accounts before this Court for allowance.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, April 13, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Sawyer* be empowered and directed to sign the Beating Orders to be given out for enlist-

ing a Regiment to fortify the Harbour of *Boston*, and procure a sufficient number of the same, together with the form of Inlistment and Establishment, printed and distributed; and that the Beating Orders be directed to all the Officers proposed for each Company, with the rank which they are proposed to sustain, provided they can raise their Companies.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *David Curtis*, the sum of eighteen Shillings, in full for his son's board while wounded.

A Bill entitled "An Act for preventing the forging and altering Bills of Publick Credit and for their depreciation, and for making them a tender in all payments," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted,

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

A Bill for amending An Act entitled "An Act for the encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels for the defence of *America*," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

*Resolved*, That the Soldiers belonging to the *British Army*, with their wives and children, be sent to General *Ward*, and that *Caleb Wheaton* and others, who were taken on board the Brig *Sally*, by Captain *John Manly*, be sent to this Court for examination, except the women and children; and them (exclusive of the soldiers' wives and children) to be disposed of by the Committee of Correspondence of *Marblehead*, in that way and manner that shall be the least charge to Government; and that Brigadier *Farley* be desired, in season, to collect the accounts of the necessary expenses attending the support and maintenance of these and all the other persons taken on board the same vessel, and endeavour to have the same discharged out of the moneys arising on the sales of the cargo and effects found on board the said vessel.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday morning*.

Monday, April 15, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Eldad Taylor, James Prescott, Michael Farley, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses on the state of the Colony, beg leave to report: That, in their opinion, it is highly expedient that the cannon on *Castle-Island*, or such of them at least as are fit for use, or may soon be rendered so, should be immediately removed from thence to the Town of *Boston*, or other safe and convenient place. And that the Committee appointed to see to the fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be directed to apply to General *Ward*, to order some part of the Army under his command to effect the removal of them accordingly.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF, *per order*.

Read, and accepted.

The Committee appointed to consider the Account of *Benjamin Mills*, reported: That they had attended that service, and, upon examination of the same, found them fairly stated, and well vouched; and that the said *Benjamin* received of *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer for the Colony, the sum of one hundred and ninety-five Pounds, for the purpose of supplying blankets; that the said *Benjamin* hath supplied one hundred and six blankets, of the value of one hundred and seventeen Pounds nine Shillings; so that there remains due to the Colony aforesaid the sum of seventy-seven Pounds eleven Shillings, as the just balance due from the said *Benjamin*.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the said *Benjamin* pay unto the said *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer as aforesaid, the aforesaid sum of seventy-seven Pounds eleven Shillings, as the just balance due as aforesaid; whose receipt for the same shall be a discharge in full for the said *Benjamin* for the sum of one hundred and ninety-five Pounds, by him received as aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Benjamin Mills*, the sum of three Pounds seventeen Shillings and two Pence, in full for Blankets lost out of those purchased by said *Mills* for this Colony.

*Resolved*, That the Depositions of Doctor *John Warren*, *Daniel Scott*, and *Frederick Ridgely*, respecting a quantity

of Medicines left in the Workshop of the Town of *Boston*, lately improved as an Hospital by the *British Troops*, be published in the *Watertown Newspaper*, by order of the General Court.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into consideration the Commissary's Accounts, beg leave to report: That they have examined the Account of Colonel *Beriah Norton*, as exhibited up to the 4th of this instant, *April*, and find the same right cast and well vouched. That four hundred and sixty-seven Pounds fifteen Shillings and eight Pence have been advanced for Provisions and other necessities by the said Colonel *Norton*, for the sea-coast service. That a balance of eighty-six Pounds fourteen Shillings and five Pence, appears due to said Colonel *Norton*; and, notwithstanding he has not been able to exhibit at this time a particular account of the disposal of every article, your Committee are of opinion that he should receive his second payment, agreeable to the establishment made for the service aforesaid, he being further accountable.

CHARLES CHAUNCY, *per order*.

Read, and accepted, and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the said Colonel *Norton* receive his second payment, agreeable to the establishment aforesaid, he being further accountable.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Benjamin Mills*, Esquire, for the use of *Thomas Rogers*, in full for a Gun improved by *George Mills*, in the service the last summer, and not returned to said *Rogers*, the sum of two Pounds four Shillings, in full of said Gun.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, April 16, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *John Taylor*, Esquire, Captain *John Greenleaf*, and Mr. *James Noble Shannon*, the sum of one thousand two hundred Pounds, to be by them applied for the purchasing of Ammunition, Salt, Corn, &c., to be distributed to the several Committees in the eastern parts of the County of *Lincoln*, for supplying the inhabitants thereof.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Edmund Sawyer*, of *Newbury*, be joined to Mr. *Tufts*, of *Newburyport*, in the business of inspecting, receiving, and paying for Saltpetre.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Partridge* and Mr. *Pitts* be of the Committee on the Instructions of his Excellency General *Washington* to the Honourable General *Ward*, in the room of Brigadier *Godfrey* and Mr. *Cutter*, absent. And the Committee are enjoined to sit forthwith.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Lieutenant *Andrew Gilman*, the sum of twenty-three Pounds eight Shillings, in full for his wages and billeting to this day, and that he be discharged from the service of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Colonel *Josiah Whitney*, the sum of two hundred and nineteen Pounds sixteen Shillings and one Penny, in full of his abstract of the pay due to the Officers and Soldiers in his Regiment, from the time of their engaging to the day they marched to Camp.

Whereas his Excellency General *Washington* has given it in orders to General *Ward* to comply with the requisitions of the Council or General Court, respecting the forces under his command, so far as are consistent with his particular orders:

Therefore *Resolved*, As the opinion of this Court, that all Colonel *Glover's* Regiment, now at *Beverly*, excepting one hundred and sixty men, including the proper officers, be removed to *Boston*, to assist in fortifying said Town and Harbour; and that one hundred and sixty men, including the proper officers, are sufficient to be kept on *Bunker's Hill*, to be employed in levelling the lower lines of that work next *Prospect* and *Winter Hills*, and to guard the works there, as well as the Town of *Charlestown*.

And it is further *Resolved*, That a Beacon be erected at

*Cape-Anne*, on the Height of *Governour's Hill*, so called; another at *Marblehead*, on the height of the land there; one at *Boston*, on the usual place, and another on the height of the *Blue-Hills*, in *Stoughton*, near *Milton*; and that the Selectmen, or any two of them, in any of the towns where such Beacon is situated, with any two or more of the commissioned officers nearest to said Beacon, shall have the care of them; and when an enemy's fleet is discovered, shall fire three alarm guns; and where there are bells in said towns where said Beacons are, shall cause them to be set ringing and the Beacon to be fired, with all expedition.

And it is further *Resolved*, That not more than one quarter part of the stores of Powder ought to be kept at *Boston*, until the Harbour is well fortified; and that the other three-quarters ought to be kept in the Stores or Magazines at *Charlestown*, *Cambridge*, and *Watertown*.

Petition of *Beulah Ball*, of *Spencer*, Widow, setting forth: That she is appointed Administratrix on the estate of her late husband, *John Ball*, deceased; that said deceased's personal estate is not sufficient to pay his just debts; that it would be greatly injurious to the interest of the Real Estate to have it sold in parcels; that the buildings are considerably out of repair; that your Petitioner has six young children, whose respective parts would be much more profitable to them by having the place sold and their shares put to interest, than it could be by having their shares in land, after such a part is sold as will be necessary in order to pay the debts. For which reason your Petitioner humbly prays that she may have leave of this honourable Court to sell the aforementioned deceased's Real Estate.

In the House of Representatives: *Resolved*, That the prayer thereof be so far granted that she is hereby empowered to sell the whole of said Real Estate, and give a good sufficient Deed or Deeds thereof; she observing the rules and directions of the law for the sale of Real Estate by Executors and Administrations, and first giving security to the Judge of Probate for the County of *Worcester* that she will pay to *Margaret Houghton*, who was the widow of the father of the deceased, in lieu of her dower in said Estate, agreeably to their agreement, nine Pounds twelve Shillings annually, during her natural life; and that the said *Beulah*, widow of the deceased, shall have the interest of one-third of the remainder during her natural life; and after her decease, the principal shall be paid to the heirs of said deceased, or their legal representatives, and that the remaining two-thirds be applied for the payment of such debts of the deceased as the Personal Estate will not be sufficient to discharge, after proper allowance and charges of settlement of the Estate; and, after the debts and charges are paid, the remainder shall be put into the hands of the guardians of the children of the deceased, to be by them put to interest for the benefit of their said wards, in just proportion, according to the law of inheritance.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

— Wednesday, April 17, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Mendon*, the sum of thirty-eight Pounds four Shillings and four Pence, in full of his account for Provisions, and transporting the same to Head-Quarters, in *April* last, for the use of the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Oliver Watson*, the sum of six Pounds eight Shillings and three Pence, for the use of *Jeremiah Whittemore*, in full for Provisions, and transporting the same for the use of the Forces who marched on the 19th of *April* last.

*Resolved*, That the Selectmen and Committee of Safety, &c., for the Town of *Truro*, be, and they hereby are, directed to deliver to Captain *James Holmes*, late master of the Ship *Friendship*, stranded on the shore of *Cape-Cod*, the 29th day of *February* last, the remainder of his private property that is yet in the hands of the said Selectmen and Committee of Safety of said Town of *Truro*.

Major *Cross* came up with a message from the honourable House, desiring the Board to send down the Resolve

respecting granting Supplies to the Eastern parts of the County of *Lincoln*, if not acted upon by the Board.

Colonel *Prescott* went down with a message from the Board, to inform the honourable House that said Resolve was concurred by the Board, and consented to by the major part of the Council.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to fortify the Town and Harbour of *Boston* be, and they hereby are, directed to deliver into the hands of *Jonathan Jackson*, of *Newburyport*, six pieces of Cannon, from nine to twelve-pounders, said Cannon to be improved for the defence of said *Newburyport*, until the further order of this Court, provided said Cannon can be spared, and are not wanted for the defence of the Town and Harbour of *Boston*.

Petition of a number of *Indian* proprietors of *Gayhead*, in *Dukes County*, setting forth: That whereas one *Elisha Amos*, an *Indian* man of *Tisbury*, upwards of twenty years ago prevailed with a number of *Indians* then living at *Gayhead* to dispose of their rights—some to a small, others to a larger tract of land in said *Gayhead*, (minutes of which conveyance will accompany this;) and notwithstanding he was unable to prevail with but a very small proportion of the *Indians* then alive, to convey any part of their rights to him, yet presumed to enclose a large tract of the most valuable part of said *Gayhead*, as we apprehend about two hundred acres, and built a house upon the same, and prohibited all the *Indians*, even those who had not conveyed any part of their rights to him, from making any improvements within said enclosure. Soon after guardians were appointed in *Dukes County*, and the said *Elisha* then agreed to allow unto the said guardians a certain sum for the *Indians*, for such part of said enclosure as he acknowledged he had not purchased, and accordingly paid the same for some few years; but for some reason the guardians, after a little time, were discontinued, and the said *Elisha* ever after refused to pay any sum whatever, but continued to improve the whole during his life; and at his death, by his will, gave the same to one of his kinsmen, *Henry Amos*, and he improved the same, and then by deed of sale conveyed the same to two of his relations, (viz: *Joseph* and *Israel Amos*,) said deed not being approbated according to law, who improved the same by their tenants until about two years ago, when the tenant who had improved it for some time was about to remove from the Island, and a controversy arose who should improve it. As divers persons had contracted for it, the guardians put an end to it by taking it into their hands, and hiring it out; and the last year is now almost expired; and the guardians, apprehending that their power is ended, by reason of their not being appointed by the present Court, will not, as we are informed, do anything further with it, whereby it will either remain in the hands of the present occupier, or be liable to be entered upon by any person disposed thereto. Some of us who had not disposed of our rights were at first determined, as soon as the present possessor's time was expired, to have entered upon it, but have been advised to the contrary; and although we are sensible the General Court have much publick business of the greatest importance to transact, would have discouraged us from troubling them with this matter at this time, could we think of any method to obtain our just right; but as we cannot, we hope your Honours will excuse us, and afford us such assistance as to you shall seem meet, as the General Court is the *Indians'* guardian, &c.

Read, and committed to *Walter Spooner*, with Colonel *Norton* and Mr. *Bryant*.

The Committee of both Houses on the above Petition, report, as their opinion, that there be now appointed by this Court three Guardians, to take the care of the *Indians* and their Estates for the benefit of the *Indian* inhabitants that belong to that part of the Island of *Martha's Vineyard* known by the name of *Gayhead*.

WALTER SPOONER, per order.

Read, and accepted.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety, &c., for the Town of *Rowley*, respecting *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., with a number of Depositions accompanying the same.

In the House of Representatives: Read, and committed to . . . . ., with such as the honourable Board may join.

In Council: Read, and concurred, and *Caleb Cushing*, Esquire, is joined.



*In the House of Representatives:* The House made choice of *Simeon Sampson* as Captain of the Armed Brigantine building at *Kingston*, for the service of this Colony.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred.

A Letter from the Committee of Correspondence, &c., of *Salem*, respecting one *Hugh Mulkoys* supplying the enemy with Provisions, &c. Read, and committed to *Eldad Taylor*, Esquire, with Captain *Stone* and Mr. *Rawson*.

Major *Bliss* came up with a message from the honourable House, desiring that the Board would desist from making out any Commissions, either civil or military, for the present.

Colonel *Norton* came up with a message from the honourable House, informing the Board that the House proposed to come to the choice of Guardians for the *Gayhead Indians* at five o'clock, to-morrow afternoon, if agreeable to the honourable Board.

*Jedediah Foster*, Esq., went down with a message to the honourable House, to inform them that the Board agreed to the foregoing proposal of the honourable House.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, April 18, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Caleb Cushing, Walter Spooner, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Esquires.

The Committee on the state of the Colony, to whom was referred the consideration of the Petitions and Papers accompanying the same, from sundry Committees and other inhabitants of several Towns in the County of *Berkshire*, report, as their opinion, that it will be expedient that a Committee from this Court be sent to *Pittsfield*, in said County, and that they give notice to the several Towns in said County to meet them there on the 14th day of *May* next, by such persons as they shall appoint; and that the said Committee make proper inquiry into the cause of the matters of complaint subsisting there, and report the same to the General Court at their next *May* Session; and that instructions be given to said Committee by this Court for regulating their proceedings therein. And the Committee ask leave to sit again.

Read, and accepted, and *Walter Spooner*, Esq., with *George Partridge* and *Jonathan Grout*, Esqrs., be a Committee for the above purpose.

Ordered, That the Letter from General *Ward* be committed to Mr. Speaker, Mr. *Hopkins*, and Colonel *Mitchell*, with *Thomas Cushing* and *John Whetcomb*, Esquires.

Ordered, That Deacon *Nichols* be on the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston*, in the room of Colonel *Orne*, excused.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Abiel Walker*, the sum of eighteen Pounds, in full for losses sustained by her late husband, Captain *Benjamin Walker*, taken at *Bunker's Hill*, on the 17th of *June* last.

Ordered, That the Letter from *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq., enclosing a Paper with Resolves of Congress, be committed to the Committee on the state of the Colony.

Ordered, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be directed to pay to Captain *John Lane* the several sums which are made up and appear due on his Muster-Roll to each of the men in his Company, for their travelling expenses.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Jonathan Atherton*, the sum of two Pounds four Shillings, in full for a Gun he provided and delivered to *James Bridges*, which sum is stopped out of the wages due to said *Bridges*, in Captain *Hastings's* Muster-Roll.

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of *Amos Singletary*, Esq., reported that they had attended that service, and found the same fairly stated and well vouched; that the said *Amos* hath furnished the said Colony with three hundred and seventeen blankets, of the value of one hundred and ninety-four Pounds seven Shillings and ten Pence, and that he hath received of *Henry Gardner*, Esq., as Treasurer for said Colony, the sum of three hundred and eighty Pounds fourteen Shillings, for the purpose aforesaid; so that there remains due to the Colony aforesaid, a balance of one hundred and ninety-four Pounds six Shillings and two Pence.

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Whereupon Resolved, That *Amos Singletary*, aforesaid, pay unto the said *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer as aforesaid, the aforesaid sum of one hundred and ninety-four Pounds six Shillings and two Pence, as the just balance of all Accounts between him and the aforesaid Colony, and that the Receipt of the said *Henry* for the same be a discharge in full to the said *Amos*, for the aforesaid sum of three hundred and eighty-eight Pounds fourteen Shillings.

*In the House of Representatives:* The House made choice of *Joshua Lovejoy*, as First Lieutenant of Captain *King's* Company, in the room of *Silas Marble*, who declines accepting that appointment.

*In Council:* Read, and concurred.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this Colony deliver to *Jerathmiel Bowers*, Esq., forty pieces of Duck, by him to be made use of for making Sails for those Armed Vessels he and others, a Committee of this Court, were directed to build for this Colony, he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

"To the Keeper of the Jail at *Ipswich*, in the County of *Essex*, greeting:

"You are hereby ordered and directed to receive into your custody, *Jonathan Stickney*, Jun., who has been apprehended by the Committee of Inspection, Correspondence, and Safety, of the Town of *Rowley*, and sent to the General Court, for having, in the most open and daring manner, endeavoured, according to the utmost of his abilities, to encourage and introduce discontent, sedition, and a spirit of disobedience to all lawful authority among the people, by frequently clamouring in the most impudent, insulting, and abusive language, against the *American* Congress, the General Court of this Colony, and others who are and have been exerting themselves to save the country from misery and ruin; all which is made fully to appear: You are therefore him safely to keep in close confinement, in a room by himself, and that he be not allowed the use of pen, ink, or paper, and not suffer him to converse with any person whatsoever, unless in your hearing, till the further order of the General Court, or he to be otherwise discharged by due course of law.

"In the name, and by order of the Council and House of Representatives."

Ordered, That Mr. *Jewett*, of *Ipswich*, and Colonel *Thatcher*, be of the Committee on the Muster-Rolls of the Sea-Coast Men and Minute-men, in the room of Mr. *Hobart* and Mr. *Haven*, absent.

Petition of *Isaac Rand*, setting forth: That the Honourable General *Ward* has ordered the Small-Pox Hospital for the Army to be removed to the Barracks at *Sewall's Point*, to which place six soldiers are already removed from *Boston*, and many more hourly expected; and that your Petitioner cannot get good Nurses for the sum which is allowed by the honourable Continental Congress, and that most of the persons visited with the small-pox have it very badly, and stand in need of the best of nurses; also, have occasion for some medicine, the Continental medicines being sent away; therefore, your Petitioner prays the honourable Court's direction concerning the premises.

Resolved, That Dr. *Isaac Rand* be, and hereby is, directed immediately to procure, on the credit of this Colony, such a number of Nurses, and such a quantity of Medicines, as are necessary for the use of the Small-Pox Hospital for the Continental Army, and that he exhibit an Account of the same to this House as soon as may be.

Mr. *Sawyer* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House proposed to come to the choice of Guardians for the *Gayhead Indians*, by joint ballot of both Houses.

*James Prescott*, Esq., went down with a message to the House, to inform them that the Board agreed to the foregoing proposal.

*In Council:* Ordered, That *Benjamin Chadbourn* and *Joseph Gerrish*, Esquires, be a Committee to count and sort, who reported that the number of Votes were:

On the part of the Board,	- - - - -	9
On the part of the House,	- - - - -	43
Total,	- - - - -	52

Twenty-seven made a vote, and that *Jonathan Allen*, Esq., *James Allen*, and *Zachariah Horsewit*, were unanimously chosen.

The Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down to the honourable House, with the following Message, viz:

"*Gentlemen of the House of Representatives* :

"You yesterday desired the Council, by a verbal message, that they would desist from making out any commissions, either civil or military, for the present. You cannot but be sensible of the exposed state of the Colony to the depredations of our merciless enemies, who would, we have the fullest reason to believe, with eagerness, avail themselves of an opportunity to wreak their vengeance upon this Colony, and, if possible, to do something to excite in the minds of the people sentiments of their valour, very different from what can be entertained of them at present, by those who have heard of their late precipitate flight from *Boston*, and other instances of their shameful conduct. You must also be sensible that, in order to prevent such mischiefs, it is of the highest importance that our Militia should, without loss of time, be put upon the best footing possible for making a defence, which is far from being the case at present, as a considerable part thereof is still destitute of officers. The Council can conceive of no sufficient reason why they should delay, under these circumstances, to make out commissions to persons duly appointed to offices; but if you will suggest any, we shall consider them with due attention, as we are greatly concerned both for the safety and reputation of the Colony.

"In the name and by order of the major part of the Council :

"*JAMES OTIS, President.*"

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, April 19, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *James Otis*, *William Sever*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Walter Spooner*, *Caleb Cushing*, *John Winthrop*, *Benjamin Chadbourn*, *Thomas Cushing*, *Joseph Gerrish*, *John Whetcomb*, *Jedediah Foster*, *Eldad Taylor*, *James Prescott*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *Samuel Holten*, *Jabez Fisher*, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to fortify the Harbour of *Boston* be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed to purchase, on the best terms they may be had, eight hundred feet of the Continental Barracks, provided their cost with the expense of removing and rebuilding them, shall, in the opinion of the Committee, be less than the value of new ones, and cause them to be removed to, and rebuilt on, *Noddle's Island*; and they are directed to appoint some suitable person to superintend the taking down, removing to, and rebuilding the same at the place aforesaid, and also all the carpenter's work necessary to be done on said Island; and also, some suitable Engineer, to attend and direct the raising of the Fortifications ordered on said Island; and they are also directed immediately to cause to be built on said Island a convenient Bake-House and Brew-House, sufficient for one Regiment of men.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and hereby is, directed to purchase, if they are not on hand, and transport them to and lodge them in some safe store near *Noddle's Island*, two hundred barrels of Beef, the same quantity of Pork, three hundred quintals of dried Cod-Fish, five hundred bushels of Beans or Peas, one thousand three hundred gallons of Molasses, five hundred barrels of Flour, forty barrels of Vinegar, three thousand pounds of Soap and Butter, Rice and Milk, for the Regiment of men to be stationed on said Island, according to the allowance voted them; three hundred barrels of Cider, a sufficient quantity of Spruce for making six hundred barrels of Beer, forty empty Barrels, twenty cords of Wood, one thousand wooden Canteens, one hundred and twenty Mess-Pots, the same number of wooden Mess-Bowls, and the like number of Pails; and the Commissary is directed to deliver out said articles at such time, to such person, and in such proportion, as he shall be directed in future by this Court.

Whereas the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, according to law should be holden at *Worcester*, within and for the County of *Worcester*, on the *Tuesday* next preceding the last *Tuesday* of *April*, current: And whereas several of the Justices and officers of the said Court are members of this Court, which

is likely to continue sitting beyond the said time, and it is probable that matters of great importance may require the attendance of all the members of this Court at that time:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Courts be, and hereby are, adjourned to the third *Tuesday* of *September* next, being the time at which the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, is to be holden at *Worcester*, within and for the said County of *Worcester*; and that all pleas, processes, writs, actions, suits issued or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable, and having and that should have had day in the said Courts, if the same were holden the day next preceding the last *Tuesday* in *April*, current, shall be returnable, and have day in the said Courts on the said third *Tuesday* of *September* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall then be proceeded on, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes, as effectually as if said Courts were held on the day by law appointed as aforesaid.

Whereas the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, according to law should be holden at *Northampton*, within and for the County of *Hampshire*, on the last *Tuesday* of *April*, current: And whereas several of the Justices and officers of the said Court are members of this Court, which is liable to continue sitting beyond the said time, and it is probable that matters of great importance may require the attendance of all the members of this Court at that time:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Courts be, and hereby are, adjourned to the fourth *Tuesday* of *September* next, being the time at which the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, is to be holden at *Springfield*, within and for said County of *Hampshire*, and that all pleas, processes, writs, actions, suits issued or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable and having and that should have had day in the said Court, if the same were holden the last *Tuesday* in *April* current, shall be returnable and have day in the said Courts on the said last *Tuesday* of *September* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall be proceeded on, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes as effectually as if said Courts were held on the said last *Tuesday* of *April*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to apply to General *Ward* for the loan of two and a half barrels of Powder, from the Continental Store, in order to prove a number of Cannon lately cast for the use of this Colony; and that said Commissary deliver said Powder, if obtained, to Mr. *Burbeck*, for the purpose aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Watson*, Colonel *Bowers*, and Brigadier *Thompson*, with *Benjamin Greenleaf* and *Benjamin Chadbourn*, Esquires, be a Committee to examine Captain *Solomon Davis* and *Prince Gorham*, with respect to their importing Goods contrary to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, and report.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice of *Richard Weldon* as Captain of the Armed Brigantine building at *Dartmouth*, for the service of this Colony.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Bowers* and Mr. *Durfee*, with *Jedediah Foster*, Esq., be a Committee to consider what shall be done with the warlike Stores lately imported into *Dartmouth* in the Sloop *Betsy*, . . . *Jenny*, Master.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Reuben Dow*, the sum of four Pounds, in full of his charge in going home, nursing, and boarding, in consequence of his being wounded.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Bowers* and Mr. *Rawson*, with *John Whetcomb*, Esq., be a Committee immediately to apply to General *Ward*, and desire him to remove about one hundred men from *Beverley*, and as many more as can be spared from *Bunker's Hill*, and employ them in building Barracks and erecting a Fort at *Noddle's Island*; and that Colonel *Josiah Whitney* be directed immediately to repair to *Boston*, and to order the men belonging to his Regiment, as fast as they are raised, to march to the same place, in order to forward the works before-mentioned.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, April 20, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, Thomas Cushing, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, James Prescott, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to consider what is proper to be done with the warlike Stores lately imported into *Dartmouth* in the Sloop *Sally*, report as their opinion: That they be immediately stored there, under the care of Captain *Gamaliel Church* and *Lemuel Williams*; and as four vessels of war are now building in those parts, by order of this Court, viz: two at *Swansey*, one at *Dartmouth*, and one at *Kingston*, that the small-arms, gunpowder, ball, field-pieces, and cutlasses, be reserved to equip the same, as shall be hereafter directed by the General Court; and if any small-arms shall remain after the said four vessels shall be equipped, that they shall be immediately sold for the benefit of this Government, to inhabitants of the same, as the General Court shall hereafter order.

JEDEDIAH FOSTER, *per order*.

*In Council*: Read, and accepted.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and recommitted, and Mr. *Partridge*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, is added to the Committee.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Samuel Holten*, Esq., is joined.

*Ordered*, That the Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the *American Congress*, with sundry Resolves and Papers accompanying the same, be committed to Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Wheeler*, and Mr. *Story*, with *William Sever* and *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Fisk* be appointed to take the command of the Armed Sloop building at *Salisbury*, by Mr. *Derby* and Captain *Batchelder*, for the service of this Colony.

The Committee appointed to report suitable names for the five Armed Vessels now building by this Colony, reported: That the Brigantine building at *Kingston* be called the *Independence*; that the Brigantine building at *Dartmouth* be called the *Rising Empire*; that the Sloop building at *Salisbury* be called the *Tyrannicide*; that one of the Sloops building at *Swansey* be called the *Republick*, and the other the *Freedom*.

Read, and concurred.

*Ordered*, That *Benjamin Chadbourn*, Esq., be of the Committee to consider what shall be done with the warlike Stores lately imported into *Dartmouth*, in the room of *Jedediah Foster*, Esq., excused.

The House appointed Colonel *William Jones* on the Committee to distribute the sum of twelve hundred Pounds to the inhabitants of the eastern part of the County of *Lincoln*, agreeable to a late Resolve of this Court, in the room of Mr. *Greenleaf*, excused.

*Resolved*, That the present Trustees, lately appointed by this Court to manage the *Indian* affairs of *Grafton*, be, and hereby are, directed to make inquiry, as soon as may be convenient, whether the five Pounds and interest, as mentioned by the Petitioner, (*Elizabeth Sampson*), be really due from the former Trustees; and if so, that they improve proper methods, as the law directs for the recovery of debts, to procure said money for the use and benefit of the said Petitioner.

Further *Resolved*, That the present Trustees aforesaid, be, and hereby are, directed to distribute the Interest-money of *Andrew Abraham*, deceased, among all the posterity of said *Andrew Abraham*, deceased, or to pay it to *Elizabeth Sampson* only, (according to the order and desire of said *Andrew Abraham*), as to them shall appear most just and reasonable.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Brooks*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to wait on a majority of the honourable Council with the following Message, viz:

"May it please your Honours:

"The House having with due attention considered your message of the 18th instant, beg leave to observe that, when they presumed to send a verbal message to your Honours, desiring you to desist from making out any commissions, civil or military, they were sensible that a considerable part

of our Militia are still destitute of officers, and were very sufficiently possessed of the importance of putting them, without loss of time, on the best footing, in order to defend this Colony, exposed to the merciless depredations of our enemies, who may avail themselves of our situation to wreak their vengeance and retrieve their reputation, lost by their late precipitate flight; but at the same time, when they consider the absurdity of issuing commissions in the present style, under our present situation, they supposed themselves fully justified in not troubling your Honours with reasons they supposed obvious to every one; but as your Honours cannot conceive any reasons sufficient to delay issuing commissions, and are pleased to assure us that you will consider, with due attention, such as we may suggest, we beg leave to mention to your Honours, that the absurdity of issuing commissions in the present style is so apparent, and the tendency it has to keep up ideas wholly inconsistent with our conduct and safety, has given the good people of this Colony such uneasiness as rendered it necessary to make provision for altering the commissions already issued, and for a different style for future commissions. We had therefore provided and have under consideration a bill for that purpose, which we presumed would meet your Honours' approbation, when regularly laid before you, and appears to be calculated to promote both the safety and reputation of the Colony; and as the bill is now before the honourable Board, they will be able to judge of our sentiments and conduct in the provisions therein made."

The Committee appointed to examine Captain *Solomon Davis* and *Prince Gorham*, have attended that service; and having made inquiry of the Sheriff of the County of *Barnstable*, who was directed and fully authorized and empowered, by a resolve of this Court of the 11th instant, to take into his possession all such *India Tea* and *English Goods* as were brought in a vessel therein referred to; and being informed by the said Sheriff that he had made all due search and inquiry after such goods, but found none; neither was he able to conclude that any such goods were brought in the said vessel: Wherefore your Committee are of opinion, that the said Captain *Davis* and *Gorham* be discharged from any further attendance.

BENJAMIN GREENLEAF, *per order*.

*In Council*: Read, and accepted.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That Colonel *Grout*, Major *Goodman*, and Mr. *Bent*, with *Benjamin Chadbourn* and *Joseph Gerrish*, Esquires, be a Committee to examine *Caleb Wheaton* and others, lately taken prisoners on board the Brig *Sally*, by Captain *Manly*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

Monday, April 22, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Committee of the Town of *Upton*, the sum of sixteen Pounds twelve Shillings and eleven Pence, in full for sundries supplied the Army.

*Ordered*, That *William Sever* and *Benjamin Greenleaf*, Esquires, with Mr. *Wheeler*, Colonel *Bliss*, and Mr. *Jewett*, be a Committee to make such additions and amendments to the Bill for fixing out Armed Vessels for the defence of *America* as are necessary and shall comport with the late Resolve of Congress, confiscating *British* property.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Ordered*, That . . . . ., with such as the honourable Board shall join, be a Committee to prepare Instructions to the Committee appointed to go to *Pittsfield*, &c.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Eldad Taylor*, Esq., is joined.

*Resolved*, That for the more expeditiously making the Fortifications necessary for the defence of the Town and Port of *Boston*, part of the forces of this Colony, lately raised for the defence of its sea-coasts, shall, without any delay, march to the said Town of *Boston*: that is to say, Captain *Daniel Giddens*, and the whole of the Company under his command, now doing duty at *Gloucester*, and Captain *Daniel Ward*, and a detachment of the Company under his command, to the number of fifty men, including himself,

now doing duty at *Salem*; and that on their arrival at *Boston* they shall be under the field command of Colonel *Josiah Whitney*, and be employed in the service, as the Committee of this Court for the fortifying the Town and Harbour of *Boston* shall order. And that the said Company and Detachment, from the time of their march from their present posts to *Boston* aforesaid, and during their stay there, shall be on the same establishment of pay and subsistence as has been lately made by this Court for the Regiment now raising, to be commanded by the said Colonel *Whitney*; and that the Commissary for the Companies now posted at *Gloucester* supply the said Captain *Giddens*, and the Company under his command, with sufficient Rations, for their march to *Boston*, computing at the rate of one day for twenty miles travel. And that the Commissary for the Forces stationed at *Salem* supply the said Captain *Ward*, and the aforesaid Detachment, with sufficient Rations for their march to *Boston*, computing at the rate aforesaid. And that the honourable Council be empowered forthwith to make their orders to the above-named Captains, respectively, for the marching the said Company and Detachment to *Boston* aforesaid, and all other orders necessary for carrying this Resolve into execution.

Petition of *Nathaniel Barber*, setting forth: That he had had the honour of laying before you the state of the North Battery in this Town; since which he found two pieces of Cannon, (twelve-pounders,) have been taken from that dismantled Fortress; and on inquiry, find Mr. *Nathaniel Barber*, blacksmith, has taken them by order of Commissary *Devens*, and Assistant Quartermaster-General *Frazer*. Thought it my duty to give you this information. Likewise to acquaint your Honours, that at a meeting of the Committee of Inspection, held at *Boston*, the 9th instant, he was appointed to receive certificates of goods landed in this town, and to grant permissions to take on board merchandise to be exported, taking securities for their not being carried to the enemies of *America*. In the first part of this business he has acted, but has not as yet granted any permissions, and thinks he cannot till the further directions of the honourable Court. As many vessels from different parts are daily expected, he humbly hopes such directions will immediately be issued; and as he has tarried in town upon expense, humbly craves the favour of your Honours that he may be appointed, promising faithfully to observe such rules and directions as you shall please to order. And as there is such an appointment in *Philadelphia*, hopes your Honours will take into consideration as soon as possible, as it will be of great service to this devoted town. It will expedite business, which, under the present circumstances of the town, ought not to be retarded.

Read, and committed to Colonel *Norton*, Colonel *Williams*, and Mr. *Nye*, with *James Otis* and *Caleb Cushing*, Esquires.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice (by ballot) of the following gentlemen to be Field-Officers for the First Regiment of Militia, in the County of *York*, viz: *Ebenezer Sawyer*, Colonel; *Edward Grow*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Littlefield*, First Major; *John Nowell*, Second Major.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice (by ballot) of *Enoch Learned*, as Adjutant of the Third Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Suffolk*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

In the House of Representatives: The House made choice (by ballot) of *Henry Herrick*, as Adjutant of the Eighth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Essex*.

In Council: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, April 23, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *James Otis*, *William Sever*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Walter Spooner*, *Caleb Cushing*, *Thomas Cushing*, *Benjamin Chadbourne*, *Joseph Gerrish*, *John Whetcomb*, *Jedediah Foster*, *James Prescott*, *Eldad Taylor*, *Benjamin Lincoln*, *Joseph Palmer*, *Samuel Holten*, *Jabez Fisher*, *Michael Farley*, and *Benjamin White*, Esquires.

Whereas a Resolve passed this Court the 12th of *April* current, empowering and directing the Committee appointed to fortify the Harbour of *Boston*, to sink Ships in the channel, between the *Middle-Ground* and *Castle-Rocks*, so called,

for preventing any vessel of more than two hundred tons from passing to *Boston*: And it is found that *Castle-Island* is in a direct line between our Fortifications on *Dorchester Point* and that part of the channel the water in which is to be reduced; and that our enemies may remove any obstructions we may lodge therein without being exposed to the fire from any of our Batteries:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed to repair and raise such Fortifications on *Castle-Island* as may be found necessary.

And as covering will be wanted for the men employed on that Island, it is further

*Resolved*, That the Resolve of the 18th instant, empowering the said Committee to purchase and remove to *Noddle's Island* eight hundred feet of the Continental Barracks, be so far reconsidered as that the said Committee have liberty to remove so many feet of the said eight hundred to *Castle-Island*, and there rebuild them for the purpose aforesaid, as they shall judge necessary.

And whereas the design of raising a Regiment of men, and calling in a number of the Sea-Coast Companies, all to be under the command of Colonel *Josiah Whitney*, is to fortify the Harbour of *Boston*: And as this Court have appointed a Committee to see their orders relative to such Fortification carried into execution:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said Colonel *Josiah Whitney* be, and he hereby is, instructed to follow such directions as he may from time to time receive, from said Committee, in all things whatsoever which pertains to fortifying the Harbour aforesaid.

Whereas sundry persons of this Colony have joined our unnatural enemies, who have, in a hostile manner, been endeavouring to enslave the United Colonies, and others have absconded and removed out of this Colony, with intent to aid the despotick measures of our enemies; and divers of both sorts have left Estates, both Real and Personal, much of which have been already wasted, and more is liable to waste:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, in each and every Town and Plantation in this Colony, where there is any Real or Personal Estate in their respective Towns, belonging to any person or persons that, in their opinion, have fled to *Boston* in the late time of distress, to secure themselves, or that have joined the unnatural enemies of the United Colonies, or that have withdrawn themselves out of this Colony to aid the despotick measures of our enemies, that they immediately take into possession all such Estates, and, according to their best discretion and judgment, for the use of this Colony, order and lease out such Real Estate to such person or persons, and for such sum and sums of money as they shall think proper, for the space of one year; and that they return to this Court a true Inventory of such Personal Estate as they shall receive into their possession belonging to each such person; and also an account to whom they shall let the said Estate, and the amount of the rent they shall agree to be paid for the same, any former order or resolve of the Congress of this Colony, or of the General Court, to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided, always*, That nothing in the foregoing Resolve shall be construed to extend to such Estates as aforesaid, whether Real or Personal, as are now held and possessed by persons friendly to this Colony, by virtue of any written conveyance bearing date and actually executed on or before the 22d day of *May*, 1775.

And whereas sundry persons in this Colony did not actually join our unnatural enemies, nor remove out of this Colony, but have discovered a strong attachment to them, and been aiding and assisting them in their wicked designs all in their power, and have approved of their measures:

It is therefore further *Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid be directed to return to this Court, at or before the second *Tuesday* of their next session, the names of all persons who have in any manner acted against or opposed the rights or liberties of this country, or who have signed or voted any address to General *Gage*, approving his errand to this Colony, or his administration since the dissolution of the General Court at *Salem*, in 1774, or to Governor *Hutchinson*, after the arrival of General *Gage*, or to General *Howe*; or who have signed and promoted any Association

for joining or assisting the enemies of this Continent; and of such as have fled from this Colony to or with the *British* Army, Fleet, or elsewhere, together with their respective crimes and evidences, or depositions which may be procured to prove the same, unless such person or persons shall have given ample satisfaction to the publick of their sincere contrition, thorough reformation, and firm attachment to the rights and interests of this and the other United Colonies of *America*; and it is recommended to the Justices of the Peace in the several Counties, to aid and assist such Committees in taking such depositions as may be procured in the premises.

*Resolved*, That the whole of the Stores lately imported into *Dartmouth*, in the Sloop *Sally*, belonging to this Colony, be stored there under the care of Captain *Gamaliel Church* and *Lemuel Williams*, and by them to be kept until removed by the Commissary-General of this Colony, or the order of this Court.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to examine *Caleb Wheaton*, *Caleb Wheaton*, Jun., and *Joseph Wheaton*, prisoners, taken in the Brigantine bound from *Boston* to *Halifax*, and sent to this Court by the Committee of *Marblehead*, have attended that service. It appearing to your Committee that the first named, *Caleb Wheaton*, having, while in *Boston*, been an Associator, and in other instances not friendly to *American* liberty, are of the opinion that the said *Caleb Wheaton* give bond to the Treasurer of this Colony for the sum of three hundred Pounds, with sufficient surety for his future good behaviour, or be confined in some Jail within this Colony until he shall find such surety; or if the said *Wheaton* shall think proper, and shall procure his passage for himself and family to *Nova-Scotia*, he may have liberty to remove there on his own expense, provided he will give his promise in writing, not to bear arms against the United Colonies. And that the said *Caleb Wheaton*, Jun., and *Joseph Wheaton*, upon their giving their written paroles not to bear arms against the United Colonies, nor any way to aid or assist the enemies of said Colonies, and they paying the expense of being brought before this Court, may be discharged.

BENJAMIN CHADBURN, *per order*.

*In Council*: Read, and accepted.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and non-concurred, and ordered to be recommitted, and Colonel *Carpenter*, with such as the honourable Board shall join, is added to the Committee.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Caleb Cushing*, Esq., is joined.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice (by ballot) of the following gentlemen, as Adjutants for the respective Regiments of Militia hereafter mentioned viz:

*Brinsley Stephens*, for the Fourth Regiment, in the County of *Essex*.

*Gershom Flag*, for the Second Regiment, in the County of *Worcester*.

*Joseph Haskell*, Jun., for the Fourth Regiment, in the County of *Plymouth*.

*John Farrar*, for the Sixth Regiment, in the County of *Worcester*.

*Eliel Todd*, for the Second Regiment, in the County of *Berkshire*.

*Levi Pease*, for the Third Regiment, in the County of *Hampshire*.

*John Porter*, for the Sixth Regiment, in the County of *Middlesex*.

*John Gleason*, for the Fifth Regiment, in the County of *Middlesex*.

*Phineas Newhall*, for the First Regiment, in the County of *Worcester*.

*Frederick Drown*, for the First Regiment, in the County of *Bristol*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary be directed to procure the printing of a sufficient number of the Resolves empowering the Committees of the several Towns in this Colony to lease out the Estates of the enemies of the United Colonies, and deliver the same when printed to the Sheriff of the County of *Suffolk*, that each Town in the Colony may be furnished with a copy thereof.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Eleazer Priest*, the sum of one Pound nineteen Shillings, in full for losses sustained at the battle at *Chelsea*, in *May* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Heirs of *John Gibson*, the sum of six Pounds nine Shillings, in full for losses sustained at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of a number of the Commissioned Officers of the Twenty-Seventh Regiment of Foot, be committed to Mr. *Wheeler*, Colonel *Orne*, and Mr. *Singletary*, with *Thomas Cushing* and *Moses Gill*, Esquires.

Whereas this Colony have raised and stationed a number of men on the Sea-Coast for their protection and defence, who are under the pay of this Colony, and some of them have taken sundry vessels; and no resolve has as yet been passed to determine what share such men shall have in any prizes that are or may be taken:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Sea-Coast Men, stationed in any part of this Colony, shall be entitled to one-third part of the nett proceeds (after charges of condemnation and other expenses are paid) of all Vessels and Cargoes that have been, or shall hereafter be taken by them, and legally condemned by the Court established to try the justice of all such captures, which shall be divided among them, in proportion to the pay of the Officers and Soldiers employed in such port or place, and the remainder shall be to the use of the Colony.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, April 24, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Joseph Gerrish, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, and Benjamin White, Esquires.

As it is the wisdom of every community to encourage the growth and manufacture of those commodities which tend to the publick good, especially such articles as are necessary for defence in time of war; and as the furnishing a Navy is of the last importance, both to the present and future security of these United Colonies, and as this cannot be done without large quantities of the necessary article of Hemp, which may be produced to great advantage among us; and whereas the honourable Continental Congress have recommended that encouragement be given for the culture and growth of Hemp; therefore, for the encouragement of those who will undertake to cultivate so important a commodity at this time,

It is *Resolved*, That there shall be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, for every pound of good merchantable Hemp, water-rotted and well dressed, which shall be of the growth of this Colony, after the date hereof, a bounty of two Pence upon the pound, to continue for the space of three years from the date hereof; the quantity and quality of the Hemp to be certified to the Treasury of this Colony, under the hand of the major part of the Selectmen of the Town in which it was raised, who shall be empowered to administer an oath to the person producing the commodity, in the form following, viz:

"You, *A B*, of . . . . ., do swear that the . . . . . pounds of Hemp by you now offered for a survey, was produced and raised by you within this Colony, since *April*, 1776, and that neither you nor any other person in your behalf, hath hereto had a survey and obtained a certificate for the same, or any part thereof: so help you *God*."

Which oath shall be reduced to writing before it is administered, the quantity of Hemp being expressed in words, and not in figures; and the person taking the same shall subscribe his name thereto; after which, the surveyor shall endorse and subscribe his Certificate, in the form following, viz:

" . . . . ss. The . . . . day of . . . . *A. D.* . . . . surveyed the quantity of Hemp within-mentioned, and found it to be good and merchantable, and entitled to a premium agreeable to a resolve of the General Court."

It is earnestly recommended to all those whose situation will admit of it, by every method in their power, to promote the raising of Flax, the doing of which will be considered



not only as acting a wise and prudent part with regard to themselves and families, in this time of scarcity, but as highly meriting the approbation of the publick.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Appia Keneson*, the sum of two Pounds fifteen Shillings, in full for the losses her Husband sustained in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *William Dodge*, the sum of six Shillings and eight Pence, in full for a Bayonet lost in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Samuel Woodbury*, the sum of two Pounds ten Shillings, in full for losses he sustained in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Heirs of *Peter Whetcomb*, deceased, the sum of five Pounds, in full for his losses in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Benjamin Shaw*, the sum of one Pound eight Shillings, in full for his losses in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Isaac Lawrence*, the sum of two Pounds sixteen Shillings, and to *Mrs. Martha Lawrence*, the sum of four Pounds one Shilling, in full for losses at the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury, to *Ezra Jewett*, the sum of five Pounds, in full of his Apprentice's losses in the battle of *Lexington*.

The Committee appointed to consider what further number of the Militia Acts, together with the Rules and Regulations for the Militia, when called out on an alarm, be printed, reported.

Read, and accepted.

*Resolved*, That one thousand of the above Militia Acts, together with the like number of the Rules and Regulations of the Militia, be printed in a pamphlet, in order that each of the Brigadiers, Field-Officers, Captains, and Adjutants, in commission in this Colony belonging to the Militia or Alarm List, may be furnished with one of the same, that they may severally know their duty; and Brigadier *Thompson*, Colonel *Grout*, and Mr. *Hopkins*, be a Committee to procure the printing of the same.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*In the House of Representatives*: *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Aaron Guild*, the sum of ninety one Pounds five Shillings and seven Pence, in full of his Roll, for the use of the men borne thereon.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Israel Nichols*, Esq., for the use of the Selectmen of *Leominster*, for Provisions supplied the Army, the sum of eleven Pounds eighteen Shillings and two Pence, in full of their Account.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Joseph Frye*, Esq., the sum of forty-one Pounds seven Shillings, in full of his services as Major-General.

Whereas a number of the inhabitants of the Town of *Eastham* have petitioned to this Court, relative to the proceedings of a Town-Meeting held in said *Eastham*, on the 11th of *March* last, and have represented the said Town-Meeting was held in an illegal manner:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Petitioners, or their agent, serve the adverse party, or those gentlemen who were present at the first opening of a Town-Meeting on said day, with a copy of said Petition and this Resolve, that they may appear on the second *Wednesday* of the sitting of the next General Court, and there show cause, if any they have, why the proceedings of said meeting should not be annulled, and another meeting called to choose Town Officers.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the Selectmen of said Town, chosen for the year 1775, be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed to call and hold a Town-Meeting for the choice of a Representative or Representatives, by virtue of a precept which they shall receive for that purpose; and the Town-Clerk and Constables in said Town

chosen in 1775, are empowered to officiate in calling and holding said meeting.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston*, be, and they hereby are, empowered to hire, in behalf of this Colony, one hundred Men on the best terms they can be procured, and employ said Men (under a good overseer, which said Committee shall authorize for that purpose) in fortifying *Castle-Island*, agreeable to a late Resolve of this Court, with the utmost expedition, and dismiss said Men as soon as the safety of the Town and Harbour of *Boston* will permit, or by order of the General Court.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of the Town of *Northborough*, the sum of twelve Pounds two Shillings and eight Pence, in full of their Account for Provisions for fifty-two men.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Deacon *Nichols*, to the use of the Heirs of *Jonathan Bates*, deceased, the sum of four Pounds eighteen Shillings, in full of his losses in the battle of *Charlestown*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to procure eighty double-fortified Cannon, suitable for Ships' use, that will carry a Ball of six pounds weight each, one hundred and twenty Swivel-Guns, and twenty Cohorns; also ten tons of Round Shot, five tons of Chain and Double-headed Shot, three tons of Grape Shot, three tons of Powder, and one ton of Hand-Grenades, as soon as possible, and deliver the same, or any part thereof, to the Honourable *William Sever*, *Richard Derby*, *Jerathmiel Bowers*, Esquires, *Thomas Durfee*, Esq., and Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, Jun., or to either of their orders, to be by them applied for the use of the Armed Vessels now building, &c., for the service of this Colony.

*In the House of Representatives*: Whereas it has been represented to this Court by the Committee of Correspondence, &c., for the Town of *Methuen*, that *James Meloon*, of *Methuen*, hath, with intent to defraud this Colony, made up a false Muster-Roll for himself as Captain, and for fifteen others as Privates under him, for the alarm of the 19th of *April* last, when said *Meloon* did not perform any service at that time:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Receiver-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, required and empowered to prosecute said *James Meloon* for the offence with which he is charged, by due course of law.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*In Council*: Read again, and reconsidered, and non-concurred with the foregoing Resolve; and *Ordered*, That the said *Meloon* be notified and cited to appear before this Court, on the second *Thursday* of the next sitting of the General Court, to answer the foregoing charge, if he see cause.

*In the House of Representatives*: Read, and concurred.

Memorial of the President and Fellows of *Harvard College*, in *Cambridge*, setting forth: That immediately after the commencement of the present war in defence of *American* liberties, on the 19th day of *April*, 1775, all the Buildings and Appurtenances of said College were entered, and ever since have been occupied, by the Army, then suddenly assembled and formed, as Barracks, and for other necessary purposes; that said Buildings, with their Appurtenances, are greatly defaced and damaged by the Army, so that the repairs must amount to a considerable sum if put into the same good order as when occupied by the Students; that the Rents of said Buildings, by which many great and necessary expenses of the Society were defrayed, have wholly ceased for the year past; that not only the aforesaid Rents, but likewise one year's income of *Charlestown Ferry*, granted by the General Assembly of the Colony to the College soon after it was founded, has been cut off by this war, the said Ferry being in possession of the enemy; that we cannot doubt but that the honourable Continental Congress will consider it as a debt of justice to make good these losses which the College has sustained for the accommodation of the Continental Army, and by the *British* Troops; that since, by the signal smiles of Heaven on our military operations, the enemy's Fleet and Troops are driven from the Capital, and the Continental Forces are now removed from *Cambridge*; and since it is necessary

that the Students of the College should return as soon as possible to their proper seat,—for these and other reasons, we think it proper to apply ourselves to this honourable Court, rather than more directly to the honourable Congress of the United Colonies, that the College Buildings may be repaired, the Students there reinstated, and this Literary Society compensated for the great losses it has sustained. We therefore beg leave to commend the aforesaid circumstances of the College under our care to the consideration of your Honours, that all necessary provision may be made for restoring and reimbursing this Society, as in your wisdom shall seem best, and that you would order accordingly.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Watson*, Colonel *Thatcher*, and Major *Fuller*, be a Committee to estimate the damages sustained by *Harvard College* for the accommodation of the Continental Army, and by means of the *British Forces*; and that said Committee be empowered to make such repairs immediately as may be necessary for the comfortable accommodation of the members of said College, and report to this Court; and that said members have leave to take possession of these Buildings, and the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, as soon as those repairs are made.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Grafton*, the sum of twenty-one Pounds fifteen Shillings and four and a half Pence, in full of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army in *April* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Bradford*, the sum of thirty-four Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, in full of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Fitchburgh*, the sum of fourteen Pounds eleven Shillings and two Pence, in full discharge of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Holliston*, the sum of fifty-eight Pounds nine Shillings, in full of their Account for boarding men at *Roxbury* and *Cambridge*, in the service of this Colony.

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to examine *Caleb Wheaton*, *Caleb Wheaton*, Jun., and *Joseph Wheaton*, Prisoners taken in the Brig bound from *Boston* to *Halifax*, and sent to this Court by the Committee of *Marblehead*, have attended that service, and report: That it appearing to your Committee that the said *Caleb Wheaton* having, while in *Boston*, been an Associator, and in other instances unfriendly to *American* liberty, are of opinion that the said *Caleb Wheaton*, *Caleb Wheaton*, Jun., and *Joseph Wheaton*, jointly and severally, give bond to the Treasurer of this Colony in the penal sum of five hundred Pounds, the condition whereof to be that they and every one of them will be of good behaviour, and will not correspond with any of the enemies of *America*, or take up arms against the United *American* Colonies; and that they subscribe and make solemn oath before a Justice of the Peace within this Colony that they will faithfully observe and fulfil the conditions before-mentioned; and that they pay such cost and charge as hath arisen by their being brought before the General Court; and in default of their complying with the foregoing, that they be committed to close confinement until the further order of the General Court.

CALEB CUSHING, *per order*.

Read, and accepted.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Abner Rawson*, the sum of twenty-one Pounds sixteen Shillings and one Penny, for the use of the Committee of Supplies of the Town of *Uxbridge*, in full of their Account of Provisions supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That the Officers of Militia who were called in last *February* to join the Continental Army at *Dorchester* and *Roxbury*, for a few days, be directed to make up their Muster-Rolls in the same manner as the Militia who have been called in at other times.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Methuen*, the sum of sixteen Pounds two Shillings and four Pence, in full of their Account of Provisions supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Samuel Moody*, the sum of fifteen Pounds ten Shillings, for the use of the Selectmen of the Town of *Newbury*, in full of their Account for Provisions, Carting, &c., for the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Phineas Smith* and others, the sum of twelve Pounds eighteen Shillings and eight Pence, in full of their Account for guarding Cannon at *Lexington*, and transporting them to *Cambridge*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, April 25, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of *Boston* be, and they hereby are, directed and empowered, to draw on the Commissary-General of this Colony for necessary Intrenching Tools for one hundred men, or as many of them as by order of this Colony they shall employ for the purpose aforesaid, and also Provisions for said men, which the Commissary-General is directed to supply accordingly.

Whereas a certain *John Hill*, lately taken prisoner by Commodore *Manly* in a vessel bound from *Boston* to *Halifax*, and brought into *Portsmouth*, was examined before the Council, and no evidence then appearing against him, he was discharged and set at liberty: And whereas it hath since been made to appear to this Court that the said *Hill*, at the time he was taken as aforesaid, had in his possession Chests, Trunks, and Packages of Goods and Merchandise, to the value of three hundred Pounds sterling, supposed to have been stolen from the distressed inhabitants of the Town of *Boston*, and was an assistant to *Crean Brush* in his late unwarrantable and high-handed thefts and robberies:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said *Hill* be immediately apprehended wherever to be found, and brought before this Court for examination touching the premises; and all Sheriffs, Constables, and other Executive Officers, and all the good People of this Colony, are hereby directed and empowered to apprehend the said *Hill* wherever he may be found, and bring him forthwith before this Court, in order that he may be dealt with for his aforesaid high-handed crimes, as to law and justice appertains.

In Council: Ordered, That *Benjamin Chadbourn* and *Benjamin White*, Esquires, be a Committee, with Colonel *Hallet*, Mr. *Bryant*, and Mr. *Lincoln*, to take into consideration the Report of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, Major *Demick*, and Colonel *Cobb*, a Committee appointed by this Court relative to a Sloop lately cast ashore at *Provincetown*, on *Cape-Cod*, with their Accounts, and report what is proper to be done thereon.

The Committee upon the foregoing Order have attended that service, and report: That it is their opinion that the proceedings of *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, Esq., and Major *Demick*, as set forth in their Report, be accepted; and that they be paid out of the publick Treasury the amount of their Accounts, viz: To the said *Joseph Pearse Palmer*, Esq., eight Pounds sixteen Shillings and seven Pence, and to the said *Joseph Demick* the sum of one Pound nineteen Shillings, in full of their Accounts.

BENJAMIN CHADBOURN, *per order*.

Read, and accepted.

*Resolved*, That it be, and hereby is, recommended to the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony, where any of the poor of the Towns of *Boston* and *Charlestown* are resident and supported at the publick expense, and are now desirous of removing with their effects into said towns, that on their producing a certificate from the majority of the Selectmen of the towns they respectively belong to, of there being a prospect they will be able to support themselves and families, that they be assisted with teams, or proper conveyances, with necessary provisions, for such removal, and exhibit their accounts to this Court for the same; and they shall be paid at the same rates as have been ordered by this Court for removing said poor into the country.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Captain *Abel Kimball*, the sum of eight Pounds seventeen Shillings, for the use of his Company, in full for their services for taking care of a Brigantine brought into *Gloucester*.

A Bill entitled "An Act for regulating the Fees of this Colony in future," passed the House of Representatives to be engrossed:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, April 26, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *Abraham Andrews*, First Lieutenant of Captain *Brown's* Company, in Colonel *Whitney's* Regiment, in the room of *Elijah Danforth*; and *Silas Porter* as Second Lieutenant of the same Company, in the room of *Thomas Richardson*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*In the House of Representatives*: Ordered, That . . . . . be a Committee, with such as the honourable Board may join, to consider the proceedings of the Committee of the Towns of *Duxbury*, *Marshfield*, *Scituate*, and *Hanover*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred, and *Caleb Cushing*, *Eldad Taylor*, and *James Prescott*, Esquires, are joined.

On the Petition of the Committee of Safety of *Cape-Elizabeth*,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to procure for the defence of that town, two Crow-Bars, fifteen Shovels or Spades, six Pick-Axes, two hundred pounds of Lead or Ball, two hundred Flints, and six Narrow-Axes.

Whereas, a Resolve passed this Court, dated the 17th of *April*, current, directing the Selectmen, Committee of Safety, &c., of the Town of *Truro*, to deliver to *James Holmes*, late master of the Ship *Friendship*, stranded on *Cape-Cod* shore in *February* last, the remainder of his private property that was then in the hands of said Selectmen and Committee; by virtue of which resolve (as this Court is informed) said *Holmes* has made demand of the greatest part of the cargo found on board said ship;

Therefore *Resolved*, That, by the words "the remainder of his private property that is yet in the hands of the Selectmen and Committee of Safety," mentioned in said resolve, shall, and ought to be, understood, the remainder of his clothing, cabin furniture, sea-books, cash, and private papers, which were then actually in the hands of said Selectmen and Committee; said *Holmes* making it appear that the cash was actually his private property; and said resolve shall not be construed to extend to any part of the cargo or stores found on board said ship.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Sarah Parker*, the sum of fourteen Pounds three Shillings and nine Pence, in full for the losses sustained by her husband, the late Colonel *Parker*, who was slain in the battle of *Charlestown*.

A Bill entitled "An Act for executing the Resolve of Congress recommending the disarming the Enemies of the United Colonies," &c., having passed the House of Representatives to be engrossed:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, April 27, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony be, and he hereby is, directed to procure, for the use of the Forces stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*, four Crow-bars, one hundred Shovels or Spades, fifty Narrow-Axes, and fifty Pick-Axes; and the said Commissary is

directed to deposite the same with the Selectmen of the Town of *Falmouth*, for the use of the Militia there, when there shall be no further use for them by the Forces aforesaid; said Selectmen to be accountable for the same, and to consider them as a part of those articles which they are, by the law for regulating the Militia of this Colony, obliged to provide.

Petition of *Eleazer French*, setting forth the great necessity he is driven to by the unhappy misfortune of having his right arm shot off by a cannon-ball in the engagement on *Bunker's Hill* the 17th of *June* last; also lost at the same time his Gun, appraised at eight Dollars, and Cartridge-box, Bayonet, three and one-fourth pounds of Powder, one and a half pound of Ball, and one Blanket, all his own property, which last articles were appraised at one Pound eight Shillings and two Pence—the whole amount three Pounds fifteen Shillings and two Pence; all which your humble Petitioner prays may be made up to him to relieve his present necessities; also humbly prays the honourable Court would consider how unable the Petitioner is to subsist on his own earnings, with only his left hand, and prays there may be some provision made to relieve him in future from want and penury.

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, the sum of three Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence, in full discharge of said *French's* loss.

And whereas the said *French* lost his right Arm by a Cannon-ball, as mentioned in the above Petition:

It is *Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid him the sum of four Pounds annually during the pleasure of this Court, and the same to commence on the 1st day of *April* next.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

A Bill entitled "An Act directing how the Writs and Precepts shall be issued for convening a Great and General Court, or Assembly, for the ensuing year," having passed the House of Representatives:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed to be engrossed.

*Resolved*, That one-third part of the Moneys (after the charges of condemnation are paid) arising from the captures that may be made by any of the Armed Vessels fitted out on account of this Colony, and shall be finally condemned by any Court of Justice erected for the trial and condemnation of such captures, shall be distributed among the Officers and Seamen and Marines in the manner following, viz:

To a Captain, 6 shares and all the cabin furniture; to the First Lieutenant, 5 shares; to the Second Lieutenant, 4 shares; to the Master, 3 shares; to the Mate,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  share; to the Boatswain,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  share; to the Boatswain's Mate,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  share; to the Steward, 2 shares; to the Gunner,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  share; to the Gunner's Mate,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  share; to the Carpenter, 2 shares; to the Carpenter's Mate,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  share; to the Surgeon, 3 shares; to the Master-at-Arms,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  share; to the Pilot, 2 shares; to the Cook,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  share; to the Drummer,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  share; to the Boys,  $\frac{1}{2}$  share; to the Seamen and Marines, 1 share.

On the Petition of *William Gardner*, Esquire,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, for the Plantation called *Gardnerstown*, be, and they hereby are, directed to allow the said *William Gardner* to improve (till the further order of this Court) a tract of Land, and the Buildings thereon, lying in said *Gardnerstown*, that he has lately improved; provided the said *Gardner* has not, in the judgment of said Committee, acted an unfriendly part towards his country.

The Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down with the following Message to the honourable House, viz:

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

"We earnestly recommend to your consideration, the propriety and even necessity of raising a number of men, perhaps one Regiment, sufficient to fortify, and effectually secure the Town of *Hull*, *Pettick's Island*, and *Long-Island*, by which the Towns of *Hingham*, *Weymouth*, *Braintree*, *Milton*, and *Dorchester*, with the adjoining Towns, will be secured, and the enemy obliged to leave the Road of *Nantasket*, and all the internal part of the Harbour of *Boston*. This will so far open the trade to the Town of *Boston* as to

admit wood, &c., to come in by water, at a much less risk than at present, and will prevent the necessity of keeping any Troops at *Hingham*, or any other Towns within the Harbour of *Boston*.

"In the name and by order of the major part of the Council:

"JAMES OTIS, *President*."

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition of Major *Barber*, beg leave to report, that said *Barber's* Petition be so far granted as that he may be appointed to give permits to all vessels coming in and going out of the Port of *Boston*, agreeable to the Resolves of the Continental Congress.

JAMES OTIS, *per order*.

Read, and accepted.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Richard Devens*, Esq., the sum of twenty-two Pounds eight Shillings, in full for his services as Paymaster to the Forces of this Colony.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Adjutants to the Regiments of Militia hereafter mentioned, viz: *Thaddeus Harrington*, to the Third Regiment, in the County of *Middlesex*; *Adam Peters*, to the Fourth Regiment, in the County of *Suffolk*; *Eleazer Carver*, to the Third Regiment, in the County of *Plymouth*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Devens*, Esq., be, and hereby is, directed to pay to Captain *Josiah Stone*, the sum of seventy-five Pounds fourteen Shillings and six Pence, being the balance due to the Colony from him as Paymaster to the Soldiers that had not received their Advance Pay, according to a Resolve of this Court the 9th day of *August* last; and also deliver three Warrants, now in his hands, empowering him to draw money out of the Treasury for the same purpose. A compliance herewith shall be a full discharge to the said *Richard Devens*, Esq., for the Moneys received of the Colony for the purposes aforesaid. And the said Captain *Stone* is directed to pay the said sum of seventy-five Pounds fourteen Shillings and six Pence, to the Treasurer of this Colony, taking duplicate Receipts therefor, one of which, together with the three Warrants, to be lodged with the Secretary of the Colony.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, *Monday* morning.

Monday, April 29, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Jedediah Foster, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourne, James Prescott, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Whereas by a Resolve of this Court, of the 9th of *November* last, the Sheriff of the County of *Suffolk*, and other officers in that County, were authorized and empowered to commit any person or persons to the Jail in the County of *Plymouth* whom they might legally commit to the Jail in the County of *Suffolk*, as the Town of *Boston*, in which the County Jail is, was then in the possession of the enemies of the United Colonies, as by the same Resolve will more fully appear: And whereas the enemies aforesaid have fled from the said Town of *Boston*, and the inhabitants have again taken possession thereof, and the difficulties of imprisoning persons there is now removed:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Resolve aforesaid, so far as it relates to the Sheriffs, or other persons belonging to the County of *Suffolk*, imprisoning any person in the Jail in the County of *Plymouth*, be, and hereby is, declared null and void, and shall be of no further force or effect; and that the Sheriff of the County of *Suffolk* be, and he hereby is, fully authorized and empowered to remove from the Jail in the County of *Plymouth* to the Jail in the Town of *Boston*, all and every person and persons that were by him or others, officers in the County of *Suffolk*, committed to said *Plymouth* Jail, in pursuance and by virtue of the Resolve aforesaid.

Whereas the honourable the Continental Congress have recommended to this and the other United Colonies the manufacturing of Salt, and have caused to be transmitted to this Court a Pamphlet, setting forth the particular mode practised in other parts, which discovers the probability of its being carried into effect in this Colony:

Therefore it is *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the several Sea-Port Towns in this Colony, to use their utmost endeavours to proceed in the manufacturing of Salt in their several towns.

And that they may have all the information given them in this matter that this Court can, at present, furnish them with,

It is further *Resolved*, That the number of one hundred and fifty of said Pamphlets be printed, and sent to the several Sea-Port Towns in this Colony; and that Mr. *Story* be appointed to get them printed and dispersed accordingly.

Petition of *John Stevens*, setting forth: That he has been a long time confined in Jail, upon suspicion of being a spy of the enemy, of which he is entirely innocent; and upon that suspicion he is now confined in Jail, and never could obtain a hearing, neither before a Court-Martial or any other authority; therefore begs leave to be brought before your Honours, that, by word, he may give your Honours full satisfaction that he is innocent. He is under great necessity; having lost his shirts, he has not been able to shirt himself for seven weeks past; therefore begs leave for a speedy hearing.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the Justices appointed to examine the enemies of the United Colonies, in *Boston*, be empowered to examine the above-named *John Stevens*, and dispose of him according to his demerits.

Whereas it is represented that sundry persons have procured, and are now using means to procure, from without this Colony, quantities of Saltpetre, or the materials therefor, partly wrought, with a view to receive from the Treasury of this Colony the price and premium promised for such as should be manufactured within this Colony: Wherefore, for the prevention of any such fraudulent practices and impositions taking place,

It is *Resolved*, That all persons, who are, or may be, appointed by the General Court, to receive and pay for Saltpetre manufactured within this Colony, be directed, and they hereby are directed, not to receive and pay for any quantity of Saltpetre, that may be brought to them respectively, for the use of the Colony, until the person or persons bringing the same shall take an oath agreeable to the form hereto annexed, or otherwise shall produce a Certificate from the Justice of the Peace, that the manufacturer has taken a like oath before him; in which case the person presenting the Saltpetre shall make oath before the receiver of it, that he took it into his possession in presence of the said Justice, and that the whole thereof is the same Saltpetre referred to in such Certificate; which Certificate shall be lodged with the person receiving the Saltpetre, who is hereby authorized to administer an oath accordingly.

*Form of the Oath.*

"You, *A B*, do solemnly swear, that the whole process of the manufacture of the Saltpetre now presented by you, was begun, carried on, and finished within the limits of this Colony; and that no foreign Saltpetre is mixed therewith. So help you God."

Whereas the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, according to law should be holden at *Barnstable*, within and for the County of *Barnstable* and *Dukes County*, on the *Wednesday* next preceding the third *Tuesday* of *May* next: And whereas the Small-Pox is prevalent in said Town of *Barnstable*, and other circumstances of this Colony are such as that said Courts cannot conveniently be held there at the time aforesaid:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Courts be, and they hereby are, adjourned to *Wednesday*, the 16th day of *October* next, then to be held at the Court-House in *Barnstable* aforesaid, and that all appeals, pleas, processes, writs, actions, suits issued or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable and having, and that should have had day in the said Court if the said Court had been held on the day by law appointed as aforesaid, and shall be returnable and have day on the said 16th day of *October* next, and shall abide and continue unto that time, and shall be proceeded upon, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes as effectually as if said Courts were held on the day by law appointed as aforesaid.

Whereas the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, according to law should be holden at *Plymouth* on the third *Tuesday* of *May* next: And whereas the circumstances of this Colony are such as that said Courts cannot conveniently be held there at the time aforesaid:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Courts be, and they hereby are, adjourned to *Tuesday*, the 22d day of *October* next, then to be held at the Court-House in *Plymouth* aforesaid, and that all appeals, pleas, processes, writs, actions, suits issued or to be issued, complaints, precepts, recognisances, and all other matters and things returnable and having and that should have had day by law as aforesaid, shall be returnable and have day on the said 22d day of *October* next, and shall abide and continue until that time, and shall be proceeded on, heard, and determined, to all intents and purposes as effectually as if said Courts were held on the day by law appointed as aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That for the further encouragement to Seamen to enlist into the Colony sea service, one month's advance wages be paid to the said Seamen at the time of their passing muster; and also that their wages be paid at the end of every three months, or as soon afterwards as they shall arrive in some Port of this Colony.

*Resolved*, That the Officers of said Vessels be, and hereby are, allowed to enlist men out of the Companies raised for the defence of the Sea-Coasts; and the Officers of said Companies be directed to permit any of their men to enlist into the Colony and Continental sea service only, and to enlist others to supply vacancies occasioned thereby, as soon as may be.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to build and fix out Armed Vessels, or any one of them, muster the men raised for the Armed Vessels of this Colony, and pay them their advance wages, and receive out of the Treasury a sum agreeable to an abstract to be returned for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That such men as shall be enlisted for the sea-service of this Colony, and are not able to furnish themselves with Arms, agreeable to a former resolve of this Court, be furnished with the same by this Colony, and that twelve Shillings be deducted from the wages of each man so furnished.

*Resolved*, That the Uniform of the Officers be green and white, and that they furnish themselves accordingly; and the Colours be a white Flag, with a green Pine tree, and an inscription: "Appeal to *Heaven*."

*Resolved*, That the Commanders of said Vessels receive their orders and instructions from a Committee hereafter to be appointed by this Court, and to be conducted as secretly as possible.

*Resolved*, That the Rations or Provision allowed to the Officers be the same as is, or shall be allowed to the Officers of the same rank in the Continental service.

*Resolved*, That the Committee to be appointed as aforesaid furnish each of the Armed Vessels of this Colony with instructions to regulate their conduct, agreeable to the Resolves of this Court.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, April 30, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Whereas in consequence of a Resolve of the General Court, of the 25th instant, one *John Hill* was apprehended and sent to this Court by the Committee of Correspondence of the Town of *Marblehead*:

*Ordered*, That *Benjamin Chadbourn*, Esq., with Mr. *Cushing* and Mr. *Sullivan*, be a Committee to examine said *Hill*, and report thereon.

Whereas *John Hill*, a prisoner now before this Court, is justly suspected to have been assisting *Creeen Brush* in robbing the inhabitants of the Town of *Boston* of their goods and merchandise:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said *John Hill* be sent, under a proper guard, to *Boston Jail*, there to be confined as a prisoner until he shall be examined by the seven

Justices of the Peace of the County of *Suffolk*, or the major part of them, who are appointed to try Associators and abettors of the Ministerial Army; which Justices are empowered to examine the said *Hill*, and deal with him in the same manner as if he had remained in *Boston* after the said Fleet and Army had gone away.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *Andrew Peperal Fernald* Adjutant of the Second Regiment of Militia, in the County of *York*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*Ordered*, That Major *Hawley*, Colonel *Freeman*, and Colonel *Thatcher*, with *Michael Farley* and *Joseph Palmer*, Esquires, be a Committee to consider some plan of Discipline for the Militia of this Colony, and report.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice (by ballot) of the following gentlemen as Field-Officers for the *Boston* Regiment of Militia, viz: *Thomas Marshall*, Colonel; *Nathaniel Barber*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Richard Boynton*, First Major; *Abiel Ruddock*, Second Major.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, May 1, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, William Sever, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Esquires.

Whereas the plan of Military Discipline published by *Timothy Pickering*, Esq., appears to this Court to be well adapted to the use and practice of a Militia, as it contains all motions in the Manual Exercise that are necessary and useful, and is not, like the *Sixty-Fourth, Norfolk*, and others, clogged with many superfluous motions, which only serve to burden the memory and perplex the learner; and as it also contains many useful manœuvres, &c., not published in the *Sixty-Fourth*:

Therefore it is *Resolved*, That the aforesaid plan of Exercise published by *Timothy Pickering*, Esq., shall for the future be used and practised by the Militia of this Colony; and all Officers thereof are hereby directed and enjoined to learn the same, and to instruct and exercise the Soldiers under their command respectively agreeable to the said plan in all their publick Trainings and Musters accordingly.

A Bill entitled "An Act for raising a Regiment of Horse in the County of *Worcester*," having passed the House of Representatives to be engrossed:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be engrossed.

Whereas the power given to the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, by a Resolve of this Court passed this House the 24th instant, empowering the said Committee to draw on the Commissary-General for Intrenching Tools and Provisions for one hundred men, or as many of them as they should employ, is insufficient to answer the end it was intended for:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of *Boston* be, and they hereby are, further empowered to draw on the Commissary-General for as many Intrenching Tools, and other stores, and as much Provision as will be necessary, to supply all the men that they are empowered by this Court to employ for the purpose aforesaid; and the said Commissary is hereby directed to conduct himself accordingly.

Also *Resolved*, That the said Committee be, and hereby are, empowered and directed to consult Colonel *Gridley*, or such other Engineer as they shall think proper, relative to fortifying the said Town and Harbour.

Whereas a Committee has been appointed by this Court to go to the County of *Berkshire* to take under consideration the difficulties subsisting there, and report to the General Court:

*Resolved*, That said Committee be directed to refrain from going to said County till the further order of this Court.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Selectmen of *Templeton*, the sum of eighteen Pounds nine Shillings and three Pence, in full of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Elisha Cranson*, the sum of three Pounds



nine Shillings, for the use of the Selectmen of *Ashfield*, in full of their Account for Provisions supplied the Army.

Whereas it is represented to this Court that a navigable Canal may, without much difficulty, be cut through the Isthmus which separates *Buzzard's Bay* and *Barnstable's Bay*, whereby the hazardous navigation around *Cape-Cod*, both on account of the shoals and enemy, may be prevented, and a safe communication between this Colony and the Southern Colonies be so far secured:

*Resolved*, That *James Bowdoin* and *William Sever*, Esquires, with Colonel *Freeman*, Brigadier *Godfrey*, and Mr. *Cushing*, or the major part of them, be a Committee to repair to the Town of *Sandwich*, and view the premises, and report whether the cutting a Canal as aforesaid be practicable or not; and they are hereby authorized to employ any necessary Surveyors and Assistant for that purpose.

A Bill entitled "An Act for establishing the style of Commissions, and altering the style of Writs, Processes, &c.," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

A Bill entitled "An Act for executing in this Colony the Resolve of the *American Congress* for disarming such persons as are disaffected to the cause of *America*," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 2, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *James Bowdoin*, *James Otis*, *William Sever*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Walter Spooner*, *Caleb Cushing*, *Thomas Cushing*, *Benjamin Chadbourn*, *Jedediah Foster*, *John Whetcomb*, *Eldad Taylor*, *Michael Farley*, *Samuel Holten*, *Jabez Fisher*, *James Prescott*, Esquires.

A Bill entitled "An Act for regulating the Fees and Allowances of the several Officers within this Colony," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

Whereas no person or persons in this Colony has as yet made it appear to this Court that he or they have entitled him or themselves to the Premiums offered by this Court in and by their Resolve of the 14th day of *February* last, for erecting such Powder-Mills as are described in the said Resolve, &c.; and as this Court are of opinion that it would be expedient and conducive to the publick safety that there should be at least two Powder-Mills in this Colony besides the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, and the two that are erecting at the cost of the Colony:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the term of nine months, from the 15th of *February* last, be allowed for erecting the Powder-Mills in said Resolve described; and that such person or persons as shall, in all respects other than by the time limited in the said Resolve, comply with the terms and conditions thereof within the said nine months, shall be entitled to the said Premiums.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of *William Brown*, Adjutant of the First Regiment in *Middlesex*; *Thomas Knowles*, Adjutant of the Second Regiment in *Barnstable*; *Isaac Johnson*, First Major of the Third Regiment in *Plymouth*; and *William Eaton*, First Major of the Fifth Regiment in *Lincoln*.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Whereas by a Resolve of this Court of the 1st of *April* last, the Commissary-General was directed to clear out and repair all such Cannon now lying at *Boston* and *Castle-Island*, which he judges may be made fit for use: And whereas it is of great importance to this Colony that the most speedy and effectual measures be immediately taken to carry into execution the Resolve before-mentioned:

*Resolved*, That *Lemuel Robinson*, Esq., be appointed, with the Commissary-General, for the purposes in said Resolve mentioned; and they are directed to procure all such of said Cannon as they shall judge fit for use to be repaired in the most expeditious manner.

Whereas by reason of the removal of the Continental Army from this Colony, it is become necessary that Guards

should be kept at some parts of the Sea-Coasts near *Boston*:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That one new Company of men, to consist of one hundred men, inclusive of Officers, be immediately raised for the defence of the Sea-Coasts of this Colony, on the same establishment of pay and subsistence which was granted by the Resolve above-mentioned; the said Company to be constituted in manner following, viz: one Captain, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and eighty-seven Privates; and that the said Company shall be posted and do duty in such manner, and in such divisions or parties, as the honourable Council shall order; who are hereby empowered to distribute the said Company at *Dorchester*, *Weymouth*, *Braintree*, and *Hingham*, until the further order of this Court. And the Captain and Subalterns for the said Company shall be appointed by this Court, and the Non-Commissioned Officers, Drummer and Fifer, for the same, shall arm and equip himself with a good effective Fire-Arm, Bayonet, Cartouch-Box, Blanket, and Knapsack, half a pound of Powder, twenty Bullets, and four Flints; and none of the said men shall pass muster unless so equipped and provided. And all the Officers and Privates of said Company shall be holden to serve, and be in the pay of this Colony, as hereafter expressed, viz: The Commission Officers from the time of the date of their respective commissions, and the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates from the time they shall pass muster respectively, unto the first day of *December* next, unless the General Court shall discharge them, or any part of them, before that time; and that the Commissary-General shall appoint some faithful man under him, to issue Rations to the said Company, according to the establishment of subsistence for the men raised for the defence of the Sea-Coast, expressed in the Resolve abovesaid of the 27th of *December* last.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Hale* be, and he hereby is, licensed to erect a Powder-Mill in the Town of *Springfield*, in the County of *Hampshire*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 3, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable *James Bowdoin*, *James Otis*, *William Sever*, *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Walter Spooner*, *Caleb Cushing*, *Thomas Cushing*, *John Winthrop*, *Benjamin Chadbourn*, *John Whetcomb*, *Jedediah Foster*, *James Prescott*, *Eldad Taylor*, *Michael Farley*, *Samuel Holten*, *Jabez Fisher*, *Moses Gill*, Esquires.

A Bill entitled "An Act for raising and forming a Regiment of Horse out of the several Regiments of Foot, in the County of *Worcester*," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice (by ballot) of the following Officers for the *Penobscot* Regiment, viz: *Joseph Brewer*, Colonel; *Jonathan Lowder*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Mitchell*, Junior, First Major; *Daniel Neal*, Second Major.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

Whereas by a Resolve which passed the honourable House of Representatives the 31st of *October* last, and was concurred by the Board the 1st day of *November*, 1775, the Commissary-General was directed to pay for all such Fire-Arms, manufactured in this Colony, and finished as in said Resolve expressed, and delivered to the Commissary's store in *Watertown* on or before the 1st of *June* next, the sum of three Pounds for each Fire-Arm; and for the convenience of such manufacturers, it was also resolved that the several persons whose names are in said Resolve mentioned, be respectively empowered to receive for the Colony at the price, and during the time aforesaid, all Fire-Arms which should be offered them for sale, manufactured as aforesaid: And whereas the Commissary-General has not obtained the number of Fire-Arms which he has been directed to procure for the use of this Colony: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this Colony, and the several persons mentioned in the Resolve above referred to, be authorized and empowered to receive and pay for each Fire-Arm manufactured and finished as before-mentioned, that shall be delivered them, until the 1st day of *October* next, the sum of three Pounds; and are hereby

directed to apply to the Council for a warrant or warrants upon the Treasurer of this Colony for such sum or sums as they may judge necessary for the purpose.

Whereas the time fixed by this Court for receiving and paying for Saltpetre manufactured in this Colony, at the rate of seven Shillings a pound, expires on the 1st of *June*; and lest there should be a neglect in continuing the manufacture of that important article:

It is *Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony the sum of five Shillings (inclusive of three Shillings before engaged) a pound, for every pound of good and merchantable Saltpetre that shall be manufactured in this Colony, from and after the 1st day of *June* next, until the 1st day of *October* next, and delivered to such persons as the General Court shall appoint to receive the same; and Mr. *Story* is appointed to cause this Resolve to be printed in the several Newspapers.

Whereas a Company of men, stationed at *Gloucester*, under the command of Captain *Daniel Giddings*, were ordered by a Resolve of this Court to march to *Boston*, to assist in fortifying that Town and Harbour; and whereas it appears to this Court that the men stationed at *Gloucester* are not more than sufficient to guard and defend that place:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Resolve for ordering the Company of men aforesaid to march to *Boston*, be, and hereby is, declared null and void, and that the Company aforesaid remain in the station they were fixed at *Gloucester* aforesaid, till the further order of this Court.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, be, and they hereby are, empowered to hire, in behalf of this Colony, a further number of men, not exceeding two hundred, if they find them necessary, on the best terms they can be procured; and said men to be employed in fortifying said Harbour with the utmost expedition, and them, or any part of them, to dismiss as soon as the safety of the Town and Harbour of *Boston* will permit, or by order of the General Court.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Honourable *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., the sum of twenty-two Pounds, thirteen Shillings and five Pence, in full of his Account of Expenses in travelling to and from *Philadelphia*, to attend the Congress.

*Resolved*, That there be immediately raised for the defence of this Colony, a Company of Artillery, consisting of fifty able-bodied effective men, viz: Captain, with the rank of Major, one Captain-Lieutenant, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, six Bombardiers, six Gunners, one Drummer, one Fifer, and twenty-four Matrosses; to be under the immediate direction of Colonel *Josiah Whitney*, until the further order of this Court, the Commissioned Officers to be appointed by this Court, and commissioned by the Council; they, (the said Commissioned Officers,) or the major part of them, to appoint the Non-Commissioned Officers, and enlist the remainder of the Company. And each of the Company shall be equipped and provided with the same kind of warlike accoutrements, and shall have the same allowance of provisions, as is provided and established for the Regiment last raised for fortifying the Town and Harbour of *Boston*; and shall be holden to continue in the service of this Colony from the time of their enlistment to the 2d day of *May* next, if the service shall require.

*Resolved*, That there shall be allowed and paid to each Officer and Private in the Company aforesaid, at the rates following, by the Calendar month, viz:

Captain, with the rank of Major, £6 10 0	Each Corporal, £2 6 0
Captain-Lieutenant, - - - 5 10 0	Bombardiers, each 2 4 6
First Lieutenant, 4 10 0	Gunners, each - 2 4 0
Second Lieutenant, 3 10 0	Drummer, - - - 2 4 0
Each Sergeant, - 2 10 0	Fifer, - - - 2 3 0
	Matrosses, each - 2 3 0

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf* and others, the Committee of the General Court appointed to purchase Sulphur, the sum of two hundred Pounds, for the purpose aforesaid.

A Bill entitled "An Act for providing a speedy and cheap course for the Recovery of Debts," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

*In Council*: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

*In the House of Representatives*: Ordered, That the following Letter be signed by the President of the Council, and be forwarded to the *Indian Chiefs* of the *Penobscot* Tribe, viz:

"To our Brethren the *INDIAN Chiefs* of the *Penobscot* Tribe:

"FRIENDS AND GOOD BROTHERS, Greeting: This letter is to acquaint you that we received your favour by Lieutenant *Gilman*, dated at *Penobscot* River, the 22d of *November*, 1775, by which you have acquainted us that you made choice of Mr. *Jonathan Lowder* for your Truckmaster, and finding that Mr. *Preble* was appointed, you were not contented, and that you want to know how the alteration came to be made. You say you have heard that it was altered by means of two young *Indians* that came here. In answer to this, we tell you that we are sorry that you are not contented with Mr. *Preble*, and have so many complaints against him. This alteration in the Truckmaster happened by a very great mistake, as both these men were to keep at *Penobscot*; but we trust you will excuse it, as we were then very much troubled with the white people of Old *England*, which we have since drove out of our Colony. You tell us that when you agree to a thing, you mean to stand to it. We mean to stand to all the promises we have made to you. You may depend on it, that all we have promised you will be done by us. Captain *Lane* is obliged to go to *New-York*, and he cannot come to you this summer; but we have ordered Lieutenant *Gilman* to keep at *Penobscot* with you. You desire us to mind nobody but the heads of your tribes. We desire you for the time to come, to sign all the letters you send us with your mark, that we may not be deceived.

"Dear Brothers: We have the pleasure to tell you that, by the help of *God*, we have drove the wicked people of Old *England* out of our Colony, and we trust and believe we shall be able to keep them out. We have built forts in almost all our towns that are near the water. We are also building a great many ships of war, with which we intend to drive away all their ships. We have heard that our enemy intends to go to *Canada* this summer. If they do, we trust you will help us to drive them away, if we should want you.

"Your letter came so late that a great many of our Court were gone home before we read it; therefore we shall order the further consideration of it to the next General Court, which will be in *June*. They will find you a Truckmaster that you will be contented with, who will trade with you and supply you with such things as you will want, if they can be bought.

"We wish you a blessing, health, and prosperity, and are your friends and brothers, &c."

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant *Andrew Gilman* be, and he hereby is, directed to continue in the service to which he was heretofore appointed by the Congress of this Colony, a late Resolve of this Court to the contrary notwithstanding. And that there be paid to the said *Andrew Gilman*, out of the Colony Treasury, the sum of four Pounds, as advance wages.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection for *Deer-Island*, be, and they hereby are, directed to deliver unto *Jonathan Rich*, of *Marblehead*, the Schooner *Nightingale*, with her cargo and appurtenances, that was taken into custody some time in *August* last past, by said Committee, it not appearing upon examination that the said *Rich* has acted anything against this or the other United Colonies whereby his property should be forfeited; he giving the said Committee a discharge from any demands he may have against them for detaining said vessel and cargo.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Saturday, May 4, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Benjamin Greenleaf, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourne, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Joseph Palmer, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Whereas by a Resolve of this Court in *March* last, a Committee was appointed, after the enemy fled from *Boston*, to repair to the Town of *Boston*, and there take possession of Houses and Real Estates, personal, and other moveable

effects, belonging to Mandamus Counsellors and others, that were left in the said town, by any person who went off with the Fleet and Army and to keep the same in their possession till the further order of the General Court: And whereas, afterwards, viz: on the 19th day of *April* last, a Resolve passed this Court, empowering the Committee of Correspondence, &c., to lease out the Real Estates of certain persons therein particularly mentioned, and to return an inventory of all Personal Estates belonging to such persons as they should receive into their possession, as by the same Resolve will fully appear: And whereas it is apprehended by some persons that the Resolve last mentioned may interfere with the Resolve appointing the Committee aforesaid to take possession of all the Personal Estates of those who went off from *Boston* with the Fleet and Army:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Committee appointed by the House of Representatives, for the purpose first mentioned, be, and they hereby are, fully authorized and empowered to retain in their possession all such Real and Personal Estate as they have already taken, or hereafter may, in pursuance of their first appointment, take into their possession; and lease out said Real Estates, as the Committee of Correspondence, &c., are authorized to do, till the further order of the Great and General Court of this Colony, the Resolve of the 19th of *April* notwithstanding; provided always, that until the further order of the General Court, there be allowed to the wives and children of such obnoxious persons as are above described, so much out of their respective Estates, or the improvement thereof, as is necessary, in the judgment of the Committee, for their support, they being unable otherwise to support themselves.

And whereas sundry articles of the Estates above-mentioned may be liable to perish:

It is therefore further *Resolved*, That the Committee first aforesaid be, and they hereby are, directed and empowered to dispose of such perishable articles, and such only, by public sale, and render an account of the proceeds to the General Court, as soon as may be.

The Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of the Guardians of the several Tribes of *Indians* in this Colony, have accordingly examined the Accounts of *Jonathan Capen*, Guardian of the *Puncapang Indians*, and beg leave to report as follows, viz:

That it appears there was a balance due to said Guardian, at the last settlement of his Accounts, of - - - - -	£18 15 2
The said Guardian has paid to sundry persons, - - - - -	13 19 6½
Guardian's Account for articles delivered to the <i>Indians</i> since last settlement, and for several journeys, time, and expense, in selling land, as ordered by Court, - - - - -	12 5 8½
	<hr/>
	45 0 5
Credit given for land sold by said Guardian, - - - - -	40 16 0
	<hr/>
Balance due to said Guardian; - - - - -	4 4 5
Dr. <i>Crossman's</i> Account, - - - - -	8 19 6½
Dr. <i>Wales's</i> Account, - - - - -	1 5 4
The Guardian's Account, for his services two years and a half, at thirty Shillings, - - - - -	3 15 0

So that the aforesaid Tribe is indebted to sundry persons, - - - - - £18 4 3½

A Bill entitled "An Act providing for a more equal Representation in the General Court," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

The Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down with the following Message to the House, viz:

"Gentlemen of the House of Representatives:

"There is a considerable expense arising for the support of Prisoners sent hither from time to time, who were taken on board vessels infesting this coast, or supplying our enemies, and the guards accompanying them. No directions have yet been given in what manner this expense shall be defrayed. We recommend it to you to take this matter into your consideration, that some general regulations may be established relative thereto.

"In the name and by order of the major part of the Council: "JAMES OTIS, President."

Whereas *Joseph Palmer*, Esquire, and others, Justices of the Peace for the County of *Suffolk*, were, on the 6th day of *April* last, empowered and directed by the General Court to cause to be apprehended and brought before them, sundry persons, resident in *Boston*, suspected of being concerned in aiding and assisting the enemies of the United Colonies, but no special power was given to the said Justices to cause to be brought before them any persons who could give evidence in their inquiry aforesaid; and it being represented by some of the said Justices that sundry persons have refused to appear and give evidence when summoned thereto:

*Resolved*, That said Justices, or either of them, are hereby empowered to cause to be brought before them, by special warrant, all persons who shall refuse to appear after being summoned thereto; and upon their refusal to give testimony of such matters as they shall know touching the inquiry aforesaid, to commit them to prison, until they shall be willing to give testimony of what they know touching such inquiry, or until they shall be discharged by order of law, or by special order of the General Court.

*Resolved*, That the Vessel now building at *Salisbury* by the Committee for building and fixing out Armed Vessels, be rigged a Brigantine instead of a Sloop; and that Captain *Souter*, who has been chosen one of the Commanders of said Vessels, have the command of said Vessel building at *Salisbury*, as soon as she can be completed; and the said Committee are hereby empowered to arm and mount said Vessels with Cannon of such size as they, upon consulting said Commanders, shall judge most expedient, provided the number on board each be not less than twelve nor more than sixteen, any Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* morning.

Monday, May 6, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Eldad Taylor, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Jedediah Foster, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That Major *Bassett*, who was appointed by this Court to command the Forces stationed at the *Elizabeth Islands* and *Martha's Vineyard*, be, and he is hereby, empowered and directed to remove some of the Cannon (not to exceed nine-pounders) taken out of the Vessels lately stranded at or near *Truro*, commanded by one Captain *Holmes*, to the said *Elizabeth Islands* and *Martha's Vineyard*, to be placed and used in such manner for the defence of those Islands as the said Major shall judge proper, till the further order of this Court; and that Colonel *Freeman* be directed to deliver one hundred and fifty pounds of Powder, which he purchased for the use of said Forces, to the Commissary thereof; and that he pay unto the Treasurer of this Colony the sum of fifty-one Pounds two Shillings, lawful money, being the balance due to the Colony of the one hundred Pounds, lawful money, which *Samuel Freeman*, Colonel *Otis*, and Colonel *Hallet*, received out of the Treasury for the purpose of purchasing Cannon and Ammunition for said Forces by order of this Court; and the Commissary's receipt for said one hundred and fifty pounds of Powder, and the Treasurer's receipts (one of which to be lodged with the Secretary) for the aforesaid sum of fifty-one Pounds two Shillings, shall be in full discharge of the aforesaid one hundred Pounds.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *William Day*, the sum of nine Pounds eight Shillings, in full of his services as Barrackmaster in the Army.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *John Monro*, Jun., the sum of three Pounds thirteen Shillings, in full for his losses in the battle of *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That the six half barrels of Powder, and the four thousand Flints, drafted out of the Town stock of *Roxbury* by order of Congress of *May 25*, 1775, be replaced, according to a Petition of the Selectmen of that Town; and the Commissary of this Colony is hereby directed to replace them as soon as the state of the Colony Magazine will admit thereof.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Heirs of *Amaziah Fassett*, the sum of

seven Pounds fifteen Shillings and two Pence, in full of his losses at the battle of *Charlestown*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to Colonel *William Prescott*, the sum of six Pounds and six Pence, in full of his losses at the battle of *Charlestown*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Zebeon Hooker* and five others, the sum of eight Pounds two Shillings, in full for their losses at the battle of *Charlestown*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, May 7, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Orne*, Mr. *Webster*, and Major *Moody*, or the major part of them, be a Committee forthwith to apply to Mr. *Jacob Boardman* and others, who have lately imported Powder into *Newburyport*, for the purchasing said Powder on account of this Colony; and if the said *Boardman & Co.* shall refuse to sell said Powder agreeable to the encouragement given them by this Court for the importation thereof, (as is reported,) that the Committee aforesaid purchase the same on the best terms it can be obtained, not exceeding six Shillings per pound.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to purchase Powder at *Newburyport* be, and hereby are, directed to store the Powder in proper Magazines, in the following manner, provided the whole quantity is purchased; if not, to be distributed in the several aftermentioned Towns or places in proportion to the quantity purchased, and put under the care of the Selectmen of the several Towns, said Selectmen giving their receipts to the Commissary-General of this Colony for the quantity received, and for the use of this Colony, viz: At *Falmouth*, in *Casco-Bay*, nine hundred pounds; at *Gloucester*, one thousand pounds; at *Marblehead*, one thousand pounds; at *Danvers*, two thousand five hundred pounds; at *Salem*, five hundred pounds; at *Beverley*, two hundred and fifty pounds; at *Watertown*, four thousand pounds; at *Roxbury*, four thousand pounds; at *Concord*, five thousand pounds; at *Stoughton*, two thousand pounds.

A Bill entitled "An Act for fixing out Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-Coast of *America*," having passed the House of Representatives to be enacted:

In Council: Read a second time, and passed a concurrence to be enacted.

Whereas *Elisha Porter*, Esq., Sheriff of the County of *Hampshire*, is now absent from his County in *Canada* in the service of the United Colonies, and doubts may arise whether it will be regular and lawful for any one of his Deputies to sign and send precepts to the Selectmen of the several Towns in the said County for the choice of Representatives for the next General Assembly:

Therefore *Resolved*, That either of the Deputy Sheriffs of the said *Elisha* be, and hereby is, fully authorized and empowered to make, sign, and issue Precepts for the choice of Representatives for the said General Assembly to the several Towns in the said County of *Hampshire*, and return the same; and that such Precepts so made, issued, and returned, be to all intents as valid and effectual, and all proceedings thereon held as good in law, as if they were signed, issued, and returned by the said *Elisha* himself, notwithstanding the Writ for issuing and returning such Precepts is directed to the said *Elisha* solely, and not . . . . .

Whereas this Court at their present session passed a Resolve that there should be delivered out of the publick Treasury the sum of one thousand two hundred Pounds unto the Honourable *John Taylor*, *James Noble Shannon*, and others, to be expended as by the said Resolve is provided, for the support and benefit of the inhabitants of the County of *Lincoln*, between *Camden* and *Machias*, inclusively: And whereas the Committee of the Township of *Frenchman's Bay*, which is included between said *Camden* and *Machias*, are desirous of laying out that part of the said sum which is designed for them in such way as they suppose will be most for the advantage of the inhabitants of the said Townships:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said *James Noble Shannon*, and the others of the said Committee who have the said sum in their hands, be, and they hereby are, directed to pay *Agreen Crabtree*, *Ezra Young*, and *Daniel Sullivan*, Agents for the said Townships of *Frenchman's Bay* and *Mount-Desert*, the sum of one hundred and forty Pounds, being the share of said Townships according to their number of inhabitants, said *Sullivan*, *Young*, and *Crabtree*, giving their security therefor to pay the same to the Treasurer of this Colony on or before the time which they (the said *Shannon* and others) are obliged to pay the sum aforesaid into the Treasury, which security of the said *Sullivan*, *Young*, and *Crabtree*, shall be lodged with the said *Shannon*.

Whereas there is a number of Fire-Arms left by the *British* Troops, which Arms belonged to the inhabitants of *Boston*, were delivered up by agreement in *April* last, and were appraised by five Armourers in the condition they were left in, with some old brass and iron Trimmings for said Arms, at the sum of two hundred and fifty-four Pounds six Shillings and one Penny three Farthings:

*Resolved*, That the Commissary be directed to apply to the Selectmen of *Boston* for said Arms, and cause them to be repaired for the use of said Colony, he paying the Selectmen of *Boston* the aforesaid sum of two hundred and fifty-four Pounds six Shillings and one Penny three Farthings.

Return of the Fire-Arms, with their value, as appraised by five Armourers, in the condition they were left by the *British* Troops, which Arms belonged to the inhabitants of *Boston*, and were delivered up by agreement, in *April* 1775:

	Clough.	Wheaton.	Merrit.	Cookson.	Dunbar.	Total.	Average.	Amount, lawful money.
	s. d.	s. d.	l. s. d.	s. d.	l. s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	l. s. d.
467 barrels only	4 0	4 0	0 3 4	4 8 1	3 4 4	8		108 19 4
252 barrels and locks.....	6 0	7 0	0 8 4	6 12 1	19 4 7	10 2-5		99 2 4 2-5
256 separate do.	2 0	3 0	0 4 6	2 4	15 6 3	1 1-5		39 13 7 1-5
Broken mountings.....	3 0	6 0	1 4 4	3 10	17 4			3 10 9 3-5
Old iron, about 5 cwt., at.....	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 12				3 0 0
								£254 6 1 1-5

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, *Stephen Cross*, Esq., Mr. *Daniel Hopkins*, and Captain *Daniel Vose*, the Committee appointed by this Court to purchase Sulphur, the sum of six hundred Pounds, said Committee to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to take into their possession the Effects of such obnoxious persons who have left *Boston* with the Fleet and Army, be, and they hereby are, directed to take an inventory of the Books, Bonds, valuable Papers of all kinds, and all other articles which have been or may be found, which were in the possession of *Harrison Gray*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Colony; and that they deliver said Books, Papers, &c., into the hands of our present Colony Treasurer, and take his receipt for said articles, and lodge it in the Secretary's Office.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Samuel Tufts* and Captain *Edmund Sawyer*, or their order, the sum of two thousand Pounds, to enable them to purchase and pay for Saltpetre, for the use of this Colony, they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

Wednesday, May 8, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin Lincoln, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, Benjamin White, Esquires.

Whereas, *William Wood*, *Robert Ayles*, and others, who were taken in bringing supplies to the enemy of the United Colonies, have obtained leave from this Court to proceed to *Great Britain* on their parole; but the said *Wood*, *Ayle*, and others, having delayed their voyage, and being now on board a Schooner in the Harbour of *Gloucester*, with design to proceed on the voyage aforesaid; and as a powerful Fleet

and Army are now on our coast, and their having information of the present circumstances and movements of this Colony may be of dangerous tendency,

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Committee of said *Gloucester* be, and they hereby are, empowered and directed to haul up and strip said Schooner, and detain the said *Wood* and *Ayle*, and all other persons designing to go to *England* in said Schooner, until the further order of the General Court.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be a Committee of War, whose business it shall be, until the first meeting of the next General Court, to direct the Commissary-General of this Colony respecting taking in and delivering out the warlike Stores of this Colony to and from the publick Magazines, as the exigences thereof may require; and, also, to appoint agents, and in all respects provide for and give such instructions to the Commanders of the Armed Vessels that are or may be fitted out on account of this Colony, from time to time, and at all times, in all respects, as to them shall appear necessary for the defence and interest of this Colony, or the United Colonies, and not contrary to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, or any Law or Resolve of the General Court. And the said Committee are further empowered to direct the Commissary-General of this Colony to procure all such warlike Stores as they may find necessary for the defence and security of this Colony. And the Council are hereby empowered to grant Warrants to the said Committee, on the Treasurer of this Colony, for such sum or sums of money as the Committee aforesaid may have occasion for; and that said Committee be accountable for the expenditures of the money so received.

*Resolved*, That there be allowed to the Officers and Soldiers of the Militia of this Colony, that were called in at the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, when the Continental Army took possession of the Heights of *Dorchester*, Rations, in such proportion as are allowed in the said Continental Army, from the time of the said Militia marching from their places of abode until their return to their respective homes; and the Officers of said Militia are directed to make up their Rolls accordingly.

Whereas Captain *White*, in Colonel *Whitney's* Regiment, who had Beating Orders, has declined the service; and others who have received Beating Orders, may do the same; and the General Court being about to rise:

*Resolved*, That the honourable Council be empowered to issue Orders to some meet persons for raising a Company, instead of the said *White*, or any other person or persons who may resign their Orders for raising Soldiers for the said Regiment, and make Commissions for such persons as may receive such new Orders, if they shall judge them proper persons therefor.

A Bill entitled "An Act in addition to an Act for fixing out Armed Vessels for the defence of *America*," having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

A Bill entitled "An Act in addition to an Act to supply the Treasury with fifty thousand Pounds," having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.

Whereas the Commissary-General of this Colony was directed by a late Resolve of this Court to procure ten Cannon for the defence of the Town of *Falmouth*; and whereas the same has not yet been provided for that purpose,

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Commissary be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to *Samuel Freeman*, Esq., or his order, ten Cannon, of the sizes mentioned in said Resolve, or as near the size thereof as can be, out of the Cannon now in the Town of *Boston*, as soon as they are put in repair, provided the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* are of opinion that the same can be spared consistent with the general interest and safety of the Colony.

*Resolved*, That upon *Peter Coffin*, Esq., of *Gloucester*, making application to the Commissary-General of this Colony, the said Commissary be directed to deliver to the said *Coffin*, two Cannon, of eighteen-pounders, provided the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* judge that it may be done, and thirty Balls fit for the same; and, also, sixty nine-pound Balls, and take his receipt for the same.

Whereas by an Act for regulating the Militia passed by this Court, in their session in *January* last, it was provided

that sundry Intrenching Tools, as by the said Act it is expressed, should be procured by the Selectmen in the Colony; and whereas there is the greatest reason to expect that a formidable Fleet and Army will soon invade this Colony; and it being absolutely necessary to the preservation of the lives, liberty, and property of the good people thereof, that the Militia should be put in the best posture of defence:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Selectmen of the several Towns in this Colony be, and they hereby are, directed and strictly enjoined, as they regard the lives of this people, to provide all Intrenching Tools, as by the Act aforesaid is directed, without the least delay, and that returns of the same be made by said Selectmen to the General Court, on the 3d day of the next session thereof.

And it is *Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolve be published by the Secretary in the *Boston*, *Watertown*, and *Worcester* Newspapers, as soon as may be.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 9, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Benjamin Chadbourn, Thomas Cushing, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Michael Farley, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Benjamin White, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Crane*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, appointed to carry on the manufacturing of Gunpowder in the Colony Mill at *Stoughton*, until the further order of the General Court; and the said *Crane* is hereby empowered and directed to employ, in behalf of this Colony, so many suitable persons as are necessary in order to carry on the same.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the said *Thomas Crane*, Esq., be, and he hereby is, appointed to receive so much Saltpetre at such convenient place near said Mill as he shall appoint as can be manufactured therein, giving the same therefor as the Commissary-General is authorized to give at *Watertown*; for which purpose, the Commissary-General is directed to deliver to said *Crane*, the sum of three hundred Pounds; he, the said *Crane*, giving his receipt therefor, and being accountable to the General Court for the same.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the said *Thomas Crane*, Esq., is directed to establish lines at a convenient distance from the said Mill, by setting up posts, and extending rails from one of them to the other, entirely round said Mill, and to set proper guards at the same, who shall be empowered to fire upon any person who shall attempt, after being three times forbid by such guards, to enter the said lines.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General shall, from time to time, until the further order of the General Court, deliver to the said *Crane*, or order, so much Saltpetre as he shall want to employ said Mill, over and above what he shall purchase as aforesaid, provided there shall be more than sufficient to employ the Powder-Mill built by *Samuel Phillips*, Jr., at *Andover*.

And it is also *Resolved*, That *Mr. Vose*, one of the Committee appointed by the General Court to purchase Sulphur, be directed to supply the said *Crane*, with so much Sulphur as he shall require to keep the Mill aforesaid in constant employ, said *Crane* to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Rev. Mr. *Gordon*, for his attendance three months, and necessary expense, the sum of six Pounds; and also to the Rev. Mr. *Thatcher*, for his attendance five months, from the 5th of *December* to the 8th of *May*, and for his horse-hire and necessary expenses, the sum of fifteen Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to fortify *Boston* Harbour be, and hereby are, empowered to purchase of the Continent, take down and transport to such places as they think proper, and there erect, any quantity of Barracks they may judge necessary for the use of this Colony, not exceeding two thousand feet.

*Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid prepare and lay before the Council an Account of such sums as are necessary for paying Labourers and Carpenters they have or may employ agreeable to the order of Court; and the Council are hereby empowered to give them Warrants on the Treasury for the same, the said Committee to be accountable to the General Court for the same.



*Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be, and hereby are, empowered and directed immediately to procure and prepare with everything necessary, such a number of Fire-Ships and Rafts as they may judge proper to annoy the enemy's ships, if they should again return to *Boston* Harbour; and the said Committee are also directed without delay to sink the Hulks before ordered by this Court, in such place and in such manner as the said Committee shall think best.

Also *Resolved*, That said Committee, after they shall have completed the Fortresses which this Court have ordered to be made on *Dorchester-Neck*, *Castle-Island*, and *Noddle's Island*, be empowered to remove the Block-House upon *Boston-Neck* to *Governour's Island*, and place two or three Cannon and cast up Works there, if the said Committee shall, on good advisement, judge that the enemy may be thereby prevented from landing and taking possession of the high ground on the said Island. And the said Committee are directed to apply to General *Ward*, or such other person as may have the care and disposition of the Boats belonging to the United Colonies, for such and so many of the said Boats as they shall judge necessary for the use of this Colony, in carrying on and defending the Fortresses which they have been directed and empowered to erect for the defence of the Town and Harbour of *Boston*. And the said Committee are hereby empowered to engage, in behalf of this Colony, to return and deliver such Boats as they may receive for the use aforesaid; or in default thereof to make satisfaction to the United Colonies for such of them as shall not be returned upon demand, to the person or persons who shall have right to require the same in behalf of the said Colonies.

Whereas it has been usual in time of war to keep one or more Vessels to cruise as spies, and give intelligence of the approach of an enemy, and great advantages have accrued from the same: And whereas the great dependance which this Colony has on the Militia thereof for defence, renders it absolutely necessary that timely advice should be given of the advance of an enemy:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That Mr. Speaker, Captain *Batchelder*, and Mr. *Hall*, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee, to hire or purchase, and fit out, at the expense of this Colony, two swift-sailing Vessels, not exceeding forty tons each, to cruise on the coast of *America*, and give intelligence of the movements of the enemy; and lay their accounts for fixing out said Vessels before the General Court for allowance. And when the said Vessels shall be ready to sail, the Committee of War is hereby empowered and directed to man, arm, victual, and give orders for their proceeding; which orders the said Masters of said Vessels shall be obliged to observe and obey.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver to Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, Jun., or order, two large Cannon that were left in the Town of *Boston*, for the use of the Town of *Beverley*, until the further order of the General Court, provided the Committee of War judge that it may be done consistent with the general interest and safety of the Colony.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *John Story*, sub-Commissary to Colonel *Little's* Regiment, the sum of five Pounds five Shillings, in full of his services.

Whereas in a contract made by this Court with *Samuel Phillips*, Jun., for manufacturing Gunpowder for the use of the Colony, it was provided that the said *Phillips* keep a sufficient guard for his Mill: And whereas it is necessary that the said guard should be invested with authority in order to answer the purpose for which it is ordered:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said *Phillips* cause to be placed round the said Mill, and every building belonging thereto that shall contain any Gunpowder, a pole or line, at the distance of one rod at least; and if any person shall enter within such bounds as have been herein mentioned, at any time between sun-setting and sun-rising, and refuse or neglect to depart therefrom after having been three times called upon and audibly, by any person that may be on guard by consent of the said *Phillips*, in such case it shall be lawful for the said guard to fire on any person so neglecting or refusing.

*Resolved*, That there be delivered out of the Commis-

sary's Store at *Falmouth*, one barrel of Gunpowder, and that Brigadier *Thompson* be a Committee to receive the same for said *Harpswell* and *Brunswick*, he being accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary, appointed the 29th of *March*, 1776, of the forces stationed at *Dartmouth* for the defence of the Sea-Coast, be, and he hereby is, empowered and directed by this Court, to supply the Company stationed as aforesaid, with Barracks, Wood, and utensils to cook in, and their allowances of provisions and money, according to the establishment made by this Court on the 27th of *December* last, for the forces stationed on the Sea-Coast.

Adjourned to nine o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 10, 1776.

Present in Council: Honourable James Otis, Walter Spooner, Caleb Cushing, John Winthrop, Thomas Cushing, Benjamin Chadbourn, John Whetcomb, Jedediah Foster, James Prescott, Eldad Taylor, Benjamin White, Michael Farley, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Holten, Jabez Fisher, Moses Gill, Esquires.

*Resolved*, That the three Regiments granted by this Court, and to be raised under the command of Colonels *Marshall*, *Whitney*, and *Crafts*, when raised shall, until the meeting of the next General Court, be under the direction of the Committee of War, who are hereby empowered and directed to put them, as occasion may require, under the command of the General of the Continental Forces stationed within this Colony, and at any time when they shall think proper, to resume the same again.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed this day to hire, or purchase and fit out, at the expense of this Colony, two swift-sailing Vessels, not exceeding forty tons each, to cruise on the Coast of *America*, and give intelligence of the movements of the enemy, be, and they hereby are, fully authorized and empowered to man, arm, and victual, the said two Vessels fit for the sea; and that when they are ready, the Committee of War give such orders to the several Masters, for their proceeding, as they shall judge proper, anything in the resolve appointing the Committee aforesaid to the contrary notwithstanding; and that the said Committee receive out of the Treasury of this Colony the sum of three hundred Pounds, for the purposes aforesaid; each of the said Committee to be accountable to the General Court for the sum they shall respectively receive.

*In the House of Representatives*: The House made choice of the following gentlemen as Deputy-Commissaries for the Brigades of Militia in the Counties hereafter mentioned, viz:

SUFFOLK, - - - - -	Mr. <i>Daniel Vose</i> .
ESSEX, - - - - -	Mr. <i>Nathaniel Farley</i> .
MIDDLESEX, - - - - -	<i>Jonathan Brown</i> , Esq.
BRISTOL, - - - - -	Mr. <i>Apollos Leonard</i> .
WORCESTER, - - - - -	Mr. <i>Joseph Allen</i> .
YORK, - - - - -	Captain <i>William Rogers</i> .
CUMBERLAND, - - - - -	Captain <i>Pearson Jones</i> .
LINCOLN, - - - - -	Major <i>John Farley</i> .
PLYMOUTH, - - - - -	Mr. <i>Isaac Lothrop</i> .
BARNSTABLE, - - - - -	Mr. <i>Stephen Nye</i> .
HAMPSHIRE, - - - - -	Dr. <i>Levi Shepperd</i> .
BERKSHIRE, - - - - -	<i>Samuel Brown</i> , Esq.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Orne* and others, who are a Committee appointed to purchase a quantity of Powder lately imported into *Newburyport*, be, and they hereby are, empowered to impress said Powder, and secure it for the use of this Colony, provided that the importers of said Powder, or others who have or may have the disposal thereof, have not sold it, or refuse to sell it on the terms on which said Committee are authorized to purchase the same; and the said Committee are directed to assure the owners of the said Powder that the General Court will be ready to hear any reasons that may be offered why they should have a higher price for the same than has been offered by this Court.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed, as soon as possible, to purchase for the use of this Colony, besides what he has already procured, five hundred Pick-Axes, two hundred and fifty Spades, five hundred Shovels, sixty Crows, fifty Wheelbarrows, four hundred barrels of Pork, one hundred barrels of Beef, two hundred barrels of Peas or Beans, and three hundred Nar-row-Axes.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Eunice Whitcomb*, Administratrix of the estate of *Joshua Whitcomb*, deceased, the sum of four Pounds seven Shillings, in full of his losses in the battle of *Charlestown*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Timothy Walker*, Esq., the sum of thirty Shillings, for the use of *Benjamin Gleason*, in full of his losses at the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, on the 17th of *June* last.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Zachariah Weston*, the sum of one Pound twelve Shillings, in full for his losses at *Lexington*.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Ephraim Chamberlain*, the sum of one Pound ten Shillings, in full for his losses at the battle of *Charlestown*.

Whereas it appears to this Court that the appointment of the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* a Committee of War, is likely to involve said Committee in more business than they can attend to:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Vote appointing the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* a Committee of War, is hereby reconsidered, and that *General Azor Orne*, the Honourable *James Sullivan*, Esq., Colonel *Abram Watson*, and *Daniel Cheever*, Esq., with such as the honourable Board shall join, be, and hereby are, appointed a Committee of War, until the next meeting of the General Court, vested with all the powers which the said Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* were vested with as a Committee of War, the major part of whom to be a quorum.

Whereas it has been represented to this Court that divers Officers and Soldiers, who served in the Army raised by this Colony before the 1st day of *August* last, and for whose service Muster-Rolls have been made up to that time, have received clothing, advance wages, and warlike accoutrements, to the amount of a greater sum than their wages were, by which a balance is become due to the Colony:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the Receiver-General be, and hereby is, directed to prepare a list of the names of all Officers and Soldiers from whom there is any balance due to this Colony on the Muster-Rolls made up for services in the Colony Army before the first day of *August* last, with the sum of such balance, and the particular Regiments and Companies to which said Officers and Soldiers respectively belonged, and lay the same before the General Court, that proper order may be taken thereon.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to *Thomas Crain* and *Daniel Vose*, Esquires, the sum of three hundred Pounds, to enable them to pay and discharge the debts they have already contracted for labour and materials in building a Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, for the Colony's use, and further to enable them to complete the same, they to be accountable to the General Court therefor.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is, directed to deliver out of the publick Stores of this Colony, one hundred barrels of Flour and fifty barrels of Pork, to the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Esq., and Captain *Josiah Batchelder*, Jun., or either of their orders, to be applied for the use of the Armed Vessels which they are to build and equip for the service of this Colony, they to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

Whereas a Resolve passed this Court on the 26th day of *April* last, for raising a new Company, to consist of one hundred men, inclusive of officers, to be immediately raised for the defence of the Sea-Coast of this Colony, on the same establishment of pay and subsistence that was granted to the Companies under the command of Captain *William Crother* and Captain *Elisha Nye*, stationed at *Falmouth* and *Elizabethtown*, and were, by said Resolve, to be posted and do duty in such manner and in such divisions or parties as the honourable Council should order, who were empowered to distribute the said Companies at *Dorchester*, *Weymouth*, *Braintree*, and *Hingham*, until the further order of this Court; and whereas this Court, since the passing said Resolve, have raised a new Regiment of men for the defence of the Sea-Coasts near *Boston*, to be under the command of Colonel *Marshall*, whereby it is rendered unnecessary to raise said Company for the defence of this Colony; and

whereas no officers are appointed for the said one hundred men:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said Resolve, passed on the 26th day of *April* last, for raising said Company of one hundred men, be reconsidered, and every part and clause thereof be rendered null and void.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Samuel Phillips*, Jun., be, and hereby is, directed and empowered, as soon as may be, to deliver to the Selectmen, or their order, of all such Towns as are situated within twenty miles of any sea-port, and have lent Powder for the Colony's use, and have not been paid therefor, the respective quantities they have so supplied; they producing proper receipts of the same being received for the use of the Colony, and giving their receipts for the same.

Whereas some doubts may arise about the appointment of a Clerk of the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Jail Delivery, out of Term time,

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the Justices of said Court, or any three of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered, out of Term time, to appoint a Clerk to said Court, which Clerk, when so appointed, and being duly sworn to the faithful discharge of said office, by either of the said Justices, shall have all the powers to a Clerk of said Court belonging, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

*In Council*: Read, and concurred.

*Resolved*, That four Companies that have been doing duty in *Dorchester*, *Braintree*, *Weymouth*, and *Hingham*, be immediately officered by the Council, and filled up on the same establishment as the other Companies on the Sea-Coast are, and stationed and employed as the Committee of War shall direct.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Zebediah Abbot*, of *Andover*, be, and he hereby is, appointed one of the Committee for receiving and examining the article of Saltpetre; and that the said *Abbot* receive out of the Colony Treasury the sum of five hundred Pounds, to enable him to pay for what Saltpetre he shall receive; he to be accountable to the General Court for the same.

*Resolved*, That the Council be, and hereby are, empowered to appoint Mustermasters for Colonel *Whitney's*, Colonel *Marshall's*, and Colonel *Craft's* Regiment.

*Resolved*, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the Honourable *Benjamin Greenleaf*, and *Stephen Cross*, Esquires, Mr. *Daniel Hopkins*, and Captain *Daniel Vose*, the Committee appointed to purchase Sulphur for this Colony, the sum of two hundred Pounds; said Committee to be accountable to this Court for the same.

*Resolved*, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony, to the several persons after-named, the sum set against each person's name, to be in full for losses each person sustained in the battle on *Bunker's Hill*, on the 17th of *June*, as by the Account herewith annexed, viz:

To <i>Josiah Bacon</i> ,	- - - - -	£6	4	8
To <i>John Burrel</i> , (void,)	- - - - -	5	18	8
To <i>Ebenezer Childs</i> ,	- - - - -	5	18	8
To <i>Moses Smith</i> , (carried out,)	- - - - -	2	2	0
To <i>Timothy Hastings</i> ,	- - - - -	1	0	0
To <i>Ebenezer Nye</i> ,	- - - - -	0	7	0
To <i>Silas Nye</i> ,	- - - - -	1	0	0
To <i>Joseph Myrick</i> ,	- - - - -	1	2	0
To <i>Zeil Green</i> ,	- - - - -	2	2	0
To <i>Aaron Holden</i> ,	- - - - -	0	13	0
To <i>Paul Richardson</i> ,	- - - - -	1	10	0
To <i>Jeduthun Holden</i> ,	- - - - -	1	4	0
To <i>Joel Bullard</i> ,	- - - - -	1	4	0
		£30	6	0

Major *Fuller* came up with a message from the House, to inform the Board that the House had passed on all publick business, and desired the Board to do the same, that the General Assembly may be dissolved as soon as possible.

Then the Secretary, by order of the major part of the Council, went down to the House and delivered the following verbal message, viz:

MR. SPEAKER: I am directed by the major part of the Council to inform the honourable House that they have consented to the enacting the following Bills, viz:

A Bill for repealing an Act made and passed by the Great and General Court, in *February* last, entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels."

A Bill for preventing the forging and altering the Bills of Publick Credit.

A Bill for amending an Act entitled "An Act for encouraging the fixing out of Armed Vessels."

A Bill for uniting the second and sixth Parishes in the Town of *Ipswich* into one Parish.

A Bill for establishing the form of Commissions, and altering the style of Writs, Precepts, &c.

A Bill for executing in this Colony the Resolve of the American Congress for disarming such persons as are disaffected to the cause of *America*.

A Bill for regulating the Fees and Allowances of the several Civil Officers within this Colony.

A Bill for raising and forming a Regiment of Horse out of the several Regiments of Foot in the County of *Worcester*.

A Bill for providing for a more equal Representation in the General Court.

A Bill for providing a speedy and cheap course for the recovery of Debts.

A Bill in addition to an Act entitled "An Act \* \* \*

A Bill for supplying the Treasury with fifty thousand Pounds.

And it is their Honours' pleasure that this Great and General Court or Assembly be dissolved, and it is dissolved accordingly.

#### NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

*Proceedings of the Provincial Congress of NORTH-CAROLINA, held at HALIFAX, on the 4th day of APRIL, 1776, to MAY 14, 1776.*

At a Congress begun and held at the Town of *Halifax*, in the County of *Halifax*, the 4th day of *April*, in the year of our Lord 1776.

It being certified that the following persons were duly elected and returned for the respective Counties and Towns, to wit:

FOR ANSON County: *Daniel Love, Samuel Spencer, John Crawford, James Picket, and John Childs.*

BEAUFORT: *Roger Ormond, Thomas Respis, Junior, and John Cowper.*

BLADEN: *Nathaniel Richardson, Thomas Robeson, Maturan Colvill, James Council, and Thomas Amis.*

BERTIE: *John Campbell, John Johnston, and Charles Jaycocks.*

#### BRUNSWICK:

BUTE: *Green Hill, William Alston, William Person, Thomas Sherrod, and Philemon Hawkins.*

CAVEN: *James Coor, Lemuel Hatch, John Bryan, William Bryan, and Jacob Blount.*

CARTERET: *William Thompson, Solomon Shepard, and John Backhouse.*

CURRITUCK: *Samuel Jarvis, James White, James Ryan, Gideon Lamb, and Solomon Perkins.*

CHOWAN: *Samuel Johnston, Thomas Benbury, Thomas Jones, John Bap. Beasley, and Thomas Hunter.*

CUMBERLAND: *David Smith, Alexander McAlister, Farquard Campbell, Thomas Rutherford, and Alexander McCoy.*

CHATHAM: *Ambrose Ramsay, John Thompson, Joshua Rosser, Jeduthun Harper, and Elisha Cain.*

DUBLIN: *Thomas Gray and William Dickson.*

DOBBS: *Richard Caswell, Abraham Shepherd, George Miller, Simon Bright, and William McKinnie.*

EDGEComb: *William Haywood, Duncan Lemon, Elisha Battle, Henry Irwin, and Nathan Boddie.*

GRANVILLE: *Thomas Person, John Penn, Memucan Hunt, John Taylor, and Charles Eaton.*

GUILFORD: *Ransome Southerland, William Dent, and Ralph Gorrell.*

HYDE: *Rotheas Latham, Joseph Hancock, John Jordan, and Benjamin Parmely.*

HERTFORD: *Robert Sumner.*

HALIFAX: *John Bradford, James Hogan, David Sumner, Joseph John Williams, and Willis Alston.*

JOHNSTON: *Samuel Smith, Jun., Needham Bryan, Jun., and Henry Rains.*

MECKLENBURGH: *John Pfifer, Robert Irwin, and John McNitt Alexander.*

MARTIN: *William Williams, Whitmell Hill, Kenneth McKenzie, Thomas Wiggins, and Edward Smythwick.*

NEW-HANOVER: *John Ashe, John Devane, Samuel Ashe, Sampson Mosely, and John Hollingsworth.*

NORTHAMPTON: *Allen Jones, Jephtha Atherton, Drury Gee, Samuel Lockhart, and Howell Edmunds.*

ONslow: *George Mitchell, Benajah Doty, John Spicer, John King, and John Norman.*

ORANGE: *John Kinchen, James Saunders, John Butler, Nathaniel Rochester, and Thomas Burke.*

PERQUIMANS: *Miles Harvey, William Skinner, Thomas Harvey, Charles Blount, and Charles Moore.*

PASQUOTANK: *Thomas Boyd, Joseph Jones, William Cumming, Dempsey Burgess, and Henry Abbott.*

PITT: *John Simpson, Edward Salter, and William Robson.*

ROWAN: *Griffith Rutherford and Matthew Locke.*

SURRY:

TYRRELL: *Archibald Corrie.*

TRYON:

WAKE: *Joel Lane, John Hinton, John Rand, William Hooper, and Tignal Jones.*

TOWN of BATH: *William Brown.*

EDENTON: *Joseph Hewes.*

NEWBERN: *Abner Nash.*

WILMINGTON: *Cornelius Harnett.*

BRUNSWICK:

HALIFAX: *Willie Jones.*

HILLSBOROUGH: *William Johnston.*

SALISBURY: *David Nisbet.*

CAMPBLETON: *Arthur Council.*

Pursuant to which the following persons appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress:

Samuel Johaston,	John Norman,	James Coor,
William Haywood,	John Spicer,	John Bryan,
Elisha Battle,	Joseph Hancock,	Jacob Blount,
Henry Irwin,	John Jordan,	Thomas Gray,
Edward Salter,	Solomon Shepherd,	Matthew Locke,
William Robson,	William Thompson,	Griffith Rutherford,
John Bradford,	Thomas Person,	John Pfifer,
James Hogan,	Memucan Hunt,	Robert Irwin,
David Sumner,	John Taylor,	J. McNitt Alexander,
Joseph J. Williams,	Miles Harvey,	William Person,
Willis Alston,	William Skinner,	Green Hill,
Allen Jones,	Samuel Jarvis,	Thomas Boyd,
Drury Gee,	James White,	William Williams,
John Hinton,	James Ryan,	James Council,
John Rand,	Solomon Perkins,	Philemon Hawkins,
Thomas Respis, Jr.,	Thomas Benbury,	William Alston,
John Cowper,	Thomas Jones,	John Campbell,
William Brown,	John Thompson,	Nathaniel Richardson,
George Mitchell,	John Devane,	Arthur Council.
John King,		

Mr. *Allen Jones* proposed for President *Samuel Johnston*, Esquire, who was unanimously chosen, and conducted to the Chair; and *James Green, Jun.*, was appointed Secretary; *Francis Lynaugh* and *Evan Swann*, Doorkeepers; during the continuance of the Congress.

Mr. *Bradford* presented a Petition from the inhabitants of the Town of *Halifax*, setting forth that *Willie Jones*, Esquire, who was elected a Delegate for said town, is appointed by the Continental Congress Superintendent of *Indian Affairs* for the Southern Department; in consequence of which appointment he had gone to *Fort Charlotte*, in *Georgia*, whereby the said town was unrepresented; praying leave to elect a Delegate to sit and vote in Congress in the absence of the said *Willie Jones*, Esquire.

Resolved, That the Freeholders of the said Town of *Halifax* meet on the fifth day of this instant, and elect a proper person to sit and vote in Congress until the return of the said *Willie Jones*, Esquire.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Friday, April 5, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Resolved, That Colonel *Nicholas Long* take into his possession the Powder and other Stores lately arrived from *Philadelphia*, and safely keep the same until further orders.

The Returning Officer for the Town of *Halifax* having certified that Mr. *John Webb* was duly elected a Delegate for the said town until the return of *Willie Jones*, Esquire, Mr. *Webb* appeared, subscribed the Test, and took his seat in Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Allen Jones*, Mr. *Cornelius Harnett*, Mr. *James Coor*, Mr. *Thomas Person*, Mr. *Thomas Benbury*, Mr. *Thomas Respis*, Mr. *Samuel Jarvis*, Mr. *Green Hill*, Mr. *Arthur Council*, Mr. *Matthew Locke*, Mr. *Griffith Rutherford*, and Mr. *John Hinton*, be a Committee to inquire into, and make report to this Congress, of the quantity of Ammunition now remaining in the Province.

On Petition of *William Alston*, setting forth that a certain *John Henderson* is now about to remove himself out of this Province, to the great prejudice of the Orphans of *Solomon Alston*, deceased, the same being certified on oath :

*Resolved*, That such of the Estate of *Solomon Alston*, late of *Granville County*, deceased, being the property of his Orphans, now in the possession of *John Henderson*, or any other persons, be immediately taken into possession for their use; and that the said *John Henderson* be brought forthwith to this Congress, there to answer any deficiency that may appear, and reimburse the said Orphans; and that *James Jones*, of *Wake County*, be appointed to execute this Resolution in any part of the Province, and that he take with him such assistance as he shall think necessary.

*Resolved*, That General *McDonald* be admitted to his parole upon the following conditions: That he does not go without the limits of the Town of *Halifax*; that he does not, directly or indirectly, while a prisoner, correspond with any person or persons who are or may be in opposition to *American* measures, or by any manner or means convey to them intelligence of any sort; that he take no draft, nor procure them to be taken by any one else, of any place or places in which he may be, while upon his parole, that shall now, or may hereafter give information to our enemies which can be injurious to us, or the common cause of *America*; but that, without equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation, he pay the most exact and faithful attention to the intent and meaning of these conditions, according to the rules and regulations of war; and that he every day appear between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock to the Officer of the Guard.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, April 6, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. President laid before the Congress Letters from the Delegates of this Province in Congress at *Philadelphia*, of the 12th of *February* and 1st of *March* last, enclosing sundry Resolutions of the Continental Congress, which were read.

*Ordered*, That the same lie over for consideration till *Monday* next.

Mr. President laid before the Congress a Letter from Colonel *James Moore*, of the First Regiment, enclosing a General Field Return of Officers and Soldiers in Camp, and also a Return of the Tories' Property in his possession.

*Ordered*, That the same lie for consideration.

On motion, Mr. *James Glasgow* was appointed Assistant Secretary to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *David Love*, *John Cooper*, *James Council*, *John Johnston*, *William Person*, *James Coor*, *Solomon Shepherd*, *Solomon Perkins*, *Thomas Benbury*, *David Smith*, *John Thompson*, *Thomas Gray*, *Elisha Battle*, *Memucan Hunt*, *Joseph Hancock*, *Robert Sumner*, *Willis Alston*, *Whitmill Hill*, *Robert Irwin*, *John Hollingsworth*, *Jephtha Atherton*, *John Norman*, *Thomas Burke*, *William Skinner*, *Thomas Boyd*, *Edward Salter*, *Griffith Rutherford*, *Archibald Corrie*, *John Rand*, *William Brown*, *Cornelius Harnett*, *John Webb*, and *David Nisbet*, be a Committee of Privileges and Elections; and that they have power to send for persons, papers, and records, as the case may require, and make report to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Matthew Locke*, *Robert Irwin*, *John McNitt Alexander*, *Thomas Person*, *Thomas Burke*, *John Taylor*, *John Ashe*, *Thomas Gray*, *George Mitchell*, *John Cowper*, *William Brown*, *James Coor*, *William Haywood*, *John Bradford*, *Green Hill*, *Whitmill Hill*, *Miles Harvey*,

*William Skinner*, and *John Campbell*, be a Committee of Claims, to settle and allow Military and Naval Accounts.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Allen Jones*, *Joseph John Williams*, *David Sumner*, *Jacob Blount*, *Thomas Respis*, *William Thompson*, *Thomas Benbury*, *Archibald Corrie*, *Robert Sumner*, *Cornelius Harnett*, *John Spicer*, *Nathaniel Richardson*, *Memucan Hunt*, *Nathaniel Rochester*, *John Rand*, *Griffith Rutherford*, *John Pfifer*, *David Nisbet*, and *John Ashe*, be a Committee to settle the Civil Accounts of this Province.

The Congress adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, April 8, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Harnett*, Mr. *Allen Jones*, Mr. *Burke*, Mr. *Nash*, Mr. *Kinchin*, Mr. *Thomas Person*, and Mr. *Thomas Jones*, be a Select Committee to take into consideration the usurpations and violences attempted and committed by the King and Parliament of *Britain* against *America*, and the further measures to be taken for frustrating the same, and for the better defence of this Province.

Mr. *Harnett* presented the Petition of *Joseph Wood* and Partners, praying an order to dispose of the Effects of his Excellency *Josiah Martin*, Esquire, within this Province, to reimburse the loss they have sustained by the capture and detention of the Sloop *Joseph*, and the cargo on board of the same, or such other relief as this Congress in their wisdom shall think fit.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Harnett*, Mr. *Allen Jones*, Mr. *Burke*, Mr. *Thomas Person*, and Mr. *Thomas Jones*, be a Committee to take under consideration the said Petition, and make report to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Allen Jones*, Mr. *Whitmill Hill*, Mr. *John Ashe*, Mr. *Burke*, Mr. *Miles Harvey*, Mr. *Thomas Person*, Mr. *Benbury*, Mr. *Rand*, Mr. *Rochester*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Rutherford*, Mr. *Southerland*, Mr. *Richardson*, Mr. *Harnett*, and Mr. *Arthur Council*, be a Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Insurgents, and other suspected persons, and make report of their proceedings to the Congress.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Resolved*, The same be deferred till *Wednesday* next.

Mr. *Thomas Jones* presented a Petition from the Executors of the last will and testament of *John Callaway*, deceased, praying an order may issue to empower them to seize so much of the Estate of *Thomas Macknight*, and cause the same to be sold, as may be of value sufficient to satisfy the sum of five hundred and eighty-six Pounds two Shillings, with interest and accruing costs.

*Resolved*, That Messieurs *Harnett*, *Allen Jones*, *Thomas Burke*, *Thomas Person*, and *Thomas Jones*, be a Committee to take under consideration the said Petition, and make report to this Congress.

Mr. *William Johnston*, the Delegate for the Town of *Hillsborough*, Mr. *James Saunders* and Mr. *John Kinchen*, for the County of *Orange*, Mr. *Thomas Wiggins*, for the County of *Martin*, Mr. *Ransome Southerland*, Mr. *William Dent*, and Mr. *Ralph Gorril*, for the County of *Guilford*, Mr. *Dempsey Burgess* and Mr. *Henry Abbott*, for the County of *Pasquotank*, Mr. *Elisha Cain*, for the County of *Chatham*, Mr. *Tignal Jones*, for the County of *Wake*, and Mr. *Abner Nash*, for the Town of *Newbern*, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. *Ford* be appointed Chaplain to this Congress.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Corrie*, Mr. *John Campbell*, Mr. *Cowper*, Mr. *William Johnston*, and Mr. *Cornelius Harnett*, be a Committee to inquire into the cost of sundry Merchandise deemed useful to the service of this Province, as per invoice exhibited by Mr. *John Wright Stanly*, and that they report thereon.

On motion, *Resolved*, The Congress resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the pre-

sent state of the Province, and the expediency of employing a military force for its defence against foreign and domestick invaders.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly, and chose *John Campbell*, Esquire, Chairman; and after some time spent therein, came to several Resolutions. Then, on motion, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported as follows, to wit:

*Resolved*, That two Battalions, over and above the Battalion directed to be raised by the Continental Congress, be raised in this Province, to consist of seven hundred and fifty Privates each.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended that three Companies of Light-Horse, consisting of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Cornet, and thirty-three Privates each, be raised by this Province, and that it be recommended to the House to apply through their Delegates to the Continental Congress to place the same on Continental establishment.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to Congress that a bounty of forty Shillings and three Pence, advance, be paid to every person enlisted into the service.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended that a penalty of five Pounds be inflicted on any person who shall knowingly secrete, harbour, succour, or entertain, for the space of twenty-four hours, any deserter from the service, after having been duly enlisted; to be recovered before any jurisdiction having cognizance thereof, one half to the informer, the other half to the publick.

The House taking the said Report into consideration, and having read the same, paragraph by paragraph, concurred therewith.

Mr. *Gideon Lamb*, one of the Members of Congress for the County of *Currituck*, Mr. *Kenneth McKenzie*, for *Martin* County, and Mr. *Matthias Brickell*, for *Hertford* County, appeared and took their seats.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Abner Nash*, Mr. *Thomas Burke*, and Mr. *Cornelius Harnett*, be a Committee to form a proper Commission for Privateers.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Ashe*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Dempsey Burgess*, Mr. *Cornelius Harnett*, Mr. *Abner Nash*, Mr. *Samuel Jarvis*, Mr. *John Johnston*, Mr. *Thomas Burke*, Mr. *John Kinchen*, Mr. *Jacob Blount*, and Mr. *Allen Jones*, be a Committee of Ways and Means, to form an estimate of the expense for supporting the Troops to be raised for one year.

*Resolved*, That Messieurs *John Ashe*, *Allen Jones*, *James Coor*, *William Alston*, *Memucan Hunt*, *Matthew Locke*, *John Webb*, *John Pfifer*, *John Spicer*, Mr. *Ryan*, *Griffith Rutherford*, *John Campbell*, and *John Bradford*, be a Committee for the better regulation of the Militia.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President, Mr. *Locke*, Mr. *Webb*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Nash*, Mr. *John Ashe*, and Mr. *Burke*, be a Committee of Secrecy, Intelligence, and Observation.

Mr. *Rutherford*, Chairman from the Committee of Privileges and Elections, reported as follows, viz:

Your Committee having taken into consideration the election of those Delegates who were appointed to the Minute command, are of opinion, that holding commissions in that service did not incapacitate or disqualify them from being elected to represent in Congress any Town or County in this Province, and that persons elected under such circumstances, who were otherwise duly qualified, are entitled, and should be permitted to sit and vote in Congress, when that service is expired.

The Congress taking the said Report into consideration, it was rejected.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—  
Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Duncan Lemon*, a Member of Congress for the County of *Edgecomb*, and Mr. *Thomas Sherrod*, a Member of Congress for the County of *Bute*, appeared and took their seats.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *John Johnston* have leave to absent himself a few days from the service of the Congress.

The Returning Officer having brought before the Congress the person of *John Henderson*; at the instance of *William Alston*,

*Resolved*, That Messieurs *Thomas Person*, *Memucan Hunt*, *Howell Edmunds*, *Matthias Brickell*, *Thomas Respis*, *Drury Gee*, and *William Williams*, be a Committee to take into consideration the Petition of the said *William Alston*, in behalf of *Solomon Alston's* Orphans, and make report thereon.

*Resolved*, That the sum of ten Shillings be allowed to each Captain, Lieutenant, or Ensign, for every man which they shall enlist and enroll as a soldier in the service (including those already enlisted) as a full compensation for their expenses in recruiting their men.

*Resolved*, That the Freeholders of *Northampton* County meet at the Court-House of said County, on *Friday*, the 22d of this instant, *April*, then and there to elect one Delegate to sit and vote in Congress, in the room and stead of Mr. *Samuel Lockhart*, whose seat was vacated by his having acted as a Captain in the Minute service.

*Resolved*, That the Freeholders of the County of *Bertie* meet at the Court-House in said County, on *Monday*, the 15th of this instant, *April*, then and there to elect one Delegate to sit and vote in Congress, in the room and stead of Mr. *Charles Jaycocks*, whose seat was vacated by his having acted as an officer in the Minute service.

*Resolved*, That the Freeholders of the County of *Dobbs* meet at the Court-House in said County, on *Monday*, the 15th of this instant, *April*, then and there to elect three Delegates to sit and vote in Congress, in the room and stead of Mr. *Richard Caswell*, Mr. *Simon Bright*, and Mr. *George Miller*, whose seats were vacated by their appointment as officers in the Continental and Minute service; and that Mr. *Benjamin Shepherd* be appointed to take the poll, and make due return of the persons so elected.

The Congress being informed that a certain Brigantine, called the *William*, now lying in *Port Beaufort*, whereof *Philip Wescott* is at present master, belonging to *William Strobbrook*, *Francis Burchitt*, and *Philip Wescott*, of *London*, and it appearing by the Register of said Vessel that she is *British* property:

*Resolved*, That *Richard Cogdell*, *James Davis*, and *John Green*, cause the said Brigantine or Vessel to be immediately seized and detained, together with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, until further orders.

The Continental Congress having appointed Colonel *James Moore*, of the First Regiment, and Colonel *Robert Howe*, of the Second Regiment, to the command of Brigadier-Generals,

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Nash*, be appointed Colonel; Major *Thomas Clark*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and Captain *William Davis*, Major, of the First Regiment: Lieutenant-Colonel *Alexander Martin*, Colonel; Major *John Patten*, Lieutenant-Colonel; and Captain *John White*, Major, of the Second Regiment.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—  
Thursday, April 11, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Allen Jones*, Chairman, from the Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Insurgents, and other suspected persons, reported, amongst other things, that on consideration of the candor of *Allan McDonald*, and his being in a low state of health, recommend him to be admitted his parole of honour, under such restrictions as has been held forth to General *McDonald*.

The Congress taking the same into consideration,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Allan McDonald* be admitted to his parole on the following conditions: That he does not go without the limits of the Town of *Halifax*; that he does not, directly or indirectly, while a prisoner, correspond with any person or persons who are, or may be, in opposition to *American* measures, or by any manner or means convey to them intelligence of any sort; that he take no draft, nor procure them to be taken by any one else, of any place or places in which he may be while upon his parole, that shall now, or may hereafter give information to our enemies, which can be injurious to us or the common cause of *America*; but



that, without equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation, he pay the most exact and faithful attention to the intent and meaning of these conditions, according to the rules and regulations of war; and that he every day appear, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock, to the Officer of the Guard.

Mr. *Thomas Harvey*, one of the Members from *Perquimans* County, and Mr. *William Dickson*, one of the Members from *Duplin* County, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the nomination and appointment of Military Officers to the Regiments directly to be raised in this Province, be considered to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *John Campbell*, *William Thompson*, *James Coor*, *Matthew Locke*, *Thomas Person*, *John Spicer*, and *Solomon Shepherd*, be a Committee to take into consideration a Letter from the Committee of *Carteret* County.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, April 12, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee to inquire into the cost of sundry Merchandises deemed useful to the service of this Province, as per invoice exhibited by Mr. *John Wright Stanly*, and to agree with him for the same, reported as follows, viz:

Your Committee have examined the invoices of sundry goods imported by *John Wright Stanly*, the cost of which appears to amount to the sum of three thousand one hundred and sixty-two pieces of eight, (pieces eight Shillings and eight Pence,) and two rials, charged at *St. Eustatia*, on which an advance of seventy-five per centum for risk and charges appear reasonable, as they were bought in barter; also sundry other goods by invoice produced, amounting to three thousand nine hundred and thirty-four pieces of eight, (pieces eight Shillings and eight Pence,) four rials, and four stivers, bought with ready money, on which an advance of eighty-seven and a half per centum for risk and charges, and twenty per centum for the risk, trouble, and commission, Mr. *Stanly* had in the adventure.

Your Committee are further of opinion the five hundred pounds of Gunpowder offered by Mr. *Stanly*, at eight Shillings per pound, is, at this time, a reasonable price; which several sums amount in the whole to four thousand eight hundred and forty-eight Pounds one Shilling one Penny and three Farthings, Proclamation money, which your Committee are of opinion may be allowed and paid to Mr. *Stanly* for the said goods, on account and for the use of the publick, on delivery of said goods at *Newbern*, in good order, to such person or persons as the Congress shall appoint to receive them.

Humbly submitted to the House.

The Congress taking the same into consideration, and the said Report being read, concurred therewith.

The Congress having agreed with Mr. *John Wright Stanly*, on account of the publick, for sundry goods and merchandises, as per invoice exhibited,

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to *John Wright Stanly* the sum of four thousand eight hundred and forty-eight Pounds one Shilling one Penny and three Farthings, Proclamation money, for sundry goods and merchandises purchased of him on account and for the use of this Province, he first producing a receipt from *John Green* and *David Barron*, that all and every article contained in said invoice are *bona fide* and actually delivered into their possession, in good and merchantable order, and that the Treasurers be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

On motion, *Resolved*, that Mr. *John Green* and Mr. *David Barron*, of *Newbern*, be requested to receive and take into their possession, from Mr. *John Wright Stanly*, sundry goods and merchandises, as per invoice exhibited, amounting to four thousand eight hundred and forty-eight Pounds one Shilling one Penny three Farthings, at the risk and on account of the publick, till further orders.

Mr. *Harnett*, Chairman, from the Committee to take into consideration the Petition of *Joseph Wood* and co-partners, praying an order to dispose of the Effects of his Excellency *Josiah Martin*, Esquire, &c., reported as follows, to wit:

Your Committee having inquired into the several allegations set forth in the said Petition, do report as follows: That

the said *Joseph Wood* and partners, with the permission of the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, did, on the 5th day of *January* last past, load on board the Sloop *Joseph*, *William Raddon*, Master, sundry goods and merchandises, on their own account, to the value of six hundred and seventy Pounds three Shillings and seven Pence; on the account of *William Todd*, one hundred and ninety Pounds; of *Joseph Wood*, Jun., ten Pounds; of *William Raddon*, nine Pounds eighteen Shillings, prime cost in *Philadelphia*; all which were consigned to the said *Joseph Wood*, Jun., and bound to *Georgia*; that in his passage the said Sloop and cargo were taken by an armed vessel called the *General Gage*, *George Sybels*, Master, and carried into *Cape Fear*, where *Josiah Martin*, Esq., late Governour of this Province, bore the chief command; and the officers under the command of the said *Josiah Martin* did violently seize the said Sloop and cargo, and apply them to the use of the enemies of *America*, whereby the said *Joseph* and partners lost one thousand five hundred Pounds, current money of *Pennsylvania*, over and above the profits they might reasonably have made.

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That the inlisting of the Continental or Provincial Regular soldiers into the service of any armed vessel or privateer, is highly improper, and greatly injurious to the service; and that all those who have presumed to enlist any soldiers, knowing they belong to such service, have acted in a manner contrary to the interest of this Colony, and have been guilty of a breach of the Continental Rules and Regulations, and are hereby ordered to return the soldiers so enlisted to the several corps to which they belong; and that if the officer or officers belonging to such armed vessels or Privateers do not immediately restore the soldiers so enlisted by them to the officer or officers of their respective corps, that then, and in that case, they will be considered as unworthy of any command under this Congress, and deemed enemies to *American* liberty: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to such soldiers as had served six months from the time of their enlistment.

The Select Committee to take into consideration the usurpations and violences attempted and committed by the King and Parliament of *Britain* against *America*, and the further measures to be taken for frustrating the same, and for the better defence of this Province, reported as follows, to wit:

It appears to your Committee, that, pursuant to the plan concerted by the *British* Ministry for subjugating *America*, the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* have usurped a power over the persons and properties of the People, unlimited and uncontrolled; and, disregarding their humble petitions for peace, liberty, and safety, have made divers Legislative acts, denouncing war, famine, and every species of calamity, against the Continent in general. The *British* Fleets and Armies have been, and still are, daily employed in destroying the People, and committing the most horrid devastations on the country. That Governours in different Colonies have declared protection to slaves, who should imbrue their hands in the blood of their masters. That the ships belonging to *America* are declared prizes of war, and many of them have been violently seized and confiscated. In consequence of all which, multitudes of the People have been destroyed, or, from easy circumstances, reduced to the most lamentable distress.

And whereas the moderation hitherto manifested by the United Colonies, and their sincere desire to be reconciled to the mother country on constitutional principles, have procured no mitigation of the aforesaid wrongs and usurpations, and no hopes remain of obtaining redress by those means alone which have been hitherto tried, your Committee are of opinion that the House should enter into the following Resolve, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the Delegates for this Colony in the Continental Congress be empowered to concur with the Delegates of the other Colonies in declaring Independency, and forming foreign alliances, reserving to this Colony the sole and exclusive right of forming a Constitution and Laws for this Colony, and of appointing Delegates from time to time, (under the direction of a general representation thereof,) to meet the Delegates of the other Colonies, for such purposes as shall be hereafter pointed out.

The Congress taking the same into consideration, unanimously concurred therewith.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration the nomination and appointment of Military Officers, *Ordered*, That the same be deferred till to-morrow.

Mr. *Needham Bryan*, one of the Members of *Johnston* County, Mr. *Joseph Williams*, Mr. *Joseph Winston*, and Mr. *Charles Gordon*, three of the Members of *Surry* County, appeared and took their seats.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—  
Saturday, April 13, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *John Hogan*, of the Regiment of Militia for the County of *Orange*, have leave to resign his command.

*Resolved*, That if any Commissioner or Commissioners appointed by the King, according to Act of Parliament, to come over from *Great Britain* to *America*, shall arrive in this Province, under any pretext whatever, unless such Commissioner or Commissioners shall produce a commission to treat with the Continental Congress, that the person or persons of such Commissioner or Commissioners shall be required to return immediately on board the vessel in which he or they arrive; and in case of refusal, or if such Commissioner or Commissioners shall at any time after be found on shore within this Province, the person or persons of such Commissioners be seized, and immediately sent to the said Congress.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress be given to Colonel *Richard Caswell*, and the brave Officers and Soldiers under his command, for the very essential service by them rendered this country at the battle of *Moore's Creek*.

On motion, *Resolved*, The Congress resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take under consideration the augmentation of the Troops already voted to be raised by this Province.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly, and chose *John Campbell*, Esq., Chairman; and after some time spent therein, came to a Resolution thereon. Then, on motion, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported as follows, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the Troops voted by the Congress, as necessary to the defence of this Province, shall be divided into six Battalions, (including the two Battalions voted by the last Congress,) each Battalion to be commanded by one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major; and to consist of eight Companies, each Company to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, two Drummers, one Fifer, and seventy-six rank and file; also one Quartermaster, one Commissary of Stores, one Surgeon, one Adjutant, one Quartermaster-Sergeant, one Drum-Major, one Sergeant-Major, and one Wagonmaster, for each Battalion.

The Congress taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of *William Alston*, referred by the Congress, reported as follows, to wit:

Your Committee having inquired into the several allegations set forth in the said Petition, together with the defence of the defendant, and every pregnant circumstance relative thereto, do report as follows: They find that about *August*, 1775, the said *William Alston*, in behalf of the orphans of *Solomon Alston*, deceased, in the said Petition mentioned, obtained, under the signature of *Josiah Martin*, Esq., Governor, &c., of *North-Carolina*, a writ of *Ne Exeat Regno*, against *John Henderson* (who intermarried with *Sarah*, widow of the said *Solomon*) for mal-practices in his administration of the said deceased's estate, which said writ of *Ne Exeat Regno* your Committee find to be unduly and ineffectually executed; and further, they find that the sum of one thousand six hundred and twenty Pounds, Proclamation money, bequeathed to two of the orphans, to wit: *Lemuel* and *Henry*, in the said Petition mentioned, hath been improperly applied by the said *Henderson*, or at least not according to the express devise of the said *Solomon*. Your Committee therefore are of opinion (exploding altogether

the proceedings on the writ of *Ne Exeat Regno*) that the said *Henderson* be held to sufficient security for his not removing any part of the said deceased's estate out of the Province, or in default thereof, that the whole of said estate be put and placed in the hands and possession of the other two executors of the said *Solomon*, to wit: *Joseph John Williams* and *William Alston*, for the use and emolument of the orphans, to wit: *Charity*, *Lemuel*, and *Henry*. Your Committee further conceive that the intention of the testator, respecting the tuition of his children, is in some measure defeated by the intermarriage of his widow with the said *Henderson*; we therefore submit to the consideration of the House, whether it may not be expedient to place the said orphans under the care of some other person, so that their education and bringing up may be suitable to their rank and fortune.

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

The Returning Officer having certified that Mr. *Eaton Haynes* was duly elected one of the Delegates for the County of *Northampton*, in the room and stead of Mr. *Samuel Lockhart*, whose seat was vacated by his having a command in the Minute service, appeared and took his seat.

Mr. *Ambrose Ramsay*, of *Chatham*, one of the Delegates, Mr. *Samuel Spencer*, for *Anson* County, and Mr. *John Childs*, for the same County, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Alexander McDonald* (son of *Allan McDonald*) be permitted to his parole, under the same restrictions as those already enlarged.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *John Hunt* be appointed an Assistant Clerk to this Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President, Mr. *Nash*, Mr. *Harnett*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Green Hill*, Mr. *Burke*, Mr. *Allen Jones*, Mr. *Locke*, Mr. *Blount*, Mr. *Rand*, Mr. *John Johnston*, Mr. *Ashe*, Mr. *Kinchen*, Mr. *Spencer*, Mr. *Haywood*, Mr. *Richardson*, Mr. *Bradford*, Mr. *Ramsay*, and Mr. *Thomas Person*, be a Committee to prepare a temporary Civil Constitution.

Mr. *Abraham Shepherd*, one of the Delegates for *Dobbs* County, appeared and took his seat.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration the nomination and appointment of Military Officers: *Ordered*, That the same be deferred till *Monday* next.

The Congress adjourned till *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

—  
Monday, April 15, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Minute-men and Militia Battalions and Troops under the command of Colonel *Caswell* remain in their present station until *Saturday* next, and afterwards have leave to march, under their respective Officers, into their several Counties, and then have leave to disband; the Congress relying on the gallantry and publick spirit of those brave Officers and Soldiers, so far as to rest satisfied that they will not avail themselves of this permission, if there be any immediate danger of an attack on that part of the Colony where they are now stationed.

Pursuant to a Resolve of the 11th instant, Mr. President presented the thanks of the Congress to Colonel *Richard Caswell*, and the brave Officers and Soldiers under his command, for the very essential service by them rendered this Colony at the late battle of *Moore's Creek*.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of a Letter from the Committee of *Beaufort*, in *Carteret* County, are of opinion that the situation of that Town, and the Inlets adjacent, are such, that it appears absolutely necessary that a considerable military force should be stationed at or near the said town, to prevent our enemies from landing there, supplying themselves with provisions, and committing hostilities and depredations in that part of the Province; and that until further provision is made for the defence of that County, the Company of fifty men, now raised by the Committee of said County, be continued for that purpose, so long as the said Committee shall judge it necessary.

The Committee are also of opinion that the turpentine now lying at *Beaufort*, belonging to *William Gibbs*, should be landed at his expense, and for his use, at some secure place where it may not fall into the hands of the enemy.

All which is submitted to Congress.

*Ordered*, That the said Report lie for consideration.

Mr. *Lawrence Baker*, one of the Delegates for *Hertford* County, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took his seat in Congress.

*William Hooper* and *John Penn*, Esquires, Delegates of the Continental Congress and Members of this House, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Harnett*, Mr. *Ashe*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Burke*, and Mr. *Spencer*, be a Committee to take into consideration the most practicable and expeditious method of supplying the Province with Arms, Ammunition, Warlike Stores, and Sulphur; and also the expediency of erecting Works for the making of Saltpetre, Gunpowder, and purifying Sulphur.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the House take into consideration the state of the Sea-Coast, to-morrow morning.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hooper* and Mr. *Penn* be added to the Committee to prepare a temporary Civil Constitution.

The Congress taking into consideration the appointment of the Field-Officers to the Battalions directed to be raised:

*Resolved*, That *Jethro Sumner*, Esq., be appointed Colonel, *William Alston*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Samuel Lockhart*, Esq., Major, of the Third Regiment; *Thomas Palk*, Esq., Colonel, *James Thackston*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *William Davidson*, Esq., Major, of the Fourth Regiment; *Edward Buncombe*, Esq., Colonel, *Henry Irwin*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Levi Dawson*, Esq., Major, of the Fifth Regiment; *Alexander Lillington*, Esq., Colonel, *William Taylor*, Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Gideon Lamb*, Major, of the Sixth Regiment; and *Robert Washington*, Adjutant of the Third Regiment; *William Williams*, Adjutant of the Fourth Regiment; *Henry Darnell*, Adjutant of the Fifth Regiment; and *Bennet Crafton*, Adjutant of the Sixth Regiment.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, April 16, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The several Districts, by directions of the Congress, having nominated sundry persons as Officers to the Battalions directed to be raised in this Province; the House taking the same into consideration:

*Resolved*, That the following persons be, and they are hereby, appointed accordingly, to wit:

#### HALIFAX.

William Brinkly, Captain,  
Isaac Privat, 1st Lieutenant,  
Christopher Lacky, 2d Lieutenant,  
William Etheridge, Ensign.  
Pinkethman Eaton, Captain,  
James Bradly, 1st Lieutenant,  
Robert Washington, 2d Lieutenant,  
Joseph Montford, Ensign.  
John Gray, Captain,  
Joseph Clinch, 1st Lieutenant,  
Matthew Wood, 2d Lieutenant,  
Etheldred Dance, Ensign.  
William Barrat, Captain,  
Nicholas Edmunds, 1st Lieutenant,  
Gee Bradly, 2d Lieutenant,  
William Linton, Ensign.  
Jacob Turner, Captain,  
Daniel Jones, 1st Lieutenant,  
Alsop High, 2d Lieutenant,  
Benjamin Morgan, Ensign.

#### HILLSBOROUGH.

Philip Taylor, Captain,  
John Kennon, 1st Lieutenant,  
Dempsey Moore, 2d Lieutenant,  
Solomon Walker, Ensign.  
Archibald Lytle, Captain,  
Thomas Donoho, 1st Lieutenant,  
Samuel Thompson, 2d Lieutenant,  
William Lytle, Ensign.  
James Emmett, Captain,  
William Clements, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Madaris, 2d Lieutenant,  
John Morpis, Ensign.  
Jesse Saunders, Captain,  
William Glover, 1st Lieutenant,  
Pleasant Henderson, 2d Lieutenant,

Thomas Grant, Ensign.  
William Ward, Captain,  
John Whitley, 1st Lieutenant,  
Willis Pope, 2d Lieutenant,  
John Hopson, Ensign.

#### EDENTON.

Peter Simon, Captain,  
Andrew Duke, 1st Lieutenant,  
Nehemiah Long, 2d Lieutenant,  
Benjamin Bailey, Ensign.  
John Pugh Williams, Captain,  
Thos. Whitmell Pugh, 1st Lieut.,  
Joseph Clayton, 2d Lieutenant,  
Elisha Rhodes, Ensign.  
Jerom MacLaine, Captain,  
Jacob Pollock, 1st Lieutenant,  
Blount Whitmell, 2d Lieutenant,  
William Knot, Ensign.  
Thomas Granbery, Captain,  
Kedar Ballard, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Granbery, 2d Lieutenant,  
Zephaniah Burges, Ensign.

Roger Moore, Captain,  
William Goodman, 1st Lieutenant,  
Benajah Turner, 2d Lieutenant,  
Abel Mosslander, Ensign.

#### WILMINGTON.

John Ashe, Jun., Captain,  
Charles Hollingsworth, 1st Lieut.,  
Mark McLamy, 2d Lieutenant,  
David Jones, Ensign.  
John James, Captain,  
Daniel Williams, 1st Lieutenant,  
John McCan, 2d Lieutenant,  
Edward Outlaw, Ensign.  
Griffith John McRee, Captain,  
Francis Child, 1st Lieutenant,

Christopher Gooding, 2d Lieut.,  
Richard Singletary, Ensign.  
George Mitchell, Captain,  
Amos Love, 1st Lieutenant,  
Benjamin Pike, 2d Lieutenant,  
Reuben Grant, Ensign.  
Arthur Council, Captain,  
Thomas White, 1st Lieutenant,  
Thomas Armstrong, 2d Lieutenant,  
Denny Porterfield, Ensign.

#### NEWBERN.

Simon Alderson, Captain,  
William Groves, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Custis, 2d Lieutenant,  
James McKinnie, Ensign.  
John Enloe, Captain,  
George Suggs, 1st Lieutenant,  
Henry Cannon, 2d Lieutenant,  
Shadrach Wooten, Ensign.  
William Caswell, Captain,  
Henry Darnell, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Sitgreaves, 2d Lieutenant,  
John Bush, Ensign.  
Reading Blount, Captain,  
Benjamin Coleman, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Allen, 2d Lieutenant,

Thomas Blount, Ensign.  
Benjamin Stedman, Captain,  
Robert Turner, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Eborn, 2d Lieutenant,  
Charles Stewart, Ensign.

#### SALISBURY.

Robert Smith, Captain,  
William Brownfield, 1st Lieut.,  
William Caldwell, 2d Lieutenant,  
Thomas McClure, Ensign.  
William Temple Cole, Captain,  
James Carr, 1st Lieutenant,  
David Craig, 2d Lieutenant,  
Joseph Patten, Ensign.  
Thomas Harris, Captain,  
Thomas Picket, 1st Lieutenant,  
James Farr, 2d Lieutenant,  
James Coots, Ensign.  
Joseph Phillips, Captain,  
James Shepherd, 1st Lieutenant,  
Micajah Lewis, 2d Lieutenant,  
William Meridith, Ensign.  
John Neilson, Captain,  
William Dent, Jun., 1st Lieutenant,  
James Starrat, 2d Lieutenant,  
Alexander Nelson, Ensign.

#### BY THE HOUSE.

James Cook, Captain,  
Adam Hampton, 1st Lieutenant,  
John Walker, Jun., 2d Lieutenant,  
Adam McFaddon, Ensign.

The Congress taking into consideration the appointment of Officers to the Companies of Light-Horse to be raised in this Province:

*Resolved*, That the following persons be appointed accordingly, viz: *John Dickerson*, Captain, *Samuel Ashe*, Jun., Lieutenant, and *Abraham Childers*, Cornet, of the First Company; *Martin Pfifer*, Captain, *James Sumner*, Lieutenant, and *Valentine Beard*, Cornet, of the Second Company; *James Jones*, Captain, *Cosimo Madacy*, Lieutenant, and *James Armstrong*, Cornet, of the Third Company.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Sumner*, Mr. *Thomas Person*, Mr. *Rutherford*, Mr. *Ashe*, and Mr. *Nash*, be a Committee to regiment the different Companies to be raised.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Secrecy, Intelligence, and Observation, already appointed by this Congress, shall have full power to send for, and enforce the attendance before them of all suspected persons, and to compel the attendance of witnesses, and to procure all such papers as may give information with respect to such offenders; and that such Committee report nothing to this House, or to any person, which may tend to defeat the purposes of this appointment.

Mr. *William Cumming*, one of the Delegates for *Pasquotank* County, and Mr. *William Murfree*, one of the Delegates for *Hertford* County, appeared and took their seats.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *William Cumming* and Mr. *John Johnston* be added to the Committee to take under consideration the Petition of *William Alston*; and that the said Petition be recommitted for their consideration.

Mr. President laid before the House a copy of a Letter received from the Committee of *Onslow* County, from *John Cruden & Co.*, of *Wilmington*, to *Patrick McLeod*, of *London*, signifying sundry things therein unfriendly to the *American* rights:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the said *John Cruden* be immediately sent for, taken into custody, and brought before this House, to answer for his conduct; and that the Committee of *Onslow* County be desired to send to the Congress the original Papers respecting the said *John Cruden & Co.* and *William Gibbs*; and that Captain *John Daly* be appointed to execute this Resolve, and make due return thereon.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, April 17, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That no Recruiting Officer shall be allowed to enlist into the service any Servant whatsoever, except Apprentices bound under the laws of this Colony; nor any such Apprentices, unless the consent of his Master be first had in writing; neither any man unless he be five feet four inches high, healthy, strong-made, and well-limbed, not deaf, or subject to fits, or ulcers on their legs.

The Committee for regimentering the different Companies, laid before the House the following arrangement, which was agreed to, viz:

Third Regiment: *Jethro Sumner*, Colonel; *William Alston*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Lockhart*, Major.

Captains: 1, *William Brinkly*; 2, *Pinkithman Eaton*; 3, *John Gray*; 4, *William Barrot*; 5, *Jacob Turner*; 6, *George Granbury*; 7, *James Cook*; 8, *James Emmet*.

Fourth Regiment: *Thomas Polk*, Colonel; *James Thackston*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Davidson*, Major.

Captains: 1, *Roger Moore*; 2, *John Ashe*; 3, *Jerom MacLaine*; 4, *Robert Smith*; 5, *William Temple Cole*; 6, *Thomas Harris*; 7, *Joseph Phillips*; 8, *John Nelson*.

Fifth Regiment: *Edward Buncombe*, Colonel; *Henry Irwin*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Levi Dawson*, Major.

Captains: 1, *Reading Blount*; 2, *John Enloe*; 3, *William Caswell*; 4, *Simon Alderson*; 5, *Benjamin Stedman*; 6, *Peter Simons*; 7, *John Pugh Williams*; 8, *William Ward*.

Sixth Regiment: *Alexander Lillington*, Colonel; *William Taylor*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Gideon Lamb*, Major.

Captains: 1, *John James*; 2, *Griffith John McRee*; 3, *George Mitchell*; 4, *Arthur Council*; 5, *Philip Taylor*; 6, *Archibald Lytle*; 7, *Jesse Saunders*; 8, *John Baptista Ashe*.

The Captains to take rank from the time their respective Companies shall be completed, to be certified under the hand of one or more Magistrates of the County where the men may be raised; and in case two or more Companies be completed in one day, or any dispute arise about rank, that it be determined by a Court-Martial.

Ordered, That *Mr. William Cumming*, *Mr. Allen Jones*, and *Mr. Ashe*, be a Committee to draw up Rules of Decorum to be observed in Congress.

Ordered, That *John Martin*, *Donald Shaw*, *Soril McDonald*, *Nevin Colbreath*, *Robert Mylne*, *Richardson Fagon*, *John Martin*, *Alexander Spiers*, and *George Meeks*, be discharged from their further attendance.

Ordered, That *Edward Winslow* be discharged, he first entering into bond, with security, in the sum of fifty Pounds, for his personal attendance at any future time before this Congress.

That *James Barns*, have liberty to retire from this Congress, and that Colonel *Nicholas Long* deliver to him his Wagon and Horses, and such other property as has been detained.

Resolved, That Doctor *Robert Hall* be appointed Chirurgion to the Third Regiment, Doctor *Hugh Boyd* Chirurgion to the Fourth Regiment, Doctor *Samuel Cooly* Chirurgion to the Fifth Regiment, and Doctor *William McClure* Chirurgion to the Sixth Regiment.

Resolved, That *James Hogan*, Esq., be appointed Paymaster of the Third Regiment, to be raised in this Province, also, Paymaster to the three Companies of Light-Horse; *Samuel Ashe*, Esquire, Paymaster to the First Regiment; *Jacob Blount*, Esquire, Paymaster to the Second Regiment; *Hezekiah Alexander*, Paymaster to the Fourth Regiment; *Thomas Benbury*, Paymaster to the Fifth Regiment; *Nathaniel Rochester*, Paymaster to the Sixth Regiment.

Resolved, That *Mr. Whitmell Hill*, *Mr. Thomas Person*, *Mr. John Ashe*, *Mr. Coor*, *Mr. Harnett*, *Mr. Locke*, *Mr. Cooper*, *Mr. Lamon*, and *Mr. John Johnston*, be a Committee to settle the Rations and the price to be allowed the Commissaries for victualling the Army.

Resolved, That *Nicholas Long*, Esq., be recommended to the General Congress for Quartermaster-General to the Southern Department, to rank as Colonel; and that he act as Quartermaster in this Province until the sense of the Congress shall be had thereon.

Resolved, That *Samuel Swan*, Esq., be recommended to the General Congress for Deputy Adjutant-General in this Province, and that he act as such until the sense of the Congress shall be had thereon.

Resolved, That *Mr. Locke*, *Mr. Sanders*, *Mr. Thomas Person*, *Mr. Rutherford*, *Mr. Whitmell Hill*, *Mr. Burke*, *Mr. Nisbet*, *Mr. Spencer*, *Mr. Abraham Shepherd*, and *Mr. Thomas Harvey*, be a Committee to settle and allow the pay of the Light-Horse heretofore in the service, and also

the pay of those Light-Horse directed to be raised by this Congress.

The Order of the Day being read,

Resolved, That *Mr. Hooper*, *Mr. Penn*, *Mr. Harnett*, *Mr. Thompson*, *Mr. Campbell*, *Mr. Benbury*, *Mr. Abbot*, *Mr. Jarvis*, *Mr. Nash*, *Mr. Cooper*, *Mr. Miles Harvey*, *Mr. Thomas Jones*, *Mr. John Ashe*, *Mr. Spicer*, and *Mr. John Jordan*, be a Committee to take into consideration the defence and state of the Sea-Coast, and make report thereon.

Resolved, That *Mr. Spencer*, *Mr. Hawkins*, *Mr. Joseph Williams*, *Mr. Thomas Person*, and *Mr. John Johnston*, be a Standing Committee to take into consideration such Petitions as may be exhibited by persons who shall appear objects of charity.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday April 18, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Resolved, That it be an instruction from this House to the Committee of Claims, to allow all reasonable charges and expenses to the Officers, Soldiers, and other persons, who served in the Militia lately in service, although there be no provision made for such claims in the act or acts of Assembly, or resolves of Congress, heretofore made; and that where it shall appear to them that any individual has *bona fide* advanced his money for the publick service, they shall allow the same.

Resolved, That every Member of this Congress consider himself, under the ties of virtue, honour, and love of his country, not to divulge, directly or indirectly, any matter or thing agitated or debated in Congress, during the time of debate, or before the same shall be determined, or after the determination thereof, which the President, at the request of the mover thereof, openly shall direct to be kept secret, without leave of the Congress, or a majority thereof; and that every person who shall violate this agreement shall be expelled the Congress, and considered as an enemy to *America*; and that every Member signify his consent thereto by signing his name.

Samuel Johnston,	Miles Harvey,	James Sanders,
Thos. Respis, Jun.,	W. Skinner,	Simon Bright,
John Cowper,	Thomas Boyd,	J. Kinchen,
John Campbell,	William Robson,	Thomas Wiggins,
William Alston,	Griffith Rutherford,	Ransom Southerland,
Phil. Hawkins, Jr.,	Matthew Locke,	Henry Abbot,
Jacob Blount,	John Hinton,	Demsey Burges,
John Bryan,	J. Rand,	William Dent,
William Thompson,	Cornelius Harnett,	Ralph Gorrell,
Solomon Shepherd,	Whitmell Hill,	A. Nash,
William Person,	Howell Edmunds,	Elisha Cain,
Samuel Jarvis,	David Nisbit,	Ting Jones,
James Ryan,	James Coor,	K. McKenzie,
Solomon Perkins,	John Weob,	A. Ramsey,
James White,	Day Ridley,	Joseph Williams,
Thomas Benbury,	David Sumner,	Dun. Lamon,
Thomas Jones,	C. W. Jacobs,	Thomas Harvey,
John Thompson,	Jeph. Atherton,	William Dickson,
William Haywood,	James Bonner,	Needham Bryan,
Elisha Battle,	Nathan Boddie,	Joseph Winston,
Memucan Hunt,	Rotheas Latham,	Charles Gordon,
John Taylor, Jun.,	Benjamin Parmele,	Eaton Haynes,
Joseph Hancock,	Jeduthun Harper,	Samuel Spencer,
John Jordan,	George Miller,	John Childs,
Robert Sumner,	Richard Caswell,	Abra. Sheppard, Jun.
Sos. John Williams,	S. Ashe,	Law. Baker,
Willis Alston,	Joseph Jones,	William Hooper,
John Bradford,	Samuel Smith,	John Penn,
James Hogan,	A. Corrie,	William Cumming,
Nath. Richardson,	John Johnston,	William Murfree,
James Council,	Benajah Doty,	Gideon Lamb,
Arthur Council,	John Hollinsworth,	James Green, Jun.,
John Pfifer,	John Spicer,	J. Glasgow, Secretary,
J. McNitt Alexander,	William Brown,	John Hunt, Assistant,
Robert Irwin,	Nathaniel Rochester,	Th. Person, Assistant,
William Williams,	David Smith,	Green Hill,
John Ashe,	David Love,	Thomas Sherrod,
John Devane,	Thomas Burke,	John Simpson,
Allen Jones,	Charles Eaton,	Tom Gray,
Drury Gee,	Alexander McAlester,	Thomas Hunter,
John King,	William Johnston,	

On motion, Ordered, That *Henry Giffard's* Letter to Colonel *James Moore* be referred to the Committee to take into consideration the most practicable and most expeditious method for supplying the Province with Arms, Ammunition, Warlike Stores, &c.

Resolved, That *Mr. Allen Jones*, *Mr. Nash*, *Mr. John Ashe*, *Mr. Miles Harvey*, and *Mr. William Thompson*, be a

Committee to draw up Instructions and Orders for the Recruiting Officers.

*Ordered*, That *John Slingsby*, *James Wark*, *Dougal Campbell*, *Hector McNeill*, *Daniel Treadway*, *Malcolm McNeill*, *James Cooper*, *John Cox*, *James Collins*, and *Daniel Muse*, have leave to retire from their further attendance on this Congress, and that certificates be issued for their passing unmolested.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Resolve of yesterday, for appointing *James Hogan* Paymaster to the Third Regiment, *Samuel Ashe*, Paymaster to the First Regiment, *Jacob Blount* Paymaster to the Second Regiment, *Hezekiah Alexander* Paymaster to the Fourth Regiment, *Thomas Benbury* Paymaster to the Fifth Regiment, and *Nathaniel Rochester* Paymaster to the Sixth Regiment, be rescinded.

*Resolved*, That *Jacob Blount*, Esq., be appointed Paymaster to the Troops in this Province, and that he be allowed fifty dollars per month, (the pay of a Deputy Paymaster,) and that he enter into bond, with sufficient security, in the sum of one hundred thousand Pounds, for his faithful discharge of that office.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Bignal* be allowed the sum of fifty-four Pounds eight Shillings and eight Pence, Proclamation money, for one hundred weight of Gunpowder, and four hundred and thirty-three weight of Shot; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, on his producing a receipt from Colonel *Henry Irwin* that the same is bona fide delivered.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, April 19, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Wade* and *David Love*, for Anson; *Henry Bonner* and *Joseph Blount*, for Beaufort; *Thomas Robinson* and *Thomas Brown*, for Bladen; *Zedekiah Stone* and *Jonathan Jacocks*, for Bertie; *Richard Quince*, Jun., and *Parker Quince*, for Brunswick; *Julius Nichols* and *Adkin Macklemore*, for Bute; *Christopher Neale* and *William Blount*, for Craven; *John Eason* and *Brice Williams*, for Carteret; *Samuel Jarvis* and *Solomon Perkins*, for Currituck; *Luke Sumner* and *John Baptist Beasley*, for Chowan; *Ebenezer Fulsome* and *John Blocker*, for Cumberland; *Mial Scurlock* and *Solomon Morgan*, for Chatham; *James Kenan* and *Richard Clinton*, for Duplin; *Benjamin Sheppard* and *Joseph Green*, for Dobbs; *Henry Horn* and *Jonas Johnston*, for Edgecomb; *Memuscan Hunt* and *Thomas Banks*, for Granville; *Charles Bruce* and *Daniel Galaspee*, for Guilford; *Edward Hancock* and *William Russel*, for Hyde; *George Little* and *William Baker*, for Hertford; *Egbert Haywood* and *David Crawley*, for Halifax; *Needham Bryan* and *John Smith*, for Johnston; *David Rees* and *Thomas Harris*, for Mecklenburgh; *Francis Ward* and *Blake Baker Wiggins*, for Martin; *John Devane* and Captain *John Foster*, for New-Hanover; *William Eaton* and *Hezekiah Hough*, for Northampton; *William King* and *Thomas Johnston*, for Onslow; *John Butler* and *John Atkinson*, for Orange; *Benjamin Harvey*, Jun., and *Edmund Blount*, for Perquimans; *Isaac Gregory* and *Othniel Lassell*, for Pasquotank; *James Gorham* and *Benjamin May*, for Pitt; *Francis Locke* and *James Brandon*, for Rowan; *Robert Lanier* and *Jesse Walton*, for Surry; *Stevens Lee* and *Hezekiah Spruill*, for Tyrrell; *William Grimes* and *Robert Alexander*, for Tryon; and *Thomas Hines* and *Theophilus Hunter*, for Wake County, be appointed to receive, procure, and purchase Fire-Arms for the use of the Troops; and that they observe the following Regulations:

1. That they receive into their possession all such Arms as have been taken from the Tories, and keep them safely till they shall be demanded by persons hereafter to be appointed by this Congress for that purpose; and that they have power to give discharges upon such receipts to all persons entitled to them.

2. That they purchase all Fire-Arms which are good and sufficient, and fit for immediate use; and also such as may be repaired, and put in such order as to be made useful. Provided, that no guns fit for immediate use may be purchased from any Militiaman, whereby he may be able

to plead such circumstance in excuse for not attending his duty as a Militiaman when called upon.

3. That such Arms as they shall purchase which are out of repair, they shall immediately put into the hands of workmen to make fit for use, and by every means in their power to expedite the same.

4. That the Arms so taken, when repaired, shall be valued by indifferent persons; and, after deducting the expense of the repairs, the surplus shall be paid to those from whom such were purchased; and as to those which are fit for immediate use, the value thereof, upon appraisement made by indifferent persons, shall be paid to the proprietors.

*Resolved*, That as there are a number of persons called *Quakers*, *Moravians*, and *Dunkards*, who conscientiously scruple bearing arms, and as such have no occasion for Fire-Arms, that they be informed that it is the sense and confident expectation of this Congress, that they will dispose of their Fire-Arms to the said Commissioners, they receiving the full value thereof; but that no compulsion be exercised to induce them to this duty.

*Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred Pounds be advanced to the draft of the said Commissioners, for each County, they giving bond and security for the due application of the same, and that such bond be to the President of this Congress; and that the Delegates of each County shall take care that such bond is given, and shall exert themselves to aid and assist the said Commissioners to carry these Resolves into execution.

*Resolved, also*, That the said Commissioners shall receive from those who now hold them in possession, all Swords, Dirks, Pistols, and all other implements of war, which have been taken from the Tories; and that they purchase as many Bayonets as can be procured which are already made.

*Resolved, also*, That if Armourers cannot be found in each County, sufficient for repairing such Arms, that they be sent into such publick Armory as shall be established hereafter by this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the said Commissioners shall be allowed a genteel and generous compensation for their service, in proportion to the fidelity and despatch with which they shall execute this trust.

*Resolved*, That the Colonels of the Continental Troops shall receive from the said Commissioners such Arms as they may collect, as soon as they are fitted for use, and shall deliver them out to the Recruits; and as soon as their respective Regiments are armed, the surplus in their hands to be delivered over to the Commissary of Stores, hereafter to be appointed.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the defenceless state of the Sea-Coast of this Province, do report, and humbly submit to the consideration of the Congress, the following as their opinion, viz: That the sea-coast from the *Virginia* line to *Occacock-Inlet*, as also the coast from *Occacock* to *Bogue-Inlet*, and from that Inlet to the *South-Carolina* line, is totally defenceless, and all the sea-banks covered with cattle, sheep, and hogs, and the few inhabitants living on the banks are chiefly persons whose estates consist in live stock, and exposed to the ravages of the small armed vessels and tenders; and that if the armed vessels and tenders are prevented from getting supplies of fresh provisions from the sea-coast, it will be impossible for the war to be of long continuance in this Province, as the seamen and soldiers will be afflicted with the scurvy and other diseases, arising from the constant use of salt provisions, and therefore be under the necessity of quitting the coast, and by that means save to the back inhabitants of this Province the very great trouble and heavy expense of frequently coming down to the assistance of their brethren on the sea-board.

Your Committee further submit to the consideration of the Congress the necessity there is of raising another Regiment, and stationing six Companies out of the same, on the sea-coast for its defence, in the following manner, viz: two Companies from the *Virginia* line to *Occacock-Inlet*, two Companies between *Occacock-Inlet* and *Bogue-Inlet*, and two Companies between *Bogue-Inlet* and the *South-Carolina* line; and that it be recommended to the Continental Congress to take the said Regiment into Continental pay, first fully assuring the Congress of the necessity of such a measure.



*Ordered*, That the said Report lie for consideration till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Hooper* and Mr. *Penn* be added to the Committee of Secrecy, War, and Intelligence.

Mr. *Spicer*, Mr. *Hunt*, and Mr. *Tignal Jones*, have leave to absent themselves for a few days.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Rochester*, Mr. *Dickson*, Mr. *Lawrence Baker*, Mr. *William Williams*, Mr. *Thomas Harvey*, and Mr. *Benajah Doty*, be added to the Committee of Claims and Military Accounts.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Thomas Person*, Mr. *Kinchen*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Whitmell Hill*, Mr. *Locke*, Mr. *Cumming*, Mr. *William Williams*, and Mr. *Thomas Benbury*, be a Committee to prepare a number of Resolves to expedite the business for emitting Money.

The Recruiting Officer having certified that Mr. *Charles W. Jacobs* was duly elected a Delegate for the County of *Bertie*, pursuant to a Resolve issued from this Congress the 10th instant, the said Mr. *Jacobs* appeared and took his seat.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, April 20, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee to draw up Instructions and Orders for the Recruiting Officers, reported as follows:

1. They are to enlist none but able-bodied men, fit for service, capable of marching well, and such whose attachment to *American* liberties they have no cause to suspect. Young, hearty, robust men, whose birth, family connexions, and property, bind them to the interest of their country, and well practised in the use of fire-arms, are much to be preferred.

2. They are as much as possible to have regard to moral character, particularly sobriety.

3. They are not to enlist any imported servant, nor, without the leave of his master, any apprentice.

4. They are to be careful in enlisting such men for Sergeants and Corporals, whose ability, activity and diligence make them fit for that appointment; they are also to appoint a Fifer and Drummer.

5. They are to exert themselves to complete their companies, and punctually to report to their Colonels.

6. That the soldiers be allowed one shilling per day each for their subsistence till they join their Regiment.

7. They are to take notice that the Colonel of their Battalion, or some Field-Officer appointed by him, are to inspect their men, and to reject such as are not fit for service.

8. They are to furnish the subaltern officers of their Companies with a copy of their instructions.

9. They are to enlist their men according to the following form, viz:

10. "I have this day voluntarily enlisted myself as a soldier in the *American* Continental Army, and do bind myself to conform in all instances to such rules and regulations as are, or shall be, established for the government of the said Army; as witness my hand, &c."

11. That they enlist no soldier under five feet four inches high, able-bodied men, healthy, strong-made, and well-limbed, not deaf, or subject to fits, or ulcers on their legs, or ruptures.

12. That they pay to each soldier they shall enlist forty Shillings bounty, and three Pounds advance; and that every recruit take the following oath: "I ——— do swear, that I will be faithful and true to the United Colonies; that I will serve the same, to the utmost of my power, in defence of the just rights of *America*, against all enemies whatsoever; that I will, to the utmost of my abilities, obey the lawful commands of my superior officers, agreeable to the ordinances of the Congress, and the articles of war to which I have subscribed, and lay down my arms peaceably, when required so to do by the Continental Congress. So help me God."

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

The Committee appointed to settle and allow the pay of the Light-Horse heretofore in the service, and also the pay

of those Light-Horse directed to be raised by this Congress, reported as follows:

Your Committee are of opinion that each Light-Horseman employed in the late expedition against the Insurgents in this Province, should be allowed two shillings and six pence for every day he served, and that for every horse (where the publick found forage) the owner should be allowed two shillings, and two shillings and six pence where forage was supplied by the owner. That to every Captain in such service should be allowed ten shillings, Lieutenants seven shillings and six pence, and to every Cornet five shillings per day. That two shillings and six pence for every day's service should be allowed to every Light-Horseman who shall hereafter enter into the regular service, (exclusive of the horse,) and to every Captain the same pay as a Major of Foot; to every Lieutenant the same pay as a Captain of Foot; and to every Cornet the same pay as a Lieutenant of Foot.

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Abraham Sheppard*, Mr. *William Johnston*, Mr. *Samuel Spencer*, and Mr. *Thomas Wiggins*, have leave of absence.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration the defenceless state of the Sea-Coast,

*Ordered*, That the same be deferred till Monday next.

The Congress adjourned till Monday morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, April 22, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Major *Peter Dauge* and Mr. *Demsey Gregory*, be appointed to take immediately into their possession all the Negroes belonging to the Estates of *Thomas Macknight*, late of *Currituck* County, and also of *James Parker* and *Robert Gilmore*, and cause them to be immediately brought to this place, that the said Negroes may be subject to the further order of this Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, The Congress resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state and arrangement of the Militia in this Province.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly, and chose *John Campbell*, Esq., Chairman; and after some time spent therein, came to several Resolutions.

Then, on motion, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported as follows:

*Resolved*, That a Brigadier-General of the Militia be appointed in each District of this Province.

*Resolved*, That *Richard Caswell*, Esquire, be appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia for the District of *Newbern*; *John Ashe*, Esq., for the District of *Wilmington*; *Thomas Person*, Esquire, for the District of *Hillsborough*; *Griffith Rutherford*, Esq., for the District of *Salisbury*; *Edward Vail*, Esq., for the District of *Edenton*; *Allen Jones*, Esq., for the District of *Halifax*.

*Resolved*, That each of the Brigadier-Generals shall take rank in their respective Districts.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be appointed Field-Officers in the respective Counties, viz:

ANSON County: *Charles Medlock*, Colonel; *David Love*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Picket*, First Major; *George Davidson*, Second Major.

BEAUFORT: *James Bonner*, Colonel; *Thomas Bonner*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Brown*, First Major; *Henry Bonner*, Second Major.

BERTIE: *Thomas Whitmell*, Colonel; *Thomas Pugh*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Moore*, First Major; *Arthur Brown*, Second Major.

BLADEN: *Thomas Robeson*, Colonel; *Thomas Brown*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Owen*, First Major; *James Richardson*, Second Major.

BUTE: *Thomas Eaton*, Colonel; *William Alston*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Sherwood*, First Major; *Green Hill*, Second Major.

CAVEN: *John Bryan*, Colonel; *Lemuel Hatch*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Bryan*, First Major; *John Tilman*, Second Major.

CARTERET: *William Thompson*, Colonel; *Solomon Shepherd*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Shadwick*, First Major; *Malachi Bell*, Second Major.

**CURRITUCK:** *Hollowell Williams*, Colonel; *Solomon Perkins*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Taylor Jones*, First Major; *Asael Simmonds*, Second Major.

**CHOWAN:** *Thomas Bonner*, Colonel; *James Blount*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Benbury*, First Major; *Jacob Hunter*, Second Major.

**CUMBERLAND:** *Alexander McAlister*, Colonel; *Ebenezer Fulsome*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *David Smith*, First Major; *Philip Alston*, Second Major.

**CHATHAM:** *Ambrose Ramsay*, Colonel; *Jeduthun Harper*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Mial Scurlock*, First Major; *Matthew Jones*, Second Major.

**DUPLIN:** *James Kenan*, Colonel; *Thomas Routledge*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Moore*, First Major; *Robert Dickson*, Second Major.

**DOBBS:** *Abraham Shepherd*, Colonel; *Martin Caswell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William McKinnie*, First Major; *James Glasgow*, Second Major.

**EDGECOMB:** *Ecum Lewis*, Colonel; *Simon Gray*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Jonas Johnston*, First Major; *Thomas Hunter*, Second Major.

**GRANVILLE:** *Joseph Taylor*, Colonel; *Charles Rust Eaton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Smith*, First Major; *Thorton Yancy*, Second Major.

**GUILFORD:** *James Martin*, Colonel; *John Peasly*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Owen*, First Major; *Thomas Blair*, Second Major.

**HYDE:** *Rotheas Latham*, Colonel; *Benjamin Parmele*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Russell*, First Major; *Thomas Jones*, Second Major.

**HERTFORD:** *Benjamin Wynns*, Colonel; *Matthias Brickell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Lawrence Baker*, First Major; *George Little*, Second Major.

**HALIFAX:** *Willis Alston*, Colonel; *David Sumner*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Hogan*, First Major; *Samuel Welton*, Second Major.

**JOHNSTON:** *William Bryan*, Colonel; *John Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Samuel Smith*, Jun., First Major; *John Stephens*, Second Major.

**MECKLENBURGH:** *Adam Alexander*, Colonel; *John Pfifer*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Davidson*, First Major; *George Alexander*, Second Major.

**MARTIN:** *William Williams*, Colonel; *Whitmell Hill*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Wiggins*, First Major; *Kennith McKinzie*, Second Major.

**NEW-HANOVER:** *William Purviance*, Colonel; *Anthony Ward*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Henry Young*, First Major; *Thomas Bloodworth*, Second Major.

**NORTHAMPTON:** *William Eaton*, Colonel; *Jephtha Eather-ton*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Howell Edmunds*, First Major; *Drury Gee*, Second Major.

**ONSLOW:** *William Cray*, Colonel; *Henry Rhodes*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Johnston*, First Major; *James Howard*, Second Major.

**Southern Regiment in ORANGE:** *John Butler*, Colonel; *Nathaniel Rochester*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Robert Abercrombie*, Jun., First Major; *Hugh Tennen*, Second Major.

**Northern Regiment in ORANGE:** *James Saunders*, Colonel; *William Moore*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Paine*, First Major; *Thomas Harrison*, Second Major.

**PERQUIMANS:** *Miles Harvey*, Colonel; *William Skinner*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thos. Harvey*, First Major; *Richard Clayton*, Second Major.

**First Regiment of PASQUOTANK:** *Thomas Boyd*, Colonel; *Spencer Ripley*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Othniel Lascelles*, First Major; *John Casey*, Second Major.

**Second Regiment of PASQUOTANK:** *Isaac Gregory*, Colonel; *Demsey Burges*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joshua Campbell*, First Major; *Peter Dauge*, Second Major.

**PITT:** *John Simpson*, Colonel; *Robert Salter*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *George Evans*, First Major; *James Armstrong*, Second Major.

**First Regiment of ROWAN:** *Francis Locke*, Colonel; *Alexander Dobbins*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Brandon*, First Major; *James Smith*, Second Major.

**Second Regiment of ROWAN:** *Christopher Beckman*, Colonel; *Charles McDowell*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Hugh Brevard*, First Major; *George Welfong*, Second Major.

**SURRY:** *Martin Armstrong*, Colonel; *Joseph Williams*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Winston*, First Major; *Jesse Walton*, Second Major.

**TYRREL:** *Clement Crook*, Colonel; *James Long*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Spruill*, Jun., First Major; *Andrew Long*, Second Major.

**TRYON:** *William Graham*, Colonel; *Thomas Beaty*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Andrew Hampton*, First Major; *Jacob Cosner*, Second Major.

**WAKE:** *John Hinton*, Colonel; *Theophilus Hunter*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Hinton*, Jun., First Major; *Thomas Hines*, Second Major.

*Resolved*, That the Militia of the County of *Orange* be divided into two equal Regiments, to wit: the Northern and Southern Regiments; the Northern to include all the effective men on the North side of a certain east and west line heretofore run by the direction of the County Court of *Orange*, and the southern to include all the effective men on the southern side of the said line.

The House taking the said Report into consideration, concurred therewith.

The Committee appointed to prepare a number of Resolves to expedite the business of striking Money, came to the following Resolutions, which they humbly submit to the consideration of the Congress, viz:

*Resolved*, That the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand Dollars shall be struck in Bills of Credit, of the following numbers and denominations, viz:

3,000	-	-	12½ dollars,	-	-	£15,000
10,000	-	-	7½ do.	-	-	30,000
10,000	-	-	5 do.	-	-	20,000
20,000	-	-	2½ do.	-	-	20,000
20,000	-	-	1 do.	-	-	8,000
20,000	-	-	½ do.	-	-	4,000
20,000	-	-	¼ do.	-	-	2,000
20,000	-	-	⅛ do.	-	-	1,000
						£100,000

*Resolved*, That the form of said Bills be as follows, viz: "North-Carolina currency.

" . . . Dollars, by authority of Congress, at *Halifax*, on the second day of *April*, 1776."

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *John Kinchen*, *Thomas Benbury*, *Memucan Hunt*, and *John Johnston*, or the survivors of them, be a Committee to get proper Plates engraved, and to provide Paper and number the Bills, and to agree with an Engraver or Engravers to stamp or print the said Bills, and to form devices for the same; and that they be, and are hereby fully authorized to superintend the press, to have the oversight and care of stamping or printing the Bills of Credit so to be struck, and to deliver the same stitched to the Commissioners hereafter to be appointed to sign the said Bills.

*Resolved*, That the said Commissioners shall use the best of their care and diligence that the said Bills, according to their respective denominations, and according to the manner and form aforesaid, be forthwith printed or struck; and that the number of any of the denominations thereof be not exceeded, nor any clandestine or fraudulent practice be used by the Engraver or Engravers, his or their apprentices, servants, and others, concerned in the printing or striking thereof.

*Resolved*, That the Engraver or Engravers which the Commissioners shall employ in the said work, before he or they enter upon the same, take before some Justice of the Peace, in the presence of one or both of the said Commissioners, the following oath, viz:

"I, *A B*, do swear, that I will truly, faithfully, and honestly perform the duty of engraver of the Bills of Credit directed to be engraved by a resolve of the Congress of *North-Carolina*, held at the Town of *Halifax*, the second day of *April*, in the year of our Lord 1776; and that I will not advishly print, stamp, or strike a greater number of blank Bills of Credit than in that resolve mentioned, nor of any other denomination than therein expressed, except such sheets as may be so blotted, unfair, or imperfect in the printing or striking thereof that the same shall be unfit for use. So help me God."

*Resolved*, That the said Engraver or Engravers, by himself or themselves, his or their servant, apprentice, or any other person by him or them employed, print, strike, stitch, or bind the said Bills, or any of them, but in the presence of one or more of the said Commissioners; and in every intermission of the work, the said Commissioners shall safely and

securely lock up in some room the Press, Plates, and Stamps, with which the work shall be performed, and the impressions which shall be then made, in which the printing, stamping, and striking shall be done, and the keys of such room shall keep in their possession; and when all the said Bills shall be printed and struck, the Plates shall be delivered by the said Engraver or Engravers to the said Commissioners, and by them to the Commissioners hereafter to be appointed to sign the said Bills of Credit.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *William Haywood*, Mr. *John Webb*, Mr. *William Williams*, and Mr. *David Sumner*, be Commissioners for the purpose of signing the Bills of Credit; that all Bills of one Dollar and under be signed by at least two of the said Commissioners, and that all the other Bills be signed by four of the said Commissioners; and after signing them, shall deliver the same to the Treasurers, or one of them, taking his or their receipts for the Bills so delivered; and that they be allowed the sum of twelve Shillings per thousand Bills signed by each for such services. And that the Commissioners appointed to superintend the striking, stitching, and binding the said Bills, be allowed the sum of twelve Shillings per thousand Bills so superintended each for such services. And if any of the Commissioners appointed, as aforesaid should die, remove out of the Province, or refuse to act, the surviving Commissioners, or a majority of them, shall appoint others, or another, in the room of him or them so dying, removing, or refusing; which Commissioner or Commissioners so appointed, shall enter into bond, and such Commissioner shall, before his entering into office, take the following oath, to wit:

"I, *A B*, do swear, upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that I will, in consequence of the trust reposed in me by the Provincial Congress of this Province, faithfully execute the same; that I will not stamp, sign, or emit, or knowingly suffer to be stamped, signed, or emitted, more Bills than such as have been described by the said Congress; and as soon as such Bills are emitted, that the plates used in stamping the same shall be destroyed."

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant *Edward Vail*, as soon as may be, march the Troops under his command to the southward, in order to join his Regiment; and that his conduct stands justified by this Congress in obeying the Resolution of the Committee of *Edenton*, lately issued for his detention.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Tuesday, April 23, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Read the Petition of a number of people, styling themselves Members of *Christ's Church*, setting forth they were for religious scruples bound by conscience against taking up arms; praying to be relieved in the premises.

The House taking the same into consideration, rejected the said Petition, *nem. con.*

Read the Petition of *Philip Alston*, setting forth he had been greatly injured by the Tories, particularly by a certain Captain *Muse*; praying relief.

*Ordered*, The said Petition lie for consideration.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Matthew Locke*, Mr. *John Pfifer*, and Mr. *Joseph Williams*, for the District of *Salisbury*; Mr. *James Jones*, Mr. *James Saunders*, and Mr. *Samuel Smith*, for the District of *Hillsborough*; Mr. *Benjamin McCulloch* and Mr. *William Johnston*, for the District of *Halifax*; be appointed Commissioners to purchase thirty-six Geldings and the like number of Saddles and Bridles, with accoutrements, in each District; dark coloured Horses, not under four, nor above eight years old, nor under fourteen hands high, sound, and strong-made; and the said Commissioners do not exceed the sum of thirty Pounds for each Horse so purchased; that they be allowed for each Horse, with the accoutrements, the sum of fifteen Shillings for purchasing the same.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *William Kennon* be appointed Commissary to the First Regiment in this Province, *Robert Salter* Commissary to the Second Regiment, *John Webb* Commissary to the Third Regiment, *Ransom Southerland* Commissary to the Fourth Regiment, *Peter Mallett* Commissary to the Fifth Regiment, and *Thomas Hart* Commissary to the Sixth Regiment.

*Resolved*, That every person who shall enlist himself as a Trooper in the Light-Horse, shall be allowed three Pounds advance.

The Committee for taking into consideration the most practicable and expeditious method of supplying the Province with Arms, Ammunition, Warlike Stores, and Sulphur, and also the expediency of erecting Works for the making of Saltpetre, Gunpowder, and purifying Sulphur, laid the same before the House.

On motion, *Resolved*, The House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take under consideration the same.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly, and chose *John Campbell*, Esq., Chairman; and after some time spent therein, came to several Resolutions.

Then, on motion, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported, that the Committee had come to several Resolutions, but not having time to reduce them to form, desired leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, The said Committee have leave to sit again to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Ralph Gorrel*, Mr. *Solomon Perkins*, Mr. *John Penn*, and Mr. *William Thompson*, have leave to absent themselves for a few days from the service of the Congress.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, April 24, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Rotheas Latham*, one of the Members for the County of *Hyde*, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took his seat accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, The House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, for taking under further consideration the Report of the Committee to consider the most practicable and expeditious method of supplying the Province with Arms, Ammunition, Warlike Stores, and Sulphur; and also the expediency of erecting Works for making Saltpetre, Gunpowder, and purifying Sulphur, &c.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly, *John Campbell*, Esq., in the Chair; and after some time spent, came to sundry Resolutions.

On motion, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported as follows, to wit:

Your Committee beg leave to report, that it is their opinion that Mr. *Eaton Haynes*, Mr. *John Geddy*, Mr. *David Jeffers*, and Mr. *Henry Mason*, be employed to proceed, at the expense of this Province, to *Warwick* and *Petersburgh*, in the Province of *Virginia*, and there to consult with — *Rubsamer*, and observe the process by him made use of in manufacturing Saltpetre, and obtain from him instructions and information how the process may be most beneficially conducted in this Province; and, after having themselves made the experiment successfully in the presence of the said *Rubsamer*, and having obtained a certificate from him of that fact, to return to this Province; and that they be empowered to promise, in behalf of this Colony, that they will make the said *Rubsamer* a handsome gratuity for the extraordinary trouble he may take to further the purposes of the said Commissioners.

It is further the opinion of this Committee, that buildings be erected, and all the materials, implements, and utensils, necessary for the manufacturing Saltpetre, be procured, and that a manufactory be established in the County of *Halifax*, which shall be under the superintendence, direction and management of the said Commissioners; and that the said Commissioners shall have power to draw upon the Treasury of this Province for a sum of money not exceeding six hundred Pounds, to be applied to pay the expense of providing such works and materials as shall be necessary for the above purpose, and that they employ under them such labourers and assistants as may be necessary to conduct the process most expeditiously and beneficially; and that the said Commissioners shall be allowed the sum of one shilling for every pound of Saltpetre which they shall make and deliver within two years into the hands of the Commissioners hereafter appointed to receive the same, for the benefit of the publick; and that the said Commissioners shall give bond, in the sum of twelve hundred Pounds, to the Presi-

dent of this Congress, for the due and faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them, and for the due application of the said moneys which may be paid them out of the Treasury.

It is further the opinion of this Committee, that a Powder-Mill be erected in the County of *Halifax*, and that *Wylie Jones*, *Benjamin McCulloch* and *Josiah Sumner*, Esquires, be appointed to erect the same, and prepare all utensils, implements and materials, for the manufacturing Gunpowder; and that they receive from the Directors of the Saltpetre Manufactory such quantities of Saltpetre, from time to time, as they shall have made, prepared, and refined for use, and also shall use their best endeavours to procure Sulphur wherever it may be found, and to purify such of it as may be crude and unfit for present use. And that the said *Wylie Jones*, *Benjamin McCulloch*, and *Josiah Sumner*, be empowered to draw upon the Colony Treasurers for a sum of money, not exceeding five hundred Pounds, to disburse the expense of constructing such works, and providing such articles as shall be necessary to carry on the said work; and that they give bond for the due application of the said moneys, and the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them, and that the said bond be to the President of this Congress, and his successors, in the penal sum of one thousand Pounds, and that the said Directors of the Powder-Mill shall be allowed the sum of one shilling for every pound of Gunpowder manufactured by them, and delivered within two years into the hands of persons hereafter to be appointed by this Congress to receive the same for the publick use.

It is further the opinion of this Committee, that a work be established in the Province of *North-Carolina*, for the purpose of making common Salt, and that *Waigststill Avery*, *William Thompson*, *Richard Blackledge*, and *Robert Williams*, be Commissioners to erect works necessary for that purpose, and to carry on the process, and obtain all possible information relative to the same; and that they be empowered to draw upon the Treasury for a sum not exceeding two thousand Pounds, to pay the expenses of erecting such works, and providing all materials, implements and utensils proper to be made use of; and that such works be fixed in such part of the sea-coast where they will be best secured from the annoyance of the enemy, and tend to furnish the Colony with the greatest quantity of that necessary article; and that the said Directors give bond, with sufficient security, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them, and the due application of all such moneys which may be advanced them; and that over and above their reasonable expenses, be allowed the sum of four pence (for the space of two years from the last day of *August* next) for every bushel of Salt manufactured by them, and delivered to such persons as shall be directed to receive the same, for the publick use; and that the said Commissioners, after fixing upon a proper place on the sea-coast for the manufacturing of common Salt, do purchase the same of the proprietor or proprietors thereof, for and in behalf of the publick of this Province, upon the most reasonable terms, and give a draft for the same on either of the Treasurers of this Province, who shall be allowed the same in the settlement of his accounts with the publick; and that the conveyance for the same shall be taken in the name of the President and his successors of this Congress, for and in behalf of the publick of this Province, and that said conveyance shall be taken in fee simple.

It is further the opinion of this Committee, that *John Devane*, *Richard Herring*, and *James White*, in the District of *Wilmington*; *John Cowper*, *James Coor*, and *James Glasgow*, in the District of *Newbern*; *Luke Sumner*, *William Hunter*, and *Jacob Hunter*, in the District of *Edenton*; *Joseph John Williams*, *Christopher Dudley*, and *James Ransom*, in the District of *Halifax*; *William Johnston*, *Thomas Burke*, and *Ambrose Ramsey*, in the District of *Hillsborough*; *James McCoy*, *David Nisbit*, and *William Alexander*, in the District of *Salisbury*, be empowered immediately to direct the establishing of publick Manufactories in their respective Districts, of good and sufficient Muskets and Bayonets, of the following description, to wit: Each Firelock to be made of three-fourths of an inch bore, and of a good substance at the breach, the barrel to be three feet eight inches in length, a good lock, the bayonet to be eighteen inches in the blade, with a steel ramrod, the upper end of the upper loop to be trumpet mouthed; and that for that purpose they collect from the different parts of their respective

Districts all Gunsmiths, and other mechanicks, who have been accustomed to make, or assist in making Muskets, or who may, in their opinion, be useful in carrying on such Manufactory, and that they be together employed in the respective District Manufactories so established; and that they be furnished, at the expense of this Colony, with tools, implements and utensils, and materials for carrying on the said work; and that the said Commissioners respectively shall contract with the mechanicks in such manner as they may think proper, provided that for each Gun and Bayonet complete, the publick shall not pay a sum exceeding five Pounds; and that the said Commissioners in each District shall have liberty to draw upon the Treasury for a sum of money not exceeding one thousand Pounds for each District, to be expended in erecting such Manufactories, procuring tools, implements and materials, and paying the mechanicks employed for their respective services; and that the said Commissioners shall give bond to the President and his successors, with sufficient security, for the faithful discharge of their trust, and that they will justly account for all sums of money which may be intrusted to them for the purposes aforesaid; and that the said Commissioners shall deliver to such person or persons as shall be empowered by this Congress to receive the same, all such Muskets and Bayonets as shall be complete for use.

Your Committee further report, that as to the contents of a letter from *Henry Gifford* to General *Moore*, referred to this Committee, they are of opinion that Mr. *Thomas Person*, Mr. *Martin Pfifer*, and Mr. *Ambrose Ramsay*, be empowered and directed immediately to repair to *John Wilcox's* Furnace and Iron-Works, on *Deep River*, and to agree with the said *John Wilcox*, in behalf of this Province, on the lowest terms they can, for the hire of the said Furnace and Iron-Works for the space of two years, or to purchase and repair the Iron-Works in *Guilford* County, for casting pieces of Ordnance, Shot, and other warlike implements, for the use of this Province, of such sizes and denominations as the commanding officer of the troops shall from time to time direct; and that said Commissioners agree with some person or persons, and direct the said work, and collect from the different parts of the adjacent country persons skilled in putting the said Furnace in proper plight, and working at the same, and likewise horses, wagons, carts, and barrows, together with all conveniences for smelting of metal, and wood-cutters, colliers, and all other workers necessary for carrying on the work of the said Furnace, and employ them for the purpose aforesaid; and that the said Commissioners procure, at the expense of this Colony, all such provisions, tools, furniture, and materials, as shall be found necessary for completing the said purpose; and that for discharging the expense thereof, the said Commissioners be empowered to draw on the Colony Treasurers, or either of them, for any sum, not exceeding five thousand Pounds, and that they give bond to the President of this Congress, for and in the name of this Province, in the penal sum of ten thousand Pounds, for the due application of, and accounting for the money they shall so draw for the purpose aforesaid, and the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them.

And as by the above Resolves several set of Commissioners have been appointed to superintend and to carry into execution the several purposes and manufactories mentioned therein, and as several Commissioners therein mentioned may remove out of the Province, die, or decline:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That where any of the said Commissioners may remove himself out of this Province, die, or decline to act, in every such case the survivor or survivors of such set of Commissioners where such an incident may happen, shall have full power to nominate and appoint a person, whom they shall conceive a proper person, to fill up such deficiency, who shall enter into bond as is above directed.

The House, taking the said Report into consideration, amended the same, and concurred therewith.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Griffith Rutherford*, Mr. *Thomas Person*, and Mr. *Allen Jones*, be a Committee to consider the Petition of a number of persons in *Guilford* County against Colonel *James Martin* and *Alexander Hunter*, and make report thereon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *James White*, Mr. *Lawrence Baker*, and Mr. *Rotheas Latham*, have leave of absence.

*Resolved*, That General *Rutherford*, *John Rand*, *John Cowper*, and *James Saunders*, be a Committee to report the most practicable and expeditious method of procuring and purifying Sulphur for the use of the Powder-Mill directed to be erected in this Province.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, April 25, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Burges*, Mr. *John Johnston*, and Mr. *Cowper*, have leave of absence for a few days.

*Resolved*, That *Charles Robb*, *Thomas Douglass*, and *Thomas Mander*, lately taken at *Occacock*, on board of a Tender, be admitted to their parole, they having signed a declaration for that purpose.

The Committee appointed to examine and consider the Petition of a number of persons in *Guilford County* against Colonel *James Martin* and *Alexander Hunter*, reported as follows, viz:

That about the 23d of *February*, Captain *Alexander Hunter*, contrary to orders, openly deserted at the head of his Company from the Army encamped at the *Cross-Roads*, in *Guilford County*, and hath otherwise behaved himself in a tyrannical and lawless manner to the men under his command. And as to Lieutenant-Colonel *James Martin*, your Committee report, that the said Lieutenant-Colonel *James Martin*, contrary to law, hath issued his warrant to an officer to tie several of his men, and to levy on their estates the sum of ten Pounds and costs, without hearing any excuse, or admitting them to a trial by a Court-Martial.

The House, taking the same into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the said Captain *Alexander Hunter* and Lieutenant-Colonel *James Martin* be suspended from their command, until their conduct can be inquired into by a Court-Martial; and that the goods or effects of all persons levied on by the above Officers be immediately restored.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Harnett*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, and Mr. *William Skinner*, be a Committee to settle the Salvage of such Vessels as are lately taken, which the captors may be entitled to.

*Resolved*, That *Eaton Haynes*, Esq., be appointed an Agent for this Province, to proceed to *Philadelphia*, and to take such measures and give such orders as he may think most expedient to conduct the Prisoners to the several places destined for them by this Congress, with the greatest safety and expedition possible; that he supply the Prisoners and Guard with provisions, and other articles which may be necessary for them upon their route, and be empowered, in behalf of this Province, to draw upon the Continental Treasury for such sums as he shall necessarily expend for the above purposes; and that such draft be seasonably made known to *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., Delegate of this Province in the Continental Congress, by letters of advice to be addressed to him.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Needham Bryan* have leave to absent himself from the service of this Congress.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the temporary Civil Constitution be taken under consideration to-morrow morning.

Read the Petition of sundry Pilots and other inhabitants of *Ocracoke*, praying a condemnation on the Tender called the *Lilly*, with her tackle, furniture, and cargo, together with the Negroes belonging to her.

*Resolved*, That a special Court of Admiralty be appointed to try the Tender Sloop the *Lilly* and cargo; and that for this purpose, *Richard Cogdell*, Esq., be appointed Judge of the said Court, *John Cook*, Esq., Advocate, and *Thomas Sitgreaves*, Esq., Register and Marshal; and that in case of condemnation, the proceeds of the sales, after defraying the reasonable charges of condemnation, be divided between the captors.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, April 26, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President be empowered to borrow Moneys on the credit of this Province, and that the faith of

this Province be pledged for the repayment thereof, with interest thereon.

*Resolved*, That the several persons in this Province empowered to purchase Provisions for the use of the publick, be required to lay their Accounts before the Congress.

Mr. *Benjamin Parmale*, one of the Delegates for the County of *Hyde*, and Mr. *Jeduthun Harper*, one of the Members for the County of *Chatham*, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress.

*Resolved*, That each of the Commissaries appointed in this Province, before they enter upon that office, enter into Bond, with sufficient security, in the sum of ten thousand Pounds, to the President of this Congress, for the faithful discharge of such office.

*Resolved*, That General *Person*, General *Rutherford*, General *Jones*, Mr. *Burke*, Mr. *Locke*, Mr. *Coor*, and Mr. *Miles Harvey*, be a Committee to consider that part of General *Moore's* Letter with respect to the requisition of the Militia, and report to this House.

*Resolved*, That two thousand weight of Gunpowder be immediately despatched from this place to Brigadier-General *Moore*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *James Saunders*, Mr. *Duncan Lamon*, Mr. *Hancock*, Mr. *Battle*, Mr. *Southerland*, Mr. *Benbury*, and Mr. *Nisbit*, be added to the Committee of Claims, and that nine or more of them may proceed upon business.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *William Williams* send to *Tarborough* four hundred weight of Shot in his possession belonging to the publick, and that he deliver the same to Colonel *Irwin* of that place.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

Saturday, April 27, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Dickerson* be added to the Commissioners for purchasing Light-Horse in the District of *Hillsborough*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Hollingsworth* have leave of absence from this Congress.

*Resolved*, That all Recruits shall be inlisted for the term of two years and six months from the time of such inlistment, but may be dismissed sooner in case the Continental Congress shall judge it necessary; and if the said Troops shall be discharged before the expiration of that term, they shall be paid one month's wages.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President give the Thanks of this Congress to Brigadier-General *Howe*, for his manly, generous, and warlike conduct, in these unhappy times; more especially for the reputation which our Provincial Troops acquired under him at the conflagration of *Norfolk*.

*Resolved*, That this Congress do publish a Declaration, testifying that they have been under a necessity to remove the Prisoners who have been concerned in the late insurrection, to other Provinces, from a regard to the publick safety; and because while such men continued amongst us, much was to be apprehended from the personal and family influence of those persons disposed to exert it to the prejudice of this country, and delude the ignorant, wicked, and unwary, into measures that might endanger the future happiness of this Colony. That the unhappy families and connexions of those whom we have in our power, be assured, that every indulgence which humanity and compassion can give, consistent with the duty which we owe to the inhabitants of these Colonies, engaged in a contention for the rights of *America* and of mankind, shall be extended to those whom we have in our power; but that much will depend upon the future good behaviour of those who still remain in the Province, as to the mode of treatment which our Prisoners shall experience, and their being suffered to return to their respective habitations, families, and friends, when peace is restored to us; and that this Declaration be translated into *Erse*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Secrecy, War, and Intelligence, be empowered to remove all such persons (not exceeding the number of forty) with their families, as they shall deem capable of influencing the late Insurgents to take arms against *America*, from their present neighbourhood into



such places as they shall judge most safe and convenient; and that certain persons, who shall be hereafter appointed in every County whither such persons and families shall be removed, be required to take special care that such persons shall not be suffered to want any of the necessaries of life, until it shall be in their power to procure the same by their own industry and property; and all supplies which shall at any time be furnished by the several persons so required, shall be paid for by this Colony. Provided, that every such person as shall be so removed, shall be allowed his election either to take with him his family or not; and also that all such persons shall be allowed to make such disposition as they shall think proper of their Estates and Properties.

*Ordered*, That *Thomas Rutherford* be permitted to take with him his Horse and Negro man, and that *Farquard Campbell* be likewise permitted to take with him his Horse, and that *Mr. McNeill* carry the same to them.

Pursuant to a Resolution of this House, the Returning Officer certified that Colonel *Richard Caswell*, *Mr. Simon Bright*, and *Mr. George Miller*, were duly elected Delegates for the County of *Dobbs*, who appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress.

The Order of the Day being read,

*Resolved*, The House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to take into consideration certain Resolutions proposed as a foundation for a temporary Civil Constitution.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House accordingly, and chose *William Cumming*, Esq., Chairman; and after some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported the several Resolutions.

The House taking the same into consideration,

*Ordered*, The same be laid over till *Monday* next.

Brigadier *Ashe* has leave of absence, and *Mr. Day Ridley* has leave of absence till *Monday*.

*Resolved*, That *Christopher Neale* be empowered to take to his assistance five sufficient persons, to carry under guard *John Goodrich* and *George Blair*, Prisoners now in *Hali-fax*, to *Suffolk*, in *Virginia*.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Christopher Neale* be allowed the sum of twenty Pounds for carrying under guard to *Suffolk*, in *Virginia*, *John Goodrich* and *George Blair*; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Requisition of reinforcement of the Militia made by Brigadier-General *Moore*, reported their opinion.

*Ordered*, The same lie on the table.

The Congress adjourned till *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

— Monday, April 29, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Read the Petition of *Philip Alston*, setting forth the loss of a Horse, Mare, and Gun, by the Insurgents; praying relief.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Read the Report of the Committee for taking under consideration the Petition of the Executors of *John Callaway*, deceased.

*Ordered*, The same lie for consideration.

Read the Petition of the Committee of *Guilford* County, requiring some reward for attending Committee, sitting, and disarming the Tories, &c. Rejected *nem. con.*

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Hooper*, *Mr. Thomas Jones*, *Mr. Samuel Ashe*, *Mr. Penn*, *Mr. Kinchen*, *Mr. Cuswell*, *Mr. Person*, and *Mr. Harnett*, be a Committee to consider and report the business necessary to be carried into execution this present Congress.

*Resolved*, That five Independent Companies be immediately raised in this Province, to consist of one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, two Drummers, one Fifer, and sixty-eight Rank and File; and that the said Companies be stationed at the following places, to wit: One Company between *Currituck* and *Roanoke Inlet*, one Company at *Occacock Inlet*, one Company between *Occacock* and *White-Oak Inlet*, one Company be-

tween *Bogue Inlet* and *New River Inlet*, and one Company between *New River* and *Deep Inlet* inclusive. And that the Officers and Soldiers of said Companies shall be allowed the same pay and rations as Officers and Soldiers on the Continental establishment, and subject only to the control of this or any future Congress, or to any Executive power, acting in the recess of the same, to remove or disband them.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be appointed Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns, to the Independent Companies directed to be raised, viz: *James Anderson*, Captain, *Benjamin Bonner*, First Lieutenant, *James Wahob*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Brag*, Ensign, of the Company at *Occacock Inlet*. *Dennis Dauge*, Captain, *John Jarvis*, First Lieutenant, *Legrand Whitehall*, Second Lieutenant, and *Butler Cowall*, Ensign, of the Company between *Currituck* and *Roanoke Inlet*. *John King*, Captain, *Edward Ward*, First Lieutenant, *Peter McLammy*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Boston*, Ensign, of the Company between *New River* and *Deep Inlet*. *Enoch Ward*, Captain, *Reuben Benthel*, First Lieutenant, *Benjamin Chainey*, Second Lieutenant, and *Charles Dennis*, Ensign, of the Company between *Occacock* and *White-Oak Inlets*. *Silby Harney*, Captain, *Joseph Walker*, First Lieutenant, *Adam Gaskin*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Williams*, Ensign, of the Company between *Bogue Inlet* and *New River*.

And that the following persons be appointed Commissaries to the said Companies: *John Cooper*, Esquire, Commissary to the Companies stationed at *Occacock Inlet*, and between *Occacock* and *White-Oak Inlet*; *Samuel Jarvis*, Esquire, Commissary to the Company between *Currituck* and *Roanoke Inlets*; *Mr. Hull Doty*, Commissary to the Company between *New River* and *Deep Inlet*.

*Resolved*, That the Companies stationed on the Sea-Coast may be further encouraged to exert themselves in taking Armed Vessels, and others which may be taken by the enemy's Ships of War and Armed Tenders, such as they take as prizes, may be adjudged to the captors, after the charges of condemnation; except Vessels owned by *Americans*, and friends to Continental Associations, &c., for which the captors shall have Salvage.

*Mr. Hawkins* has leave of absence from the Congress.

The Order of the Day being read, for taking into consideration certain Resolutions proposed as a foundation for a temporary Civil Constitution,

*Ordered*, The same be deferred till to-morrow morning.

Pursuant to a former Resolution, the following Declaration was laid before this Congress, and approved:

#### DECLARATION.

Impelled by a regard to our own safety, and the preservation of those rights and privileges which *God* and the Constitution have made unalienably ours, and which the power of *Great Britain*, with unremitting vengeance, injustice, and cruelty, is labouring to subvert, we have been induced to measures which it is the object of this Declaration to explain to those who may be interested in them or their consequences.

To other Provinces, at a distance from their own places of residence, without that circle where their personal and family influence may be excited to the prejudice of the Continent, and of this Province in particular, we have deemed it absolutely necessary for the publick safety to remove a body of men, whose residence fortune has cast in the very bowels of our country, and who, in common with ourselves, have shared the blessings which a mild and liberal Provincial system of laws, a benign climate, an increasing trade, that poured riches into the lap of our honest industry, the countenance and protection of their honest neighbours held forth to them with the most liberal hand. This misguided people, disregarding the duty which they owe to that country under the just and equal laws of which they have enjoyed protection, procured ample means of subsistence for themselves and their families, and possessed of a considerable property amongst us, were equally bound, by every tie, divine and human, to defend and maintain the cause of liberty, which, in common with ourselves, all virtuous men on this Continent, at the hazard of everything dear to them, are labouring at this day to defend. Those men, confederating with our unnatural enemies, and taking advantage of their resi-

dence amongst us, and that confidence which such a relation necessarily created, have raised their hands against us, and endeavoured to imbrue them in the best blood of our fellow-citizens. God in his Providence hath hitherto defeated their wicked machinations, and after their having experienced a shameful defeat, hath put into our possession many of the principals of them, who, from the wickedness of their own hearts, and from the seduction of others, meant to have consigned this once flourishing Colony to the most abject slavery and oppression.

Those people, though subdued, still retain principles inimical to us; and are prompt, as soon as they shall be favoured by their situation, or the assistance of troops expected every day to invade this Colony, with a probability of succeeding, to attempt to carry their wishes into execution, and, co-operating with a merciless Administration, drench this Province in blood and slaughter.

These have been our motives for exercising a severity, which regard to the common safety, and that first principle of nature, self-preservation, prompted. Justice demanded it at our hands; and in the anguish of our hearts we lament the sad necessity which the frailties of our fellow-beings have allotted to our share; still we wish the reformation of those who, in this unhappy contest, are severed from us, and from those endearing ties which nature and social connexions have formed for them, and who still remain amongst us to lament the folly and wickedness of those whom we have removed from amongst them. To these we administer this consolation, that they may rest assured that no wanton acts of cruelty, no severity, shall be exercised to the prisoners; no restraints shall be imposed upon them, but what shall be necessary to prevent their using their liberty to the injury of the friends of *America*.

We have their security in contemplation, not to make them miserable. In our power, their errors claim our pity, their situation disarms our resentment. We shall hail their reformation with increasing pleasure, and receive them to us with open arms. Then sincere contrition and repentance shall atone for their past conduct. Members of the same political body with ourselves, we feel the convulsion which such a severance occasions; and shall bless the day which shall restore them to us friends to liberty, to the cause of *America*, the cause of God and mankind.

We war not with the helpless females which they left behind them; we sympathize in their sorrow, and wish to pour the balm of pity into the wounds which a separation from husbands, fathers, and the dearest relations, have made. They are the rightful pensioners upon the charity and bounty of those who have aught to spare from their own necessities to the relief of their indigent fellow-creatures; to such we recommend them.

May the humanity and compassion which mark the cause we are engaged in, influence them to such a conduct as may call forth our utmost tenderness to their friends whom we have in our power. Much depends upon the future demeanour of the friends of the Insurgents who are left among us, as to the treatment our prisoners may experience. Let them consider these as hostages for their own good behaviour; and by their own merits make kind offices to their friends a tribute of duty as well as humanity from us, who have them in our power.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, April 30, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to settle the Salvage of such Vessels as were lately taken, and what the captors may be entitled to, reported as follows, viz:

That it appears to your Committee, that a certain schooner, called the *Polly*, of which one *Silas Henry* is now master, was bound on a voyage from *Edenton*, in this Province, to the Island of *Madeira*, loaded with *Indian* corn, staves, and heading, and that the said schooner had proceeded to the *Swash*, near *Occacock* Island, on her way to the said Island of *Madeira*; and that on *Sunday*, the 14th of this instant, (*April*), about four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, an armed sloop, called the *Lilly*, commanded by a certain *John Goodrich*, a tender fitted out by Lord *Dunmore* for the purpose of taking all the vessels at *Occacock*

Bar; that the said *John Goodrich* hailed the schooner *Polly*, and ordered the master to come on board the said tender, and bring his papers; that *Silas Henry*, the master, and *James Buchanan*, one half owner of the schooner *Polly* and her cargo, went on board the tender *Lilly*, and delivered the papers to Captain *John Goodrich*, who received and examined the same, and who told Mr. *James Buchanan* that the schooner was a prize, and kept the papers; and that Lieutenant *John Wright*, master of the armed sloop *Fincastle*, came over *Occacock* Bar the evening of the said 14th day of this instant, (*April*), and about eight o'clock the same evening a boat with armed men sent from the *Fincastle* boarded the schooner *Polly*, and plundered the said schooner of all the live-stock, disarmed the men, and left a prize-master and four armed men on board the schooner *Polly*, who remained there for the term of fifty-eight or fifty-nine hours; and that on the 17th of this instant, (*April*), a number of armed men in five whale-boats, boarded the tender commanded by *John Goodrich*, took her, and retook the schooner *Polly*, and carried the tender and schooner up to *Newbern*. Your Committee therefore humbly submit to the consideration of the Congress the following as their opinion: That the captors are entitled, by a resolve of the Continental Congress of the 25th of *November* last, to one-third part of the schooner *Polly* and her cargo, in lieu of salvage; and that the said vessel and cargo, consisting of *Indian* corn, staves, and heading, should be sold at publick auction, first giving thirty days publick notice; and that after the sale thereof, and all necessary charges deducted, the distribution thereof shall be made as followeth, viz: One-third part to the captors, and the other two-thirds to Messieurs *James Buchanan* and *Archibald Campbell*, who appear to your Committee to have owned the said schooner *Polly* and her cargo.

The House, taking the said Report into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Sitgreaves* be appointed to sell at publick auction for ready money, the Schooner *Polly* and her cargo, first giving thirty days notice in the *Carolina Gazette*; and that distribution of the money arising from the sale thereof (after deducting all necessary charges) be made in the following manner, viz: One-third part thereof to the captors, in lieu of salvage; and the other two-thirds to Messieurs *James Buchanan* and *Archibald Campbell*, who appear to have owned the said Schooner *Polly* and her cargo.

*Resolved*, That *Joseph Hughs*, late of *Rowan* County, have a safe conduct to come and reside in the County of *Mecklenburgh*, with such of his family and property as he shall think proper to remove, he giving security to behave himself well, and not to give assistance or counsel, directly or indirectly, to the enemies of *America*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *George Miller*, Mr. *Currie*, and Mr. *Campbell*, be a Committee to examine the property of *John Hamilton & Co.*, in a vessel called the *William*, and her cargo, ordered to be seized at *Newbern*, and make report thereon.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Samuel Ashe* and Mr. *Caswell* be added to the Committee to report the most practicable and expeditious method of procuring and purifying Sulphur for the use of the Powder-Mill directed to be erected in this Province, and also the method of supplying the same with Lead, and the mode of purifying the same:

The Committee for taking under consideration such Petitions as may be exhibited by persons who shall appear objects of charity, reported that they had taken in consideration the Petition of *Robert Willis*, viz:

It appears to your Committee that the said *Robert Willis* is a Sergeant in Captain *Armstrong's* Company of the Continental Army in this Province; that in the late expedition to *Ninety-Six*, in *South-Carolina*, he took cold by the inclemency of the season, whereby he hath been reduced to a very weak and languishing state of health, and that the said *Robert Willis* is very poor and indigent. Your Committee therefore recommend him as an object of publick charity, and are of opinion that, during his present infirmity, he ought to be allowed from this Province for his support at the rate of twenty Pounds a year, to be paid quarterly, in lieu of his pay.

And as to the case of one *William Wommock*, referred to this Committee, it appears to your Committee that the said *William Wommock* was a Sergeant in the *Orange Militia* in the late expedition against the Tories; that on his march he was unfortunately shot with a bullet through one of his feet, and thereby rendered unfit for that service; that it does not appear to your Committee that he is at present in a state of poverty and want, nor does it appear to your Committee whether his wound be likely to be cured or not, or what expenses have been incurred to effect his cure. Your Committee therefore recommend that proper persons be appointed to inspect the said *William Wommock*, and to make report to the Congress.

The House, considering the same, concurred therewith.

Ordered, That Mr. *Simpson* and Mr. *James Saunders* be appointed to examine into the circumstances of the said *William Wommock*, and report to the next Congress accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Burke*, and Mr. *Dickson*, have leave of absence; and that Mr. *Harnett* has leave of absence the day after to-morrow.

Resolved, That Mr. *Burke*, Mr. *Samuel Ashe*, Mr. *Caswell*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Penn*, Mr. *Nash*, Mr. *Kinchen*, Mr. *Thomas Jones*, and Mr. *Coor*, be a Committee to form a temporary form of Government, until the end of the next Congress.

Resolved, That Captain ——— *Dennison* be allowed ten Pounds as a gratuity for his care, vigilance, and the hazard he run, in performing a voyage from *Newbern* to the *French West-Indies*, and back again, to procure Ammunition for this Province; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts.

The Committee to form an estimate of the expense for supporting the Troops to be raised for one year, reported that the expense of one Regiment for twelve months would amount to fifty thousand Pounds.

The Committee for reconsidering the Petition of *William Alston*, in behalf of *Solomon Alston's* Widow, reported to this House.

The House taking the same into consideration,

Resolved, That *John Henderson*, who intermarried with the said *Solomon Alston's* Widow, enter into bond, with sufficient security, to the President of this Congress, (in behalf of the said Orphans,) that he will not remove any part of the Estate out of the Province, and faithfully account for the same.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 1, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Resolved, That a Resolution of this Congress, of the 22d of April, for appointing six Brigadier-Generals in the several Districts of this Province, be rescinded.

Resolved, That Brigadier-General *Howe* be allowed the sum of three hundred Pounds for his extraordinary expense while in the Colony of *Virginia*; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Ordered, That *Duncan McNeill* be discharged from further attendance on this Congress, he first entering into bond, with security, in the sum of five hundred Pounds, for his appearance at a future Congress, and good behaviour.

Resolved, That Mr. *John Henderson* pay to Mr. *James Jones* five Pounds fifteen Shillings, for his expenses in citing the said *Henderson* to appear at Congress on the Petition of *William Alston*.

On motion, Resolved, That *Allen Jones*, Esq., be appointed Vice-President of this Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *William Fenner* be appointed a Captain in the Second Regiment of the Continental Troops raised in this Province.

Ordered, That a Certificate issue accordingly.

Mr. *John Taylor* has leave of absence.

Resolved, That the further allowance of six hundred and sixty-six Dollars, and two-third parts of a Dollar, be paid to each of the Delegates who were appointed in September last to attend the Continental Congress in behalf of this Pro-

vince, for one year; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, draw on the Continental Treasury for the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Resolved, That *William Hooper*, *Joseph Hewes* and *John Penn*, Esquires, be, and are hereby, appointed Delegates, in behalf of this Province, from the determination of the present year to the end of the next Congress which shall be held in this Province, to attend the General Congress at *Philadelphia*, or such other place as may be appointed; and they are hereby invested with such powers as may make any acts done by them, or any of them, or consent given, in behalf of this Province (not inconsistent with such instructions as may be given by this Congress) obligatory upon every inhabitant thereof: and that they be allowed at the rate of two thousand Dollars each for performing such services, to be paid by the publick Treasurers, or either of them, who are empowered to draw on the Continental Treasury for the same, and shall be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Mr. *Sherrod* and Mr. *Saunders* have leave of absence.

Resolved, That the Vestrymen legally elected in each and every Parish in this Province, on *Easter Monday* last, upon repeating and subscribing the Test recommended by the last Provincial Congress, shall be, and are hereby declared legal Vestries, and may proceed to Parochial business accordingly; and where no Vestries were then elected, the Freeholders in such Parishes shall meet at the place by law appointed for the election of Vestries, on the first *Monday* in *July* next, and then and there choose and elect a Vestry, agreeable to the directions of the Act of Assembly for appointing Vestries, and the Poll shall be taken by the Clerk of the County Committee, and return made in the same manner as the Sheriff empowered and directed by the said Act; which Vestrymen so elected shall qualify themselves, by repeating and subscribing the aforesaid Test, and shall thereafter be deemed and taken to be the legal Vestry of their respective Parishes, and invested with the same powers and authorities as if elected and qualified agreeable to the aforesaid Act. Provided, that where any Vestryman already elected for the present year has taken the Oaths, or subscribed any Tests or Declarations heretofore appointed, the election of a Vestry in such Parish shall be, and is hereby declared void, and a new election shall be made under the regulations aforesaid. And provided, also, that no Vestry shall continue longer than until next *Easter Monday* under any election made on last *Easter Monday*, or by virtue of this resolve; anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolved, That Commissioners be appointed in the Counties of *Guilford*, *Cumberland*, *Anson*, *Orange*, *Bladen*, and *Chatham*, to take inventories of the Estates of the Prisoners lately sent out of this Province, and of those who are out upon parole and bail, and to take all the care in their power to prevent waste and embezzlement, and to make return thereof to next Congress; but at the same time to pay particular attention to the unhappy women and children, to see that they do not want the common necessities of life; and that all their Estates shall remain where they now are, except Arms and Ammunition, under the protection of this Congress, until some future order; and that the said Commissioners shall, by every means in their power, endeavour to get into their possession such effects as have been taken from the said Prisoners, persons on parole, and out on bail, and to be restored to the respective habitations from whence such effects were taken, and return inventories thereof to next Congress; and that the following persons be Commissioners, viz: Mr. *William Bell*, *Richardson Owen*, and *Francis Harper*, for *Guilford* County; Mr. *Thomas Wade*, *John Cole*, and *William Mask*, for *Anson* County; Mr. *Peter Mallett*, *William Rand*, and *Robert Cobb*, for *Cumberland* County; Mr. *John Butler* and Mr. *William Tate*, for *Orange* County; Mr. *James Council* and Mr. *Nathaniel Richardson*, for *Bladen* County; Mr. *Jeduthun Harper*, *Mial Scurlock*, and *John Thompson*, for *Chatham* County.

Resolved, That the Commissioners for the County of *Cumberland* dispose of the Estate of *Archibald McArthur*, deceased, late Insurgent of said County, for six months credit, the purchasers giving bond with approved security for the same; and that they make report to the next Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Coor*, Mr. *William Alston*, Mr. *Hunt*, Mr. *Lock*, Mr. *Webb*, Mr. *Pfifer*, Mr. *Rutherford*, Mr. *John Campbell*, Mr. *Bradford*, Mr. *Caswell*, Mr. *Benbury*, and Mr. *G. Hill*, be a Committee to regulate the Militia.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Hunt*, Mr. *Lock*, and Mr. *Person*, be a Committee to take an Inventory of the Effects of the Tories, in the possession of Colonel *Long*.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 2, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Mr. *John Simpson*, one of the Delegates for the County of *Pitt*, and Mr. *Thomas Hunter*, one of the Delegates for *Chowan* County, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats in Congress.

Mr. *Nathan Boddie* has leave of absence.

*Resolved*, That Provisions and Ammunition be immediately sent from this place to General *Moore*, at *Wilmington*, and that Colonel *Long* and Mr. *Benjamin McCulloch* be appointed to carry this order into execution.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions issue immediate orders to their several Recruiting Officers to march their Recruits as fast as they shall enlist, and be properly armed, to join General *Moore*, at Head-Quarters; and that they march under the command of such Officer of the Company as can be best spared; and that the Officers and Soldiers belonging to the Second Battalion, who may be absent on furlough, do immediately join their Battalion, and march to join General *Moore*, at *Wilmington*.

*Resolved*, That ten pieces of the double-fortified Six-pounders, now lying at *Newbern*, belonging to the Province of *South-Carolina*, and also any Field-pieces which may be there, be immediately sent off to General *Moore's* Head-Quarters, on *Cape-Fear River*; and that Colonel *Long* and Mr. *Benjamin McCulloch* be appointed to see the same done.

*Resolved*, That *John Webb*, Esq., be added to the Commissioners for procuring Arms in *Halifax* County, and that he immediately purchase all such as may be serviceable to the Army, that may be for sale; and that Colonel *Long* collect all the Arms which may have been taken from the Regulators and Tories, and hold them ready to be delivered to new Recruits, as the Officers may apply for them.

*Resolved*, That the Chairman of the Committee of *Newbern* cause the ten pieces of Cannon, ordered to be sent to *Wilmington*, to be delivered to the order of Colonel *Long* and Mr. *Benjamin McCulloch*, and also any Field-pieces which may be there; and that the Chairman receive from Colonel *Long*, or his order, such Provisions as he may have occasion to leave at *Newbern*, till further orders.

*Ordered*, That *Robert Goodloe*, *Joseph Shearing*, and *Benjamin Seawell*, be added to the Commissioners appointed to receive, procure, and purchase, Fire-Arms.

*Resolved*, That the Arms, Camp-Kettles, and Camp-Equipage, purchased by Mr. *Charles Jacocks* for this Province, be immediately delivered to Lieutenant *Jacob Pollock*, of Colonel *Thomas Polk's* Regiment, as the new-raised Recruits are under marching orders to join General *Moore*, at *Cape-Fear*, Mr. *Jacocks* taking Lieutenant *Pollock's* receipt for the same.

Mr. *Charles McLean* and Mr. *James Johnston*, two of the Members from *Tryon* County, appeared and took their seats.

Mr. *Thomas Respiss* has leave of absence.

Pursuant to a Resolve of this Congress, Mr. President returned Brigadier General *Howe* the following Thanks:

"Brigadier-General *Howe* :

"SIR: I am commanded by the Congress to return you their thanks for your manly, generous, and warlike conduct in these unhappy times, more especially for the reputation our Troops acquired under your command.

"I now, with infinite pleasure to myself, in compliance with that command, return you the thanks of this House for the important services rendered by you to the common cause; and, in particular, for your manly and officer-like

exertions during the whole of the late dangerous, important, and critical campaign."

To which the General returned the following Answer, viz :

"MR. PRESIDENT: As I have no wish so ardent, no ambition so strong, as that of serving the noble cause to which I have devoted myself, how happy must it make me when, to the pleasing consciousness of having endeavoured to do my duty, you so politely add the approbation of my country. It is a heartfelt and honourable testimony that my efforts have not been wholly unsuccessful; and my felicity upon this occasion can only be increased by considering that I have this publick opportunity of expressing the obligations I feel to be due to those officers and men of every corps under my command, whose ready acceptance and spirited execution of the orders issued, have obtained me the distinguishing honours of this day. Permit me, sir, through you, to assure the honourable Convention that I have the most grateful sense of their favour, and that I conceive the best return I can make is, with zeal and activity, to pursue the dictates of my duty; in which resolution I cannot but persevere, as the good of my country is the end I aim at, and its applause the consequence and reward of promoting it. Accept, sir, my thanks for the manner in which you have so obligingly conveyed to me the sense of your honourable House."

*Ordered*, That *James Burnside*, now on parole at *Halifax*, be discharged from the same.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, May 3, 1776.

The Congress met, according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That the parole of *Robert Acheson*, Midshipman of the *Syren*, now within the limits of the Town of *Halifax*, be extended five miles without the limits of the same.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Alderson* be appointed Ensign in Captain *Simon Alderson's* Company of the Regulars in this Province, in the room of *James McKinnie*.

*Resolved*, That *Christopher Lacky* be appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain *John Enloe's* Company of the Fifth Regiment in this Province, in the room of . . . . . who refuses to act.

*Resolved*, That the Members of this and all future Congresses shall be allowed ten Shillings per day for their attendance on the same, and their ferriages and travelling to and returning home from said Congresses.

*Resolved*, That one hundred Pounds be granted towards finishing the Fort at *Hanging-Point*, on *Neuse River*, and that the said Fort be garrisoned by a Captain and twenty-four men.

*Resolved*, That *John Daly* be appointed Captain and Commander of the said Fort.

*Resolved*, That the said *John Daly* be appointed Commissary to the Troops to be garrisoned at *Hanging-Point*.

*Resolved*, That the three Southern Independent Companies, ordered to be raised in this Province, shall consist of no more Privates than sixty.

*Resolved*, That *Micajah Little* be appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain *William Brinkly's* Company of the Third Regiment, in the room of *Christopher Lakey*, removed to Captain *Enloe's* Company, in the Fifth Regiment.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Long* be requested to receive his Excellency General *Lee* at the line of this Colony, with a proper detachment of Troops, and escort him to *Halifax*.

*Resolved*, That the Proceedings of the Provincial Council be taken under consideration to-morrow.

Mr. *Hancock* and Mr. *Hogan* have leave of absence.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners for purchasing Guns in the Counties of *Orange* and *Granville*, be empowered to purchase Drums and Fifes for the Regiments ordered to be raised.

*Resolved*, That fifteen hundred Privates of the Militia, under proper Officers, be immediately drafted from the Districts of *Edenton*, *Newbern*, *Halifax*, and *Wilmington*, in the following manner, and march as quick as possible to *Wilmington*, on *Cape-Fear*, for the protection of this Province, to wit:

*Wilmington* District incorporated into six Companies: From *New-Hanover* sixty-three, *Onslow* sixty-three, *Duplin* sixty-three, *Brunswick* sixty, *Bladen* sixty-three, *Cumberland* sixty-three.

*Newbern* District into seven Companies: From *Dobbs* one hundred and thirteen, *Craven* one hundred and twenty-two, *Johnston* fifty, *Pitt* fifty, *Beaufort* twenty-five, and *Hyde* twenty-five, in one Company.

*Edenton* District into seven Companies: From *Bertie* fifty, *Martin* fifty, *Tyrrell* fifty, *Hertford* fifty, *Chowan* fifty, *Perquimans* fifty, *Pasquotank* seventy-five.

*Halifax* District into seven Companies: From *Halifax* one hundred, *Edgecomb* one hundred, *Bute* one hundred, *Northampton* seventy-five.

Resolved, That the said Militia shall be divided into two Battalions, and that *Thomas Brown*, Colonel, *James Armstrong*, Lieutenant-Colonel, and *James Moore*, (of *Duplin*.) Major, be appointed to command that part of the Militia to be drafted from the District of *Newbern* and *Wilmington*; and that *Philemon Hawkins*, Jun., Colonel, *Peter Dauge*, Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Drury Gee*, Major, be appointed to command that part of the Militia to be drafted from the District of *Edenton* and *Halifax*.

Whereas it appears from a paper signed by *Abraham Childers*, Cornet in the First Troop of Light-Horse commanded by Captain *Dickerson*, that he had taken seven new Rifle-guns, with their moulds and wipers, from *Arthur Moore*, of the County of *Orange*, for the use of the Continental Army:

Resolved, That the said *Abraham Childers* has acted without authority, and with violence, evil in its example, and dangerous to the security of private property:

Wherefore, it is Ordered, That the said Captain *Dickerson* be required to bring the said *Abraham Childers* before this House forthwith, to answer for the said misbehaviour; and that the said Captain *Dickerson* cause the said Guns to be restored to the said *Arthur Moore*.

Resolved, That the vacancies in the Second Regiment of Continental Troops raised in this Province be filled up, and the following persons appointed, viz:

*James Gee*, Captain, in the room of Captain *Irwin Toole*, who has resigned, and that he rank as Fifth Captain; *John Heritage*, Captain, in the room of Captain *Simon Bright*, resigned, and that he rank as Sixth Captain; *Philip Love*, First Lieutenant, of Captain *John Heritage's* Company; *Joseph Worth*, *Robert Fenner*, *Thomas Standings*, *James Martin*, *Clement Nash*, *John Ingles*, Second Lieutenants; *John Craddock*, *Manlove Tarrant*, *Samuel Smith*, and *William Tocksey*, Ensigns; *John Ingles* appointed Adjutant to the Second Regiment.

#### *Prisoners, and Places of Destination.*

*Peter Hay*, bail five hundred Pounds; *Robert Gillis*, bail five hundred Pounds; *William Gibbs*, enlarged, and to give security to the Committee of *Onslow* County, in the sum of five hundred Pounds; *Conner Dowd*, bail one thousand Pounds; *William Bourke*, parole to *Northampton*; *Darcy Fowler* to *Duplin*, *Alexander McLean* to *Granville*, — *Frazier* to *Halifax*, *Thomas Collins* to *Halifax*, *William Draper* to *Bertie*, *William Clarke* to *Nixonton*, *John Doak* to *Orange*, with leave of one month to remove his effects from *Cumberland*; *Duncan McNiell*, bail; *Angus Campbell*, parole in *Guilford*, under the care of the Rev. *James Campbell*, with leave of fourteen days to remove his effects; *Alexander Stewart*, parole to *Granville*; *James Lowe* and *Robert Adams*, (who shot Captain *Dent*.) to *Halifax* Jail; *George Micklejohn*, parole in *Perquimans*, in that part of said County on the south side of the river, with leave of fourteen days to prepare himself; *James Hunter*, parole in *Bute*; *George Mylne*, bail two thousand Pounds.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, May 4, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That Colonel *Long* deliver to Mr. *Henry Giffard*, a certain Horse belonging to him, which *Cudrick McDonald* rode to *Halifax*, with a Saddle and Bridle.

Ordered, That Mr. *Samuel Ashe*, Mr. *Parmele*, Mr. *Burges*, Mr. *Gee*, Mr. *Penn*, and Mr. *Hooper*, be added to the Committee of Inquiry.

Ordered, That *Robert Adams*, a Prisoner now in *Halifax* Jail, be enlarged, on his giving security, in the sum of fifty Pounds, for his good behaviour.

Mr. *Solomon Sheppard* has leave of absence.

Ordered, That *Alexander McLean* have leave to take his Horse, Bridle, and Saddle, now in the possession of Colonel *Long*.

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the better regulation of the Militia of this Province, reported as follows:

Having weighed and duly considered the critical and dangerous situation we are in, and that open hostilities are commenced against us at one and the same time by our implacable enemies and their adherents, at every place assailable, are of opinion, that for the better and more effectual defence and protection of the Colony, the Militia thereof shall be divided into six Brigades, viz: one in each District, each Brigade to be under the command of a Brigadier-General.

That the Militia of every County shall consist of all the effective men from sixteen to sixty years of age, and shall be formed into one Regiment, under the command of a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and two Majors, except where the Congress have or may appoint two or more Regiments in a County, in which case such Regiment shall be commanded agreeable to the particular appointment. Every Regiment shall be divided into Companies of not less than fifty rank and file, two Sergeants, two Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer; each Company to be under the command of a Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign. That every Company shall be divided into five Divisions; one Division to consist of all the more aged and infirm men; the other four Divisions shall draw lots for the first, second, third, and fourth turns to go on service, and shall be numbered according to such lots.

Resolved, That the foregoing arrangement shall immediately, upon notice hereof, be made in every County in this Colony by the Field and Subaltern Officers, each in his respective department. That every Captain immediately upon such arrangement, (afterwards every six months,) shall return a Muster-Roll of his Company divided into Divisions, and numbered as aforesaid, to the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, under pain of forfeiting five Pounds for every default; and the Commanding Officers of each Regiment shall make an exact Return from such lists, within one week after he shall have received the same, to the Brigadier-General of the District, under pain of forfeiting fifty Pounds for every default.

That the Commanding Officer of every Regiment shall, whenever required thereto by the Brigadier-General of his District, order a General Muster at the most convenient place in his Regiment, under pain of forfeiting fifty Pounds for every default, provided that he shall not call them together more than twice in one year; and every Captain shall muster and train his Company, divided into Divisions as before directed, once in every month at least, and oftener if directed by the Commanding Officer, under pain of forfeiting forty Shillings for every default. And every Soldier who shall neglect or refuse to attend the general and private musters, shall be subject to such penalties and forfeitures as are provided by the Militia laws in force in this Province. That the Brigadier-Generals respectively shall return one exact Muster-Roll of all the Officers and Soldiers of their respective Brigades, distinguished into their proper Companies and Divisions, to the Executive power which shall be established, once every year, and oftener if required, under penalty of one hundred Pounds for every default.

Resolved, That the Field-Officers of every Regiment be empowered to employ one or more Adjutant or Adjutants to train and discipline the Men, who shall attend every General and Private Muster for that purpose; and every such Adjutant shall be allowed ten Shillings for every Muster he shall so attend.

Resolved, That each Militia Soldier shall be furnished with a good Gun, Bayonet, Cartouch-Box, Shot-Bag and Powder-Horn, a Cutlass or Tomahawk; and where any person shall appear to the Field-Officers not possessed of sufficient property to afford such Arms and Accoutrements, the same shall be procured at the publick expense, and given to such person upon every muster day, and when he shall be ordered to march; and whenever the service of mustering or marching shall be concluded, the said Arms and



Accoutrements shall be restored to the Captain of the Company, and by him carefully preserved for future occasions; and whenever the Militia shall be called into actual service, they shall be allowed as follows, viz: one Baggage Wagon, or two Carts, to every fifty men; Ammunition Wagons to every Brigade, at the discretion of the Brigadier-General; the same rations to Men and Officers as allowed to the Continental Army, to be supplied by Commissaries appointed by the Brigadiers, which said Commissaries shall be allowed Wagons, or Carts in proportion, to carry the Provisions; one Bell-Tent to every Company; all necessary Intrenching Tools; six Axes to every Company; one Baggage Wagon for the Officers of every Regiment; a necessary number of Camp Kettles. And the pay for Officers shall be as established by act of Assembly, and Soldiers two Shillings and six Pence for each day while in service.

*Resolved*, That every Brigadier-General shall be allowed the sum of four Dollars for every day he shall be in actual service, and a Wagon for Baggage and Stores; that the Commanding Officer of every Regiment shall return an account of all expenses, disbursements, and pay, appertaining to the said Regiment, and shall produce as vouchers for such account the accounts rendered on oath of the Captains of the respective Companies, and other persons expending or disbursing for said Regiment.

*Resolved*, That there shall be ten Light-Horsemen, and no more, to every Regiment, to be arrayed in one or more Companies when they shall have joined the Brigade, at the discretion of the Brigadier-General.

*Resolved*, That no Officer or Soldier in the Militia service shall be tried for any offence against the Militia Law or the Articles of War, except by a Court-Martial, to consist only of Militia Officers.

*Resolved*, That no Brigade, Regiment, Company, or Division of Militia, shall be under command of any but Militia Officers, except when such Militia shall be ordered by the civil power to join the Continental Troops; in which case, the Continental Officer of equal, and the Militia Officer of superior denomination, shall command.

*Resolved*, That such Divisions as shall at any time be called into service, shall be formed into Companies of fifty men each, with a proportional number of Officers, Sergeants, Corporals, Fifers and Drummers, and all the Officers of each Regiment shall agree among themselves concerning which shall command on actual service; but if they cannot so agree, the Commanding Officer shall cause lots to be drawn, and the Officer on whom such lot shall fall, shall command in their proper rank and department.

*Resolved*, That all persons (except such as have or do bear appointments or commissions under the authority of the General and Provincial Congresses, Justices of the Peace, Ministers of some Church regularly called, and having the cure of souls, Overseers of Slaves exceeding five taxables in number, Schoolmasters, Millers, and Ferry-Keepers) shall be liable to be drafted; and all persons so drafted shall be obliged to serve, or find an able-bodied man in his room, under the penalty of ten Pounds.

*Resolved*, That all the Militia Laws heretofore in force in this Colony, and not repealed, expired, or discontinued, shall be in force hereafter, except where other provision is made by the Resolves of this Congress, or some future legislative authority.

The Congress taking the said Report into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officers of the Brigades of *Halifax*, *Edenton*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, be ordered to detach from their respective Brigades the number of men voted by this Congress, by a Resolve of the 2d of May instant, to reinforce Brigadier-General *Moore* at *Cape-Fear*, agreeable to the said Resolve, and the Resolves for regulating the Militia, entered into this day.

*Resolved*, That *John Ashe*, Esquire, be appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia for the District of *Wilmington*; *Allen Jones*, Esquire, for the District of *Halifax*; *Edward Vail*, Esquire, for the District of *Edenton*; *Griffith Rutherford*, Esquire, for the District of *Salisbury*; *Thomas Person*, Esquire, for the District of *Hillsborough*; and *William Bryan*, Esquire, for the District of *Newbern*.

*Resolved*, That each of the Brigadier-Generals shall take rank in their respective Districts.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Armstrong* be appointed First Lieutenant in Captain *John Enloe's* Company of the *American Army*, of the Fifth Regiment, in the room of *George Sugg*; and *John Hodges*, Ensign, in the room of *Shadrach Wooten*.

The Congress adjourned till Monday morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, May 6, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

The Secret Committee laid before the House extracts of a Letter from General *Moore*, and an Affidavit respecting the enemy's situation.

*Ordered*, That said Committee transmit to Major-General *Lee* copies of said Letter and Affidavit, and give him such further accounts of the number of Militia ordered by this Congress to join General *Moore*, and the time, as near as they can ascertain, of their junction.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary immediately furnish each of the Brigadier-Generals with a copy of the Resolves of this Congress for regulating the Militia, and that the Brigadier-General shall immediately issue orders to the Commanders of the respective Regiments belonging to their Brigades, to carry the same into effect with all possible expedition; and that the Generals of the Brigades of *Halifax*, *Edenton*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, hasten by every possible expedition the march of the reinforcements ordered to join General *Moore*. And that Brigadier-General *Ashe* be ordered to take command of the said reinforcements upon their arrival in his District, subject to the provisions of the Militia Regulations entered into by this Congress.

*Resolved*, That if the Brigadier-General of any Brigade shall at any time refuse, neglect, or delay, to obey the orders of the Congress, or any power by them appointed to array and control the Militia, and shall be convicted thereof by sentence of a Court-Martial, he shall forfeit and pay five hundred Pounds, to the use of this Province, to be disposed of by the Congress thereof; and shall be liable to such further punishment as shall be adjudged by a Court-Martial, such sentence of further punishment to be suspended until the sense of the Congress shall be taken thereon.

*Resolved*, That *Christopher Lackey* be reinstated Second Lieutenant in Captain *William Brinkly's* Company of the *American Army* in this Province, of the Third Regiment; and *Micajah Little*, lately appointed in Captain *Brinkly's* Company, Second Lieutenant in Captain *John Enloe's* Company of the *American Army*, in the Fifth Regiment.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Miller*, *Mr. Caswell*, *Mr. William Johnston*, *Mr. Penn*, *Mr. Samuel Ashe*, and *Mr. Simpson*, be a Committee to consider the claims of *William Kennan*, Commissary of the Troops at *Cape-Fear*; and also to inquire into what Provisions have been purchased on the publick account, and the most eligible method of disposing thereof.

*Resolved*, That *Isaac Gregory* and *Abner Harrison*, Esquires, of *Pasquotank County*, and *William Ferreby*, of *Currituck County*, or any two of them, take into their possession the Plantation or Plantations the property of *Thomas Macknight*, and also of *James Parker*; and the same hire out for the most that can be got for them for the ensuing year, and that they take care of all utensils thereon.

On the Petition of *Henry Bennet* and *John Foscoe*, complaining that they have been long imprisoned, and no probability of any witness appearing against them,

*Resolved*, That they be admitted to bail.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Caswell*, *Mr. Thomas Jones*, and *Mr. Coor*, be a Committee to inquire what sum of money will be sufficient to carry on the Military Establishment for one year, with the disbursements necessarily accruing thereon, and report an estimate thereof to the Congress.

*Mr. Joseph Jones*, one of the Members for *Pasquotank County*, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took his seat in Congress.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the most practicable way of procuring and purifying Sulphur, &c., reported as follows:

That they have been informed there is a large quantity of virgin or fossil sulphur at or near the mouth of *Little River*, in the upper part of *Dobbs County*, and in the County of

*Bladen*, at or near *Peter Lord's*, as well as in several other places in the Province; also that there is a large quantity of lead ore in the lower part of *Johnston County*, at or near the plantation of Captain *Nathan Williams*, and that lead may be procured at *Chiswell's Mines*, in the Colony of *Virginia*. Your Committee therefore recommend that *George Miller*, *John Sasser*, and *Benjamin Exum*, of *Dobbs County*, and *James Council*, *Thomas Robinson*, and *Joseph Cain*, of *Bladen County*, be empowered to contract with persons to procure and purify, at the publick expense, such sulphur as may be had or found within this Province, which contract to be obligatory on the Province; and that the said *George Miller*, *John Sasser*, *Benjamin Exum*, *James Council*, *Thomas Robinson*, and *Joseph Cain*, or any three of them, draw on the Treasurers, or either of them, for such sums of money as may be necessary for the above purposes, so that the same does not exceed one thousand Pounds. And as lead ore cannot be procured and purified as soon as it may be wanted, your Committee further recommend that *Hugh Montgomery* and *Matthew Locke*, Esquires, be empowered to treat as soon as possible with any person or persons in this Province, or the Colony of *Virginia*, for any quantity of lead, not exceeding twenty tons; and having so contracted, to provide ways and means for the transporting the same to the following places, to wit: Two tons to *Salisbury*, two tons to *Hillsborough*, and the remainder to *Johnston Court-House*; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, be empowered to draw on the Continental Treasury for such sums of money as may be necessary for purchasing the said lead; and that the said *Hugh Montgomery* and *Matthew Locke* be allowed a reasonable sum for their trouble and expense, to be paid by the publick.

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

It appearing to the Congress that *Thomas Jones*, Esquire, rendered this country very important and essential services in prosecuting Suits in behalf of the Crown; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the said *Thomas Jones*, Esquire, be allowed seventy-five Pounds for prosecuting divers Criminals in behalf of the Crown, at three Courts of Oyer and Terminer, held at *Edenton*, to wit: One in *July*, 1774, one in *January*, 1775, and another in *July*, 1775; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *William Amis* be appointed Commissary to the Third Regiment of the *American Army*, to be raised in this Province, in the room of *John Webb*, resigned.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Miller*, *Mr. William Johnston*, and *Mr. Simpson*, be added to the Committee of Civil Accounts.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, May 7, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

Whereas the Commanding Officers in the late expedition against the Tories, thought proper, for the benefit of the service, to cause to be cut down and destroyed sundry Bridges in the Counties of *Duplin* and *Bladen*, and it appearing to the House that it will be burdensome to the inhabitants of those Counties to be at the sole expense of rebuilding such Bridges;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That when it shall appear to be necessary and expedient to rebuild such Bridges, the expense thereof shall be paid by the publick.

*Mr. James Williams* exhibited his Account for acting as Attorney for the Crown at five Courts of Oyer and Terminer, held in this Province, from the 10th of *June*, 1774, to the 10th of *June*, 1775.

*Resolved*, That the said *James Williams* be allowed the sum of fifty Pounds, for prosecuting in behalf of the Crown in the said Courts of Oyer and Terminer; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Ebenezer Folsome* be allowed one hundred Pounds for his vigilance, and the important services rendered this country in the late insurrection, the Congress considering the said sum not as an adequate reward for his spirit and activity, but as a mark of his country's confidence and approbation; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Nash*, *Mr. Burke*, *Mr. Ashe*, *Mr. Whitmell Hill*, and *Mr. Coor*, be a Committee to inquire of ways and means the most probable to prevent the desertion of Slaves.

*Resolved*, That one hundred Light Cavalry, and two hundred Infantry, be ordered immediately to *Cross-Creek*, to be under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Folsome*, until further orders.

That the said Horsemen be immediately raised from the Militia in *Cumberland*, and the adjacent Counties, who will voluntarily serve; and the Footmen be drafted from the Brigades of *Salisbury* and *Hillsborough*, by equal proportions from each Regiment, unless a sufficient number will immediately enter the service as volunteers.

*Ordered*, That two sets of blank Commissions issue for the Companies of Light-Horse, to be filled up by Colonel *Folsome*.

*Resolved*, That two thousand Pounds be paid into the hands of the Delegates for the County of *Bladen*, and by them paid to the Officers and Soldiers of the Militia of said County, now in service of the Province, in part of their pay, who have not had time to lay their Accounts before the publick; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick and that the said Delegates give bond and security to account for the same.

*Resolved*, That one thousand five hundred Pounds be paid into the hands of the Delegates for the County of *Duplin*, and by them paid to the Officers and Soldiers of the Militia of said County, now in service of the Province, in part of their wages for their services on the late expedition to *Cape-Fear*; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay the same, and be allowed in their accounts; and that the said Delegates give bond with security to account for the same.

*Resolved*, That eight hundred and fifty weight of Powder be sent to the District of *Salisbury*, to the care of the Brigadier-General of that District.

*Resolved*, That four hundred weight of Powder be sent to the District of *Hillsborough*, to the care of the Brigadier-General of that District.

*Resolved*, That the Field-Officers in every Battalion of the Continental Troops be empowered to employ an Armourer for such Battalion, and that such Armourer be allowed the pay of one Dollar and a quarter of a Dollar per day, and one ration.

*Resolved*, That *Ebenezer Folsome* be appointed Colonel of the Militia in the County of *Cumberland*, in the room of *Alexander McAlister*, resigned; *David Smith*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Philip Alston*, First Major; and *John Armstrong*, Second Major, in the same County.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Burke*, *Mr. Webb*, and *Mr. Penn*, be a Committee to report on *Mr. Cooper's* Petition.

*Resolved*, That *William Rand* take into his possession, wherever they may be found, all the Records and Papers belonging and appertaining to the Clerk and Register's Offices in the County of *Cumberland*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Long* deliver to *William Jones*, who lately came express to this Congress, one of the Tory Horses in his possession.

*Resolved*, That the Managers of the Furnace directed to be hired in *Chatham County*, or purchased in *Guilford County*, for the publick use, take under care for that service the whole of the Negroes lately brought by order of the Congress from the Counties of *Pasquotank* and *Currituck*, belonging to the Estates of *Thomas Macknight*, *James Parker*, and *Robert Gilmore*, and make the best of them in that employment for the benefit of the publick; and that the Commissioners render to the next Congress a disposition of such Slaves, with an account of expenditures, upon oath; and that the Commissioners give a receipt for such Negroes.

*Resolved*, That *William Glover* be appointed Captain in the Sixth Regiment of Foot, of the *American Army*, to be raised in this Province, in the room of *Jesse Saunders*, resigned; and *John Owens*, First Lieutenant, in the room of *William Glover*, advanced; *John Hart*, Second Lieutenant, in the room of *Pleasant Henderson*, resigned; and *Kedar Parker* in the room of *Thomas Grant*, resigned; all of the Sixth Regiment, in Captain *William Glover's* Company.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, May 8, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That each of the late Paymasters to the Troops in this Province be allowed two and a half per cent. on all Moneys received and paid away to such Troops, as a compensation for their trouble and expenses.

*Resolved*, That *Henry Giffard* be appointed Commissary to the Militia to be stationed at *Cross-Creek*.

*Resolved*, That *Chapel Gee* be appointed Commissary to the Militia for the District of *Halifax*, and that either of the Treasurers pay him two hundred Pounds, to enable him to purchase Provisions for the present, he first entering into bond to account for the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Mr. Council*, *Mr. Burke*, *Mr. Rutherford*, and *Mr. Lock*, be a Committee to inquire concerning the Salt taken on account of the publick at *Cross-Creek*, and make report.

*Resolved*, That the present Paymaster pay up all back arrears due to the two first Regiments in this Province.

The Committee to inquire of ways and means the most probable to prevent the desertion of Slaves, reported as follows, to wit:

Your Committee report that, in their opinion, it is expedient to recommend it to all masters and owners of slaves, on the south side of *Cape-Fear River*, to remove such male slaves as are capable of bearing arms, or otherwise assisting the enemy, into the country, remote from the sea; and that the commanding officer on that station be empowered to remove all such slaves as are above described to such distance as he shall think safe, in case he perceives a necessity for such movement, and that the recommendation here suggested should not be properly attended to.

The Congress, taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

The Committee for taking into consideration the Petition of *Wills Cooper*, reported as follows:

That it appears to them that the said *Benjamin Arundel* is indebted to the Petitioner one hundred and eighty-four Pounds ten Shillings and nine Pence, (*Virginia money*), balance of a bond, with interest from the 22d of *October*, 1774; and also fifty-nine Pounds six Shillings and two Pence, like money, balance of an account; that the said *Benjamin Arundel* has absconded from this Colony, and left some property in the County of *Wake*; that the Petitioner's prayer, to be allowed some remedy for securing the said effects from being removed or wasted, is reasonable; and your Committee humbly recommend that Trustees be appointed to take the same into their care, that they may be preserved for payment of the Petitioner, and any other creditors of the said *Benjamin Arundel*, who shall establish their claims in such manner as shall be provided by any ordinance in this Colony. Provided, nevertheless, that the said *Benjamin Arundel* be at liberty to replevy any part of his estate, so seized or taken, on his giving bond and approved security to Trustees for the payment of all debts that shall be adjudged against him, and accruing costs.

The House, taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That *Michael Rogers* and *John Hinton*, Jun., be appointed Trustees, to take into their possession the Estate of the said *Benjamin Arundel*, and preserve the same till further orders from this Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. John Webb*, heretofore appointed to purchase Arms for this Province, do deliver all the Arms, by him purchased, to Colonel *Jethro Sumner*, for the use of the Soldiers of the Third Regiment, under his command; and that *Mr. Webb* take Colonel *Sumner's* receipt for the same.

*Resolved*, That *Edward Yarbrough* be appointed Ensign in Captain *Jacob Turner's* Company of Foot, in the *American Army*, of the Third Regiment, in the room of *Benjamin Morgan*, resigned.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay into the hands of *William Kennon*, Esquire, Commissary to

the First Regiment, two thousand Pounds, that he enter into bond, with security, faithfully to account for the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

The Chairman of the Committee of Claims reported that Colonel *Joseph Taylor* was allowed six hundred and sixty-two Pounds four Shillings and two Pence, for the services of the *Granville* Regiment of Militia; Colonel *Charles Eaton*, one hundred and sixty-nine Pounds six Shillings and nine Pence, for services of the *Granville* Light-Horse; *Bennet Crafton*, twenty-three Pounds twelve Shillings, for services as Adjutant of the Militia in *Granville* County; and *Peter Dauge*, eighty-four Pounds eight Shillings and six Pence, for bringing up *Macknight's* Negroes, and for hand-cuffs.

The House, considering the same, concurred therewith.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

— Thursday, May 9, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Mr. Samuel Smith*, one of the Delegates for the County of *Johnston*, appeared, subscribed the Test, and took his seat in Congress.

The Chairman of the Committee of Claims reported that *Philemon Hawkins* was allowed, for the services of his Regiment of Militia on the late *Currituck* expedition, and against the Insurgents, the sum of three hundred and thirty-two Pounds two Shillings and seven Pence.

The House, considering the same, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. John Campbell*, *Mr. John Cowper*, *Mr. William Johnston*, *Mr. Joseph Jones*, *Mr. George Miller*, *Mr. Richard Caswell*, and *Mr. Thomas Jones*, be a Committee to examine the Invoices and Papers laid before this House by *Mr. John W. Stanly*, and make report thereon.

The Committee to inquire concerning the Salt taken on account of the publick at *Cross-Creek*, reported as follows:

Your Committee having considered the matter referred to them, are of opinion that the proprietors ought to be allowed six Shillings and eight Pence for each bushel of the Salt taken at *Cross-Creek* on the publick account; which opinion is humbly submitted to the Congress.

The House, considering the same, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That fifteen hundred Pounds be paid into the hands of the Delegates for the County of *Mecklenburgh*, and by them paid to the Officers and Soldiers of the Militia of said County, now in the service of the Province, in part of their pay, who have not had time to lay their accounts before the publick; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay them the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick; and that the said Delegates give bond and security to account for the same.

*Abraham Childers* was brought before this Congress, pursuant to a former order, who was examined and discharged.

*Resolved*, That *Arthur Moore*, of *Orange* County, be allowed fifty-six Pounds for seven Rifle-Guns which Cornet *Abraham Childers* purchased of him for the use of the Light-Dragoons, under the command of Captain *Dickerson*; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *James McKinnie* be reinstated Ensign in *Simon Alderson's* Company, in the Fifth Regiment of the *American Army*, in the room of *Thomas Alderson*, lately appointed by this Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. Caswell*, *Mr. Thomas Jones*, *Mr. Burke*, *Mr. Lock*, and *Mr. Rutherford*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in a plan for the more conveniently paying the Militia who have or may serve in this Colony, and for adjudging and paying all expenses incident to the Militia, when in actual service.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of the whole House be appointed to examine the Proceedings of the late Provincial Council; to meet at the Court-House as soon as this House rises, and that such Members attend as can conveniently.

*Resolved*, That an Artillery Company, to consist of fifty men, (Officers excluded,) be raised in this Province, under the command of Captain *John Vance*, and ordered immediately to join General *Moore*; and that *James Brady* be

appointed First Lieutenant, *John Allen* Second Lieutenant, and *John Kingsberry* Ensign; and that the Officers and Privates of that Company be allowed the same pay as allowed in the Artillery service on the Continental establishment; and also the same allowance, bounty, and advance, as other Troops raised in this Province.

*Resolved*, That *Allen Jones* and *Thomas Jones*, Esquires, two of the Delegates of this Congress, be appointed to attend the Convention of the Colony of *Virginia*, for the purpose of recommending to them the expediency of fitting out two Armed Vessels at the expense of that Colony, to act in conjunction with the Armed Vessels already fitted out by this Colony, for the protection of the trade at *Ocracoke*; and that they be allowed thirty Shillings per day while on that service; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, advance forty Pounds to each, to be afterwards accounted for.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Jones*, Mr. *Joseph Jones*, and Mr. *Thomas Boyd*, be a Committee to inquire into the proofs of the necessity of placing the Estate of *Robert Murden* into the hands of Commissioners, for the purpose of securing his creditors, (the said *Robert Murden* being said to have absconded this Colony, and joined Lord *Dunmore*,) and make report thereof.

*Resolved*, That the sum of five hundred thousand Pounds, including one hundred thousand Pounds already voted, be emitted in Paper Bills of Credit, for the purpose of defraying all the expenses of armaments, bounties, and other contingencies, that shall occur in this Colony during the recess of the Congress; and that the Bills for the additional four hundred thousand Pounds be of the following denominations, viz:

5,000 Bills, of 20 Dollars each,	- - -	\$ 100,000
5,000 Bills, of 15 Dollars each,	- - -	75,000
10,000 Bills, of 5 Dollars each,	- - -	50,000
20,000 Bills, of 10 Dollars each,	- - -	200,000
20,000 Bills, of 8 Dollars each,	- - -	160,000
20,000 Bills, of 6 Dollars each,	- - -	120,000
20,000 Bills, of 4 Dollars each,	- - -	80,000
20,000 Bills, of 3 Dollars each,	- - -	60,000
20,000 Bills, of 2 Dollars each,	- - -	40,000
40,000 Bills, of 1 Dollar each,	- - -	40,000
80,000 Bills, of 1-2 Dollar each,	- - -	40,000
80,000 Bills, of 1-4 Dollar each,	- - -	20,000
80,000 Bills, of 1-8 Dollar each,	- - -	10,000
80,000 Bills, of 1-16 Dollar each,	- - -	5,000

500,000 Bills.	\$ 1,000,000
	£ 400,000

*Resolved*, That this Province be pledged for the redemption of the said Bills of Credit by a Poll Tax, to commence in the year 1780, and continue for twenty years afterwards, unless otherwise provided by some future Congress, or competent power in this Colony.

*Resolved*, That any person or persons who shall attempt to depreciate the said Bills of Credit, by refusing to receive the same in payment of any debt or contract, or by speaking or writing with intention to lessen their credit and currency, shall be considered as inimical to *America*; and that any person or persons who shall counterfeit, alter, or deface, or directly or indirectly utter, pass, pay, or circulate, any Bill or Bills, counterfeited, altered, or defaced, knowing the same to be so, shall be liable to such proceedings and penalties as are provided by a Resolve of the Congress, held at *Hillsborough* on the 21st day of *August*, 1775, for preventing the like abuse with relation to Bills of Credit emitted by the said Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Benbury*, *John Kinchen*, *John Johnston*, and *Memucan Hunt*, Esquires, or the survivor or survivors of them, be Commissioners for employing proper persons to engrave the Plates for the said Bills, under the same regulations as are directed by a Resolve of this Congress, passed on the 22d of *April* last; and that *William Haywood*, *John Webb*, *William Williams*, and *David Sumner*, Esquires, be Commissioners for the purpose of signing the said Bills of Credit, under the like regulations as provided by the Resolve aforesaid.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, May 10, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That Captain *John Chace* be allowed the further sum of thirty Pounds, for Gunpowder received from him by the Committee of *Perquimans* County; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Executors or Administrators of *Joseph Montfort*, Esq., deceased, late Treasurer, be directed to appear at the sitting of the next Congress, to adjust and settle his account with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Charles Maloy*, *Colin Campbell*, and *James McEachen*, be allowed six Pounds each, for their attendance as evidences at this Congress against sundry persons suspected of being inimical to the rights of *America*.

Whereas it is represented to this Congress that the Militia service will be greatly delayed in the County of *Pasquotank*, unless advance money be paid to such as are induced into the Army, arising from the necessity the inhabitants of the said County were under in the purchase of Corn and other provisions, the same being almost totally destroyed by a storm on the 2d day of *September* last. The notoriety of which this Congress being sensible of,

*Do Resolve*, That the sum of forty Shillings be advanced to each of the Militia of *Pasquotank*, who shall either enter the service as volunteers, or are drafted, to reinforce the Army under the General Officer of the Colony; and that the Treasurer pay to the Delegates of the said County the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, to be delivered to Colonel *Peter Dauge*, to be advanced to the Soldiers now to be raised, who shall, on the receipt thereof, give bond with good security for the due application of the said money, to answer the purpose of this Resolution.

*Resolved*, That no Officer or Soldier of the Militia or Regulars in this Colony shall press any Wagon or Wagons, Horse or Horses, Arms, or other things, of any nature whatsoever, unless authorized thereto by Warrants, under the hands and seals of two of the Members of the Committee of the Town or County where such press shall be necessary, which Committee Members shall not be themselves Officers; and every Officer or Soldier, before he shall presume to press anything as before-mentioned, shall demand the same peaceably from the owner or possessor thereof, and in case of refusal, shall produce the warrant aforesaid before he proceeds to press. And every Officer or Soldier who shall offend against this resolve, shall forfeit and pay ten Pounds for every such offence to the person injured, and be moreover liable to the action or actions of the party grieved, to be recovered before any jurisdiction which shall have cognizance thereof; and every Horse, Wagon, or thing, so pressed, shall be valued by three indifferent persons, upon oath, and certificate thereof given by such valuers to the owner or possessor from whom the same shall be pressed, in order that if the same shall not be restored to such owner or possessor, he may be allowed the valuation by the publick.

*Resolved*, That the above Resolve be published in all the Gazettes of this Province for three months.

*Resolved*, That *Nathaniel Rochester*, Esquire, be appointed Deputy Commissary-General of Military and other Stores in this Colony for the use of the Continental Army, and that he be allowed the same allowance as provided by the Continental Congress for such officer, and that he give security in ten thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in him.

*Resolved*, That *John Pendleton* take into his possession a certain Negro Girl called *Nan*, he having suggested to this Congress that Mr. *Thomas Macknight*, who hath absconded this Colony, had only a property to one-half of the said Negro, and that the property to the other half is in the said *John Pendleton*, upon his entering into bond, with good security, to his Honour the President, in the sum of one hundred and forty Pounds, conditioned to be answerable for the value of said Negro and her yearly hire, when hereafter demanded, and make his title to the said one-half of said Negro appear, before such judicature as may hereafter be appointed to determine all such cases.

*Resolved*, That *William Heath* be allowed twelve Pounds

for a Horse pressed from him, and delivered to Captain *Nathaniel Keais*, of the Second Regiment; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners for employing Artificers to strike five hundred thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, be empowered to apply to the Delegates of this Colony, or either of them, in the Continental Congress, to purchase paper for the Bills of Credit voted by this Congress to be emitted, to send the same to this Colony with all possible expedition; and that they, or either of them, apply to the Continental Treasury for the money necessary for such purpose, for and on account of this Colony; and that the said Commissioners be also empowered to purchase any Paper or other materials necessary for such emission in this or the adjacent Colonies, and that they be allowed all expenditures in this behalf made, to be paid by the Treasurers, or either of them, on being allowed by such power as shall be appointed in the recess of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Deputy Commissary-General of Military and other Stores, deliver out, in equal proportions, all the Osnaburghs, Dutch Stripes, Romals, Check, &c., purchased for the use of the Continental Troops raised in this Province, to the Colonels of the respective Regiments, taking their receipts for the same.

The Committee appointed to examine the Invoices and Papers laid before the House by Mr. *John W. Stanly*, report that they have examined the said Invoices and Papers, whereby it appears to your Committee that Mr. *Stanly* hath charged the publick twenty per cent. on one thousand six hundred and sixty Pounds three Shillings and seven Pence, amounting to three hundred and thirty-two Pounds, for risk and trouble on the importation of sundry Goods and Merchandises in the said Invoices mentioned, when in fact the risk was Messieurs *Isaac Vanbibber* and Company's, and a commission charged by Mr. *Stanly* to them for sales of the said goods; and the allowance of twenty per cent. by the Congress was intended to be made to the adventurer, and of course ought to go to the credit of *Vanbibber & Co.*, which, when so applied, and a proper state of the accounts between Mr. *Stanly* and Messieurs *Vanbibber & Co.* is adverted to, it will be found that a balance of forty-three Pounds fourteen Shillings and seven Pence is due from Mr. *Stanly* to Messieurs *Vanbibber & Co.*, after the sum expressed in a note passed by Mr. *McKim* to Mr. *Stanly* is deducted, and that he ought in justice to pay them the same.

The House taking the same into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the said Report be concurred with, and that Mr. *James Green*, in whose hands the said Note was lodged, deliver up the same to Mr. *McKim*.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, May 11, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Militia now to be drafted from the Districts of *Halifax*, *Edenton*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, shall not be obliged to serve longer than three months from the time of their inlistment.

*Resolved*, That *Peter Dague* be appointed Colonel, *Drury Gee*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *James Hogan*, First Major, and *George Wynn*, Second Major, to command that part of the Militia to be drafted from the District of *Edenton* and *Halifax*; and that *John Tillman* be appointed Second Major of the Militia to be drafted from the Districts of *Newbern* and *Wilmington*.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. *John McLeoud*, who was brought to this Congress on suspicion of his having acted inimical to the rights of *America*, be discharged from his further attendance.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President, Messieurs *John Green*, and *David Barron*, and all other persons, deliver the Stores in their possession, belonging to this Province, to the Deputy Commissary-General of Military and other Stores, taking his receipt for the same.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay *Nathaniel Rochester*, Esquire, Deputy-Commissary, a sum not exceeding one thousand Pounds, to enable him to hire

Wagons, &c., to remove the Stores, and that they be allowed the same in their accounts with the publick.

*Ordered*, That *Angus Campbell's* Parole to *Cumberland* be enlarged for one month, before he goes to *Granville*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Robert Rowan*, and Mr. *Peter Mallett*, be directed to deliver the remaining part of the three thousand five hundred bushels of Salt, contracted for at *Cross-Creek* by the different Counties, to the different Trustees appointed for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That each of the Treasurers, the Paymaster, and the Commissary of Stores, be furnished with a Blank-Book, of those imported into *Halifax* by the late Governour *Martin*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. President, Mr. *Caswell*, Mr. *Willie Jones*, Mr. *Alexander Telfair*, and Mr. *Archibald Hamilton*, be appointed a Committee to state the Accounts of this Province with the United Colonies for the expenditures since the commencement of hostilities between *Great Britain* and the Colonies, and to transmit the same, certified under their hands, or the hands of a majority of them, to the Continental Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Henry Giffard*, Commissary of the Militia to be stationed at *Cross-Creek*, enter into bond, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of that office, and to account for all such Moneys that shall come to his hands; and that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him two hundred Pounds, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Whereas it appears to this Congress that the conduct of *Felix Kenan*, Sheriff of *Duplin* County, hath been inimical to the liberties of *America*, and thereby rendered himself truly unworthy to execute any longer the trust and confidence reposed in him by his appointment as Sheriff; and whereas the said *Felix* hath received considerable sums of publick money, and hath not accounted for the same,

*Resolved*, That the said *Felix Kenan* be, and hereby is, suspended from the office of Sheriff of the said County of *Duplin*.

*Resolved further*, That the said *Felix Kenan* do, within one month after the passing hereof, return an exact account, on oath, of all such publick Moneys as he shall have collected from the inhabitants of the said County, and pay the same into the hands of the publick Treasurer of the Southern District of this Province.

*Jesse Goodwin*, a Soldier in the service of this Colony, having been dangerously wounded, and rendered incapable for some time to come to get a subsistence by his labour,

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, pay to the said *Jesse Goodwin* the sum of twenty-eight Pounds, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

Read the Petition of Mr. *Joseph Jones*, *Joshua Campbell*, *James Ferebee*, and *William Burges*, of *Pasquotank* County, praying relief, &c.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Allen Jones*, Mr. *John Cowper*, Mr. *Thomas Burke*, and Mr. *Thomas Jones*, be appointed a Committee to consider, hear testimony, and make report of and concerning the facts set forth in the above Petition.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *John Bradford*, Mr. *Willis Alston*, Mr. *Benjamin McCulloch*, and Mr. *Green Hill*, be appointed Commissioners for signing the Bills of Credit, directed by this Congress to be emitted, in addition to those heretofore appointed; and that they be under the same rules and regulations for their conduct, and entitled to the same allowance, as the Commissioners formerly appointed.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver out to the Commissioners of the Armed Vessels belonging to this Province, in the Districts of *Edenton*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, such Stores as the said Commissioners shall apply for, necessary for fitting the said Vessels; and also six bolts of Osnaburghs, and thirty-six pieces of Checks or striped Linen, for clothing the Seamen belonging to the said Vessels.

*Resolved*, That the Commissary of Stores be empowered to purchase coarse Linens, and other necessary clothing for the Army; and that he be allowed and paid for the same, with all necessary expenses, by the Treasurers, or either of them, when passed by the Executive power of Government.

Whereas it appears, by the Report of the Committee of



Accounts, that there is at this time in the hands of *Matthew Locke*, Esquire, the sum of two thousand nine hundred and eighty-six Pounds thirteen Shillings and nine Pence half-Penny, belonging to the publick:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said *Matthew Locke* do pay unto such of the Soldiers who enlisted with Colonel *Alexander Martin*, in the Second Regiment, and who actually served the full time of their enlistment, or at least six months thereof, and now discharged, the sum of forty Shillings each, as a bounty, the same never having been paid them; and that Mr. *Locke* also pay off all arrears to those Soldiers, and who are now in the Counties of *Rowan*, *Surry*, *Guilford*, and *Anson*; and that the Soldiers now in actual service with Colonel *Martin*, at *Cape-Fear*, be paid their bounty money and arrears by the Paymaster-General, and the balance remaining be paid by the said *Matthew Locke* to the Militia Officers and Soldiers in *Rowan* County.

On motion, *Resolved*, The House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration a temporary Civil Constitution.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House accordingly, and chose *John Campbell*, Esquire, Chairman; and after some time spent therein, came to sundry Resolutions.

Then, on motion, Mr. President resumed the Chair, and Mr. Chairman reported as follows, to wit:

*Resolved*, That this Congress choose by ballot one person, and each District two persons, who shall serve as a Council of Safety for this Colony from the end of this session until the meeting of the next Congress; and that no person holding any Military office, from which he receives or expects profit, nor any person holding a lucrative office under any Military Commanders in particular, or the Army in general, shall be capable to act as a member of the said Council, Officers and Commanders of the Militia only excepted.

*Resolved*, That from the end of this present session, for and during the time aforesaid, the said Council of Safety, or a majority of them, shall be vested with full power and authority to do and execute all acts and things necessary for the defence and protection of the people of this Colony; provided that their power shall not extend to alter, suspend, or abrogate any Resolution of this or any former Congress, or to emit any Bills of Credit, or levy any Taxes on the people, or impose any Duties or Imposts on Goods or Merchandise to be imported or exported, or give orders to draw on the Continental Treasury, or to erect any Office or Offices, Courts or jurisdictions, or to try, adjudge, or condemn, any person or persons, for any offence, civil or criminal, except where expressly permitted by resolve of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to prevent the said Council of Safety from examining and committing any person or persons who may be accused, on oath, of practices inimical to *America*, or to restrain any person or persons from departing this Colony by sea.

*Resolved*, That the said Council of Safety be empowered to direct the Treasurers of this Colony, on any urgent exigency, to draw on the Continental Treasury, on the account and credit of this Colony, for any sums not exceeding thirty thousand Pounds in the whole.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety have full power and authority to establish Courts of Admiralty at the Ports of *Edenton*, *Bath*, *Newbern*, and *Wilmington*, and to appoint a Judge at each of the said Ports, to sit, hear, and determine all maritime matters cognizable in Courts of Admiralty; and to authorize and empower the Judges so to be appointed to nominate and appoint one Register and one Marshal at each of the said Ports, and all other officers necessary for the purpose of carrying into execution the determinations and decrees of the said Courts; and that all the proceedings, determinations, and decrees of the said Courts of Admiralty shall be consonant and agreeable to the Rules and Regulations laid down by the Continental Congress; and that the Judges, and other Officers of said Courts, shall take such Fees only as are directed to be taken by the laws of this Province; and that each and every Jurymen attending the said Courts shall be entitled to the same allowances as directed by the last Jury law.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety have full power

and authority to nominate and appoint Commissioners at each of the Ports of *Currituck*, *Roanoke*, *Bath*, *Beaufort*, and *Brunswick*, for the purpose of taking Bonds and granting Certificates to Masters of Vessels about to depart the said Ports, in order that the Rules and Regulations prescribed by the Continental and this Congress may be fully observed and carried into execution.

*Resolved*, That the Qualification and Test taken by the Congress shall also be taken by the Members of the Council of Safety before they be allowed to act.

*Resolved*, That the Provincial Council, and the Committees of Safety for each District, be, and they are hereby, dissolved.

*Resolved*, That all matters heretofore had or taken cognizance of by the late Provincial Council, or the several late Committees of Safety of this Province, and undetermined, with all the proceedings thereon, shall be laid before, and taken cognizance of, by the Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety shall sit from day to day, at such convenient place or places as they may think prudent and proper, for the transaction of business; and shall receive, for each day's travelling and attendance, the sum of twenty Shillings, Proclamation money, and be paid the necessary ferriages.

The House, taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

Whereas, a number of Claims against this Province, for services done and performed against the Highlanders and Regulators, in consequence of their late insurrection, remain unsettled,

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be empowered to adjust, settle, and allow the same, and all other matters relating to the expenses of the Army heretofore had or incurred.

The House proceeded to make choice of one, and the Districts of twelve, proper persons to compose the Council of Safety of this Province; when the following were agreed upon, viz: *Willie Jones*, Esquire, for the Congress; *James Coor* and *John Simpson*, Esqs., for the District of *Newbern*; *Thomas Jones* and *Whitmell Hill*, Esqs., for the District of *Edenton*; *Thomas Eaton* and *Joseph John Williams*, Esqs., for the District of *Halifax*; *Cornelius Harnett* and *Samuel Ashe*, Esqs., for the District of *Wilmington*; *Thomas Person* and *John Rand*, Esqs., for the District of *Hillsborough*; *Hezekiah Alexander* and *William Sharpe*, Esquires, for the District of *Salisbury*.

*Resolved*, That the said Council shall vote by Districts.

The Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a plan for the more conveniently paying the Militia who have or may serve in this Colony, and for adjudging and paying all expenses incident to the Militia when in actual service, report: That your Committee are of opinion that one Wagonmaster should be appointed by the Field-Officers of every Battalion, when entering on actual service, subject to be removed or rejected by the Brigadier-General. That the Commissaries should every morning make a return to the Wagonmaster of the Provisions; which the Wagonmaster, having examined and compared, ought to return, signed and certified, to the Commanding Officer. That the Wagonmaster should attend, as his special duty, to the arrangement of the Wagons; taking care that, every morning, no more begin the march than one for every ton weight of Provisions, except where there may be half a ton or upwards over and above what will make a ton for every Wagon but one, in which case the one Wagon should be kept in service until so much is consumed as to reduce it below half a ton; and in all cases where the quantity over a ton for each Wagon is less than half a ton, the overplus ought to be distributed into the other Wagons as equally as may be. That every morning all the empty Wagons be discharged; each Wagon having first obtained a certificate from the Wagonmaster, setting forth the number of days it had been in service, and the place where discharged, and the distance to return. That for every twenty miles of such return distance, each Wagon to be allowed twenty shillings for every day's pay. That every Wagonmaster be allowed the pay and rations of a Major.

Your Committee are further of opinion, that one Paymaster should be appointed for every Militia Brigade, and allowed a Commission of two and a half per cent. on all

moneys he shall pay away. That once in every month (or at the end of an expedition, if the same shall not continue a month) the Commanding Officer of each Battalion shall cause to be made out a Pay-Roll of his Battalion, setting forth the number of days each Officer and Soldier has been in actual service under his command: each Company to be in a separate list, and proved by the oath of the Captain, or next Commanding Officer; which Pay-Roll the said Commanding Officer shall cause to be delivered to the Paymaster of his Brigade, signed by such Commanding Officer; and the Paymaster shall pay to the Captain of every Company the pay which shall appear due to such Company by the Pay-Roll, and every Officer the pay which shall appear due to him; and every Wagoner should be entitled to receive from such Paymaster all the pay which shall appear due to him by the Wagonmaster's certificate.

The House, taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

The Congress adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, May 13, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That when any person shall be suspected of a design to remove himself or his property out of this Colony, an affidavit shall be made before any Member of the County Committee where the person suspected shall reside, the said Member of Committee shall issue a warrant to some officer, who shall be indifferent in point of interest, to bring the said suspected person before the Committee of the County at the next meeting; and such officer is hereby empowered and required to take security, in such sum as the Committee-man shall direct, by endorsement on the back of his warrant, to appear before the said Committee at the next succeeding meeting; and in case such suspected person shall not give such security, the officer shall commit him. And when such suspected person shall appear, or be brought before the Committee, they shall examine into the proofs and allegations; and if it shall appear to them that such suspicion is well founded, they shall order that he give security to answer whatever claim or claims may be made to appear against him, or stand further committed. And where any person shall have actually absconded out of this Colony, or so conceals himself, or makes resistance, that he cannot be brought before the Committee, and the same shall be made appear by affidavit, to the satisfaction of one or more Committee-men, such Committee-man shall issue a warrant to some sufficient person, not being interested, to take possession of all, or so much of the effects of such absconding person, as shall be sufficient to satisfy the demands of any creditor or creditors who shall apply and make oath of such demands; provided, that the said effects shall not be subject to be sold, or otherwise disposed of, until judgment shall be obtained in some court of justice hereafter to be established.

"In Committee of Secrecy, War, and Correspondence.

*"Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Congress to allow Mrs. *Ealbeck* the sum of five Pounds, for the use of a Room, Candles, Fire, &c., for this Committee."

The House concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be discharged from their further attendance on Congress, to wit: *Hugh McDonald, John McDonald, Daniel Cameron, James McDonald, and Daniel McLean*.

Whereas it has been thought necessary to fit out three Armed Vessels for the protection of the trade of this Province:

*Resolved*, That the following sums be paid the Officers and Seamen employed on board the said Vessels, by the month, to wit:

Captain, wages,	£10 00	Carpenter,	£5 0 0
" table, -	4 0	Clerk, - -	5 0 0
Lieutenant, - -	8 0	Armourer, - -	4 10 0
Master, - - -	8 0	Cooper, - -	4 10 0
Mate, - - - -	5 15	Capt. of Marines,	8 0 0
Doctor, - - -	8 0	Marines, - -	2 13 4
Boatswain, - -	5 0	Seamen complete,	4 0 0
Gunner, - - -	5 0	" not complete,	3 0 0

That all other Officers on board Vessels of equal force and burden, the same regulations and pay as by the Continental establishment.

*Resolved*, That the following persons be appointed Paymasters to the Militia, viz: Mr. *William Green*, for the District of *Halifax*; Mr. *Matthew Lock*, for the District of *Salisbury*; Mr. *James Council*, for the District of *Wilmington*; Mr. *Thomas Burke*, for the District of *Hillsborough*; Mr. *William Blount*, for the District of *Newbern*; and Mr. *Day Ridley*, for the District of *Edenton*.

*Resolved*, That the Paymasters of the Militia of this Colony give bond, with security, each in the sum of ten thousand Pounds, for the faithful application of money intrusted to them.

*Resolved*, That every Householder in the County of *Surry* shall have a right to sit and vote in Committees for said County, they being elected by persons having a right to vote agreeable to a Resolve of the last Congress, at *Hillsborough*.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Mander* be discharged from his parole.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Eaton*, Esq., be appointed Colonel of the Militia for the County of *Bute*, in the room of *Philemon Hawkins*, Jun., resigned.

*Resolved*, That *Croondates Davis*, Clerk of the Committee of Safety for the District of *Halifax*, be allowed ten Pounds for his services.

*Resolved*, That *Memucan Hunt*, Clerk of the Committee of Safety for the District of *Hillsborough*, be allowed ten Pounds for his services.

*Resolved*, That *William Burke* be discharged from his parole to *Northampton*, and that he be enlarged.

*Resolved*, That any person, inhabitant of this Colony, who shall hereafter take arms against *America* within the said Colony, or shall give intelligence or aid to the open enemies thereof, and shall be convicted of the facts by vote of Congress, or by any judicial power hereafter to be appointed, shall forfeit all his goods and chattels, lands and tenements, to the people of the said Colony, to be disposed of by the Congress, or other general representation thereof; and moreover be considered (when taken) as a prisoner of war, unless the sentence shall be mitigated or pardoned by the Congress, or other general representation.

Mr. *Battle* and Mr. *Nash* have leave of absence.

Whereas it hath been represented to this Congress that a division of the Committee of Observation of *Pasquotank* County will give ease and facility to the despatch of publick business within their department, as a wide river runs through said County, near the middle thereof:

*Resolved*, That the said County, for this particular purpose, be, and it is hereby, divided into two distinct and separate Districts, North and South, by the middle of the River; and that a Committee, to consist of thirteen persons in each District, a majority of whom shall be a quorum, shall be elected on the third *Monday* in *June* next, at such places in each District as the present Committee shall appoint, publick notice of which, by advertisements, the Clerk is hereby directed to give twenty days, at least, previous thereto, at not less than two of the most publick places in each District; and these elections shall be conducted, and those Committees so to be elected, regulated and governed, by the same rules and restrictions now in force, made and entered into for the purpose of instituting County Committees by the last Congress at *Hillsborough*, and also for amending the same by this present Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of *Pasquotank* County, after the third *Monday* of *June* next, be, and is hereby, dissolved; and that all matters and things therein pendant, at that time undetermined, shall be transferred to, and determined by, the Committee of the District where such matter originated, with all the papers thereunto appertaining.

*Resolved*, That the Committees of both Districts be at large to meet at any time or place where they themselves shall think proper, provided that the time and place of the first meeting of each of those Committees be fixed by the present Committee before their dissolution; provided, also, that the Committees of each District may meet at the Court-House on the days appointed for the first day of each Court, to act in conjunction, and be consolidated.

*Resolved*, That *Alexander McCortle* be allowed nineteen Pounds ten Shillings for a Wagon, Team, and Driver, on the late expedition to *Cross-Creek* against the Tories; that the

Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

The Committee appointed to settle the Rations, and the price to be allowed the Commissaries for Victualling the Army, are of opinion that the Commissaries furnish the Troops the same Rations and Allowance as directed by the Continental Congress, or money to the value, in case any part of said allowance cannot be supplied; for which the Commissaries shall receive ten Pence per Ration, they paying all necessary carriage while their respective Regiments remain in this Province.

The House taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, supply each of the Commissaries appointed by this Congress to the Continental Troops, stationed in this Province, the sum of two thousand Pounds, they first giving bond and security each in the sum of ten thousand Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers, or either of them, supply each of the Commissaries appointed by this Congress to the Independent Companies stationed on the Sea-Coast, the sum of two hundred and fifty Pounds for each Company supplied by them, they first giving bond and security each in the sum of three thousand Pounds.

*Resolved*, That *James Hepburn* be permitted his parole to *Charlottetown*, in *Mecklenburgh* County, with permission to go anywhere within two miles distance from the said Town; and that he have safe conduct for himself to go from *Halifax* to the said Town within two weeks from this time, and for his family and effects from *Cross-Creek* to the said Town of *Charlotte* within three months from this time.

*Resolved*, That if any person or persons shall conceive himself or themselves aggrieved by any Resolve, Order, or determination, of the Council of Safety, that, in that case, an appeal shall and may be had to the next Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners appointed to purchase Horses in the District of *Hillsborough*, be, and are hereby empowered to draw upon the Treasurers, or either of them, for a sum not exceeding one thousand three hundred Pounds, and that each of the Commissioners for the said District give bond, with good and sufficient security, in the sum of one thousand Pounds.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners appointed to purchase Horses in the District of *Salisbury*, be, and they are hereby empowered to draw upon the Treasurers, or either of them, for a sum not exceeding two thousand five hundred Pounds, and that each of the Commissioners for the said District give bond, with good and sufficient security, in the sum of one thousand five hundred Pounds.

*Resolved*, That if any person or persons shall conceive himself or themselves aggrieved by any Resolve, Order, or determination, of any County or Town Committee, that, in that case, an appeal shall and may be had to the Council of Safety, and their determination shall be final, first giving bond and security to prosecute such appeal with effect.

*Resolved*, That the Commissaries for the Militia now under marching orders, be empowered to receive from the Commissary of Stores a sufficient quantity of the Provisions heretofore purchased on account of the publick, to victual the said Militia, and that such Commissaries be charged the price the same cost; and also that the Treasurers be empowered to advance to each of the said Commissaries the sum of two hundred Pounds, on giving bond with security, as heretofore directed.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Charles Jacocks* be appointed Commissary of the Militia for the District of *Edenton* when on actual march.

The Congress adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Tuesday, May 14, 1776.

The Congress met according to adjournment.

*Resolved*, That the Quartermaster-General, *Nicholas Long*, Esq., be directed to furnish the Troops now marching to the assistance of this Province from *Virginia*, with all Barracks, Wagons, Provisions, and such articles as may be necessary for them on their march from this place to *Cape-Fear*; and that on the arrival of the Troops there,

Colonel *William Kennon* act as Commissary to them, in case they have no Commissary of their own.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Nicholas Long* be allowed seventy-two Pounds three Shillings and seven Pence for sundry persons standing on Guard, Rations, Liquors, &c., as per account; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *Alexander Long* be allowed five Pounds for going express to *Salisbury*; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers be, and are hereby ordered to pay to each of the Paymasters of the Militia Brigades one month's pay, to be ascertained by producing to the Treasurer who shall pay the money, a Roll containing the names of all the Officers and Soldiers who shall begin their march on actual service, signed by the Commanding Officer of the respective Battalions to which the said men and Officers belong, and a list of all the Wagons which shall be actually employed to attend the march, certified by the Wagonmaster, and countersigned by the Commanding Officers of the Battalions respectively; which Rolls so signed and certified, together with the order or receipt of the Paymaster, shall be vouchers for the Treasurer, who shall produce the same upon the settlement of his account with the publick.

And whereas Detachments have been ordered from each of the Brigades of Militia in this Colony by the Congress, and it will be necessary that the Treasurers pay to such Paymaster a sum of Money necessary for one month's pay of the said Detachments, and of the Wagons which may be requisite,

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers pay to the said Paymasters one month's pay for such Detachments as have been ordered from each respective Brigade, and one month's pay of Wagons, at the rate of one Wagon for every fifty men in such Detachments; provided that no Commanding Officer or Wagonmaster of any Battalion shall give more than one such Roll or Certificate to any Paymaster within any one month during the same expedition, under the penalty of ten thousand Pounds.

*Resolved*, That *George Davidson* be allowed thirty-nine Pounds, for Wagon-hire from *Rowan* to *Cross-Creek*, in the expedition against the Highlanders; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That *William Knox* be allowed thirty-two Pounds five Shillings, for Wagon-hire from *Rowan* to *Cross-Creek*, in the expedition against the Highlanders; that the Treasurers, or either of them, pay him the same, and be allowed in their accounts with the publick.

*Resolved*, That the Commissaries of the Continental Army have power to take such Provisions as they may think necessary for the service from the publick Stores, and that they account for it at the price which the Commissioners charged, and that the same shall be considered as so much money paid on account of the sum voted to be advanced to them.

*Resolved*, That the Stray Books in the hands of *Joseph Hughes* (the present Straymaster) in *Rowan*, be immediately taken from him, and put in the hands of *John Graham*, who is hereby appointed to that office, and that he be allowed the same fees as allowed by Acts of Assembly in that case.

*Resolved*, That *Alexander McAlister* be appointed Straymaster for the County of *Cumberland*, *Nathaniel Richardson* for the County of *Bladen*, and *John Dent* for the County of *Guilford*; and that they take possession of the Books and Papers belonging to the said Offices.

*Resolved*, That in case of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any Member of the Council of Safety, the remaining Members shall fill up the vacancy, by electing one from the said District.

*Resolved*, That the Money allowed for discharging the claims of the Militia of the County of *Orange*, be paid into the hands of *Nathaniel Rochester*, Esq., to be by him paid to the Officers in whose name the same was allowed, on the said Officers giving to him the Pay-Roll by which the same was allowed, or a copy thereof; which Pay-Roll shall be filed by the Secretary of this Congress.

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*Resolved*, That the Commissary of Stores charge fifteen per cent. on all the Stores which he shall furnish to any Officer or Soldier on his private account, for the benefit of the publick, to be applied towards defraying incidental charges; and that the said Commissary furnish the Paymaster with an account of all such Stores so furnished, every month, to be deducted from the pay of the Officer or Soldier to whom the same shall have been furnished.

*Resolved*, That the ensuing Congress shall be held at the Town of *Halifax*, on the 10th day of *November* next, unless sooner ordered and directed by the Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety have power to compel all Sheriffs, and other Collectors of Taxes and Duties, to account for all sums of Money for which they may be accountable, and to pay the balances which shall appear due into the hands of the Treasurers.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *James Coor* and Mr. *James Green*, Jun., be appointed to revise and correct for the Press the Journal of the Proceedings of this Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary, as soon as the Congress rises, furnish a fair copy of the Journal, and deliver the same to Mr. *James Davis*, who is desired to print, and send five copies to each County, to the Delegates thereof, and one copy to each County and Town Committee.

The Committee appointed to take under consideration the Petition of *Joseph Jones & Co.*, reported as follows:

Your Committee having fully inquired into the facts set forth in the Petition, are of opinion that the same are just and true; but as there appears a probability that some things may yet be saved, your Committee are of opinion that the

nett loss cannot be ascertained until the amount of such saved articles (salvage deducted) can be extracted from the gross loss; and when the same can be done, and satisfactory proof thereof made, your Committee think the said Messrs. *Joseph Jones & Co.* should be considered as persons injured by the said *John Goodrich*, to the amount of such nett loss. The estimate and bill of lading are annexed, which are all submitted to the Congress.

The House, taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

*Resolved*, That an Election be held in the County of *Edgecomb*, first giving the usual notice in such cases, for electing a Member in said County, to sit and vote in Congress, in the room of *Henry Irwin*, who is disqualified by holding a commission in the Military service; that the same be conducted under the same Rules and Regulations as Elections heretofore taken, and the said Election may be held any time between the 10th day of *June* and the 10th day of *October*, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Thanks of this House be given to the Honourable *Samuel Johnston*, Esq., for his able, faithful, and assiduous discharge of the high and important duty of President of this Congress; having in that, as in all other stations, approved himself the firm and liberal patron of liberty, and a wise and zealous friend and asserter of the rights of mankind.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Orders and Resolutions be signed and certified as the acts of the Congress, by  
SAMUEL JOHNSTON, President.

JAMES GREEN, Jun., Secretary.

#### NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho., A. M., March 18, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:  
FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Hallett*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Scott*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *P. Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moorc*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

Mr. HALLETT was unanimously chosen Chairman.

Captain *Denning* produced a Certificate, dated the 14th instant, signed by *Abraham Purdy*, Chairman of the sub-Committee at *Peekskill*, that Captain *Albert Swim* had given bond with security to offer the following quantity of Provisions for sale to the President of the Provincial Congress, the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, or to dispose of it to the friends of liberty, to wit: 18 barrels of Beef, 19 firkins of Lard, 1400 bushels of Wheat; which Captain *Denning* says are his property.

Captain *Denning* also produced another Certificate of the like tenour and date, that bond of the like tenour and date had been given for 16 barrels of Beef, 2 barrels of Tallow, 51 Pork Hams, 40 pieces dried Beef, 27 firkins of Lard.

The said quantities of Provisions and other articles were offered for sale to the Committee of Safety. Certificates thereof were given to the said *Swim*, and permits to land them.

*Elias Nixen*, the Port-Master, showed a list of articles to be carried on board of the Ships-of-War and Governour *Tryon's* ship. He was informed that he might take them with him on board. He was also informed that he was permitted to bring on shore a list of all the Letters on board in the mail, for citizens of *New-York*, and any of the said Letters which he might be requested by the citizens to bring on shore; but that he must produce all such Letters as he may bring on shore to Mr. *Hallett* and Mr. *Sands*, for their inspection, before he delivers them out.

Major *Abeel*, the officer of the working parties for the day, being at the door, requested to know whether any allowance of Rum shall be given to the working parties or fatigue-men of the working parties. The Committee are of opinion that the fatigue-men will be dissatisfied without some allow-

ance of strong liquor, as it is usually allowed in all services, and was recommended by General *Lec*.

*Ordered*, That the fatigue-men of the Militia of this City be allowed one quart of Spruce or Ship Beer per man per day, or the value thereof in Rum, while on labour at the works carrying on in this City.

The Keeper of the *Bridewell* delivered in three Returns of Prisoners put in the Jail under his care.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver or supply, or cause to be supplied, to *Alexander Moncrief*, Provisions for fourteen Prisoners now in his custody, to wit: For *John Craige*, *Rynier Van Housen*, *Joseph Purdy*, *William White*, and the nine Prisoners late belonging to the Ship *Asia*, and who were brought from *Suffolk* County; the Provisions to be delivered according to *Moncrief's* Returns to the 22d instant, but only at the rate of two-thirds of a Ration for each person.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that he is in want of Cash, as well to pay Captain *Ledyard's* Company as the other new levies now in Town.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to Colonel *McDougall*, on Continental account, the sum of five hundred Pounds, on account, for the purpose of enabling him to pay Troops, and take his receipt for that sum on Continental account.

The Petition of Mr. *Bernard Romans*, attending at the door, was read and filed, and he was called in. He assigned such reasons as he could give for his absence, and for the charges he had made in his account against this Colony. After he was heard he withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Berrien* be requested to attend here at four o'clock, this afternoon, to give information as to the moneys by him charged as advanced for *Bernard Romans*.

A Letter received from *John Hancock*, Esq., dated the 15th instant, was read, and is in the words following, viz:

“Philadelphia, March 15, 1776.

“GENTLEMEN: As it is now apparent that our enemies mean to prosecute this cruel and unjust war with unrelenting fury, and as every intelligence assures us that they mean to bend their force against your Colony, I would not do you the injustice to suppose there will be any occasion to use arguments to stimulate you to exert your most strenuous endeavours to expedite the raising and arming the Battalions ordered to be raised in your Colony for its defence. Enclosed I send you the commissions for the Field-Officers.

If any of them are provided for in *Canada*, they are to continue there, and others will be elected in their room. Such of them as are in *Canada*, and unprovided for, have orders immediately to repair to their respective Regiments.

"Lest our enemies should come upon you before the Continental Troops can be in readiness to receive them, or in case they should come with superior force, the Congress have thought proper to empower the Continental commander at *New-York* to call to his assistance the Militia of your Colony and that of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey*, agreeable to the enclosed resolves; and I have it in command to request you to hold your Militia in readiness to march in such numbers and at such times as he may desire.

"The Congress have ordered five tons of powder for the use of the Troops employed in your defence, which will be forwarded with the utmost expedition.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"The Honourable the Convention of *New-York*.

"The Colonel of the Third Battalion is not appointed, for reasons that will be mentioned by your Delegates, to whose letter I beg leave to refer you."

"IN CONGRESS, March 15, 1776.—Resolved, That the Governour of *Connecticut*, the Conventions or Councils, or Committees of Safety of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*, be requested to hold their Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, for the defence of *New-York*, as the Continental Commander at *New-York* shall desire; and that the pay of the Militia called to the defence of *New-York* be the same as that of the Continental Troops raised and employed in the Middle Department, to commence from the time they begin their march.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

"Transmitted to the honourable Convention of *New-York*, by order of Congress.

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

"To the Convention or Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A Letter from *John Chatfield*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Easthampton*, was read, in the words following, to wit:

"Easthampton, March 11, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: On *Wednesday*, the 6th instant, the ship *Sally*, that belonged to Mr. *Samuel Franklin*, of *New-York*, and taken by the men-of-war at *New-York* and sent for *Boston*, was driven on shore in a gale of wind at *Montauk*. The Committee of *Easthampton* ordered the commander, viz: *Charles Smith*, mate of the *Asia* man-of-war, and Mr. *Young*, of *Philadelphia*, Mr. *Elder*, and Mr. *McDermott*, who say they were passengers on board the ship, and that they were bound to *Boston* to procure a passage home to *England*; also Mr. *Woolcomb*, who was mate of a transport lately taken at *Amboy*, and served as mate of this ship, and ten seamen that belong to the *Asia*;—all which persons we send to *New-York*, under a guard commanded by Lieutenant *John Foster*, in the Minute service. We also send you by Lieutenant *Foster*, all the letters and papers\* that we could procure from on board her.

\* MARCH 18, 1776.—Letters taken from on board of the Ship *SALLY*. (She formerly belonged to *SAMUEL FRANKLIN*, and was taken by the Men-of-War at *NEW-YORK*, and sent from *BOSTON*.) She was driven ashore in a gale, at *MONTAUK*, on the 6th day of *MARCH*, and her crew, passengers, and papers, seized by the Committee of *EASTHAMPTON*, and sent to *NEW-YORK*.

By *HYDE PARKER, Jun., Esq.*, Captain of His Majesty's Ship *PHENIX*:

You are hereby required and directed to proceed to *Boston*, with the ship *Sally*, under your command, calling at *Rhode-Island*, where you are to apply to the commanding officer of his Majesty's ships for convoy and a pilot. Should you be so unfortunate as to meet with any of the Rebel cruisers, and find no possibility of escaping, it is my positive directions that you do throw overboard all arms and ammunition, to prevent their falling into the hands of the Rebels. Should there be any ship in sight that you suppose to be a man-of-war, you are to do your utmost to disable the ship, by cutting her gears and lowering her lower yards down, in order to prevent the Rebels from carrying her off.

Upon your arrival at *Boston* you are to report yourself to Admiral *Shuldham*, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being. You are also during your passage to use your utmost endeavours to keep company with the *Harriet* transport, and the *Frances* sloop.

Given under my hand, on board his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, off the Narrows of *Gravesend Bay*, this 29th of *February*, 1776.

H. PARKER.

To Mr. *Smith*, Commander of the Ship *Sally*.

"We have employed a number of men to endeavour to save as much of the sails, rigging, &c., as possible; her cargo, being salt, is all lost, and expect to save very little of the ship, as she lies upon rocks, with the surf continually breaking upon her.

"We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,  
"JOHN CHATFIELD, *Chairman*.

"Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee of *Easthampton*."

The Examinations of the Prisoners, taken before the Committee of *Easthampton*, were read, and are in the words following, to wit:

"The examination of Mr. *John Young*, who saith: That he was born in *Philadelphia*; had been in *New-York* about a week; took a passage in the ship *Sally* for *Boston*, in order to get a passage to *London*; and there were only ten muskets put on board the ship *Sally*; and that Captain *Smith* hove a number of guns overboard after the ship got on shore, but do not know how many.

"The examination of Mr. *William Elder*, who saith: He was born in *Scotland*, and came into this country about the 1st of *May* last, and that he has no recommendations to *Rhode-Island* or *Boston*; and that he was on board the *Asia* about three weeks.

"The examination of Mr. *William McDermott*, who saith: He was born in *Ireland*; has been in *America* about five years; has been a Lieutenant in the Forty-Seventh Regiment; had sold his commission about eighteen months ago, and that he was bound to *Rhode-Island* or *Boston*, to get a passage home.

"The examination of *Joseph Wolcomb*, who saith: He was born in *England*; has been in this country about four years; came last mate of a transport taken at *Amboy*, and had been on board the *Asia* about a fortnight.

"*Thomas Lambo*, *William Hatch*, *Robert Craw*, *William Philips*, *Rowland Walter*, *Hugh Hall*, and *Patrick Pendergrass*, all say that they belong to the ship *Asia*, Captain *Vandeput*.

"The above examinations were taken before the Committee of *Easthampton*.

"Attest: JOHN CHATFIELD, *Chairman*."

A number of Letters, taken from on board of the ship *Sally*, (some from Governour *Tryon*, Captain *Parker*, and others, to General *Howe*, and other persons at *Boston*;) and transmitted by the said Committee with the Prisoners taken from on board of the said ship, were filed.

Die Lunæ, 4to ho. P. M., March 18, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Joseph Hallett*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Hallett*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

NEW-YORK, January 29, 1776.

DEAR JOHN: With very great regret and astonishment I have learnt your hasty and abrupt behaviour in leaving me, and going on board the *Phoenix* ship-of-war, without giving me the least notice of such intention. I came here in great haste with Mr. *Morgan*, in hopes to have found you here before you went on board, but am disappointed. However, I now become supplicant to you, my dear son, and to request you will come on shore, and give me an opportunity of a conversation; and I hereby pledge my honour that, after what arguments I may use to you cannot prevail with you to return to *Philadelphia*, to your country, and good friends, you shall be at liberty to go where you please; but, dear *John*, consider what you are about. You don't want understanding, if it was a little set to rights. If you will now return, all things may yet be well. I promise you my forgiveness, and never more to upbraid you with this rash step. As we have taken great pains that your proceedings may not be known in *Philadelphia*, all matters may be accommodated there.

I therefore request, as you value a father's blessing and your own happiness and reputation, that you will give me an interview at the house you lodged in on *Thursday* last, to-morrow afternoon. I know you will be permitted to come on shore. Pray don't bring my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave.

I am, your affectionate father,

JAMES YOUNG.

To Mr. *John Young*, on board His Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*.



Mr. John De Lancey came to the Committee, to complain of the treatment he had received of Captain De Witt, and informed that a party are gone to levy a fine, by distress, on

NEW-YORK, February 3, 1776.

DEAR FRIEND: Smother your surprise when I inform you that I shall not set foot aboard the *Phenix* more, (at least not at present,) as fortune has rendered it out of my power; I say out of my power, because it undoubtedly is so, if you took me to have the least humanity. For on my arrival at *New-York*, I found, to my inexpressible grief and surprise, my brother had left it on information that my mother's life was despaired of; and not only that, but Mrs. Morgan, it was feared, would miscarry, she being far gone with child before I left *Philadelphia*. You have often heard me say I was the favourite of the family; this is indeed but too true; for I find, a day or two after my departure, the whole family were thrown into the utmost confusion; diligent inquiry was immediately made for me, and it was not long before our design was discovered. Then it was my family's affection for me was so conspicuous; sorrow and surprise sat heavily on all their countenances. The innocent amusements that were wont to divert them, took their flight, and nothing was seen but melancholy and discontent. It would be vain for me to endeavour to paint their grief in its true colours, as I am well convinced I cannot figure it to myself. What I have urged in consequence of leaving his Majesty's ship will, I flatter myself, be of sufficient reason to convince you that my respect for my family has been the occasion of it, and not the change of sentiments, as some may urge. But it is almost impossible for you to coincide with them in opinion. Look back into my past conduct, and tell me if ever you remember my deviating in the least from what I always expressed on the present struggle; indeed, it would be impertinent for me ever to suppose you harbour such an idea.

It gives me the greatest pain to find your father has behaved in such an extraordinary manner towards you, as he has refused to pay anything of your contracting whatsoever. I beg therefore of you to examine what things are in your possession, which I have taken on my own account; as it would be inconsistent with your generosity to imagine the whole charge must be put on me. Don't forget to send all my things that are out of the portmanteau and in it, as soon as possible, (if there should be any.) I believe the gaiters and stock are the only things which are not in. Dear John, don't imagine that what I have said concerning your father, &c., springs from a desire of having these things. No, God forbid I should be so servile a being. I only mention it that you may either pay for them, or persuade your father so to do. Do be so kind as to let me have one of those plain dark-spotted stockings, and you will oblige, your most affectionate friend,

BENJAMIN BAYNTON.

To Mr. John Young, on board His Majesty's Ship *Phenix*.

P. S. If you have any regard for me at all, do read or give a copy of my apology to the Governour; likewise to all the officers. I have sent the things you desired me, but have not paid for them, as your guinea is too light.

NEW-YORK, January 30, 1776, 8 o'clock, P. M.

MY DEAR SON: I cannot but express my grief and surprise that you should refuse one an interview on shore after my solicitating letter, and pledge of my honour, that if I did not convince your judgment that you were wrong in your present proceeding, (also a promise of my pardon,) you should be at liberty to go where you please. In place of complying, you assure me that Captain Parker will give me a safe conduct if I will come on board there, which I make not the least doubt of, and would trust his word for more than my own safety. But what can I expect by such an interview but tears and sorrows, when you positively declare, that though my letter of last night had so melted you that you could scarcely read it, yet it had not power even to stagger your resolution: that you could never think of setting foot on *American* shores? I cannot help pitying your delusion, and that you are wrong persuaded by Mr. Baynton, who acknowledged, in his letter to Mr. Morgan, that he would have taken this step three months sooner, could he have persuaded you to have accompanied him. Oh, John, I am sorry for you and for myself, who looked upon you as my future staff in the decline of life. I shall still pray the Supreme Being to bless you; but, at the same time, that you may never prosper as an enemy to your native country. You mention a letter you had just finished, explaining your whole conduct, which I have not received. I left your very affectionate sister in deep sorrow and tears, as is your disconsolate and affectionate father,

JAMES YOUNG.

To Mr. John Young, on board His Majesty's Ship *Phenix*.

I set off for *Philadelphia*, to-morrow, at eleven o'clock. Adieu.

All persons that I have conversed with on the subject of your elopement, think, with myself, that it is quite a quixotick frolick of youth, and, as such, I would overlook it if you immediately return.

*A Journal of the most important occurrences of my life, beginning in my nineteenth year, when I first commenced a citizen of the world.*

Having long abhorred the new form of Government erecting in *America*, on the ruins of the Constitution of my country, and disdaining to submit to it, on the 24th of January, 1776, I set off, in company with my friend, Mr. Baynton, from *Philadelphia*, the place of our birth, for *New-York*, where two *British* men-of-war then lay. Having previously procured a few clothes and other necessities, and hired horses, we mounted, about seven in the morning, with our portmanteaus behind us, and about twenty pounds in our pockets; with all which, we arrived safe the following evening at *Paulus's Hook Ferry*, on the North river, opposite *New-York*, where we were obliged to leave our horses, the horse-boats having been all pressed to transport the *Jersey* Troops, who were then returning from disarming the Royalists on *Long-Island*. We got to *Hall's Tavern*, in *New-York*, about eight o'clock in the evening, where we passed the night; the next morning, after breakfast, we went to the *Fly-Market Ferry*, and desired one of the watermen to put us on board the *Asia*; but he refused taking us, unless we obtained a permit from the Committee. We accordingly went to the house of the Chairman, who was not at home. After this disappointment, we sauntered down upon one of the wharves, rather with a view to pass away the time till the

his goods. Mr. De Lancey engaged to state his complaint in writing, and deliver it in to-morrow morning.

Ordered, That all proceedings against Mr. John De Lan-

Chairman should return, than anything else. While we were in this situation, a well dressed man came down to us, and asked us if we wanted to go on board the Governour's ship. (who lay opposite, moored astern of the *Phenix*;) we told him that we had a little business with the Governour, and would be very glad to go, had we but an opportunity. He then informed us that he was himself going on board, and that we might go with him. He immediately hailed the ship, and a boat being sent to us, we stepped in, with joyful hearts, and were in a few minutes on board. This gentleman, to whom we were so much obliged, was Major Rogers, who was then a prisoner in *New-York* on parole. He was so obliging as to present us to the Governour, who treated us with the greatest hospitality and politeness. We dined with him that day, and in the evening went on board the *Phenix*.

JOHN YOUNG.

PHENIX, NEW-YORK, March 2, 1776.

SIR: The little acquaintance I had the pleasure of having with you at *Milford*, when I was in the *Weasel*, with my friend Baynes and Phelps, induces me to think I do not offend when I take the liberty of recommending the bearer, Mr. Young, to your acquaintance, a gentleman of one of the best families and fortunes in *Philadelphia*. He has recommendations from Governour Tryon to General Howe. He goes a volunteer; has no knowledge of any person in the Navy or Army. Beg, therefore, sir, you will render him what services you can, as we are all convinced he is a man of excellent sentiments, and have every reason to think he will be an honour to any regiment he may belong to. If I can serve you or your friends here in any manner, be assured I will with the utmost pleasure. I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

WILLIAM ROSS.

PHENIX, NEW-YORK, March, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote to you, by Clark, a letter that should have been sent by Mr. Young, the gentleman who, I hope, will arrive safe with this. Do him every service in your power, and introduce him to the Army officers of your acquaintance. He is so excellent a young man, that it is not in my power to find words to do him justice in a character. If you have seen Clark, he has informed you of him. He is of one of the best families and fortunes in *Philadelphia*; is going to General Howe a volunteer, a stranger to Navy and Army.

If I can render you any service in this part of the damn'd country, command me.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM ROSS.

To Mr. Mosely, Master of His Majesty's Ship *Chatham*, Boston.

I am sure you will do anything in your power for so valuable a stranger.

PHENIX, NEW-YORK, March 2, 1776.

DEAR PULTNEY: Paper is too dear at *New-York*, so that if I thought you were in the least altered, unless for the better, since I saw you, damn me if I would waste a sheet on you; but, my friend and old shipmate, I have too good an opinion of you ever to suppose so. Therefore, let me assure you, no man of your acquaintance can be happier at the certainty of your promotion than I am. I am glad to have the opportunity of sending by the bearer, Mr. Young, a gentleman of the first family and fortune in *Philadelphia*. He is going a volunteer to General Howe; beg you will show him every civility in your power, during the time of his stay in *Rhode-Island*. I am sure you will be pleased with his acquaintance. Let us hear from you when you can. Letters from *Portsmouth* last month; all well. George Baynes and little Lass well at *Havant*. Chloe then in town. Jack M——l, as usual. The *Weasel* sailed to *Africa*. Warren behaved worse than ever. Young commands the *Alderney* sloop, at *North-Yarmouth*.

I am, dear Pultney, your most obliged and humble servant,

WILLIAM ROSS.

To George Ann. Pultney, Esquire, Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship *Glasgow*, *Rhode-Island*.

SHIP DUTCHESS OF GORDON, February 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, Mr. John Young, a gentleman of property and character in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, puts himself under your protection. His loyalty to his Sovereign induced him to fly from persecution, and enter himself a volunteer under your banner, in the expectation that so laudable a conduct will meet with your approbation, and entitle him to a commission in his Majesty's Army, when opportunity offers to distinguish himself. I have seen him several times, and verily believe he will do honour to my introduction of him to you.

I am, dear sir, yours sincerely,

WILLIAM TRYON.

To Major-General Howe.

PHENIX, NEW-YORK, March 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This will be delivered to you by John Young, a young gentleman of fortune from *Philadelphia*, as I am informed. His errand to *Boston* is to offer himself a volunteer to General Howe. During six weeks' residence on board the *Phenix*, his behaviour was such as to entitle him to every civility I could show him, and from his request take the liberty of presenting him to you.

The sloop *Frances* is loaded with naval stores and tobacco, &c., &c. In the article of tobacco she has a great deal more than is cleared out from the Custom-House. I therefore presume that becomes forfeited to the captors by the acts of trade. Should this be the case, I beg you will be pleased to allow your Secretary to sell it as our agent. There is also a strong suspicion that the ship loaded with salt, has wines and other merchandise under the salt. The owners of both these vessels are good subjects to the King, and I have assured them they will be treated with as much lenity as the times will admit of.

Since I had the honour of writing to you on the 23d of last month, I

cey for not attending in his Beat on fatigue, be stayed, until further order of this Committee.

To Captain *De Witt*, and the other Officers of his Beat.

find General *Lee* is ordered to *Canada*, to take command of the Army in that country; and a General *Schuyler* to have command at this place. *Lee* has pulled down the north curtain of the fort, and is now intrenching what is called the *Bowling Green*. The Privateers, it is said, have certainly sailed from *Philadelphia*.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your most obedient servant,

A. PARKER.

To *Molineux Shulldham*, Esq., Rear-Admiral of the White, *Boston*.

BLOOMINGDALE, January 22, 1776.

From what motive can any person who is so pre-eminently distinguished for the goodness of their disposition, cause so much painful anxiety to an affectionate friend, as you do, my dear *Oliver*, I am at a loss to conceive. It wants not many days of half a year since you last did me the favour of writing a line, and you are convinced, my son, how very essential it is to my happiness to hear from you; and that, in these times of possible danger, the mind of an anxious and tender friend is busy in assigning such reasons for your total silence as must needs be distressing. For *God's* sake, my dear *Oliver*, remove my anxiety, if it is happily in your power. All your family lament your silence. I hope you enjoy as much health as they all do, exclusive of your father, who has been for ten days past confined to his room with the gout. The pain of it is in general better sustained, as 'tis said to be instrumental in carrying off other disorders.

One ought in all things to have superior fortitude in these times. I think they appear very threatening; but you are not to expect any intelligence from me, though I should imagine every person free to write on public transactions. Mr. *Washington's* colleague, Colonel *Lee*, is expected to-day in *New-York*. It is imagined he is going to *Philadelphia*, which I believe is a right conjecture. He seems so fond of writing, that I could wish he had turned author, as the most harmless profession, though mischief has often happened from the pen as well as the sword. I wish the latter was never to be drawn in *America*, and that the re-establishment of public tranquillity would be proclaimed. Till that blest period arrives, I shall not know a moment's peace. It is no small diminution of my happiness that Government does not permit any more packets for *New-York*. That of *September* was the last. It is very unfortunate for me to be deprived of the comfort which I usually received from the letters of my dear children and worthy friends. There is not in *America* an individual so much hurt by the unhappy affairs in *America* as I am. If I had the desirable happiness of being near you, I could easily, my dear *Oliver*, convince you of the truth of my assertion. I fear my numerous letters are rather unacceptable to you, or you would give me some encouragement to follow my inclination of expatiating largely on many subjects. That of my extreme tenderness for you is too near my heart to be silent, when I know of a conveyance; and must again repeat my earnest entreaties for a letter the earliest opportunity. If you love me I shall expect your indulgence. Consider, my dear *Oliver*, it is your affectionate mother that thus solicits, and that she is deprived of too many comforts in the evening of her life.

I was unhappy last week to hear that a *Jersey* Battalion was gone to *Long-Island*, as your dear brother resides there; but it was only to disarm a County, not near him. These things will happen at such a period. How I wish for peace.

Our septennial Assembly is now dissolved, and will be re-elected next month. I hear four of our Delegates are candidates for this city, and that *Oliver De Lancey* will offer himself for the Borough of *Westchester*. So I presume he has done with the Navy. If you hear from *England*, pray let me know, for, next to hearing from you, it is my great object, and I see no prospect of any direct conveyance from there. I have now only to add my most earnest request that you will take all imaginable care of yourself. Consider how nearly I concern myself in your health and happiness; and there are many others who are almost as tenderly attached to you, and are ever anxious for your safety. I need not point out to you to fortify your mind with pious philosophy, as I have every reason to be convinced that you act from the best principles; and may you walk before *God* with a perfect heart, and enjoy perfect happiness.

Adieu, my dearest *Oliver*, and preserve in remembrance the tenderness of your affectionate mother and friend,

P. DE LANCEY.

To Captain *De Lancey*, of the Seventeenth Regiment of Light Dragoons, *Boston*.

Your father, brothers, and sisters, most heartily salute you. *Charlotte* was near going to *England*, but the vessel was too crowded. You will doubtless hear the *Quebeck* intelligence. Pray write to me. Mrs. *Jones's* kind love to you. I hope you are warm and comfortable.

ASIA, NEW-YORK, February 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you that I have uncommon success considering my situation; the which I have fully laid before his Excellency General *Howe*. *Lee* and his ragamuffins have so changed the face only of affairs here, that I have not been able to see Mr. *Mensie*; but expect to have that pleasure soon. I have directed Mr. *Mensie* to move my family to *Long-Island* with his own. I understand they are all to be turned off the farms they now possess, if their persons are not injured. I would willingly compound with the loss of what moveables we left behind us. Governor *Tryon* has promised to recommend Mr. *Thomas Lysten* as my Ensign; he is brother-in-law to Mr. *Mensie*. Any interest you can make for him will be gratefully acknowledged by him and your humble servant. I have got near forty recruits, and I make no doubt I shall have upwards of one hundred before I can have an answer from *Boston*. Arms and ammunition, cash and clothing, will be much wanted. Since I wrote his Excellency, I understand *Lee* goes to command in *Canada*. I make no doubt you have heard the disaster the Rebels have met with before *Quebeck*; and *Schuyler* comes to take the command here. Please acquaint his Excellency therewith, though I make no doubt Governor *Tryon*, who has greater opportunities of getting intelligence, will give his Excellency the fullest information, though I think it my duty to do my utmost in every respect for the good of the service.

Colonel *Lott* came into the Committee, and returned *Elias Brevoort*, Esquire, to be Captain of the Company of Militia of Foot, in Beat No. 26, in the Third Regiment,

Pork, flour, and beef, might be had here, if we had some cruisers to scour the channel between *Long-Island*, the main, and *Hudson's River*. I am afraid the Rebels will destroy all the provisions along the sea-coast before either cruisers or troops arrive. The friends to Government are much harassed at present; and many of the poorer sort are forced into their service for want of other employment whereby to support themselves and families. I am afraid I have encroached on your time, and therefore shall add no more.

I am, dear sir, your most obliged, humble servant,

ALEXANDER GRANT.

For Captain *Robert McKensie*, Secretary to General *Howe*, *Boston*.

P. S. Upon being ordered on board here, I waited on Captain *Parker*, but found he had no instructions about me. I have bespoke a fine parcel of *Newtown* pippins, for his Excellency and other friends at *Boston*. I wish the Rebels may not destroy them. I have no where to put them in my present situation.

ASIA, NEW-YORK, February 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The alteration here since I left this place last, has impeded my business much, though I have got between thirty and forty fine recruits. If we had a convenient vessel, I make no doubt I could get as many as she would contain in a few weeks. I have not had an opportunity of seeing any of the people you sent messages to by me. I shall take the first opportunity of acquainting Mrs. *McDonald* of your intended favour; though I am apprehensive she will be puzzled to find any person that dare accept of her bill. I have acquainted his Excellency with my own state, as well as the state of publick affairs, as far as comes within my prescribed circle. Arms, ammunition, cash, clothing, and provisions, would at present be very acceptable to the recruits. *Lachlan McDonald* went along with General *Clinton*, with eighteen recruits. The *Glasgow* packet got into the Hook several days after us, but did not come up to town. The opportunity by which this goes to you, is so suddenly ordered for that service, that I am obliged to be more concise than I would incline. My best respects to you, Major *Skene*, and other acquaintances; and I am, with respect, dear sir, your much obliged humble servant,

ALEXANDER GRANT.

For Major *John Small*, of the Royal Highland Emigrants, *Boston*.

I had the honour of answering your Excellency's letter by the way of *New-Orleans*, the 12th of June last; since which time we have had a prodigious number of *Sacks* and *Renards*, and several other nations who inhabit the banks of the *Mississippi* and the Bay. The oldest inhabitant never remembers to have seen such numbers. In one week there were not less than five hundred. They attacked a party of the *Indians* in this country on their summer hunt in the prairies; killed and took prisoners, men, women and children, sixty; in consequence of which they have been obliged to fly down the *Mississippi*, being no longer able to maintain their ground against such powerful enemies. I have recommended to them to settle on the *English* side of the *Mississippi*, believing they might be of service to the new settlers, by furnishing them with meat. I also wrote to the Superintendent, recommending them to his protection, as a quiet people, well attached to the *English*. I hope your Excellency will approve of my conduct with regard to these unhappy people. The inhabitants are extremely alarmed at the thoughts of changing their old neighbours, the *Illinois*, for some of the other nations. The *Sacks* and *Renards* told me in council that it was their intention to settle here as soon as they had accomplished their design of driving out of the country all the *Illinois* and *Peoria Indians*, which I believe to be done; so that perhaps next spring they may take possession. I wish they may be as quiet neighbours as the *Illinois*, although I greatly fear otherwise, as these people are, when the weakest, always civil, and when strongest, always surely the reverse. I shall do all in my power to give them a favourable opinion of us. I expect every moment a party of one hundred and fifty; some of the inhabitants saw them last night near the village. Your Excellency must not be surprised that such large parties, and so frequent, should greatly increase the expenses in the *Indian* Department; and also augment the consumption of provisions; notwithstanding I shall do all in my power to satisfy them with little, at all times a difficult task, and frequently impossible. I send this by the way of *New-Orleans*; no opportunity offering by any other mode. There has not come here any one from *Fort-Pitt* since the *Shawanee* war ended. By the last boats from *New-Orleans* there came a report that the *Ohio* was again shut up, and a number of families in consequence detained at *Fort-Pitt*.

I have the honour to be, with all possible respect, your Excellency's most obedient, and most humble servant,

HUGH LORD.

To His Excellency the Honourable Lieutenant-General *Gage*, Captain General and Commander-in-Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in *North-America*, at *Boston*.

NEW-YORK, February 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You will excuse my troubling you with the enclosed bill,\* which I beg you will receive in a sterling bill of exchange, if to be had, and remit it to Mr. *Benson Fearon*, Merchant, in *London*, advising me of it by the first opportunity. I must not omit mentioning to you, that the first bill was remitted to Mr. *Harry Lloyd*, who never acknowledged the receipt of it; and therefore it probably miscarried. Your negotiating this matter will lay me under a great obligation; but in return, you know, if I can render you any service this way, you have only to command me. I have not had one line from you since the affair at *Lexington*; nor from *Sukey* since she left us. Mrs. *Foxcroft* and my little girls are well. She joins me in sincere regards to you and family.

I am yours, as ever,

JOHN FOXCROFT.

To *Tuñil Hulbart*, in *Boston*.

P. S. Should be glad to hear how your office accounts stand. If

\* The bill referred to in this letter was taken out by Captain *Ache*, who was permitted by the Congress, as appears by his certificate.

whereof Colonel *Lott* is Colonel; the said *Elias Brevoort* having been elected in the stead of *John Gregg*, who is disqualified, and confined in the Barrack Guard-House for conduct inimical to his country.

Mr. *Lloyd* has received the money, he will receive an order to pay it to you by this opportunity. If he does, I must beg of you to remit it as above.

J. F.

—  
ASIA, NEW-YORK, February 21, 1776.

MY DEAR MAJOR: You may easily imagine how much I am disappointed in the *Fifer's* not being yet arrived. I should have come around at the time Mr. *Grant* did, had it not been for the promise I made Colonel *Leslie*, not to come without his permission. Mr. *Grant* tells me you informed him that you expected me at *Boston*; upon which authority I should have come around now, had I not been afraid of missing a passage to *Europe*, in case the ship that relieves us should now be on her way here; and if she is not, I am not sure of a passage from *Boston* to this place again, in case the Colonel does not think proper to do anything for me, as I am much afraid he will not, as I am credibly informed he could easily have procured a Company in the *Royal Americans* for me, and that you had proposed it to him, but that he declined doing anything in the matter; and so it dropped. Cruel, unnatural uncle! Where is all that goodness of heart Colonel *Leslie's* friends boast he is possessed of, and that I have so often heard you, my dear Major, talk of. I believe he either left it in *Europe*, or Captain *Stewart* has deprived him of it, as I cannot help imagining him the author of all the unjust reports which, I am well assured, he has always taken such pains to trumpet into the Colonel's ears against me.

I am surprised the Colonel did not even deign to write me per the *Phenix*. Common civility, especially from the polite Colonel, would have induced him to answer a stranger; but a nephew is not worth bestowing so much time upon. But, indeed, he has a very good reason—"I am not the penitent," he says. I wish I knew how to convince him; but that I despair to do. As matters are now come to the worst they can arrive at with me, I will be plain and honest with you as to my intentions. If the Colonel and you will assure me of a Company in the *Royal Americans*, I will come round to *Boston* by the first opportunity; if not, I shall go home in the *Asia*. I should have gone home in the *Sampson*; but after I had secured a passage, Colonel *Dalrymple*, who freighted half of the ship, would not allow of it; for which civility the Colonel and I must settle accounts the first time we meet. I should not have permitted him to depart without a turn or two on *Governour's Island*, only I was afraid of offending Captain *Vandeput*, who has been a second father to me. However, we may probably meet some other time. If we do not soon, I shall make it my business to throw myself in his way. But enough of this.

I have now, my dear Major, told you my intention, which I beg you will inform the Colonel of, and let me know his determination by the first opportunity, as I am determined to go home, and know from my father's own mouth what I am to trust to, unless the Colonel promotes me in the Army. If home-bound, it will be necessary the Colonel send me some cash. I received a letter from Mrs. *Hoosfall*, who informs me you proposed making me a Lieutenant in the Seventy-First, and hopes, by the conveyance she sent it, I will have a certainty of it. Write fully Colonel *Leslie's* mind—you are well acquainted with it. Let me know if there is a single grain of affection in it for me. What you tell me shall never go farther. The ship is now under sail. I have no more time but to assure you that I am your obliged friend and humble servant,

ROSEHILL.

To Major *Small*, *Boston*.

—  
HALIFAX, August 29, 1775.

DEAR SIR: As the very disagreeable situation of the quarrel between *Great Britain* and the Colonies makes us very anxious about the security of the little property we have on your side the *Atlantic*, and though we are well convinced of your honour from all our friends, yet we hope you will not charge us with an unbecoming boldness in begging the favour of you to make us a remittance for the last year's invoices, being really distressed by the dishonouring of some bills from *America* to a considerable amount, as well as desirous of being relieved from the anxiety we cannot but feel for the state of your property in such unsettled times.

Praying your speedy and favourable attention to this request, and assuring you how happy we shall be in the continuance of your correspondence when the times wear a more favourable aspect, we are, with esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient and assured servants,

CHRISTOPHER RAWSON &amp; SONS.

To Mr. *John Greenlow*, Merchant, *Boston*, *New-England*.

—  
NEW-YORK, January 24, 1776.

SIR: I take this favourable opportunity to acquaint you that I am in good health, bless *God*! and hope this will find you in the same. I am now in confinement in the City-Hall, of the city of *New-York*, but hope to be soon released therefrom; and as soon as that happens, I shall pay you a visit, if nothing extraordinary happens. The bearer hereof is a gentleman, and a friend of mine; therefore let him be yours, and you will find him worthy your acquaintance. He is a man of sense and education, and courage; if you can serve him in any respect, please do it, and it will oblige me.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PETER GANTER.

To Mr. *William Cunningham*, *Boston*. Per favour of Mr. *William Elder*.

—  
ASIA, NOW LYING AT NEW-YORK, }  
February 21, 1776. }

DEAR BROTHER: I take this opportunity to write to you, hoping these few lines will find you in as good a state of health as I enjoy at present, (thanks be to *God* for it!) But, dear brother, I think it is a little cold of you not to send me a letter, as you had the fairest opportunity; for I should have sent to you before, but it is a nice point to get a letter anywhere since the port has been stopped up. We did expect to have

Ordered, That his Commission issue. And it was issued accordingly.

A Return from Colonel *Jacobus Swartwout* was read and filed. He thereby returns the Officers of a Company of

the *Chatham* round here to relieve us; but we hear the *Preston* has gone home, and we expect she will stay in her room. But still, as the ship is coming out, I dare say we shall have some one here to relieve us. And, dear brother, I shall be very glad to hear if you have got a letter from our father, and whether you have heard from our brother *James*, or no. I should be very glad to hear from him; and if you have, do not forget to let me know in the return of your letter. I should be very glad to have an answer from you, to know how you are, and in what situation you are; for we have been pretty easy here; but since this General *Lee* has been here with his troops, we have been a little restless; but still stop their trade. They have likewise taken between seventy and eighty pieces of cannon out of the North Battery, and fortified the town very strong against us; but still that does not give us the least concern, for it lies to our mercy at any time. So, dear brother, do not forget to let me hear from you, and how affairs go on at present at *Boston*.

So no more at present, from your ever loving brother till death,

SAMUEL TULK.

To *John Tulk*, on board of His Majesty's ship the *Lively*, at *Boston*.

—  
NEW-YORK, December 17, 1775.

SIR: Herewith you have the certificate for pay of the vessels; which be so good as to get signed, and forward the first and second to Mr. *Blackburn*, and send the third here, per first conveyance. Those sent per Mr. *Nixon*; he was obliged to destroy.

I am, with great respect, for Mr. *Pinny White*, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SICKLES.

To *Henry Lloyd*, Esq., *Boston*.

Direct to Mr. *White*, as usual.

—  
NEW-YORK, February 29, 1776.

DEAR JACK: Notwithstanding my having acquainted you, in my former letters, of my intention to stay in *America* till *May*, yet, as things have turned out, I dare say you will be somewhat surprised to see this dated from a place which many things will have concurred to make you conclude has long before this been just in the same situation with *Charlestown*, near *Boston*, and *Norfolk*, in *Virginia*. Though I must confess that I look upon this town, in particular, to be in a galloping consumption, and though most of the inhabitants have forsaken it, yet I have not been able to prevail upon myself to follow their example, as I must, in going to the country, lose the benefit of a master with whom I am eagerly studying some things which are as satisfactory at present as they will be necessary hereafter. I am now transacting some business, which, if I can get settled according to my mind, will oblige me to return to *Jamaica* by the way of *London*; and it depends upon this business whether I see you very soon, if in *London*, or persist in my former intention of staying here till *May*. My time is short; so you must excuse this unsatisfactory method of writing to one who should know all my actions, and reasons why.

My complaint still continues to give me uneasiness, though my appearance is healthy in the highest degree, my appetite keen, and am lustier than ever I was. I wrote you on the 25th of *December*. I don't remember the subject, nor have I time at present to look at the copy. I received, sometime ago, a letter from Mr. *Sterling*. He is the only person in *Jamaica* from whom I have heard since my arrival in this country. I pray remember me to everybody.

I am, dear brother, yours, sincerely,

JAMES CAMPBELL.

To Mr. *John Campbell*. To the care of *William Innes*, Esq., Merchant, *London*.

—  
ASIA, February 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I suppose, by this time, you have heard of my situation; but, thank *God*, I have escaped that villanous treachery in attempting to make a prisoner of me for bringing intelligence on board the King's ships, which I now dare to say they were not far out. Captain *Vandeput* has treated me very kindly, and has recommended me to General *Clinton*, who sails on a secret expedition to-morrow, on board the *Mercury*, I believe for *Virginia*, but is kept a profound secret. He has got a number of recruits on board the transport. I shall embrace this opportunity of going with him, as I make no doubt, from what Captain *Vandeput* told me, I shall meet with success. It distressed me beyond expression that I had it not in my power to bid you farewell; but when you consider my situation, I need not make an apology, as I am persuaded it will be the last letter I shall have the pleasure of writing to you. I think it my duty to return my sincere thanks for the many civilities and kind friendship you have shown me since I had the honour of your acquaintance. As I have not time to write to my friends in *Ireland*, I shall be much obliged to you to acquaint them with my intentions. I need not dwell any further on that subject, as I make no doubt you will do all that is in your power for my interest, and take the earliest opportunity. It grieves me beyond expression to be under the necessity of applying to you at this present time; but having no other friend with whom I may take this liberty, induces me to be troublesome. My situation here is so distressing, that I am unable to make it appear; though I thank *God* I have a fine prospect of doing well. I have not got a second shirt nor stockings; in short, I have not got a second bit of clothes of any kind to put on, except what I have on; therefore shall be much obliged to you to let me have some little of your old clothes. I should not make this application, but believe me, dear sir, to be under the greatest distress; so I hope you will give me some little things. I have not one shilling to buy me anything. I should not make these bold requests, but imagine father will pay you for your expense. Excuse me for this liberty of mentioning your being paid again; but do assure you I look on it as charity, not as any interest. I hope you will excuse haste and trouble.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM McDERMOTT.

To *John Kelly*.

Minute-men, raised for his Regiment, and which Lord *Stirling* has requested may be sent to this City, to wit: *William Clarke*, Captain; *Gilbert Strong*, First Lieutenant; and *Abraham Hyat*, Second Lieutenant.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen. And they were issued accordingly.

Mr. *Oliver Templeton* applied for liberty to go on board the Ship *Phoenix*, to obtain leave of Captain *Parker* for the vessel loaded by order of the Continental Congress to go to sea.

An oath was administered to Mr. *Templeton*, in the words following:

"You do solemnly swear on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, that you will not give any intelligence or information whatever to any person or persons on board of the ships-of-war in this harbour, or on board of Governour *Tryon's* ship, or the Packet, or any of them, relative to any Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony; and that you will not carry on board any or either of the said vessels, or deliver to any person on board of or belonging to the said vessels, any letter or paper writing, until you shall have read the same, and know that it does not contain any information relative to the said Fortifications, or any of them. So help you *God*."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Oliver Templeton* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix* with the Port-Master, and to return, he having been previously sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

The Account of *Christopher Duyckinck* and his Company, for going to *Nassau-Island*, and tarrying sundry days, by order of the Provincial Congress, to attempt to take a pilot, was brought into the Committee and read: it amounts to forty-four Pounds one Shilling and six Pence, only.

*Ordered*, That it be submitted to the Auditors, or Pay-Table Board.

The Committee took into consideration the case of *John Young*, brought from *Easthampton*, now a prisoner at the Barracks, and the Letters and Examinations relating to him. And thereupon made the following order, to wit:

*Ordered*, That *John Young*, a native, and the son of a gentleman of *Philadelphia*, who, contrary to the will of his father, has entered as a volunteer into the Ministerial service, and is now in custody in the Barracks of this City, be safely conveyed to *Philadelphia*, together with certified copies of the several Letters of recommendation found upon him in his passage to *Boston*; and the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stirling* is hereby requested to supply such Guard, and furnish such other necessary means for the safe conveyance of the said *John Young* to *Philadelphia*, so as his Lordship shall think proper.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee at *Philadelphia* was read and approved; and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The unhappy excursions of the son of any gentleman friendly to the general interests of *America*, give us great pain. Upon the subject of Mr. *Young*, we thought the best thing we could do would be to secure his conveyance to your Committee, not doubting that the good sense of the parent, co-operating with filial piety, will bring the young gentleman to a proper sense of his duty. We enclose the papers necessary to elucidate his case; and are, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To the General Committee of Association.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted; and the Secretaries prepare and enclose therein copies of the sundry Letters and papers brought from *Easthampton*, which relate to the said *John Young*.

A long Letter from *Jacamah Allen*, bearing date on the 16th instant, was read and filed. He thereby informs that eighty-two of the Guns beyond *King's Bridge* are cleared and unspiked; that he will be able to complete the whole in three weeks from the date thereof, and he thereby offers his services to guard those Guns for one-half of what *David Barclay* gets.

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A Letter from *Abraham Lent*, Esquire, Colonel of the *Orangetown* Regiment, bearing date the 17th instant, was read and filed. He thereby informs that he has received the Resolution and Order of the Provincial Congress of the 13th instant, for sending a number of men from his Regiment to *New-York*. He thereby proposes to send a Captain and set of Officers for a Minute Company, and requests an explanation of the Order, which he appears to have misunderstood.

A draft of an Answer to Colonel *Lent* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 18, 1776.

SIR: We received yours of yesterday, and have only to observe, that only a Lieutenant's party was to be taken from your Regiment. And as for your Minute-men, we would remind you that there can be no such thing unless a Company is regularly formed; therefore advise you to send down with all convenient speed the thirty-five men wrote for, with a First Lieutenant and Ensign, with Non-Commissioned Officers in the same proportion.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

Colonel *Abraham Lent*, *Orange*.

Mr. *Paulling*, one of the Members, informed the Committee that several of the Members from *Westchester* County, conceiving that they were directed to purchase Pork for a Magazine, were purchasing quantities for that purpose; that Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, by a late Order of the Congress, was also purchasing the whole quantity directed to be stored in that County, whereby there is danger that the said article of Provisions may be purchased at an exorbitant price. Thereupon, the Committee came to the determination in the words following, to wit:

Whereas different appointments have been made by the Provincial Congress for the purchase of barrelled Pork for the publick service, in *Westchester* County,

It is therefore *Ordered*, That no person employed in that service pay more for that article of Provision than four Pounds per barrel, subject to the expense of the sellers for cartage to the place of delivery in the County.

Captain *Wynkoop* attended the Committee, and informed that, in pursuance of the directions of the Provincial Congress, given to him on . . . . . last, he had called on Major *Douglass*, and delivered to him a copy of General *Schuyler's* letter of the — instant, relating to the service on the Lakes; that Major *Douglass* declined giving him any definitive answer on that subject; and intimated, that if he did undertake that service he would not be able to attend it sooner than two months hence.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to Major *Douglass* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 18, 1776.

SIR: A gentleman engaged in the publick service should always be ready to determine upon any question of service submitted to his option. Mr. *Wynkoop*, we are informed, communicated to you the copy of a letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, from which it appears that the Continental Congress has reserved for you the office of Commodore on the Lakes, and designated Captain *Wynkoop* for service under you in that department. The General has recommended Mr. *Wynkoop* to that command, in case of your refusal. Lest you should have forgotten the contents of the General's letter, we enclose you a copy of it. We request your immediate answer. If you accept of the appointment, we expect you will stand ready at a minute's notice for the execution of duty whenever the service requires it.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

By order of the Committee of Safety.

To Major *Douglass*.

A long Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, at the Fortifications in the Highlands, dated the 15th instant, was read and filed. Amongst other things, he therein complains of many inconveniences at the Post for want of a Commissary of Provisions and Barrack furniture, and encloses an account of Ammunition supplied by the Commissioners to Captain *Samuel Raymond*, and not returned; which Account is in the words following, to wit:



"Captain *Samuel Raymond*,  
 "To ammunition delivered,  
 "January, 1776, By the Commissioners, and not returned:  
 "Powder, . . . . . pounds, 16  
 "Musket-Balls, . . . . . pounds, 29  
 "Do. Cartridge Paper, . . . . . quires, 2  
 "WILLIAM BEDLOW,  
 "JONATHAN LAWRENCE, } Commissioners.

"Fort Constitution, March 8, 1776."

Ordered, That the said Report and Letter remain over for consideration, inquiry, and answer.

A Return of Captain *Benjamin Egbert's* Company, from Beat No. 2, of the City of *New-York*, who had been on fatigue yesterday at the Fortifications, was brought into the Committee, and filed.

Die Martis, A. M., March 19, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Hallett*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Captain *Rutgers*, *Mr. Scott*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Gelston*, *Mr. Hobart*.

FOR TRYON.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*, General *Petrus Ten Broeck*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Paulling*.

FOR ULSTER.—*Mr. Cantine*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR KING'S.—*Mr. Polhemus*.

Captain *Blauvelt*, from *Orangetown*, attending, requested the sense of the Committee whether the thirty-five men ordered to this City, out of Colonel *Lent's* Regiment, may not come down under the command of a Captain and Ensign.

The Committee are of opinion that the thirty-five privates ordered from *Orangetown* may be commanded by Captain *Blauvelt* and his Ensign.

*John Griffiths* attending, was admitted. He requested a permit to go on board the Packet, and to return. Whereupon a permit was given him in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That *Mr. John Griffiths* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board the Packet with the Port-Master, and to return, he having been sworn that he will not give or convey any intelligence on board said ship, or either of the Ships-of-War, or the Governour's ship, relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

Captain *Mercier* applied to the Committee of Safety for an Order to take twenty-five Water-casks from the Stores, for the use of a Vessel, purchased by the Marine Committee, for an Armed Vessel.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Captain *William Mercier* have leave to take immediately twenty-five such Water-casks as he shall choose, of those now in store or yard near *Warren's Wharf*, at the *Hudson River*; the same being for publick use for one of the Colony Armed Vessels.

Captain *Mercier* further informed the Committee that the Blacksmiths, Carpenters, and other Mechanics, who are, and have been, employed in making the Carriages for Cannon, are much in want of cash; that three hundred Pounds will be sufficient to pay them, in part, for the present.

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to *William Mercier* the sum of three hundred Pounds, on account, towards paying and discharging the Accounts and Debts become due for making Gun-Carriages; and that the Treasurer take Captain *William Mercier's* receipt for the same.

The Chairman and Captain *Rutgers* informed the Committee that, in pursuance of the direction of the Provincial Congress, of the — day of *March*, instant, they had purchased a Sloop, to be made an Armed Vessel, for the defence of the Trade of this and the neighbouring Colonies; that they had agreed to pay the sum of four hundred and thirty Pounds for the said Sloop.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay to Captain *Anthony Rutgers* the sum of four hundred and thirty Pounds, to pay for the said Vessel; and that the Treasurer take *Mr. Rutgers's* receipt for the same.

Colonel *Hyer*, Major *Malcom*, and Captain *Wool*, of the

Dr.

Second Battalion, or Regiment, of the City of *New-York*, came into the Committee. They informed that they were authorized by the said Battalion to offer their service as a Regiment, to be taken into constant pay as Minute-men. After some conversation on that matter, the Committee informed those gentlemen that they would take that matter into consideration, and give them an answer as soon as conveniently they can determine.

*Abraham Lott*, Esquire, Agent Victualler, and *Thomas Horsefield*, the Brewer at *Brooklyn Ferry*, at the door, were admitted. They stated difficulties attending the sending on board Beer to the ships-of-war, under the attendance of and with the Port-Master only; as it happens at times that his other necessary engagements in his duty, and going to the ships in the Harbour, will not permit him to go at the hours they want his attendance. *Mr. Lott* and *Mr. Horsefield* withdrew.

The Committee having considered of the said application, are of opinion, and determine not to make any alteration in the mode fixed for supplying the ships, or either of them.

*Mr. Horsefield* was called in, and informed of the determination of the Committee.

*John Murray*, at the door, was admitted. He requested a permission to send Bread on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*. After having fully heard *Mr. Murray*, the Committee consent that *Mr. Murray* shall have a permit delivered to the Port-Master to send five hundred weight of Bread on board of the said ship; but that he shall not have any further permit until he produces an account of the Provisions and Stores on board of the said ship, for ship's use.

A Return from *Asahel Berry*, the Officer of the Port-Guard, at the *North River*, during last night, and therein said to be made to the Captain of the Main Guard at the Lower Barracks, was delivered to the Chairman, and read.

The Prisoners therein mentioned, except *James Coffin*, being brought to the door by a Guard, *David Ketch* and *William Douglass* were brought in and examined. Two witnesses, with respect to them, were called in and examined. It appears that *David Ketch* flashed his Gun several times at some of the Sentinels.

Ordered, That the Gun be examined whether it is loaded, as the witnesses suppose; and that application be made to a Magistrate to bind over the said *David Ketch*, and take sureties for his keeping the peace, and being of good behaviour.

And Ordered, That the runaway Negro therein mentioned be sent to *Bridewell*, and that the Overseer thereof receive and advertise him. That the free Negro be discharged; and that, until these matters are done and further order given, the said Prisoners (except the free Negro) be returned to the Guard-House.

Application being made for a permit to send Letters on board of the Packet,

Ordered, That *Mr. Scott* and Colonel *Morris Graham* be a Committee to examine all Letters designed to be sent on board of the Packet, before they are sealed, and to retain them until they are sent on board by the Port-Master. That those gentlemen, on their honour, keep secret the contents of every Letter they may so examine, unless, in their opinion, it should so far concern the publick that they should think it their duty to communicate the contents to the Committee of Safety.

And Ordered, That the Inhabitants, as occasion may require, be informed of this Order.

The case of *Mr. John Delancey*, and his complaint against *Mr. John De Witt*, Captain of the Militia in the Beat where *Mr. Delancey* resides, was sent in to the Committee. For the want of time to take the same into consideration, it is deferred for the present.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, relating to the Artillery immediately necessary to be fitted for use, was read. A state of the whole Artillery on the Island, and of what is necessary to complete them to a certain degree; and also a separate Return of the Cannon, down to Six-Pounders, inclusive, and of what is necessary to complete them to a certain degree, received in Lord *Stirling's* said Letter, were respectively read.

Ordered, That the Bearer be discharged from the door, and that the said Letter be taken into consideration this afternoon.



4to ho. P. M., Die Martis, March 19, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *John Moore*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*, Colonel *Petrus Ten Broeck*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

The Chairman laid before the Committee a Letter from Mr. *Moses Ogden*, of *Newark*, requesting an advance of one hundred Pounds, to pay for Coal to cast the Shot which Mr. *Hallett* had agreed with him for by order of the Provincial Congress.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to Mr. *Moses Ogden* was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 19, 1776.

SIR: Your letter on the subject of shot, for which a verbal contract only now subsists, I laid before the Committee of Safety. They have it much at heart to be immediately supplied with that article, and are therefore extremely ready to enable you, by a reasonable advance of cash, to execute your part of the contract; but they wish it should be reduced to writing, that nothing may be left to doubtful construction. I am directed by the Committee to request your immediate attendance on them for the purpose of carrying a contract of so much importance into immediate and effectual execution.

I am, sir, your very humble servant.

To Mr. *Moses Ogden*, at *Newark*.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that the wife of Captain *John Lamb*, of the Artillery, (now Major *John Lamb*, in *Canada*), has a letter of attorney from her husband to receive part of his pay; that she has a family to maintain, and is in want of money; and Colonel *McDougall* requests to know whether the Committee will authorize him, from time to time, to advance her some money, in part of her husband's pay.

Thereupon, Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* be, and he is hereby, authorized to advance to Mrs. *Lamb*, the wife of Major *John Lamb*, such sum per month as she is, by a power of attorney from her said husband, empowered to receive, as part of his pay; and that Colonel *McDougall* take her receipt for such sums as he shall, from time to time, advance to her, and see that the same be deducted out of Major *Lamb's* pay.

A Return of Barrack necessities now wanting for Lieutenant-Colonel *Matthias Ward's* Battalion of Militia, from *Essex County, New-Jersey*, was brought in, read, and filed, as follows: Eight Rooms want three Dishes in each Room, twenty-four; eight Rooms want nine Spoons in each Room, seventy-two.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to the Quartermaster of Lieutenant-Colonel *Matthias Ward's* Regiment of Militia from *New-Jersey*, twenty-four Dishes and seventy-two Spoons, for the use of his Troops, or Militia, placed in eight rooms in this City.

Colonel *Lott* came into the Committee half an hour past five o'clock.

The Committee took into consideration the proposal of Colonel *Hyer*, and the other officers of the Second Battalion of the City of *New-York*, made to the Committee this morning; and thereupon came to the determination in the words following, to wit:

"The Committee of Safety, taking into consideration the application of Colonel *Hyer*, respecting the Second Battalion of Independent Companies of the Militia of this City, are willing to engage the said Battalion as Minute-men, on immediate pay, to continue two months, upon the following terms, viz:

"The Battalion to consist of at least seven Companies, each Company to consist of eighty-six men, including Sergeants, Corporals, Drum and Fife, besides Officers; to have one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, one Adjutant, and one Quartermaster. The pay to be the same as the Continental Troops, with an allowance of eight Shillings per week for their rations and Barrack furniture. The officers to receive pay in proportion to the number of men in their respective Companies: that is to say, that, according to the whole number of men, as many officers shall receive pay as, conformable to the rules of discipline and service, shall be a sufficient body of officers for such a command as the number of men shall amount to."

Ordered, That a certified copy of the above be delivered to Major *Stoutenburgh*, to be proposed to the said Second Battalion.

A Letter from Governour *Tryon* to the Inhabitants of this Colony, at the request of a Member, was brought from *Hugh Gaine* to the Committee, and read.

Ordered, That the Secretaries keep an exact copy thereof, and return the original to *Hugh Gaine* with all possible despatch.

A copy thereof was taken and filed. [See 1385.]

Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Thomas Smith*, and Mr. *Ray*, came into the Committee, at half an hour past six o'clock.

The Committee took into consideration the Proposal of *Jacamah Allen*, contained in his Letter, to guard the Cannon at *King's Bridge* for half the money Mr. *David Barclay* now gets for that service.

Ordered, That *Jacamah Allen* take the charge of guarding those Guns in future, while a Guard for them shall be wanted, and on the conditions he has offered.

The Petition of *Josiah Robertson*, *Johannes Tack*, and forty-nine others of the inhabitants of *Marbletown*, in *Ulster County*, subscribers thereto, was read and filed. They pray that they may be imbodyed into a Company of Grenadiers, in Colonel *Levi Pauling's* Regiment, in *Ulster County*; that having obtained the approbation of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment and of the Committee of the Township, and of the Officers of the Militia in *Marbletown*, they had elected *Charles W. Broadhead* for Captain, *Jacob De Lameter* for First Lieutenant, *Moses M. Cantine* for Second Lieutenant, and *Jacob Chambers* for Ensign.

A Letter from Colonel *Levi Pauling*, Chairman of the Committee at *Marbletown*, requesting that the Officers might be commissioned, was also read.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen respectively.

The Committee then took into consideration the Letter of Lord *Stirling*, and Returns of Artillery Stores wanting, which were received at noon. The same were again read, and are as follow:

"New-York, March 18, 1776.

"SIR: It is of the utmost importance to the safety of this City and Province that all the artillery we are to rely on be completed in every article. It was but lately that I could obtain a complete state of all the artillery on this Island. It was then so near the adjournment of your Congress that I did not care to introduce to it a matter so long in detail. I now enclose to you a return (No. 1.) of the whole artillery, and the articles wanting to equip and complete them to one hundred rounds, by which you will observe that all the cannon below six-pounders are in want of every article, and would take up more time than we can spare at present to complete them. I have therefore made out another return (No. 2.) of all the cannon down to six-pounders, inclusive, and these, if the work be properly distributed, may soon be equipped with every necessary; and I must request that the Committee of Safety will, as soon as possible, take measures to have all necessities provided; and you may be assured that I will lend every assistance in my power for forwarding the work.

"As I have no copies of these returns, I should be glad to have them sent back to me when you have taken copies of them."

"I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"STIRLING.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of *New-York*."

No. 1.—A Return of the Cannon that are or capable of being made fit for service, in or near the City of NEW-YORK, with the articles wanting to equip them for action, with one hundred rounds for each Gun.

GUNS IN THEIR PRESENT SITUATION.					ARTICLES WANTING TO EQUIP THEM, ALLOWING FIFTEEN CANISTERS FOR A 32-POUNDER, AND FIFTY FOR THE OTHER PIECES.																							
Guns—Pounders.	Fit for service, with out defect.	Fit for service, but defective.	Spiked up, otherwise good.	Total of each nature.	Garrison Carriages.	Garrison Carriages.	Field-Carriages.	Handspikes.	Drag-Ropes.	Flannel Cartridges.	Paper Cartridges.	Canisters filled with Shot.	Round Shot.	Sponges, with Ram-mers.	Ladles.	Worms.	Coils of Slow-match.	Lint Stocks.	Tubes.	Priming Irons.	Gimlets.	Oilcloths.	Aprons of Lead.	Haversacks.	Portfires.	Portfire Sticks.	Tube-Boxes.	Tomkins.
32	21	17	4	42	37	5	-	4	-	-	-	630	-	-	35	22	-	42	-	42	42	42	42	-	-	-	-	42
24	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
18	3	3	4	10	10	-	2	-	8	-	-	500	-	5	7	-	-	10	-	10	10	10	10	-	-	-	-	10
12	17	1	-	18	14	-	8	38	16	-	-	900	-	-	7	10	-	18	-	18	18	18	18	-	-	-	-	18
9	14	4	2	20	14	-	6	50	12	-	500	1000	1000	8	16	13	-	20	-	20	20	20	20	-	-	-	-	20
6	4	2	25	31	1	15	16	54	32	300	1000	1550	1550	31	31	29	-	31	300	31	31	31	31	16	192	16	16	31
4	9	-	65	74	-	20	54	80	108	2700	3700	3700	3700	74	74	74	-	74	2700	74	74	74	74	54	648	54	54	74
3	3	-	19	22	-	-	22	-	44	1100	1200	1200	1200	22	22	22	-	22	1100	22	22	22	22	22	264	22	22	22
2	-	-	4	4	-	-	4	-	8	200	200	300	200	4	4	4	-	4	200	4	4	4	4	4	48	4	4	4
Total..	69	27	124	222	77	40	112	226	228	1300	6600	9730	7650	145	197	174	-	222	4300	222	222	222	222	96	1125	96	96	222

NEW-YORK, March 10, 1776. S. BADLAM, Captain of Artillery.

There is wanting, besides the above Return—  
Sheepskins for Sponges, - - - 100 Caps for Sponges, - - - 222 } Ordered to be provided,  
Sponge-Tacks, - - - 2000 Horns to prime Guns, - - - 200 } March 11, 1776.

N. B. Small Shot in abundance about town, of private property, should be collected. Mr. Anthony Griffiths is thought a proper person to be appointed a Firemaster, and to oversee the Laboratory. Lieutenant Bayne, Fireworker, is recommended.

No. 2.—Return of the Cannon that are or capable of being made fit for service, in or near the City of NEW-YORK, with the articles wanting to equip them for action, with one hundred rounds for each Gun.

GUNS IN THEIR PRESENT SITUATION.					ARTICLES WANTING TO EQUIP THEM, ALLOWING FIFTEEN CANISTERS FOR A 32-POUNDER, AND FIFTY FOR THE OTHER PIECES.																							
Guns—Pounders.	Fit for service, with out defect.	Fit for service, but defective.	Spiked up, otherwise good.	Total of each nature.	Garrison Carriages.	Garrison Carriages.	Field Carriages.	Handspikes.	Drag-Ropes.	Flannel Cartridges.	Paper Cartridges.	Canisters filled with Shot.	Round Shot.	Sponges, with Ram-mers.	Ladles.	Worms.	Coils of Slow-match.	Lint Stocks.	Tubes.	Priming Irons.	Gimlets.	Oilcloths.	Aprons of Lead.	Haversacks.	Portfires.	Portfire Sticks.	Tube-Boxes.	Tomkins.
32	21	17	4	42	37	5	-	4	-	-	-	630	-	-	35	22	-	42	-	42	42	42	42	-	-	-	-	42
24	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
18	3	3	4	10	10	-	2	-	8	-	-	500	-	5	7	-	-	10	-	10	10	10	10	-	-	-	-	10
12	17	1	-	18	14	-	8	38	16	-	-	900	-	-	7	10	-	18	-	18	18	18	18	-	-	-	-	18
9	14	4	2	20	14	-	6	50	12	-	500	1000	1000	8	16	13	-	20	-	20	20	20	20	-	-	-	-	20
6	4	2	25	31	1	15	16	54	32	300	1000	1550	1550	31	31	29	-	31	300	31	31	31	31	16	192	16	16	31
Total..	59	27	36	122	77	20	32	146	68	300	1500	4630	2550	45	97	74	-	122	300	122	122	122	122	16	192	16	16	122

NEW-YORK, March 10, 1776.—Recapitulation of Articles wanting to complete the Cannon, according to the above Return.

20 Garrison-Carriages.....5 for 32-pounders.	15	6	do.
32 Field-Carriages.....2	8	12	do.
	6	9	do.
	16	6	do.
146 Handspikes.....4	32	do.	
	38	12	do.
	50	9	do.
	54	6	do.
68 Drag-Ropes.....8	18	do.	
	16	12	do.
	12	9	do.
	32	6	do.
300 Flannel Cartridges.....300	6	do.	
1,500 Paper Cartridges.....500	9	do.	
	1,000	6	do.
4,630 Cannisters, filled with shot.....630	32	do.	
	50	24	do.
	500	18	do.
	900	12	do.
	1,000	9	do.
	1,550	6	do.
2,550 Round-Shot.....1,000	9	do.	
	1,550	6	do.
45 Sponges, with Rammers.....1	24	do.	
	5	18	do.
	8	9	do.
	31	6	do.
97 Ladles.....35	32	do.	
	1	24	do.
	7	18	do.
	7	12	do.
	16	9	do.
	31	6	do.
74 Worms.....22	32	do.	
	10	12	do.
	13	9	do.
	29	6	do.
122 Lint-Stocks.....42	32	do.	

Lint-Stocks, (continued).....1 for 24-pounders.	10	18	do.
	18	12	do.
	20	9	do.
	31	6	do.
300 Tubes.....300	6	do.	
122 Priming Irons.....42	32	do.	
	1	24	do.
	10	18	do.
	18	12	do.
	20	9	do.
	31	6	do.
122 Gimlets.....42	32	do.	
	1	24	do.
	10	18	do.
	18	12	do.
	20	9	do.
	31	6	do.
122 Oilcloths.....42	32	do.	
	1	24	do.
	10	18	do.
	18	12	do.
	20	9	do.
	31	6	do.
122 Aprons of Lead.....42	32	do.	
	1	24	do.
	10	18	do.
	18	12	do.
	20	9	do.
	31	6	do.
16 Haversacks.....16	6	do.	
192 Portfires.....192	6	do.	
16 Portfire-Sticks.....16	6	do.	
16 Tube-Boxes.....16	6	do.	
122 Tomkins.....42	32	do.	
	1	24	do.
	10	18	do.
	18	12	do.
	20	9	do.
	31	6	do.

Lord *Stirling* sent to the Committee of Safety a copy of sundry Resolutions of the Continental Congress; which were read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"IN CONGRESS, March 14, 1776.—*Resolved*, That eight thousand Men be ordered for the defence of the Colony of *New-York*.

"That Orders issue to Colonel *Irvine* immediately to march with his Battalion to *New-York*, and put himself under the command of the Officer commanding there.

"That Colonel *Dayton* be likewise ordered with his Battalion to march to *New-York*, and join the forces there.

"That Colonel *Shee* and Colonel *Magaw* be also ordered to march with their Battalions to *New-York*.

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety, of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend by arms these United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and to apply the Arms taken from such persons, in each respective Colony, in the first place, to the arming the Continental Troops raised in said Colony; in the next place, to the arming such Troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence; and the residue to be applied to the arming the Association. That the Arms when taken be appraised by indifferent persons, and such as are applied to the arming the Continental Troops be paid for by Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils, or Committees of Safety.

"March 15, 1776.—*Resolved*, That Captain *Nelson*, with his Company of Riflemen, be directed immediately to repair to *New-York*.

"*Resolved*, That the Governour of *Connecticut*, the Conventions and Councils of Safety of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*, be requested to hold their Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, for the defence of *New-York*, as the Continental commander at *New-York* shall desire; and that the pay of the Militia called for the defence of *New-York* be the same as that of the Continental Troops raised and employed in the Middle Department, to commence from the time they begin their march.

"*Resolved*, That Lord *Stirling* be directed to order the Troops destined for *Canada* to proceed on their march, agreeable to their former orders.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

"By order of the Congress:

"JOHN HANCOCK, *President*."

[Copy of Governour Tryon's Letter:]

"To the Inhabitants of the Colony of *NEW-YORK*.

"Notwithstanding prejudice, delusion, and faction, have hitherto among too many usurped the seat of reason and reflection, and every exhortation I have offered to the inhabitants of this Province (in whose affection I have been taught to be happy) has been reviled and treated with neglect; yet, as my wishes for their prosperity and feelings for their calamities, cannot easily be suppressed, even towards the disobedient, I cannot but repeat my endeavours to recall those who have revolted from their allegiance to a sense of their duty, and to comfort those who have been the objects of oppression for their zealous attachment to our happy Constitution and their steady obedience to the sovereignty of the *British* Empire. It is in the clemency and authority of *Great Britain* only, under *God*, that we can look for happiness, peace, and protection; and I have it in command from the King to encourage, by every means in my power, the expectation in his Majesty's well-disposed subjects in this Government, of every assistance and protection the state of *Great Britain* will enable his Majesty to afford them; and to cherish every appearance of a disposition on their part to withstand the tyranny and misrule which accompany the acts of those who have but too well hitherto succeeded in the total subversion of legal Government.

"Under such assurances, therefore, I exhort all the friends to good order and our justly admired Constitution, still to preserve that constancy of mind which is inherent in the breasts of virtuous and loyal citizens; and I trust a very few

months will relieve them from their present oppressed, injured, and insulted condition.

"*England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *Wales*, have united to place their whole strength, power, and confidence, in his Majesty's hands. The numerous addresses from all parts of the King's dominions in *Europe*, speak the loyalty and zeal with which his subjects there engage to support his Majesty in asserting and maintaining the just sovereignty of the *British* Empire over all its members.

"The *British* state moves not by sudden and violent sallies, nor wantonly oppresses; she has lenity for her basis, and is distinguished for moderation and forbearance; but when her just indignation is roused, the experience of other nations can testify her weight and force. It cannot be sufficiently lamented, that the conduct of this country has called for so severe a rod; may a timely and dutiful submission avert its stroke. I have the satisfaction to inform you that a door is still open to such honest, but deluded people, as will avail themselves of the justice and benevolence which the supreme Legislature has held out to them, of being restored to the King's grace and peace, and that proper steps have been taken for passing a commission for that purpose, under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, in conformity to a provision in a late act of Parliament; the Commissioners thereby to be appointed having also power to inquire into the state and condition of the Colonies, for effecting a restoration of the publick tranquillity.

"WILLIAM TRYON.

"Ship *Dutchess* of *Gordon*,

"North-River, *New-York*, March 16, 1776."

Die Mercurii, A. M., March 20, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Hallett*, Mr. *Scott*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR *TRYON*.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR *DUTCHESS*.—Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR *CUMBERLAND*.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR *KING'S*.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR *ORANGE*.—Colonel *Allison*.

*Ordered*, That *John Clauston*, Master of the Sloop *Success*, belonging and bound to *Dighton*, in *Massachusetts* Government, be permitted to lade on board the said Sloop thirty barrels of Flour, and to convey the same to *Dighton* aforesaid.

*Abraham Lott*, Esq., Treasurer, attending, was admitted. He requested a permit to go on board the *Asia* and *Phoenix*, ships-of-war, to settle accounts with the Pursers of each ship.

Thereupon, a permission was given to Mr. *Lott*, in the words following, to wit:

*Ordered*, That *Abraham Lott*, Esquire, be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board the Ships-of-War in this Harbour, in company with the Port-Master, and to return, he having been sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

*Abraham Livingston* informed the Committee, the Committees of *Westchester* and *Dutchess* will not permit him to bring Pork from those Counties; and requested an order for the purpose of enabling him to obtain Pork. Thereupon, an Order was given to him in the words following, viz:

Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, has, agreeable to a Resolution of the Continental Congress, contracted with the Provincial Congress of this Colony to supply all the Continental Troops in this Colony with Provisions:

Therefore *Ordered*, That the respective Committees of the Counties of *Westchester* and *Dutchess* permit Mr. *Abraham Livingston* to export Provisions of any kind whatsoever from either of those two Counties to *New-York*, on his giving (or any other such proper person as is employed on his behalf) such security as the Committees approve of, to land and store such Provisions in *New-York* or *King's* County.

*Luke Kiersted*, *Petrus Byvanck*, and *Francis Bassett*, a sub-Committee of the General Committee of the City of

New-York, in pursuance of a late order of the Provincial Congress, delivered in their Report in writing, by them subscribed, that they had inspected into the state of Provisions and Bar-Iron in this City, and found the quantities to be according to their Return made, and those in the hands of the persons therein named. They thereby return the following quantities, viz: Pork, 106 barrels; Flour, 2,694 barrels; Beef, 97 barrels; Bar-Iron, 32½ tons.

One of the Secretaries brought in a draft of separate orders to different gentlemen for preparing the Artillery Stores and apparatus necessary for the Cannon at this City; which were read and approved of.

The Committee in pursuance of the request of Lord Stirling, attending, the state of the Artillery and the Stores at present wanting for those of six-pound Shot and upwards, agreed and ordered that the following Stores be provided for the Artillery, with all possible despatch, by the following persons, viz:

Ordered, That Colonel Curtenius provide immediately the following Articles and Stores for Artillery, viz:

68 Drag-Ropes.....	8	for 18-pounders.
	16	12 do.
	12	9 do.
	32	6 do.
122 Gimlets.....	42	32 do.
	1	24 do.
	10	18 do.
	18	12 do.
	20	9 do.
	31	6 do.

Ordered, That Mr. William Mercier direct and have immediately prepared and fit for use, the following Artillery Carriages, Articles, and Apparatus, viz:

20 Garrison Carriages.....	5	for 32-pounders.
	15	6 do.
32 Field-Carriages.....	2	18 do.
	8	12 do.
	6	9 do.
	16	6 do.
146 Handspikes.....	4	32 do.
	38	12 do.
	50	9 do.
	54	6 do.
45 Sponges, with Rammers.....	1	24 do.
	5	18 do.
	8	9 do.
	31	6 do.
97 Ladles.....	35	32 do.
	1	24 do.
	7	18 do.
	7	12 do.
	16	9 do.
	31	6 do.
74 Worms.....	22	32 do.
	10	12 do.
	13	9 do.
	29	6 do.
122 Lint-Stocks.....	42	32 do.
	1	24 do.
	10	18 do.
	18	12 do.
	20	9 do.
	31	6 do.
122 Tomkins.....	42	32 do.
	1	24 do.
	10	18 do.
	18	12 do.
	20	9 do.
	31	6 do.

And Ordered, That Mr. Anthony Griffiths direct the preparing of, and have immediately prepared, the following necessary Artillery Stores, viz:

Flannel Cartridges.....	300	for 6-pounders.
1,500 Paper Cartridges.....	500	9 do.
	1,000	6 do.
4,630 Canisters, filled with Shot.....	630	32 do.
	50	24 do.
	500	18 do.
	900	12 do.
	1,000	9 do.
	1,550	6 do.
2,550 Round-Shot.....	1,000	9 do.
	1,550	6 do.

(Mr. Hallett has contracted for them; they will be cast and ready as fast as possible.)

122 Aprons of Lead.....	42	for 32-pounders.
	1	24 do.
	10	18 do.
	18	12 do.
	20	9 do.
	31	6 do.
300 Tubes.....	300	6 do.

122 Priming-Irons.....	42	for 32-pounders
	1	24 do.
	10	18 do.
	18	12 do.
	20	9 do.
	31	6 do.
122 Oilcloths.....	42	32 do.
	1	24 do.
	10	18 do.
	18	12 do.
	20	9 do.
	31	6 do.
16 Haversacks.....	16	6 do.
192 Portfires.....	192	6 do.
16 Portfire Sticks.....	16	6 do.
16 Tube Boxes.....	16	6 do.

Moses Ogden, from Newark, attended, in pursuance of the Letter for that purpose from this Committee, and entered into a Contract with Mr. Hallett, on behalf of the Committee, for making of Grape Shot; which Contract is in the words following, to wit:

Articles of Agreement between JOSEPH HALLETT, Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of NEW-YORK, and MOSES OGDEN, of NEWARK, in the Colony of NEW-JERSEY.

The said Moses Ogden agrees and covenants with the said Joseph Hallett, to perform, as follows, to wit:

The said Moses Ogden agrees to deliver at the Ferry, at Paulus Hook, the following quantity of Shot, at the following times, and in the following proportions, to wit: Two tons of two-ounce Grape-Shot, two tons of three-ounce Grape-Shot, one ton of four ounce Grape-Shot, and one ton of eight-ounce Grape-Shot; one thousand Shot of twelve pounds each; one thousand, of nine pounds each; two thousand, of six pounds each;—all below six pounds weight, at forty Pounds per ton, the rest at twenty-eight Pounds per ton. The delivery to begin at farthest on the 6th day of April next; and three tons at least to be delivered in every week till the whole quantity shall be delivered. Mr. Hallett, in behalf of the Committee of Safety, agrees to pay for the said Shot at the abovesaid rates and prices, and to advance one hundred Pounds in cash to Mr. Ogden, towards the execution of the above contract on his part, for which Mr. Ogden is to give his bond to Mr. Hallett, to be cancelled as soon as he shall have delivered Shot to that value.

MOSES OGDEN.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

ROBERT BENSON,  
JOHN MCKESSON.

New-York, March 20, 1776.

Moses Ogden and Mr. Hallett having executed each a copy of the said Contract, and exchanged them, the said Moses Ogden executed a Bond to the said Joseph Hallett, conditioned for the payment of one hundred Pounds, agreeable to the said Contract; and an Order on the Treasurer of the Provincial Congress was delivered to the said Moses Ogden, in the words following, to wit:

Ordered, That Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. Moses Ogden the sum of one hundred Pounds, in part of the Money payable to him on the Contract with Mr. Joseph Hallett, for a quantity of Grape-Shot and Cannon-Ball for the use of the Continental Army in this Colony.

A certain William Powell sent a Letter to the Committee requesting a permit to go on board Captain Parker's ship, the Phenix, to solicit his consent to proceed to sea, that he may go to the West-Indies.

The Committee refused to give him a permit.

Otto Parisien brought to the Committee a sample of Lead extracted from the Ore lately brought to this city by John McDonald. He also delivered in a Memorandum, which was filed, in which he says that the said Ore yields at the rate of sixty weight of Lead and half an ounce of Silver, from one hundred weight of Ore.

Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., March 20, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Joseph Hallett, Esq., Chairman.  
FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Hallett, Mr. Scott, Captain Rutgers,  
Mr. Cortlandt, Mr. Sands, Colonel Lott.  
FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. Gelston.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Captain *Caleb Bruen* attending, was admitted. He informed the Committee that the Company of Artificers from *New-Jersey*, under his command, were ordered to *King's County*; that they stand in need of sundry Barrack Furniture, and that the Barrackmaster and Commissary *Curtenius* refused to supply him therewith without an order from this Committee:

Thereupon *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *Caleb Bruen*, two Iron Pots, eight Straw Beds, two Trammels, two Pails, two Candlesticks, four large wooden Bowls, and four small wooden Bowls, for Captain *Bruen's* Company of Artificers from *New-Jersey*, and take his receipt on Continental account.

A Certificate or Permit from *John Paul*, Chairman of the Committee of *Berkley*, up *Taunton River*, in *Massachusetts-Bay*, approving that *Abner Rabbit*, in the Sloop *Rainbow*, should come to *New-York* for Pig-Iron, and such other Cargo as he should think proper, was read; (the said Certificate is dated the 5th day of *February* last;) and a request for leave to lade and export to *Berkley* forty barrels of Flour.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. *Ray* and Colonel *Hyer* be, and hereby are, at liberty to permit *Abner Rabbit* to export forty barrels of Flour, in the Sloop *Rainbow*, to *Berkley*, in *Massachusetts-Bay*, if they shall think proper.

"To Mr. *Ray* and Colonel *Hyer*, and to Captain *Mercier*."

*Samuel Loudon* came into the Committee, and complained that he had a Pamphlet, intended as a refutation of the arguments contained in the Pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, nearly printed; that he advertised the publishing of it in Mr. *Gaine's* Newspaper; that the Committee of Mechanicks had yesterday morning prevented his going on with that work; and that some of them, with some other persons, have since destroyed the whole impression; by which he has sustained the loss of at least one hundred and fifty Pounds.

*Samuel Loudon* withdrew. After some time, was called in, and desired to state the whole transaction, and his complaint, in writing, and make oath thereto; and also to have such parts of it as fell within their knowledge, proved by indifferent witnesses who were in his house; and to bring the same to this Committee to-morrow.

A Letter from the Delegates of *Maryland*, requesting the loan of Cannon for the defence of *Baltimore*, was read.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony, dated the 19th instant, and for reasons therein mentioned, recommending the application of the Colony of *Maryland*, was read, and filed.

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries prepare a draft of an Answer to those Letters.

A Return of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment of Militia in the South end of *Ulster County*, from Lieutenant-Colonel *James McClaghry*, commanding the said Regiment, was read, and filed.

A Scheme for raising Minute-men, or having one-fourth of the Militia always in readiness to act on any emergency, proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel *McClaghry*, and thereunto annexed, was also read, and filed.

A Certificate from the Committee at *New-London*, in *Connecticut*, dated the 11th instant, was read, and filed. They certify that *Peter Vandervoort* is requested to ship one hundred barrels of superfine, and thirty barrels of common Flour, to *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., to be shipped to the *West-Indies* on account of that Colony, and that all prudent care will be taken to prevent its falling into the hands of their enemies:

Thereupon *Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, or the sub-Committee for Exports, be, and hereby are, at liberty to permit Mr. *Peter Vandervoort* to export to *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., in *New-London*, one hundred barrels of fine Flour, and thirty barrels of common Flour, to be shipped to the *West-Indies* on account of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

To Messrs. *Ray* and *Hyer* and to Mr. *William Mercier*.

Die Jovis, A. M., March 21, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Joseph Hallett*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Hallett*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Gelston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—General *P. Ten Broeck*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

Mr. *Elias Nixen*, the Port-Master, attending, produced a list of supplies wanted for the use of the *Swallow Packet*:

Thereupon *Ordered*, That the Port-Master be, and he is hereby, permitted to convey on board the *Swallow Packet*, for the use of the said Packet, the following supplies, viz: Eight barrels of Bread, four barrels of Flour, five barrels of Pork, five barrels of Beef, two hundred Scupper Nails, three pounds of twenty-penny Nails, one quarter of fresh Beef.

*Abel Hetfield*, attending, requested permission to go on board the *Asia* ship-of-war, to get his Clothes, which he had left on board when taken in his Boat coming from *New-Jersey*, loaded with Iron, and which was seized by Captain *Vandeput*:

Thereupon *Ordered*, That *Abel Hetfield* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board the *Asia* ship-of-war, with the Port-Master, and to return; he having been sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

The Answer of the Second Battalion, with some remarks on the Proposals of the Committee, and some new Proposals, were read.

The Committee gave such answers on that subject as they thought proper, to Major *Stoutenburgh*, and informed him, in substance, that it was their opinion that the Regiment ought not to be paid for any greater number of Officers than Men; that it was best for them to fill their Companies; that if all the Privates cannot be supplied with Arms immediately, that they can, notwithstanding, be employed in the Fortifications.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* had, on the 26th day of *February* last, obtained from the Provincial Congress a Permit to ship Flaxseed and Lumber on board of the Ship *Polly*, *Thomas Kennedy* Master, to be exported to *Cork*, in *Ireland*, in return for Military Stores imported, to the amount of eight hundred and ninety-six Pounds and nine Pence, which he brought back and returned to the Committee of Safety. Mr. *Low* informed the Committee that he had laded the said Flaxseed and Lumber, but that, through the stoppage of the Ports by the Ships-of-War, he cannot get the said Vessel and Cargo out of Port: and therefore requested that he might have a permit to export to the amount of the sum above-mentioned, in Provisions, to the *West-Indies*, in lieu of the said Flaxseed and Lumber, on condition that the same shall not be exported:

"*Ordered*, That Mr. *Nicholas Low* be permitted to export Provisions to the *West-Indies* to the amount of eight hundred and ninety-six Pounds and nine Pence, in lieu of the said Flaxseed and Lumber, on condition that the said Flaxseed and Lumber shall not be exported.

"To the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, and to Mr. *Ray* and Colonel *Hyer*, their sub-Committee, and to Captain *Mercier*."

Captain *Dennis* attending, informed the Committee that he had purchased about ten tons of Bar-Iron in *New-Jersey*, and had it brought to this city last evening, and requested permission to export the same, and twenty barrels of Flour, to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*:

"*Ordered*, That *Jeremiah Harris* be permitted to lade on board his Vessel the said Bar-Iron, and twenty barrels of Flour, and convey the same to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*.

"To Messrs. *Ray* and *Hyer*, and to be delivered to Captain *Mercier*."

Captain *Amos Hutchins* attending, informed the Committee that he had forty-six of his men in this city; that Mr. *Sears*, as Deputy Adjutant-General, had mustered them, and that they are on duty; that he expects the residue of



his Company hourly; that he is in want of at least one hundred and fifty Pounds, to discharge the pay due to his men, and to enable them to supply themselves with necessities:

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Captain *Amos Hutchins*, on Continental account, and on account, in part, of the pay of the Company under his command, the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, on account, and take Captain *Hutchins's* receipt for the same.

Mr. *John Moore* delivered to the Chairman a Memorandum that Colonel *Peter Bellinger* had appointed the place of rendezvous for his Regiment (which is the Fourth Regiment of *Tryon County*) by the Church at *Kingsland*, at the South side of the river. N. B. Colonel *Bellinger's* place of rendezvous.

The said Memorandum contained a list of Officers for the whole Fourth Regiment of *Tryon County*; but many of the former Commissions not being returned, and blank Commissions having been delivered to Mr. *Moore* for that Regiment:

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore* keep the blank Commissions for the Fourth Regiment in *Tryon County*, until he goes home, and see them delivered to the persons duly elected, and a proper Return of all the Officers made, with all possible despatch, to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

A Letter from Colonel *Curtenius*, with a long account of the articles he has been ordered to purchase for the Troops, was read and filed. Colonel *Curtenius* thereby informs that he stands in need of a large sum of money to enable him to complete his orders.

A Letter from *John James Boyd*, of *Richmond County*, was read. He therein says that any accusation against him to the Provincial Congress was without foundation and unjust, and that he is a steady and warm friend to his country.

—  
Die Jovis, P. M., March 21, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present: FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Sands*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

Mr. *Joseph Hallett* being necessarily absent, Colonel *Morris Graham* was unanimously chosen Chairman *pro. tem*.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Thompson* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, March 21, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Please to pay to Lieutenant *George Tudor*, of the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the sum of forty Pounds, *Pennsylvania* currency, for the use of the wagoners who are on their way to the camp at *Cambridge* with powder.

"WILLIAM THOMPSON, Brigadier-General.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety for New-York."

Thereupon *Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to Lieutenant *George Tudor* forty Pounds, *Pennsylvania* currency, amounting to forty-two Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence, *New-York* currency, agreeable to the request of Brigadier-General *Thompson*, and that Mr. *Livingston* take a receipt for the same, on Continental account.

N. B. The above order was written on General *Thompson's* Note, to be delivered to the Treasurer.

A Letter from the Delegates of this Colony was read, and is in the following words, viz:

"Philadelphia, March 1, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We laid before Congress your representation in favour of Mr. *St. Clair*, which met with their approbation, as you will observe by the resolution which we have the honour to enclose.

"General *Lee* informed Congress, by letter, that he had imposed a Test upon the inhabitants of our Colony, in order to ascertain their political principles. However salutary such a measure might be, when grounded on a legal and constitutional basis, we were much alarmed that it should owe its authority to any military officer, however distinguished for his zeal, his rank, his accomplishments, and services. We considered it as one of the most solemn and important acts of legislation, and a high encroachment upon your rights as the Representatives of a free people. We could not, therefore, be silent upon so momentous a point, though we were not favoured with your sentiments or instructions, nor informed of what, or whether anything had passed between you and the General respecting the disaffected inhabitants. We took up the subject on general principles. There can be no liberty where the military is not subordinate to the civil power in everything not immediately connected with their operations. Your House, the natural and proper tribunal for all civil matters within the circle of your own jurisdiction, was assembled, and Congress itself within the General's reach, ready to enforce every reasonable proposition for the publick safety. To one or other he ought to have applied. A similar effort in *Rhode-Island* had passed over unnoticed; reiterated precedents must become dangerous; we therefore conceived it to be our unquestionable duty to assert the independence and superiority of the civil power, and to call the attention of Congress to this unwarrantable invasion of its rights by one of their officers. A resolution passed in consequence, on the 8th of *March*, that no oath, by way of test, be imposed upon, exacted, or required of any inhabitant of these Colonies by any military officer; and it was ordered to be immediately published. We flatter ourselves that our conduct on this occasion will meet with your approbation.

"This will be presented by Brigadier-General *Thompson*, who, for the present, will command in your capital, General *Schuyler's* residence at *Albany* being deemed indispensable. General *Thompson* is a gallant officer, and very much respected in this Province; and we doubt not of your endeavours to make his command as agreeable to himself and as salutary to the country as possible; to which nothing can contribute more essentially than harmony and mutual confidence between him and the civil power.

"Congress were much perplexed in appointing the officers to the four *New-York* Battalions, not knowing whether a former resolution, directing the *English* Troops, who wintered in *Canada*, to be formed into two battalions, had been carried into effect. In that case, a provision will be made for such of the gentlemen in that country as are entitled to promotion. However, it was not thought best to expose them to any uncertainty. It is the intention of Congress that if any of them should have been promoted in that department, they shall continue there, and others be appointed for the new battalions; if not, that they shall join those corps.

"A battalion was intended for Colonel *Ritzema*, but some objections having been suggested, it is left vacant, until he can have an opportunity of being heard, of which you will be pleased to inform him.

"We have the honour to be, with the utmost regard, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants,

"JAMES DUANE,

"JOHN JAY,

"JOHN ALSOP,

"LEWIS MORRIS."

"P. S. The following battalions are assigned for the defence of *New-York*, besides the four you are raising, viz: *Pennsylvanians*—*Wayne's*, *Irvine's*, *Shea's*, and *Magan's*; *New-Jersey*—Lord *Stirling's* and *Dayton's*. These troops are raised, but not armed. The want of arms will, it is thought, be in a great degree remedied by executing the resolution of Congress of the 14th instant, a copy of which goes with these despatches. It is directed to be kept as secret as the nature of the service will admit.

"For your immediate defence, the General in your department is authorized to apply to the Governour of *Connecticut*, your Convention, and the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, for so many of the Militia as he may judge necessary, who are to be paid by the Continent at five dollars a month for each private. A resolution passed the 8th instant for supplying you with five tons of gunpowder, and it

was ordered to be immediately forwarded by the Committee of Secrecy. We took it for granted that it had been sent forward accordingly, till Mr. *Lewis's* letter to Mr. *Alsop* led to an examination, when the Chairman of that Committee reported that it had been detained for want of carriages. A copy of the order for the powder is enclosed. We shall be glad to know how far the battalions of last year were completed, as our Colony is reflected upon for a greater deficiency than we believe to be consistent with truth. It has also been represented that recruiting for the present service goes on very slowly, which, considering your danger and distresses, we scarce think credible.

"Honourable Provincial Convention, *New-York*."

"In Congress, March 6, 1776.

"Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to send to *New-York* five tons of Powder, for the use of the Continental Troops there.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

"In Congress, March 11, 1776.

"A Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, of the 7th instant, enclosing an application from *Patrick Sinclair* for leave to return to *Europe*. The Congress, taking into consideration the said Letter and application,

"Resolved, That Mr. *Patrick Sinclair* be allowed to return to *Europe*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

"In Congress, March 14, 1776.

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed, within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend, by Arms, these Colonies, against the hostile attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and to apply the Arms taken from such persons, in each respective Colony, in the first place to the arming the Continental Troops raised in said Colony, in the next to the arming such Troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence, and the residue to be applied to the arming the Associators; that the Arms when taken be appraised by indifferent persons, and such as are applied to the arming Continental Troops be paid for by Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Whereas, Mr. *Benjamin Curtis* was, on the first day of *March* instant, appointed a Surgeon for one of the Regiments raising in this Colony, and has been since constantly employed in the care of the Sick of the First Regiment, and other Continental Troops in this Colony, and not designated to any particular Regiment: And whereas Colonel *McDougall* now requests that the said *Benjamin Curtis* may be appointed Surgeon to the First Regiment of the said Troops:

Ordered, That Doctor *Benjamin Curtis* be, and is hereby appointed Surgeon to the First Regiment of Continental Troops raised or raising in this Colony, whereof *Alexander McDougall*, Esq., is Colonel, his pay to commence and continue from the 1st instant.

A Certificate of Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Bard*, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"We, whose names are underwritten, do hereby certify that we have examined *Isaac Ledyard*, respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and find him well qualified for the office of First Mate of a Regiment.

"Witness our hands, this 21st day of *March*, 1776.

"SAMUEL BARD, M. D.

"JOHN JONES, M. D."

Ordered, That the said *Isaac Ledyard* be, and he is hereby, appointed Surgeon's Mate to the First Regiment of Continental Troops now raising in this Colony, whereof *Alexander McDougall*, Esq., is Colonel.

A-permit from the Honourable *Nicholas Cooke*, Esquire, Governour of the Colony of *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, under the seal of the said Colony, dated the 11th instant, was read. He thereby permits *Jonathan Car-*

*penter*, Master of the Sloop *Diana*, to proceed to the Colony of *New-York*, in ballast, and return with a lading of Provisions, Bar-Iron, and other articles, under the direction of the Committee of Inspection of the City, Town, or County, where he shall lade. Sufficient bond having been given that the said *Jonathan Carpenter* shall, in all things, conform himself to the Continental Association,

Ordered, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, or their sub-Committee of Inspection, be, and hereby are, at liberty to permit Mr. *Jonathan Carpenter* to export such quantities of Flour, or Provisions of any kind, (except Beef and Pork,) and such quantities of Bar-Iron, as they may think proper to spare, or to suffer to be exported.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Captain *William Mercier* the sum of five hundred Pounds, on account, towards enabling him to fit out the Vessel lately purchased by order of the Provincial Congress, and ordered to be fitted out and armed by the Marine Committee.

*Joseph Lindsly*, Captain of a Company of Artificers from *New-Jersey*, applied for Barrack necessities:

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *Joseph Lindsly*, for his Company of Artificers from *New-Jersey*, two iron Pots, eight straw Beds, two Trammels, two Pails, two Candlesticks, and four large and four small wooden Bowls, and take his receipt for the same.

Captain *Joseph Lindsly* returned to, and informed the Committee, that Mr. *Curtenius* could not supply him with any of the articles mentioned in the foregoing order, except wooden Bowls, with which he had supplied Captain *Lindsly*:

Whereupon it was Ordered, That the Barrackmaster deliver to Captain *Lindsly*, for the use of his Company of Artificers from *New-Jersey*, two iron Pots, eight straw Beds, two Trammels, two Pails, and two Candlesticks, and take his receipt for the same.

And Ordered, That the said Company be supplied with the usual allowance of Wood.

A second Letter from *William Powell*, requesting a permit to go on board the Ship *Phoenix*, was read and filed.

Ordered, That he be informed that this Committee is well assured Captain *Parker* will not permit him to pass to sea, and that therefore the Committee will not give him a permit to go on board.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., March 22, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Morris Graham*, Chairman *pro tem*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Scott*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cooper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Ordered, That the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, or their sub-Committee of Inspection, be at liberty to permit Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt* and Mr. *Isaac Sears* to export produce of any kind (horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, and Poultry, excepted) to the amount or value of three hundred and sixty Pounds, in part of the value of Military Stores imported from *Amsterdam*, in the Sloop *Sally*, *Brown* Master.

Captain *Rutgers* dissents.

Ordered, That *Philip Livingston*, by his Agent, Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, be permitted to export Wheat, Flour, and other produce of the United Colonies, (Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, and Poultry, excepted,) to the amount of twenty thousand Dollars, for the service of the United Colonies, pursuant to a permission of the Committee of Secrecy of the Continental Congress of the 8th of *January* last.

Ordered, That Mr. — *Deane*, of the Colony of *Connecticut*, be permitted to load the Brigantine *Elizabeth* with Wheat and Flour, on Continental account, pursuant to an order of the Continental Congress.

Captain *Rutgers* dissents.

A draft of a Letter to Captain *Patrick Sinclair*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 22, 1776.

SIR: On receipt of your late request to go to *Britain*, the Provincial Congress applied to the honourable Continental Congress for a permission for the purpose. Success having attended the application, we enclose you a copy of the permission, and hope it may come to your hands so early as to enable you to take the benefit of a passage in the packet, if it should be your desire. We presume the Committee of *Huntington* will accept of your parole, that you will go to *Britain* on your leaving *Suffolk County*.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Huntington*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: The honourable the Continental Congress has given permission for Mr. *Patrick Sinclair* to go to *Britain*, of which we send you a copy. You will be pleased to deliver him the enclosed, and permit him, on his giving his promised parole that he will immediately proceed to *Britain*, to come to *New-York* to take passage, whenever it suits his convenience.

*Sarah Seborn*, the wife of *Frederick Seborn*, a private sentinel in the Company whereof *Frederick Weisenfels*, Esq., was late Captain, now in the Continental service at *Quebeck*, being in distress, with her family of children, produced a letter of attorney from her husband, duly executed, dated the 8th day of *August* last, and certified by Captain *Weisenfels*, enabling her to receive thirty-five Shillings per month of her husband's pay:

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* advance to *Sarah Seborn*, in part of her said husband's pay, two Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence, and take her receipt for the same; and that he inform General *Schuyler* and the Deputy Paymaster-General thereof.

A Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, at the Fortifications, was received and read, and is in the words following:

"Fort Constitution, March 21, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: There was a question arose yesterday between Colonel *Palmer* and myself concerning the command of the troops now stationed at *Pooplopen Kill*. Colonel *Palmer* is of opinion that, in consequence of a resolve of your honourable House for calling Minute-men out of his Regiment in particular to that station, it was the intent of Congress (as he was one of the Commissioners to superintend the work) that he should have the command of those troops. I am of opinion that, in consequence of the order of the Committee of Safety that placed me here as commanding officer of the Fortifications in the Highlands, the command of the troops at both stations comes within my department. I would therefore beg the favour of your honourable Board to solve the question, and let me know by the bearer, Captain *Thomas Moffat*, whether I have anything to do with the troops at that station or not, in order that I may know how to make a proper return of the number of men at that station now in the service.

"I have sent two orders by the bearer—one for services done by a Minute Company at this station, and another for sundries with which I stand charged to particular persons, as per account; and as the money is wanting, should be glad to have it by the bearer, Captain *Moffat*, if possible.

"I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"ISAAC NICOLL.

"To the Honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*."

Ordered, That the Accounts enclosed in Colonel *Nicoll's* Letter be delivered to one of the Auditors.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., March 22, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Morris Graham*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Scott*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cooper*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

*Gilbert Forbes*, of the City of *New-York*, Gunsmith, at the door, was admitted. He informs that he has lately had a certain *William Clarke*, a Lockflier by trade, and a useful mechanick, employed in his service; that a person named *Winter*, from *Chester*, in *Maryland*, has lately come here, and insists on taking the said *William Clarke* to *Chester*, in *Maryland*; that he has offered forty Shillings, Proclamation money, per week to the said *Clarke*; that *Clarke* having refused to accept of wages, or go with the said *Winter*, *Winter* now claims him as a servant, and has threatened to apprehend the said *William Clarke*, and to commence a suit against the said *Gilbert Forbes*:

Ordered, That the said *Gilbert Forbes* be protected in the employment of the said *William Clarke*, and the said *William Clarke* be protected in pursuing his trade and occupation for the present; that the said *Gilbert Forbes* and the said *Winter* personally appear before this Committee to be heard in the premises; and that in the mean time no suit or other measures contrary to the above directions be pursued by either of the parties, until the further order of this Committee.

(Many unimportant applications to the Committee were not thought worthy of notice on the Minutes.)

*Henry Remsen*, Esq., came into the Committee, and conferred with them on the propriety of the City Committee calling in the male inhabitants who are out of town, for a short time, to take a tour of duty; on the necessity of either a sale or a loan of a small quantity of Gunpowder to the Militia on *Bergen Shore*, to enable them to protect Boats, and other Craft, against the Barges of the Ships-of-War; and on sundry other matters.

Colonel *Remsen* was desired to inform the Committees on *Jersey Shore* that they shall have the loan of three quarter-casks of Gunpowder, to be delivered to the Committee of *Bergen*, and the Committee of *Acquacknunch*.

Die Sabbati, A. M., March 23, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Morris Graham*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Graham*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cooper*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*, Col. *Joseph Drake*.

Ordered, That the Port-Master be, and he is hereby, permitted to take with him on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, for the use of Governour *Tryon*, the following articles, viz: Mrs. *Hatch*, one boat-load of Wood, one box of Kitchen Furniture, fifty bushels of Corn, and one and a half tons of Hay.

*John Bell* attending, requested permission to go on board the Packet to procure a passage in her to go to *England*:

Thereupon Ordered, That *John Bell* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board the Packet, in company with the Port-Master, but not to return; he having been sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, or carry any Letters or Papers relative thereto, nor any other Letters or Papers except his own private Papers, or such as shall have been inspected by two members of this Committee.

*Gilbert Forbes* and — *Winter* attended the Committee, were called in, and respectively heard. Mr. *Winter* produced a paper purporting to be a sale of a certain *William Jones*, but without seal, not signed by the person therein mentioned by the name of *William Jones*, nor in any manner authenticated, agreeable to any law whatever. The Committee are of opinion that is no evidence whatever, and do not countenance his apprehending *Clarke*.

*David Barclay* attended the Committee, and was admitted. He set forth many difficulties he would be reduced to by dismissing him at present from the care and management of the Guard at the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, as he had

hired the men of that Guard by the month. He further declared that he did not desire any advantage from the sum reported as reasonable, and agreed to be allowed him per month by the Congress for that Guard, but would be contented with his pay and disbursements.

*Ordered*, That *David Barclay* continue his Guard at the Cannon until the expiration of one month from the time he took the care and management of that Guard.

A Return of Militia Officers for *Eastchester*, in *Westchester* County, elected in the presence of *Daniel Sering* and *Stephen Sneden*, Committee-men, was read and filed. The following Officers are thereby returned as elected on the 9th instant, viz: *Thomas Pinckney*, Captain; *William Pinckney*, First Lieutenant; *John Sneden*, Second Lieutenant; and *William Reed*, Ensign.

A Return of Militia Officers elected in the presence of *Frederick Van Cortlandt* and *Thomas Emans*, Committee-men, in the Precinct of the *Yonkers*, was read and filed. The following Officers are thereby returned as elected on the 18th instant, to wit: *John Warner*, Captain; *Jacob Post*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Lawrence*, Second Lieutenant; and *Isaac Post*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for the Officers of the two Companies as returned elected and above-mentioned.

And the said Commissions were issued accordingly.

A Letter from Major *Douglass* as to the service at the Lakes, and which was received yesterday, was read and filed. He says he will proceed to the Lakes when he receives the command of the Continental Congress, or the General, if his health will permit; and, in the mean time, will serve his country; and desires the Committee would assist and forward Mr. *Wynkoop*.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this Colony relative to the command on the Lakes, and recommending Captain *Wynkoop*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the 16th instant, the Provincial Congress (then about to adjourn) received a letter from Major-General *Schuyler* respecting Major *Douglass* and Captain *Wynkoop*, of which we enclose a copy, (No. 1.) The Provincial Congress immediately sent for Captain *Wynkoop*, read the General's letter to him, delivered him a copy, desired him to call on Major *Douglass* with it, and return an answer the speediest possible.

On the 18th, Captain *Wynkoop* informed the Committee of Safety that he had called on Major *Douglass*, (who is in Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, in *King's* County,) and delivered him a copy of the General's letter; that Major *Douglass* had intimated that he was now in service; that it would be at least two months before he could attend at the Lakes, if his health would then permit. The Committee thereupon wrote to Major *Douglass*, and on the 21st received his answer, of which we enclose you copies, (Nos. 2 and 3.)

The season is so far advanced, that the service must suffer if the vessels on the Lakes are not immediately employed. We have prevailed on Captain *Wynkoop*, by this reason only, to engage seamen, and proceed to the General, with all possible despatch. We beg leave, through you, to inform Congress that Captain *Wynkoop* was bred a mariner; has frequently been master of mercantile vessels; and served with reputation during the last war both in the land and marine departments; we think him an officer of merit, and we have heard his conduct in the last campaign highly applauded.

We have promised to recommend Mr. *Wynkoop* to Congress for the command of the vessels on the Lakes. This we do with the greatest cheerfulness, as we think him equal to the command and worthy of the trust; and, from General *Schuyler's* letter, we are induced to believe it would not be disagreeable to him.

We do not wish to impose Captain *Wynkoop's* services on Congress in this command, if it is not perfectly agreeable to them; and should the Congress think proper to order Major *Douglass*, or any other gentleman, to go up to take that command, we pray their determination may be speedy, that the service may not suffer, as Captain *Wynkoop* will not continue in that service under Major *Douglass*.

We are, gentlemen, &c.

To the *New-York* Delegates in Continental Congress.

Die Solis, 9 ho. A. M., March 24, 1776.

Several Members met pursuant to adjournment.

No material business appearing necessary, the Committee adjourned to go to Church.

Die Solis, 3 ho. P. M., March 24, 1776.

The Committee met on summons. Present:

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Colonel *Lott*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *John V. Cortlandt*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Beckman*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—General *P. Ten Broeck*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Colonel *Brasher* was unanimously chosen Chairman.

The Letter hereinafter mentioned, from *John Chatfield*, Chairman, received by express, which occasioned a summons of the Members, was read, and sundry copies thereof taken.

The following Resolves and Letters, for sending Gunpowder to *Suffolk* County, were read and agreed to, but for want of another County represented, the Members present were adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., March 25, 1776:

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Prince*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—General *Petrus Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Eversen*.

The Letter from *John Chatfield*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Easthampton*, received and read yesterday, was again read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Easthampton, March 22, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: This day, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, our guard stationed at *Montauk* saw twenty sail of square-rigged vessels (five of them appeared to be large) and two sloops, bearing about south-southeast from the point of *Montauk*, about nine or ten miles to sea, the wind south-southeast, the weather something thick and hazy, steering about northeast by north, and sailed to the eastward of *Block-Island*, and suppose, by the course they steered, that they were going into *Rhode-Island*. This, gentlemen, is all the information we can give you concerning them, as about one o'clock they disappeared behind *Block-Island*, and they saw them no more.

"As we are a frontier, at the east end of *Long-Island*, and are destitute of men to defend us, and have but little ammunition, should be very glad if the honourable House would use their endeavours that we may have some assistance.

"We are, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servants.

"Signed by order of the Committee of *Easthampton*.

"*JOHN CHATFIELD*, Chairman."

The Committee, taking into consideration the defenceless state of *Suffolk* County,

*Resolved*, That one thousand pounds of Gunpowder and four thousand pounds of Lead, be immediately depatched by a boat to *Huntington*, for the use of the inhabitants of *Suffolk* County, to be charged to the County, and the County to be accountable for the same. That a Letter be written to Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, informing him of the supply of Ammunition sent to his County; and that Mr. *Tredwell* have the management of forwarding the said Ammunition.

And *Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Woodhull* be, and

he is hereby, authorized to make such disposition of the Militia of his Brigade, on any sudden invasion when he may find it necessary, as he from time to time shall think best, without delaying for directions from the Provincial Congress, Committee of Safety, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Forces in this Colony, or from the County Committee.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Norwood*, the Colony Commissary of Stores, deliver to *Thomas Tredwell*, Esq., or his order, one thousand pounds of Gunpowder and four thousand pounds of Lead, for the use of the inhabitants of *Suffolk* County, and that Mr. *Norwood* take Mr. *Tredwell's* receipt for the same.

A draft of a Letter to Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: We have by this conveyance sent to *Huntington* one thousand pounds of gunpowder, and four thousand pounds of lead, for the use of the inhabitants of your County, to be charged to the County, to be accountable. We must add that ammunition is so scarce that it is not probable you will soon receive any further supply.

By a resolution of the Committee of Safety, you are authorized to make such dispositions of the Militia of your brigade, on any sudden invasion, as you, from time to time, shall think best, without delaying for directions from the Provincial Congress, Committee of Safety, or of the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental forces in this Colony, or from the County Committee.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

To Brigadier-General *Woodhull*.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Norwood*, the Commissary of the Military Stores of this Colony, do not deliver out any Powder, Ball, or Flints, belonging to the Colony, without the order of the Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony for the time being, except in time of invasion, and when neither the Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony are convened.

*Ordered, further*, That the said Commissary make a return to this Committee of the Powder, Ball, and Flints, he has delivered; particularly specifying by whose order, and to whom delivered; and also of the quantity of Powder, Ball, and Flint, he shall have in store belonging to this Colony, after the order of this day, for supplying the County of *Suffolk*, be completed.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety at *Philadelphia*, was read. They thereby inform us that they have sent Captain *Charles Alexander* and Lieutenant *John Hennessey*, two officers of the armed-boats in that Province, for the purpose of recruiting Seamen for the Naval service of that Province, and recommend them to this Committee for assistance.

A Letter from *James Duane*, Esq., at Continental Congress, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, March 21, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *Carpenter Wharton*, is Commissary for the *Pennsylvania* Troops. He supplies them by contract at seven pence per ration, *Philadelphia* currency. He will probably make the same offer for the rest of the Army in the Middle Department, and unless others will be equally reasonable, must be entitled to a preference, it being the intention of Congress to have their Armies supplied in the easiest terms. He supports a very fair character in this place, and is well connected.

"I have the honour to be, with the utmost regard, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

"JAMES DUANE.

"Honourable Convention of *New-York*."

Mr. *Wharton* delivered to a Member (who brought it into the Committee) the following Resolve, to wit:

"IN CONGRESS, March 16, 1776.—Resolved, That *Carpenter Wharton*, Commissary, continue, agreeable to his contract, to supply with Rations the *Pennsylvania* Battalions serving in *New-York*.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary."

It appearing necessary that this Committee should know how many Officers and men are at the Fortifications erecting at *Hell-gate*:

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lott* and Colonel *Brasher* be a Committee to go to *Horne's Hook*, and muster all the Troops there, both Officers and Privates, and return an exact List of those Troops, specifying the names of the Officers and of the men in their respective Companies there, in actual service; and that the said Committee see every man whose name they shall take down or report.

*Ordered*, That the Port-Master be, and he is hereby permitted to put on board the Packet one barrel of Ale, and on board of the *Dutchess of Gordon* five hundred weight of Bread.

*James Cooper*, a Boatman, and *George Allisony*, a Sawyer, going on board of the Packet with the Port-Master with Wood, were severally duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists not to give any intelligence to any person on board of the said Packet, Governour *Tryon's* Ship, or the Ships-of-War in the Harbour, relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of the City or Colony, and that they will not carry on board any Letters or Paper writings whatsoever:

*Ordered*, That they be admitted to go on board with the Port-Master.

Mr. *James Campbell*, Merchant, from *Canada*, was admitted. He was duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists not to communicate any intelligence to any person or persons on board of the Packet, or of Governour *Tryon's* Ship, the *Dutchess of Gordon*, or either of the Ships-of-War in this Harbour, with respect to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, and that he will not carry on board, nor deliver to any person on board of either of those vessels, any letters or writings relative thereto, and that he will not carry on board any other letters or papers whatsoever, except his own private papers, or such as shall be first inspected by order of this Committee:

Thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *James Campbell* be, and he is hereby permitted to go on board the Packet, (with the Port-Master,) not to return; he having been duly sworn that he will not communicate any intelligence with respect to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, or carry any Letters or Papers which contain any intelligence relative thereto.

Captain *Johannes Jacobus Blauvelt* attending, informed the Committee, that he was come down with a party of Minute-men from *Orangetown*; that his and his Lieutenant's Commissions are for the Militia; and prayed that a Commission be made out for him as a Minute Captain, and another for his Lieutenant as an Ensign of the same nature, his Lieutenant having agreed to accept of Ensign's pay.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue to *Johannes Jacobus Blauvelt* as Captain, and *Jacobus Smith* as Ensign, of the *Orangetown* Company of Minute-men.

And they were issued accordingly.

A permit from *Nicholas Cooke*, Esquire, Governour of the Colony of *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, under the seal of the said Colony, bearing date the 9th day of *March*, instant, was read. He thereby permits *Upton Fraser*, Master of the Sloop *Greenwich*, to proceed to the Colony of *New-York* in ballast only, and there take on board a lading of Provisions and other articles, under the direction of the Committee of Inspection of the City, Town, or County, where he shall lade, and to return to that Colony.

Sufficient bond having been given that he, the said *Isaac Upton*, shall in all things conform himself to the Continental Association,

*Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, or their sub-Committee of Inspection, be permitted, and hereby are permitted, to give permission to *Isaac Upton*, Master of the Sloop *Greenwich*, to take on board a lading of Flour, Bread, or any other Provisions whatsoever, (Beef and Pork excepted,) and any quantity of pig Iron that they may think proper, and export the same to *Rhode-Island*, under such directions or restrictions, and in such manner as they may think proper.

To the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, and to Mr. *Ray* and Colonel *Hyer* their sub-Committee, and to Captain *William Mercier*.



The Committee, finding that a sufficient quantity of Lead cannot be purchased for the use of the publick and the necessary defence of this Colony,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Samuel Prince* be, and he is hereby, authorized to employ proper Mechanicks for that purpose, and to take the Leads out of the window-cases of the City-Hall of this City, and also out of the Exchange of this City of *New-York*; to keep an account of the weight of Lead taken out of each Building, separately, that the weight of Lead taken out of each may be known; and that Mr. *Prince* cause the said Lead to be delivered to Mr. *Curtenius*, or his order.

Mr. *Prince* informed the Committee that Mr. *John Meyer*, the keeper of the City-Hall, refused to open the doors of the different apartments in the Hall, unless he should be ordered by this Committee:

Thereupon, it was *Ordered*, That Mr. *John Meyer* be, and he is hereby, directed and required to open the doors of all the rooms and apartments in the City-Hall of the City of *New-York*, that Mr. *Samuel Prince* may be enabled to take the Leaden Weights out of the window-casements, pursuant to an order of this Committee of this day.

The Committee adjourned till four o'clock this afternoon.

—  
Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., March 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman *pro tem*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Prince*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Norwood* deliver to Colonel *McDougall*, or his order, one quarter-cask of Gunpowder, to be forwarded to *Cornelius Atherton*, for the purpose of proving the Musket-barrels the said *Atherton* hath made by contract with Colonel *McDougall* and Colonel *Curtenius*; the price of the said Gunpowder to be deducted out of the first payment to be made on the said contract.

*John McDonald*, the person lately sent by the Provincial Congress (pursuant to an order of Continental Congress) to explore the Lead-Mines at *New-Canaan*, returned. His Report, with several Letters relating thereto, were read and filed.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to *John McDonald* the sum of eighteen Dollars, for his services in going to explore a Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan*, pursuant to an order of Continental Congress, and take his receipt for the same on Continental account.

*Resolved*, That the Captains and inferior Officers and Mariners of the Armed Vessels now fitted out, or to be fitted out by this Colony, for the protection of its trade, against the depredations of the enemy, be subject to, and governed by the Articles of War made by the Continental Congress for the government of the Navy of the United Colonies; and that Captain *Smith*, of the Sloop *Schuyler*, and Captain *Rogers*, be each of them served with a copy of this Resolution.

A Letter from Colonel *Hay*, dated the 24th instant, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Haverstraw, March 24, 1776.

“SIR: In compliance with the resolution of Congress of the 13th instant, ordering sixty-five privates to be drafted out of my regiment and sent to *New-York*, I have called the regiment together for the purpose.

“Lieutenant-Colonel *Cooper*, of the Minute Regiment, attended, and insisted on drafting every fourth man to complete his regiment. This created great uneasiness in my regiment, and rendered it impossible for me to send down the detachment required, without greatly distressing the inhabitants, which made it necessary for me to postpone the business until *Wednesday* next, which day the regiment is again ordered to attend.

“I am of opinion that the publick service will be greatly promoted if the Committee of Safety would order to *New-York* the Minute Regiment, or sixty-five of that corps, instead of the detachment from my regiment. The publick by this means will be furnished with the young men, well accoutred.

“I should be happy to have the sentiments of the Committee of Safety on this subject by the bearer hereof. If the Committee of Safety should agree in opinion with me, be pleased to forward their order to Colonel *Cooper* by the bearer of this, so that I may have it by *Wednesday* next.

“I am, sir, with great esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

“A. HAWKES HAY.”

An Answer to Colonel *Hay* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 25, 1776.

SIR: In answer to yours of yesterday, we would just inform you, that we shall give orders to Colonel *Cooper*, who is now in town, to send down a company of Minute-men, in lieu of those ordered by the Congress to be drafted out of your regiment. At the same time, as the enemy have quit-*Boston*, and we know not how soon they will be here, we would urge it upon you with the greatest earnestness to use your utmost endeavours to have your regiment in all possible readiness to march upon the shortest notice.

We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

To Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

*Ordered*, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Cuyper*, of the *Orange* County Regiment of Minute-men, send down to *New-York*, as soon as possible, one full Company of the *Orange* County Regiment of Minute-men, completely armed, accoutred, and appointed in the best manner, and each with his Blanket. That this Company be sent down to *New-York* instead of the Company which Colonel *Hay* was desired to despatch from his Regiment.

A Letter from the Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

“Dutchess County Committee, March 19, 1776.

“SIR: The following recruiting officers, viz: Captain *Swartwout*, Captain *Barker*, and Captain *Pierce*, came before this Committee and informed us that they were under great difficulties with respect to raising men in this County, by reason of the reduction of the wages of the soldiers, and that many of the young men in this County that were disposed to go into the service, had enlisted in the *Connecticut* Regiments, as their pay is there still kept up to the former establishment, viz: five pounds three shillings and four pence bounty, and five pounds three shillings and four pence per month, and a month's pay and the bounty advanced immediately upon inlisting. They likewise informed us that they labour under another difficulty, from this circumstance, that the time of inlistment is not limited, but left indefinite in the instructions.

“From this information, and from our own observations of the dissatisfaction throughout the country, caused by the late establishment of the soldiers' pay, this Committee are of opinion the companies cannot be filled in this County without an augmentation of wages.

“You will please to favour us with the sentiments of Congress respecting these matters as soon as possible, as the officers wait for our answer.

“We are, sir, your humble servants.

“By order of the Committee.

“EGBERT BENSON, Chairman.”

Draft of an Answer to the Letter from the Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County was read, approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are this day favoured with your letter of the 19th instant, stating the difficulties of the recruiting officers in your County. We apprehend their difficulties arise from mistake. The pay, clothing, and bounty, allowed to the Continental troops now raising in this Colony, are the same as allowed in *Connecticut*, *Jersey*, &c. It is the Continental establishment for all troops raised for service in

the Middle Colonies, and for all Continental forces whatever, that we know of, except those raised for the service in *Canada*. The troops raised for the *Canadian* service only have five pounds three shillings and four pence per month, one month's pay advanced, but to be discounted. And we conceive that the arduous service they undertake, and the high prices that must be there paid for every necessary, render their pay and service not the most eligible. The allowances and regulations published in this Colony are in the very words of the Continental Congress. It is not in our power to change the terms given to the troops, in any one article.

We hope the gentlemen in your County may succeed in raising their companies, as we have some time ago refused several gentlemen who offered their service, with full companies, out of respect to your County Committee's recommendations that your County might have an opportunity of employing their proportion of officers and men. But if any of them cannot raise their men, we ought to be informed of it as soon as possible, as the Continental Congress has more than once directed inquiries whether the troops are raised, or how near being completed.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Dutchess* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and transmitted.

A Letter from *John Barnes*, of *Charlotte* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess County, March 22, 1776.

"SIR: In consequence of a variety of accidents the enclosed alterations have taken place in the four companies of Militia in this Precinct. I have therefore to beg you will be pleased to return me the several commissions here specified as soon as possible, lest the service may be impeded by delay, as some individuals are so obstinate as to refuse training until their Captains produce their commissions. I am also sorry to observe that the late nomination of *Bernard Doughty* and *Dirck Doty* as Captains, (though conformable to the rules prescribed,) were, I am persuaded, chosen under an undue influence, and done merely to render the service of their companies useless and contemptible. Of course it cannot be expected the inferior officers named, (who are good men,) together with a number of men belonging to these two companies, (who would otherwise be imbodyed,) will obey orders. For these reasons I have not troubled you with their names. These several circumstances were debated yesterday in the County Committee then sitting, and Captain *Doughty* examined thereupon; yet still we found it impossible to set aside his election. Captain *Doty*, though not examined in person, we found exactly in the same predicament; upon the whole, therefore, it was proposed that their commissions only should be written for, and, when received, that Colonel *Sutherland* be requested to see that every part of their duty as Captains be strictly attended to. By this mode of proceeding, it is expected they will bring on their own dissolution, and thereby create a new election, when it may reasonably be expected a better one will succeed.

"I am, respectfully, sir, your very humble servant,

"JOHN BARNES.

"To *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esquire.

"*Stoutenburgh's*, late *William Gay*, declined: *Joseph Hagerman*, Captain; *John Hagerman*, First Lieutenant; *Jonathan Holmes*, Second Lieutenant.

"*Gidney's*, late *De la Verne*, preferred: *Frederick Stritt*, Captain; *William Woodworth*, First Lieutenant; *Daniel Hamill*, Second Lieutenant; *David Ostrom*, Ensign.

"*Christopher Tobias*, late *Jacob Tobias*, deceased: *Bernard Doughty*, Captain.

"*Sharpstone's*, late *Isaac Bloom*, on Minute service: *Dirck Doty*, Captain."

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., March 26, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman *pro tem*.  
FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Graham*, Mr. *Everson*.

Whereas the allowance made by the Continental Congress for the Frocks of the Troops to be raised in this Colony, appears to be insufficient, owing to the great scarcity of the proper stuff to make them of; and whereas it is necessary for encouraging the raising the said Troops expeditiously, that they should be clothed in Uniform,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that, as well for the reputation as the security of this Colony, the Troops should be raised without delay, and that all encouragement should be given for that purpose.

Therefore *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* be, and he is hereby directed to provide Frocks for the Troops raising for the defence of this Colony, of the most proper Cloth he may be able to procure, and on the most reasonable terms in his power.

Mr. *Peter Vandervoort* attending, requested permission to export twenty barrels of Flour, for the use of some persons employed in erecting a fortification at *New-London*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Peter Vandervoort* be, and he is hereby, permitted to export twenty barrels of Flour, for the use of those who are erecting a fortification at *New-London*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Tredwell* and Mr. *Moore* be a Committee to consider of, and report a plan for disarming the Tories, pursuant to the Resolution of the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Colonels, or Commanding Officers of the respective Corps of Minute-men now in service at *New-York* or the places adjacent, do permit the Recruiting Officers of the several Regiments now raising in this Colony for Continental service, to enlist any men they can out of the said Minute Regiments; and that the said Recruiting Officers be permitted to take such men as they may so enlist into their respective corps of Continental Troops immediately.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Thompson* was received, read, and is as follows, viz:

"New-York, March 26, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I must request you would furnish me with the sum of three hundred Dollars, which I at present stand in need of for the publick service. Major *Scull*, who waits on you with this, will give the proper receipt.

"I am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

"WILLIAM THOMPSON, Brigadier-General."

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Brigadier-General *Thompson*, the sum of three hundred Dollars, and take a receipt for the same, on Continental account.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Post* be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish the Barrackmaster with as many Tables, Benches, and other necessary articles, for the use of the Troops in this City, as the Barrack shall, from time to time, require or stand in need of.

A Letter from Mr. *Isaac Sears*, with General *Lee's* orders to him for his expedition to *Queen's* County, were severally read. Mr. *Sears* desires that the Bills he drew while employed on that expedition, may be paid.

*Ordered*, That the said papers be filed.

*Ordered*, That five hundred weight of Gunpowder be sent to the Committee of *Orange* County; and that the Committees of the Counties of *Ulster* and *Dutchess* be authorized, and they are hereby authorized, to receive each one thousand weight of the ton of Gunpowder lodged in *Fort Constitution*, belonging to this Colony; and that the respective Counties above-mentioned be charged with the said Powder; and that the said Powder be disposed of by the respective Committees of the said Counties, in the best manner to prevent the attacks or ravages of any enemy who might attempt to proceed up *Hudson's River*.

And *Ordered*, That the Committee of each of the said Counties respectively, give such directions for the disposition of the said Gunpowder that it may not be wasted, or expended, but in the defence of the country, lest those Counties might be distressed before any other possible supply can be afforded to them.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary, deliver to *Theunis Cuyper*, Esq., five hundred weight of Gunpowder, for the County Committee of *Orange County*, and that Mr. *Norwood* take Mr. *Cuyper's* receipt for the same.

A draft of an Answer to Colonel *Nicoll's* Letter, of the 21st instant, which was received on the 22d, was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 26, 1776.

SIR: Yours, of the the 21st instant, came safe to hand, and we are of opinion that Mr. *Palmer's* being appointed one of the Commissioners does by no means supersede or interfere with your appointment as commander of the troops at the posts; and that you should still continue to command all the troops at the different Fortifications in the Highlands, according to your original appointment, until you shall be relieved by some Continental officer, or until the further order of a Committee of Safety, or Congress, of this Colony; but the Commissioners undoubtedly have power to direct that the troops be set to work in such numbers and in such parts of the Fortifications as they may think proper, to carry on the works. We have no reason to doubt but you will so command the troops as will render them most useful for that purpose.

The accounts you sent down could not be audited for want of proper vouchers; but that you may have the money as soon as possible we shall order the Commissioners to audit and pay them.

We are, sir, with respect, your very humble servants.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Die Martis, 4to ho. P. M., March 26, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman *pro. tem.*

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Sands*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cooper*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Cantine*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *M. Graham*, Mr. *Everson*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Charles Alexander* and Lieutenant *John Hennessey* be at liberty to inlist the Mariners lately brought from the east end of *Nassau-Island*, and now confined in the Jail of this City, and take them to *Philadelphia*; and that the said Mariners be discharged from confinement on the request of those gentlemen.

The Committee of Safety, having called and examined the gentlemen inlisting Mariners for the three vessels on the Lake, by order of Continental Congress, and the Captains of the Armed Vessels fitting out by order of this Colony for the defence of the trade between *Sandy-Hook* and the Capes of *Delaware*, are informed that there are but few Mariners in this city, and not more, if so many, as will be sufficient for the necessary purposes above-mentioned. The Committee are therefore of opinion that they cannot, with justice to the Colony or to the publick service to the northward, consent that Captain *Alexander* and Lieutenant *Hennessey* inlist, or take away any other Mariners than those above-mentioned.

*Thomas Hockley*, of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, and *John Warder*, of the same place, Merchant, (being two of the people called *Quakers*,) attending, were admitted. *Matthias Aspin*, of *Philadelphia*, and *William Horner*, of *Virginia*, also attending, were admitted.

The said *Thomas Hockley* and *John Warder* were re-

spectively duly affirmed; and the said *Matthias Aspin* and *William Horner* were respectively duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, not to give any information or intelligence whatsoever to any person or persons whomsoever on board of the Packet, the ship in which Governour *Tryon* resides, the Ships *Asia* or *Phenix*, or on board of any other vessel in this Colony, under the care or direction of, or connected with any person on board of either of the vessels above-mentioned, relative to any Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, or any other of the United Colonies; nor relative to the *American Fleet*, or any armed vessels fitted out by any Colony or place; and not to carry on board of either of the said vessels, nor deliver to any person belonging to either of them, any papers or writings whatever relative thereto; nor any other papers or writings but such as shall have been first shown to this Committee, and permitted to be taken on board.

Thereupon permits were given to the said four persons respectively, to go on board of the Packet with the Port-Master.

The Committee took into consideration Mr. *Duane's* Letter, received yesterday by Commissary *Wharton*.

Thereupon a draft of a Letter to the Continental Congress, on the subject of the contract for victualling the Troops, was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 26, 1776.

SIR: In the month of *February* last, the Provincial Congress of this Colony received, amongst other things, resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress, dated the 17th instant, under the hands of the President and Secretary, "That the sum of thirty-five thousand Dollars be advanced to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for the support of the Troops employed for the defence of that Colony; that it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *New-York*, to contract with proper persons for supplying the said Troops with the Rations allowed by Congress, and Fuel, and other necessities, on the most reasonable terms in their power"

To prevent trouble, we enclose an exact copy of the said two resolutions, marked No. 1.

The Provincial Congress appointed a Committee to receive proposals of contracts for supplying the said troops; which Committee caused the rations, and other necessities to be supplied, to be published in the *New-York* newspapers; and, agreeable to their advertisements, received all proposals offered for that purpose, sealed up, to prevent collusion as far as possible. After every care and precaution taken, the Provincial Congress, on the 15th of *March*, accepted of the proposals of Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, for supplying the said troops, his being the most reasonable that were offered; and on the 16th, the contract was perfected and executed by five gentlemen from different Counties, on behalf of the Provincial Congress, pursuant to the resolution above-mentioned, and by Mr. *Abraham Livingston*.

We enclose you a copy of the contract, (No. 2,) and therefore need not repeat its contents.

Mr. *Livingston* has, by bond, given sufficient sureties, in the sum of thirty thousand pounds, to perform his contract; and the Provincial Congress have agreed to advance him five thousand pounds, and to pay him five thousand pounds at the expiration of every month, if the support of the troops by him supplied shall amount to that sum.

In pursuance of those agreements, Mr. *Livingston* has purchased provisions to a very large amount. The Provincial Congress were induced to make the said contract, not only because it was the most reasonable terms then in their power, but, considering the risk and expense of transportation, should any force obstruct the navigation between this city and *King's County*, or between the city and the Highlands, the contract would be highly advantageous to the Continent.

Yesterday we saw a resolution of Congress, that *Carpenter Wharton*, Commissary, continue, agreeable to his contract, to supply with rations the *Pennsylvania* Battalions serving in *New-York*; and were favoured with a letter from Mr. *Duane*, recommending him as contractor for the regiments raised in this Colony, on the same terms he is allowed for the *Pennsylvania* Battalions. We are sorry that it is now out of our power to contract with that gentleman,

even should he be willing to supply the troops raised here on the same terms he does the others.

The Provincial Congress of *New-York* were not only directed "to contract for the troops employed for the defence of that Colony," but the method directed appeared the most eligible, as the larger the contract offered, the more reasonable terms were to be expected, and could be afforded.

Should Congress determine to supersede what has been done in this Colony, as far forth as it relates to the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, we will endeavour to make the best terms we can with Mr. *Livingston* as to that part of his contract, and are inclined to believe he will not take any unreasonable advantages of the gentlemen bound to him in the contract, or of the publick.

Whatever further directions Congress may think proper in their wisdom to give in the premises, we would wish to receive with all convenient speed.

We have the honour to be, most respectfully, your most obedient, humble servants.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., March 27, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *John V. Cortlandt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*, Mr. *Everson*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* returned to the Committee of Safety, with an order of this Committee, dated the 21st instant, permitting him to export Provisions and Lumber to the *West-Indies*, to the amount of eight hundred and ninety-six Pounds and nine Pence, in return for Military Stores imported into the Colony of *New-York*, and formerly sold and delivered to the Committee of Safety of the Colony. Mr. *Low* requests that Mr. *Joseph Lewis* may have permission on his behalf, to export the value of two hundred Pounds, in Provisions, Lumber, or any other kind of produce of this Colony, from *Suffolk* County, in this Colony, to the *West-Indies*; and that the said sum of two hundred Pounds be deducted from Mr. *Low's* said permit.

This request appearing to the Committee to be reasonable, and agreeable to the Resolutions and practice of the Continental Congress,

Ordered, That Mr. *Joseph Lewis* be permitted to export Provisions, Lumber, or produce of any kind, from *Huntington*, in *Suffolk* County, or any other part of *Suffolk* County, to the amount or value of two hundred Pounds, and no more; and that the Committee of Inspection, or such other Committee, at *Huntington*, or in any other part of *Suffolk* County as may have the care and direction of exports, see that Mr. *Lewis* do not exceed this permit in the value of his exports; and that Mr. *Lewis* be accountable to them to show from time to time the value and quantity of the articles to be by him exported, before they are exported, and to give all due proof and satisfaction relative thereto to such Committee or Committees.

And Ordered, That such Committees make proper returns thereof to this Committee of Safety, or the Provincial Congress, to enable them to make return to the honourable Continental Congress, of the quantity and value of such Exports, agreeable to a Resolution of the Continental Congress, dated the 26th day of *December* last past, in such cases provided.

And Ordered; That the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, or their sub-Committee for Exports, deduct the sum of two hundred Pounds from Mr. *Low's* said permission to export, and permit him to export on his said order of the 21st day of *March* instant, only the amount or value of six hundred and ninety-six Pounds and nine Pence, and no more.

Colonel *Brewer*, the Barrackmaster-General, sent in to

the Committee of Safety a memorandum, which was read and filed. He thereby signifies that he would want eight hundred and thirty-four Pots and one hundred Tea-Kettles, for five thousand men hourly expected. The said memorandum, or request, also mentions a supply of Wood, for which he will give a receipt that will bring the money.

Ordered, That Colonel *Brewer* be informed that Mr. *Abraham Livingston* is, by contract, to supply the Army with Wood.

And Colonel *Curtenius* is hereby repuested to give assistance or directions to Colonel *Brewer*, to enable him to get the number of Pots he wants; and to be so kind as to give any assistance, advice, or directions, he conveniently can, to Colonel *Brewer*, as to the procuring any necessaries Colonel *Brewer* may have occasion to procure.

Colonel *Curtenius* attended, and informed the Committee that he is much in want of cash to enable him to comply with the order of the Provincial Congress for purchasing necessaries for the Troops raising in this Colony, and other orders which he has received.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, advance to *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, the sum of five thousand Pounds, on account, and take a receipt for the same.

Mr. *Abraham Livingston* attended, and delivered to the Committee a Bond from *Philip Livingston* and *John Alsop*, Esquires, and himself, in the sum of thirty thousand Pounds, conditioned for fulfilling his contract for victualling the Troops in this Colony.

The said Bond was read and filed; and Mr. *Abraham Livingston* requested an order on the Treasurer for five thousand Pounds, pursuant to the agreement of the Provincial Congress, on the 15th day of *March* instant, and the 22d power given by the Provincial Congress to the Committee of Safety:

Ordered, therefore, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to *Abraham Livingston*, as contractor for victualling the Continental Troops in this Colony, the sum of five thousand Pounds, on account, in that department, Mr. *Abraham Livingston* to be accountable, and to give his receipt to the Treasurer for the same.

Ordered, That Captain *Charles Alexander* and Lieutenant *John Hennessey* be at liberty to enlist *William Craig*, a prisoner, now confined in the Jail of this City, and take him with them to *Philadelphia*; and that the said *William Craig* be discharged from confinement on the request of those gentlemen.

Ordered, That *John McDonald* immediately proceed to *Orange* County, and apply to *Thomas Smith*, Esq., for information relative to a Lead-Mine, (formerly mentioned by Mr. *Smith* in Congress as very valuable,) in some part of the said County; and that Mr. *McDonald* take Mr. *Smith's* advice and direction relative to the same.

And Ordered, That the said *John McDonald* (after having explored such Mine or Mines in *Orange* County as Mr. *Smith*, or such other person or persons as Mr. *Smith* shall recommend him to for advice and assistance, shall point out to him) proceed to the *Little-Nine-Partners*, in *Dutchess* County, and there apply to Colonel *Morris Graham* and *Jonathan Landon*, Esq., and take their advice and direction relative to Lead-Mines in *Dutchess* County; that Mr. *McDonald* carefully explore such Mines in *Dutchess* County as he may be advised to explore by Colonel *Graham* and Mr. *Landon*, and to report the state and quality of all such Mines, both in *Orange* and *Dutchess* County, as he shall or may explore, to this Committee, with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *Christian Jacobson*, Chairman of the Committee of *Richmond* County, was read. They thereby return the names of persons for Field-Officers, and inform the Committee that they have divided the County into four Districts; that they will speedily hold elections for Captains and Subalterns, and return their names to be commissioned.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bancker* write a Letter to the Committee of *Richmond* County, requesting him to transmit the names of such persons for Field-Officers as they may be assured will serve when they return a list of Captains and Subalterns.

4to ho. P. M., Die Mercurii, March 27, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

The Committee were informed that Captain *Anthony Post* has such work in hand, to be done by his company of Artificers, under the direction of the Commander of the Continental Troops here, that none of those Artificers can be spared to make Cribbs for the Continental Troops; and that, as many are hourly expected, and some of those now here not yet supplied,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Sands* and Colonel *Lott* be authorized, and hereby are authorized, to employ workmen, or contract with proper persons, to make Cribbs, Tables, and Benches, for the Continental Troops coming into this City; and that they get them made on the most reasonable terms, and with the greatest despatch.

Mr. *Joseph Bull* attended, and delivered in his Bond, executed to *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, in the sum of two thousand Pounds, with a condition that, he will cause *Isaac Gidney* to be delivered a prisoner in *Westchester Jail*; and that the said *Joseph Bull* will procure good and sufficient security, in the sum of three thousand Pounds, to the said obligee, that the said *Isaac Gidney* will remain a prisoner in the said Jail during the pleasure of this Committee of Safety, or some future Committee of Safety or Congress. The said Bond was read and filed.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That *Isaac Gidney*, a prisoner now in the Jail of this City, be delivered up to Colonel *Joseph Bull*; and that *Joseph Purdy*, another prisoner in the said Jail, be discharged, they paying the expenses attending their confinement while in Jail.

An Association of a Company in the Township of *Jamaica*, was read and filed. The Officers elected by the said Company have subscribed a Declaration, similar to that directed by the Rules published by the Provincial Congress, to be subscribed by Officers before they enter upon the execution of their offices.

Thereto is annexed a Certificate of *Joseph Robinson* and *Nathaniel Tuthill*, Freeholders and inhabitants of *Jamaica*, that the persons elected Officers were duly chosen in their presence, agreeable to the Regulations of the Provincial Congress, and subscribed the said Declaration in their presence.

Therewith is transmitted the names of the Company, consisting of forty men, exclusive of Commissioned Officers, with their Declaration that they have associated themselves into a Company of Militia; and, agreeable to the rules of Congress, have chosen *Ephraim Baylis*, Captain; *Increase Carpenter*, First Lieutenant; *Abraham Van Osdall*, Second Lieutenant; and *Othniel Smith*, Ensign; and recommend them to be commissioned.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for the Officers of the said Company without delay.

And they were issued accordingly.

The Committee took into consideration the Resolutions of the Continental Congress for disarming disaffected persons. The same having been under consideration at different times, the Committee came to a unanimous determination, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 27, 1776.

Whereas the Continental Congress, on the 14th instant, did "recommend it to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate to defend by arms these United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the *British Fleets and Armies*, and to apply the Arms taken from such persons in each respective Colony, in the first place to the arming the Conti-

mental Troops raised in said Colony, in the next to the arming such troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence, and the residue to be applied to the arming the Associators; that the Arms when taken be appraised by indifferent persons, and such as are applied to the arming Continental Troops be paid for by Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety:" And whereas the necessity of having the Continental Troops, and other inhabitants of these Colonies who are disposed and willing to defend the rights of their country, immediately armed, renders it highly expedient that the said Resolution should be carried into immediate execution:

Therefore *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Committees of the several Cities, Counties, Manors, Townships, Precincts, and Districts in this Colony, forthwith to cause to be disarmed all persons within their respective Districts who are known to be disaffected to the cause of *America*: and, also, all such persons as shall refuse to sign the following Association, to wit:

"We, the subscribers, inhabitants of . . . . . in the County of . . . . . and Colony of *New-York*, do voluntarily and solemnly engage and associate, under all the ties held sacred among mankind, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, to defend, by arms, the United *American Colonies* against the hostile attempts of the *British Fleets and Armies*, until the present unhappy controversy between the two countries shall be settled."

And that it be recommended to the said Committees to use all possible prudence and moderation in carrying the said resolve into execution; and that in such Districts where the Committees find it absolutely necessary to call in an armed force, they are hereby empowered to order any part of the Minute-men, or common Militia of their Districts, to their assistance, that they and the Field-Officers of the forces shall judge necessary; and that the Arms so taken be appraised by indifferent persons appointed by said Committees; and that an account be made of their number, the persons they belong to, and their appraised value; and that each one be marked with the initial letters of the person's name from whom they were taken; and that the Arms, together with the account of them, be delivered to the Chairman of the Committee of the District in which they were so taken, or to such person or persons as shall be appointed by the said Committee for that purpose, he or they giving a receipt for the same; which accounts from the several Districts are to be forthwith transmitted to the Chairman of, and to be laid before, the County Committee, who are hereby directed to transmit an account of the number of Arms so taken, and how many of them are fit for immediate service, to the Committee of Safety, or Provincial Congress of this Colony, that they may be enabled to make further order therein; and in those Counties where there are skilful artificers for the purpose, that the said Committee do cause the said Arms to be fitted up with bayonets, steel rammers, and other necessary repairs, without delay, at the publick expense; and where there are no such artificers, the Committees are to send said Arms to the Committee of Safety, or Provincial Congress, as soon as collected.

*Ordered*, That a copy of these Resolutions be transmitted to the Chairman of the Committee of each County in the Colony, who is hereby directed to furnish the Chairman of the Committees of the several Towns, Precincts, and Districts in the County, with copies thereof without delay.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., March 28, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman *pro tem*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Prince*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

*Ordered*, That the Barrackmaster be, and he is hereby, authorized to supply all the Troops which are already, or shall hereafter arrive, as also those that may be ordered to *King's County*, with the necessary Barrack Furniture and



Utensils, as far as those which he has already provided and in store will enable him to supply them with.

*Ordered*, That the Barrackmaster assist Colonel *Brewer* in providing proper Stores for storing Provisions and other necessaries for the use of the Continental Troops in this City; and that the Barrackmaster be authorized to demand the keys of such Stores as he thinks best calculated to answer the purpose. And further, that he be authorized to enter and take possession of all such Stores, and deliver them to the care of Colonel *Brewer*, or his order.

A Letter from General *Thompson* was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, March 26, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Please to give Mr. *Hugh Hughes*, Commissary of Military Stores, an order for ten thousand Flints and two tons of Lead, on the person who is intrusted by you with those articles, and you will much oblige your very humble servant,

"WILLIAM THOMPSON, *Brigadier-General*.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary, deliver to Mr. *Hugh Hughes* ten thousand Flints and two tons of Lead; and that Mr. *Norwood* take Mr. *Hughes's* receipt for the same, on Continental account, as being ordered by the Continental General for Continental Troops.

*John Van Ness*, Esq., Colonel of the First Minute Regiment of *Dutchess* County, being deceased, whereby the command of that Regiment has devolved on *Cornelius Humphrey*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of that Regiment; and Mr. *Humphrey* being now here in actual service with the said Regiment or a part thereof, and recommended as well qualified to be Colonel of the said Regiment,

*Ordered*, That *Cornelius Humphrey* be appointed Colonel of the said Regiment of Minute-men, in the place of *John Van Ness*, Esq., deceased; and that a Commission issue to him accordingly.

Mr. *Thomas Lefoy*, who served as a Lieutenant in Captain *Wynkoop's* Company in the last campaign, being unprovided for, and the First Lieutenancy of Captain *Ambrose Horton's* Company being yet vacant:

*Ordered*, That a Warrant issue to the said *Thomas Lefoy* to be First Lieutenant in Captain *Horton's* Company.

And the same was issued accordingly.

4to ho. P. M., March 28, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—*William Williams*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

A Letter from Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, requesting that permits might be given to his Drovers who are employed to purchase Beef-Cattle to enable him to supply the Army with Provisions, was read and filed.

*Ryer Schermerhorn*, a person who has contracted with Mr. *Livingston*, or is by him employed, applied for a Certificate:

Whereupon a Certificate was given to *Ryer Schermerhorn* in the words following, to wit:

"The bearer hereof, Mr. *Ryer Schermerhorn*, having contracted with Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, the Contractor for supplying the Continental Troops in this city with the Rations allowed by Congress, with a quantity of fresh Beef; and the said *Ryer Schermerhorn* being under a necessity of going into the different parts of this Colony, as well as into the Colony of *Connecticut*, to purchase and procure Cattle to fulfill his said contract: It is therefore recommended that he be suffered to pass and repass, with such Cattle as he may be able to procure, unmolested.

"To every Committee, and to every friend to liberty, in the United Colonies."

*Ordered*, That the Secretaries give similar Passports to Mr. *Livingston's* other Drovers.

A Letter from Mr. *John Berrien*, one of the Commissioners for erecting Fortifications in the Highlands, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, March 26, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I have to request that you will furnish me with an order on the Treasurer for the sum of five hundred pounds, on account, to enable me to discharge sundry debts contracted for ordnance stores, brick, shingles, boards and plank, intrenching tools, &c., for the use of the Fortifications in the Highlands.

"I am, very respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,  
"JOHN BERRIEN.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of New-York."

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. *John Berrien*, Commissary for the Commissioners for erecting Fortifications in the Highlands, and one of the said Commissioners, the sum of five hundred Pounds, on Continental account, to enable him to discharge sundry debts contracted for Ordnance Stores, Brick, Shingles, Boards and Plank, Intrenching Tools, and other necessaries, for the use of said Fortifications.

A Return for a great number of Commissions from *Fredericksburgh*, in *Dutchess* County, for the Militia Officers in that District, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fredericksburgh, in Dutchess County, March 15, 1776.

"Pursuant to a Resolve of the Provincial Congress of New-York, passed the 9th of August, 1775, the Committee proceeded to call together the several Companies of Militia in this Precinct, for a choice of Officers, as follows:

"Beat No. 1.—*Friday, March 8th*.—The Company did meet, and, under the inspection of *Joshua Myrick*, *Daniel Mertine*, and *David Myrick*, three of the Committee, did choose *Ebenezer Robinson*, Captain; *Nathaniel Scribner*, First Lieutenant; *Hezekiah Mead*, Jun., Second Lieutenant; *Obadiah Chase*, Ensign.

"Beat No. 2.—*Monday, March 11th*.—The Company met, and, under the inspection of *David Waterbury* and *Moses Richards*, two of the Committee, did elect *David Waterbury*, Captain; *Isaac Townsend*, First Lieutenant; *Jonathan Webb*, Second Lieutenant; *Timothy Delavan*, Ensign.

"Beat No. 3.—*September 20, 1775*.—The Company met, and, under the inspection of *Jonathan Paddock*, *Simeon Tryon*, and *David Crosby*, three of the Committee, made choice of *Jonathan Paddock*, Captain; *Jeremiah Burges*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Dykman*, Ensign.

"N. B. *Simeon Tryon* is since appointed a Lieutenant in the Continental Army.

"Beat No. 4.—*Tuesday, March 12th*.—The Company met, and, under the inspection of *Solomon Hopkins*, *David Myrick*, and *David Smith*, did elect *John Crane*, Captain; *Elijah Townsend*, First Lieutenant; *David Smith*, Second Lieutenant; *John Berry*, Ensign.

"Beat No. 5.—*Wednesday, March 13th*.—The Company met, and, under the inspection of *Solomon Hopkins* and *Joshua Myrick*, two of the Committee, did elect *William Colwell*, Captain; *Joel Mead*, First Lieutenant; *Stephen Ludinton*, Second Lieutenant; *David Porter*, Ensign.

"Beat No. 6.—*Thursday, March 14th*.—The Company met, and, under the inspection of *Isaac Chapman* and *Joshua Crosby*, two of the Committee, did choose *David Hecock*, Captain; *William Colkin*, First Lieutenant; *Moses Sage*, Ensign.

"The above gentlemen are all persons of respectable characters, are friendly to liberty, and have signed the General Association recommended by the Congress.

"By order of the Committee:

"DAVID SMITH, *Chairman pro tem*.

"A true copy—Test: "JOSHUA MYRICK, *Clerk*.

"N. B. *Increase Bennett* afterwards refused to serve as Lieutenant."

A Letter from the Committee of *Suffolk* County, bearing date the 27th day of *March* instant, relative to assistance of Troops and a Magazine of Provisions; and a Resolution of the said County Committee, to send an express with

their Letter, and appointing persons to purchase Provisions, were respectively read and filed, and are in the words following, to wit:

"Suffolk County, March 27, 1776.

"SIR: Whereas the east end of *Long-Island* is in a very defenceless situation, and much exposed to the ravages of the Ministerial Army, which are now distressing these Colonies; and as they have now quitted the Town of *Boston*, we are very apprehensive they may attempt to get possession of this part of the Island, which they may easily effect under our present defenceless situation, and which would be of great importance to them:

"We therefore think it necessary that a number of troops should be stationed there, which, we presume, you, in your wisdom, will think a proper measure; if so, we depend you will apply to the commanding officer of *New-York* for that purpose. And as a quantity of provisions will be absolutely necessary for the support of such troops; and as a supply may now be had in the County, and laid up as a magazine for that purpose, and as little or no loss will probably attend the laying up of such a store, therefore we hope you will direct that a suitable quantity may be purchased, and deposited in such place or places in this County as you shall think proper; otherwise we are apprehensive that such provisions will soon be exported from this County.

"We are, gentlemen, with respect, your most obedient, humble servants.

"Signed by order of the Committee:

"WILLIAM SMITH, *Chairman*.

"In Suffolk County Committee, March 27, 1776.

"Resolved, That an express be sent to the Committee of Safety at *New-York*, to take their Resolve upon the expediency of purchasing Provisions in this County for the use of the Troops that may be ordered or stationed in the County; and that *Jesse Brush*, *Samuel Phillips*, *Phineas Fanning*, *Malby Gelston*, and *Burnet Miller*, be a sub-Committee to put the Resolve of the Committee of Safety respecting the same into immediate execution.

"By order: WILLIAM SMITH, *Chairman*."

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., March 29, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, *Chairman*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Prince*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR CUMBERLAND.—Colonel *William Williams*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Colonel *Morris Graham*, Mr. *Everson*.

Colonel *William Williams* came to take leave of the Committee, and departed before Mr. *Tredwell* came in, and therefore the Committee, though they spent the whole morning in considering and preparing different matters, could not do any acts to be entered on the Minutes for want of a quorum.

Adjourned till this afternoon, four o'clock.

Die Veneris, 4to ho. P. M., March 29, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, *Chairman*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Scott*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

Mr. *Patrick Sinclair* attended, to get permission to go on board of the Packet. As the Port-Master is gone down to the Ships, Mr. *Sinclair* was requested to call to-morrow morning.

Mr. *Nicholas Low* informed the Committee that the Sloop *James*, *Richard Puller*, Master, with Provisions, for the *West-Indies*, in returns for Military Stores imported, is ready to sail, and requests a permit.

Ordered, That the Sloop *James*, *Richard Puller*, Master, be permitted to sail; and it is recommended to all friends to *American* liberty to afford every necessary aid to the said Sloop and Master.

Colonel *Ephraim Martin*, from *Essex* County, in *New-Jersey*, delivered in a Return of the following Barrack necessities wanting for his Regiment of Militia; and which he says he cannot obtain by purchase or otherwise, but by order of this Committee to Colonel *Curtenius*:

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Colonel *Ephraim Martin*, fifty Bowls, (some large and others small,) and two hundred and twenty-eight Spoons, for the use of his Regiment, on Continental account, and take Colonel *Martin's* receipt for the same.

A Return, or Memorandum, signed by Captain *Peter Dickerson*, requesting some order that may procure him Dishes and Spoons for the use of his Company, in Colonel *Dayton's* Regiment, from *New-Jersey*, was read.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* supply, on Continental account, twenty Dishes or Bowls, (some large and some small,) and eighty-six Spoons, for Captain *Peter Dickerson's* Company, of Colonel *Dayton's* Regiment, from *New-Jersey*, and that Mr. *Curtenius* take a receipt for the same.

A long Letter from Messrs. *Palmer* and *Livingston*, two of the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands, on the subject of Provisions, Rum for Fatigue-men, and other matters, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort Montgomery, March 28, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Fourteen days ago we began at this post with carpenters and masons, and have our buildings now in a fine way. Our storehouse is completed, and a barrack of eighty by twenty feet will, in a few days, be so far finished as to receive one hundred and sixty men; our bake-house, also, almost finished, and a quantity of fascines made, so that we shall soon begin to erect the Battery. We have now here about one hundred and forty men, and expect one company more in two or three days. The greater part have been at this post about six days, quartered in vessels. But the dissatisfaction of the soldiers, with respect to their provision, is so great that they will soon refuse their duty as labourers, and even now do not half the labour that might reasonably be expected from the numbers we have here. As they have nothing more of the usual species of provision allowed a soldier than pork and bread—this, added to their uncomfortable situation on board the sloops, makes them very uneasy and mutinous. We have used our utmost endeavours, with the influence of their officers, to quiet them, by telling them they will soon be better provided for. But we see no likelihood of that, as repeated applications have been lately made to the Commissary at *Albany*, and the Deputy-Commissary, (Mr. *Phelps*), now at *Fort Constitution*, and all to no purpose. We are therefore under the necessity of applying to you, and beg that you will immediately give such orders to the contractors and Deputy-Commissary, that this post may be supplied with every species allowed to make the full rations to each soldier; and if it cannot sooner be done in that way, your order to us to supply the troops here will be sufficient, as every necessary wanting is to be had in great plenty.

"We beg you will not pass over this application unnoticed; for in case the soldiers are not better provided for, they will not labour; and when that is the case, it cannot be expected that we can carry on the work.

"Captain *Andrew Billings* we have sent with this, who will be able fully to state the deplorable situation of the troops here, if the Committee will call on him, which we beg they may do; and if he returns without a remedy, it will then be out of our power to give them any kind of satisfaction. The soldiers know the errand Captain *Billings* goes on; and the expectation of relief on his return, keeps them from mutinying, and, we have reason to think, from quitting the post in a body, at least the greater part of them.

"Sentiments of humanity as well as sound policy constrain us to add, that, in a plentiful country, it is cruel not to provide well for those men that step forth to defend the rights of their country. Our common enemies, the Tories, take the advantage of it, and secretly retard the recruiting companies filling, which, for that and other reasons, goes on

slowly. We are sensible that the above application to your body is not strictly proper; yet as necessity has and must warrant many things which have imposed themselves on you, we make the present application, with full confidence that some immediate relief may be had in the premises.

"We would beg leave to add that rum is an article very much wanting for the fatigue parties. If a supply of that could immediately be sent up, it would have a very good effect. In case a sufficiency cannot be provided, if we have orders, a plenty of cider and beer can be had, which would answer perhaps as well.

"We send, enclosed, a copy of an affidavit, which proves the assiduity of our enemies, and the necessity of a watchful eye on all their motions.

"In consequence of the resolves of the Provincial Congress, of the — instant, to which we beg to refer, we have called chiefly Continental Troops to this post, thinking they are most to be depended upon. These troops, we think, are and ought to be under our sole directions, as to the work that is to be done. As to what little military parade that is at present necessary, we conceive the eldest Captain here abundantly sufficient, the present body being merely a working party.

"We are, gentlemen, with much esteem, your very humble servants,

"GILBERT LIVINGSTON,  
"THOMAS PALMER.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, New-York."

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., March 30, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Prince*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Helme*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that Colonel *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, stood in great need of some place to store Provisions in. Colonel *McDougall* further informed the Committee that the cellars of the Hospital are well calculated for the purpose.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Trumbull*, Commissary of Provisions, be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to take possession of the Cellars of the Hospital in this City, and make use of the same, for the purpose of storing Provisions and other articles in his department.

A Certificate of Dr. *Jones* was read, in the words following:

"New-York, March 28, 1776.

"This is to certify that Mr. *Gerard G. Beekman* is, by my advice, going to *Bristol*, in *Pennsylvania*, in order to drink the mineral waters of that place for the benefit of his health, which, for some time past, has been sensibly impaired."

Mr. *Beekman* requested a passport, that he might be permitted to go to *Bristol* and return, unmolested. Thereupon, the following Certificate was given Mr. *Beekman*:

"It is hereby certified, that Mr. *Gerard G. Beekman* is permitted to go to *Bristol*, for the benefit of his health; that he is a friend to the cause of *American* liberty. It is therefore recommended to all the friends of liberty, to suffer him to pass unmolested."

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Joshua Potts* be permitted to go on board of the Packet, with the Port-Master, to procure a passage to *England*, he having been sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

*Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, or their sub-Committee, be, and they are hereby, authorized to permit *Paul Pincknam* to lade on board the Sloop *Royal County* such Provisions as he may want, (Beef and Pork excepted,) and take the same to *Falmouth*, in the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Captain *Andrew Billings*, of *Dutchess* County, attended, and was admitted. He informed that his Company is nearly completed, and (except a few men at work or on duty in one of the Minute Regiments now at *New-York*) are now on duty at the Fortifications in the Highlands; that many of his men have been inlisted a considerable time; and that he stands in great need of cash to pay his men, that they may be enabled to purchase necessaries.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Billings*, and the Privates and Non-Commissioned Officers of his Company, be considered as part of the four Regiments raising in this Colony for Continental service; and that *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Captain *Andrew Billings* the sum of three hundred Pounds on account, to be by him applied towards the pay of his Company as above-mentioned; and that the said Treasurer take Captain *Billings's* receipt for the same.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius*, Commissary of the Provincial Congress, deliver to Captain *Andrew Billings*, for his Company, in the Continental Troops raising in this Colony, the following articles, viz: 30 wooden Bowls, 86 wooden Spoons, 86 Frocks, 86 pair of Shoes, 86 Hats, 14 Iron Pots, 86 Canteens, 4 Canteens for Officers, 86 pair of yarn homespun men's Hose, and Blankets for 86 Soldiers, 4 Officers, and 1 Drum and Fife; and that he also deliver to Captain *Billings* the like quantity or number of each article (except Blankets and Hose) for Captain *Jacobus Rosekrans's* Company; and that Mr. *Curtenius* take Captain *Billings's* receipt for the same.

A Letter from Captain *John Grenell* to *Thomas Tredwell*, Esq., dated the 27th March, resigning his Warrant as Captain of Artillery in the Continental service, and declining the service, was read and filed.

Major *Sebastian Beauman* having signified his willingness to render any services in his power for the defence of the liberties of this country; this Committee, reposing especial confidence in his patriotism, valour, conduct, and fidelity, think him well qualified to command an Artillery Company in the Continental service.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That *Sebastian Beauman*, Esq., be, and is hereby, appointed Captain of the Continental Company of Artillery ordered to be raised in this Colony; which Company Mr. *Beauman* is hereby authorized and requested to inlist with all possible despatch.

A draft of a Letter to the Commissioners erecting the Fortifications near *Poeplopen*, in answer to theirs of the 28th, was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are favoured with your letter of the 28th instant. In answer thereto, we inform you that Mr. *Abraham Livingston* has some days ago contracted to supply the troops at the posts in the Highlands with the rations allowed by Congress. Mr. *Livingston* has a vessel with necessaries, and a Commissary, ready to go up to the Highlands; and you may assure the troops that they will be supplied with every part of the rations allowed by Congress, that can reasonably be procured, as soon as wind and weather will permit. This supply has some days ago been attended to, and no unavoidable delay will be made.

Rum for fatigue parties, in our opinion, cannot easily be obtained at present; besides, the price is exorbitant. The Commissary will furnish the troops with a quart of spruce beer per man per day, or the molasses allowed by Congress. If you find it necessary to make a further allowance of beer or cider, you are hereby authorized to procure and allow the fatigue-men one quart of small-beer or cider per man per day. But we beg leave, in this matter, to recommend frugality as much as is consistent with the good of the service, as an extra allowance to fatigue-men is not by order of Continental Congress, and may therefore be a Colony charge.

We approve of your calling in the Continental troops as fast as possible. Colonel *Nicoll* was appointed to command at the Fortifications in the Highlands, in pursuance of an intention of Continental Congress that a gentleman of that rank should command there. We doubt not but you will receive his aid by commanding and inspiring the men at the works, as he is answerable for their defence in case of an attack. We have not heard any objections to Colonel

*Nicoll's* conduct, as an officer or a gentleman; therefore we cannot, without injustice, abridge his appointment. The Continental Congress having thought that those posts should be commanded by an officer of that rank, we do not allow ourselves to have any conceptions on that subject, holding it our duty, in this instance, to obey, and not to dictate.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

The Committee considering of the best method to preserve the Stock on *Staten-Island* if a fleet should arrive and attempt depredations, are of opinion that it should be removed to *Jersey*, on any appearance of an enemy.\*

Ordered, That *Mr. Bancker* get two good Scows built, to have them in readiness to remove Stock or *Jersey* Troops to that Island.

Thereupon, a draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Richmond* County was read, and approved of, in the words following:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, March 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Ministerial Army and Navy having been obliged to desert *Boston*, and much in want of fresh provisions, we are under great apprehensions they may come this way, and make, or attempt to make, depredations on the stock in your Island, before the necessary aids could be sent to you.

We are anxious for the preservation of the stock of your Island. The best method we can devise is, for the owners to procure places for their stock in *Jersey*. We therefore earnestly recommend to you to advise or direct the inhabitants of your County to provide proper places in *New-Jersey* for the reception of their live stock, and, on the approach of an enemy, or any proper notification of danger, to give directions to remove all the live stock in the said County, (horses, working-oxen, milch-cows, and such as are within a month of calving, excepted,) to such places as they shall have so provided.

Humanity, as well as our duty to our constituents, and our desire to prevent every inconvenience or loss to them, as far as in our power, induced us to wish that you would not suffer this matter to be neglected. We assure you that we have the best information that if the preservation of your stock is not attended to by the proprietors, the Continental forces, on the approach of real danger, will prevent the Ministerial Troops from having any benefit of it. We have authorized *Mr. Bancker*, one of your Deputies, to get two good scows built, for assisting to remove stock when necessary.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants. By order.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Richmond* County.

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

\* Resolved, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of *Richmond* County, without delay, to provide convenient and safe places in *New-Jersey* for the reception of Live Stock; and that the Committee of that County, upon the approach of the enemy, or any proper notification of danger from this Committee, the Provincial Congress, or from any other quarter, do, without delay, order and cause to be removed all the Live Stock in said County, excepting Horses, working Oxen, new-milch Cows, and such as are within a month of calving, to such places as shall have been provided as above; or in cases where no such places have been provided, to some place or places of security in *New-Jersey*; and the said Committee are hereby directed, if they shall think it necessary, to desire the assistance of their neighbours in *New-Jersey*, to carry this Resolution into execution. And it is further recommended to the said Committee, for the more expeditious transportation, as well of such Stock, as of such Continental Troops or Militia as may, upon an alarm or invasion, be sent to the assistance of the inhabitants, to cause to be built, without delay, two such flat-bottomed Boats or Scows, as they shall judge most convenient for that purpose, and to employ *Richard Lawrence* and *Joshua Mercereau*, or such other person or persons as they can agree with, to build the same in the best manner, and at the most reasonable rate.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, March 27, 1776.—Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of *Richmond* County immediately to direct that the proprietors of the Stock in that County do, without delay, procure proper places in *New-Jersey*, to move all the Sheep and horned Cattle, of young and old, (except milch Cows, already calved, and those within a month of calving;) to the end that no time be lost in transporting the said Stock whenever the enemy shall appear; and in default of the proprietors procuring such places, this Committee do hereby notify the inhabitants of that County that they will request the Militia of *Jersey* to remove the said Stock whenever the enemy's Fleet appears to enter *Sandy-Hook*.

And Ordered, that the said Committee do immediately cause to be built two large flat-bottomed Scows, one by *Richard Lawrence*, the other by *Joshua Mercereau*, Esquires, at the most reasonable rate, that the Stock may the more readily be removed.

A Certificate, or Passport, was given to *Henry Hegeman*, a Drover employed by *Mr. Abraham Livingston*, the Contractor for the Troops, to procure Cattle and live Stock; a copy whereof is filed.

And similar Passports were also given to several employed by *Mr. Abraham Livingston* as Drovers.

Die Sabbati, 4to ho. P. M., March 30, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Prince*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Ordered, That Messieurs *James Campbell*, *Joseph Potts*, and *John Lloyd*, be permitted to go on board Governor *Tryon's* Ship, and the Packet, with the Port-Master, to inquire whether they can procure a passage to *England*, with permission to return on shore if they should not be able to procure a passage, or if the said Packet should be likely to sail soon; they having been sworn that they will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

Ordered, That *Mr. Stephen Rapalye* be permitted to go on board His Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, with the Port-Master, to demand his Schooner lately seized by order of Captain *Parker*; he having been sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

The Committee took into consideration the Resolution of the Provincial Congress, empowering them to contract for five thousand stand of Arms. Thereupon a draft of an advertisement was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

The Provincial Congress of this Colony having empowered this Committee to contract for a number of Muskets, (to be manufactured in the Colony,) publick notice is hereby given that this Committee are ready to receive proposals from, and treat with, any person or persons who are willing to engage in manufacturing good Muskets, or the Locks, Barrels, or any necessary parts thereof; and request all persons who choose to engage, to be speedy in their proposals.

Ordered, That the foregoing be published in all the publick Newspapers in this Colony.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that the men enlisted in his Regiment stood in need of some cash to purchase necessities, and that a large sum is due to his Regiment.

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *McDougall*, on account, in part of pay for his Regiment, the sum of one thousand Pounds, and take a receipt for the same, on account.

A Letter from General *Thompson* was read and filed, in the words following, viz:

"New-York, March 30, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: A number of troops are arrived, and more are hourly expected, who must be quartered in the City; and as I understand that many of the inhabitants who have quitted the town have left part of their furniture in their houses, I must request that you will give such directions as you may judge best for securing the property of those people, whose houses are, or shall be occupied as Barracks for the Troops; and you will much oblige, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"WILLIAM THOMPSON.

"To the Committee of Safety."

Warrants issued to *William Dunn*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Garrison*, Ensign, in Captain *Ambrose Horton's* Company.

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., April 1, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman pro tem.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

A Letter from Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrouck*, dated at *Newburgh*, March 20, 1776, containing a statement of his Regiment of Militia in *Ulster* County, was read and filed.

"Newburgh, March 20, 1776.

"A true state of the Regiment of Militia in the County of *ULSTER*, whereof *JONATHAN HASBROUCK* is Colonel, consisting of eleven Companies.

"My whole Regiment consists of six hundred and eight men, officers included. Likewise four hundred and fifty firelocks; two hundred and ninety-three swords; one hundred and eighty-eight cartridge-boxes; thirty-two pounds of powder; one hundred and twenty pounds of lead.

"A true state of my Regiment, after the fourth man were selected as Minute-men, according to the resolves of your honourable House. Given under my hand the day and date above-mentioned.

"*J. HASBROUCK, Colonel.*"

A Letter from Brigadier General *Heath* was received and read, in the words following, to wit:

"City of New-York, April 1, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I find myself necessitated to request of you two thousand and twenty-five Dollars and five-ninths of a Dollar, for Continental purposes.

"I am, gentlemen, with esteem, your most humble servant,

"*WILLIAM HEATH, Brigadier-General.*

"To Committee of Safety, *New-York.*"

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Brigadier-General *Heath* the sum of two thousand and twenty-five Dollars and five-ninths of a Dollar, for Continental purposes, and take a receipt for the same on Continental account.

A Letter from *John Haring*, Esquire, dated *Orangetown*, March 28, 1776, enclosing Colonel *Lent's* Commission and Resignation, was read and filed.

"Orangetown, March 28, 1776.

"SIR: Colonel *Lent* was with me the evening before last, and appeared to be much out of humour on account of the late behaviour of part of his Regiment. He says that his orders have been treated with contempt, and himself slandered, by those from whom he expected assistance.

"The Colonel has, for a number of years last past, been a Militia officer, and I believe we never had one who was more punctual in obeying and performing the orders of his superiors, and he consequently expected that those under his command should also obey him; but by experience he finds that he cannot get the orders of Congress (which from time to time issue) properly expedited; and he is apprehensive that if he continues in office any longer, he will be censured by his superiors, as well as blamed by his inferiors.

"The *Orangetown* Regiment is chiefly composed of such as know but little of the *English* language, and nothing of military affairs; wherefore I must impute their backwardness and delays to ignorance and ill-founded jealousies of being imposed upon by their commanders, and not to disaffection.

"The commission of the Colonel, together with his resignation, you have enclosed. He brought the commission to me, and would not be prevailed upon to take it home again, so that I thought it my duty to send it to you by the first opportunity.

"The command of the above-said Regiment now devolves upon Lieutenant-Colonel *Blauvelt*. I am fearful that *Lent's* resignation will be followed by others; but I shall do all that is in my power to prevent it.

"I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"*JOHN HARING.*

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York.*"

The said Resignation was also read.

"To all to whom these presents shall come, or may concern:

"Whereas I, the subscriber, have some time since been commissioned by the honourable Provincial Congress of the

Colony of *New-York*, to be Colonel of the Regiment of Militia Foot in *Orangetown*, and whereas I have been much blamed and slandered (by some officers, and others in said Regiment) for giving orders in pursuance of a late resolve and order of said Congress, I have thought proper to resign my said commission, and accordingly do resign the same, choosing rather to serve as a private, than command people who are prejudiced against me.

"Given under my hand the 26th day of *March*, A. D. 1776.

"*ABRAHAM LENT.*"

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, dated 22d *March*, 1776, enclosing Mr. *Hopkins's* Report on the Lead-Mines at *New-Canaan*, was read and filed.

"Lebanon, March 22, 1776.

"SIR: *Eliphelet Dyer* and *William Williams*, Esquires, are authorized and empowered by the Governour and Council appointed to assist him in the recess of the General Assembly, to move your body to grant this Colony, for its use, the loan of such a number and sizes of cannon as you can spare without detriment; which, if granted, the return of them, or their value, shall be secured.

"The reason of this application is, that we have undertaken to set the furnace at *Salisbury* in blast, to cast cannon, &c., for use, at this important crisis of publick affairs; that the hearth is laying; ore, coal, and every other necessary preparing; workmen provided for every part or the business; and hope to begin to cast cannon in all next month, or early in *May*. They can with greater ease be transported to *New-York*, and used where needed, than brought here. In the mean time, fearing our necessity of cannon for use, before this work can be effected, and apprehending that a great number of various sizes may be spared from your Colony, without injury to the common service, do therefore hope for a compliance with our motion.

"This Colony have been exploring Lead-Mines. One at *Middletown* is open, fifty or sixty tons of ore raised, a smelting furnace built there, and expect thirty or forty tons of lead to be run out soon. A Committee appointed by our Assembly in *October* last to explore and examine a Lead-Mine at *New-Canaan* in your Colony, made report at our session in *December* last; copy thereof is enclosed. If worthy your attention, and ore raised there, the furnace at *Middletown* may serve for smelting what is raised in both places. Any service we can render your Colony in that, or any other instance, will be done with pleasure.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"*JONATHAN TRUMBULL.*

"To the Honourable *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Esquire."

Ordered, That Mr. *Norwood*, the Commissary of Colony Military Stores, deliver to Colonel *McDougall*, or his order, three thousand two hundred Flints, for the use of his Regiment.

The Committee being applied to for an order to obtain Rum for the men on fatigue parties at *Horne's Hook*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, in pursuance of the resolution, or order, of the Provincial Congress, of the 20th day of *February* last, henceforth continue to issue (until further order) a gill of Rum per day for each of the men of the Minute Regiments at *Horne's Hook*, when on fatigue.

And Ordered, That the Commanding Officer at *Horne's Hook*, for the time being, from time to time, deliver to Mr. *Abraham Livingston* exact lists of the men on fatigue at that post; and that the Commanding Officer, and each of the other Officers, take especial care that no Rum be issued but to men on fatigue.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony be, and he is hereby, authorized to advance to the Auditors, or Committee of the Pay-Table, or their order, any such sum or sums, from time to time, as they may think proper, and keep a separate account or memorandum thereof, until they include the same in some audited accounts, so as that the said moneys may then appear in the general accounts.

A Return of the Captains and Subalterns of the four Companies of Militia in *Richmond* County, signed by *Christian Jacobson*, Chairman of the Committee, was read and filed.

Ordered, That Commissions issue agreeable to the said Return; likewise that the Field-Officers' Commissions issue,



agreeable to the Return received and read *March 27th ultimo*.

A Letter from *Henry Wisner, Esq.*, dated *Goshen, 28th March, 1776*, was read and filed.

"Goshen, March 28, 1776.

"DEAR SIR: Some days ago my son received a letter from you, desiring him to inform you what quantity of powder we had then made, what quantity we could make per week, and what quantity of materials we had by us. But as we had at that time but just begun, he could only have given a partial answer; and, therefore, omitted giving an answer till we had made further trial, and to which I now have to inform you that we had made before the 12th of this instant, only two hundred weight; the first week after that time we made eight hundred weight; the second week we made eleven hundred weight; and I believe this week we shall make out twelve hundred; so that I believe by *Saturday* night we shall have some better than three thousand weight. We have tried the quality of it by shooting with a gun. Several of our gunners have tried it, and all say it is of the best quality. As to materials, we have saltpetre enough to work about two weeks only; we have had a promise of ten tons, to be sent from *Philadelphia*, which was sent as far as *Bordentown* several months ago, and was to have been sent forward to our works. I wrote twice to the Congress about it, though the last letter they cannot have received. I hope they will soon send it. As to sulphur, I cannot say what quantity we have; part of it is at *New-Windsor*. I wish more of it might be had; believe we have not got much.

"I have made application to the Committee of our County for liberty to build a Mill in our County, on the encouragement given by your honourable Board. I believe I shall succeed; if so, I make no doubt but will build one to make a ton a week, and more if necessary. I shall be glad of your assistance in procuring materials. I wish you would direct what we shall do with the powder as fast as it is fit for being sent off.

"As powder is an article that will take a considerable time to dry, especially at this time of year, so that we shall have in the drying-house at least two thousand weight all the time, in that case, query, whether there will not be danger of some Tory setting fire to it in the night, by firing the house? If so, query, whether it would not be right to keep a guard? As the powder all belongs to the publick, query, whether the expense ought not to be borne by the publick? I should be glad of an answer by the first opportunity.

"I am, with the greatest regard and esteem, your assured friend and humble servant,

"HENRY WISNER.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress, or Chairman of the Committee of Safety at *New-York*.

"P. S. If you should think proper to order a guard, I believe four men would be sufficient for the purpose. I hope you will excuse this scrawl; I should have copied, but have only three half-sheets more of paper, and do not know where to get the next."

A draft of an Answer to the Letter of *Henry Wisner, Esquire*, was read and approved.

Ordered, The same be engrossed, and transmitted.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 1, 1776.

SIR: Yours of 28th ultimo, in answer to a letter wrote to your son by the Provincial Congress, is come to hand. It gives the Committee of Safety great pleasure that you have so fair a prospect of manufacturing the article of gunpowder, and doubt not but you will meet with every encouragement which, with the approbation of your country, must be very pleasing.

We think that, as fast as your powder is cured, it be put up properly and conveyed to *Fort Constitution*, where it will be safe, you taking a receipt from the Commissioners at that fort for the different parcels you deliver them. In answer to that part of your letter relating to a guard, if it be necessary, your application must be made to the Commander of the Continental forces for that purpose, as you observe the powder is the property of the Continent.

We are, &c. By order.

*Henry Wisner, Esq.*

The Committee of Safety being informed that Commissaries are appointed for all the Continental Troops ordered to this City, who are fully supplied with, and have provided large quantities of Provisions, and that *Mr. Abraham Livingston*, the Contractor, has also laid up considerable quantities of Provisions, are of opinion that a large magazine in *Westchester* will not be absolutely necessary,

Therefore, Ordered, That Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, and the other Members of *Westchester* County, do not purchase any more Provisions until further order; and that they return with all convenient speed to this Committee an account of all the Provisions they have purchased, and in what stores they are placed.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Heath* was received and read.

He therein mentions that a Sloop is arrived from *Albany*, with a number of women and children and baggage, taken at *St. John's*, and sent here by General *Schuyler*, in their way to *New-Brunswick*; that the Captain was fearful of going to *Brunswick* lest his vessel might be detained by the Ships-of-War in his return; and he requests the Committee to take the management of obtaining a pass from Captain *Vandeput* for the Sloop to go to *Brunswick* and return, which, he doubts not, will be readily granted, as it will obtain every convenience for the Prisoners.

Ordered, That a Member wait on the General and inform him that there are Boats here from *Brunswick*, who will readily receive the Prisoners and Baggage, and carry them to *Brunswick*; and that he request the General to order the Prisoners and Baggage to be sent by those Boats.

Die Lunæ, 4to ho. P. M., April 1, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding, Esq.*, Chairman *pro tem*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—*Mr. Cuyper*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—*Mr. Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—*Mr. Adrian Bancker*.

FOR TRYON.—*Mr. Moore*.

*Abner Briggs* attending, produced a Certificate, which, being read, is in the words following, to wit:

"Barnstable, March 5, 1776.

"These may certify that the Sloop *Defiance*, *Abner Briggs* Master, is bound to *New-York* or *Connecticut*, in order to purchase fifty barrels of Pork, fifty barrels of Beef, thirty firkins of Hog's Lard, ten firkins of Butter, five hundred bushels of Corn or Rye, fifty bushels of Beans, four hundred weight of Cheese; all which is wanted for the internal consumption of the inhabitants of *Nantucket*; and the said *Briggs* is permitted to import said articles for the internal use of the inhabitants of said Island.

"DANIEL DAVIS, } Justices of the Peace  
"RICHARD BAXTER, } for the County of  
"DANIEL TAYLOR, } Barnstable."

Thereupon, Ordered, That *Abner Briggs* be permitted to purchase the articles mentioned in the within Certificate, and export the same to *Barnstable*, for the purpose mentioned in the said Certificate.

*Simeon Deane* attended with a copy of an Agreement,\* dated the 11th *January* last, between *Samuel Ward*, *Benjamin Franklin*, and others, a Committee of Secrecy of the Continental Congress, and *Silas Deane* and *Barnabas Deane*, of the Colony of *Connecticut*; authorizing them to ship the produce of the United Colonies to proper Ports in the foreign *West-Indies*, and in *Europe*, to the amount of thirty thousand Dollars, with an appointment thereon, dated the 21st *January*, to *Simeon Deane*, to carry the said Contract into execution. *Simeon Deane* informed the Committee that he has had separate permits from *Mr. Ray*, and other gentlemen of this City, as a sub-Committee of the General Committee of the City; but that the whole exports,

\* Permission is desired for two hundred and thirty barrels of Flour, to be shipped from this port for *Connecticut River*, on board Sloop, *John Riley*, Master, for account of the honourable Continental Congress, per order of *Silas* and *Barnabas Deane*, as per agreement to be now shown, which is not completed. Of this *Simeon Deane* can testify, and show his power of attorney from said Contract. The above flour consigned to *Barnabas Deane*.

*New-York, April 1, 1776.*

SIMEON DEANE.

in consequence of the Agreement, do not much exceed half the sum permitted to be exported; and requested a further permit for two hundred and thirty barrels of Flour.

*Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, or the sub-Committee of Inspection and Exportation, be at liberty to permit *Simeon Deane*, on account of the said Contract, to export from *New-York* to *Connecticut*, with design to be thence exported to some Foreign Port, two hundred and thirty barrels of Flour, (on the usual terms or bonds, on which he formerly exported,) in a Sloop whereof *John Reiley* is Master.

Captain *William Jackson*, from *Ulster County*, attending, sent in a Memorandum, subscribed with his name, which was read and filed.\* He therein mentions that he has inlisted seventy-three men in the Continental service.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Jackson* inform the General that he has so many men ready for service.

Captain *Abraham Riker* made a Return of the names and dates of inlistment of the men in his Company, whereby it appears that he has inlisted only thirty-one men. The Return is filed.

A draft of a Letter to the Chairman of each County Committee where any Troops are inlisting, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: We earnestly request you to send us the names of the officers recruiting in your County for the Continental service; and that you cause returns to be made to us immediately of the number of men already inlisted for each Company. We further request you to direct the able-bodied men that are or shall be raised at the time of your receipt hereof, to be sent to the City of *New-York*, under a proper officer or officers, according to their number; and so, from time to time, till the Companies are full, except such troops as are or shall be ordered to the Fortifications in the Highlands.

We are, respectfully, sir, your humble servants.

*Ordered*, That a number of Copies be engrossed and signed, and one sent to the Chairman of each Committee.

Die Martis, A. M., April 2, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Beekman*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

The Honourable *Hugh Wallace*, Esq., being requested by some of the inhabitants to go on board the Ships-of-War in this Harbour, to use his influence with the Commanders relative to their Vessels seized by the Ships-of-War,

*Ordered*, That the Honourable *Hugh Wallace*, Esquire, be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board his Majesty's Ships-of-War in this Harbour.

*Ordered*, That the Port-Master be permitted to take with him on board the Governour's Ship, for the use of the said Ship, one box Candles; one Span, for a main yard; two gallons Lamp Oil; fifty-six pounds Rosin; two gallons Paint Oil; three kegs Lampblack; one Cat-block; one keg Sugar; two kegs Bread; one pair Slings; one small case of Wine; one small box of Clothes; and one box Books, for Mr. *Barrow*; six quarters of Beef, for the *Phenix*; eight quarters Beef, and one Mutton, for the *Asia*; one quarter Veal, and one of Pork for the Governour.

Whereas Barracks are necessary for the Troops now arrived and daily arriving in this City, and cannot be obtained without placing them in Houses much to the injury of the inhabitants remaining in the City, as well as with great detriment to the service; and whereas it appears to

\*To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of NEW-YORK: GENTLEMEN: I make a return of the men that have inlisted in the Continental service for the defence of the Colony, whereof the amount is seventy-three, which are inlisted by me. WILLIAM JACKSON. April 1, 1776.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, April 1, 1776.—*Ordered* That Captain *Jackson* make the within Report to the commanding officer of this Post.

the Committee of Safety that the Hospital in this City is a proper situation for Troops, and that a number of Troops must necessarily be posted there for the defence of the works there, and of the City in general:

Therefore *Ordered*, That the Governours of the Hospital be requested to give directions to have the Hospital put in a proper state for the reception of Troops.

And, in case the said Governours have not cash,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Stagg* repair the Hearths in the Hospital, where wanted, at Continental expense, and make them fit for the reception of Continental Troops, as soon as the Governours of the Hospital shall have given directions on the subject.

Whereas the present Guard of the First Regiment of the City of *New-York*, where the Records of the Colony are deposited, has, by experience, been found a very expensive Colony charge; and although the Committee are of opinion that the Guards hitherto employed in that service have great merit, and are worthy of the highest confidence; yet they conceive themselves bound in duty to the good people of this Colony to prevent every expense that can be saved: And whereas the Committee are fully informed that Captain *Alexander Hamilton's* Company of Artillery, raised for this Colony, now consists of so many men as that they may safely and easily perform that duty:

Therefore *Ordered*, That Captain *Hamilton* be directed to place, and keep a proper Guard of his Company at the Records, until further order; and that one of the Secretaries deliver a copy of this order to Colonel *Lasher*.

Whereas some proper place is wanted and absolutely necessary to be procured wherein to place Gunpowder, as it is thought imprudent and unsafe to keep all the Powder that is, or may be in the City, in any one place, and it is suggested to the Committee of Safety that the upper part of Mr. *Henry Cuyler's* Sugar-House will be a proper place for that purpose,

Therefore *Ordered*, That whoever has the present care and direction of the said Sugar-House be directed to place the utensils and materials therein in such proper or convenient places in the said Sugar-House, as may allow the upper part thereof to be used as a Magazine; that Colonel *McDougall* be authorized, and is hereby authorized, to see this order carried into execution; and thereupon the upper part of the said building be used as a Magazine for such purposes as the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Troops for the time being shall at any time direct.

A draft of a Letter to the Provincial Congress of *New-Jersey*, requesting them to recommend sending speedy supplies to this market, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: As the ships-of-war in our harbour are daily committing acts of piracy and depredation on the vessels and property of the inhabitants of the United Colonies, we apprehend orders will soon issue for stopping all further supplies to them. As such an event will also stop the intercourse by water between your Colony and us, we think it advisable that you immediately recommend to all persons supplying this Colony with any kind of necessaries, to be as speedy as possible in sending their articles to this market, especially hay and fuel, as a great number of horses are daily expected from the eastward.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To *Samuel Tucker*, Esquire, President of the Provincial Congress, *New-Jersey*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Die Martis, 4to ho. P. M., April 2, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Captain *Denning*, Colonel *McDougall*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *John Van Cortlandt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. Moore.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Paulling.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Heath* was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit :

“City of New-York, April 2, 1776.

“SIR: I have an immediate call for two thousand four hundred musket cartridges. If you have them I shall take it as a favour if you will deliver that number to Major *De Hart*, the bearer hereof.

“I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

“W. HEATH.

“To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, New-York.”

An Order was thereon made *in hæc verba* :

Mr. RICHARD NORWOOD :

SIR: Deliver, on receipt hereof, to Major *De Hart*, two thousand four hundred musket cartridges, on Continental account, to be replaced, and take his receipt for the same.

Captain *William Jackson* attended the Committee yesterday, and informed that he had seventy-three men inlisted, and ready for service, and requested directions where to proceed with his Company.

Ordered, That Captain *Jackson* repair to *Fort Constitution* with his Company, and there put himself under the direction of Colonel *Nicoll*, the commanding officer there.

It was suggested to the Committee that it would greatly encourage the inlistment of Troops in the Regiment raising in this City, if those already inlisted could be uniformed with Frocks, and that it would be necessary to direct Mr. *Curtenius* not to deliver out any Frocks until the further order of this Committee.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* do not deliver out any Frocks for the Troops raising in this Colony until the further order of this Committee, the order of the 31st ultimo to the contrary notwithstanding.

Colonel *Lott* and Colonel *Brasher* came into the Committee.

The Committee of Safety were informed by sundry of the Members that there is a considerable quantity of Bar Iron in this City. Mr. *Cuyper* also informed that forty tons might be brought from *Haverstraw*; and it was suggested, that, by allowing a free exportation thereof, the manufacturers of Iron will be induced to bring Iron to market.

Therefore Ordered, That the General Committee of the City of New-York, or their sub-Committee of Inspection, be at liberty to give permissions for the exportation of Bar Iron at any time when they may think proper.

The Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, received yesterday, which is an exact copy of his Letter formerly received, dated the 15th of *March*, was read and filed, requesting supplies.

Thereupon Ordered, That Mr. *John Berrien* immediately purchase on Continental account, and forward to Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, at the most northwardly Fortification in the Highlands, as Barrack necessities, for the use of the Troops at the Garrison there, Wooden Bowls, Wooden Spoons, Iron Pots, and other necessary Barrack Furniture, for three complete full Companies of Minute-men, or Continental Troops there.

A draft of an Answer to the Letter of Colonel *Nicoll* was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit :

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 2, 1776.

SIR: We acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of *March*. In answer thereto we inform you that Mr. *Abraham Livingston* has contracted to supply all the troops at the posts in the Highlands with the rations allowed by Congress, and fuel and straw. A sloop with necessities is gone up the river for the purpose, with a Commissary on board; and we hope your troops will be rendered as comfortable as their situation will admit. We have directed Mr. *Berrien* to send you, by the first conveyance, barrack necessities for three full companies. The account of ammunition delivered to Captain *Raymond* is by us delivered to the auditors at the pay-table, and will be settled with him.

The publick arms in the garrison have always been intended to be preserved and kept in order, but not be delivered out for any use unless in case of some attack or inva-

sion. In such case they are to be put into the hands of any troops there who are destitute of arms.

We are, respectfully, sir, your humble servants.

P. S. Please, sir, to send down by some convenient opportunity to the Committee, a particular account of the articles charged for a Court-Martial, expresses, &c., with proper vouchers.

Die Mercurii, A. M., April 3, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulling*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Strong*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

A Letter from General *Heath* was received and read. He thereby requests three or four Guides for particular purposes. A Member was sent to procure them, and take them to the General.

Ordered, That Mr. *Sands* and Mr. *Strong* be a Committee to wait on General *Heath*, with a copy of the Letter from *William Smith*, Chairman of the Committee of *Suffolk* County, dated *March 27*, 1776, to confer with General *Heath* on the subject of the said Letter, and report to this Committee with all convenient speed.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Murray* be permitted to go on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon* with the Port-Master, and to return, he having been duly sworn that he will not convey any intelligence relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony.

The Committee being informed by Mr. *Lawrence*, one of the members of this Committee from *Richmond* County, that the County is already supplied with fourteen good Flatts, or Scows, which are fully sufficient for the removal of the Stock of that Island, and that any more Scows will be an unnecessary expense at present,

Therefore Ordered, That the building of the two Scows, or Flatts, which Mr. *Bancker* was empowered to have made, be delayed for the present, and that neither of them be built until further order of the Provincial Congress, or of this Committee.

The Committee were informed the Brigantine *Elizabeth*, *John Palmer*, Master, is ready to sail, and that a Certificate is requested as protection for her in case she should meet with any of the Colony cruisers.

Thereupon a Certificate was given in the words following, to wit :

It is hereby certified that the Brigantine *Elizabeth*, Captain *John Palmer*, Master, is laded on Continental account, at the Port of New-York, by permission and direction of the Continental Congress. The said brigantine and master are hereby recommended to the favour, aid, and protection, of all friends to *American* liberty; and all friends to these Colonies are requested to protect her on her voyage, or in port.

A Return, made by Captain *John Davis*, of *Suffolk* County, of the number of men inlisted in his Company, was read and filed. He therein says he has inlisted about seventy men, and expects that he will soon complete the whole.

A Return, by *Benjamin Marvin*, First Lieutenant of Captain *Griffin's* Company, was read and filed. He therein mentions that the Officers of that Company have inlisted seventy-five men.

The Committee of Safety, considering the defenceless state of this Colony, think it necessary to furnish the Counties of *Albany* and *Tryon* with such quantities of Ammunition as can be spared for that purpose:

Therefore Resolved and Ordered, That Mr. *Richard Norwood* deliver to *John Moore*, Esquire, two thousand five hundred weight of Gunpowder, for the Counties of *Albany* and *Tryon*, in the following proportions, to wit: Five hun-

dred pounds for the County of *Tryon*, and two thousand pounds of Gunpowder for the City and County of *Albany*. That the respective Counties above-mentioned be charged with the respective quantities of Gunpowder above-mentioned. That the said Gunpowder be disposed of by the respective County Committees of the said Counties, in the most advantageous manner for the defence of the inhabitants; and that the Committees of the said Counties respectively give such particular directions for the preservation of the said Gunpowder, that it may not be wasted or expended but in the defence of the country, lest those Counties may be distressed before any other possible supply can be afforded them.

And *Ordered*, That the Committee of the City and County of *Albany* be informed that, by reason of some late losses and misfortunes, they are not to expect any further supply of Gunpowder for several months at the soonest.

Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., April 3, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman *pro tem*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Dening*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Strong*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Mr. *John Murray*, attending with a Letter from General *Heath* to this Committee, wherein he informs the Committee that Mr. *Murray* had applied to him for his approbation of the permit granted to Mr. *Murray* this morning to go on board the Governour's Ship; that, by the said permit, it appears that Mr. *Murray* is restricted only relative to the Fortifications, and that he (the General) cannot, consistent with his duty, consent to his going on board unless under greater restrictions:

Thereupon a permission was given to Mr. *Murray*, in the words following, to wit:

"*John Murray*, of this City, Merchant, attending, requested permission to go on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, wherein Governour *Tryon* resides, with the Port-Master, and to return; thereupon the said *John Murray* was solemnly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, that he will not communicate any information or intelligence whatever to any person or persons on board any of the Ships-of-War, the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, the Packet, or any other vessel in this Colony, under the care or direction of, or in connection with any person on board either of the vessels above-mentioned, relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, nor carry on board, or deliver to any person belonging to any of the said ships or vessels, any papers or writings relative thereto; and that he will not communicate any intelligence, of any kind, or enter into any conversation on any subject whatever, with any person on board of either of the said vessels, but what relates to his own private business."

*Ordered*, That the said *John Murray* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, with the Port-Master, and to return.

*Michael Conner*, of the City of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, agent for the Owners of the Brigantine *Mary*, bound from *St. Christopher's* to *Cork*, in *Ireland*, laden with rum, lately seized and now detained by Captain *Parker*, of his Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, applied to the Committee for a permission to go on board of the said Ship *Phoenix*, to demand the said Brigantine and Cargo; thereupon the said *Michael Conner* was duly and solemnly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty *God*, that he will not communicate any information or intelligence whatever, to any person or persons on board of any of the Ships-of-War, the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, the Packet, or any other vessels in this Colony, relative to the Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, nor carry on board, or deliver to any person belonging to any of said ships or vessels, any papers or writings relative thereto; and that he will not communicate any intelligence, of any kind, or enter into any conversation

on any subject whatever with any person on board of either of said vessels, but what relates to his own private business.

*Ordered*, That the said *Michael Conner* be permitted, and he is hereby permitted, to go on board of the Ship *Phoenix*, with the Port-Master, and to return.

Mr. *Sands*, from the Committee appointed to wait on General *Heath*, and confer with him on the subject-matter of the Letter from the Committee of *Suffolk* County, dated *March 27th*, 1776, reported: That General *Heath* desired them to inform the Committee of Safety, that if the Committee of Safety thought it necessary that the three Companies raised in *Suffolk* County for the defence of this Colony, in Continental service, should be stationed at the east end of *Nassau-Island*, he would give the necessary orders; but requested that this Committee would take this matter into consideration, and give him the opinion of the Committee in writing, how and in what manner it will be most proper to dispose of the said troops to prevent depredations by the Ministerial Navy and Army.

The Committee, taking into consideration the defenceless state of the easternmost part of *Suffolk* County, are of opinion, that the three Companies raised in *Suffolk* County for the defence of this Colony, in Continental service, should be continued in that County until further order; that Brigadier-General *Woodhull* should be requested, by his orders to Captain *Griffin*, to station the said three Companies in such numbers, and at such places, as he shall think best, to prevent the landing of any Ministerial Troops, or depredations being committed by them in any part of the said County; that those Troops be so stationed on condition that the County Committee and inhabitants of *Suffolk* County furnish them with all necessaries whatever, while so stationed in the County, at the allowance of ten and a half pence per man per day, exclusive of such quantities of wood as is allowed by Congress, without any other additional expense, charge, or allowance whatever.

His Worship the Mayor of the City of *New-York*, attending, and having given his word of honour, in terms similar to the Oath administered to Messrs. *Murray* and *Conner*,

*Ordered*, That he be permitted to go on board the Ships-of-War and the Governour's Ship, with the Port-Master, and to return.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee of Safety that Cartridges are preparing for the Continental Magazine, but are not yet made; that he stands in need of a number of Cartridges for his Regiment; and requests the loan of a number of Cartridges out of the Provincial Store, which he engages to replace.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood* deliver to Colonel *McDougall*, for the use of his Regiment, such number of Cartridges as he may want for the use of his Regiment, and take his receipt for the same.

Two Letters, one from *Azor Betts*, the other from *John Blackler*, received by post, and requesting their discharges, were read and filed. Thereupon, the following entry, for their discharge, was made, in the words following:

The Letter of *Azor Betts*, dated the 21st ultimo, requesting his discharge, was received, and read. His Petition to the Provincial Congress, dated the 20th day of *February* last, with the Certificate of *William Elsworth*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Kingston*, endorsed thereon, was also again read. The Letter of *John Blackler* was also read.

*Ordered*, That the said *Azor Betts* and *John Blackler* be respectively discharged from their confinement, on their respectively subscribing the General Association, acknowledging their penitence for their past conduct, and making oath respectively that they will not bear arms against the inhabitants of the *American* Colonies, or do any other act inimical to the liberties of the United Colonies, or contrary to the resolutions of Congress, during the present controversy between *Great Britain* and the *American* Colonies, and paying their expenses while in confinement, if they have any means wherewith to pay the same. Or, instead of such oath, on their respectively giving bond, with two good and sufficient sureties for each, in the penalty of two hundred Pounds, with condition thereto for their future good behaviour, in the terms above-mentioned for their oath.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., April 4, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman *pro tem*.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Captain *Rutgers*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Strong*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*.

Colonel *Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General, came into the Committee, and informed the Committee that in the course of eight or ten days at farthest, Troops will arrive in this City, which, with those already here, will amount to twelve thousand men. He requested that proper Houses may be immediately provided for the reception of those Troops. Colonel *Mifflin* further requested, that Houses, in an airy part of the City, may be immediately prepared for a General Hospital, capable of containing eight hundred sick, and within a mile of the City, and Houses in a proper situation, and about the same distance, to contain four hundred convalescents; that a suitable House or Houses in the City will be necessary for General *Washington*; that proper Stables will speedily be wanted for one hundred horses, and Sheds or proper places wherein to put wagons. That it will be necessary to fix on a House fit for a Guard-House for a Provost-Guard, and four other separate Houses for Main Guards; that to prevent inebriety and neglect of duty among the soldiery, it will be absolutely necessary to limit the number of Inn-keepers, Dram-shops, and Retailers of strong liquors in this City and its environs, and that the names of the persons licensed to retail, and a description of their respective places of residence in the City, be delivered to him, to the end that none others except one Sutler to each Regiment may be permitted.

Colonel *Mifflin* further mentioned, that, by inquiry, he has found that the Continental Troops, by the police of this City, must pass at the common ferries, or pay the ferriage if they are transported across either of the rivers by any other means; that however useful this regulation may be in time of peace, he conceives that, in the present situation of affairs, the expense will be enormous to the Continental Army, as it must frequently, if not daily happen, that great numbers of Troops must be transported between the City of *New-York* and *Nassau-Island*, and between the said City and *Jersey Shore*.

Colonel *Mifflin*, on being asked what means he could propose to remedy ferriages, answered and proposed that he could purchase boats, or have them built for the transportation of Troops, and that the Army could ferry themselves, if that mode was agreeable to the Committee.

Colonel *Mifflin* further informed the Committee, that the necessary expenditure of wood, which would be made by the Continental Troops, might increase the price to the detriment of the inhabitants, as well as of the Army, unless some method could be fallen on to prevent the same; that he should want not less than forty or fifty cords of wood per day, and was desirous that the Committee should fix the price which they would advise him to offer for wood.

Colonel *Mifflin* further mentioned that, by experience, he had found in other places that forestalling and engrossing had been very detrimental to the Continental Troops; and that, in some instances, it had been found very necessary to prevent the same by military force or directions; and that he requested the advice of the Committee what might be proper on this head.

The Committee took the matters aforesaid respectively into consideration, and thereupon,

*Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York* be requested to convene without delay, and, by an appointment of sub-Committees for the purpose, or by such other methods as they shall think proper, to fix on so many Houses for Barracks, for the reception of Troops, as will contain, together with those now in the City, twelve thousand men; that the said General Committee be informed that the Provincial Congress, in the time of their last session, have procured the Dwelling-House, Barn, and Stable,

where *John Fowler* did lately dwell, on the hill beyond fresh water, for Hospitals; and that the said General Committee be requested to fix on other proper Houses for Hospitals, so that the whole may be capable of containing eight hundred men, and also proper Houses for four hundred convalescents; that they be also requested to fix on Stables to contain one hundred Horses belonging to the Army.

And *Ordered*, That the said General Committee be further requested to appoint one or more sub-Committees, to take the names of all Inn-keepers and Retailers of strong liquors in this City and its environs, with the description of the streets or places of their abode, (distinguishing those who are licensed from those who are not,) and to send such list of Inn-keepers and Retailers of strong liquors to this Committee, with all convenient speed.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Lott* and Mr. *Prince* be a Committee to inquire for and designate proper Sheds for Wagons in this City, and to report thereon.

The Committee of Safety then took into consideration the great expense that would arise should the Continental Troops, or any persons on their behalf, be subjected to the payment of Ferriage, and are of opinion that any benefit of that kind could not have been an object with or expected by the tenants of the Ferries at the times they respectively took their leases; that therefore it will be no injustice to the tenants of the Ferries that the Continental Troops should pass and repass the rivers without any emolument to the tenants or keepers of the Ferries.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That Colonel *Mifflin* be at liberty to hire, purchase, build, or procure as many Ferry-Boats, or craft of any kind, for the use of the Continental Army, as he may think proper, and that the Continental Troops be at liberty to pass and repass the rivers in such Boats without being subject to any Ferriage or Toll; and Colonel *Mifflin* is requested to give such order that none but Continental Troops, or those employed in some military business or department, may be permitted to pass in the Boats to be provided for the Army.

The Committee then took into consideration Colonel *Mifflin's* proposal to fix the price of Fire-wood in this City; and thereupon agreed that it ought not, for the present, to be at any higher price than twenty-two Shillings per cord for Oakwood, to be corded by the sworn Inspectors on *Carmen's* carts in the usual manner; and that Colonel *Mifflin* may advertise that he will give that price for all the Oakwood which he can purchase in this City before 1st day of *May* next.

On the subject that there is danger of forestalling and engrossing, which might enhance the markets, to the detriment of the Army, Colonel *Mifflin* was informed by the Committee of Safety that the By-Laws of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of this City, and the legal modes of punishing forestallers and engrossers, if duly put in execution, will, it is hoped, be a proper check, and prevent any inconveniences of that kind; but that if these should prove insufficient, some remedy may then be provided.

Colonel *Mifflin* was further informed that the General himself, or some of the military gentlemen, will be the most proper persons to determine in what part or parts of the town the Provost or Main Guards ought to be kept, and which of the Houses in or near these places that are emptied and allotted for the use of the Army, may be most proper for, and with the least injury be, converted into Guard-Houses.

The Committee being informed that it is scarce possible to provide empty Houses or Barracks for the reception of the Troops already arrived in this City; that many of them are now so crowded in small rooms that it is not only inconvenient but dangerous to the health of the Troops; that there is no probability of procuring Barracks, or empty Houses for the Troops speedily expected, as the Officer, whose proper department it is, has requested of this Committee a provision of that kind for twelve thousand men within eight days; the Committee were further informed that there are at present very few, if any, students in the College in this City; that it is a strong edifice, and finished in such manner as to be very little injured by the reception of Troops.

Therefore *Ordered*, That the Governours of the College in this City be requested to remove the College Library, and every other-matter in that building which might receive inju-



ry, and secure the same in such manner as they may think proper, and to have the edifice left only in a proper state for the reception of Troops, within six days from this day, or as much sooner as will be convenient for the Governours of the said College.

The Committee, at the request of a Member, resumed the consideration of having the three Companies of Continental Troops, raised in *Suffolk* County, stationed there for the present; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That General *Woodhull* be requested to see that the three Companies of Continental Troops, raised or raising in *Suffolk* County, be mustered by some proper person or persons by him to be appointed, and that regular Muster-Rolls be returned to this Committee with all convenient speed.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Troops above-mentioned, while on their march to the respective stations to which they shall be ordered, will be entitled to the allowance of Continental Troops while on their march to join their Regiments, the Resolution of this Committee yesterday notwithstanding.

The Committee of Safety, conceiving that the number of Continental Troops soon expected in this City, with those now here, will be sufficient to carry on the military works erecting for the defence of this Colony, and for every other necessary purpose, (except in cases of invasion,) and that therefore it will tend to the publick benefit that the yeomanry of the Colony be permitted to remain at home at this season of the year, for the cultivation of their farms:

Therefore *Ordered*, That Colonel *Gilbert Cooper* be, and he is hereby, directed to stop the marching of the *Haverstraw* Minute Company, lately ordered to be recruited, till further order, as their services are not required in this City for the present.

A Letter was received from Colonel *Josiah Smith*, of the Minute Regiment in *Suffolk* County, dated the 28th of *March*, and read, and filed. He thereby informs that the gentleman formerly appointed Adjutant of the Minute Regiment is unwilling to act in that department, and recommends Mr. *Ephraim Marvin* in his place, and prays that his Commission may be made out, and sent up by the first opportunity.

*Ordered*, That a Commission be made out for Mr. *Ephraim Marvin*, as Adjutant of the Minute Regiment in *Suffolk*.

A Certificate of an election for Officers of a Minute Company in *Brooklyn* Township, dated *March* 27th, 1776, signed by *Nathaniel Roe* and *Samuel Thompson*, Committee-men; whereby it appears that *Selah Strong* was chosen Captain, *William Clerk*, First Lieutenant, *Caleb Brewster*, Second Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Brewster*, Ensign, of the said Company.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue to the said gentlemen without delay.

The Rev. Dr. *Samuel Auchmuty* informed the Committee of his desire to go into *New-Jersey*, to visit his family, and requested a permission for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the Rev. Dr. *Samuel Auchmuty* be, and he is hereby, permitted to go into *New-Jersey* and to return; and it is earnestly recommended to all the friends of *American* liberty to permit him to pass unmolested.

*Ordered*, That the Port-Master be, and he is hereby, permitted to take with him on board the *Asia* and *Phoenix*, Ships-of-War, the Governour's Ship, and the Packet, the following articles, viz: 1300 pounds of Beef, for the *Asia*; 1000 pounds of Beef for the *Phoenix*, with eighteen Shillings' worth of Vegetables; 2 quarters of Beef, 1 dozen Dishes, 2 dozen Plates, 1 dozen Spoons, 2 Mugs, 2 barrels of Ale, for the Packet; 1 tierce Peas, 6 barrels Beer, 2 quarters Beef, for the Governour's Ship.

The Committee adjourned till four o'clock, this afternoon.

Die Jovis, P. M., April 4, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

A sufficient number of Counties not being represented, adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Die Veneris, A. M., April 5, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Randall*,

Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

A Letter from General *Putnam* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"New-York, April 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Continental Congress, imagining the new levies in this Province to be in great forwardness, and finding, on inquiry, that none of the four Regiments to be raised in it are properly regimented and completed, I must request of you, as the service absolutely requires it, that you exert yourselves to the utmost to accomplish this necessary service; and that the troops already raised be ordered to the city without delay.

"I am, gentlemen, with respect, your humble servant,

"ISRAEL PUTNAM.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-York*."

A majority of Counties not appearing, the Committee adjourned till four o'clock, this afternoon.

Four o'clock in the afternoon.

The same Members met, and adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Saturday, A. M., April 6, 1776.

The same Members met, and it appearing that there would not be a sufficient number of Counties represented until next *Tuesday* morning, the Members present adjourned till next *Tuesday* morning.

Die A. M., April 10, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr.

*Imlay*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

Only six Counties appearing, the Members present directed the Secretary to write to the Deputies of *Richmond* County, and request their attendance to-morrow morning, and then the Committee adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

A. M., April 11, 1776.

The following Members met, viz:

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Imlay*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Beekman*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

Dr. *Treat* was sent for, and attended. He was requested to take care of and attend a soldier who has got the small-pox.

Adjourned till this afternoon, four o'clock.

P. M., April 11, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Imlay*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *Morris Graham*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Covenhoven.  
 FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Poulding.  
 FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Lawrence.

The Committee were informed that a man on board of one of the Transports which brought General *Sullivan's* Brigade of Troops from the eastward to this City, is taken with the Small-Pox. That the danger of such disorder spreading at this time, amongst the Troops quartered in and near this City, makes it absolutely necessary that some proper place should be provided for the reception of the person above-mentioned, and of such persons as may be seized with the Small-Pox in future. And it being suggested that the Island, with the buildings thereon, commonly called *Little-Barn Island*, belonging to Mr. *Montresor*, is the most suitable and safe place for that purpose:

Therefore *Ordered*, That Dr. *Malachi Treat*, and such other person as he shall employ, or such other person as the Commanding Officer of the Continental Troops at *New-York* shall direct, to attend the sick sent to the said Island, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to set apart, and make use of such parts of the House and other Buildings on the said Island, as he or they shall think most proper, and best calculated for the reception of all such persons as now are, or shall be seized with the Small-Pox; and that Doctor *Treat* take the management and direction of such sick persons as may be placed on that Island, until further order of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony, or of the Commanding Officer of the Continental Forces at *New-York*, for the time being.

Mr. *Covenhoven* informed the Committee that Colonel *Hand*, with his Regiment of Riflemen, were stationed at *New-Utrecht*, in *King's* County, to guard the Shore and to keep a look-out there, and that the service of the *King's* County Light-Horse employed in that service is now become unnecessary:

Therefore *Ordered*, That Captain *Waddron* be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to discharge his Company of Light-Horse from the service of keeping a look-out on the Southern Coast in *King's* County, until the further order of this Committee, or the Provincial Congress of this Colony.

Many persons attending daily for permission to export Flour and Bar Iron to the neighbouring Colonies, and the Committee being of opinion that this Colony is so well supplied with those articles as to render the restraint lately laid on their exportation unnecessary,

Therefore *Ordered*, That the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, or their sub-Committee of Inspection, be at liberty to permit the exportation of Flour and Bar Iron until further order, subject to the restrictions and regulations of the Continental Congress.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that he is in want of cash to pay Captain *Ledyard's* Company their pay and inlisting money, and requested five hundred Pounds for that use. Colonel *McDougall* further requested that some gentlemen should be appointed and directed to audit the accounts of the publick money which he has received, as he may speedily be sent from this City on duty.

*Ordered*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *McDougall* the sum of five hundred Pounds on his receipt, on account, for the subsistence of his Regiment, in Continental service.

And *Ordered*, That the gentlemen who constitute the Committee of Accounts, or any three or more of them, audit Colonel *McDougall's* Accounts of all the publick money which he has received, and pass, or certify all such of them as they shall find regular.

The Committee of Safety were informed that his Majesty's Council are summoned to meet on board of the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, and it is supposed with design further to prorogue the General Assembly of this Colony:

*Ordered*, That the Members of his Majesty's Council of this Colony, and *Samuel Bayard*, Jun., Esquire, Deputy Secretary, be, and they are hereby, permitted to go on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*, and return.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *John Kelly* be permitted, and he is hereby permitted to go on board the Ship *Dutchess of Gordon*; and return on the same day that his Majesty's Council shall first go on board.

Mr. *Nixen*, the Port-Master, delivered in an estimate of Stores provided by twelve gentlemen, who are going passengers in the Packet, and informed the Committee that he would not choose to go on board of the Packet with them without a permit from this Committee.

*Ordered*, That the Port-Master be permitted, and is hereby permitted to go on board of the Packet with the said Stores.

A Letter from General *Putnam*, dated the 9th instant, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, April 9, 1776.

"As the City Records are of the greatest consequence, and it being necessary that particular attention should be paid for their preservation, the General desires the first City battalion of Independents, commanded by Colonel *Lasher*, will undertake this guard. Captain *H. G. Livingston's* company of Fusileers will relieve the company of Artillery to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock. The General has no doubt but they will receive the like consideration the Grenadier and Light Infantry companies did.

"ISRAEL PUTNAM,

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety."

A Letter from *Burnett Miller*, Chairman of the Committee of *Easthampton*, dated the 7th instant, informing that their Guard at *Montauk* saw a number of Vessels about sunset of the 6th, off *Block-Island*, and that at nine o'clock of the 7th, saw thirteen Vessels between *Fisher's Island* and *Gardner's Island*, and could hear their signal-guns during the day, the weather being too thick and foggy to discern their size; was read and filed.

A Letter from *Thomas Wickes*, Chairman of *Huntington* Committee, dated April the 8th, communicating intelligence of a Fleet of thirty square-rigged vessels having been seen in the Sound, was read and filed.

A Letter from *Samuel Buel*, dated at *Huntington*, on the 10th instant; (he therein mentions that he left *Easthampton* on Monday morning, after nine o'clock; that no further discoveries of the Fleet mentioned in the Committee's letter of the 7th, except that a number of ships made a harbour at *Fisher's Island* on Sunday evening; these, he supposes, were what is called *Wallace's Fleet*; and that those seen from the east end at sea, on Sunday afternoon, were probably from the *West-Indies* or *Boston*, who by their firing were collecting their scattered fleet:) was also read and filed.

A Letter from Colonel *A. Hawkes Hay*, dated at *Haverstraw*, on the 4th inst., requesting that the Minute-men from his Regiment choose their Officers, was read and filed.

A Letter from *Nathan Fordham*, *Burnet Miller*, and *Thomas Youngs*, a sub-Committee of *Sag-Harbour*, dated the 3d instant, representing that they are much exposed to the ravages of the Ministerial Army, and requesting warlike stores for their defence, was read and filed.

A Letter from *Jeremiah Clark*, dated the 5th instant, with a Certificate of *Elihu Marvin* annexed, recommending Lieutenant *William Roe* for Captain, and *David Mandevill*, Jun., as his First Lieutenant, in the four Battalions to be raised, was read and filed.

A Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, dated at *Fort Constitution*, on the 2d instant, mentioning that of necessity he had taken a hundred bushels of peas out of *Hermanus Cuyler's* sloop, for the use of the garrison, for which he had given Captain *Cuyler* a receipt, and requesting that the Committee of Safety will order the same to be paid for, was read and filed.

A Letter from *William McDermott*, a Prisoner confined in Jail, praying to be heard before the Committee, was read and filed.

A Letter from *John Vernon*, also a Prisoner, complaining of ill-health, and want of a suitable allowance in Prison, and praying to be released, was read and filed.

A Letter from Colonel *Isaac Nicoll* was read, in the words following, viz:

"Fort Constitution, April 8, 1776.

"SIR: I have done everything in my power to have my regiment filled up, so as to make a return agreeable to a letter from the Congress, dated March 4, but find it not possible to fill them with good men, and such as are able to furnish themselves with arms, &c., by reason of their pay being lowered.

"Last Friday, I went to *Goshen*, in order to meet the officers of the Minute-men and Militia, to know the state of the regiment, (as I had sent orders, and written a number of letters, and all to no purpose,) and by that means missed seeing the *Prussian* General, *Dr. Franklin*, and the gentlemen with them. The regiment is not half full, and not one of them has any arms; and arms are not to be had. I am well persuaded that there can be but little dependance put on the Minute-men, upon the plan that they are now raised; for by the time a company is full, their four months is up, which keeps the officers continually recruiting; and the people seem determined against being drafted. Enclosed you have the particulars of the expense of the Court-Martial, and General *Lee's* orders for holding it.

"I have discharged Captain *Raymond's* Company of Minute-men, consisting only of thirty-one men, officers included, as there was a great uneasiness among the men, and Captain *Jackson's* Company of standing forces marches in on Wednesday, which will fill the Barracks.

"I have also enclosed a report of the Committee of *Hanover* Precinct on *John Handley*, who is now a prisoner here, and should be glad you would advise me what is to be done with him.

"I am, with esteem, sir, your most humble servant,

"ISAAC NICOLL.

"To *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

General *Lee's* order to secure Ensign *Goodgion*,\* dated the 17th of February last, and enclosed in Colonel *Nicoll's* Letter, was filed.

General *Lee's* Letter to Colonel *Nicoll*,† of the 25th of February last, that he had ordered General *Clinton* to call a Court-Martial, and enclosed as above, was also filed.

An Account of the expenses of taking and trying *William Goodgion*,‡ an Ensign in Captain *Peter Hill's* Company of *Ulster* County Minute-men, and certified by Colonel *Nicoll*, amounting to seven Pounds sixteen Shillings and five Pence, was filed.

An Order from the Committee of *Hanover* Precinct, signed *William Cross*, Chairman, for the commitment of *William Hanley*, charged with having inlisted into the King's service, was also filed.

A Letter from *Walter Livingston*, Esq., Deputy Com-

\* HEAD-QUARTERS, NEW-YORK, February 17, 1776.

SIR: General *Lee* received yours of the 15th. He desires you would, as soon as possible, secure Ensign *Goodgion*, and confine him under fixed bayonets; and when you have done this, advise him immediately, and he will order a Court-Martial for his trial.

Your most obedient servant. By order of the General,

WILLIAM PALFREY, Aide-de-Camp.

To Colonel *Isaac Nicoll*, at Fort Constitution.

† NEW-YORK, February 25, 1776.

SIR: I received the favour of yours, and, in consequence of your report, have ordered General *Clinton* to call a Court-Martial, of which he is appointed President.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To Colonel *Nicoll*.

‡ Account of Expenses accrued in taking and prosecuting WILLIAM GOODGION, Ensign in the Company of Minute-men commanded by Captain PETER HILL, of ULSTER County, by order of General LEE, being the expenses of JAMES LATTE, Lieutenant in the same Company, viz:

February 20, 1776.—To expenses when out with a party of six men, to take Ensign <i>Goodgion</i> ,.....	£0 18 1
To expenses when down at <i>New-York</i> , with an express to General <i>Lee</i> ,.....	1 15 8
To horse-hire, and feeding the horse on the way and in <i>New-York</i> ,.....	1 8 0
	£4 1 9

On examining this account, I find ten shillings error in addition, which will make the whole of this account ten shillings less than given in before.

Expenses of the Court-Martial, viz:

Major <i>Howell</i> , two days, at 33½ dollars per month.....	£0 17 9½
Major <i>Logan</i> ,.....Do.....Do.....	0 17 9½
Lieutenant <i>Ecker</i> ,...Do.....at 18 dollars per month....	0 9 7
Lieutenant <i>Perkins</i> ,...Do.....Do.....	0 9 7
	£2 14 8¾
Cash paid <i>Burdine</i> , for going to <i>New-York</i> with the proceedings to General <i>Lee</i> ,.....	£1 0 0
	£7 16 5¾

I have examined the above account, and think it reasonable.

ISAAC NICOLL.

March 16, 1776.

missary-General, dated at *Albany*, on the 3d instant, repelling some misrepresentations respecting the forwarding of clothing for the *Green Mountain Boys*, was read and filed.

The Committee of Safety were also informed that *Nicholas Bayard*, Esq., at whose house the Records are lodged, is very desirous that the Guard be changed for a Guard of citizens.

Therefore Ordered, That Colonel *Lasher* be requested to relieve the Guard now placed to guard the Records at Mr. *Bayard's*, by a Guard from his Regiment.

A Letter from *William Leary*, Town-Major, dated yesterday, was read and filed. He thereby informs that the time of his continuing in pay as Town-Major is expired, and requested to know whether he was to be continued in service. Mr. *Leary* called on the Committee personally for an answer, and was informed by the Committee that they did not conceive themselves authorized to continue him in pay; and that it also appeared unnecessary, at present, to require his services and continue his pay.

A Certificate from *S. Badlam*, Captain of Artillery, dated the 8th instant, was read and filed. He thereby certifies that he has examined *Joseph Crane* as to his knowledge in Gunnery, and, considering his merits and experience, thinks him qualified for a Captain-Lieutenancy.

Therefore Ordered, That the said *Joseph Crane*, pursuant to the order of the Provincial Congress of the 16th of March last, be Captain-Lieutenant of the Continental Company of Artillery, whereof *Sebastian Bearman*, Esq., is Captain.

A Return of the Second Regiment of Militia, in the south end of *Ulster* County, commanded by *James McClaughry*, containing a state of the Arms, Accoutrements, Powder, and Ball, was read and filed. It is thereby returned that the Regiment has 585 Guns, 28 Bayonets, 495 Swords, 296 Cartouch-Boxes, 55 pounds of Gunpowder, and 191 pounds of Lead.

A Letter from Mr. *Adrian Bancker*, and Return for Commissions for sundry Officers of Militia in *Richmond* County, therein named, was read and filed. The Commissions therein requested were issued.

10 ho. A. M., April 12, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Imlay*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Covenhoven*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*, Colonel *M. Graham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

*Peter Dubois*, who has attended some days on charges exhibited against him by the Reverend *Barnard Page*, *Ethan Sickles*, and others, together with the said witnesses and others, attending, the Committee determined to proceed thereon; and Mr. *Dubois*, and all the other persons attending thereon, were called in.

*Ethan Sickles* was first called up near the Chair, and examined. Notes of his examination, taken and read to him in presence of Mr. *Dubois*, are as follow, viz:

*Ethan Sickles*, of the City of *New-York*, being personally examined, says: That on last Thursday morning, he went from *Paulus-Hook*, with Mr. *Peter Dubois* and Colonel *Smith*, and another gentleman, in the stage, and proceeded to *Woodbridge*; that while Colonel *Smith* was with them, Mr. *Dubois* appeared a high Whig; that by the way, they took in Colonel *Zedwitz*; that Mr. *Dubois* was continually asking him questions, and, when he found any opportunity, was finding fault, and, from Mr. *Dubois's* conversation, he thought he was not a Whig. That he heard that Mr. *Page* and Mr. *Dubois* got in a warm argument at *Philadelphia*, and differed in sentiment; that Mr. *Dubois* said General *Gage* was a gentleman and a man of honour, and that Mr. *Dubois* acknowledged the dispute, and what the examinant had heard on that subject, in the presence of the examinant. That on the road homeward, Mr. *Dubois* frequently spoke

against the *American* Forces, and wherever they stopped, he was speaking to the people he met in that strain; that he said the *New-England* Forces would deceive us, and that we might depend upon it; that he (the examinant) told Mr. *Dubois* not to continue his discourse, and told him he was not a friend to his country. That it was mentioned in the stage that the officers who are prisoners at *Trenton* had run the Congress to one hundred and fifty Pounds expense in one week, and that it was paid; that he (the examinant) spoke disrespectfully of them for having been, in his opinion, so extravagant, for which Mr. *Dubois*, in return, treated him with all names and abusive language; that his conversation on the whole was intolerable. That he particularly found fault with the oaths that have been administered to people by the General—said it was no sin to break such an oath, and found great fault with the Congress on that subject. That he spoke of some person near him who had refused to bear arms, and had been tarred and feathered; that he called the men who had done it a damned set of rascals, and said he would have satisfaction of them at the risk of his life.

Being asked how he understood Mr. *Dubois* when he said the *New-England* men would deceive us, he answered, that he understood him to mean a deceit by treachery.

*Theodorus De Forrest* being examined, says: That Mr. *Dubois* run down the *American* Troops very greatly, and said they had no discipline or order among them—said the *New-England* Officers had no order among them; that if ever they came to an engagement, the *New-England* Troops would deceive the other Colonies; that he understood Mr. *Dubois* meant that they were not true to the cause; that Mr. *Dubois* embraced the company of the regular officers on every opportunity; that he spoke of an officer near where he lived who had been tarred and feathered—said some of the Committee were amongst those who tarred and feathered the man, and that they were a parcel of rascals.

Mr. *Dubois* went on his defence: He asked Mr. *Sickles* whether he was present when he commended or spoke highly of General *Gage*; was answered, that he mentioned it as what he had heard. Mr. *Dubois* says he only meant that the *New-England* Troops never had equal order or discipline of the *Pennsylvania* Troops and others, and that people would be deceived in their military character, if they came to action; that as to the matter of affecting the company of the officers who are prisoners, he says that they are his old friends and acquaintances, and that he was but a few minutes with them. That the conversation about oaths was general; that he had spoken against oaths administered by compulsion, and had said many people did not conceive themselves bound by such an oath. That as to the persons tarred, he referred to one *Goldsmith*, who had been Captain of a company; that on Mr. *Jackson* being elected Captain according to the regulation of the Congress, *Goldsmith* refused to bear arms in the company, and refused that his son should bear arms, for which he had been tarred and feathered, and that he had execrated such conduct. Mr. *Dubois* says that Captain *Jackson* and some of the Committee were at the head of those young men who tarred the said *Goldsmith*. That when Mr. *Page* charged him with being a Tory, he had declared he was not; that he was bred in Revolution principles, and disapproved of the acts of Parliament for laying taxes on *America*; that what he said of General *Gage* was in answer to illiberal expressions of Mr. *Page* against General *Gage* as a rascal and a coward; that what he said of the *New-England* Troops was speaking of them in a comparative view with the *Pennsylvania* Troops; says he has signed, and promoted the signing of the General Association of the Colony.

*Bernard Page* being examined, says: That on last *Saturday*, or *Sunday* following, Mr. *Dubois* came into the room where he (the examinant) was; they fell into conversation on publick matters; in substance Mr. *D.* gave General *Gage* the highest character of reputation, honour, integrity, and the like; that he (the examinant) replied, that he did not look on his character in that light, but that he had sacrificed his most honourable engagements and pledges, particularly in the affair of the inhabitants of *Boston*, touching his promise to permit them to leave the town on delivering up their arms; that Mr. *Dubois* got into a passion, and declared that General *Gage* never was impeached with a dishonourable act, and that he was a man of the strictest integrity

and impartiality, or other words to that effect; that he (the examinant) answered, that his character was not honoured; that he was rather looked upon as a coward; that *Howe* and *Burgoyne*, and the other officers, were esteemed as gentlemen who would fight, but that he did not think General *Gage* could support his character in that favourable light; that Mr. *Dubois* told him he was a minister, but that no other man would dare to say so; that Mr. *Dubois* with warmth declared, "that the majesty of the people of *Great Britain* would never be so insulted or imposed on by the people here;" (meaning the people of *America*, as the examinant understood;) and then left the room. That during their stay at a tavern, Mr. *Dubois* appeared to him to endeavour to know of every strange gentleman who came there, on which side of the question they were, but did not enter into any further conversation there with the examinant. That on *Monday*, at *Bristol*, Mr. *Dubois*, as soon as they stopped, seized an opportunity to speak privately with the prisoners there; that he saw Mr. *Dubois* conversing with them; that at dinner-time, at Mrs. *Still's*, at *Trenton*, Mr. *Dubois* came into the room, and declared he had been to see some gentlemen who were prisoners there—had been in their room, and been invited to dine with them, but chose to dine with the company who came in the stage with him. In proceeding onward on the way, Mr. *Dubois* spoke something, in the examinant's opinion, disrespectful of the *New-England* Troops, viz: in substance, that they fought behind walls, and in secret places, and were afraid to show themselves openly, or words to that effect; that he (the examinant) replied in the negative, and endeavoured to support their character in the instance at *Bunker's Hill*, in which Mr. *D.* had thus charged them with this cowardice; that he particularly mentioned having seen *Bunker's Hill* at different times, and not observed any stone-fence or wall there; that he observed the *American* Troops there, by every account, had fought manfully, and that the action itself demonstrated that the troops did not deserve any such charge as Mr. *Dubois* had made against them; that Mr. *Dubois* replied, in a contemptuous manner, "that the *New-England* Troops would certainly deceive the rest," meaning, as he (this examinant) apprehended, the other Colonies; that Mr. *Dubois* repeated to the same effect several times, and once, in particular, said, "they would deceive the people;" that he (the examinant) alleged that the *New-England* Troops were well disciplined, courageous, possessed of conduct, and that, in general, there were not better troops on the Continent; that Mr. *Dubois* said he knew what troops were—looked on the *New-England* Troops in a different light; he spoke well of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, but said the *New-England* Troops would deceive the people; that Mr. *Dubois* got into a violent passion, and endeavoured to browbeat him, and that he (this examinant) endeavoured to support the character of the *New-England* Troops, and alleged they only took up the sword to support their liberties. That he (the examinant) told Mr. *Dubois* that he looked on him as very unfavourable to the cause, and to be a Tory, and suspected that he was a spy, and had been abroad to procure Ministerial letters, and had such with or about him, or words to that effect; that he grounded this charge on the whole of Mr. *Dubois's* conduct. That speaking of a person who was tarred and feathered, Mr. *Dubois* said if he had been so treated, he would have had vengeance, and would have taken it privately if he could not obtain it publicly; that speaking of oaths that were and had been tendered by Congresses and Committees, he alleged such oaths were of no force, and that he should entirely disregard them, or other words to that effect, but said he would abide by an oath which he mentioned as contained in some statute. That any personal difference which he has had with Mr. *Dubois* does not influence his testimony as to publick matters.

Mr. *Page* cross-examined by Mr. *Dubois* one or two questions.

Mr. *Dubois* renewed his defence: Declares he does not recollect to have used such expression "as to the majesty of the people of *Great Britain*," as Mr. *Page* has mentioned.

Mr. *Dubois* and the witnesses withdrew.

Ordered, That he be called in, and reprimanded; and that Colonel *McDougall* deliver the reprimand, and direction to be more careful for the future.

Mr. *Dubois* being called in at the bar, Colonel *McDougall* informed him that it is the opinion of the Committee that he has discovered a temper inimical to his country; that such conduct is inconsistent with the philosopher, the soldier, or the good man; and, after summing up the matter given in proof, and their tendency, and a charge to impress a more careful conduct, he was discharged.

— 3 ho. P. M., April 12, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Imlay*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Laurence*.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, dated this day, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

“New-York, April 12, 1776.

“SIR: As I have General *Putnam*'s orders to march with a brigade of troops for *Staten-Island*, and as I shall be under a necessity of quartering them in the farm-houses there until the season of the year will admit of their being encamped, I shall esteem it a favour of the Committee of Safety if they will, as soon as possible, desire the Committee of *Richmond* County to give notice thereof to the inhabitants, that they may be prepared to receive the troops in the manner most convenient to themselves; and they may be assured that my best endeavours will be used to render the residence of the troops among them as little burdensome as possible; and this I hope will be the easier effected, as house-room is the only article that will be required; every thing else they may stand in need of will be punctually paid for.

“Colonel *Ritzema*'s Regiment is one of the corps ordered to compose my brigade. On inquiry, I find the companies of which his regiment is to be composed, are not yet fixed or arranged. I must beg the favour of the Committee of Safety to attend to this matter, and fix it as soon as possible.

“I am, sir, your most humble servant,

“STIRLING.

“To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*.”

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare and certify a copy of so much of Lord *Stirling*'s Letter as relates to the quartering of the Troops on *Richmond* County, to be sent to the Committee of *Richmond* County.

And Ordered, That the Committee of *Richmond* County be requested, with all possible despatch, to prepare empty Farm-houses where they may be had; and where those cannot be had, that they prepare quarters and places for them in Dwelling-houses; that the said Committee use their influence with the inhabitants to consider the soldiers as their countrymen and fellow-citizens, employed in the defence of the liberties of their country in general, and of the inhabitants of *Richmond* County in particular, and to endeavour to accommodate them accordingly.

Mr. *Abraham Livingston* attended the Committee, and requested money, agreeable to the Resolution of Congress, to enable him to comply with his contract for victualling the Troops in this Colony. As there is but a small sum now in the Treasury, the Committee are of opinion that a larger sum than two thousand five hundred Pounds cannot be advanced to him at present,

Therefore Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, advance to Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, in part of the money due to him on contract for supplying the Continental Troops in this Colony, the sum of two thousand five hundred Pounds, on account, and take his receipt for the same.

Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, applied to the Committee for money to enable him to provide necessaries for the Army.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony,

advance to *Peter T. Curtenius*, as Agent or Commissary of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, to provide Clothing and Arms, Accoutrements, &c., for the Troops, the sum of five thousand Pounds, on account, and take his receipt for the same.

Mr. *Randall* informed the Committee that he stands in need of cash to discharge debts contracted in purchasing and in part fitting out an Armed Schooner.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Mr. *Thomas Randall*, Esquire, the sum of nine hundred Pounds, on account, in part of moneys by him advanced for the purchase of an Armed Schooner, and her Arms and Outfit; the Treasurer to take Mr. *Randall*'s receipt for the same.

The Committee have, for the present, appointed the following seven Captains, with their Subaltern Officers and Companies, to be under the command of Colonel *Ritzema*, as seven Companies of his Regiment, to wit: Captain *Andrew Billings*, Captain *Daniel Denton*, Captain *Abraham Riker*, Captain *Cornelius Hardenbergh*, Captain *Jonathan Horton*, Captain ——— *Hobby*, and Captain *Amos Hutchins*. This arrangement to continue as to the rank of Captains in this Regiment until a general arrangement of the whole four Regiments is made on a return of the Companies raised.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *Ritzema* the sum of eight hundred Pounds, on account, to enable him to pay such Troops as are put under his command, as his Regiment; the Treasurer to take Colonel *Ritzema*'s receipt for the same.

Ordered, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, deliver to *Thomas Randall*, Esquire, two hundred and fifty pounds of Gunpowder and three hundred weight of Lead, for the use of a small Armed Schooner, fitted out by the Marine Committee, by order of the Provincial Congress; the said Commissary to take a receipt for the same.

Captain *Increase Child*, of a Company of Minute-men, now discharged from service, requests a warrant to raise a Company in the Continental service.

Ordered, That Captain *Increase Child* be, and he is hereby, authorized, in conjunction with Mr. *John Lloyd*, as First Lieutenant, *Samuel Dodge*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Punderson*, Ensign, to raise a Company for the Continental service in this Colony, agreeable to the warrants issued by the Provincial Congress of this Colony for that purpose; on condition that those gentlemen enlist and raise the said Company, and make return thereof in proper form, or bring the said Company to *New-York* for actual service within three weeks.

Ordered, That Colonel *Ritzema* direct the Captain or such other officer in each Company of his Regiment, as he shall think proper, to apply to the County Committee, or any Precinct Committee in the Counties where such Companies were respectively raised, for Arms for the said Companies out of those collected by disarming the disaffected persons, pursuant to the Resolution of the Continental Congress.

The Committee are informed that Lord *Drummond* is in such a state of health that his Physicians advise him to remove to the Island of *Bermuda* for the preservation of his life; and that he requested permission of this Committee for that purpose.

Therefore Ordered, That Lord *Drummond* be, and he is hereby, permitted to depart this Colony, and go to the Island of *Bermuda*; and it is hereby recommended to all friends of *America* not to interrupt him on his passage, but to let him pass in safety and without molestation.

— Die Sabbati, A. M., April 13, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Imlay*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.



FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*, Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Leftertse*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

The Memorial of *Samuel Loudon*, Printer, with remarks on the subject, were read and filed.

"To the Honourable the Committee of Safety of the Colony of NEW-YORK, the Memorial of SAMUEL LOUDON, of the City of NEW-YORK, Printer, sheweth:

"That some weeks ago, a manuscript, composed by a gentleman at some considerable distance, and sent in order to be printed here, in answer to the celebrated pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*, was put into my hands by a gentleman of this City, who desired me to print it. As a publication of this nature required mature deliberation, I did not incline, nor did the gentleman require me to comply with his proposal, till I should be convinced that the manuscript was written with decency, or did not express or even imply any disapprobation of the Proceedings of the honourable Continental Congress, or the glorious cause in defence of which *Americans* are spending their blood and treasure. Being satisfied as to these particulars, I agreed to print the manuscript on my own account. Having made some progress in printing off the sheets, I advertised the publication of the pamphlet in Mr. *Gaine's Gazette*, not imagining that any offence could justly be taken by my fellow-citizens; but, to my great surprise, I soon found that the advertisement had given disgust to some of the inhabitants, who highly resented it.

"On the evening of the 18th ultimo I received a message to attend on the Committee of Mechanics; I attended accordingly, and was interrogated by Mr. *Christopher Duyckinck*, the Chairman, who was the author of the manuscript I was printing, and who gave it to me? I told them I did not know the author, and that I got the manuscript from a gentleman of this City, whose name, in my opinion, they had no right to demand. Displeased at this reply, they threatened to burn the pamphlet, blaming me in strong terms for printing it. I expostulated with them on the impropriety of condemning a book before they had read it; proposed to send them the sheets that were printed, for their perusal, and to refer the whole affair to the Committee of Safety, and abide by their determination. They did not, however, think it proper to regard any of my proposals, but sent six of their number to my house, who nailed and sealed up the printed sheets in boxes, except a few, which were drying in an empty house, which they locked, and took the key with them; the following evening they returned the key, and informed me that they had referred the matter to the General Committee of Inspection. Same evening I received a note to wait on that Committee; I attended, and was informed by the Chairman, Colonel *Broome*, that a complaint had been preferred against me for printing an answer to the pamphlet entitled *Common Sense*; and the Committee advised me not to persist in publishing it at present, as my personal safety might be endangered. I thanked the Committee, and promised to comply with their advice. This availed nothing for my security; for, some time after ten o'clock, the same night, the before-mentioned Mr. *Duyckinck*, without any commission from the Committee, attended by a considerable number, to appearance more than forty persons, who rushed into my house; some of them ran up stairs to the Printing-Office (while others guarded the door) and took away the whole impression of said pamphlet, being about fifteen hundred copies, which, at a very moderate calculation, amounts to seventy-five pounds; they carried them to the Commons and there burned them, as I have been informed.

"Your Memorialist conceiving the above-mentioned transactions a violent infraction of the liberty of the Press, and an unjustifiable attack on his private property, prays that the honourable Committee will take such measures, and give directions in the premises as may secure the liberty of the Press, protect private property, prevent such insults for the future, and enable your Memorialist to recover damages adequate to the injuries he has sustained.

"And your Memorialist, &c., SAMUEL LOUDON.

"New-York, March 28, 1776."

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

"I would not anticipate the reflections that will naturally arise in the mind of every candid and dispassionate reader of the plain and impartial narrative I have given in the Memorial to the honourable Committee of Safety, but justice to the publick and myself requires me to subjoin a few remarks.

"As the question concerning *American* independence hath not, to the best of my knowledge, been decided by the Continental Congress, nor by any legal subordinate Convention, there can be no criminality in publishing the arguments for and against it; and as it is a question of the greatest importance, it should not be decided before the arguments are fully discussed.

"Though a formal answer to the pamphlet entitled *Common Sense* hath been published in *Philadelphia*, the printer hath not fallen under the resentment of the Continental Congress, which is a decisive evidence that the Representatives of *North-America* do not judge him to be a transgressor. My zealous, well-meaning, misguided opponents, would have acted a consistent part had they paid a due deference to the wisdom and good sense of that honourable body of men, whom they have solemnly promised to support, by suspending all proceedings against me till the *Philadelphia* printer had been called to account and condemned by them.

"The publick will determine whether, by not suffering any other person to publish their sentiments but the author of the above-mentioned Pamphlet, and such as have adopted his way of thinking, many thousands of steady friends to the common cause of *America* are not deprived of one of their essential privileges—the liberty of declaring their opinion upon a subject of the greatest moment, and in which they are unspeakably more interested than the supposed author of that pamphlet.

"It is at any rate self-evident, that if any set of unauthorized men shall be permitted to assume the power of legislating for their fellow-citizens, and punishing them as they please, our legal Conventions and Committees, with all the precious liberties for which we are contending, will be in effect annihilated, and we will be in a more miserable slavery than would arise from the most successful exertion of all the tyrannick acts of the *British* Parliament.

"The freedom of the Press is now insulted and infringed by some zealous advocates for liberty. A few more nocturnal assaults upon printers may totally destroy it, and *America*, in consequence, may fall a sacrifice to a more fatal despotism than that with which we are threatened.

"I have no consciousness of guilt in the affair for which I have been persecuted. It is well known that I have always been a steady friend to the liberties of *America*; and I am resolved to risk my all in their defence, and cheerfully submit to every determination of the Continental Congress, of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and the General Committee of this city, that is not contrary to the dictates of religion, justice, and humanity; hoping, at the same time, that the reputation of *American* Councils will never be contaminated by any determination of such an iniquitous kind. I only claim common justice; and desire that, for the future, all political publications issued from my press be legally and impartially tried by the publickly avowed principles of the Colonies met in Continental Congress. If at any time I shall publish principles opposite to these, under any other predicament than that of common news, let me be treated with all the severity which an enemy to his country deserves.

"SAMUEL LOUDON.

"The following are all the names I have as yet been able to collect of the persons who took away and burnt my pamphlets, viz: *Christopher Duyckinck*, *John Gilbert*, *Thomas Pratt*, *John Buchanan*, (Tavern-Keeper at the *New-Slip*), — *Brower*, (the Carpenter,) — *Bicker*, (an officer,) *Malcom McEuen*, (a Pewterer.)"

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be postponed till next week.

— *Coffin*, of the Island of *Nantucket*, attending, produced a Certificate, signed by three Justices of the Peace for the County of *Barnstable*, in *Massachusetts* Government, permitting him to export from *New-York* or *Connecticut*, for the internal use of the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket*, the following articles, viz: 1000 pounds of Hams, 1200 weight of Hog's Lard, 1000 pounds of Cheese, 60

pounds of Feathers, 4000 Staves, 10 barrels of Cider, 40 barrels of Pork, 20 barrels of Flour, 2 gross of Corks, 1000 bunches of Onions, 30 barrels of Apples.

*Ordered*, That the sub-Committee of the General Committee of the City of *New-York* be at liberty to permit Captain *Coffin* to export the whole, or any part of the articles mentioned in the within Certificate, and for the purpose therein mentioned.

The Letter from *Robert Treat Paine*, Esquire, of the Committee of the Continental Congress, enclosing the Resolution of Congress relative to the erecting Works for the manufacturing Saltpetre, &c., was read and filed.

*Ordered*, That the said Letter and Resolves be taken into consideration on *Wednesday* next.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, enclosing the Proceedings of the Continental Congress for issuing Letters of Marque, and commissioning private Armed Vessels, was read, as follows :

"Philadelphia, April 10, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: It is necessary, in conducting the warlike operations on the part of *America*, to meet our enemy on every ground, and to defend ourselves in the best manner we can against all attempts, in whatever shape, to deprive us of either liberty or property. So far are the *British* Ministry from showing the least relaxation in their barbarous schemes of reducing the *American* Colonies to slavery, that they have passed an act to seize and confiscate our property wherever found on the high seas. In consequence of this measure, the Congress have come to a resolution of fitting out letters of marque and reprisal. The commissions, instructions, and bond preparatory to which, I have the honour to enclose you; and am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"To the Honourable the Convention of *New-York*."

"In Congress, April 3, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That blank Commissions, for private Ships-of-War, and Letters of Marque and Reprisal, signed by the President, be sent to the General Assemblies, Conventions and Councils, or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, to be by them filled up and delivered to the persons intending to fit out such private Ships-of-War for making captures of *British* vessels and cargoes, who shall apply for the same, and execute the Bonds which shall be sent with the said Commissions; which Bonds shall be returned to the Congress.

"By order of Congress :

"JOHN HANCOCK, President."

"In Congress, April 3, 1776.

"*Resolved*, That every person intending to set forth and fit out a private Ship or Vessel of War, and applying for a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal for that purpose, shall produce a writing, subscribed by him, containing the name and tonnage or burden of the ship or vessel, the number of her guns with their weight of metal, the name and place of residence of the owner or owners, the names of the commander and other officers, the number of the crew, and the quantity of provisions and warlike stores; which writing shall be delivered to the Secretary of Congress, or to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Convention, or Council, or Committee of Safety of the Colony in which the ship or vessel shall be, to be transmitted to the said Secretary, and shall be registered by him; and that the commander of the ship or vessel, before the Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal may be granted, shall, together with sufficient sureties, seal and deliver a bond, in the penalty of five thousand dollars if the vessel be of one hundred tons or under, or ten thousand dollars if of greater burden, payable to the President of the Congress, in trust for the use of the United Colonies, with condition in the form following, to wit: The condition of this obligation is such; that if the above bounden . . . . ., who is commander of the . . . . . called . . . . ., belonging to . . . . ., of . . . . ., in the Colony of . . . . ., mounting . . . . . carriage-guns, and navigated by . . . . . men, and who hath applied for a Commission, or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to sea the said . . . . . as a private ship-of-war, and to make captures of *British* vessels and cargoes, shall not exceed or transgress the powers and authorities which shall be contained in the said Commission, but shall,

in all things, observe and conduct himself and govern his crew by and according to the same, and certain instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other instructions as may hereafter be given to him, and shall make reparation for all damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself, or the officers or crew of the said . . . . ., then this obligation shall be void, or else remain in force.

"Sealed and delivered in presence of . . . . .

"Which Bond shall be lodged with the said Secretary of Congress.

"By order of Congress :

"JOHN HANCOCK, President."

"In Congress, Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

"*Instructions to the Commanders of private Ships or Vessels of War, which shall have Commissions or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, authorizing them to make captures of British Vessels and Cargoes.*

"I. You may, by force of arms, attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain* on the high seas, or between high-water and low-water marks, except ships and vessels bringing persons who intend to settle and reside in the United Colonies, or bringing arms, ammunition, or warlike stores to the said Colonies, for the use of such inhabitants thereof as are friends to the *American* cause, which you shall suffer to pass unmolested, the commanders thereof permitting a peaceable search, and giving satisfactory information of the contents of the ladings and distinctions of the voyages.

"II. You may, by force of arms, attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels whatsoever, carrying soldiers, arms, gunpowder, ammunition, provisions, or any other contraband goods to any of the *British* armies or ships-of-war employed against these Colonies.

"III. You shall bring such ships and vessels as you shall take, with their guns, rigging, tackle, apparel, furniture and ladings, to some convenient port or ports of the United Colonies, that proceedings may thereupon be had in due form before the Courts which are, or shall be there appointed, to hear and determine causes civil and maritime.

"IV. You, or one of your chief officers, shall bring or send the Master and Pilot, and one or more principal person or persons of the company of every ship or vessel by you taken, as soon after the capture as may be, to the Judge or Judges of such Court as aforesaid, to be examined upon oath, and make answer to the interrogatories which may be propounded touching the interest or property of the ship or vessel and her lading; at the same time you shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Judge or Judges, all passes, sea-briefs, charter-parties, bills of lading, cockets, letters, and other documents and writings found on board, proving the said papers by the affidavit of yourself or some other person present at the capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subduction, or embezzlement.

"V. You shall keep and preserve every ship or vessel and cargo by you taken, until they shall, by sentence of a Court properly authorized, be adjudged lawful prize; not selling, spoiling, wasting, or diminishing the same, or breaking the bulk thereof, nor suffering any such thing to be done.

"VI. If you, or any of your officers or crew, shall, in cold blood, kill or maim, or by torture or otherwise cruelly, inhumanly, and contrary to common usage and the practice of civilized nations in war, treat any person or persons surprised in the ship or vessel you shall take, the offender shall be severely punished.

"VII. You shall, by all convenient opportunities, send to Congress written accounts of the captures you shall make, with the number and names of the Captains, copies of your Journal from time to time, and intelligence of what may occur or be discovered concerning the designs of the enemy, and the destinations, motions, and operations of their fleets and armies.

"VIII. One-third, at least, of your whole company shall be landsmen.

"IX. You shall not ransom any prisoners or Captains, but shall dispose of them in such manner as the Congress, or if that be not sitting in the Colony whither they shall be brought, as the General Assembly, Convention, or Council, or Committee of Safety of such Colony shall direct.

"X. You shall observe all such further instructions as

Congress shall hereafter give in the premises, when you shall have notice thereof.

“ XI. If you shall do anything contrary to these Instructions, or to others hereafter to be given, or willingly suffer such things to be done, you shall not only forfeit your Commission and be liable to an action for breach of the condition of your bond, but be responsible to the party grieved for damages sustained by such malversation.

“ By order of Congress :  
“ JOHN HANCOCK, *President.*”

Die Sabbati, 4to ho. P. M., April 13, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.  
Present : Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.  
FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Imlay*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*, Mr. *J. Van Cortlandt*.  
FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.  
FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.  
FOR KING’S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.  
FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.  
FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.  
A Letter from Major-General *Schuyler* to General *Thompson*, was read, of which the following extract is the last sentence, to wit :  
“ Will you be so good as to request the *New-York* Congress that the sailors may be sent up without delay.”  
Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop*, on request, attended the Committee, and agreed to accept of and execute the following order :  
*Ordered*, That Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop* do enlist the number of Mariners desired by Major-General *Schuyler*, for the service at the Lakes, with all possible despatch. That Captain *Wynkoop* proceed to *Albany* with the said Mariners to General *Schuyler*, and take his directions as to the vessels on the Lakes, until the honourable the Continental Congress shall have appointed him to that command, or some other gentleman shall arrive at the Lakes authorized to take the command.  
*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Brasher*, and Mr. *Van Cortlandt*, be a Committee to wait on General *Washington*.

A Return of Prisoners in Jail, &c., NEW-YORK, the 15th of APRIL, 1776.

When confined.	Prisoners' Names.	By whom confined.	Where confined.	Occupation.	Number of days confined.
March 1.....	Ryder Van Housen.....	Provincial Congress.....	Jail.....	Pilot.....	46
14.....	Thomas Vernon.....	Do.....	Do.....	Hatter.....	32
17.....	William McDermott.....	Committee of Safety.....	Do.....	Reduced Officer.....	29
17.....	Joseph Woolcomb.....	Do.....	Do.....	Sailor.....	29
17.....	William Alder.....	Do.....	Do.....	Do.....	29
April 8.....	Thomas Remington Harris.....	General Putnam.....	Do.....	Master's Mate.....	8
8.....	William Medcalf.....	Do.....	Do.....	Midshipman.....	8
8.....	Henry Kilgrove.....	Do.....	Do.....	Pilot.....	8
8.....	Cæsar Freeman.....	Do.....	Do.....	Sailor.....	8
8.....	Michael Conery.....	Do.....	Do.....	Do.....	8
8.....	Jeremiah Readon.....	Do.....	Do.....	Do.....	8
8.....	Francis Climes.....	Do.....	Do.....	Do.....	8
8.....	David Shockness.....	Do.....	Hospital.....	Do.....	8
8.....	John Gibbons.....	Do.....	Upper Barrack.....	Do.....	8
8.....	Derby Doyle.....	Do.....	Jail.....	Farmer.....	8
8.....	Isaac Navarra.....	Do.....	Do.....	Oysterman.....	8
March 15.....	William Haselton.....	Colonel McDougall.....	Do.....	Armourer.....	30
April 7.....	James Moffatt.....	Captain Ledyard.....	Do.....	Soldier.....	9
12.....	James Johnson.....	Do.....	Do.....	Do.....	4
13.....	Thomas McIntire.....	Do.....	Do.....	Do.....	3

Die Lunæ, A. M., April 15, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.  
Present : *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.  
FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.  
FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.  
FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.  
FOR KING’S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.  
FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.  
FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

No other Members attending, the Committee could not proceed to business, for want of a representation from another County.  
A Return of the Prisoners in the Committee Jail, and by whom committed, was read and filed.  
A Letter from *Thomas Vernon*, one of the said Prisoners, requesting his discharge, was read and filed.

Die Mercurii, April 17, A. M., 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.  
Present : *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.  
FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Colonel *Lott*.  
FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.  
FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.  
FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.  
FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.  
FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.  
FOR KING’S.—Mr. *Vanderbilt*.

Mr. *William Mercier* (who is appointed to superintend the fitting out the armed Sloop *Montgomery*, whereof Mr. *Rogers* is Commander) applied for an order on the Storekeeper, for 6 pair of Pistols, 200 pounds of Musket-Balls, 20

Cartridge-Boxes, and 600 pounds of Gunpowder. Mr. *Mercier* also applied for the sum of two hundred Pounds, to be applied towards defraying sundry expenses accrued in fitting out said Sloop.  
Thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood* deliver to Captain *Mercier*, 6 pair of Pistols, 200 pounds of Musket-Balls, 20 Cartridge-Boxes, and 600 pounds of Gunpowder, for the use of the armed Sloop *Montgomery*, Captain *Rogers*.  
*Ordered further*, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Captain *William Mercier* the sum of two hundred Pounds, to be applied towards paying off the Accounts and expenses accrued in fitting out the armed Sloop *Montgomery*, and take his receipt, on account, for the same.  
Colonel *Mifflin* attending, informed the Committee that General *Washington* is very solicitous to have the great number of Taverns and Tippling Houses in this City suppressed, because they tend greatly to debauch the Soldiers ; and requests that this Committee will be pleased to regulate and make out a list of such Tavern-keepers and Retailers of Spirituous Liquors as this Committee shall deem necessary for the convenience of the inhabitants of this City.  
The Committee, taking the same into consideration,  
*Ordered*, That Mr. *Evert Bancker* be, and he is hereby, directed to withhold granting the Excise on Spirituous Liquors to any person within the City and County of *New-York*, until the further order of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.  
Colonel *Mifflin* further informed the Committee, that it would be necessary to erect a Wharf on *Nutten-Island*, for the more convenient and safe landing of the Troops and Stores, which may, from time to time, be ordered to that Island ; and requested the assistance of this Committee, in procuring Timber for the same.  
Mr. *Van Zandt* said he would assist to procure Logs.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington* was read, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: The Committee of Safety of this Colony having been requested to apply to your Excellency to obtain a release of seven citizens, now detained on board the ships *Phoenix* and *Asia* as prisoners, they are well informed an exchange may be effected, if your Excellency would be pleased to give the Committee the benefit of a number of your prisoners of equal rank. Should either of the ships depart with their prisoners on board, their respective families must labour under additional misfortunes. Some of them have been detained a long time. The Committee enclose a list of their names; and beg leave to assure you that they are, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's most humble servants.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

The names of the Prisoners alluded to in the foregoing Letter are as follows, to wit:

*William Mount*, Master of a vessel; *Robert Johnson*, Mate; *William Berwick*, Pilot; *Jacob Germaine*, Pilot; *Charles Galatian*, *William Dillon*, Boatmen; *William Bicker*, Hatter;—*Asia*.

Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., April 17, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beckman*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Denning*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

Lieutenant *William Scudder* sent into the Committee of Safety an open Letter or Memorial, dated on the 15th instant, which was read and filed.

He thereby informs that he had received a Warrant to enlist men in the Continental service in this Colony, in the Company whereof *Henry O'Hara* is Captain; that he has enlisted, and has on billet, in *New-Jersey*, about thirty-five men at his own expense; that Captain *O'Hara* went to *Albany* about seven weeks ago, to return in three weeks; since which he has not had any intelligence from him; that his men call daily for money, and will desert if he is not enabled to support them. He therefore prays the Committee to take some method for his relief.

To the said Letter was annexed a list of the names of forty-seven persons, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, therein said to be under the care of the said *William Scudder*.

*William Lightbourn*, who was appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain *John Wiley's* Company, in the First Regiment, having resigned his Warrant, (which was occasioned by the decease of his father,)

Ordered, That the said *William Scudder* be appointed, and is hereby appointed, Second Lieutenant in Captain *Wiley's* Company, in the place of Mr. *Lightbourn*; that a Warrant issue to him accordingly, and that he apply to Colonel *McDougall* for further direction and assistance.

A Warrant was issued for Lieutenant *Scudder*.

Mr. *Sands* produced the following Letters, which were read, in order to support his request for an order on the Treasury for the sum of eleven hundred and fifty Pounds, to pay for the Sloop *Sally* and the Schooner *Polly*.

"St. Eustatia, March 2, 1776.

"SIR: I am sorry to relate to you the sad misfortune that I have met with on the high seas. On the 10th day of *February*, in the latitude 23° 9', longitude 63°, I met with the *Portland* ship-of-war, of fifty guns; in spite of my endeavours, she brought me to, and took all my people, and sent the sloop to *Antigua*, with two officers and five men. I had the good fortune to save part of my money, which I have lodged in the hands of Mr. *Samuel Cousens*. I expect to sail in six or seven days for *New-York*, in a fast-sailing sloop belonging to *Amboy*. I have enclosed a bill on Mes-

sieurs *Curson & Seton*, and I intend to bring a copy of the same myself.

"Sir, I still remain yours,

"WILKIE DODGE."

A Letter from *Matthew Van Alstyne* to his brother *Abraham Van Alstyne*, of this City, Merchant, dated *St. Eustatia*, *February* 24th, 1776, of which the following is an extract:

"I am sorry to inform you of my misfortune of being taken by the *Pomone* frigate. I had been at *Martinico* and going to *Guadaloupe*. I was becalmed under the land when he took me."

Also, another Letter from Captain *Matthew Van Alstyne* to *Abraham Van Alstyne*, dated *St. Eustatia*, *February* 4th, 1776.

"I am going to *St. Christophers*, to take charge of Captain *Sanders's* brig, rather than come home, for the sea is full of all kinds of cruisers. There is not one vessel in ten that escapes, going or coming. On my arrival here I wrote up to my friends at *St. Christophers*, and related my misfortune of being taken."

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esquire, as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to Mr. *Comfort Sands*, six hundred and fifty Pounds, for the Sloop *Sally*, whereof *Wilkie Dodge* was late Master; and the further sum of five hundred Pounds for the Schooner *Polly*, *Matthew Van Alstyne*, Master, which was insured at that price, by *Sands*, on account of this Colony.

The Committee then proceeded to finish their Resolutions for encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre in this Colony; and the following Resolutions, reported by Mr. *Tredwell*, were read, amended, approved of, and agreed to for that purpose, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 17, 1776.

Whereas the Continental Congress, on the 23d of *February* last, did recommend it to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils, or Committees of Safety and Committees of Correspondence and Inspection, in the United Colonies, to exert themselves in devising further ways and means for promoting and encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre, and of introducing that manufacture into private families; and to the several Assemblies and Conventions in the United Colonies that they establish publick works in each and every County, in their respective Colonies, at the expense of such Colonies, for the manufacture of Saltpetre; and appoint Committees of their own Members immediately to set up such manufacture:

And whereas the Provincial Congress of this Colony have authorized the Committee of Safety to carry the above Resolutions of Congress into execution:

Therefore Resolved, That Committees be appointed, agreeable to the said Resolutions, to erect Works for manufacturing of Saltpetre in every considerable Town or Village in the several Counties of *New-York*, *Albany*, *Suffolk*, *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, and *King's*.

And that *Isaac Stoutenburgh*, *Samuel Prince*, and *Evert Bancker*, be a Committee for that purpose in the City and County of *New-York*;

That *Henry Glen*, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., and *Leonard Gansevoort*, be a Committee for the like purpose in the City and County of *Albany*;

That *Thomas Tredwell*, *David Gelston*, and *Ezra L'Homedieu*, be a Committee for the like purpose in the County of *Suffolk*;

That *Dirck Wynkoop* and *Charles De Witt* be a Committee for the like purpose in the County of *Ulster*;

That *William Allison* and *John Herring* be a Committee for the like purpose in the County of *Orange*;

That *Peter Ten Broeck* and *Cornelius Humphries* be a Committee for the like purpose in the County of *Dutchess*;

That *Ebenezer Lockwood* and *Gilbert Drake* be a Committee for the like purpose in the County of *Westchester*;

And that *John Vanderbilt*, *Nicholas Covenhoven*, and *Rutger Van Brunt*, be a Committee for the like purpose in the County of *King's*.

And the said Committees are hereby severally authorized and empowered, in behalf and on account of this Colony, to contract with proper persons for erecting said Works, and carrying on the said manufacture, under the superintendence and direction of the said Committees.

And the said Committees are hereby directed to report to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, from time to time, their proceedings in the premises, and the progress that shall be made in said manufacture.

And to encourage the setting up of private Works, and the manufacture of Saltpetre in private families, (which is the only way of obtaining a speedy and effectual supply of that article,) the Committees hereby appointed in the several Counties, are empowered and authorized to purchase, on the account of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, all well refined Saltpetre, that shall be made in this Colony, and offered to them for sale, before the first day of *November* next, at the rate of six Shillings per pound. And it is further recommended to the Committees of the several Cities, Counties, Towns, Manors, Precincts, and Districts, in this Colony, in the neighbourhood of any places suspected to contain mines of Sulphur, that they cause diligent search to be made for such mines in their respective Districts, and report their discoveries to the Provincial Congress or the Committee of Safety without delay.

Ordered, That the Secretaries prepare copies of these Resolutions for the Printers in this City, and that the same be printed in all the publick Newspapers in this Colony.

*Edward Tylee*, being examined, saith: That he has been a prisoner on board the *Asia* seven months; that he was well treated by Captain *Vandeput* during the whole time; and that upon the whole he did not receive any ill treatment from any of the ship's company. This examinant further saith, that Lord *Roschill* informed this examinant, just before he came from on board the *Asia*, that he (Lord *Roschill*) had given the information to Captain *Vandeput*, by the way of *Amboy*, which occasioned his being taken prisoner. This examinant being examined relative to the *Asia* firing on the City, said that he was not on board at the time, but was informed, after being on board, that Captain *Vandeput* gave orders for the first firing, but that he (Captain *Vandeput*) went down between decks to stop the second firing; that the next morning, the First Lieutenant, Mr. *Galbreath*, had loaded an eighteen-pounder with grape-shot, to fire on the inhabitants, and that Captain *Vandeput* jumped out of his cabin, in his shirt, to prevent it.

This examinant further saith: That one *John Noble*, of this City, came continually on board the *Asia* with intelligence from this City; that he has frequently heard him give intelligence on board, particularly relative to the troops taking possession of *Bedlow's Island*; that he (the examinant) heard *Noble* say he managed and brought about the escape of Captain *Harris*, when he (said *Noble*) was on guard; that the said *Noble*, the week before last, brought on board three rifle guns. That *Lawrence Hartwick* was another person who continually brought intelligence; that he was one of the persons who attempted to set fire to the furnace with combustibles made on board the ship *Asia*; gave the information which caused the two boats with iron to be seized. That, with respect to the supply of fresh provisions, they used to have it brought on board by many persons, whom he did not know; they refused to take Continental money for it. That a blockmaker, a tall man with a snuff-coloured coat, brown hair, who said he was a Committee-man, came on board twice, some time in the month of *November*, to the best of his knowledge, in company with one *Lawrence Hartwick*; that this examinant gave *Hartwick* a letter to carry for him to *Nathaniel Tylee*, in *New-York*, and that in the presence of the said blockmaker; that the said blockmaker told this examinant, "You know you and I are not of the same way of thinking;" that the said blockmaker and *Hartwick* broke the said letter open, and showed the same to Captain *Vandeput*, as Captain *Vandeput* informed this examinant, upon which this examinant was more closely confined, and suffered considerably thereby. This examinant further saith, that Mr. *Bogert*, the butcher, one or two nights before the ship *Lady Gage* was cut out, was on board the *Asia*; that two or three nights after the cutting out of the said ship, the said *Bogert* was on board again, and was invited by the gentlemen of the gunroom to go down with them in the gunroom; that this examinant was in the gunroom; that this examinant heard *Bogert* say that when he (*Bogert*) was coming from *Bedlow's Island* he saw Mr. *Nixen* put off from alongside the *Asia*, and that he (*Bogert*) lay down in the boat and let a sailor set upon him to prevent *Nixen* seeing him;

that the officers in the gunroom, on informing *Bogert* of the expedition in cutting out the *Lady Gage*, and laughing heartily about it, one of the officers said to *Bogert*, we told you of our going upon that expedition the other night; that *Bogert* answered "Yes, you did, but I did not want to hear it." That one *Nicolls*, of *Connecticut*, a friend of this examinant, gave *Bogert* sixteen shillings to purchase necessities with for this examinant; that *Bogert* brought him off two gallons of rum, and the remainder of the money he kept for near three months, though often solicited to bring him some necessities for the remainder, which he never did till a friend of this deponent came on board to see him, and to whom he gave an order on Mr. *Bogert* to receive it, and send him some necessities, which he accordingly did.

"New-York, April 17, 1776.

"SIR: By the enclosed resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress, you will observe that they have thought it expedient to open the Ports under several restrictions; and that they have also determined to make reprisals, by seizing of *British* property. By the resolutions, the Assemblies or Conventions of the Colonies are to appoint the proper officers, who are to take the securities of exporters; as also judges to determine on captures. As the Committee of Safety are incompetent for those purposes, and the trade of the Colony, as well as its reputation, will suffer if the necessary regulations are not made to enable the inhabitants to avail themselves of the benefit of the said resolutions, the Committee of Safety think it absolutely necessary that the Congress of this Colony do meet in this City on the 1st day of *May* next; they therefore earnestly entreat you to attend on that day, that our constituents may, if they are so disposed, export their produce, and be as early as their neighbours at market. The Committee of Safety would not choose to be chargeable with any loss this Colony might sustain in consequence of any delay in complying with the resolutions of the Continental Congress in making, on our part as a Colony, the proper arrangement.

"We are, sir, your humble servants.

"By order of the Committee of Safety:

"WILLIAM PAULDING, *Chairman*."

*James Smith*, Captain of the Armed Sloop called the *General Schuyler*, and Colonel *Alexander McDougall*, of the City of *New-York*, executed their joint and several Bond to the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress of the United Colonies, in the sum of five thousand Dollars, with condition thereto that the said *James Smith*, Commander of the said Sloop, shall not exceed or transgress the powers and authorities which shall be contained in his Commission as Commander of the said Sloop, but shall in all things observe and conduct himself and govern his crew by and according to the same, and certain instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other instructions as may hereafter be given him, and shall make reparation for all damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself, or the officers or crew of the said Sloop.

Thereupon a Commission was filled up, and delivered to the said *James Smith*, as Commander of the said Sloop, and his Instructions were also delivered to him.

*Thomas Cregier*, Commander of the Armed Schooner *General Putnam*, and *Thomas Randall*, of the City of *New-York*, duly executed a similar joint and several Bond to *John Hancock*, Esq., President as aforesaid, in the sum of five thousand Dollars, with a similar condition thereto as to the conduct and behaviour of the said *Thomas Cregier* and his officers and crew.

Thereupon a Commission was filled up, and delivered to the said *Thomas Cregier*, as Commander of the said Armed Schooner *General Putnam*, and set of Instructions delivered to him.

Captain *William Rogers*, Commander of the Armed Sloop *Montgomery*, and *Joseph Hallett*, of the City of *New-York*, duly executed a similar joint and several Bond to *John Hancock*, Esq., President as aforesaid, in the sum of five thousand Dollars, with a condition thereto for the good conduct and behaviour of the said *William Rogers*, as Commander of the said Armed Sloop *Montgomery*, and of his officers and crew, in terms similar to the condition of the Bond of the said *James Smith* and *Alexander McDougall*.

Thereupon a Commission was filled up, and delivered to



the said *William Rogers*, as Commander of the said Armed Sloop *Montgomery*, and a set of Instructions delivered to him.

Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, made a return of the Gunpowder purchased of Mr. *Nicholas Low*, which was read, and filed. It thereby appears that the quantity is one thousand five hundred and three pounds, and the quality thereof, as proved and ascertained by Mr. *Jecamiah Allen*, is but middling.

A Letter from Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, dated the 9th instant, was read, and filed. He thereby acknowledges the receipt of the Letter from this Committee, of the 1st instant, and says he will stop buying provisions; and informs that *John Thomas, Jun.*, *Ebenezer Lockwood*, and himself, have bought about one thousand barrels of pork and six hundred barrels of flour; that the peas ordered from *Albany* are in store at *Peek's Kill Landing*, and the pork stored in *Cortlandt's Manor, Bedford*, and *North-Castle*.

A Letter from twelve disaffected persons in *Queen's County*, usually called Tories, was read, and filed. They therein say they have been disarmed, and therefore request they may be excused from being called out when the Militia is called to train or muster.

A Letter from General *Washington*, on the subject of putting a stop to any intercourse with the Ships-of-War, was read, and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, April 17, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: There is nothing that could add more to my happiness than to go hand in hand with the civil authority of this or any other Government to which it may be my lot to be ordered; and if, in the prosecution of such measures as shall appear to me to have a manifest tendency to promote the interest of the great *American* cause, I shall encounter the local convenience of individuals, or even of a whole Colony, I beg it may be believed that I shall do it with reluctance and pain; but in the present important contest the least of two evils must be preferred.

"That a continuance of the intercourse which has hitherto subsisted between the inhabitants of this Colony and the enemy on board the ships-of-war is injurious to the common cause, requires no extraordinary abilities to prove. A moment's reflection not only evinces this truth, but points out the glaring absurdity of such procedure. We are to consider ourselves either in a state of peace or war with *Great Britain*. If the former, why are our ports shut up, our trade destroyed, our property seized, our towns burnt, and our worthy and valuable citizens led into captivity and suffering the most cruel hardships? If the latter, my imagination is not fertile enough to suggest a reason in support of the intercourse.

"In the weak and defenceless state in which this city was some time ago, political prudence might justify the correspondence that subsisted between the country and the enemy's ships-of-war; but as the largest part of the Continental troops is now here, as many strong works are erected and erecting for the defence of the city and harbour, those motives no longer exist, but are absorbed in others of a more important nature. To tell you, gentlemen, that the advantages of an intercourse of this kind are altogether on the side of the enemy, whilst we derive not the smallest benefit from it, would be telling what must be obvious to every one. It is indeed so glaring, that even the enemy themselves must despise us for suffering it to be continued; for, besides their obtaining supplies of every kind, by which they are enabled to continue in your harbours, it also opens a regular channel of intelligence, by which they are from time to time made acquainted with the number and extent of our works, our strength, and all our movements; by which they are enabled to regulate their own plans to our great disadvantage and injury. For the truth of this, I could produce instances; but as it may be the subject of future discussion, I shall decline it at present. It would, gentlemen, be taking up too much of your time to use further arguments in proof of the necessity of putting an immediate and total stop to all future correspondence with the enemy. It is my incumbent duty to effect this, convinced as I am of the disadvantages resulting from it, and it cannot be thought strange or hard that, under such conviction, I should be anxious to remove an evil which may contribute not a little to the ruin of the great cause we are engaged in, and may, in its effects, prove highly detrimental to this Colony in particular.

"In effecting the salutary purposes above-mentioned, I could wish for the concurrence and support of your honourable body. It will certainly add great weight to the measures adopted, when the civil authority co-operates with the military to carry them into execution. It will also redound much to the honour of the Government and of your Committee in particular, for the world are apt to judge from appearances; and while such correspondence exists, the reputation of the whole Colony will suffer in the eyes of their *American* brethren.

"It is therefore, gentlemen, that I have taken the liberty to address you on this important subject, relying upon your zeal and attachment to the cause of *American* liberty for your assistance in putting a stop to this evil, and that you will co-operate with me in such measures as shall be effectual either to prevent any future correspondence with the enemy, or in bringing to condign punishment such persons as may be hardy and wicked enough to carry it on otherwise than by a prescribed mode, if any case can possibly arise to require it.

"I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

*Ordered*, That all the Deputies to the Provincial Congress, now in this City, be summoned to attend this Committee to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock; and that the Continental Delegates now in this City be requested to attend, to take this Letter into consideration.

Die Jovis, A. M., April 18, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Denning*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Scott*, Col. *McDougall*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Smith*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*, Col. *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

*Philip Livingston* and *Francis Lewis*, Esquires, were present by request of the Committee.

On application from the General Committee of the City of *New-York*,

*Ordered*, That *Alexander Moncrief* be, and he is hereby, directed to receive into his custody all such persons as shall be from time to time committed by order of the General Committee of the City and County of *New-York*, and confine them in the Jail set apart for the confinement of prisoners committed by the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

Whereas this Committee is informed that the publick service is greatly impeded by the neglect or refusal of the Gunsmiths to despatch the work put into their hands by the Commissary,

It is therefore *Resolved and Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* do immediately apply to the several Gunsmiths in this City, and employ them in fitting up the Guns wanted for the publick service; and if any of the said Gunsmiths shall refuse to be employed in the publick service, or shall neglect to perform the work assigned, in that case the said Colonel *Curtenius* is hereby ordered and required to report to this Committee such as shall so refuse or neglect to despatch the publick work.

Mr. Adjutant-General *Gates* attending, was admitted.

1st. He informed the Committee that the General conceives it would tend to the publick convenience and the good government of the Army, and punishment of delinquents, if the Provost-Marshal could be supplied with a room in the Jail for his prisoners; and, also, another room in the Jail, or any other part of that building, for the holding of Courts-Martial, if any such room can be spared in that building; and requests the intervention of this Committee in the premises.

2d. That it is the opinion of the General, that proper persons should be appointed at different stations to make signals upon the approach of any enemy; and that corps of

Minute-men, or of Militia, should be appointed immediately, and have their directions to repair immediately on any signal given or alarm made, to particular places or stations assigned to them respectively, to prevent the confusion or irregularity that will necessarily ensue on any such occasion, without such order or regularity.

*Ordered*, That these matters be taken into consideration.

Whereas many inconveniences may arise by admitting the inhabitants of this Colony to an unrestrained commerce with the Continental Troops stationed in this Colony,

Therefore *Resolved and Ordered*, That any inhabitant of this Colony do not, on any pretence whatever, receive or purchase from any non-commissioned officer or soldier in the Continental service any Goods, Clothing, or other article whatsoever, unless such non-commissioned officer or soldier shall first produce to such inhabitant a certificate signed by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment or Company to which such non-commissioned officer or soldier belongs, specifying the particular goods or articles which he or they are permitted to dispose of, together with the name or names of the vender or venders; and the several Committees and sub-Committees in the respective Cities, Counties, Towns, Precincts, and Districts, in this Colony, are hereby requested to see that this Resolution be strictly complied with.

*Ordered*, That this Resolution be published in the Newspapers.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 18, 1776.

Whereas the Provincial Congress of this Colony, by their order of the 18th of *February* last, did forbid all communication between the ships-of-war in the Port of *New-York*, and the ship in which Governour *Tryon* resides, on the one part, and all the inhabitants of the Colony on the other, except for supplies of necessary provisions for the use of the said ships only, under certain restrictions therein mentioned: And whereas the said Congress, on the 8th of *March* last, did resolve and order further regulations for furnishing such supplies as aforesaid, upon express proviso, however, that the said supplies were to take place, and be continued on condition that there should be no obstruction given to any boats or vessels bringing provisions, provender, or fire-wood to this city; which obstruction has nevertheless been repeatedly given, and the benefit of such supplies are thereby become forfeited: And whereas the said Congress, by a resolve of the 15th of *March* last, did, among other things, authorize this Committee to execute, or cause to be executed, orders, resolves, and recommendations, as well of the Continental as of the said Provincial Congress; and, also, to comply as far as this Committee shall think proper with any requisition by the General of the Continental forces, or any or either of them: And whereas his Excellency General *Washington* has, in writing, signified to this Committee that he conceives any intercourse whatsoever with the enemies on board the said ships is injurious to the common cause, by enabling them, while they are furnished with provisions, to continue in our harbours, and maintain a regular channel of intelligence advancive of their own plans, and to our great disadvantage and injury, and has thereby requested our assistance in putting a stop to this evil, and to co-operate with him in such measures as shall be effectual either to prevent any future correspondence with the enemy, or in bringing to condign punishment such persons as may be hardy and wicked enough to carry it on:

It is therefore *Resolved and Ordered*, That no inhabitant of this Colony, upon any pretence, or for any purpose whatsoever, either in person or in writing, directly or indirectly, do presume to have or maintain any intercourse whatsoever with any Ship or Vessel belonging to or employed in the service of the King of *Great Britain*, or of any of his Officers or Ministers, or with any person or persons on board of the same, upon pain of being dealt with in the severest manner, as enemies to the rights and liberties of the United *North-American* Colonies.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That his Excellency General *Washington* be furnished with a copy of this and the foregoing Order and Resolve, and be assured that this Committee will co-operate with him in the execution of the same, and any other measure which may be judged by this Committee to be advancive of the salutary purposes of his requisition.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That a copy of the two aforego-

ing Resolves and Orders be immediately published in Handbills, and in all the publick Newspapers of this Colony; and that a copy of these Resolves be enclosed by the Chairman to the General, in the following Letter, to wit:

Committee of Safety, New-York, April 18, 1776.

Your recommendation of yesterday we took into consideration immediately on receipt of it; and thereupon framed the enclosed Resolves and Orders.

We cannot sufficiently thank your Excellency for your most delicate attention to the civil Government of this Colony; and beg leave to give you the strongest assurances that we most eagerly embrace this, as we shall every other opportunity, of co-operating with you in every measure which shall come recommended to us with the argument of publick utility.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient humble servants.

By order of the Committee.

To His Excellency Major-General *Washington*.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and, together with a copy of the said Resolutions, transmitted to General *Washington*.

Messieurs *Van Zandt* and *Randall*, of the Marine Committee, informed the Committee of Safety that the Pilot-Boat the *Hampden*, belonging to the Provincial Congress of this Colony, is at *Philadelphia*, in the Colony of *Pennsylvania*; that she cannot with safety be brought from thence, and that it is their opinion that the said vessel should be sold.

Mr. *Van Zandt* further informed the Committee that a small quantity of goods, which arrived in the said Sloop *Hampden*, and belong to the Colony, are in his custody.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That the Marine Committee, appointed by the Provincial Congress of this Colony, sell the said Sloop at *Philadelphia*, and pay the amount of the sales to the Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony.

And *Ordered further*, That the said Marine Committee do sell and dispose of the said Goods and Merchandise which were imported in the said Sloop, and pay the amount of the sales thereof to the said Treasurer; and that they deliver in to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety an account of the amount of the sales of the said Sloop and Goods.

A Letter from the Committee of the City of *Albany*, dated on the 2d instant, was read and filed. The said Committee therein mention that the Officers in that County, recruiting for the four Regiments of Continental Troops raising in this Colony, find great difficulties for want of money; that they have understood that money is allotted for that service; and they request that some money for the said Troops may be sent to them.

Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., April 18, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Smith*, Colonel *Lott*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

Colonel *Ritzema*, by a Letter to the Chairman, which was read and filed, requests an Order to Mr. *Norwood*, the Commissary of Colony Stores, for Arms for some of the men of his Regiment who are destitute.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, deliver to Colonel *Ritzema*, or to such Captains in his Regiment as shall have Colonel *Ritzema's* order, all the Muskets and Fire-Locks fit for use now in the Colony Store, in his custody; and that the said Commissary take a receipt of Colonel *Ritzema*, or the Captains to whom such Arms are delivered, to the end that the same may be accounted for and paid to the Colony.

A recommendation from *Henry Wisner*, Esq., was read and filed. He thereby recommends Colonel *Isaac Nicoll* as a proper person for a Field-Officer in one of the Battalions to be raised in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *McKesson* inform Colonel *Nicoll* that there are not any directions from Congress for raising another Battalion.

—  
Die Veneris, A. M., April 19, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Roosevelt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Rutgers*, Mr. *Randall*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Paulding*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

Mr. *Abraham De Peyster*, one of the sub-Committee of the City of *New-York*, appointed to procure Houses for Hospitals, together with Mr. *John Berrien*, another of the Committee of *New-York*, attended. Mr. *De Peyster* informed that the Barrackmaster-General had called on him for Houses for an Hospital, and that he requested the advice of this Committee in the premises.

Mr. *De Peyster* was thereupon advised to endeavour to get or procure empty Houses, near that already engaged for that use.

Mr. *Francis Child*, the Deputy Sheriff, attending, was admitted. He informed the Committee that *Derby Doyle* is confined as a prisoner in the Jail, and requested directions what is to be done with him.

As the said *Derby Doyle* was taken by military order for some correspondence with, and aid given to the Ministerial Army and Navy, and is a prisoner on that account, the particulars whereof are unknown to this Committee, Mr. *Child* was directed to apply to the General for directions.

Mr. *Child* further requested, that in fixing on rooms in the Jail for the Provost-Marshal and Courts-Martial, the Sheriff's Jail-rooms, and the room in which he resides, may be reserved.

*Benjamin Waldo*, late a Mariner and Carpenter on board of the Armed Schooner *Schuyler*, *James Smith* Commander, was admitted. He complains in substance:

1st. That Captain *Smith* having discharged him, and knowing that he had refused to go to sea with him, Captain *Smith* had prevented him from being employed as a Carpenter on board of the armed vessel commanded by Captain *Rodgers*.

2d. That Captain *Smith* had violently beat and abused him very much, without any just provocation.

*Ordered*, That the Doorkeeper summon Captain *Smith* to attend at five o'clock, and the complainant to attend at that time.

A Letter from the Committee of *Goshen* Precinct, in *Orange* County, sent by Major *Hetfield*, as the bearer, and covering the accounts of the Blankets and Arms purchased by the said Committee, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Goshen Precinct, April 16, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In obedience to a request of the honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony of *New-York*, the Committee of this Precinct hath purchased and delivered unto Captain *Daniel Denton*, the number of guns and blankets agreeable to the enclosed accounts with the voucher, which is humbly presented, with a request that the bills may be discharged by paying the money unto Major *Moses Hetfield*.

"The Committee also beg leave to inform your honourable body, that we have a number of good muskets, or firelocks, remaining on our hands, which Captain *Denton* would not give us his receipt for, because his soldiers did not please to take them. The Committee humbly conceive that it was not the intention of Congress that the private soldiers of any company should have it in their power to reject the arms purchased by the Committees, and adjudged by them fit for the service; and so the guns consequently fall upon the hands of those Committees who have cheerfully complied with the request of Congress. Therefore pray that you would be pleased to discharge the accounts which Major *Hetfield* will deliver to you of those guns also, and give

further directions to this Committee in what manner you would be pleased to have them disposed of.

"I am, in behalf of the Committee, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"JOHN HATHORN,

"Chairman of the Committee for the Precinct of *Goshen*.

"To the Honourable Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*."

A draft of an Answer to the Committee of *Goshen* Precinct, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are favoured with your letter of the 16th instant, by Major *Hetfield*. We highly approve of your conduct in having so far supplied Captain *Denton's* Company with blankets and arms.

Please to send the five muskets which were refused, by some safe, careful person, and the first such opportunity, to *New-Windsor*, that they be sent to us by Captain *Jackson*, or some other sloop whose Captain may be relied on.

Major *Hetfield* has informed us that these five arms are good muskets, and that it is his opinion that several more very good arms may be purchased in your Precinct.

We therefore earnestly request you to purchase as many more good arms as you can get at reasonable prices, and transmit them to us as above directed.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the Committee of *Goshen* Precinct, &c.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed, and transmitted.

Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, one of the Members of *Westchester* County, brought to the Committee of Safety a Bill of the money emitted by the late Provincial Congress, which is erased and altered; having been issued of the value of five Dollars, it has been attempted to be changed to a Bill of the value of ten Dollars, and the names.

SIR: This Committee having received information that some of the bills of the late emission of money struck by the Congress for the publick service have been counterfeited, and are now passing in your County, you are requested forthwith to call the General Committee of the County together, and take every step in your power to discover the counterfeiter or counterfeiters, and those who have passed the said bills, knowing them to be counterfeit. For this purpose you are to order the persons accused to be brought before you, and to examine on oath the witnesses for and against the accused, and transmit the whole of your proceedings to this Committee, or to the Congress if they are sitting, that they may make further order therein.

If upon the evidence that may be offered, your Committee shall be of opinion that any of the persons accused are guilty, in that case you are forthwith to order them into close custody; and if, upon the whole of the evidence, it should appear to you doubtful whether they are guilty, in that case you are to take good security that the prisoner or prisoners do appear before the Congress at such time and place as they may appoint. But, if after hearing the whole of the evidence, you should be of opinion that the accused are not guilty, you are to discharge them.

We are, &c.

To *Thomas Thomas*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Westchester* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A draft of Instructions to Captain *William Rodgers*, Commander of the Armed Sloop *Montgomery*, were reported by Mr. *Randall*, and read and approved, and are in the words following, to wit:

SIR: As the Armed Sloop *Montgomery*, whereof you are Commander, is now completely fitted in a warlike manner, our orders are that you repair on board with your officers and men, and proceed to sea, and act against the enemies of the United Colonies, agreeable to your Instructions from the Congress.

You are to cruise along shore on our coasts any where between *Sandy-Hook* and *Cape-May*, or from *Sandy-Hook* to the east end of *Long-Island*. You are always to keep

some inlet under your lee, so that you may secure a retreat from a superior force. Be careful to send such prizes as you may take into some place of safety in the United Colonies. It is very necessary to have a good Pilot on board; and also that you make yourself well acquainted on the coast. You are to assist any of the friends of the United Colonies by every means in your power, and assist to carry them into some place of safety; and where different objects for assistance offer at the same time, you are to give the preference to the vessels and inhabitants of this Colony. You are always, and by every opportunity, to advise the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony of your proceedings.

We wish you success, and remain your friends and humble servants.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and delivered to the said *William Rogers*.

This Committee having taken into consideration the Resolutions and recommendations of the Continental Congress, on the 21st of *March* last, for promoting the growth of Hemp and Flax, and the increase of Wool, and the erecting and establishing Manufactories in this Colony, agreed upon an essay and recommendations, in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 19, 1776.

The Continental Congress have, by Resolve, on the 21st of *March* last, recommended it to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, and Committees of Correspondence and Inspection, that they exert their utmost endeavours to promote, among other things, the culture of Hemp, Flax, and Cotton, and the growth of Wool in the United Colonies.

It is therefore most earnestly recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony to attend to the following considerations, which, exclusive of the best regard to the publick good, must engage every Farmer, from a just attention to his own private interest, to the increase of the staples of Hemp, Flax, and Wool.

By the restraints which the Parliament of *Great Britain* have most tyrannically imposed on our commerce, and the danger thence arising on the exportation of Provisions, the husbandman has no inducement to employ his skill and industry in the produce of those articles, beyond the necessity of home consumption. It is therefore evident that the culture of grain must, under our present circumstances, naturally diminish. This diminution ought, from motives both of private interest and publick utility, to be compensated for by the improvement of our lands, in such a way as will most infallibly be attended with great profit to the landholder. As, by the danger to which our exports are exposed, the usual growth of grain will necessarily be discouraged, it will be laudable economy to devote a larger part of our lands than usual to the culture of Hemp and Flax, and the pasturing of Sheep.

The present great scarcity of Linen and Woollen Goods will be increased to a distressing degree by the continuance of arbitrary Parliamentary restraints on our Trade, and prudent Continental restrictions on our imports; the latter of which would, indeed, necessarily fail, were there no other reasons for it than the want of sufficient exports to support them. From this scarcity we may, in a great measure, be relieved, without loss to the publick, and with manifest profit to the farmer, by improving our lands in such a manner as will furnish both clothing and employment for our inhabitants. Our soil and climate naturally invite us to it; but our necessities, and the prosperity of the husbandman, clearly command it. It is doubtless the most advantageous use to which, in ordinary times, we can apply our lands; but, at this juncture, the advantage will be so highly improved by the enhanced prices of Hemp, Flax, and Wool, that every farmer who neglects to take uncommon pains for the increase of those necessary articles, will be most culpably inattentive to the general weal, and his own private interest. Little, therefore, would need to be said on this head, were we not urged to it by its vast importance. For this reason, this Committee do earnestly recommend it to every farmer in this Colony to exert himself to raise large quantities of Hemp and Flax, and to increase his stock and improve his breed of Sheep. And in order to increase the breed of Sheep, it is earnestly recommended to the inhabitants of this Colony not to kill any Lambs nor any Ewes

under four years old, until further order of the Provincial Congress. And lest any farmers or butchers should be so far lost to all sense of publick virtue as to disregard this recommendation concerning the increase of our flocks of Sheep, it is most ardently recommended to the inhabitants of this City totally to abstain from the purchase of Lamb, and of such Ewe mutton as they shall discover to have been, at the time of killing, under four years old; and are requested to report to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress, all such persons as shall attempt to sell or purchase any Lamb or Mutton contrary to this recommendation.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Recommendations be forthwith published in all the publick Newspapers in this Colony.

The Committee adjourned to four o'clock, in the afternoon.

Die Veneris, 4to ho. P. M., April 19, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Smith*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Rutgers*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

*Garret Kip* and *Benjamin Burroughs* informed the Committee of Safety that *William Winterton*, who was lately employed in the Ministerial service on the *Pest-Island*, is in this City, and may be apprehended.

Thereupon, a Warrant was made to Captain *William W. Gilbert*, in the words following, to wit:

The Committee of Safety being informed that *William Winterton*, who was lately employed in the Ministerial service, on the *Pest-Island*, is now in this City, and may be apprehended:

*Ordered*, That Captain *William W. Gilbert*, or any other officer of the Militia in this City, possessed of a copy of this order, do exert himself (with such of his corps or company as he may think proper to command on that service) to apprehend the said *William Winterton*, and him safely keep, and bring him before the Committee of Safety to be examined.

The Warrant issued to Mr. *W. Watkins*, as Lieutenant in Captain *Van Wyck's* Company, in the Regiment whereof Colonel *McDougall* is Colonel, was returned, and Mr. *John Reid* is appointed Second Lieutenant in that Company, in his stead, on condition that he enlist thirty men in three weeks.

Major *Malcom Morrison* having some time since returned his Commission as Major and resigned, and Captain *John Schenck* being recommended as a proper person to fill that office, and the next in rank in that Regiment,

*Ordered*, That Captain *John Schenck* be appointed to the vacant Majority in the Regiment of . . . . .

A Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of *Rhinebeck* Precinct, *Dutchess* County, dated the 13th instant, was read and filed.

The said Letter informs that the Committee of the said Precinct had lately committed *Mordecai Lester*, Esq., and a certain *Frederick Klein*, to the Jail in *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, as the peace and security of the Precinct rendered the confinement of those persons absolutely necessary; that the Committee at *Kingston* had requested of that Committee to make provision for the support of the Prisoners they had sent there; that, in pursuance thereof, the *Rhinebeck* Committee had personally engaged for the support of *Doughty*, *Lester*, and *Klein*.

The residue of the said Letter requested that means may be devised to make the maintenance of these Prisoners a publick charge, and assigned reasons for such request.

On reading the said Letter from *Egbert Benson*, Esquire, Chairman of *Rhinebeck* Precinct,

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the Committee of *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, be requested to furnish to *Frederick Kleyn*, a prisoner now confined in the Jail at *Kingston* by order of the Committee of *Rhinebeck* Precinct, in *Dutchess* County, such Provisions as he may necessarily stand in need of for his

subsistence during his confinement, and that the said Committee transmit an account of the expense to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress of this Colony, for payment.

*Ordered further*, That the said Committee of *Kingston* be requested to provide, in the same manner, for *Timothy Doughty* and *Mordecai Lester*, other Prisoners in the same Jail, provided it shall appear to the satisfaction of the said Committee that they have not estates or means sufficient to enable them to provide for themselves.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Rhinebeck* Precinct was read and approved of; and is in the words following, to wit:

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 13th instant, directed to the member attending from the County of *Dutchess*, was this day presented by Mr. *Everson*, and immediately taken into consideration.

The Committee, confiding in the prudence of the *Rhinebeck* Committee in apprehending and securing those persons whose conduct is inimical, and where their confinement is absolutely necessary for the peace and security of the Precinct, highly approve of your conduct with respect to *Doughty*, *Lester*, and *Klein*.

Enclosed is the copy of an order transmitted to the Committee of *Kingston*, relative to the support of your prisoners, now in their custody.

As the meeting of a new Congress is near at hand, this Committee does not think it prudent to make the order more general at present, leaving the matter for the consideration of Congress on future application.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the Chairman and Members of the Committee of *Rhinebeck* Precinct, *Dutchess* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., April 20, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Denning*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Rutgers*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Orange* County, dated the 18th instant, was read and filed. They thereby recommend Mr. *Seth Marvin* for a Captain, and *Joshua Brown* for First Lieutenant of a Company in the four Regiments of Continental Troops raising in this Colony.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Seth Marvin*, who is attending, be informed that there is not at present any vacancy for a Captain, as the returns of the warrants issued by Congress are not received.

Another Letter from the Committee of *Orange* County, dated the same day, was also read. They thereby request a copy of the resolution of Congress allowing a certain sum out of the Treasury for the use of their County Committee, and have therein inserted an order for the payment of the said money to Mr. *Seth Marvin*, the bearer.

Mr. *Seth Marvin* was informed that, for want of money, the said order cannot be complied with.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Orange*, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

SIR: The order of the Committee of the 18th instant, for payment of the money allotted to your County, has been received and read. We are sorry to be obliged to inform you that the drafts on our Treasury have been so great that it is become empty. We hope soon to have it replenished.

A copy of the order of Congress, for advancing to your County two hundred pounds, will be forwarded to you by the next opportunity. If you should appoint any other person to receive the money hereafter, you will please to draw an order similar to the one now sent, mentioning the name of the person whom you shall direct to receive it.

We are, respectfully, sir, your humble servants.

To *Elihu Marvin*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Orange* County.

Captain *Wynkoop* requested an order to the Contractor to supply him with Rations of Provisions for his Mariners inlisted for the service on the Lakes.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Abraham Livingston* from time to time supply Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop* with Rations, from *Monday* last, included, while he continues in this City, for the Seamen raised for the service on the Lakes, and for the said Captain, according to Captain *Wynkoop's* Returns, taking receipts for the same.

Mr. Chairman informed this Committee that a certain *Isaac Nevaro* is confined in the Jail; that he has made inquiry, and finds that he has been there committed without any, or on slight grounds.

*Ordered*, That *Alexander Moncrief*, the Keeper of the Jail set apart for the confinement of Prisoners committed by order of the Provincial Congress, this Committee, or the General Committee of this City, be, and he is hereby, directed to discharge *Isaac Nevaro* from his confinement; and that he be permitted to go at large.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., April 24, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present:

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Randall*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

FOR DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Everson*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* was unanimously chosen Chairman.

Captain *Jacobus Wynkoop* attended the Committee, and informed that he has inlisted the number of Seamen wanted for the Lakes, and is ready to proceed by the first opportunity, which he expects will be to-morrow; and requested a Letter to General *Schuyler*, informing him on what conditions Mr. *Wynkoop* has entered into the service.

*Ordered*, That one of the Secretaries prepare a draft of such a Letter.

Mr. *Randall*, of the Marine Committee, informed that he had at different times waited on the General, and spoken to him about the Armed Vessels fitted out by this Colony, of which the General had requested the loan; that agreeable to the sentiments of the Committee of Safety on a former day, he had offered one or both of the Sloops to the General on Continental account; that the General appeared disinclined to take them, or either of them, on those conditions; that the Marine Committee had agreed to lend him two of the vessels for service in the bay, and to send the third to sea. Mr. *Randall* further reported, that Captain *Smith* has only twelve men, and wants eighteen more to man the Sloop *Schuyler*; and that the General intimates that if he supplies the other men wanting in the said sloop, he would expect to appoint the master and officers on board.

Captain *James Smith* was called in. He says that he does not expect that he can inlist the men wanting in the said sloop in this City, but imagines that he could get them in the neighbourhood in the *East River*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Randall* wait on the General and inform him that the Committee are ready to lend the Sloop *Schuyler* to the General, agreeable to former promise, as soon as a sufficient number of men can be obtained for her; and that if the General chooses to take the said sloop on Continental account, at the expense of her purchase and outfit, she shall be delivered to his order.

Colonel *McDougall* returned to the Committee the Warrant formerly issued to Mr. *Lightburne*, as Second Lieutenant of Captain *Wyley's* Company, in the First Regiment, Mr. *Lightburne* having resigned.

*Ordered*, That a Warrant be issued to *Henry Douw Trip*, as Second Lieutenant in Captain *Wyley's* Company, in the stead of Mr. *Lightburne*, on condition that he inlist and bring to the Company thirty men in three weeks.

Mr. *Francis Child* attended and was admitted. He informed the Committee that five Prisoners, who were formerly confined below, under the care of *Moncrief*, are now in the



upper Jails among the debtors, where they are very troublesome, and do great mischief; that the Provost-Marshal refuses to let them be below in the prison; and Mr. Child requests that they may be removed out of the Sheriff's prison. Mr. Child further informed that the Provost-Marshal has maltreated the turnkey of the Jail, and some other persons in the Jail, without any provocation.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Randall* inform the General that the Provost-Marshal's conduct is very troublesome to the Jailer and his Prisoners, and inconsistent with peace and good order in the Jail; and that he further inform that the Jail does not contain rooms sufficient to admit the Provost-Marshal to continue there with his Prisoners, consistent with the safety of the Prisoners in the custody of the Sheriff, and of those committed by the Provincial Congress, the Committee of Safety, and the General Committee of this City, for conduct inimical to the liberties of this country.

And *Ordered*, That *Alexander Moncrief*, the Jailer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, take the care and charge of *William McDermot*, *William Alder*, *Joseph Woolcombe*, *Thomas Remington Harris*, and *William Metcalf*, into his custody, together with all the other Prisoners which were heretofore in his custody, and confine them in the room or Jail below, where they were formerly confined.

And *Ordered*, That the said *Alexander Moncrief* have and keep the key of the said room, and the care and custody of all the said Prisoners, without any interruption, until further order of the Provincial Congress, or of this Committee of Safety.

And *Ordered further*, That if *Thomas Vernon*\* shall hereafter behave refractory, or do any damage to the place of his confinement during the time that he shall be a prisoner, that in such case the said Jailer do confine the said *Thomas Vernon* in irons, or otherwise, at his discretion.

Captain *Nathan Pearce*, Jun., from *Dutchess County*, attending, was admitted. He produced his warrant, dated the 27th of *February* last, in which *Dusenberry* and *Platt* are named as his Lieutenants, and *Thornton* as his Ensign. Captain *Pearce* reported that he has sixty-two men who are enlisted and ready for service, and requests directions.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Nathan Pearce*, with his Officers and Company, be a part of Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, and that he immediately apply to Colonel *Ritzema* and take his directions.

And *Ordered further*, That Captain *Pearce* apply to the County Committee, or to the Committees of the Precincts in *Dutchess County*, to supply his men with Blankets, and with as many such good Arms as are fit for use, of those taken from disaffected persons in their County, as will be sufficient to arm his whole Company; and all Committees in that County are requested to exert themselves to supply this Company, and all the other Companies enlisted in that County, with Blankets and good Arms.

Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., April 24, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Randall*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

\* *The humble Address of THOMAS VERNON.—To the honourable the Committee of New-York.*

GENTLEMEN: I hope these few lines will move you into a consideration to consider on the distressed circumstance of a poor prisoner, who has a sickly wife, and a great family, having nothing to support them with but by my daily labour, and being bereft of it, it will be the reason of my family coming on the Parish. I have been confined for thirty days, in a dark dungeon, without the least assistance of provision, except from my own family, and but very little of that. Lord *Stirling* has been here last *Sunday*, and has discharged some of the prisoners, and, at the same time, said he would discharge me; but he left it to the disposal of the Committee, and did imagine they had given me a hearing before this. I should be very much obligated to the gentlemen of the Committee if they would be so kind as to give me a hearing this afternoon, as I may know what is alleged against me; and shall conclude with the assistance of anything that possibly lies in my power, for the glorious and honourable cause of *America*.

I remain, gentlemen, your most faithful and trusty servant,

THOMAS VERNON.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety of the City of *New-York*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *V. Cortlandt*.  
FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

A Letter from Captain *Andrew Billings*, of the 22d of *April* instant, was received and read. He therein requested a determination of this Committee, that Subaltern Officers may continue in his service. The recommendation from the County Committee of *Dutchess County*, recommending the Subaltern Officers of Captain *Billings's* Company, was also read. They thereby recommend *David Baldwin* for First Lieutenant, *Elihu Marshall* for Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Cole*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That those gentlemen stand confirmed as the Subaltern Officers of Captain *Billings's* Company.

The Letter from Captain *Andrew Billings*, of the 11th instant, was read. He therein mentions two Guns, to wit: a Musket and Fowling-piece found by his men, hid in straw under a barn at Mrs. *Stricker's* farm, in the *Out Ward* of the City of *New-York*, and mentions the particulars relating thereto; that he had left a billet in writing, informing Mr. *Staple* that he had taken the Arms, and would keep them until he received orders.

*Ordered*, That a Letter be written to Captain *Billings*, directing him to get the Arms valued by persons who are competent judges of their price; that he deliver the Musket to such one of his soldiers as may choose to take it at the valuation; and that he retain the Fowling-piece till further order, and inform the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of the valuation of each.

SIR: Both of your letters were delivered by Lieutenant *Marshall*, and immediately taken into consideration. Enclosed is a certified copy of the determination of this Committee with respect to your subalterns.

As to the arms taken at Mrs. *Stricker's* on your passage up, you are directed to have them valued by persons who are competent judges of their price. The musket you may put in the hands of such one of your soldiers as may choose to take it at the valuation; the fowling-piece you are to retain until further order, and inform the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of the valuation of each.

We are informed that Mrs. *Stricker* has made great complaints of the rudeness of your men when at her house, by treating her with indecent language, and carrying off eggs, and bed-clothes, &c. We hope you will exert yourself and prevent such behaviour in future, especially towards a female, and that you will see that compensation is made, if the complaint is well founded.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

By order.

To Captain *Andrew Billings*, *Fort Montgomery*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

Several weeks being elapsed since the extracts of the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, and the recommendations of this Committee for the disarming of disaffected persons, were despatched to the County Committees; no Returns being as yet made, and Arms much wanted for the Troops, the following draft of a Letter, to be sent to the County Committees, was read and approved of, viz:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 24, 1776.

SIR: As it must be evident at first sight, that troops without arms will be only a useless expense to the publick, we hoped that, on the receipt of the former directions for carrying into execution the resolutions of the Continental Congress for disarming disaffected persons, the Committees would have complied with a measure of such evident necessity without delay. But as we have not heard what steps have been taken in consequence thereof in your County, we think it necessary to request that you will exert yourself to cause the said resolution of the Continental Congress to be fully executed, if not already done in your County, according to said directions, as soon as possible, for arms are much wanted.

We are, most respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

*Ordered*, That several copies of the above Letter be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and that the Secretaries direct and transmit one to the Chairman of each County Committee in this Colony.

Captain *Jacobus Rosekrans* attending, with sundry other

Officers, they were admitted. Captain *Rosekrans* requested Crocus or Beds for his Company.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *Rosekrans* Crocus or Beds for a full Company, and take his receipt for the same.

Captain *Abraham Swartwout*, of *Dutchess* County, requested the supply of sundry articles engaged to the Troops raised in this Colony, for fifty men inlisted in his Company.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *Swartwout* a due proportion of each article, (ordered to be provided for the Troops raising for the defence of this Colony,) for fifty men of his Company, and take his receipt for the same.

And *Ordered further*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *John Belknap* a due proportion of each article ordered to be provided for the Troops raising for the defence of this Colony, for a full Company, and take a receipt for the same.

Die Jovis, 10 ho. A. M., April 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Randall*, Capt. *Denning*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Van Cortlandt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

A Letter from *Walter Livingston*, Esq., dated at *Albany*, on the 7th day of *April* instant, was read. For the reasons therein mentioned, requesting that four hundred barrels of Pork may be sent to him for the use of the Northern Army, to be replaced by the like quantity ordered from *Connecticut* by Contractors appointed by General *Lee*,

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Van Zandt* and Mr. *Randall* wait on General *Washington*, and show him the said Letter.

Messrs. *Van Zandt* and *Randall* returned, and reported that the General had informed them that the four hundred barrels of Pork ordered from *Connecticut* was coming down, and might be soon expected, and that it will go to *Albany* without unloading; but that the General requested that the said Letter might be shown to Colonel *Trumbull*, Commissary-General.

*Ordered*, That one of the Secretaries show the said Letter to Colonel *Trumbull*.

*Alexander Moncrief* informed the Committee, that the Provost-Marshal of the Army refuses to let him have the use of the Jail-Room which he formerly had, and that he is thereby hitherto prevented from obeying the order of this Committee, given to him yesterday with relation to sundry Prisoners therein named. \*

Mr. *Randall* informed the Committee that his son has an inclination to purchase the Sloop *Bishop of Landaff*, and

\* NEW-YORK, April 24, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I went according to your direction to Colonel *Mifflin*; I gave your compliments to the Colonel, desiring if he would be pleased to hear my complaint on the Provost-Marshal of the Army, and to give me redress for the abuse he gave me. His Honour was pleased to say he would look into it, and put a stop to the rude proceedings of said Provost-Marshal. Whether Colonel *Mifflin* has spoken to him on that subject, I cannot tell; but still the said Provost goes on at me with most scandalous abuse, that the like I never got since ever I could remember myself. So much of this abuse proceeds from clashes and lies that *Thomas Varnom*, hatter, now a prisoner in Jail, told on me to the said Provost: that when I had the prisoners in charge, that I used them ill, and barbarously abused them; likewise drew money from the treasury for prisoners, and never gave said moneys to them, but they were obliged to maintain themselves. This the Provost-Marshal upbraids me with, in a clamorous and satirick manner, by the base report of that infamous liar, *Varnom*; and when this matter is tried and examined, I will prove said *Varnom* to be an infamous fellow; and for my part am confident that I am innocent of what is laid to my charge, and will prove myself to be a person faithful to trust, and an honest man; requesting of your Honour to bring this matter to a trial or examination.

The Provost-Marshal is very much concerned about *Varnom*. He finds a vast many faults with the Committee of Safety for detaining of said *Varnom* in prison, and promises him he will apply to the Commander-in-Chief for his enlargement, or releasement out of prison.

I am, your most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER MONCRIEF.

To the Honourable Colonel *McDougall*, New-York.

therefore he would not choose to be concerned in making the sale.

Mr. *Van Zandt* informed the Committee that Mr. *Robert Randall* had offered four hundred Pounds for the said Sloop, and he requested their advice in the premises. The Committee were of opinion that the said Sloop is worth more, and desired that Mr. *Robert Randall* should be informed thereof, and know the utmost that he would offer.

A Letter from Colonel *Gilbert Drake*,\* dated the 24th instant, was read and filed. He thereby informs that Captain *Hyat* with his Officers have seventy men ready for the service; that on encouragement formerly given him, he has waited to know if there is any vacancy for the Company. Captain *Hyat* was desired to call in the afternoon.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, one dated the 20th and the other the 24th, were read.

*Ordered*, That they be delivered to Mr. *Scott* to prepare a draft of an Answer.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* be desired to make a Return of the state of his Regiment to this Committee, with all possible despatch.

A draft of a Letter to Major-General *Schuyler*, to be delivered by Captain *Wynkoop*, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 25, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 8th ultimo, requesting seamen for the service on the lakes, came to hand on the 16th. The Provincial Congress on that day sent Captain *Wynkoop* to Major *Douglass* on that subject. His answer was not satisfactory. The Committee of Safety wrote to him. His letter in answer was in our opinion indeterminate. Captain *Wynkoop* was ready for the service, but refused to serve under Major *Douglass*. The Committee of Safety immediately recommended Captain *Wynkoop* to Congress for the command, enclosing copies of all the letters on that subject, and requesting they would give immediate directions, which we have not yet received. On the 13th instant, on sight of your letter to the General, we found that Major *Douglass* was gone to *Connecticut*. We then prevailed on Captain *Wynkoop* to undertake that service, on condition to have leave to resign and leave that department if any person should arrive there to take the command of the vessels as his superior. Nothing but the pressing necessity of the case, an attachment to the service, the cause of his country, and to you, sir, as his General, would have prevailed on Captain *Wynkoop* to inlist the men, and proceed to put the vessels in order, under the present uncertainty of his station. Should the appointment of a superior oblige him to quit that department, we hope, sir, it will not be considered to his disadvantage.

It was not in our power to send you seamen without an officer. We assure you, sir, that we have done everything in our power in this matter; and had it not been for the difficulties which arose from the appointment of Major *Douglass*, you would have had the seamen in due season, and in the month of *March*.

We are, with the highest respect and esteem, sir, your very humble servants.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

*Ordered*, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the Chairman, and transmitted.

A Letter from *Samuel Tucker*, Esquire, President of the Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-Jersey*, was read and filed, in the words following, viz:

"In Committee of Safety, New-Brunswick, April 20, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: This day were brought before us, three persons belonging to *Westchester* County, in your Province,

\* April 24, 1776.—DEAR SIR: I take the freedom to write to you by Captain *Hyat*, the bearer hereof, to let you know that I have kept *Hyat* back till this day not to join the Continental Regiments; and, sir, if you remember, that it was agreed in the Committee that if all the warrants were returned in by *Wednesday*, and Captain *Hyat* would come down with a list of his men for a company, that he should have a commission with his officers. Sir, he tells me that he, with his lieutenants, have got about seventy men ready, if he can get the commission, to join any regiment in the Continental service. Sir, I hope that you will assist and forward the expedition, and not let it be deferred for want of men, when so good a company offers.

From yours to serve,

GILBERT DRAKE.

To John Morin Scott, Esquire.

who, for some time past, have been on board the ship *Lady Gage*, and lately deserted from thence, at *Sandy-Hook*, and put themselves under the protection of our guard at the Highlands of *Neversink*; their names are *Henry Smith*, *Isaac Horton*, and *Stephen Daniels*; by whose examinations it appears that one *Thomas Gibson*, living at the *Fishkills*, hath enlisted a number of persons in your Government for the King's Army; that a boat was lately sent from the ships-of-war to *Hempstead*, on *Long-Island*, for provisions, and not returned when they left the ship two days past; that one *Robert Hambleton*, a schoolmaster, had enlisted a number of men now on board the King's ships, and was gone to *Westchester* to enlist more, (*Smith* and *Daniels*, it appears, were enlisted by said *Gibson*.) *Horton* says he was impressed on board the *Asia* last month. These persons will soon be sent to you.

"By order of the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"SAMUEL TUCKER, *President*.

"To the Honourable the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

A Letter and Recommendation from the Committee of *King's District*, in the County of *Albany*, recommending *Thaddeus Noble* as a Gunsmith, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*King's District*, April 18, A. D. 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: *Thaddeus Noble*, gunsmith, of this District, has made application to us, the Committee of the said District, for our recommendation in his behalf to your Committee, as an able workman at his trade or occupation of gunmaking. Being willing to lend said *Noble* our assistance in such a necessary and laudable business at such a time as this, when muskets are so much needed to defend our natural rights and liberties against the potent power of *Great Britain*, we do accordingly hereby recommend said *Noble* as a workman at said business, so far as we are acquainted therein, and can inform that we have often seen of his said work, and that it has been generally to the acceptance of the publick. And as said *Noble* may not be able to procure all such materials as may be necessary for carrying on said business, if you, gentlemen, should contract with said *Noble* for making muskets, &c., if he should want money for any part of the business, we desire you to furnish him therewith to the amount of thirty pounds, if he requires that sum; and, on his failure, we will be accountable for the same; and any order that you shall have occasion to give from time to time in the premises, we shall readily obey. If you grant said request, please to let this Committee know, and the terms, &c.

"Gentlemen, we are your very obedient servants.

"In the name and behalf of said Committee,

"MATTHEW ADGATE, *Chairman*.

"To the Committee of Safety of the Province of *New-York*."

The said *Thaddeus Noble* was called in to the Committee. They conversed with him on the subject of the said Letter, and he was desired to attend again at five of the clock in the afternoon.

The Committee adjourned to four o'clock, in the afternoon.

—  
Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., April 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Randall*, Colonel *McDougall*, Colonel *Brasher*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Prince*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that General *Washington* requested of the Committee a copy of all the late Resolutions of the Continental Congress relative to the Fortifications in the Highlands.

Ordered, That the Secretaries transcribe copies of the said Resolutions, and deliver the same to the General.

Captain *Heman Allen* attending, was admitted. He delivered a Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, as to sundry

demands of Captain *Allen* not within his department; also a Certificate from *Richard Varick*, the General's Secretary, certifying the number of men he had in service last year, with some other matters relative thereto. He also delivered a Muster-Roll of his Company, and a number of Accounts for Blankets, the use of Arms, Clothing, and Money, by him advanced, Commissions and Moneys by him received and paid, &c.; whereby he claims a balance of upwards of three hundred and ten Pounds.

Ordered, That the said Letter and Accounts be referred to the Auditors.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that General *Washington* had permitted Lord *Drummond* and Doctor *Peter Middleton* to go passengers in a vessel they procured for that purpose, to *Bermuda*, on their parole of honour not to communicate any information or intelligence whatever, and in substance the same as the Affidavit hereinafter written; that the General submitted it to this Committee to take such Oaths of Secrecy of the Master, Mariners, and other passengers going in the said Sloop, as the Committee should think proper.

Thereupon the following Oath was administered to *John Heddy*, the Master, *Thomas W. Kenny*, the Mate, and to *Nicholas Vineyard*, *Charles Le Tellier*, and *John Rosemary*, Mariners of the Sloop *Charming Polly*:

"You do severally solemnly swear upon the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that you will not communicate any information or intelligence whatever, either by word or writing, to any person or persons whomsoever, in any place whatsoever, relative to the state of the Army or Navy of the United Colonies in *America*, or any part thereof, or of any Fortifications erecting for the defence of this City and Colony, or of any other part of *America*; that you will take every care and precaution to avoid speaking with any *British* vessel or vessels belonging to the *British* Navy, and that you will not take any person or persons on board of your vessel but such as shall have permission from General *Washington*, or this Committee."

*John McAdam* and *Henry Nicoll*, two passengers intending to go on board of the said Sloop to *Bermuda*, and *Robert Cheesly*, a Servant to Lord *Drummond*, severally attended the Committee, and were respectively sworn in the words of the Oath above-mentioned, except the last sentence relative to taking passengers or other persons on board of the said vessel.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 20th instant, which had been before read, was again read, and now filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"April 20, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I thank you for the polite and ready attention you paid to my requisition of the 17th instant. When the civil and military powers co-operate, and afford mutual aid to each other, there can be little doubt of things going well. I have now to request the favour of your information in what manner and in what time a body of two thousand or two thousand five hundred Militia might be collected from this Colony for actual service, upon any sudden emergency. Although we may not, and I trust in God shall not have occasion for their aid, common prudence does, nevertheless, dictate the expediency of a preconcerted plan for calling them in, that, in case of necessity, they may be drawn together in proper corps without tumult or disorder, and at the same time with the utmost expedition. This will not be the case if men are not regularly imbodyed, and notified that they are to step forth at a moment's warning.

"The idea which strikes me as the most proper to be pursued at present, is, to establish, out of the Continental forces, good look-outs on the heights and headlands, (at the entrance of the harbour,) who, upon the appearance of a fleet, shall make such signals as, being answered from place to place, shall convey the earliest intelligence to Head-Quarters, of the strength and approach of the enemy; these signals, for greater certainty, to be followed by expresses, and then, in case anything formidable should appear, for the Committee of Safety (if sitting, if not, to those to whom the power shall be delegated,) upon application from the commanding officer of the Continental forces, to order in one, two, or more battalions, as the exigency of the case may require; or, for greater despatch, such Militia, or part of them, as shall be allotted to this service by the Committee, might be assem-

bled (if in the town or its vicinity) by signals to be agreed on. A mode of proceeding of a similar kind concerted with *Jersey* would bring in a reinforcement speedily, and without those irregularities and unnecessary expenses which but too frequently attend the movement of Militia.

"Thus, gentlemen, I have expressed my sentiments to you upon the occasion. Your prudence will suggest to you the necessity of adopting these, or other methods of a like nature; and your wisdom will point out the most effectual and expeditious manner of carrying them into execution; I therefore submit them to your consideration; and am, with very great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*."

Another Letter from General *Washington*, dated the 24th instant, was also read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*New-York*, April 24, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: It being necessary that I should know the number of troops to compose the Army here, I must request the favour of your honourable body to inform me how many regiments are raising in this Province for the Continental service by order of Congress, and what their state is as to men and arms. From the accounts I have had, I have reason to fear there is a great deficiency in the latter, which, at a crisis when nothing else seems left to decide the contest we are engaged in, is truly alarming, and calls aloud on every power for their utmost exertions to procure them. The pleasing and ready assurances I have received from you, to co-operate with me in every measure advance of the common cause, leave me no room to doubt but proper steps will be pursued for obtaining them, and lead me to ask what expectations and source you have for getting a supply.

"If any officers have been commissioned by you, I shall be obliged by having a list of their appointments.

"I have been informed that there is a number of arms at *Kingston*, that were taken from the Tories in *Dutchess County*; if so, are they not at your disposal, and can they be had?

"I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

A draft of an Answer to the two Letters received of General *Washington*, was read, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

In Committee of Safety, *New-York*, April 25, 1776.

SIR: The polite sensibility with which you have been pleased to treat our attention to your requisition of the 17th instant, affords us singular pleasure. Convinced with you that there can be little doubt that things will go well under a harmonious co-operation of the civil and military power, permit us once more, sir, to assure you of our most vigorous exertions in seconding your efforts in the common cause.

We wish it were in our power immediately to inform you in what time a body of two thousand or two thousand five hundred Militia might be collected from this Colony for actual service on a sudden emergency. Although we do not at present foresee that emergency, it may nevertheless happen. It is therefore our indispensable duty to be provided with a plan for calling them in with the utmost despatch, well equipped, and without disorder; and this we are fully convinced cannot be effected without a preconcerted plan. To this end, we would request an explanation, whether you would wish the proposed aid should exclude or include the Militia of this City. As soon, sir, as we are favoured with an explanation on this head, we shall lose no time in forming an arrangement for so important a service; we flatter ourselves, however, that, in either case, the required number will, upon such steps as we shall take, be ready at a very short warning; and lest necessity should require the aid in any small interval of adjournment of this Committee, we shall take care to have our place supplied by a sub-Committee, to comply with the application of the Commander-in-Chief, whenever the exigency of affairs shall require it.

Give us leave, sir, to express our approbation of the plan you propose for establishing good look-outs. And as you very properly judge it best that they be made out of the

Continental forces, we can only assure you that, upon notice of the approach of danger, or on any other necessity for the assistance of the Militia, all the succours in our power to command shall be most cheerfully and speedily contributed. We shall consider of a necessary signal, on such occasions, which may, perhaps, be best settled, when we know that which, besides expresses, is to convey intelligence to the Commander-in-Chief from the look-outs you propose to establish. The whole plan would, perhaps, be best formed in concert with *New-Jersey*, the vicinity of which will afford this City as speedy succours as the nearest Counties in this Colony. On this head, we are ready, sir, if you should think it necessary, to appoint a Committee, to meet you for settling the arrangement, especially as we cannot sufficiently thank you for the confidence you are pleased to place in us. We cannot think of taking so momentous a matter entirely upon ourselves.

We heartily wish it were in our power to inform you of the present state of the *New-York* Continental Troops. The number of troops to be raised by us, and destined by Congress for the protection and defence of this Colony, is four battalions. Besides these, there is one battalion for the *Canada* service, directed to be commanded by Colonel *Von Schaick*, an inhabitant in the northern part of this Colony. This regiment was naturally to be recruited in that quarter. For this reason, the moneys sent to us for that purpose by Congress, we immediately sent to General *Schuyler*, who has the forming of that battalion solely under his direction.

With respect to the four battalions, Congress has thought proper to put them under our immediate direction, saving in the appointment of Field-Officers, the right of appointing out of our recommendation. The Field-Officers are all appointed, and a list of them is subjoined. We have issued warrants to all the officers under that degree. We have taken the necessary steps for filling up the battalions, and for enforcing a return of their present state, with which we will furnish you as soon as we are possessed of them. The list of those under the degree of Field-Officers is so mutable in its nature, that it would answer no purpose to trouble you with it now. Their warrants are all conditional in their nature. If any of them are negligent or unfortunate in recruiting, they must give way to new appointments, for we are determined to fill the four battalions with the utmost expedition; and for this purpose, we have ordered returns. When the arrangement is settled, it shall be laid before you.

You cannot, sir, feel more sensibly than we do at the prospect of a deficiency of arms, at a crisis when we are compelled by *Great Britain* to the last appeal, in which we must, without arms, necessarily prove unequal combatants. We should therefore esteem ourselves deaf to the most alarming call, should we not exert our every power to procure them. When the affair of *Lexington* proclaimed the war, this Colony was extremely destitute of arms. Our brethren of *New-England*, who were first called on for the defence of *American* liberty, purchased many arms from our inhabitants. Our Colony troops were supplied last year with arms at our Provincial expense. Most of those still remain in the *Canada* service. These considerations, together with our ineffectual attempts to obtain foreign supplies, increase the difficulty of arming our battalions. We are not, however, without hopes of succeeding. We have made several contracts already with manufacturers. We have published encouragement for people in that branch. We shall continue to make as many contracts for the purpose, as we shall from time to time have in our power. We have also directed the Committees in the several Counties to purchase arms, and we hope we shall be able to furnish our four battalions. The number already furnished by our Commissary is three hundred and eleven. He has still on hand a few. We have reason to believe many of our troops will come provided, and, upon the whole, we shall not be very deficient in so material an article. Colonel *Ritzema* is authorized to send an officer into the different Counties wherein his officers have recruited, for the purpose of collecting from the Committees the arms that have been taken from the disaffected inhabitants; and as we have given repeated and pressing orders to the Committees to execute the Continental resolve for disarming Tories, we hope for some supply from that source.

Your information concerning the arms at *Kingston*, is well founded; and we shall immediately order them either

to this city, or to be applied for arming the troops raising in that quarter. We assure you, sir, we shall not fail to furnish you with returns of the men and arms, as often as we shall be able to procure them.

We would beg leave, sir, to inform you that, since the commencement of hostilities, our situation and the publick exigencies have obliged us to submit to the burden of a great variety of departments, not properly within the sphere of a Provincial Congress, such as Paymaster, Commissary, &c., for Continental service, in the course of which we have received and issued large sums of Continental money; and though our accounts are nearly ready to lay before Congress, they are so excessively voluminous that it will require some weeks to complete them. However, though the balance is not struck, we are sure it must be considerably in our favour. In the mean time, sir, we should think ourselves inexcusable were we not to inform you that we have not one farthing of Continental money in our hands, and that the publick service under our care is now suffering for want of an immediate supply. We shall, without delay, apply to Congress; but we cannot have the necessary relief from that quarter so soon as the despatch of business requires it. We are, therefore, constrained to request of you the advancement of six thousand pounds, of which, if you please, you may estimate the subjoined advancements to the different commanding officers as a part, and for which we are ready to give you a receipt; or, if you think it best to advance the whole sum to us, we will debit the Congress with the moneys advanced to those gentlemen.

We are, sir, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient servants.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

On a separate sheet, was transmitted with this Letter, a list of the Field-Officers of the four Regiments raised for the defence of this Colony; the list of the Moneys lent to the General Officers, and the copy of the state of the Companies, as undernamed, viz:

The following Companies are placed in Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment:

- Captain *Billings*, a full Company, at the Fortifications in the Highlands, ordered to *New-York*.
- Captain *Denton*, a full Company, at *New-York*.
- Captain *Riker*, a few men.
- Captain *Hardenbergh*, a full Company, at the Fortifications, ordered to *New-York*.
- Captain *Horton*, no return made.
- Captain *Hobby*, do.
- Captain *Hutchins*, nearly full, at *New-York*.
- Captain *Pearce*, do. ordered to the City.

Besides the above Regiment, Colonel *McDougall's*, and that raising in *Albany* and *Tryon* County, the following Companies, at the time of the last returns to the Committee, consisted of the following numbers, and will speedily be regimented:

- Captain *Swartwout*, fifty men, at the Fortifications.
- Captain *Rosekrans*, seventy-seven men, at do.
- Captain *Bellknep*, full, at do.
- Captain *Jackson*, full, at do.
- Captain *Childs*, no return made.
- Captain *Griffin*, full, } On duty in *Suffolk* County,
- Captain *Davis*, full, } by order of General *Heath*.
- Captain *Roe*, nearly full, }

1776. February 10,	To General <i>Lee</i> ,	- £400 0 0
February 28,	" " "	- 1000 0 0
March 26,	To General <i>Thompson</i> ,	120 0 0
April 1,	To General <i>Heath</i> ,	810 4 5½
		£2,330 4 5½

Ordered, That Captain *Ezekiel Hyatt*, with his Subalterns and Company, be a part of the First Regiment in this Colony in the Continental service, on condition that he bring a full Company; and he is hereby directed to join his Regiment with as much despatch as possible.

Ordered, That Colonel *McDougall* take such prudent measures as he may think proper, to secure and have brought to this City such Arms taken from disaffected persons as are now in the custody of *Alexander Hunt*, of *Rye*, who has offered to deliver them to the order of this Committee.

Ordered, that Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary, &c.,

deliver to Mr. *Jacamah Allen* twelve pounds of Gunpowder, to enable him to clear shot and stones out of the Cannon near *King's Bridge*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Curtenius* take all such Muskets and Firelocks, which are in Mr. *Norwood's* Store, and may be made fit for the use of the Troops, and have them marked and appraised, and then repaired and made fit for use.

The Committee agreed that Mr. *Robert Randall* shall have the Sloop *Bishop of Landaff*, at four hundred and twenty-five Pounds.

Ordered, That Mr. *Van Zandt* advance to *Thaddeus Noble* thirty Pounds, and take his obligation for that sum; and that he contract with Mr. *Noble* for thirty Muskets, at eight Dollars each, without Bayonets; and to be allowed a reasonable price for fixing Bayonets to them if he shall have to put Bayonets to them.

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., April 26, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Van Zandt*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Major *Stoutenburgh*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Van Cortlandt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Mr. *Van Zandt* delivered in a Contract by him made with *Thaddeus Noble*, for the making of Muskets, which was read, and filed.

The said *Noble* has thereby agreed to deliver to Mr. *Van Zandt*, on account of the Provincial Congress, thirty good Muskets, well finished, and with Steel Ramrods, on or before the 10th day of *June* next, at the price of eight Dollars each; and if he should deliver Bayonets fitted to the said Muskets out of some of the old Bayonets brought from *Crown-Point*, *Noble* is to be allowed a reasonable reward for the same.

Mr. *Van Zandt* also delivered the obligation of *Noble*, by him taken for the payment of thirty Pounds advanced to *Noble*, agreeable to the order of this Committee, made yesterday; and the same was read, and filed.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, pay to Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt*, thirty Pounds, to repay him the money advanced (by order of this Committee, made yesterday) on a contract with *Thaddeus Noble*, for the making of Arms.

A draft of an Answer to the Letter of the Committee of *King's* District was read, and approved, and is as follows, to wit:

SIR: Your letter by Mr. *Noble* was received, read, and immediately taken into consideration. In consequence of your recommendation, we have contracted with Mr. *Noble*, and advanced him thirty pounds. We think the Committee of *King's* District have merited the applause of their country, by interesting themselves in the promoting a manufactory so necessary for the defence of the rights and liberties of *America*.

We are, &c.

To *Matthew Adgate*, Esq., Chairman, and the Members of the Committee of *King's* District.

A copy of a Letter from Governour *Tryon* to the Mayor of this City, dated the 19th instant, was read. He thereby informs that the Commander of the *King's* Ships on this station had thought it necessary to burn the Pilot-House, near the Light-House; that proper care has been taken of *Adam Dobbs* and his family and effects; and that if a Sloop is sent down to receive *Dobbs*, his servants, and effects, she will be permitted to return safe.

Ordered, That Captain *William Dobbs* wait on his Excellency General *Washington*, with the said copy of a Letter.

The residue of the morning was spent in hearing applications of country Officers, and other matters relative to the raising of the four Regiments, to be raised in this Colony, for the Continental service.



Die Veneris, 4to ho. P. M., April 26, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Sands*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Mr. *Sands*, from the Committee of Accounts, requested the advice of the Committee on many different matters in the Accounts delivered in by Captain *Heman Allen*. A considerable time spent in the examination of the sundry Papers and Accounts, and the general principles on which the Accounts should be settled, were fixed, except as to the Clothes.

Captain *Heman Allen*, attending at the door, was admitted. He says that he furnished his men with clothes, and did not receive any clothing for his men.

The Accounts were left with the Auditors for further consideration.

Mr. *Sands* produced the Account of Captain *William W. Gilbert's* Company, for guarding the Records one month, amounting to two hundred and sixty-seven Pounds eleven Shillings and six Pence; and requested the advice of the Committee as to passing the same.

The Committee considering that that Guard was instituted by the Provincial Congress, on the 5th of *March* last, and this Committee have some time ago endeavoured to relieve the Colony from that expense, in which they succeeded for a few days only, advised Mr. *Sands* to examine and compare this account with that formerly passed for the Grenadier Company; and if further advice should appear necessary, then to delay the account, if he can, until the meeting of the Provincial Congress.

A certain Captain *Cornelius Steinrod*, who lately commanded a Company of Minute-men, and has formerly applied for a Warrant to raise or enlist a Company in the Continental service, attending, was admitted. \*

[Two leaves of the Minutes, at this place, appear to have been cut out.]

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., April 27, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Captain *Denning*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

Mr. *Adams*, an Apothecary in this City, attending, was admitted. He requested that he might be permitted to receive from Doctor *Treat* such Medicines (of those lately purchased for the publick service, and now in Doctor *Treat's*

\* TO THE CONVENTION GENTLEMEN:

SIRS: I have called on you to know whether there was a call for a company of Horse or not; and I never have had an answer; and if you please it is easy to give an answer, yes or no; for since the Committee had some talk of it, I could get a company by this time, and can have them ready soon for service.

CORNELIUS STEINROD.

GENTLEMEN—SIRS: If there is a call for the oath to be handed out, and it is expedient for all to swear, it is time that some did set about it; for the thing is still, and numbers have not, nor wont swear; and if all are to do it, and you think proper for it to be speedily brought to hand, I will call them to swear, or put them under guard. This from

CORNELIUS STEINROD.

I should be glad if, when you see what I want, you will write a word whether you will, or will not.

GENTLEMEN—SIRS: I wish you would do one favour for me, and give me a line, so that my fuller that tends my fulling-mill will stay at home, for the whole County is wanting cloth-dress, and I cannot get anybody to tend the mill; and if you will give me a note for him to stay, (as long as I can't be at home to take care myself,) I should take it as a favour; for I have three mills, and if my millers must be drafted, and I from home, and my mill stand still, it will hurt the publick as well as myself. I am willing to do as much as any man to help the cause so ruined.

Yours to serve,

CORNELIUS STEINROD, Captain.

possession) as may be necessary to complete the Medicine-Chests for the Armed Vessels fitted out and arming, on account of the Provincial Congress of this Colony.

Mr. *Adams* further requested a permission to purchase of Doctor *Treat* a part of those Medicines on his own account.

The Committee informed Mr. *Adams* that they will take his applications into consideration.

Captain *Cornelius Steinrod*, of *Westchester* County, attended, and informed the Committee that he can enlist a complete Company of men for Continental service in fourteen days.

The Committee taking the same into consideration, and considering that a great many men are still wanting to complete the four Regiments ordered to be raised in the Colony for the defence thereof,

*Resolved*, That if the said *Cornelius Steinrod* shall, and do, within fourteen days from the date hereof, enlist a full and complete Company of able-bodied men, and have them ready to join such Regiment (of those raising for the defence of this Colony) as shall be determined on by the Provincial Congress, or this Committee; in such case this Committee hereby gives him full assurance, that he and his Subalterns, with the said Company, will be employed as part of the Troops raising for the defence of this Colony.

Major *Joseph Benedict*, who was appointed Major of the First Regiment of the Troops raising for the defence of this Colony, attending, was admitted.

Major *Benedict* resigned his Commission.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *McDougall* be authorized, and he is hereby authorized, to settle with, and pay Major *Joseph Benedict*, from the date of his Commission to this day.

Colonel *Ritzema* requested of the Committee a more general order to the Commissary for Arms.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, deliver to Colonel *Ritzema*, or to such Captains in his Regiment as shall have Colonel *Ritzema's* order, all the Muskets and Fire-Locks fit for use, which now are, or may come into the Colony Store, in the course of fifteen days from the date hereof; and that the said Commissary take a receipt of Colonel *Ritzema*, or the Captains to whom such Arms are delivered, to the end that the same may be accounted for, and paid for, to the Colony.

"New-York, April 27, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In answer to your favour of the 25th, delivered to me yesterday, I shall beg leave to inform you, that it was my design to have included the Militia of this City in the two thousand or two thousand five hundred men which I thought might be wanted upon an emergency; but whether common prudence may dictate the expediency of extending your views to a greater number, in case of necessity, is submitted to the wisdom of your Board.

"The signals which I intended should convey the first notice of the approach of an enemy's fleet, you will find in the enclosed paper; but if you will please to appoint a Committee of your body, I will desire the Brigadiers *Sullivan*, *Greene*, and Lord *Stirling*, to meet them and adopt a better, if a better can be thought of. *New-Jersey* is already advertised of these signals.

"If the four battalions which were directed to be raised under the command of the Colonels *McDougall*, *Clinton*, *Ritzema*, and *Wynkoop*, are placed under the immediate care of the Committee of Safety for this Colony, by Congress, I should be glad to know how far it is conceived that my powers over them extend, or whether I have any at all; sure I am, that they cannot be subjected to the direction of both, and I shall have no small reluctance in assuming an authority I am not vested with powers to execute, nor will my solicitude (further than as a well-wisher to the cause) on account of arms for, and returns of, these regiments continue, if they are not considered as within the line of my command. It becomes therefore my indispensable duty to be ascertained of this matter, and to know whether these regiments cannot be ordered out of the Colony, for instance, to *New-Jersey*, if necessity should require it.

"It would give me singular pleasure to advance you the sum asked for, but the low state of our cash, and heavy demands upon the Paymaster, render it altogether impracticable at this time. The Quartermaster and Commissary are both wanting money, and cannot be supplied; nor can

General *Ward* get what he has sent for to pay the five regiments to the eastward till a fresh supply arrives, of which Congress is informed. General *Heath*, since my arrival here, has obtained a warrant upon the Paymaster for money to replace the sum which your Committee kindly lent him; and, to the best of my recollection, General *Thompson* told me that he also meant to do the same. These matters shall be inquired into.

"With great respect, I remain, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

"To His Excellency General WASHINGTON, Commander-in-Chief of the AMERICAN Army.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: In obedience to the orders given us, we have met and deliberated upon the several matters referred to us by your Excellency, and beg leave to report, that the following Signals be given upon the approach of any number of ships towards this Port, viz: Upon the appearance of any number of ships by day, from one to six, a large Flag is to be hoisted on the highlands of *Neversink*; upon the appearance of any number from six to twenty, two Flags; and for any greater number, three Flags. Those Flags to be hoisted upon Flag-Staffs, arranged there from East to West, at twenty yards distance from each other. The Signals by night to be given by an equal number of fires, arranged in the same order and at the same places. These Signals to be reported both by day and night on the heights of *Staten-Island*, by Flags and Fires, arranged in the same manner. The commanding officer in each of those departments to see that a good look-out be kept for ships both by day and night; and, upon their appearance, he is not only to give the Signals before-mentioned, but is, as soon as possible, to give intelligence by express to the Commander-in-Chief.

"We recommend that the day Signal be given by large Ensigns, with broad stripes of red and white; and that, upon the appearance of three Flags by day or three Fires by night, the country is to take the alarm, and communicate it as soon as possible, for the purpose of calling in the Militia.

"JOHN SULLIVAN,  
"NATHANIEL GREENE,  
"STIRLING."

Die Sabbati, 3 ho. P. M., April 27, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Colonel *Brasher*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Van Brunt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

A Letter from *John Dennis*, Chairman of *New-Brunswick* Committee, with the three Prisoners referred to in the Letter of *Samuel Tucker*, President of the *New-Jersey* Committee, received on the 25th instant, was read and filed, in the words following, viz:

"City of New-Brunswick, April 23, 1776.

"SIR: By order of the President of the Committee of Safety for the Province of *New-Jersey*, I herewith send you three Prisoners, who deserted from the ship the *Lady Gage*. A letter containing their examination was sent you a few days ago; but when you receive their personal information, it will afford you more satisfaction than could be expected from a letter.

"I am, sir, your obedient humble servant,

"JOHN DENNIS.

"To the President of the Provincial Congress of the Province of *New-York*, or, in their recess, to the President of the Committee of Safety, *New-York*."

*Henry Smith*, late of *North-Castle*, being examined, says: That one *Thomas Gibson*, who informed the examinant that he lived at *Fishkill*, came to the examinant at *Joseph Golding's*, in *North-Castle*, and persuaded him to enlist; that he enlisted about the 1st of *April*; that, about a week afterwards, he left home, which is now four weeks ago; that

the said *Thomas Gibson* also enlisted *William West* and *John Lownsberry*, (son of *Henry Lownsberry*,) from *Cortlandt's Manor*; *John Jones* and *Arthur Orson*, (son of *Joseph Orson*,) from *Sing-Sing*; and *Stephen Daniels* and himself, (the said *Henry Smith*,) from *North-Castle*; that they travelled in the night, and lay by one day in the woods, and another day in *Purdy's Barn*, about two miles beyond the *White Plains*; that he thinks *Purdy* knew they were enlisted, and going on ship-board; that they left the shore at the *Narrows*, on *Long-Island*, where a barge received them and carried them on board of the *Lady Gage*. That *Jones* and *Orson* deserted from the *Lady Gage*; that *Daniels* and the examinant came off together. That his father did not know that he enlisted. That *Thomas Gibson* promised him three Pounds fourteen Shillings bounty, twenty Shillings a month pay, besides clothing, and two hundred acres of conquered land. That there were about one hundred men on board of the *Lady Gage*, most of them country people and recruits, as he thinks, and some of them sailors. That he saw *William Lownsberry* on board of the ship; that two of the *Gidneys* are on board, one named *Solomon*; that some men of the name of *Haynes* are on board, and one *Robert Sneadon*; that he is a Sergeant on board; that one *Barnes* is there, said to be a Lieutenant; one *Campbell*, a Captain. That they had some guns brought from the *Phenix*; that they had only salt provisions of flour and pork on board. That he signed a paper which *Thomas Gibson* produced to him when he enlisted; that it contained nothing but names, to his knowledge; that he met *Gibson* at *Joseph Golden's*; that *James Travis* is on board of the ship; that they tarried about a week at *Daniel Denton's*, below *Hempstead*, and at a tavern in the town of *Hempstead*, before they went on board of the ship, and that *Gibson* supported them.

A Letter, or recommendation, from the Committee of the County of *Ulster*, dated the 4th day of *April*, 1776, signed by *Johannes Hardenbergh*, Chairman, was read and filed. They thereby (pursuant to the resolution of the Provincial Congress of this Colony) recommend *Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esquire, and Major *Phillips*, in partnership, as proper persons (having the convenience of a good stream) to erect Mills and carry on the manufacturing of Gunpowder.

Another Letter, or recommendation, from the Committee of *Orange County*, dated *April* 18, 1776, and signed by *Elihu Marvin*, Chairman, was read and filed. They thereby recommend *Henry Wisner*, Esq., and *John Carpenter*, as proper persons to erect and carry on the manufacturing of Gunpowder, and recommend a place at or near *John Carpenter's* Saw-Mill as a proper place for building the same.

A Letter and application from *Henry Wisner*, Jun., relative to the Powder-Mill to be erected agreeable to the recommendation of the Committee of *Ulster County*, was read and filed. He thereby applies for the loan of the money resolved by Congress in such case to be sent.

A Certificate, or recommendation, from the Committee of *Albany*, dated *March* 30, 1776, signed by *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Chairman, was read and filed. They thereby recommend *Henry Van Rensselaer* and Sons, of *Claverack*, as proper persons for erecting a Powder-Mill for manufacturing Gunpowder at *Claverack*, at the distance of more than two miles from *Hudson's River*.

The said *John Carpenter* in person, and the said *Henry Van Rensselaer*, Esq., in person, applied to the Committee for the sum of one thousand Pounds each, on behalf of themselves and their partners, according to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress of the 9th day of *March* last, in such case made and provided.

Resolved, That each of the said three Companies, applying, are entitled to the loan of one thousand Pounds, and that an order shall be issued to the Treasurer of the Provincial Congress for the sum of one thousand Pounds to each Company respectively, as soon as they give such security and enter into such contract as is mentioned in the said Resolution of the 9th of *March* last.

A Letter from the Committee of *Albany* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany Committee-Chamber, April 11, 1776.

"SIR: Yours of the 1st instant, together with a copy of General *Putnam's* letter of the 5th, directed to the Chair-

man of the Committee of Safety of the Province of New-York, we have before us; and now to the contents.

"We have now the officers of five Companies recruiting in this City and County; their names, and the number of men by them respectively inlisted, you have in the enclosed return; and, considering that nearly the whole of Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment is recruited in this County, and that General *Schuyler* has engaged here a number of carpenters and batteauxmen for the Continental service, we are persuaded that no part of the censure thrown on this Colony can justly be attributed to this County; besides, our officers without an advance of a shilling of money must necessarily meet with difficulties in recruiting, when, with many, the principal inducement to enlist arises from the hopes of cash. This Committee, some time ago, apprized of these difficulties, wrote to Congress for such a sum of money as they might conceive necessary to promote the service.

"Without any authority over the troops, this Committee are at a loss to know how they can order their march. They will refer the request to General *Schuyler*.

"By the promotion, death, or removal, of several of the Militia officers in this City and County, it often happens that vacancies arise in the Regiments. We would therefore be glad if you would furnish this Committee with about one hundred blank commissions, which will be filled up, from time to time, as occasion may arise, and return to Congress the names of such officers as shall be so commissioned.

"We observe a resolve of the Continental Congress, requesting all Tories to be disarmed; we humbly request to receive with all speed your instructions in the premises.

"We are, respectfully, sir, your very humble servants.

"By order of the Committee:

"ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., Chairman."

The List and Return of the Companies raising in the County of Albany was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Albany, April 11, 1776.

"List of Officers recruiting in the City and County of ALBANY, and the number of Men inlisted for each Company.

"*Cornelius Van Santvoordt*, Captain; *Abraham Becker*, First Lieutenant; *Obadiah Vaughan*, Second Lieutenant; *David Becker*, Ensign.—Eighty-nine men inlisted.

"*Samuel Van Veghten*, Captain; *John Hoogkirk*, First Lieutenant; *John Ball*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Everts*, Ensign.—Forty-seven men inlisted, officers included.

"*John H. Wendell*, Captain; *John C. Ten Broeck*, First Lieutenant; *John Welch*, Second Lieutenant; *John Ostrander*, Ensign.—Forty-nine men inlisted, officers included.

"*Gerrit S. Veeder*, Jun., Captain; *Solomon Pendleton*, First Lieutenant; *David Bates*, Second Lieutenant; *Ephraim Snow*, Ensign.—Thirty-eight men inlisted.

"*Harman Vossburgh*, Captain; *Barent Staats*, (*Salisbury*), First Lieutenant; *Isaac Bogert*, Second Lieutenant; *Silas Howard*, Ensign.—Seventy men inlisted, officers included.

"Two Companies in Tryon County. *Henry O'Hara*, Captain in Charlotte County.

"Colonel *Wynkoop*.

"Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt*."

The Committee took the said Letter and Return from the Committee of Albany into consideration;

And thereupon Ordered, That the Companies within mentioned, the two Tryon County Companies, and Captain *O'Hara's* Company, compose Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment.

And Resolved and Ordered, That *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Lieutenant-Colonel *Philip Cortlandt* the sum of one thousand Pounds (out of the first moneys that shall come into the Treasury) for the recruiting and billeting of Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment; that Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt* proceed to Albany, to forward the recruiting of the said Regiment; that he wait on his Excellency General *Washington* for such directions as he shall give; and that he call on Colonel *Wynkoop* in his way for his aid and direction and assistance.

Resolved and Ordered, That Doctor *Ebenezer Haviland*

be, and is hereby, appointed Surgeon to Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment; and that he immediately take the directions of the Field-Officers of the Regiment, as to his duty and attendance.

The Committee then took into consideration the appointment of Companies to Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment.

And thereupon appointed the following Companies to compose that Regiment, viz: 1, Captain *Griffin's* Company; 2, Captain *Rosekran's* Company; 3, Captain *Davis's* Company; 4, Captain *Jackson's* Company; 5, Captain *Bellknap's* Company; 6, Captain *Swartwout's* Company; 7, Captain *Childs's* Company; 8, Captain *Roe's* Company.

Ordered, That a copy of this appointment be given to Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*.

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Committee that there are some of the Sentinels of Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment sick; and that it is necessary to appoint a Surgeon or Mate to take care of them.

As Doctor *Woodruff*, who has been recommended by Colonel *Ritzema* to that Regiment, is not yet returned from Canada, and is soon expected, the Committee are determined to appoint a Surgeon's Mate to the Regiment.

The certificate of Doctor *John Jones* and Doctor *Samuel Bard*, dated the 13th day of April, recommending *Daniel Menema*, and which has since remained on file, was read.

Ordered, That *Daniel Menema* be appointed, and he is hereby appointed, Surgeon's Mate to the Regiment of Continental Troops whereof *Rud. Ritzema*, Esq., is Colonel.

The Committee took into consideration the recommendation of two gentlemen to the Continental Congress, for the Majority of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment.

And thereupon, Resolved and Agreed, That Major *Barnabas Tuthill*, of Suffolk County, and Captain *Marinus Willet*, of this City, be recommended to Congress for that office.

Doctor *Treat*, at the request of the Committee, attended. He informed the Committee that he has reason to believe that the orders to Mr. *Adams* for medicines for two of the Armed Vessels are nearly completed; that bark is scarce, and not to be obtained; that the quantity purchased by the Colony, and in his care, is large, being one hundred weight or upwards; that medicines are provided for three Regiments of this Colony; that he stands in need of one or two pounds of bark for the use of such Continental Troops now here as have not Surgeons to their Regiments; that *Adams* has some pretence to a preference to a small part of those medicines, if any are spared, because he made and furnished to the importer the invoice for importing them.

Mr. *Adams's* application for part of the medicines, was also read.

Ordered, That Doctor *Treat* supply Mr. *Adams* with such Medicines (out of those in his custody belonging to the Colony) as will complete the Medicine-Chests for the Armed Vessels; and, also, with five pounds of Bark for Mr. *Adams's* own use.

And Ordered, That Doctor *Treat* have liberty to use so much of those Medicines as he shall have occasion for, for the use of the Troops which he now does, or shall hereafter attend, while the Medicines are in his custody.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., April 29, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Bancker*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*.

Only six Counties appearing, the Members continued together till one o'clock, and adjourned to three o'clock.

Die Lunæ, 3 ho. P. M., April 29, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *E. Bancker*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

*Henry Van Rensselaer*, Esquire, attending, was admitted. At his request, they consented and agreed, that Mr. — have four weeks to complete his application for the loan of one thousand Pounds, for the erection of a Powder-Mill, by giving the necessary security, and entering into contract, agreeable to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Albany*, in answer to their Letter of the 11th, was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

GENTLEMEN: We acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 11th instant, with the returns of the companies raising in your County. These companies, with the two companies from *Tryon* County, and one from *Charlotte* County, are placed under Colonel *Wynkoop*; and Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt*, with one thousand pounds in cash, proceeds immediately for *Albany*, to take charge of the Regiment, unless Colonel *Wynkoop* should be there.

The Treasury has been empty many days. This has rendered us unable to give any prior assistance with cash.

Enclosed you have copies of the resolutions and recommendations for disarming disaffected persons. We again earnestly recommend to you to carry them into execution without delay, and with all possible vigour.

We expected *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., had furnished you with these resolutions long since, and the arms of such disaffected persons would in part arm the troops raised in this Colony for Continental service.

We have not the number of blank commissions you request. We have not delivered out any blank commissions hitherto, and hope it will not be inconvenient to your Committee to have them delayed until the meeting of Congress.

We are, respectfully, gentlemen, yours, &c.

To *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., Chairman, and the Members of the Committee of the County of *Albany*.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 29, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 27th, we have received; in answer to which, we would inform you that we shall, as soon as possible, take measures for putting our Militia in such a situation as to afford the Army the most speedy and effectual assistance in our power, whenever you shall think it necessary to call for their aid, either for the defence of this or the neighbouring Colonies. We thank you for the information respecting the signals fixed upon below to give intelligence of the approach of an enemy. We assure you, sir, we meant not by our letter to intimate the least desire of being consulted in that matter, for which the gentlemen of the Army must be more competent than ourselves; but as you intimated that similar signals might possibly be of service in assembling the Militia in the neighbourhood of this city and the adjacent parts of *New-Jersey*, we proposed to appoint a Committee to wait upon you; and that we might be informed of any plan that you might have thought of for that purpose.

We omitted in our last to inform you that we have not been entirely inattentive to the subject of this part of your recommendation. Every regiment of our Militia has its place of rendezvous appointed, and riders are fixed at different stages in this and the neighbouring Colonies, to alarm the country in case of invasion; but if, upon consideration, we shall judge that signals may be of service in calling in our Militia more speedily than can be done in that way, we shall communicate to you our determinations upon that head.

We are sorry to find there is a possibility of misunderstanding the passage in our letter respecting the four battalions raising in this Colony. Be assured, sir, that we never considered them as under our direction, except so far as concerned the forming and equipping them. And if you will be pleased to refer yourself to our last letter, the distinction taken therein between the four battalions and *Van Schaick's* Regiment will convince you that we meant nothing more than, in obedience to Congress, to have the completing of them for the command of the Continental General. Nor do we esteem them so pointedly under our direction in this respect as to exclude your solicitude, as Commander-in-Chief,

to have them speedily completed and armed; a solicitude highly becoming your station, and which, instead of affording the least ground for umbrage, serves to heighten the opinion which your former conduct has invariably taught us to entertain of your vigilant attention to the important duties of your office, and of your zeal for the defence and security of the rights of this much injured country. You have an unquestionable right to know the state of the regiments raising in this Colony; and it has given us no small concern that we have not been able to procure the necessary returns from the Counties (though we have some time since taken the proper steps for that purpose) to enable us to give you other than a very partial and unsatisfactory information upon that head.

We enclose you a return, in which you will find the first battalion is most deficient. The return is formed from information which came to hand since we had the honour of writing our last letter to you. We send you herewith a blank warrant containing our terms of enlistment, which are substantially a copy of the resolutions of Congress. But, upon these, we would observe, that although it appeared to us that the defence of this Colony was the primary or more immediate object for which the four battalions were designed, yet we took particular pains to inform the recruiting officers that we did not conceive that to be the only object, but that they would be liable to be ordered into any of the neighbouring Colonies, (*Canada* excepted,) where the commanding officer in this department should judge their assistance to be necessary for repelling the invasions of our common enemy. We hope, sir, that the general nature of the cause we are engaged in, the generous attention of the Continent to the defence and security of this Colony, and the readiness of our neighbours to come to our assistance from time to time when they have apprehended us to be in danger, will serve to exclude from our minds the narrow distinction of Colonies, and teach us to esteem the *British* fleets and armies as much our enemies while on the coasts of *Connecticut*, *New-Jersey*, or *Carolina*, as if they lay in the *East River*.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day, enclosing the resolve of Congress on the subject of arming the *New-York* Battalions. In answer to which, we beg leave to refer you to our letter of the 25th instant; and to assure you that we shall exert ourselves by every means in our power for their being properly armed and accoutred.

To General *Washington*.

In Committee of Safety, New-York, April 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: On the 23d of *March* last, we wrote to you upon a subject of the utmost importance—the command in the Marine department on the Lakes. Our application was occasioned by a letter from General *Schuyler*, a copy of which we then enclosed to you. The General, in that letter, informed our Congress that, in case Major *Douglass* should decline that command, there was “no person he would more willingly have to command the vessels than Captain *Wynkoop*; and requested, at any rate, to send him up the soonest possible, with a sufficient number of sailors for the two schooners and sloop.” We further informed you that we immediately sent for Captain *Wynkoop*, communicated to him the General's letter, and sent him, with a copy of it, to Major *Douglass*; that he delivered it to him, and received for answer from Major *Douglass*, that “he was then in service, and that it would be at least two months before he could attend at the Lakes, if his health would permit;” that we thereupon wrote him a letter, a copy of which, and of his answer, we also enclosed to you. In our letter to him we gave him a gentle reproof for his uncertain answer to *Wynkoop*, and signified that we expected his immediate answer, and, in case of his acceptance, he should stand ready for the execution of his duty at a minute's warning, whenever the service should require it. In his answer he informed us, “I told Captain *Wynkoop* what I now tell you, that whenever I should receive orders from the Congress or General, I was willing to comply, if my health would permit; and, as Captain *Wynkoop* is desired by the General to get his men and go up, I beg you would assist and forward him; and if I am not called upon, shall endeavour to serve my country in some station of as much importance as to command the Lakes.” We further reminded you in the above-mentioned letter, that the season was so far advanced that the service would suffer if the vessels on the Lakes

were not immediately employed. And conceiving that Major *Douglass's* indetermination would make room for a new appointment, we took the liberty, through you, to recommend Captain *Wynkoop*, as a person who was bred a mariner, had frequently been master of mercantile vessels, had served with reputation in the last war, both in the land and sea service; that we then thought him (as we still do) an officer of merit, and that we had heard his conduct in the last campaign highly applauded; conceived him to be worthy of the trust, and thought, from General *Schuyler's* letter, the appointment would not be disagreeable to him. We further informed you that Captain *Wynkoop* would not continue in the Marine service under Major *Douglass*; but that, nevertheless, we had prevailed on him, with the argument of danger that the service would suffer, to engage seamen, and proceed to the General with all possible despatch. To this letter we have hitherto not been favoured with an answer, but have heard a report that some order from Continental Congress has been sent to Major *Douglass* to repair to the post assigned him. General *Schuyler*, still attentive to the importance of the service on the Lakes, in a letter of the 4th instant to General *Thompson*, who furnished us with a copy of it, writes thus: "Will you be so good as to request the *New-York* Congress that the sailors may be sent up without delay." In consequence of this, we sent for Captain *Wynkoop*, being convinced of the impossibility of sending up the seamen without an officer, and engaged him to enlist the men, and to proceed to put the vessels in order, under the present uncertainty of his station, on condition that he be permitted to quit the service in case he should be superseded. Of this we informed General *Schuyler* by letter of the 25th instant, of which Captain *Wynkoop*, who is gone up with his seamen, is the bearer. After what has been said already in recommendation of Captain *Wynkoop*, we shall presume to say no more than that, in case Major *Douglass* should decline, we hope that this fresh instance of Captain *Wynkoop's* zeal for the publick service, added to his former merit, will have sufficient weight with the Congress to confirm him in that command which was destined for Major *Douglass*.

We herewith send you the petitions and remonstrances of *New-York* for redress of grievances.

Major *Benedict*, of the First *New-York* Battalion, conceiving himself unfit for that office, has made a voluntary resignation, by which that Majority is become vacant. On this occasion we conceive it to be our duty to hold up two candidates for the choice of Congress—Major *Barnabas Tuthill*, of Colonel *Holmes's* Regiment of the last year's levies, and the person who, from an attention to rank, we put on the list of Lieutenant-Colonels for the present levies, is one. He was an officer in the last war, and we have never heard anything to his disadvantage, either in civil or military character. Captain *Marinus Willet* was in service during the last war, and was Captain in the last year's *New-York* levies; and with an attention to his rank as Second Captain in the First Battalion, and when Captain *Weisenfels*, who was the First Captain, was promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy, we recommended Captain *Willet* for the Majority; but by some mistake, as we conceive, Captain *Benedict*, the Second Captain of the Fourth Battalion, was preferred to him. Captain *Willet* cannot, in our opinion, have a better recommendation than General *Schuyler's* letter to us of the 4th of *March* last, which is literally as follows, to wit: "When an officer has acted with remarkable attention and propriety, it becomes a duty in his commander to give publick testimony of it: such has been the conduct of Captain *Willet* during the last campaign. He is therefore entitled to the attention of his country." For these reasons we beg leave to hold up Captain *Willet* as another candidate for the Majority. And are, &c.

To our Delegates, at *Philadelphia*.

"*New-York*, April 29, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Sometime before I left *Cambridge*, I received an order of Congress to apply to the Assemblies or Conventions of the four *New-England* Colonies for arms to supply the deficiency of their respective regiments, and if not to be had, to discharge the men that wanted them. When I came to this place, and was informed by Colonel *Ritzema* of the want of this article for his regiment, and the other troops of this Colony, it became my duty to make

this want known to Congress, at the same time giving it as my opinion that, as we found it no easy matter to recruit men, with the expedition they were required, it might be disserviceable to discharge any of the *York* troops, as some lucky hit might throw arms into our hands. In consequence of which, I received by post the enclosed resolution, which, without delay, I lay before your honourable body; and am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

"In Congress, April 26, 1776.

"Resolved, That none of the Troops already raised be, for the present, disbanded for want of Arms; and that the General apply to the Convention and Committee of Safety of *New-York* for such Arms as may have been collected under the Resolve of Congress for disarming Non-Associators and disaffected persons, or any other Arms they can supply and deliver to the *New-York* Troops."

Die Martis, 10 ho. A. M., April 30, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR *NEW-YORK*.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Evert Banker*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR *ALBANY*.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR *ORANGE*.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR *KING's*.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

FOR *SUFFOLK*.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR *WESTCHESTER*.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR *ULSTER*.—Mr. *Wynkoop*.

Mr. *Abeel*, Deputy Chairman of the General Committee of the City of *New-York*, attended, and was admitted. He informed that a number of Fire-Arms, formerly belonging to the Troops under the command of Captain *Clark*, are at Captain *Clark's* house.

Ordered, That Mr. *Scott* call on Mr. *Clark*, and make inquiry as to those Arms.

Mr. *Abeel* further informed that, by the unanimous consent and request of the Committee, he was directed to inform the Committee of Safety that Mr. *Robert Ray* has had the management, inspection, and direction of all Permits to Vessels permitted to export; and that the General Committee request that, in the establishment of a Custom-House, Mr. *Ray* may be thought of as an officer.

Major *Malcom*, Captain *Wool*, and Mr. *Blake*, of the Second Battalion, attending, were admitted. Major *Malcom* informed the Committee that, by the resignation of several Officers, and the consequent promotion of other gentlemen in their places, new Commissions are become necessary for most of the Officers of the said Battalion; that he and the gentlemen with him were sent to request of the Committee the said Commissions. Major *Malcom* further informed that the Officers of that Regiment have, amongst themselves, thought of such persons as would be agreeable to them for Field-Officers; that the Regiment are fully sensible that the right of nomination of Field-Officers belongs to this Committee, and not to the Regiment, but that the Officers of the Regiment, notwithstanding, request to know whether it will be agreeable that they should mention in their Return, by way of recommendation, the names of those gentlemen who would be agreeable to the Regiment for Field-Officers.

The Committee informed Major *Malcom*, and those gentlemen with him, that new Commissions should be made out for the Captains and Subalterns of the said Regiment, when a return of their names and rank should be made to this Committee; and that it would be agreeable to the Committee that the Officers of that Regiment should mention in their Return the names of those gentlemen of whom they approved for their Field-Officers; and that they send their Return to this Committee, by Mr. *Stoutenburgh*, as soon as convenient.

Mr. *Comfort Sands* informed the Committee that he is about to make a journey to and beyond *Albany*; that, by a determination of the Committee at *Albany*, it is become necessary that every friend to liberty, travelling through their District, to have a passport from some Committee of the place from whence he came; that therefore he requests a Certificate of this Committee.



A Certificate was given to Mr. *Sands*, in the words following, to wit:

"It is hereby certified that the bearer hereof, Mr. *Comfort Sands*, is a respectable and useful Member of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, and of this Committee of Safety; that he has steadily exerted himself as a sincere and active friend to the liberties of this country, and as such he is hereby most cordially recommended to all friends to *American liberty*."

"New-York, April 30, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I perceive by the tenour of your favour of yesterday, that my letter of the 25th has given umbrage, which I am sorry for, as it was not most distantly in my ideas to give any. Three things led me to suspect that the *York Battalions* were not upon the same establishment of the other Continental Troops: current report, an implied exception in the order for detaching six more battalions to *Canada*, and that part of your letter signifying that four of these battalions were to be raised under your immediate direction; which intimation coming in corroboration of the two first reasons, (for I never had any information of this matter from Congress,) led me to believe that you intended it as a genteel hint that I was not to consider them in the same light I did the others. It was not to be wondered at, therefore, that I should wish to know the extent of my authority over them, that my conduct might be regulated thereby, or that I should be so solicitous in arming regiments raised for local purposes, as those for the general service, when the latter are also greatly deficient in this essential point. These were the ideas that filled my mind at the time of writing. If the extreme hurry, occasioned by a variety of business which is continually pressing upon me, clouded the meaning I wished to convey, I can only add, that it never was, and I hope never will be, my intention to give unprovoked offence. Of this your Committee may be once for all assured, that it is my earnest wish to co-operate with them in every measure which can conduce to the general good; and that if I should at any time differ from them in the means, I shall feel my share of the concern; being, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., May 1, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Major *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *J. Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *E. Bancker*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*, Mr. *Polhemus*.

A Letter from *Christopher Tappen* and *Joseph Gasherie*, Esquires,\* Loan Officers of the County of *Ulster*, dated at *Kingston*, April 23, and directed to Mr. *Wynkoop*, was read and filed. They thereby inform that they have received more of the money mentioned in the Resolution of the 9th day of *March* last, than they will be able to let out. They also mention sundry other difficulties as to carrying the said Resolution into execution.

Ordered, That the said Letter remain for the consideration of the Provincial Congress.

A Letter from Captain *John Belknap*, dated at *Fort Montgomery*, yesterday, was read and filed. He therein complains that, by the list or arrangement which he has

\* KINGSTON, ULSTER COUNTY, April 23, 1776.

SIR: Notwithstanding the resolve passed in the Provincial Congress on the 9th of *March*, 1776, prolonging the payment of one-tenth part of the principal sum due to the loan officers of this Colony, many persons, having money on loan in this County, do choose to pay the said sum, which we do not think safe to refuse; and being at a loss how to dispose of the moneys so paid in, and conceiving that we are not warranted by the said resolve to put those moneys out on interest, (but if this is intended by the resolve, we beg leave to inform the honourable Board that we have already more of the whole principal sums paid in than what we think we shall be able to let out,) should be glad and request their directions about the disposition of the same.

We are, sir, your most humble servants,

CHRISTOPHER TAPPEN,  
JOSEPH GASHERIE.

seen of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, he is placed below Captain *William Jackson*; that he is willing to serve his country, but cannot serve his country in that rank.

Mr. *Stoutenburgh* delivered in a Return of the Field-Officers, Captains, Subalterns, and Staff-Officers, of the Second Battalion, as at present arranged. The same was read and filed.

Ordered, That Commissions issue for the Officers of that Battalion, agreeable to the said Return.

Ordered, That Mr. — *Bayley*, of this City, Cutler, be directed to exert himself to finish, with all possible despatch, the Trepanning Instruments and Scalpels which he was employed to make for this Colony; that he give that work the preference, as it is the most important; and that one of the Secretaries serve Mr. *Bayley* with a copy of this order.

Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., May 1, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. *William Paulding*, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Captain *Denning*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Rutgers*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*.

A Letter from *John Jay*, Esq., one of the Delegates of this Colony at Continental Congress, was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Philadelphia, April 27, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The Congress having been informed of a very extraordinary oath ordered by Governour *Tryon* to be administered to passengers in the late Packet, whereby they bound themselves not to disclose anything relative to *American* affairs, except to the Ministry, have appointed a Committee, of which I am one, to ascertain this fact. I must therefore request of you, gentlemen, to appoint proper persons to examine into this matter, and, if possible, ascertain the truth of the report, by affidavits taken before the Mayor or one of the Judges of the Superior Court.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"JOHN JAY.

"To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-York*."

Ordered, That Mr. Alderman *Brasher* and Captain *Denning* be a Committee to take the said Letter, and comply with the contents thereof, and report thereon to the Provincial Congress or this Committee of Safety.

*Francis Lewis*, one of the Delegates of this Colony to the Continental Congress, attended the Committee, and delivered in a charge against *John Thurman* and *Normand Tolmie*, which (he said was in the handwriting of one of the witnesses) was read and filed, and is in the words following, to wit:

"On the evening of *Tuesday*, the 23d instant, (*April*.) Messrs. *John Thurman* and *Normand Tolmie* reported, in the presence of Messrs. *William Maxwell*, *William Lowther*, *John Ramsay*, and *David Currie*, that *Francis Lewis*, Esq., having had an order from the Continental Congress to make a purchase of a considerable quantity of Duck in this City, for the service of the publick, which he effected at the rate of three Pounds currency, per piece; but that he charged and rendered an account thereof to the said Congress, at the rate of four Pounds ten Shillings, said currency, per piece, for same.

"Also mentioned that there were several instances where persons had sent their vessels with cargoes to sea, of their own property, with whom the Congress had agreed to run the risk of the whole interest, if lost or taken; and that on the arrival of said vessels, the owners were to receive one hundred per cent. advance on the cargoes from the Congress."

Thereupon Ordered, That Messrs. *John Thurman* and *Normand Tolmie*, of the City of *New-York*, do, respectively, personally appear before this Committee, at the Assembly Chamber, in the City-Hall of the said City, to-mor-

row, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to answer to a charge exhibited against them by *Francis Lewis*, Esq., for publicly charging him with fraud in the execution of a trust to which he is appointed by order of the honourable the Continental Congress.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, the Doorkeeper, serve Messrs. *Thurman* and *Tolmie* each with a copy hereof, and that Mr. *Pettit* summon the Witnesses to attend likewise.

Mr. *Pettit* returned and informed the Committee that he had been to the usual places of abode of Messrs. *Thurman* and *Tolmie*; that he was informed Mr. *Thurman* was gone to *Albany*; that Mr. *Tolmie* was abroad, but was expected home in the morning; and that he left a summons at his house.

Die Jovis, A. M., May 2, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Cuyper*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*, Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*, Mr. *Thomas*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

*Normand Tolmie*, pursuant to the summons of this Committee of yesterday, attended.

Mr. *Tolmie* denied the general charge as exhibited against him by Mr. *Lewis*.

Mr. *Maxwell* and Mr. *Currie* attended likewise.

Mr. *Maxwell*, on his examination, says: That Mr. *Thurman* said, in the hearing of him, Mr. *Currie*, Mr. *Lowther*, and Mr. *Ramsay*, that in several instances persons had sent vessels and cargoes to sea, of their own property, with whom the Congress had agreed to run the risk; and that the persons or shippers were to have a profit of one hundred per cent. on the proceeds of the cargo; and that Mr. *Tolmie* said he had heard the same story some months ago.

Mr. *Maxwell* further said that Mr. *Thurman* declared, in the hearing of him (Mr. *Maxwell*) and the other gentlemen, that Mr. *Lewis* had purchased a quantity of Duck, by order and on account of the Continental Congress, at the rate of three Pounds per piece, and that Mr. *Lewis* rendered an account of the same at the rate of four Pounds ten Shillings per piece; that Mr. *Thurman* said he knew this of his own knowledge.

Mr. *Currie*, being called, agreed with Mr. *Maxwell* in his relation of the whole conversation.

Mr. *Tolmie* acknowledged that (on Mr. *Thurman's* relating the matter relative to the Congress insuring the vessels, and allowing the person so great a profit) he said he had heard the same story some months ago, but that he had entirely forgot who he heard it of.

A Letter from *John Lloyd*, Jun., to *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquire, dated the 8th of *April*, and another Letter from Mr. *Lloyd* to *Thomas Tredwell*, Esquire, dated the 25th of *April*, the subject whereof is hereinafter recited, were severally read. The Committee came to a determination thereon, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas *Henry Lloyd*, who is under the censure of the publick, and has lately fled from *Boston* with the Ministerial Fleet and Army, has left a considerable Real and Personal Estate in *Queen's Village*, in *Queen's County*, on *Nassau-Island*, in this Colony:

And whereas his nephew, *John Lloyd*, Jun., of *Queen's Village*, aforesaid, has, through *John Sloss Hobart*, Esquire, represented to this Committee his willingness to save the said Estate from destruction; and that the live stock belonging to the said *Henry Lloyd* is in a suffering condition, and if not removed, will, from its exposed situation, be in danger of falling into the hands of the enemy during the course of the summer; and requested the opinion and advice of this Committee what steps he should take respecting said Estate, especially the live stock:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the said *John Lloyd*, Jun., that he, together with *Zebulon Williams* and

*Samuel Townsend*, Esquires, do take an exact Inventory and Appraisement of all the Real and Personal Estate of the said *Henry Lloyd*, within this Colony, and report the same in writing under their hands to this Committee, or the Provincial Congress of this Colony, without delay; and that the said *John Lloyd*, Jun., remain in possession of the said Real and Personal Estate, and that he do not make any sale or transfer of any of the said Real or Personal Estate, until order can be taken therein by Provincial Congress.

*Ordered*, That one of the Secretaries certify a copy thereof, to be transmitted to the said *John Lloyd*, Jun.

Die Jovis, P. M., May 2, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *William Paulding*, Esquire, Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Denning*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Paulding*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Thomas*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*, Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Cuyper*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*.

A Letter from *Cornelius D. Wynkoop*, Esquire, Colonel of the Fourth Regiment of the Continental Troops raising for the defence of this Colony, directed to *Dirck Wynkoop*, Esquire, was read, and filed. He therein recommends Mr. *George Graham* as Surgeon's Mate to his Regiment.

A Certificate from the Doctors *John Jones* and *Samuel Bard*, dated *April* 10th, 1776, was also read, and filed. They therein certify that they have attentively examined Mr. *George Graham* respecting his knowledge in Physick and Surgery, and that they find him completely qualified to act as a Surgeon's Mate.

Thereupon *Resolved and Ordered*, That *George Graham* be, and he is hereby, appointed Surgeon's Mate to the Fourth Regiment of Continental Troops, whereof *Cornelius D. Wynkoop*, Esquire, is Colonel.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* supply to any of the Field-Officers of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, or the order of any one of them, and, in the absence of all the Field-Officers of that Regiment, then to the Captains of that Regiment, respectively, the following articles for the respective Companies of that Regiment, who have not already been supplied, viz: Shoes, Frocks, Bed-Covers, Cartouch-Boxes, Belts, and Gun-Slings, Canteens, Haversacks, and Hose. And that he take receipts of such Field-Officers or Captains, to whom he shall have delivered the same.

Colonel *Gilbert Drake* having informed this Committee that he is bound, by bond, for seventy Pounds and upwards, payable to *William Lounsberry*, (one of the persons concerned in spiking the Cannon at *King's Bridge*, and who escaped from confinement, and is now supposed to be on board the *Asia* ship-of-war,) on the 1st day of this instant, (*May*), and that *Reuben Bloomer* had applied to him by letter, signifying that he was authorized by the said *Lounsberry* to receive the said moneys, and demanding payment thereof,

*Ordered*, That the said Colonel *Drake* withhold payment of the said moneys until further order of this Committee, or the Provincial Congress of this Colony. And that Colonel *Drake* cause a copy of this order to be served on the said *Reuben Bloomer*.

A Letter from *Isaac Gidney*, dated the 20th day of *April*, was delivered by Colonel *Joseph Bull*, and read, and filed. The said *Isaac Gidney* requests to be enlarged, on his giving security in such manner as this Committee shall direct.

*Resolved and Ordered*, That *Isaac Gidney*, a Prisoner, confined in the County Jail of *Westchester County* by order of this Committee, be, and he is hereby discharged from his confinement, and permitted to go at large on his giving sufficient security to the Chairman of the Committee of the said County, that he will personally appear before the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony when he shall be thereto required; that he will not bear arms against the inhabitants of the *American Colonies*, or

do any other act inimical to the liberties of the said Colonies, or contrary to any resolution or order of the Continental Congress or of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, or of any of the County Committees of this Colony, during the present contest between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*; and on his paying the expenses of his confinement, if he has any means wherewith to pay the same.

Whereas *Joshua Gidney*, of *Westchester County*, who was confined as Prisoner for his agency in spiking up the Cannon beyond *King's Bridge*, formerly escaped, and it has been intimated to this Committee of Safety that the said *Joshua Gidney* is desirous to return to his family, and give security for his appearance when required, and future good conduct:

*Resolved and Ordered*, That the said *Joshua Gidney* be, and is hereby, permitted to return to his family in *Westchester County*, and to go at large on his giving sufficient security to the Chairman of the Committee of the said County that he will, from time to time, personally appear before the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony, when he shall be thereunto required; that he will not bear arms against the inhabitants of the *American Colonies*, or do any other act inimical to the liberties of the said Colonies, or contrary to any resolution or order of the Continental Congress, or of the Provincial Congress, or Committee of Safety of this Colony or of the Committee of any County in this Colony within which he may reside, during the present contest between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*.

A Return from *William Cross*, Chairman of the Committee of *Hanover Precinct*, in *Ulster County*, dated the 22d of *April*, was read and filed. He thereby returns *Henry Van Keuren* (who had been formerly elected First Lieutenant) duly chosen Captain of the Company of Militia of *Foot*, (formerly commanded by Captain *William Jackson*, now in the Continental service,) and *Robert Munnell* duly elected First Lieutenant in the place of *Henry Van Keuren* promoted; that the elections were held agreeable to the rules and orders of the Provincial Congress, in the presence of *John Berkley*, *James Rea*, and the said *William Cross*.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue for those gentlemen, agreeable to the said Return; and they were then issued accordingly.

*Mr. Garrison*, Chairman of the Committee of *Richmond*, now present, requests to know:

1st. Whether the inhabitants will be paid for some Firewood furnished to the Troops in *Richmond County*. And whether they must continue to supply the said Troops with Firewood.

2d. To whom the Committee must apply for payment for repairing the Guard-House, which was done at the request of Lord *Stirling*.

He was directed to apply to Colonel *Mifflin* for both these matters.

*Mr. Garrison* mentioned that he had lent a small sum to an Officer recruiting in *Richmond*, and requested to know if he would be paid.

He was desired to send in his Account before the Billeting Roll, or recruiting fees of the Company, are paid off.

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., May 3, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment. Present: FOR NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Evert Bancker*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR RICHMOND.—*Mr. Adrian Bancker*.

FOR ALBANY.—*Mr. Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—*Mr. Wynkoop*, *Mr. Wisner*, Jun.

FOR ORANGE.—*Mr. Cuyper*, Colonel *Allison*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, *Mr. Thomas*, *Mr. Paulding*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*.

*Mr. William Paulding*, who has been Chairman, with leave, departed, that County being fully represented; and *Dirck Wynkoop*, Jun., Esq., was unanimously chosen Chairman.

The Committee being informed that Captain *Jesse Hunt*,

of *Westchester County*, is about to take a journey to *South-Carolina*; they made a Certificate as to Captain *Hunt*, and delivered for his use a copy thereof, in the words following, to wit:

"It is hereby certified that the bearer hereof, Captain *Jesse Hunt*, of *New-Rochelle*, in *Westchester County*, is one of the Captains of the Militia in Colonel *Drake's Regiment*, of that County, formed pursuant to the regulations of the Provincial Congress of this Colony; that the said *Jesse Hunt* is a most vigilant and active officer, a steady friend and guardian of the liberties of his country, and, in his private character, a gentleman of good reputation; and he is hereby cordially recommended to all friends to *American liberty*."

A Return from the Committee of *Southhold*, attested by *Robert Hempstead*, Chairman, whereby it appears that the following persons were chosen Officers of two Companies of Minute-men in Colonel *Josiah Smith's Regiment*, viz:

First Company: *Jonathan Bayley*, Captain; *Joshua Youngs*, First Lieutenant; *John Tuthill*, Second Lieutenant; *James Reeve*, Ensign.

Second Company: *Paul Reeve*, Captain; *John Corwin*, First Lieutenant; *David Horton*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Hodson*, Ensign.

*Ordered*, That Commissions issue to those Officers respectively.

A Memorial of *Dirck Leffertse*, of the City of *New-York*, Merchant, dated the 1st instant, was read, and filed. He therein, in substance, sets forth, that upwards of thirty Minute-men from *Westchester*, under the command of Colonel *Drake*, have been quartered upon him at his house, from some time in the month of *February* last until now, or very lately; that he has furnished them with many necessities and conveniences, viz: Firewood, Vegetables, Cider, &c. That the said Minute-men, by order of Engineer *Smith*, (as he supposed,) went on the woodland of the Memorialist, purchased for his own particular use to supply his family with firewood, and cut down or destroyed a great part of the trees there growing, and almost entirely ruined the young wood there, for building the Fort at *Horne's Hook*.

The Memorialist thereby prays the Congress or Committee to take the matters mentioned in the said Memorial into consideration, and grant him such redress as they in their discretion may think reasonable and adequate to the loss and damage he has sustained.

*Ordered*, That the said Memorial be referred to the consideration of the Provincial Congress.

4to ho. P. M., Die Veneris, May 3, 1776.

The following Members of the Committee met:

*Dirck Wynkoop*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Denning*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR ULSTER.—*Mr. Wynkoop*.

FOR ALBANY.—*Mr. Oothoudt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—*Mr. Adrian Bancker*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, (not a member.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Tredwell*.

FOR KING'S.—*Mr. Covenhoven*, Colonel *Van Brunt*.

For want of a quorum, no business could be done.

At six o'clock, for *Westchester*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, *Mr. Thomas*, and Major *Lockwood*, attended; but several other Members having before departed, there was not a quorum to be obtained, though a Messenger was sent out for the purpose.

Die Sabbati, 10 ho. A. M., May 4, 1776.

\* The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Dirck Wynkoop*, Jun., Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*, Captain *Denning*, *Mr. Evert Bancker*, *Mr. Roosevelt*.

FOR ALBANY.—*Mr. Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—*Mr. Wynkoop*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR RICHMOND.—*Mr. Adrian Bancker*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Tredwell*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, *Mr. Thomas*.

The Committee took into consideration the Letter from *Samuel Tucker*, Esq., President of the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, dated the 20th of *April*; and the examination of *Henry Smith*, on the — of *April*, relating to the persons therein mentioned to have been employed in inlisting men for the Ministerial Army.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That the Secretaries prepare and certify copies of the said Letter from *Mr. Tucker*, and examination of *Henry Smith*, and enclose one copy of each to the Chairman of the County Committee of *Weschester* County, another copy of each to the Chairman or Committee of Correspondence of *Dutchess* County, and a third copy of each to the Chairman of the Precinct Committee at *Fishkill*.

That each of the said County Committees, and the Committee of *Fishkill*, respectively, be requested to give the most pointed directions and use every means in their power to have *Thomas Gibson* and *Robert Hamilton* seized and taken; that they cause both, or either of them that may be taken, to be immediately confined in close Jail, in such manner as to prevent an escape, or any conference with any accomplice, until he or they respectively can be brought to trial, or until the further order of the Provincial Congress, or of the Committee of Safety of this Colony; and that each of the said Committees give such prudent directions as to prevent the said *Thomas Gibson* or *Robert Hamilton* from having any notice of this order, or of any proceedings thereon that may occasion their flight.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* attended, and produced his orders from General *Washington*. He is thereby directed to apply to the Committee of Safety to procure Arms for the Soldiers of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That the Committees of the Counties of *Dutchess* and *Ulster*, and the Committees of the respective Districts in those Counties, deliver to Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, or to such Captains in that Regiment as shall have Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston's* order, so many good Arms, fit for use, out of those collected by disarming disaffected persons in their respective Counties and Districts, as may be necessary to complete the arming of the Companies of that Regiment, now stationed at the Fortifications in the Highlands; that the Committees take care to have the said Arms marked and appraised, and an account of the value, mark, and appraisal of each kept, before the same are delivered; and that the Captain of each Company take care to keep a roll of the value of each Gun, Musket, or Firelock, which shall be delivered to him, and of the name of the Soldier to whom each such Gun, Musket, or Firelock, shall be so delivered; and that he deliver one copy of such Roll and value of the Arms of his Company, to the Colonel or Commanding Officer of the Regiment, and another copy to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

And *Ordered further*, That the Committees in *Suffolk* County do, in like manner, provide and deliver Arms to the Captains of the three Companies of the Second Regiment, which were raised in that County; and that those Captains keep and return the like Rolls of the value of the Arms they may so receive, and of the names of their respective Soldiers to whom delivered, in such manner that each Soldier may be accountable for the Arms delivered to him, or the value thereof; that the same may be accounted for to the publick.

And *Resolved*, That any Captains or Officers by whose neglect or default the value of any one or more such Arms shall be lost to the publick, shall be accountable for the value thereof.

Die Lunæ, 10 ho. A. M., May 6, 1776.

The following Members met pursuant to adjournment:

Present: *Dirck Wynkoop*, Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Bancker*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Doctor *De Witt*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, (who is not a member of the Committee, though a member of Congress.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

Near one o'clock, for want of a sufficient number of Mem-

bers to form a Committee, the gentlemen present adjourned to four o'clock.

All persons attending on the Committee on matters of business, were directed to attend again at five o'clock.

4to ho. P. M., May 6, 1776.

The following Members met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Dirck Wynkoop*, Jun., Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel *Lott*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *De Witt*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, (of the Provincial Congress, but not of the Committee of Safety.)

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*, (late.)

The gentlemen present, for want of a sufficient number of Members to form a complete quorum, could not do any final act as a Committee; but Mr. *Peter Puillon*, who was apprehended at the *Narrows*, and *Joseph Blanchard*, arrested by order of General *Washington*, and sundry military gentlemen who are witnesses, and necessarily obliged to return to *King's* County, where they are stationed, being attending, it was thought absolutely necessary to examine.

Thereupon, the Letter received from General *Washington* this morning, was read. The General thereby informs that *Peter Puillon* was yesterday apprehended for having supplied persons on board of the King's Ships with Provisions, in violation of, and contrary to, the regulations which have been adopted for preventing such practices; and that *Joseph Blanchard* was apprehended for carrying on a correspondence with persons on board.

"New-York, May 6, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I beg leave to refer to your examination *Joseph Blanchard* and *Peter Puillon*, who were yesterday apprehended, the former on suspicion of carrying on a correspondence with persons on board the King's ships, the latter of having supplied them with some provision, in violation of, and contrary to, the regulations which have been adopted for preventing such practices. There are witnesses against both, which are ordered to wait on you; and also some papers found in possession of Mr. *Blanchard*, which, though previous to your resolves in point of date, indicate an intimacy between him and Colonel *Fanning*, the Secretary, to whom, I am told, he has written since their publication, and his knowledge of them.

"I am, gentlemen, with great esteem, your most humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"P. S. Captain *Gibbs* will deliver the papers."

Captain *Derby* says that on *Friday* evening last he was in company with Mr. *Joseph Blanchard*; that *Joseph Blanchard* said that the communication was not entirely cut off with the ships below; that he had lately received letters from thence; and that on the then last *Monday* he had written a letter to Colonel *Fanning*, and delivered it to a friend to convey it, and that he was informed and believed it was sent on board. Mr. *Blanchard* says he believes his letter did go on board. Captain *Derby* further says, that yesterday he went into Mr. *Fisher's* after he left the General's; that Mr. *Blanchard* there said several disagreeable things; intimated that he thought Captain *Derby* would take away his life; spoke in reflecting terms of the Army, and said they were bought Whigs, and that it was not in the power of the Army to cut off the communication with the ships.

*Joseph Blanchard* says: That he did not mean to reflect on the Army in general; but said he was a Whig from principle, but that they were bought Whigs, (meaning the company then present.)

Captain *Derby* says that Mr. *Blanchard* said if he had been treated like a gentleman it was in his power to have found out the person who had conveyed the letters, but that it was now too late, as he did not know that he could now discover. Colonel *Prescott* confirms what Captain *Derby* says as to what passed at *Fisher's*; and says that, if it had not been with an expectation of getting further intelligence, he should not have borne the insults thrown out against the Whigs, and the insults offered to Captain *Derby*. That the

woman spoken of to have conveyed a letter from *Blanchard* and some military books, was Mrs. *Hatch*.

Captain *Gibbs* says that after he had arrested *Joseph Blanchard*, by order of General *Washington*, Mr. *Blanchard* told his landlady that he was arrested as being suspected of carrying on a correspondence with Governour *Tryon* or his Secretary; and that at that time he (Captain *Gibbs*) had not intimated to Mr. *Blanchard* the cause of the arrest; that the several letters and papers now delivered to the Committee were taken or received from the said *Joseph Blanchard*.

That the first paper he saw in the room was on his table, and was General *Sullivan's* Brigade orders to his brigade before he left *New-York*; that Mr. *Blanchard* told the examinant he did not know how he got that paper; and made that observation before he asked anything about the paper or the orders.

That Mr. *Blanchard* said he had delivered the letter to Mrs. *Hatch*; that Mrs. *Hatch*, after some recollection, said that Mr. *Blanchard* often inquired there for letters; that she had not any acquaintance with him; that he left a letter and some military books for Colonel *Fanning* about ten days ago; and that they were sent by Colonel *Fanning's* servant.

Captain *Gibbs* says the letter to Lord *Stirling* was sealed when he received it from *Joseph Blanchard*.

Captain *Derby* and Captain *Gibbs* severally say that Mr. *Blanchard* said that he knew the communication with the vessels was stopped, and that any communication with them was against the Resolution of the Committee of Safety, and the General's Proclamation.

Lieutenant *Brown*, of Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, confirms Captain *Derby's* testimony; and says, further, that Mr. *Blanchard* said he received those orders of General *Sullivan* at Lieutenant *Fisher's*, of Colonel *Wyan's* Regiment; that he has inquired of Lieutenant *Fisher*, who says he never saw such orders, and does not know that such had been in his house or taken from thence.

That Mr. *Blanchard* said he was not paid for being a Whig; that the officers were paid for being Whigs, and were bought Whigs. Colonel *Prescott* says that Mr. *Blanchard* said the communication with the ships never would be found out, and never would be stopped; that he did not know the method of communication; that he never asked the mode of communication, or he supposed it would have been told him; that he did not desire to know the method of the communication; and that if he did know it he would not discover it.

Mr. *Blanchard* says that a woman who lives with Mrs. *Hatch* brought him the letter from Colonel *Fanning*; that she told him she would soon have an opportunity to send down there; that when he sent his letter, he knew it was against the Resolution of the Committee of Safety; and that his only reason for writing was to endeavour to secure the money mentioned in one of the letters, which he was unwilling to lose.

Die Mercurii, 10 ho. A. M., May 8, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Dirck Wynkoop*, Jun., Esq., Chairman.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Beckman*, Captain *Denning*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Glenn*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Haring*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Doctor *De Witt*, Mr. *Wissner*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*, Mr. *Ward*.

Mr. *Philip Woodward*, of *Newtown*, in *Queen's* County, on *Nassau-Island*, (having received a warrant from the Provincial Congress of this Colony for recruiting men in a Company of Continental Troops, raising for the defence of this Colony,) attended, and was admitted. He informed this Committee that, notwithstanding the best endeavours of the officers of the Company, they have been unsuccessful in that service, and have little prospect of being able to recruit

so many men as will entitle them to Commissions. Mr. *Woodward*, considering that the defence of this Colony necessarily requires the immediate raising and embodying the said troops, generously offered to resign his said warrant in the said Company, to the end that some other person be employed who may have it in his power to raise the men with that expedition which the service absolutely requires.

Thereupon, *Resolved and Ordered*, That, from the necessity of the case, Mr. *Woodward's* resignation be accepted of; that he be paid for his services from the date of his warrant to this day, and that the thanks of this Committee be, and are hereby, given him for his patriotick spirit shown on this occasion; that Mr. *Woodward's* conduct is an additional proof of his attachment to the true interests of his country; and that the benefit of the publick service only has induced Mr. *Woodward* to this resignation, and induced this Committee to accept it.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing be delivered to Mr. *Woodward*.

*Thomas Mitchell*, of *Great-Neck*, in the Township of *Hempstead*, in *Queen's* County, being examined, says: That Captain *John Sands*, agreeable to the Resolution of the Provincial Congress, has called out his Company once a month to muster; that *Thomas Wooley*, of *Cow-Neck*, Feltmaker, within the district whereof Mr. *John Sands* is Captain, on two different days of mustering or training, would not answer to his name, nor appear in the ranks, or muster; that Captain *Sands* levied a fine for each neglect; that he (this examinant) was informed, by sundry persons, that the said *Thomas Wooley* applied to a Magistrate to have a suit brought against Captain *Sands* to recover back the fines which had been levied by distress; that on *Saturday*, the 4th instant, the Company was again called out to muster and train; that the said *Thomas Wooley* was there at the place of training, and refused to train, or answer to his name when called; that when he was called on *Saturday* last, he went to Captain *John Sands*, and spoke to him in an abrupt manner, and, about half an hour after, abused the Captain very much, and challenged the Captain to fight him with sword and pistol; that some days before this, he (this examinant) was informed that said *Thomas Wooley* challenged Captain *Sands* in the like manner, and that Captain *Sands* told him he should apply to the Committee if he thought himself aggrieved, and that *Wooley* said he knew no Committee, but would apply to a Magistrate; that Captain *Sands's* Company were called to train on the first *Saturday* in *April*; that after the Clerk had, on that day, called his name three times, and he neglected to answer, Captain *Sands* said, Mr. *Wooley*, it seems you do not choose to answer to your name; that *Wooley* answered, I will so far answer as to let you know that you have no right to call me here, and that I do not consider myself as within your District. That on *Saturday* last, after the said *Thomas Wooley* had ill-treated the Captain and challenged him, and refused to answer when called, Captain *Sands* made out a warrant against the said *Thomas Wooley*, and sent him under a guard, with *Aspinwall Cornell*, his Second Lieutenant, to *Queen's* County Jail; that he (the examinant) was informed that *Hope Mills*, the Jailer, when the prisoner was brought to him, said he was not a Jailer for the Congress, and thought he had no right to keep him; that he has been further informed, that on the next day the Jailer applied to the Sheriff, who, as this examinant was informed, directed him not to retain the prisoner without a warrant from a Magistrate; that the said *Thomas Wooley* was that day discharged; that the said *Wooley* publickly says, that the Captain's warrant was of no validity, and threatens to prosecute the whole guard who went with him to *Jamaica*, in obedience to Captain *Sands's* warrant.

THOMAS MITCHELL.

Sworn this 8th day of *May*, 1776, before me,

AB. BRASHER, Alderman.

*Ordered*, That Captain *John Sands*, of *Great-Neck*, be requested, without delay, to cause *Thomas Wooley*, of *Cow-Neck*, Feltmaker, to be apprehended and sent to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, at *New-York*, under a proper Guard, at the sole expense of the said *Thomas Wooley*, and, with all convenient speed, to be further dealt with as the said Congress or Committee of Safety shall



direct; and that Captain *Sands* send down any one or two witnesses that he may think proper.

The Committee took in consideration, and examined into the case of *Peter Puillon*; and heard the said *Peter Puillon* also state his case, which he appeared to do with candour. It fully appears to this Committee, that the Regulations adopted for preventing the intercourse with the Ships were not published in *Richmond* County until *Thursday*, the 2d, or *Friday*, the 3d instant; that the said *Peter Puillon*, from his remote situation, was entirely unacquainted with any Regulations on that subject; that the said *Peter Puillon* left his house with a considerable sum of money to discharge a debt he owed to a person in *King's* County, and with some articles of provisions, intended for *New-York* market, of the value of about three Pounds. It further appears, by the testimony of a gentleman of reputation, that the said *Peter Puillon* was as near to the shore with his boat, and at as great a distance from the Ship *Asia* at the time the ship fired at him, as he could be with safety at that time of the tide; that his situation with the wind and tide was such, that he could not safely escape when the Ship fired at him. It further appears, by the testimony of reputable witnesses, that the said *Peter Puillon*, from the general tenour of his conduct and behaviour, has appeared to be, and has been esteemed a friend to the liberties of his country.

*Resolved therefore*, That though the said *Peter Puillon* has been unfortunate in being the means of supplying the Ship *Asia* with certain Provisions, mentioned in a list or memorandum now in his custody, and would have been culpable for the risk he run with the said Provisions if he had known of, or had an opportunity to have known of the Regulations adopted with respect to the said Ships; yet it is the opinion of this Committee that the said *Peter Puillon* was entirely innocent in this instance, and did not take the said Provisions in his Boat with any intention or design to supply the said Ship with Provisions.

And it is earnestly recommended to the said *Peter Puillon* not only to be very cautious himself, but also to endeavour to prevent any other inhabitant of *Richmond* County from attempting to come, with any Provisions, within reach of the guns of the said Ship, or of any other Ministerial Ship or Vessel which may be in that Channel, and to use his best endeavours to make the Regulations adopted with respect to the said Ships publickly known in *Richmond* County.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *Beauman* such Barrack necessities for his Company, agreeable to the Continental, or usual Regulations, as he may want, and Colonel *Curtenius* has in store, taking Captain *Beauman's* receipt for the same.

Major *Malcom*, Mr. *Berrien*, and Mr. *Harper*, of the City Committee, attending, were admitted. They requested that a Magistrate, or some proper person, may be appointed to attend, with the Members of the Committee of the City, to administer an oath to such persons as they shall disarm, that they have faithfully delivered up all their arms.

Mr. Alderman *Brasher*, now present, was requested to attend that service; and it is agreed that he be excused from attendance in the Congress Chamber while he is employed in that service.

A Letter, and an Indent therein enclosed, from Captain *Varick* to Mr. *McKesson*, (by order of General *Schuyler*,) were read, as follows, viz:

"Albany, May 1, 1776.

"SIR: I am directed by General *Schuyler* to write to

you, desiring you to send up one hundred spades with all possible despatch to Mr. *Philip Van Rensselaer*, store-keeper at this place.

"I am also directed by the General to send up to *Ticonderoga* a suit of sails of certain dimensions for a periaugur, and 'as much rope as will rig two *Albany* sloops, (cables, shrouds, and hausers excepted,) and also enough for two large periaugurs. Blocks for all.'

"On inquiry, I am informed that no sailcloth is to be had in this town, and that the Provincial Congress have purchased all that was to be had at *New-York*, for the use of the Colonies; I therefore request you, in the name of the General, to send up to Mr. *Rensselaer* five bolts of good sailcloth, without the least delay.

"Enclose you an estimate of the rope which will be wanted for the purposes above-mentioned, of which none is to be had here, and which I also request you, in the General's name, to send immediately to this place.

"Captain *Jovis* (who is now here) informs me that his son can supply this article.

"It may be proper to show the estimate to some rope-maker or rigger at *New-York*, to know whether there will be sufficient; if there is not, you will be pleased to send as much as may be thought necessary.

"I beg you to procure an account of what blocks will be necessary for two sloops and two periaugurs, from some rigger or blockmaker in *New-York*, and to send them up with the rope, as none of these articles are to be had here.

"All the articles above-mentioned are so much wanted at the Lakes, and not to be had anywhere but at *New-York*, that I must earnestly entreat you that no delay may be made in sending them up to this place.

"I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

"RICHARD VARICK,

"Secretary to Maj. Gen. *Schuyler*.

"To John *McKesson*, Esq., Secretary to the *New-York* Provincial Congress, or, in his absence, to *Robert Benson*, Esquire.

"An Indent for making Running Rigging and Stays for two Sloops, the size of *Albany* Sloops.

"Two coils, 2½ inches, 100 fathom each, for Halliards; Tackle Falls; Jib Sheets; 2 Jib Stays, 16 fathom each; 2 Down Hauls, 1½-inch, 16 fathom each; 100 fathom Ratline; 2 Schooners' Rigging, viz: 100 fathom, 3-inch; 2 Stays, 28 fathom, 3½-inch; 2 coils, 2-inch, 120 fathom; 1 coil of Thread Ratline; Spun Yarn in proportion for the whole, Houseline, Marline; 1 dozen Hamberline, white."

A Letter from Captain *Varick*, Secretary to General *Schuyler*, directed to Mr. *McKesson*, was read, and is prefixed. Mr. *Varick* thereby requests, in the General's name, the articles mentioned in the following order, to be forwarded to *Albany* with all possible despatch.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius*, as Commissary, transmit to *Albany* by the first opportunity for the Continental service, in compliance with General *Schuyler's* request, (made by his Secretary,) a complete set of Blocks, of every kind, for two Vessels and two rigged Periaugurs on the Lakes, and five pieces of English Duck for Sails for the Periaugurs; and the following Rigging and necessities, viz: 6 coils of Spun Yarn; 2 Jib Stays, of 6½ inches; 200 fathom 2-inch Rope; 200 fathom 2½-inch Rope; 100 fathom 3-inch Rope; 2 coils of Ratline; 3½-inch Stays; 1 dozen of white Hamberline; 12 dozen of Marline and Houseline; and that he direct the Storekeeper or Commissary at *Albany* to give notice thereof, when he receives those articles, to Major-General *Schuyler*, or to Captain *Varick*.

#### NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P. M., May 8, 1776.

Several matters of the utmost importance, as well to the United Colonies in general, as to this Colony in particular, rendering it necessary for a speedy meeting of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, the Committee of Safety therefore ordered Circular Letters to be sent to all the Members, requesting their attendance in Provincial Congress, at *New-York*, on the first day of this instant, (*May*.) On that day, and every day since, many Members attended, but not a

sufficient number to make a Congress till this afternoon; when the following Members met, viz:

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Colonel *Brasher*, Mr. *Denning*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Ward*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Mr. *Paulling*, Colonel *Lewis Graham*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Glen*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Haring*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *De Witt*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Wickham*.

The President, General *Woodhull*, took the Chair, and the Congress proceeded to business.

The Congress having found, by experience, that the publick service is daily suffering for want of money, and being informed by many Members that the Treasury has for the most part of the time been empty near three weeks past, and that several Members have lent considerable sums for the publick service; that sundry officers under marching-orders from the General, are now in town, waiting for money to discharge the billeting; and other expenses of their men, without which they cannot remove them; that the sum this Congress ordered to be issued by the Committee of Safety, being entirely in small bills made for change, requires so much time to sign the bills that the money cannot be signed so fast as to satisfy the demands on the Treasury:

Therefore *Resolved and Ordered*, That the whole sum ordered by this Congress on the 5th day of *March* last, to be printed, be issued. That Mr. *Isaac Roosevelt* be requested to have all the Bills mentioned in the Resolutions of this Congress on that day, and ordered by those Resolutions to be printed, to wit: the whole sum of one hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred Dollars, numbered, signed, and sent to the Treasury.

The Congress took into consideration the state of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, and heard the Returns of each separate Company read.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Brown*, of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, and his Subalterns, and the Subalterns of the Company whereof Captain *Willet* was appointed to be Captain, do attend on this Congress to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

Captain *Increase Child* attending, was admitted. He informed the Congress, that, by order of the Committee of Safety, he was authorized to enlist a Company in the Continental service in this Colony, on condition that he could raise his Company in three weeks from the 12th day of *April* last; that he and the gentleman intended as his First Lieutenant, have enlisted fifty-six men; that he received his warrant so late that he had not had the opportunity which he before expected to enlist out of the Minute Regiment, and that he had met with greater difficulties in recruiting than he expected.

*Resolved*, That if Captain *Increase Child*, and his First Lieutenant, shall, within fourteen days from this day, bring fifty-six or more men, fit for service, to Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, to join the Regiment at the Fortifications in the Highlands, and thereafter obtain from Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, and transmit to the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety, a certificate thereof, that the said *Increase Child* and *John Lloyd*, his First Lieutenant, shall be entitled to Commissions. That if the said Company be completed within three weeks from this day, that the other Subalterns shall also be entitled to Commissions.

This Congress being informed that General *Washington* has ordered Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* to repair to the Highlands, are of opinion that they would not discharge their duty to the Continent, and might incur blame, if Colonel *Nicoll* should be continued there in service.

*Resolved therefore*, That Colonel *Nicoll* be relieved from further service at present, at the Fortifications, as soon as Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* shall have arrived there, and be ready to receive the command. That the thanks of this Congress be, and hereby are, given to Colonel *Nicoll* for his faithful service, and his strict attention to the publick interests, since he has been in the command at the said Fortifications.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., May 9, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *McDougall*, Mr. *Prince*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Roosevelt*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Glen*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Polhemus*, Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Colonel *Graham*, Mr. *Paulling*, Mr. *Ward*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *De Witt*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Haring*, Colonel *Allison*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Norwood*, the Commissary, deliver to the Captains *Griffin*, *Roe*, and *Davis*, of Colonel *Clinton's* Regiment, for the use of their respective Companies, Cartridge-Pouches, Bayonets, Slings, and Flints, not exceeding eighty-four of each article to each Company, except Flints, and of those two hundred and fifty-two to each Company, and take their respective receipts for the same.

Major *Malcom* attending, was admitted. He informed the Congress that the Second Regiment has been on duty six weeks, and are much in want of money; he requested that a month's pay might be paid to them. Mr. *Malcom* withdrew.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Paulling*, and Mr. *Cuyler*, be a Committee to inquire into the terms and conditions on which the Second Regiment were employed, and by whom, and whether they will be paid at Continental expense; and that the said Committee, or a majority of them, report with all convenient speed.

Captain *Brown*, of Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, with his Subalterns, and the Subalterns for inlisting the Company whereof Captain *Willet* was formerly appointed Captain, attending according to order, were admitted. Their Returns were examined, whereby it appears that the Subalterns of the late Captain *Willet's* Company have only seventeen or eighteen men, Non-Commissioned Officers included, in their Company, and Captain *Brown* no more than twelve or thirteen men, Non-Commissioned Officers included, in his Company. Those gentlemen being withdrawn, the Congress taking the state of those Companies into consideration, are of opinion that the publick exigencies absolutely require that those gentlemen be dismissed the service.

Therefore *Resolved*, That they be dismissed, and they are hereby dismissed accordingly; and that they be paid for their services from the dates of their respective warrants to this day, and their inlisting money for so many effective men as they shall deliver to the Regiment when they shall have delivered the arms and accoutrements they have received to Captain *John Johnson*; and that it be recommended to Colonel *McDougall* to add the Privates of those two Companies to Captain *John Johnson's* Company. And it is hereby declared that the above-mentioned gentlemen are not dismissed from any dissatisfaction with their conduct, but with great reluctance from necessity only, because they have been so unfortunate in their attempts to recruit their Companies.

And as to such Non-Commissioned Officers of those two Companies as are well qualified for their offices,

*Resolved*, That they be placed in such Companies of the Regiment as are not supplied with such Officers, and that the other Non-Commissioned Officers of the said Companies be, and they are hereby, dismissed.

Mr. *Roosevelt* informed the Congress that he has sent twelve or thirteen hundred Pounds, in small money, to the Treasury; that he has, pursuant to the order of this Congress, delivered out a number of the paper Bills of large denominations to be signed, and expects that, by *Monday* next, several thousand Pounds will be ready to send to the Treasury.

The Petition of *Joseph Wood*, the younger, on behalf of himself and other Merchants in *Philadelphia* therein named, was read. They therein set forth their loss by the seizure of a vessel and cargo belonging to them, by *Josiah Martin*, Esquire, late Governour of *North-Carolina*, with an account of their loss thereto annexed, amounting to one thousand two hundred and ninety-five Pounds three Shillings and seven Pence, *Pennsylvania* currency; and pray an order to seize the Effects of the said *Josiah Martin*, in this Colony, to reimburse the Petitioners. The invoices and bills of lading of the cargo of the said vessel, a report of a Committee of the Congress of *North-Carolina* on the case of the Petitioners, and also a protest of *Thomas Jones*, a Notary

Publick at *North-Carolina* for the loss suffered by the Petitioners, were severally read. \*

Ordered, That Mr. Scott, Mr. Wynkoop, and Mr. Haring, be a Committee to take the said Petition and Papers into consideration, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

A Letter from Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, requesting that his contract for supplying the Troops be settled, and offering to relinquish said contract, as the Continental Congress consider his agreement extravagant, was read and filed.

A copy of a Letter from Mr. *Livingston* to the Continental Congress, also offering to relinquish said contract, was read and filed.

Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., May 9, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Scott, Mr. Evert Bancker, Mr. Prince, Colonel Lott.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Covenhoven.

\* NEW-YORK, ss.

To the Honourable President and other Members of the Provincial Congress of the Province of NEW-YORK, met in Congress, at the City of NEW-YORK.

The Petition of SAMUEL MASSEY, CHARLES MASSEY, and JOSEPH WOOD, the younger, of the City of PHILADELPHIA, Merchants, humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioners, in the beginning of the month of January last past, purchased a sloop or vessel called the *Joseph*, whereof *William Raddon* was late master, and loaded on board the said vessel a cargo of provisions to proceed with the same from the city of *Philadelphia* to *Savannah*, in the Province of *Georgia*, as appears by an invoice and bill of lading herewith exhibited.

That the said Sloop *Joseph* proceeded on her intended voyage, and on the 13th day of February last past, was taken by an armed vessel, called the *General Gage*, whereof one *George Sibles* was commander, and carried into *Cape-Fear*, in the Province of *North-Carolina*, where the said Sloop *Joseph* was detained, and the cargo on board of her embezzled, particularly by *Josiah Martin*, late Governour and Commander-in-Chief of that Province, as fully appears by the protest of the aforesaid *William Raddon*, herewith also exhibited.

That the said Sloop *Joseph*, with her cargo, were illegally confiscated by the said *George Sibles* and the said *Josiah Martin*, without libel or condemnation, whereby your Petitioners are sufferers to near the amount of fifteen hundred Pounds, current money of the Province of *Pennsylvania*.

That your Petitioners, immediately after the capture of the said Sloop *Joseph*, made application to the Provincial Congress of the said Province of *North-Carolina*, who appointed a Committee to consider the facts as stated by your Petitioners, which said Committee reported thereon, as appears by the copy of the same likewise exhibited.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your honourable House will take their unhappy case into particular consideration, and grant them an order to seize the effects of the aforesaid *Josiah Martin* within the Province of *New-York*, to reimburse the loss your Petitioners have sustained by the capture and detention of the said Sloop *Joseph* and her cargo, or such other relief as to your honourable House shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

JOSEPH WOOD, for self and copartners.

An estimate of the loss sustained by the capture of the Sloop JOSEPH, by WILLIAM RADDON, late Master.

The Sloop *Joseph*, with her furniture, tackle, and apparel, and outfits, cost, January 5, 1776, - - - - - £625 0 0  
The cargo on board of her cost, as per invoice, - - - - - 670 3 7

*Pennsylvania* currency, - - - - - £1295 3 7

NORTH-CAROLINA, IN CONGRESS, April 12, 1776.

The Committee for taking into consideration the Petition of *Joseph Wood* and partners, reported as follows:

Your Committee having inquired into the several allegations set forth in the said Petition, do report as follows:

That said *Joseph Wood* and partners, with permission of the Committee of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, did, on the 5th day of January last past, load on board the Sloop *Joseph*, *William Raddon* master, sundry goods and merchandise on their own account, to the value of six hundred and seventy pounds three shillings and seven pence; on the account of *William Todd* one hundred and ninety pounds; of *Joseph Wood*, Jun., ten pounds; of *William Raddon* nine pounds eighteen shillings, prime cost in *Philadelphia*; all which were consigned to the said *Joseph Wood*, Jun., and bound to *Georgia*; that in his passage, the said sloop and cargo were taken by an armed vessel called the *General Gage*, *George Sybles* master, and carried into *Cape-Fear River*, where *Josiah Martin*, Esq., late Governour of this Province, bore the chief command; and the officers under command of the said *Josiah Martin* did violently seize the said sloop and cargo, and apply them to the use of the enemies of *America*, whereby the said *Joseph* and partners lost fifteen hundred pounds, current money of *Pennsylvania*, over and above the profits they might reasonably have made.

The House, taking the same into consideration, concurred therewith.

By order:

JAMES GREEN, JUN., Secretary.

NORTH-CAROLINA, EDENTON, ss.

By this publick instrument of protest and writing, bearing date here-

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Cuyler, Mr. Oothoudt, Mr. Glen.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Mr. Haring.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Tredwell, Mr. Wickham.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Evert Bancker.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Wynkoop, Mr. DeWitt, Mr. Wisner.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Paulding, Colonel Lewis Graham, Colonel Joseph Drake.

The Committee of Safety reported to this Congress, that Brigadier-General *Gates* attended yesterday with a Message from his Excellency General *Washington*. That he delivered a Letter from *Thomas R. Harris*, late Master's Mate, and *William Metcalfe*, late Midshipman of the Ministerial armed vessel the *Savage*, now prisoners-of-war in the Jail, requesting some relaxation of their confinement. Mr. *Gates* mentioned that many such prisoners have been enlarged, and are prisoners on their parole. That his Excellency General *Washington* thinks it necessary that some inland town or village in this Colony should be fixed on, where the above-men-

after mentioned, be it known and manifest to all whom it may concern, that on the 25th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, before me, *Thomas Jones*, notary and tabellion publick, residing at *Edenton*, in the Province aforesaid, by lawful authority, duly admitted and sworn according to law, personally appeared *William Raddon*, late master of the Sloop *Joseph*, and made oath on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, before me, as notary aforesaid, that on the 9th day of January last past, he (this deponent) sailed with the said Sloop *Joseph* from the city of *Philadelphia*, bound to *Savannah*, in the Province of *Georgia*, and proceeded down to *Reedy Island*, in the river of *Delaware*, when the navigation was obstructed by the ice, until the 11th day of February last past, when this deponent sailed with the said Sloop *Joseph* on his intended voyage; that early in the morning of the 13th day of the same month, the said Sloop *Joseph*, then being in the latitude of 35° 10', and about fifteen leagues from the land, this deponent discovered a vessel on the weather-quarter, steering down for her; that this deponent immediately made all the sail he could from the said vessel, and it being smooth water, ran very fast from her; that in the afternoon it fell calm, when this deponent discovered a boat rowing from the said vessel, (she then being about a league astern,) and about five o'clock in the evening the said boat came alongside the said Sloop *Joseph*; that this deponent hailed the people on board the said boat, and requested to know what was the vessel astern; they informed him she was the armed Sloop *General Gage*, commanded by *George Sibles*, bound from *Boston* to *Cape-Fear*, and then immediately boarded the said Sloop *Joseph*, being eight in number, completely armed with muske s and cutlasses; that as soon as they got on board, the officer who commanded them ordered this deponent to get into the boat and go on board the said Sloop *General Gage*, with his papers, which this deponent accordingly did; that when this deponent got on board the same, he delivered his papers to the commanding officer, who, after perusing them, told this deponent that the said Sloop *Joseph* was a good prize, "papers or no papers," as he had orders to seize every vessel he met with on his passage; and then directed this deponent to remain on board the said Sloop *General Gage*, where this deponent was put into the hold with the common seamen; that the same evening the mate and seamen belonging to the said Sloop *Joseph* were taken out of her and put on board the said Sloop *General Gage*, and a mate and six men were sent on board the said Sloop *Joseph* to navigate her into *Cape-Fear*; that on the 21st day of the same month, the said Sloop *General Gage* got into the *Cape-Fear River*, and on the 22d day of the same month, the said Sloop *Joseph* also arrived, and was moored under the guns of the *Falcon* sloop-of-war, commanded by *John Lindsey*, then Commodore of the fleet lying at *Fort Johnston*; that the next day after the arrival of the said Sloop *Joseph*, one *John Collett*, who came passenger in the said Sloop *General Gage*, from *Boston*, and who, as this deponent was informed, had a commission as Captain of a company of "Loyal Fensible Americans," went on board the said Sloop *Joseph*, with the commander of the said Sloop *General Gage*, and broke open the hold of the said Sloop *Joseph*, and took out a butt of porter, a parcel of loaf-sugar, and cheese; that a few days after, the purser of the *Scorpion* sloop-of-war came down from *Brunswick* with an order from *Josiah Martin*, Esq., late Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province aforesaid, to take a large quantity of provisions out of the said Sloop *Joseph*, being part of the cargo of the same; that this deponent remained a prisoner on board the said Sloop *General Gage* until the 4th day of March instant, when he made his escape, with *Joseph Wood*, part owner of the said Sloop *Joseph*, and several other persons who had been detained prisoners with this deponent by special orders given by the aforesaid *John Lindsey* to the commander of the said Sloop *General Gage*.

Wherefore, the said *William Raddon*, late master as aforesaid, before me, did protest against the said *George Sibles*, commander of the said Sloop *General Gage*, the said *John Collett*, the said *John Lindsey*, commander of the *Falcon* sloop-of-war, and the said *Josiah Martin*, late Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the Province aforesaid, and all other persons with them concerned, for all losses, costs, and damages, whatsoever, that hath or may accrue to the owners, freighters, or insurers, or any person or persons whatsoever concerned in the said Sloop *Joseph*, and the cargo on board the same, for the reasons herein-beforementioned. Whereupon, I, the said *Thomas Jones*, notary as aforesaid, at the instance and request of the said *William Raddon*, did, and do hereby solemnly, and in due form, sign and attest this present protest of, for, concerning all and singular the premises aforesaid in the particular manner herein-beforementioned and expressed, as if the same were herein again particularly mentioned and repeated.

WILLIAM RADDON.

In testimonio ventatis,

THOMAS JONES,

Notary Publick, Edenton, North-Carolina.

tioned prisoners, and such others as may from time to time be thought proper to be enlarged, may be sent to and lodged.

*Resolved*, That the Township of *Goshen*, in *Orange* County, is the most proper inland Town or Village in this Colony for the placing of Prisoners on parole, as well on account of the unanimity of the inhabitants in the cause of their country, as of its distance from any navigable river; and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the Committee of *Goshen* Precinct in particular, and to every other friend to *American* liberty in this Colony, to apprehend any such Prisoner as may be sent to *Goshen*, if such Prisoner or person shall be found out of the limits assigned him.

General *Washington's* Letter to the Committee of Safety, on the 20th day of *April* last, on the subject of having part of the Militia in readiness to be called in on any emergency, was read.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Herring*, Colonel *Lott*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Wisner*, and Colonel *Drake*, be a Committee to take the said Letter into consideration, and to report thereon with all convenient speed; and that the said Letter be delivered to one of those gentlemen.

Captain *Alder*, Lieutenant *Rutgers*, and Captain *Wool*, three of the General Committee of the City, attended on the Congress, and informed that, in pursuance of the Resolution of the Continental Congress, and the resolutions and directions of the Committee of Safety, for disarming disaffected persons, the Committee of the City had determined that such persons as refused to subscribe the declaration that they would defend the United Colonies by arms should, on oath, deliver up all their arms which they had in this Colony; that some persons who have refused to sign the declaration have also refused to take an oath that they have delivered up all their arms; that *John L. C. Rome* was the first who refused, and others now follow his example; that, by this means, they may probably retain arms to be used against the Colonists, and that they request such further powers and such line of direction to the Committee as this Congress shall think proper and necessary.

*Ordered*, That the said application be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Captain *Mercier* informed the Congress that one or two deserters from the Armed Vessel of which Captain *Nathaniel Rodgers* is commander, are on shore, and requested to know whether he should cause them to be apprehended; and if so, what further should be done with them. Mr. *Mercier* was desired to call to-morrow for directions.

Die Veneris, 10 ho. A. M., May 10, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Prince*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Beckman*, Mr. *Bancker*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Glenn*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR ULSTER.—Doctor *De Witt*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulling*, Colonel *Lewis Graham*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Haring*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Covenhoven*.

*Jacob Sharpe*, Esquire, of *King's* County, attended, and delivered a Letter, dated this day, from *Charles Friend*,\* giving information that he has reason to believe that the Continental money is counterfeited on *Nassau-Island*, and that he can give further information on that subject. The Congress was informed that the said *Charles Friend* is at *Broecklyn*, that he is under some difficulties which prevent his coming to this City, but will cheerfully attend on his receiving a protection from this Congress.

Thereupon *Resolved*, That the said *Charles Friend* be, and hereby shall be, protected from all arrests in coming to

\*FERRY, May 10, 1776.—GENTLEMEN: I have well-grounded reasons to believe the Continental money is now counterfeited upon this Island, and upon further examination, am firmly persuaded you will be in the same opinion. I have opened the case to *Jacob Sharpe*, Esq., and that gentleman will give you further information.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, CHARLES FRIEND.  
To the Honourable Provincial Congress of New-York.

this City, attending upon this Congress, until he shall be discharged, and until he shall have returned to his usual place of abode; and all Sheriffs, Constables, and other civil officers whomsoever, are hereby strictly charged not to arrest or interrupt the said *Charles Friend* during the time aforesaid, as the person or persons so offending will answer the contrary at his or their peril.

Mr. *Benson* reported, that, according to the order of the Congress yesterday, he waited on General *Washington*, and had informed him that, by a former order of this Congress, the Committee of *Suffolk* County had agreed with proper persons to supply the Troops ordered there with Rations, at ten Pence half-Penny per Ration; and requested to know whether the said Troops should be provided in that manner, or supplied by the Commissary-General or his order.

That the General was pleased to give for answer, that it will be most proper, to prevent confusion in accounts, that the Commissary-General should supply them; but lest the Commissary-General should not be prepared to supply them immediately, that it would be well that the persons contracted with should continue to supply them until the Commissary shall have it in his power to supply them.

A Resolution of the Committee of the County of *Albany*, dated *March 1*, 1776, was read and filed. They thereby give power and authority to any three of their Deputies to represent the said City and County in Provincial Congress.

Captain *Henry O'Hara*, of Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment, attending, was admitted. He produced a certificate signed by *Stephen Moylan*, Commissary of Musters, whereby it appears that he mustered that part of Captain *O'Hara's* Company which is now in *New-York*, consisting of one Captain, the Ensign, two Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drum, and one Fife, with thirty-seven Privates. Captain *O'Hara* assured the Congress that he has inlisted as many more men in the Counties of *Albany* and *Charlotte* as will complete his Company; that the Regiment is ordered to be stationed at the northern posts. He therefore requested an order on the Commissary for Frocks, &c., for his whole Company, that he may be enabled to march with the men inlisted here, and with those inlisted to the northward to join the Regiment.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* deliver to Captain *O'Hara*, of Colonel *Wynkoop's* Regiment, such articles (in his department) as are allowed by Congress for eighty-six men, Non-Commissioned Officers included, and take his receipt for the same.

*Jacob Sharpe*, Esquire, returned, and brought with him *Charles Friend*, who, being examined, gave the following intelligence, to wit: *Charles Friend*, of *Westbury*, in *Queen's* County, says: That he went, about three weeks, to *Cold-Spring*; that he called at the house of one *John Anderson*, who told him that there was a countryman of his (the examinant) down there; that he asked him what his name was; he answered, *Henry Dawkins*; he further asked him where he resided, he told him at *Isaac Youngs's*; he (the examinant) then replied, that he supposed they were making money; *Anderson* answered, and said he knew it, and told the examinant that *Dawkins's* tools and a chest of tools were at *Isaac Youngs's* house; he further told the examinant that one of the *Youngs* (*Israel* or *Isaac*) had been to *Nathaniel Williams's*, at *Huntington*, to purchase paper, but found that the paper would not do. *Anderson* further told this examinant that he had heard *Isaac Youngs* say that he would pay all his debts this summer in Congress money. This examinant says he believes one *Isaac Ketchum* to be concerned; that he was told yesterday that *Dawkins* was gone to live with *Isaac Ketchum*.

CHARLES FRIEND.

Sworn before me, the 16th May, 1776.

ABRAHAM BRASHER, Alderman.

Whereupon the following Order was unanimously agreed to:

Whereas, this Congress is informed, on oath, that there is great cause of suspicion that *Henry Dawkins*, *Israel Youngs*, *Isaac Youngs*, *Isaac Ketchum*, and *John Anderson*, of *Cold-Spring*, on *Nassau-Island*, are counterfeiting the Paper currency emitted by the Continental and this Congress:

*Ordered therefore*, That Colonel *Malcom* be requested forthwith to despatch Captain *Wool*, with a sufficient guard, to *Cold-Spring*, on *Nassau-Island*, and that the said guard

do take all possible means in their power to apprehend and seize the said *Henry Dawkins, Israel Youngs, Isaac Youngs, Isaac Ketchum, and John Anderson*, and bring them (together with all suspicious tools and other materials) before this Congress without delay; and the several Committees within whose neighbourhood the said suspected persons respectively reside, are hereby requested to give all the aid that shall be required of them by Captain *Wool* for the effectual execution of this order.

A Return, dated *April 13th, 1776*, signed by *Jonathan Lawrence*, Chairman of the Committee of *Newtown*, in *Queen's County*, was read, whereby it appears that the following persons were chosen Officers of the Militia in the said Township, to wit:

Of a Company of Militia for the Southernmost Beat or District: *Abraham Remsen*, Captain; *Benjamin Coe*, First Lieutenant; *Robert Furman*, Second Lieutenant; *Benjamin North*, Ensign.

For the North Beat or District: *Jonathan Lawrence*, Captain; *William Jacket*, First Lieutenant; *William Lawrence*, Second Lieutenant; *Jesse Warner*, Ensign.

Troop of Light Horse: *Richard Lawrence*, Captain; *Daniel Lawrence*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Riker*, Second Lieutenant; *Jonathan Coe*, Cornet; *Peter Rapalye*, Quartermaster.

Ordered, That Commissions issue to those gentlemen instantaneously; and they were issued accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Tredwell* draft a Letter to the Committee of *Queen's County*, recommending to them the forming and regulating the Militia of the said County, without delay.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Col. *Allison*, and Col. *Lewis Graham*, be a Committee to consider of and report an amendment to the Militia Law, so far as the same respects the disarmed Non-Associators, with all possible speed.

Colonel *Palmer* applied for an order on the Treasurer. He informed the Congress that the Commissioners at the lower Fort, to wit: at *Pooplopen Kill*, borrowed one hundred and fifty-two Pounds of the Commissioners at the upper Fort; that the Commissioners at *Pooplopen's Kill* are indebted for sundry articles; that they will have occasion for at least the sum of one thousand Pounds.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Provincial Congress of this Colony, advance to Colonel *Thomas Palmer*, as one of the Commissioners for erecting the Fortifications in the Highlands, the sum of one thousand one hundred and fifty-two Pounds, to be expended and applied for erecting the Fortifications in the Highlands, and take his receipt for the same on Continental account.

*Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esq., having applied to the Committee of Safety for the premium for erecting a Powder-Mill, is entitled to receive the same, on giving security, and entering into contract. Mr. *Wisner* also informed the Congress that there is a very considerable sum due to him from the Colony on the Resolution of the Provincial Congress for manufacturing of Gunpowder; that he intends to have his partner bound with him in the contract for erecting a Powder-Mill; that he requests the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds from the Treasury on his Bond, for that sum in part of either of the sums above-mentioned:

Thereupon Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, advance to *Henry Wisner*, Jun., Esq., the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds on his Bond, payable the 1st day of *July* next.

Whereas frequent complaints have been made to this Congress that many of the male inhabitants have, at this critical season, withdrawn themselves from the Capital of this Colony, whereby its strength and powers of defence are much weakened, and the inhabitants who remain the more exposed:

On motion Resolved and Ordered, That every male inhabitant of the City and County of *New-York*, above the age of sixteen years, and under the age of fifty years, who has withdrawn himself from the same since the 1st day of *June* last past, be required, and is hereby required, to return without delay with his arms and accoutrements; and that every male inhabitant between the said several ages be henceforth prohibited, and is hereby prohibited, from departing this City and County, and absconding himself from the

same for more than twenty-four hours, without leave of the Colonel or Commanding Officer of the Battalion or Regiment to which he belongs; and that the Committees in the neighbouring Counties and Colonies into whose District such inhabitants of this City and County have so withdrawn themselves be, and they are hereby requested to take effectual means to compel the said inhabitants, who have so withdrawn themselves, to return to their usual places of abode in the said City and County.

And Ordered, That this Resolution be published in all the publick Newspapers in this Colony.

Die Veneris, 4to ho. P. M., May 10, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Scott*, Colonel *Lott*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Beekman*, Mr. *Prince*, Colonel *McDougall*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Lawrence*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Glenn*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Haring*, Mr. *Allison*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *De Witt*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Covenhoven*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Tredwell*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Joseph Drake*, Colonel *L. Graham*, Mr. *Paulding*.

Directions for Captain *Thomas Cregier*, of the Armed Schooner *General Putnam*, were read, and approved, and are in the words following, viz:

Captain THOMAS CREGIER:

SIR: You are hereby directed to inform His Excellency General *Washington* that the armed schooner named the *General Putnam*, under your command, is fitted and ready to proceed to sea.

You are diligently to observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from General *Washington*, until the further order of the Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

A copy of the said Instructions, signed by the President, were delivered to the said *Thomas Cregier*, and he was directed to show them to General *Washington*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Alderman Brasher*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *John Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Prince*, and Mr. *Rutgers*, be requested to attend this Congress precisely at nine o'clock, to-morrow morning, and that the Doorkeeper fail not to give notice to those gentlemen of this order without delay.

And Ordered, That every Member now present, who has not leave of absence, do attend at the same time with punctuality.

Die Sabbati, A. M., May 11, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Brasher*, Colonel *McDougall*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Prince*, Col. *Stoutenburgh*, Mr. *Scott*, Col. *Lott*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Oothoudt*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Glenn*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *De Witt*, Colonel *Palmer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wisner*.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel *Van Brunt*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Lewis Graham*, Mr. *Paulding*, Colonel *Joseph Drake*.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Haring*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Evert Bancker*.

*Thomas Wooley*, of *Cow-Neck*, Feltnaker, was brought, under a guard, before the Congress, pursuant to the order of the Committee of Safety, of the 8th instant. The examination of *Thomas Mitchell* was read to him. He denies the charges therein charged against him, and says he is Clerk to Colonel *Blackwell's* Regiment.

Captain *Sands* says the charges are true, and first produced a certificate from *Timothy Smith*, Esq.

*Isaac Smith*, of *Hempstead*, in *Queen's County*, Esquire, being examined, says, that he was talking with Captain *Sands* at *Richard Smith's*; that *Thomas Wooley* came up to them in his brother's house, and told Captain *Sands* that he had



taken his goods from him; that he had taken a hat from him, which he usually sold at fifty shillings, and sold it for thirty shillings, and that he demanded satisfaction; that he turned to Mr. Smith, and told him he demanded a summons for him; that he understood it was for taking away his goods, to wit: the said hat; that he (the examinant) declined having anything to do with the affair, and left him. Being asked by Wooley whether he said he had no other demand against him, Mr. Smith says he does not remember that he said he had no other demand.

Captain Sands gave a relation of the transactions at Her-  
rick's. Thomas Wooley also related the affair in his own light; says he did apply for a summons; that Captain Sands had formerly had dealings with him; that he thought Captain Sands had acted illegally, and he intended to support his suit as well as he could.

Mr. Sands related the charge of the challenge on the last field-day. Thomas Wooley says that he was summoned; the first day he appeared without arms; the second day he appeared and told Captain Sands he thought he had no right to call on him under arms; that the last day he determined not to insult him in the execution of his office; that Mr. Sands affronted by calling him a fellow; that in the interval, he called on him for satisfaction; that Mr. Sands told him he should have it; that he thought Mr. Sands's answer entitled him to propose a sword, and small thing that would speak; that he had not arms of his own when Colonel Heard was in Queen's County, which he told Colonel Heard; that he told Colonel Heard he had voted against Deputies; that he told him he had one which was left as a pawn for a debt, and which he has since sold to Mr. Allen; that he is willing to bear arms if it is the opinion of this Congress.

Thomas Mitchell was called, and his deposition again read. Thomas Wooley says that he can prove by some of the guard that he did not threaten to prosecute the whole guard; that the Jailer said he was not a Jailer for the Congress; that he prevailed on the Jailer to keep him in his house till next day; that the Jailer went to the Sheriff next day and returned, said the Sheriff did not think proper to detain him.

Aspinwall Cornell says that he has seen the Deputy Sheriff since, who told him that Thomas Wooley would not stay with him; that he did not detain him, because he thought the Captain's warrant not sufficient.

The demand of the prisoner from the Jailer, by Captain Sands, was read; the Jailer's answer thereon was read.\*

Being cross-examined by the defendant, he says that the defendant did not attempt to escape; used the guard well; but declared his opinion that Captain Sands had not power to commit him.

The parties and witnesses were ordered to withdraw into the City-Hall. The Congress took the premises into consideration, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Haring moved, and was seconded by Colonel Stoutenburgh, "That Thomas Wooley be immediately committed to the Jail of Queen's County."

Debates arose, and the question being put thereon, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following to wit:

For the Affirmative.	For the Negative.
2 Orange,	3 Albany,
2 Ulster,	2 Richmond,
2 Westchester,	2 King's.
4 New-York.	—
10 votes.	7 votes.

Therefore Resolved, That Thomas Wooley be immediately committed to the Jail in Queen's County.

Thereupon a Warrant or Mittimus was made out and delivered to Captain John Sands, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas it appears to this Congress, upon sufficient proof

\*To Mr. HOPE MILLS, Jailer of QUEEN'S County—

SIR: You are hereby desired to deliver into the hands of my Lieutenant Cornell and Sergeant Hutchings, the body of Thomas Wooley, delivered in your custody agreeable to my warrant to you directed Saturday night last.

Given under my hand, this the 6th of May, 1776, in the District of Cow-Neck, Great-Neck, &c. JOHN SANDS, Captain.

Mr. Hope Mills examined and saith: The reason why he did not confine Thomas Wooley was, that he doubted the Captain's authority to give him such order, and that the Sheriff disapproved of it.

In the presence of me,

JACOB WRIGHT.

JAMAICA, May 8, 1776.

and after hearing of and defence made by Thomas Wooley, of Cow-Neck, in Queen's County, Feltmaker, that the said Thomas Wooley has three times contumaciously refused to appear in arms in the Militia Company of the District in which he resides, commanded by Captain John Sands, and has challenged his said Captain to a duel for having done his duty in his office towards the said Thomas Wooley, and therefore appears to this Congress as a person whose going at large is dangerous to the liberties of America:

It is hereby Ordered, That the said Captain Sands do convey the said Thomas Wooley to the common Jail of Queen's County, and the Keeper of the said Jail is hereby ordered and required to receive the said Thomas Wooley into his custody, and him safely keep in the common Jail aforesaid, at his own expense, until further order of this or some future Provincial Congress or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

Brigadier-General Gates informed the Congress that his Excellency General Washington has ordered all the Troops, except the Artillery Corps, immediately to encamp; that the General wishes some respectable citizens were appointed to take care of the houses, from which Troops are removing, to have them shut up; that his Excellency conceives that it may be necessary to have the houses cleaned, to prevent any infection or disorder to arise thereof in the City; and that General Washington is willing to give any aid in his power for that purpose.

Ordered, That General Washington's message be referred to the General Committee of the City of New-York, as within their proper department.

Mr. Prince produced to the Congress two Receipts, both dated April 1, 1776, and signed by Wessel F. Wessels, for and on behalf of Peter T. Curtenius, Commissary, acknowledging to have received from Mr. Prince twenty-eight Sash Lead-weights, weighing four hundred three quarters and twenty-three pounds, taken out of the Exchange; as also seventy-nine Sash Lead-weights, weighing fourteen hundred one quarter and twenty-seven pounds, all gross weight, taken out of the Old City Hall, by order of the Committee of Safety, made and delivered to him on the 25th day of March last past.

Die Sabbati; — ho. P. M., May 11, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Mr. Scott, Mr. Prince, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Beckman, Mr. Stoutenburgh, Colonel McDougall.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Oothoudt, Mr. Cuyler, Mr. Glenn.

FOR ORANGE.—Colonel Allison, Mr. Haring.

FOR SUFFOLK.—Mr. Woodhull, Mr. Wickham.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Colonel Joseph Drake, Mr. Paulding, Colonel Lewis Graham.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner, Mr. De Witt, Colonel Palmer.

FOR KING'S.—Colonel Van Brunt.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. Adrian Bancker.

Die Lunæ, 9 ho. A. M., May 13, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General Woodhull, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Colonel McDougall, Captain Denning, Mr. Beckman, Mr. Evert Bancker, Mr. Prince, Colonel Stoutenburgh, Colonel Brasher, Mr. Brasher.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. Cuyler, Mr. Glenn, Mr. Oothoudt.

FOR ULSTER.—Colonel Palmer, Dr. De Witt, Mr. Wisner.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. Leffertse.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General Woodhull, Mr. Wickham.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. Haring, Colonel Allison.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Paulding, Colonel Lewis Graham, Colonel Joseph Drake.

A Letter from Dr. Perkins,\* bearing date this day, was

\* NEW-YORK, May 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Permit me to say I am informed there is no Surgeon appointed in Colonel Ritzema's Regiment, and am directed by said Colonel to apply to this honourable House; being confident that merit and ability is the only motive in your choice, am emboldened to offer myself as a candidate for that service, and cheerfully submit to the examination of such gentlemen of the faculty as your Honours appoint, and have not the least doubt but you will do me the utmost justice accordingly. I have not the happiness to be acquainted with but few

read and filed. He thereby requests to be appointed Surgeon to Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment.

A Letter from General *Washington*, bearing date this 13th day of *May*, was read and filed; and therein encloses a Resolve of Congress, ascertaining the price of Tea, and a Letter from Mr. *Isaac Sears*, alleging that he has hitherto observed the said Resolution of Congress in the sale of his Teas, but that he has been informed that there is a probability that some persons in *New-York* may violate the said Resolution, and therefore signifies that he will withhold the further sale of his Teas.

Ordered, That the said papers be filed.

"New-York, May 13, 1776.

"SIR: As applications are frequently made by officers of Militia, that came for the defence of this city, for their pay, I enclose you a resolve of Congress on that subject, which passed the 26th of *April*. You have also, herewith, a letter I received from Mr. *Sears*, of *New-Haven*, the subject of which is of consequence, but very foreign to my department. I doubt not but your honourable Convention will take the matter under consideration, and put a stop to the evil Mr. *Sears* is apprehensive of.

"I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON.

"To the President of the *New-York* Convention or Congress."

"In Congress, April 26, 1776.

"Resolved, That the respective Governments from whence Militias have come, for the defence of the City of *New-York*, be desired speedily to transmit to Congress authenticated Muster-Rolls, and accounts of moneys due to such respective Militias, in order to their being immediately settled and discharged."

Colonel *McDougall* informed the Congress that the time allowed to Colonel *Ritzema*, to receive Arms from the Colony Storekeeper, is expired, and that therefore he requests an order for Arms in his turn.

Thereupon Ordered, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary of Colony Stores, deliver to Colonel *McDougall*, or to such Captains in his Regiment as shall have Colonel *McDougall's* orders, all the Muskets and Fire-locks fit for use, which now are or may come into the Colony Store, in the course of fifteen days from the date hereof; and that the said Commissary take a receipt of Colonel *McDougall*, or of the Captains to whom such Arms shall be delivered, to the end that the same may be accounted for and paid for to the Colony.

Resolved, That *Alexander Moncrief*, the Jailer of the Provincial Congress, be allowed for his pay at and after the rate of four Pounds per month, from the 14th day of *March* last, the day he was employed as such, while he continues in that service.

And Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to Mr. *Alexander Moncrief* the sum of eight Pounds, for his wages from the 14th day of *March* last to the 14th instant, included.

A Warrant was issued to *Leonard Bleecker*, gentleman, to be First Lieutenant of Captain *John Johnson's* Company, in Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, given on condition therein expressed, that if the said *Leonard Bleecker* does actually enlist and be ready to join the Regiment with twenty-five men in three weeks from this day, the date thereof, that he will be entitled to a First Lieutenant's commission.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, pay to *Thomas Pettit*, the Doorkeeper, the sum of eight Pounds one Shilling, in full for his account for pay and disbursements to the 14th instant, included.

The Congress took into consideration the service of Mr. *Anthony Griffiths*, at the Laboratory of Colony Ammunition and Stores, and his accounts of disbursements, amounting to nine Pounds seven Shillings and three Pence.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, pay to Mr. *An-*

members of your House, except Colonel *Palmer*, who can satisfy your honourable body in respect to my character.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ABIAH PERKINS.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress, now sitting in *New-York*.

*thony Griffiths* the sum of fifty-nine Pounds seven Shillings and three Pence, for his accounts of disbursements, and in full for his services to the 14th day of *March* last, and take Mr. *Griffiths's* receipt for the same.

In Provincial Congress, May 11, 1776.

Whereas the Provincial Congress of this Colony did, on the 22d day of *August* last past, pass several resolves for regulating and putting the Militia of this Province in a state of defence against the arbitrary usurpations of the *British* Parliament: And whereas this Congress did, on the . . . day . . . last, pass sundry resolves, as an appendix to the former; yet, through the inimical and unfriendly disposition of many persons in this Province, this Congress have found it absolutely necessary, not only for the safety of the said Province, but of the United Colonies in general, to take away the arms and accoutrements of the most dangerous among them; and as common justice requires that, in defending our rights and liberties, every individual should bear a proportional part of the burden and expense:

Resolved therefore, That every male inhabitant within this Colony above sixteen and under fifty years of age, who have been or may hereafter be disarmed on account of their inimical principles, and are thereby disabled from complying with the aforesaid resolves, do pay unto the Captain or Commanding Officer of the day, of the District or Beat wherein he shall dwell or reside, the sum of five Shillings for every day the said Company shall be mustered or called on duty, and not under pay; and on such disarmed person or persons as aforesaid neglecting or refusing to pay the aforesaid sum of five Shillings, within ten days after such muster or duty, the said Captain or other Commanding Officer of the day is hereby empowered and required to issue his warrant for the recovery thereof, in the same manner as directed by the before recited resolves, and the moneys so arising to be applied by the Captain towards arming such persons within said District or Beat as have associated in defence of their country, and are not able to purchase arms for that purpose; and render an account to the Field-Officers of the Regiment to which he belongs, of all the moneys by him received, and to what use applied; and, also, deliver the said arms and accoutrements so purchased to the said Field-Officers, or one of them, when thereunto required, in order to be secured or deposited for the use of the said Regiment.

Colonel *Allison*, from the Committee appointed to consider of, and report what is necessary to be determined as to that part of the Militia who have been disarmed, delivered in the Report of the said Committee, which was read.

And Ordered, That the Secretaries deliver the said Report to the next Congress of this Colony for their consideration.

Die Lunæ, 3 ho. P. M., May 13, 1776.

The Congress met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier General *Woodhull*, President.

FOR NEW-YORK.—Col. *McDougall*, Mr. *Evert Bancker*, Mr. *Prince*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Stoutenburgh*, Colonel *Brasher*.

FOR ALBANY.—Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Glenn*, Mr. *Oothoudt*.

FOR ULSTER.—Mr. *De Witt*, Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Palmer*.

FOR SUFFOLK.—General *Woodhull*, Mr. *Wickham*.

FOR ORANGE.—Mr. *Allison*, Mr. *Haring*.

FOR RICHMOND.—Mr. *Adrian Bancker*.

FOR WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Paulding*, Col. *Joseph Drake*, Colonel *L. Graham*.

FOR KING'S.—Mr. *Leffertse*.

The Jail-keeper of this Congress attending, was admitted. Informed that several of his prisoners were very unruly, and requested a small guard, at least four Sentinels of the Company employed to guard the Records, to be placed this night at the Jail, which is under the care of *Alexander Moncrief*, to wit: two in the entry, between the Jail doors, and two at the windows, on the outside of those Jail rooms; that such guard as above-mentioned be continued at the Jail until further order.

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Congress of this Colony, pay to *Robert Benson*, Esquire, the sum of one hundred and eighty-one Pounds, in full for his service as one of the Secretaries of this Congress, to this day included.

*John McKesson* produced to this Congress the following account of disbursements for their use, (exclusive of an account of postage, which, he says, he has not here in the Chamber,) viz:

Paid for a strong Chest to keep the Records, bought of <i>Ingliss &amp; Higgins</i> , - - -	£2 12 0
Four reams of Paper, at 24s. each, - - -	4 16 0
Seven sticks of Sealing-Wax, bought of <i>John J. Roosevelt</i> , - - - - -	0 7 0
Paid <i>Samuel Loudon</i> , for Wafers, - - - -	0 2 3
Paid for seven quires of large folio-post Paper, bought of <i>John J. Roosevelt</i> , at 2s. 6d. -	0 19 6
Parchment for <i>Albany, Ulster, Dutchess</i> , and <i>Suffolk</i> , Brigadier-Generals' Commissions, -	0 8 0

Exclusive of Postage, - - - - - £9 4 9

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., as Treasurer of this Congress, pay to *John McKesson* the sum of one hundred and eighty-one Pounds, for his services as one of the Secretaries of this Congress, to this day included; and the further sum of nine Pounds four Shillings and nine Pence for his disbursements (exclusive of Postage) for the use of this Congress, which two sums amount in the whole to the sum of one hundred and ninety Pounds four Shillings and nine Pence, exclusive of what is due to him for Postage.

*Mr. Scott*, from the Committee appointed to take into consideration General *Washington's* Letter on the subject of having the Militia in readiness, delivered in the Report of the said Committee, which he read in his place, and delivered in at the Chair, where the same was again read, and is as follows:

Your Committee do report, that they have deliberately considered the condition of the Militia of this Colony as distinguished into Minute-men and common Militia, a distinction which they are of opinion was ill-timed and unfortunate, by not being well adapted to the state of things in this Colony; and, as they propose to offer some reasons for a change of the plan of defence by the natural strength of the Colony, they beg leave to begin by assigning these reasons.

The Continental Congress, on the 18th of *July* last, among other things, resolved, that one-fourth part of the Militia in every Colony be selected for Minute-men, of such persons as are willing to enter into this necessary service, of defending their rights against Ministerial tyranny, formed into companies and battalions, and their officers, under the degree of Field-Officers, chosen by the men, and Commissioned, as well as the Field-Officers, by the respective Assemblies or Conventions; to be ready on the shortest notice to march to any place where their assistance might be required for the defence of their own or a neighbouring Colony; and that as these Minute-men might eventually be called to action before the whole body could be sufficiently trained, it was therefore recommended that a more particular and diligent attention should be paid to their instruction in military discipline; and that such of the Minute-men as desire it should be relieved by new drafts from the whole body of the Militia, once in four months; and that where in any Colony a Militia was already formed, under regulations approved by the Convention of such Colony, or by such Assemblies as are annually elected, the said Congress referred it to the discretion of such Convention or Assembly either to adopt the foregoing regulations, in the whole or in part, or to continue their former, as they, on consideration of all circumstances, should think best. Upon this plan the Minute-men of this Colony was formed, and your Committee report the following inconveniences attending the execution of that plan, to wit:

1st. All the Officers, as well those of the common Militia as of the Minute-men, under the degree of Field-Officers, are made eligible by the privates of each company; and therefore, as the above-mentioned regulation for Minute-men gives a choice of Minute officers by one-fourth of the Militia, and a succession of privates is provided for by drafts, it follows that, in the succession, three-fourths of the Militia will be subject to officers not of their own election, contrary to the evident design of Congress.

2dly. That, in the regulation above-mentioned by the Continental Congress, for the appointment of officers, those under

the degree of Field are placed in the election of the people, they conceive it to be their undoubted right so to elect; and, as the succession by draft will exclude three-fourths of the Militia from such election, there is no possibility of supplying a succession of privates upon the principle whereon the Minute-men are established. From whence it follows,

3dly. That, throughout the different Minute Regiments in the Colony, while the different corps of officers are complete, the Regiments, as to privates, are and must of necessity continue very deficient, unless some new regulation be made; therefore we report it as the opinion of your Committee—

1st. That the distinction between Minute-men and common Militia, which seems to be a consequence of the aforesaid resolve of the Continental Congress, be henceforth abolished, that thereby the Militia of the Colony may be again reduced to one common mass.

2dly. That therefore all the commissions for Minute officers be forthwith recalled, and that every private be placed under his proper Militia officer, leaving each Regiment to be officered according to the mode prescribed; that is to say, those under the degree of Field-Officers, by election of the privates, and those above that degree, by the appointment of the Provincial Congress.

3dly. As upon this plan many officers may be reduced to the station of privates, and it would be very degrading to compel those whose appointment as officers of Minute-men must be a clear proof of their distinguished attachment to the publick cause, to appear in the ranks, your Committee report it as their opinion, that such gentlemen as have been appointed Minute officers, and will be reduced in consequence of the reform now proposed, be not enrolled among the Militia, nor be compelled to do military duties required by the Militia regulations, but that they be requested by this Congress to keep themselves well equipped, as the Militia regulations require; your Committee not doubting that the laudable spirit which entitled them to a preference as officers will induce them, upon any publick emergency, to turn out in defence of their country in the character of volunteers.

4thly. As your Committee consider the City and County of *New-York*, *Richmond* County, and *King's* County, as most liable to a sudden invasion, and as the more immediate object of his Excellency General *Washington's* request to provide him with a Militia aid, in case of an invasion, seems to have a more immediate reference to those Counties, your Committee therefore report it as their opinion, that the whole of the Militia of the said three Counties, forming together the *New-York* Brigade, be required to hold themselves completely provided, according to the Militia regulations, to be at the command of his said Excellency, or the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental forces on the spot for the time being, at a minute's warning, upon a proper order to be issued by the Commanding Officer of the Militia for that purpose.

5thly. That it is the opinion of your Committee that one-third part of all the rest of the Militia, without abating any part of the duty prescribed to the Militia in general, be selected and prepared to turn out at the command of the Militia Commanding Officer, in case of an alarm or invasion, under the following regulations, to-wit:

That, to the end that such selected Militia may at all times be ready for immediate service, your Committee do advise that they be selected in manner following, that is to say: That a Major-General be appointed to command the Militia of the whole Colony; that the office of Brigadier-General, in every brigade, be filled up, according to the former military arrangement, by Provincial Congress; that the Major-General, when appointed, do forthwith issue his orders to the several Brigadiers-General, who, in consequence thereof, are to issue their orders, respectively, to the respective Colonels or other Commanding Officers of the several Battalions or Regiments under their command, requiring them to cause to be selected by ballot one-third part of the Militia of each Battalion, or Regiment, to be ready to march at a minute's warning, accoutred as the Militia regulations require, and with five days' provisions; which men, so selected, shall be ready to march at a minute's warning, and shall keep themselves in such readiness for one whole year; at the expiration of which, another third of each whole battalion shall be balloted for the like service for one year, excluding those from the ballot who shall have already served; and that for the

third year's service, the remaining third part of each battalion shall be ready to perform the service, in manner before directed. And that, in order properly to officer such detachments of the Militia for active and immediate service, the men balloted for the first and second year's service shall have the election of the officers, according to their respective ranks, the number and rank of each of which said officers shall be according to their standing in the Militia. No officer to be employed in this service for more than one year, nor more than two officers at a time out of one company; and the remaining officers in the third year, to be officers of course, according to their standing in the Militia. And we recommend it as a necessary provision to permit any selected person, except officers for the service aforesaid, to procure a person to serve in his stead, provided he be approved of by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment; that the same proportion of officers shall be allotted for the command of such selected men as are allotted by the Militia regulations; that the Field-Officers to command such selected men shall be chosen by ballot, by the officers chosen to command the selected Militia; and that no more than one Field-Officer shall be elected out of each Battalion or Regiment for the aforesaid Minute or select service; the Militia thus elected, to be under command of their respective Brigadier and the Major-General, as the rest of the Militia.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN MORIN SCOTT, *Chairman.*

*Ordered*, That the said Report be referred to the next Congress of this Colony, which is appointed to meet in this City to-morrow, and that the Secretary keeping the papers deliver the said Report to that Congress for their consideration.

#### BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COUNTY COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Committee, *March 6, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Jeremiah T. Chase, George Risteau, James Calhoun, William Aisquith, John Cockey, John Sterrett, John Moale, John Smith, Isaac Grist, John Boyd.

The Committee of Observation took into consideration the following Letter from the Council of Safety:

"Annapolis, March 5, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF OBSERVATION: We have just received intelligence that a large ship, supposed to be the forty-four gun man-of-war, and two sloops, are on their way up the Bay. Their destination is not known; but as they may intend for your town, we send off this express, that you may be on your guard, and make all the preparations in your power for your defence.

"We are, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

"DANIEL OF ST. THOMAS JENIFER,  
"CHARLES CARROLL,  
"T. B. HANDS,  
"JAMES TILGHMAN."

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That a Boat be sent down immediately to reconnoitre, and bring intelligence respecting the Man-of-War, &c., as soon as possible, and that Captain *Nicholson* be requested to order his Tender on that service. Which he complied with.

*Resolved*, That an Express by water, and another by land, be sent immediately to *Elk*, to hasten down the Powder and the Small Arms belonging to this Province, and that it be directed to Mr. *Henry Hollingsworth*, with a request to him to forward them either by land or water, as he shall judge expedient. And *William Stenson* was accordingly despatched by land, and *Joseph White* and *Joseph Gotro*, on board Captain *Hollingsworth*, by water.

*Resolved*, That General *Andrew Buchanan* be requested to provide Expresses, to be kept in readiness to be despatched upon any emergency, within the circle of his jurisdiction; and that if the Council of Safety do not pay the expense, that this Committee will do it.

*Resolved*, That Captain *George Woolsey* and Mr. *Hugh Young* collect all the Gun-Flints in Town, and render an account of the same to this Committee, and that they be lodged with Captain *Woolsey*.

*Resolved*, That it is necessary to have the publick Re-

Colonel *Malcom* applied to this Congress for payment for the Battalion commanded by him while employed at the Works and Fortifications in and about this City of *New-York*; and he produced General *Putnam's* order of the 12th day of *April* last, directing the Battalion to continue in service, and carry on the said Works, and full proof of their having sedulously continued in the publick service.

*Ordered*, That the sum of nine hundred Pounds in gross, be advanced and paid, on the credit of the Continental Congress, by *Peter Van Brugh Livingston, Esq.*, Treasurer of this Colony, to Colonel *Malcom*, commanding officer of the Battalion of Minute-men of the City and County of *New-York*, employed by Major-General *Putnam*, by order under his hand of the 12th day of *April* last.

IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, NEW-YORK, May 13, 1776.—It is hereby certified that the Sloop *Francis, Christopher Clarke*, master, bound from *North-Carolina* to this Port, was seized by Captain *Parker*, commander of a *British* ship-of-war named the *Phoenix*, some time in *December* last, of which Mr. *William Lowther* informed this Congress soon after he got on shore, within sight of the City. That the said sloop was, in *March* last, by order of Captain *Parker*, sent away to the eastward; that advices were received that the Sloop was cast away on the *Vineyard*, in her way to *Boston*, and perished; that Mr. *William Lowther* went in pursuit of her some time after she sailed, and is since returned; that he has brought here and landed out that part of the cargo which was saved, fifty barrels of tar and turpentine, forty-six barrels of tobacco, and about two thousand staves; and that Mr. *Lowther* has further informed us that the further quantity of one hundred and twenty barrels of tar and turpentine, and between five hundred and one thousand staves (part of the said cargo) have been preserved, besides those that have been brought back here.

[Endorsed May 13, 1776: In Provincial Congress.—Certificates—Nothing on the Minutes to which this refers.]

cords of this County immediately packed up in chests, in order for their removal to a place of safety.

*Resolved*, That no Vessels depart this Port without the further orders of this Committee, and that Captain *Nicholson* be requested to see this order carried into execution.

Captain *John Sterrett* and Captain *Henry Shaaf* returned their Enrollments.

Attested: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary.*

At a meeting of the Committee, *Thursday, March 7, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, John Moale, John Smith, John Cockey, John Boyd, Jeremiah T. Chase, William Lux, Secretary *pro tempore*.

*Resolved*, That a Breastwork be immediately thrown up at the Point, below *Jesse Hollingsworth's*, and that the Money in Mr. *Moale's* hands be appropriated to defray the expense attending it.

The Committee are unanimously of opinion, and do direct, that all the light Vessels in the Harbour be immediately carried down to *Whetstone*, in order to be sunk in the Channel to prevent the Vessels-of-War from coming up; and Messrs. *Isaac Grist*, Captain *William Chase*, Captain *Thomas Moore*, *George Woolsey*, and *David Stewart*, together with Major *Gist*, are appointed for that purpose.

*Resolved*, That an Express be instantly sent to *Philadelphia*, to the Congress, for an immediate supply of Powder and Lead.

Several Expresses arrived with information of the Man-of-War and her Tenders being past *Annapolis*, and standing up the Bay, and, also, that she is at the mouth of the River.

At a meeting of the Committee, *Thursday, March 8, 1766*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Deputy-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, John Moale, John Boyd, John Smith, Jeremiah T. Chase, A. Britton, William Aisquith.

The Committee agreed with *Andrew Stigar* and *Engleheart Yeiser* to furnish Rations for the Militia, consisting of nine pounds Bread, and eight pounds Beef or six pounds Pork, per week, with Salt, and the meat to be boiled, at one Shilling per Ration.

Captain *Henry Shaaf* is appointed to have the Cannon at the Hill removed to *Fell's Point* immediately.

Ordered, That Mr. *David McLure* deliver to Captain *William Galbraith* twenty pounds of Gunpowder, and Mr. *H. Courtenay* forty pounds Lead.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Spear* deliver Sergeant *William Cornwall*, of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company, two quarter-barrels of Gunpowder, for the use of the Troops.

Ordered, That Mr. *James Calhoun*, or Mr. *David McLure*, deliver to Mr. *J. Hall* half a pound of Powder and two pounds of Lead.

A Certificate was granted to *William Lawrence*, master of the Sloop *Otwell*, that he had landed three hundred and twenty bushels of Corn, and six barrels of Pork, shipped by the Honourable *Robert Carter*, in *Westmoreland* County, *Virginia*.

The Independent Company having received orders from the Committee to disarm such persons as have refused to enroll as Militia, returned the following Arms, which were valued as follows:

No. 1, a Fusee, the property of *Melchior Keener*, valued at one Pound ten Shillings, delivered to *John Hughes*; No. 2, a Fusee, the property of *Thomas Brereton*, valued at two Pounds five Shillings, delivered to *John Caldwell*; No. 3, a Fusee, the property of *William Smith*, (Ropemaker,) valued at one Pound ten Shillings; No. 4, a Fusee, valued at one Pound; No. 5, a Fusee, valued at one Pound; No. 6, a Fusee, valued at fifteen Shillings; No. 7, a Fusee, valued at fifteen Shillings; No. 8, a Fowling-Piece, the property of *Alexander Lawson*, valued at three Pounds ten Shillings, delivered to *J. Sterrett*; No. 9, a Musket, the property of *John Clausey*, valued at one Pound ten Shillings, delivered to *G. Vaughan*; No. 3, a brass Blunderbuss, the property of Doctor *John Stevenson*, valued at three Pounds, and No. 1, a brass Blunderbuss, the property of *John Ashburner*, valued at two Pounds ten Shillings, delivered on board the *Defence*.

Resolved, That the Schooner *Resolution* be fitted out as a Tender for the Ship *Defence*, on the present emergency; and that Captain *William Wand* be Captain, Captain *Thomas Moore* First Lieutenant, Captain *George Wise* Second Lieutenant, and Captain *William Paddison* Master.

Messrs. *Robert Purviance*, *George Woolsey*, and *David Stewart*, be directed to carry this Resolve into immediate execution.

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

At a meeting of the Committee, *March 9, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Jeremiah T. Chase, Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, J. Merryman, William Aisquith, James Calhoun, J. Cradock, A. Britton, John Boyd.

Messrs. *Andrew Stigar* and *Engleheart Yieser* appeared, and declared that they would relinquish their contract of yesterday, not being able to get the Provisions cooked; whereupon Messrs. *J. Merryman* and *James Calhoun* were appointed to contract with people to cook; who report that they had agreed with the two Mrs. *Rosses*.

The said gentlemen are appointed to superintend the Provision service.

Captain *Thomas Hammond*, of the *Anne Arundel* County Militia, applied for Provisions for a Company of one hundred men, stationed on the south side of the River *Patapsco*.

Accordingly he was furnished with a tierce of Beef and a side of fresh Beef.

The following Letter was sent to Captain *Nicholson*:

Baltimore, March 9, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of *Baltimore* to inform you that, should the tenders escape you before you get down to Mr. *Hudson's* ship, and join the *Otter*, it is their opinion it would be improper for you to attack them all together; and that, if you think there is a probability of their coming to attack you, it would be most advisable for you to return to *Whetstone Point* or *Fell's Point*, to be ready to protect the town, and remain there until you are properly enabled to attack the whole united force. All the vessels at *Whetstone* are getting ballasted, and will be ready for sinking when you see a necessity for doing it.

Per order of the Committee.

SAMUEL PURVIANCE, Chairman.

The Committee having received information by *Paul Miller*, that the *Otter* Sloop is aground on the *Bodkin Shoals*, and that Captain *Nicholson* desired a reinforcement of men, Major *Gist* is directed to despatch empty Vessels to lighten his Ship, to be under the direction of Captain *Nicholson*.

A Letter from Captain *Nicholson* was just received, informing them of retaking Mr. *Hudson's* Ship, and desiring Vessels to be sent to lighten her, but that being already done, which he could not know when he wrote, the Committee thought it needless to send more.

Nine o'clock, P. M.

An Express just arrived from *North-Point* with information that the *Otter* and her Tenders and Prizes had left the mouth of the River, and stood down the Bay; on which *William Adams* was instantly despatched with an Express to the Council of Safety, giving them the information.

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

The Committee met, *Sunday* morning, six o'clock.

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Gist Vaughan, Thomas Harrison, C. Ridgely, (of William,) J. Cradock, John Moale, John Smith, Thomas Sollers, J. Gittings, William Aisquith, Jeremiah T. Chase.

An Express arrived from the Council of Safety, informing the Committee that the *Otter* and her Prizes and Tenders appeared off *Annapolis* about half-past three o'clock, and, at half-past four, sent a Boat with a Flag to the Governor, demanding fresh Provisions.

Captain *James Bosley* was ordered by the Committee to seize all the Arms in *Gunpowder*, Upper Hundred.

Nine o'clock.

Captain *James Nicholson*, Commander of the Ship *Defence*, appeared before the Committee, and reported that his Ship had returned to *Fell's Point*, having retaken several Prizes, which were come up with him.

Mr. *Isaac Hudson*, who was taken on board the *Molly*, Captain *Lawrence*, appeared before the Committee, and gave in his deposition of being taken by the Tenders of the *Otter*, on *Wednesday*, the 6th, and retaken by the *Defence* on the 9th.

*William Wardin* appeared before the Committee to give an account, on oath, of his capture by the *Otter*; which deposition is filed.

Captain *Samuel Owings* and Captain *William Galbraith* returned their Enrollment.

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

At a meeting of the Committee, *March 11, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Z. McCubbin, C. Ridgely, (of William,) John Cradock, John Merryman, Jeremiah T. Chase, John E. Howard, James Gittings, Thomas Sollers, Gist Vaughan, William Aisquith, Abraham Britton, J. Sterrett, Thomas Gist, John Boyd, Darby Lux.

With the concurrence of *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *Thomas Smythe*, and *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esquires, three of the Council of Safety of this Province, the Committee have agreed to pay Mr. *Cummins* ten Pence for each Ration to be supplied by him for the Militia now assembled, or that may occasionally be assembled, at *Baltimore* Town. The Rations for each man a week are to each to consist of the following articles, viz: Eight pounds of Beef, or, in lieu thereof, seven pounds of Pork, ten pounds and one-half of Bread or Flour, seven gills of Rum, seven pints of Small Beer, one gill of Salt, one and a half pounds of Candles to each Company, in lieu of the Rations allowed by the late Convention.

Mr. *Cummins* agrees to supply the Rations on the above terms.

Captain *Benjamin Nicholson* is ordered to disarm those persons in the upper part of *Back-River* Hundred who, when duly applied to, shall refuse to enroll and associate.

Orders were given to Colonels *Aquila Hall* and *Benjamin Rumsey*, for fifty Pounds each, from the Chairman to Mr. *Robert Purviance*, for the use of their respective Battalions.

A Letter from the Council of Safety was just received, desiring a part of their Committee to attend their President to-morrow morning, at eight o'clock, at Mrs. *Ramsay's*, to confer on a matter of much importance.



Whereupon Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, and *John Smith*, were appointed.

Messrs. *John McLure* and *John Eager Howard* are appointed by this Committee to procure Wagons to carry eight chests of Arms, just now arrived from *Philadelphia*, to *Annapolis*.

Mr. *James Calhoun* is appointed to purchase one hundred and twenty-five iron Pots, one hundred and twenty-five wooden Bowls, twelve Fryingpans, and Gridirons and Skillets, for the use of the Militia.

Attested: *GEORGE LUX, Secretary.*

At a meeting of the Committee, *Tuesday, March 12, 1776*:

Present: *William Lux*, Chairman *pro tempore*, *Andrew Buchanan*, *William Buchanan*, *Z. McCubbin*, *Jeremiah T. Chase*, *Thomas Harrison*, *John E. Howard*, *James Calhoun*, *William Aisquith*, *John Boyd*.

As the Committee judge it expedient to make every preparation to repel any hostile attempts of the enemy, in case of their return here,

*Resolved*, That a Letter be immediately written to our Delegates in Congress, to request orders to be lodged with the *Pennsylvania* Troops of *Cumberland* and *York* Counties, to march down, on requisition of this Committee.

And the following Letter was accordingly despatched by Post:

GENTLEMEN: As we may possibly want the assistance of some of the Continental Troops stationed in *Cumberland* and *York* Counties, in *Pennsylvania*, we request you to obtain an order from Congress for those troops to march to the assistance of the troops here, upon the requisition of this Committee; Riflemen will do us more service than any others. We have a great number of men here, but very few are armed. Pray do not neglect this, as the fate of *Baltimore* Town may depend upon it. From every intelligence received, the enemy will soon return with a reinforcement.

We are preparing to sink a number of vessels at *Whetstone Point*, to obstruct the channel.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

*WILLIAM LUX, Deputy-Chairman.*

*JEREMIAH T. CHASE,*

*JAMES CALHOUN,*

*WILLIAM BUCHANAN,*

*ANDREW BUCHANAN,*

*THOMAS HARRISON,*

*WILLIAM AISQUITH,*

*JOHN BOYD.*

To the Delegates of *Maryland* in Congress.

Captain *George Handy* was appointed to go to the Sea-Coast to look out for a Vessel expected in with warlike Stores, and fourteen Pounds ten Shillings advanced him.

The following Letter was just now received from Captain *Nicholson*:

"March 11, 1776.

"Captain *Nicholson* thinks it absolutely necessary to have the craft sunk immediately to stop the channel opposite to *Whetstone Point*. The best method, he thinks, of doing it, he has already informed the Committee, which will be attended with little or no expense.

"JAMES NICHOLSON."

*Resolved*, That all the Vessels at *Whetstone Point* be immediately sunk, and that Captain *James Phillips* be empowered to superintend and direct the sinking of them.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Isaac Vanbibber* and Captain *Thomas Elliott* and Mr. *William Spear*, be appointed to take a list of the Vessels, together with an account of their sizes and ages, and, also, the names of the owners of them.

Permission was granted to the following persons to pass to *Annapolis* in Vessels loaded with Provisions on the public account, viz: *George Thornton*, *Jonas Jackson*, *Beckly Barrett*, *William Booth*, *Mason Abbott*, and *David Tyler*.

Orders were given to Major *Gist* to search the Schooner —, Captain *Braddock*, and the Warehouse of Mr. *John Ashburner*, for Arms and Ammunition, immediately.

Upon motion, *Resolved unanimously*, That the thanks of the publick in general, and this Committee in particular, are due to Captain *James Nicholson*, of the Ship *Defence*,

his Officers and men, for their spirited, active, and resolute defence of *Baltimore* Town, when invaded by Piratical Robbers.

*GEORGE LUX, Secretary.*

At a meeting of the Committee on *Wednesday, March 13, 1776*:

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, *William Lux*, Vice-Chairman, *Andrew Buchanan*, *William Buchanan*, *Z. McCubbin*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, *John Merryman*, *Thomas Harrison*, *Jeremiah T. Chase*, *William Aisquith*, *James Calhoun*, *Abraham Britton*, *J. Sterrett*, *John Moale*, *John Smith*, *John Boyd*.

*Resolved*, That an order be drawn to Mr. *John Moale*, payable to Colonel *Aquila Hall*, for forty Pounds, to be applied in paying off the Militia of *Harford* County.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Committee be returned to Colonel *Dorsey*, of *Elkridge*, and Colonels *Hall* and *Rumsey*, of *Harford* County, for their assistance on the late alarm occasioned by the *Otter* Sloop-of-War.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *William Spear*, *Hercules Courtenay*, and *George Wells*, together with Captain *Isaac Vanbibber* and *David Laurence*, be appointed to value the Vessels ready to be sunk at *Whetstone Point*, and such Cables as may be used for that purpose, and return an account of the valuation of each to this Committee, in order that the same may be transmitted to the Council of Safety of this Province; and it is requested that those gentlemen will execute said business this afternoon, it being intended that the Vessels shall be sunk immediately.

*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Committee, that it will greatly conduce to the preservation of *Baltimore* Town, and to the security of the Ship *Defence*, to continue the said Ship in the Harbour at *Fell's Point*.

*Ordered*, That the Chairman acquaint the Council of Safety with the above Resolve; and, also, that Captain *James Nicholson* and Lieutenant *Bouchier* concur with them in opinion.

*GEORGE LUX, Secretary.*

At a meeting of the Committee, *March 14, 1776*:

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, *William Lux*, Deputy-Chairman, *Andrew Buchanan*, *Thomas Harrison*, *John Merryman*, *James Calhoun*, *William Aisquith*, *J. Sterrett*, *John Moale*, *John Smith*, *John Boyd*, Secretary *pro tem*.

The following Instructions were given to *Nathaniel Smith* and *John Fulford*, Esquires, Captains of the two Companies of Artillery in this Province:

*Baltimore, March 14, 1776.*

GENTLEMEN: You are advised to collect together, at *Fell's Point*, all the cannon that are either in town, or about the Point, that they may be all mounted and prepared for use, and to have guards constantly placed over them to prevent their being spiked or injured. Let a regular account be taken of what carriages are already made, and now making, for the guns; make out a state of what other materials for the cannon (viz: rammers, sponges, ladles, match-rope, cartridges, &c.) are made or making, and a general list of all such as may be wanted, in order that they may be preparing; engage a store or stores in the most convenient place at *Fell's Point*, for collecting together the stores, &c., belonging to the Artillery, where it may also be proper to station a guard when the materials are stored.

(Signed by the Committee-men present.)

At a meeting of the Committee, *March 15, 1776*:

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman, *Thomas Harrison*, *John Merryman*, *John Boyd*, *John Moale*, *John E. Howard*, *William Aisquith*, *James Calhoun*, *J. Sterrett*.

Mr. *Robert Brown* appeared before the Committee, and, being examined, said: That he and Mr. *Robert Chapple* were taken by the *Otter*, as he was crossing the Bay, and that Captain *Squires* said he would burn down *Baltimore* Town, and mentioned many other circumstances which are thought too immaterial to be recorded.

The following is an exact copy of a Paper delivered in to the Committee by Captain *Isaac Vanbibber*:

"The Committee for *Baltimore* County appointing us, the subscribers, to appraise and value the hulls of sundry vessels now lying at *Whetstone Point*, and intended to be sunk there in the narrows, do say that the sundry vessels, as follows, are worth the several sums annexed thereto, viz:

No. 1. One old schooner, the property of <i>John Boone</i> , worth - - - - -	£25
No. 2. One old schooner, the property of <i>Robert Burns &amp; Parker</i> , worth - - - - -	20
No. 3. One old schooner, under care of <i>Joseph Mc- Guffin</i> , worth - - - - -	200
No. 4. One old sloop, belonging to Captain <i>Seth Pad- dock</i> , - - - - -	100
No. 5. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Oliver White</i> , - - - - -	60
No. 6. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Nathaniel Smith</i> , - - - - -	40
No. 7. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Robert Chris- tie</i> , - - - - -	75
No. 8. One old schooner, belonging to <i>James Clarke</i> , - - - - -	50
No. 9. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Martin Trout</i> , - - - - -	70
No. 10. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Sylvanus Cof- fin</i> , master, - - - - -	225
No. 11. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Job Greene</i> or Captain <i>Adams</i> , - - - - -	90
No. 12. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Melchior Keener</i> , - - - - -	20
No. 13. One old schooner, belonging to <i>Hutchins &amp; Carmichael</i> , - - - - -	300
No. 14. One sloop, belonging to <i>John Cornthwaite</i> , - - - - -	60
No. 15. One sloop, belonging to <i>John Martin Baker</i> , - - - - -	40
No. 16. One schooner, belonging to <i>John Boone</i> , - - - - -	15
No. 17. One schooner, belonging to <i>Severn Major &amp; Thomas Jacobs</i> , of <i>Virginia</i> , - - - - -	35
No. 18. One schooner, belonging to <i>Henry Hermin- son</i> , of <i>Virginia</i> , - - - - -	75
No. 19. One schooner, belonging to <i>Robert Christie</i> , - - - - -	85
No. 20. One schooner, belonging to <i>William Lux</i> and <i>Robert Sanders</i> , - - - - -	40
No. 21. One brig, belonging to <i>John Pringle</i> or <i>George Woolsey</i> , - - - - -	450
	<hr/> £2,075

"Witness our hands, this 14th March, 1776:

"HERCULES COURTENAY,  
"ISAAC VANBIBBER,  
"WILLIAM SPEAR."

A true copy, attested by *GEORGE LUX, Secretary.*

The Committee met, *Saturday, March 16, 1776:*

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Thomas Harrison, William Buchanan, John Merryman, J. Sterrett, John Smith, John Boyd.

Captain *David Lawrence*, of the Sloop *Snowbird*, from *Rhode-Island*, reported his Vessel, with twenty barrels of Cider, and produced a Certificate from Governor *Cooke* to permit him to load said Vessel; which this Committee readily granted.

At a meeting of the Committee, *March 18, 1776:*

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, C. Ridgely, (of William,) John Merryman, Benjamin Nicholson, William Wilkinson, Thomas Harrison, John E. Howard, William Aisquith, George Risteau, James Calhoun, John Cradock, Thomas Sollers, J. Sterrett, John Cockey, John Smith, Darby Lux, John Boyd, Thomas Gist.

A Reply to the Address from this Committee to Captain *James Nicholson*, was delivered in, and ordered to be printed in the Papers, together with the Address.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *David Stewart* be permitted to transport twenty-five chests of Tea to the head of *Elk*, he returning a certificate of the delivery of the same to the Committee of *Cecil County*.

*James Mullen* appeared before the Committee on an account, by *James Donavan*, a servant to *Thomas Chenoweth*, on oath, of his endeavouring to persuade the said *Donavan* to run away from his master, and go on board a Man-of-War; but the evidences not being able to attend,

It is *Resolved*, That the said *James Mullen* give security for his appearance before this Committee, on *Monday* next, in the sum of two hundred Pounds, and one security in one hundred Pounds.

The aforesaid *James Mullen* accordingly gave bond as required, with *William Collins* as security.

Captain *Benjamin Nicholson* returned an account of sundry Arms seized from persons who have refused to enroll in

*Back River*, Upper Hundred, as in the rough minutes appears, and Messrs. *John Gill*, Junior, and *John Cockey Owings*, were appointed.

Mr. *David Stewart* is permitted to transport twenty-five chests of Tea to the head of *Elk*, on condition of his returning a certificate of the delivery of the same to the Committee of *Cecil County*.

Permissions were granted to *John Abbott* and *John Martin Baker*, to depart with their two Vessels, (Nos. 15 and 16,) taken up for the publick use at *Whetstone Point*, they having produced certificates that said Vessels were not wanted.

Captain *James Phillips* is directed by the Committee to superintend and oversee the completing of whatever is wanting about the Cannon now mounting at *Fell's Point*, and to employ whatever Carpenters, Blacksmiths, or other trades-people, are wanting to complete the said business, and collect the account of all such work, and deliver them in to the Committee, for which service Captain *Phillips* shall be paid by the Committee.

Captain *Job Garrison* and Lieutenant *Benjamin Bucks* are hereby directed to seize all the Fire-arms belonging to the Non-Enrollers of *Back River*, and to keep and return an exact account to the Committee of said Arms.

*GEORGE LUX, Secretary.*

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Friday, March 22, 1776:*

Present: William Lux, Chairman *pro tempore*, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, William Aisquith, John Moale, John Smith, John Boyd.

Captain *James Bosley* returned two Fire-locks seized by him, viz: One Fusee, belonging to *George Fitzhugh*, and one belonging to *Walter Dulany*, both of which were valued at three Pounds ten Shillings, each, by Messieurs *George Woolsey* and *David Stewart*, upon oath.

Mr. *Hugh Young* applied to the Committee for the Schooner *Ninety-Two*, which he had engaged to load on account of the Province; but as they are of opinion that it is necessary to keep her, to have her sunk in case of need, they think it inexpedient to deliver her up.

The Council of Safety having directed this Committee to prove the Cannon belonging to Captain *William Stone*, they appoint Captain *Nathaniel Smith*, Captain *John Fulford*, and Lieutenant *Bouchier*, to perform that service, and return an account of their number and sizes to this Committee.

At a meeting of the Committee, on *Monday, March 25, 1776:*

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Z. McCubbin, John Merryman, William Wilkinson, Thomas Harrison, John E. Howard, William Aisquith, James Gittings, James Calhoun, Gist Vaughan, Abraham Britton, Thomas Sollers, J. Sterrett, John Cockey, Thomas Rutter, John Smith, John Boyd, Darby Lux.

*Silas Howell*, late Mate, and *John Wilson* and *William Sellers*, Mariners, of the Sloop *John, William Dean*, Master, from *Cape-Anne* to *Virginia*, taken off *York River*, as appeared by Protest, and Certificate of the Council of Safety, applied for Passes to the *Massachusetts* Government, which were granted.

*James Mullin* appeared before the Committee, according to his recognisance, on the accusation against him, by *Thomas Chenoweth*, for persuading a servant to elope and go on board a Man-of-War, and several evidences were produced; but no sufficient proof being offered, to prove the fact, the said *Mullin* was accordingly dismissed.

On application, by Captain *William Cromwell*, to supply him with Ammunition for the use of his Company, the Committee took the same into their consideration, and are of opinion that the distribution of the Ammunition being in the Council of Safety, they have no power to grant his petition, but that they will apply to the Council of Safety for their orders therein.

Whereas complaint has been made by several persons residing in *Back River*, Lower Hundred, that, having enrolled themselves in the Militia thereof, a choice of Officers ensued, whereof *Job Garrison* was elected Captain, by ballot,

and they apprehended the mode adopted was different from the intention of the Convention, and had caused great uneasiness:

The Committee taking the same into consideration,

Do *Resolve*, That the inhabitants of said Hundred are sufficient in number to compose two companies of at least forty men, and that the said inhabitants do accordingly enroll themselves, and, when they have so done, that they proceed to the choice of Officers, by ballot, for two companies, and return the same to this Committee, and that the said election be held the 6th of *April*.

Captain *John Cockey* is appointed to seize the Arms of the Non-Associators and Non-Enrollers in *Back River*, Upper Hundred; and Captain *Thomas Rutter* those in *Middlesex* Hundred.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Committee, *Tuesday, March 26, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Deputy-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, John Merryman, James Calhoun, William Aisquith, John Smith, John Boyd, Thomas Harrison.

Messieurs *Hercules Courtenay*, *Daniel Lawrence*, *Isaac Vanbibber*, *William Spear*, and *George Wells*, or any three or more of them, are appointed by this Committee to value, upon oath, the Schooner *Resolution*, whereof *William Wand* is Master, and return the same to this Committee.

Mr. *James Calhoun* is directed to pay ten Shillings for two Chairs, for the use of the Committee, out of the money in his hands.

Attested: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Committee on *Monday, April 2, 1776*:

Present: William Lux, Chairman *pro tempore*, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, C. Ridgely, (of William,) John Craddock, George Risteau, James Calhoun, Thomas Sollers, Thomas Rutter, J. Sterrett, John Smith, John Boyd, Secretary *pro tempore*.

Application being made by Mr. *Hugh Young* for liberty to load his Schooner *Peggy* with the produce of the Province, the same was granted, in consequence of an order of the honourable Council of Safety.

The Committee having received directions from the Council of Safety to suspend all further proceedings relative to the Schooner *Resolution*, orders are given to Messieurs *Robert Purviance*, *David Stewart*, and *George Woolsey*, to desist from the same until further orders.

Captain *William Buchanan* returned his Enrollment, containing seventy-six, officers included, which was examined and approved of.

Captain *Charles Carnan* also returned his Enrollment, which was examined and approved of.

Mr. *Calhoun* is ordered to pay *Abraham England* fifty Shillings, being in full to this day for his services as Door-keeper and Messenger to this Committee.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

The Committee met, *April 3, 1776*:

Present: William Lux, Chairman *pro tempore*, James Calhoun, John Smith, Thomas Harrison, John Boyd, Darby Lux, John Cockey.

Captain *Job Garritson* returned the following, seized by him from Non-Associators and Non-Enrollers in . . . . . Hundred:

One Fusee, the property of *Edward Wigley*, valued at one Pound ten Shillings; one Fusee, the property of *Isaac Wigley*, valued at one Pound ten Shillings; one Fusee, the property of *Thomas Harryman*, valued at ten Shillings; one Fusee, the property of *Thomas Graves*, valued at one Pound fifteen Shillings; one Fusee, the property of *John Graves*, valued at one Pound fifteen Shillings; which were severally valued, on oath, by *David Stewart* and *George Woolsey*, at the prices affixed to each.

Captain *Frederick Deams* returned an Enrollment of a Company in *Middlesex*, containing eighty-three persons, officers included.

Mr. *Robert Holliday* produced an Account for Wagon Hire for bringing Powder from *Otter Point*, which was allowed, and an order given on the Treasurer.

Mr. *John Cockey* also produced an Account of three

Pounds two Shillings and six Pence, for the same service, which was allowed, and an order given on the Treasurer.

Captain *George Wells's* Enrollment, containing . . . . . persons, officers included, was delivered in, examined, and approved of.

The following Certificate was returned to the honourable Council of Safety:

These are to certify, that the following Returns of Companies of Militia in *Baltimore* County, have been made to this Committee, viz:

1. *William Buchanan*, Captain; *John Smith*, First Lieutenant; *Robert Alexander*, Second Lieutenant; *George Woolsey*, Ensign. Containing seventy-six men.

2. *John Sterrett*, Captain; *Bernard Eichelberger*, First Lieutenant; *Hugh Young*, Second Lieutenant; *Daniel Bowly*, Ensign. Containing eighty-two.

3. *Henry Shaafe*, Captain; *Brittenham Dickenson*, First Lieutenant; *Robert Moore*, Second Lieutenant; *Caleb Shields*, Ensign. Containing sixty-five.

4. *William Galbraith*, Captain; *James Toole*, First Lieutenant; *John Deaver*, Second Lieutenant; *Joseph Gotroux*, Ensign. Containing fifty-eight.

5. *William Richardson*, Captain; *John McCabe*, First Lieutenant; *George Servile Douglas*, Second Lieutenant; *Fergus Mellroy*, Ensign. Containing seventy-one.

6. *George Wells*, Captain; *James Morgan*, First Lieutenant; *John Hayman*, Second Lieutenant; *James Foster*, Ensign. Containing sixty-six.

The above Companies, with Captain *Zachariah McCubbin's* and Captain *James Cox's*, who have received commissions, we recommend to be formed into a Battalion.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

WILLIAM LUX, *Deputy-Chairman*.

WILLIAM BUCHANAN,

JOHN BOYD,

JOHN SMITH,

THOMAS HARRISON,

JOHN EAGER HOWARD,

JOHN STERRETT,

THOMAS SOLLERS,

WILLIAM AISQUITH,

JAMES CALHOUN.

Attested: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Committee, *April 8, 1776*: Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman, and eight Members.

Mr. *Alexander Lawson* having applied to the Committee, and informed them that he could make room at his house near *Baltimore* Town, for opening such part of the publick Records as may be necessary for doing the ordinary business of the office, and desiring to know the sense of the Committee, whether he should open them in his house:

The Committee determined that he might open and continue them there until further orders; and that, in the mean time, Mr. *Lawson* should keep the boxes and chests in constant readiness for repacking and moving them speedily on any emergency.

Mr. *Lawson* having informed the Committee that he intended shortly to remove from this County to another part of the Province, and requesting a Certificate of his having delivered up his Arms agreeable to the regulations of the Convention respecting Non-Associators; and further desiring that the Committee should, before his removal, tax him as a Non-Associator, in the manner prescribed by the rules of the Convention:

The Committee agreed that he should be assessed ten Pounds for the present year, commencing from the 15th of *September* last, and that, upon his paying it, the Chairman shall give him the Certificate required.

Mr. *Lawson* accordingly paid the sum of ten Pounds into the hands of the Chairman, who then gave him the Certificate required.

Attested: GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Committee, *April 14, 1776*, nine o'clock, P. M.:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Deputy-Chairman, Benjamin Nicholson, William Buchanan, John Smith, John Boyd, James Calhoun, J. Sterrett, Thomas Harrison.

An Express is just arrived from *Virginia* with a packet directed to this Committee, enclosing a Letter to the honourable Council of Safety of this Province, with a Letter to the Honourable *John Hancock*, President of the Continental Congress at *Philadelphia*, and a Letter from the honourable Council of Safety of *Virginia* to this Committee, of which the following is a copy:

"Williamsburgh, April 6, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We could not suffer a moment to pass before we transmitted the enclosed copies of intercepted letters, addressed by the Secretary of State to the Governor of your Province, which open the schemes of Administration to us in a more explicit manner than any other intelligence we have been able to procure. We wish you to transmit copies of these letters to Congress, without delay.

"I am, for and by order of the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

"JOHN PAGE, Vice-President.

"N. B. A certain Mr. *Alexander Ross*, who was refused a permission from this Committee, has been on board of Lord *Dunmore's* ship, and was the person entrusted with the care of the enclosed letters; he has escaped from us, but, as we think him a person inimical to the *American* cause, he ought to be apprehended.

"J. P., V. P."

"Whitehall, December 23, 1775.

"SIR: It was not till the 27th of *November* that your despatch to Lord *Dartmouth*, of the 27th of *August*, was received here, when I had the honour of laying it before the King; and I have it in command from his Majesty, to express to you his Majesty's approbation for your zeal for the publick service, and of the unalterable attachment you have shown to his person and Government since the commencement of the present unhappy disputes, which have involved his Majesty's faithful servants in the Colonies in difficulties and distress that are only equalled by the fortitude with which they are borne.

"Your letter contains a great deal of useful information, and your confidential communication of the character of individuals, more especially of such as are come over into *England*, is of great advantage, and you may rest assured that every possible precaution will be used that no part of your letter shall transpire.

"An armament, consisting of seven regiments, and a fleet of frigates and small ships, is now in readiness to proceed to the Southern Colonies, in order to attempt the restoration of legal government in that part of *America*. It will proceed, in the first place, to *North-Carolina*, and from thence either to *South-Carolina* or *Virginia*, as circumstances of greater or less advantage shall point out; if to the latter, it may have very important consequences to the Colony under your government, and therefore you will do well to consider of every means by which you may, in conjunction with Lord *Dunmore*, give facility and assistance to its operations.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"GEORGE GERMAINE.

"To Robert Eden, Esq., Deputy-Governour of *Maryland*."

"Copy:

"J. PENDLETON,

"C. C. of Safety of *Virginia*."

"SIR: The King being determined, in concurrence with his Parliament, to pursue the most vigorous measures for reducing his rebellious subjects in *North-America* to obedience, and for restoring legal Government, has given the royal assent to the enclosed act, which I am commanded by his Majesty to transmit to you, and at the same time signify to you his Majesty's pleasure that you do exhort all persons upon whom the execution of the law shall depend, to pay a due attention thereto, and to use their best endeavours for carrying the provisions of it into effect; and I trust that, when his Majesty's deluded subjects in the associated Colonies are better apprized of the fatal consequences of the conduct they have adopted, and see the determined spirit of the nation to maintain its constitutional rights, they will avail themselves of the means which the justice and benevolence of the Supreme Legislature have held out to them, of being restored to the King's grace and peace, and that a happy and lasting reconciliation and union will be effected. And I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that, in order to accelerate this desirable object, the proper steps have

been taken for passing a commission under the great seal, in conformity to the last section but one of that act; and that the Commissioner or Commissioners to be appointed for that purpose, will have full power to inquire into the state and condition of the Colonies, and to confer with proper persons upon such points as may be necessary for effecting a restoration of the publick tranquillity.

"I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"GEORGE GERMAINE.

"To Robert Eden, Esq., Deputy-Governour of *Maryland*."

"Copy:

"J. PENDLETON,

"C. C. of Safety of *Virginia*."

The Committee maturely considered the fore-mentioned Letters, and, esteeming the information contained in them as highly interesting to *American* freedom,

Unanimously Resolved, That they be sent off by Express to Congress, and that Major *Gist* be requested to permit an officer to carry them.

Major *Gist* being accordingly applied to, ordered Lieutenant *David Plunket* on that service, and directed him to attend the Committee for their orders, who delivered to him the preceding Letters, and one to the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., of which the following is a copy, viz:

In Committee, Baltimore, April 14, 1776, 10 o'clock, P. M.

HONOURABLE SIR: The enclosed copies of letters were just now received by our Committee, by express, from the Council of Safety of *Virginia*, with desire that they might be forwarded to you instantly; indeed, they contain matters, we think, of too much importance to have been delayed a moment. In consequence whereof, we have prevailed on our commanding officer here to appoint Mr. *David Plunket*, on whose prudence and industry we can depend, to wait on you with this; and if your honourable body should think it necessary to take any steps, or give any instructions to the Council of Safety, on the occasion, he will wait your commands.

We have the honour to be, with greatest respect, honourable sir, your most obedient servants.

(Signed by all the Members present.)

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress, *Philadelphia*.

The Committee then resumed the consideration of the Letter from the Council of Safety of *Virginia*, and thereon

Resolved, That Messrs. *John Smith*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, and *John Sterrett*, three of their Members, do wait on the Council of Safety at *Annapolis*, early to-morrow morning, with the packet directed to them, as they think it of too much importance to be trusted by a common express; and that they carry with them the Letters above referred to, in order to lay them before the Council of Safety, lest their packet might not contain the same intelligence; and that they take with them Mr. *Jeremiah Tounley Chase*, one of the Committee, who is now at *Annapolis*.

Attested:

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

The Committee met on *Monday, April 15, 1776*:

Present: William Lux, Chairman *pro tempore*, Andrew Buchanan, Z. McCubbin, C. Ridgely, (of William,) William Wilkinson, Thomas Harrison, Walter Tolley, Jun., William Aisquith, James Calhoun, James Gittings, Gist Vaughan, Thomas Rutter, Thomas Sollers, Thomas Gist, John Boyd, Darby Lux, Secretary, P. D.

The following Captains returned their Enrollments: *John Tully Young*, consisting of fifty-two persons; Captain *Richard Owings*, of fifty-eight persons; Captain *James Gittings*, consisting of eighty-three persons; and Captain *John Mercer*, consisting of fifty-five persons.

The following Captains were directed to disarm all Non-Associators and Non-Enrollers in their respective Hundreds: Captain *John Tully Young*, in *Middle River*, Lower; Captain *Charles Carnan*, in *Soldiers' Delight*; Captain *Zachariah McCubbin*, in *Patapsco*, Upper.

Mr. *Henry Wareham* was added to the Committee appointed to carry about the Association in . . . Hundred.

The thanks of this Committee were ordered to be given to Captain *Job Garrison*, for his active zeal in the cause of liberty since the commencement of the present disputes.

*William McMasters* returned a Gun marked "P K;" also, some Powder and Ball.

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

At an especial meeting of the Committee on *Wednesday* evening, *April 17, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Buchanan, Benjamin Nicholson, Thomas Harrison, Jeremiah T. Chase, James Calhoun, J. Sterrett, John Boyd, George Lux, Secretary.

The gentlemen of the Committee appointed to go to *Annapolis*, returned, and reported that they had delivered the packet to the Council of Safety, and also, as was directed, laid before them the Letters from *Virginia*, and that the Council of Safety had given them the following copy of their Proceedings:

"In Council of Safety, Annapolis, April 17, 1776.

"The Governour has given the Council satisfaction from under his hand, that he will not leave the Province till the meeting of the Convention; and that he will use his endeavours to promote the peace thereof, while he stays.

"A copy: "G. DUVAL, Clerk."

At a special meeting of the Committee on *Thursday* morning, *April 18, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, William Buchanan, Benjamin Nicholson, Thomas Harrison, Jeremiah T. Chase, John Smith, John Boyd, James Calhoun, J. Sterrett, George Lux, Secretary.

Lieutenant *Plunket* returned from *Philadelphia*, and brought a Letter from the President of the Continental Congress to this Committee, of which the following is a copy:

"Philadelphia, April 16, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: I received, and immediately communicated to Congress, your letter of the 14th, with the important papers enclosed. In consequence of which, the Congress has resolved that the person and papers of Governour *Eden* be immediately seized by the Committee of Safety, to whom I write by this opportunity. The person mentioned in the enclosed resolution (Mr. *Alexander Ross*) is represented as a dangerous partisan of Administration, who has lately been with Lord *Dunmore*, and, it is suggested, is on his way to the *Indian* country to execute the execrable designs of our enemies. I make no doubt but you will use your utmost endeavours in seizing and securing him.

"I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"P. S. You will please not to make publick mention of the resolution respecting Governour *Eden* until the Committee of Safety have executed it.

"To the Honourable Committee of *Baltimore*."

"In Congress, Philadelphia, April 15, 1776.

"Resolved, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be requested to cause the person and papers of *Alexander Ross* to be immediately seized and secured, and that the papers be sent safely to Congress.

"And, to prevent the said *Alexander Ross* from having any opportunity to escape, Resolved, That the like request be made to the Committees of Observation for *Baltimore* and *Frederick* Counties, in *Maryland*, in one of which Counties said *Ross* now probably is.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

"In Congress: Ordered to be transmitted to the Committee of *Baltimore*.

"JOHN HANCOCK, President.

"Please to convey a copy to the Committee of *Frederick*."

Agreeable to the intimation contained in the Resolution of Congress respecting Mr. *Alexander Ross* and his papers, Messrs. *Thomas Harrison*, *Benjamin Nicholson*, and *John Smith*, were ordered to inquire for and secure said *Ross's* papers; which they accordingly did, and report that Mr. *Grant* informed them the said papers were deposited in a closet, in his house, which he showed to them, and which these gentlemen then sealed up, without seeing or examining said papers.

A copy of said Resolution was also sent to the Committee of *Frederick* County, by Post.

At a special meeting of the Committee, *April 20, 1776*:

Present: William Lux, Chairman *pro tempore*, William Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, James Calhoun, Benjamin Griffith, John Smith, John Boyd, John Merryman, Jun.

The Committee being informed that certain Instructions were given by Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, as Chairman, to Captain *Samuel Smith*, which did not appear on their Minutes, they sent for Captain *Smith*, and requested him to attend the Committee, with the Instructions he had received.

He accordingly attended, and produced them, and they are as follows:

"April 14, 1776.

"To Captain SAMUEL SMITH:

"SIR: You are requested by the gentlemen of the Committee to proceed in Captain *Nicholson's* tender, with any officer he may send to assist you, and such a number of armed men as may be necessary, and therewith proceed, as speedily as possible, for *Annapolis*. Should you, before you get there, meet the Governour's boat or barge, you must by all means endeavour to board her, and, in case Governour *Eden*, his Secretary, Mr. *Smith*, or Mr. *Alexander Ross*, are found on board, you are by all means to seize their persons and papers, and instantly return with them, under the strictest guard, to *Baltimore*. For doing which you may depend upon being justified and protected by the Committee, and held blameless. In case you should not meet such boat or persons, you will please to proceed immediately to *Annapolis*, and use every precaution to prevent alarm by obliging the men not to appear in numbers on deck, and causing the boat to lie at a distance, while you go on shore with the letter delivered you for the gentlemen of the *Baltimore* Committee who may be at *Annapolis*, whose direction you will please to follow after your arrival there. You will please to take blunderbusses, and any quantity you see necessary of arms, out of Captain *Nicholson's* vessel, which he will readily furnish. Please to consult, in all things, with the officer which Captain *Nicholson* sends with you, and let your measures be kept as secret as possible from the men, at least until it comes to the execution.

"I am, on behalf of the Committee, sir, your humble servant,

"SAMUEL PURVIANCE, Jun., Chairman.

The Committee then inquired of all the Members present whether either of them had concurred in said Instructions, and, on each of their declaration that they had not, they sent for Mr. *Purviance*, and desired he would inform them what number of the Members of the Committee were present when the said Instructions were given, and that he would give his answer in writing.

Mr. *Purviance* accordingly came to the Committee, and verbally declared that he had not consulted any one person of the Committee upon the occasion, but that he had given the said Instructions himself; that he exculpated the Committee from all censure on that account, and that he would give his answer in writing, to that effect, on *Monday* morning.

Attested:

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

The Committee met on *Monday, April 22, 1776*:

Present: William Lux, Chairman, William Buchanan, Andrew Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, C. Ridgely, (of William,) John Merryman, William Wilkinson, John Moale, John Smith, John Boyd, Isaac Grist, Thomas Gist, Darby Lux, James Calhoun, Walter Tolley, Jun., John E. Howard, George Risteau, James Gittings, J. Sterrett, Abraham Britton, Thomas Sollers, John Cradock, William Aisquith, George Lux, Secretary.

Mr. *Samuel Purviance* appeared, and delivered in his answer in writing, agreeable to his promise of *Saturday*, which, being read, is as follows:

"April 22, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to my declaration to the Committee at the last meeting, the 20th instant, that I exculpated all the members of the Committee from any concern in the orders which I gave, as Chairman of the Committee, to Captain *Samuel Smith* on the 14th instant, I am now to inform you of the circumstances of that affair, and the reasons on which I ventured to give these orders.

"The despatches received from the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, with a letter written by General *Lee*, and directed to me as Chairman of this Committee, I considered as sufficient reasons to justify the Committee in using their best endeavours to seize Governour *Eden*, his Secretary, and Mr. *Alexander Ross*, should they or either of them be found attempting to escape from *Annapolis*,—a suspicion founded on the certain knowledge that Mr. *Ross* had gone from this town to *Annapolis* a few days before, and that it



was highly probable he would alarm Governour *Eden* with an account of the Secretary of State's letter to him being seized and taken from him on his way up from Lord *Dunmore*. On considering those papers at my house on *Sunday* evening, it seemed to be the general opinion of the gentlemen there assembled, that if Captain *Nicholson's* tender were here, it would be proper to despatch her with some men to *Annapolis*, to wait the orders of the Council of Safety. On *Monday* morning, I was informed that Captain *James Nicholson* was returned in his tender from *Chester*; on which I sent for him, and communicated to him the purport of the despatches received from the Council of *Virginia*, and General *Lee's* letter, and told him the sentiments of the gentlemen who met at my house the evening before, that it would be proper to send his tender, with an officer and some men, to *Annapolis*, observing to him that if the Governour had made his escape from *Annapolis*, she would be the properest vessel to pursue after him, as she could both row and sail. Captain *Nicholson* agreeing with me in the propriety of the measure, consented to my request to get his boat ready for the purpose, and to send one of his officers in her. As I could not attend the Committee that day, I spoke to most of the gentlemen who had been at my house the evening before, and to General *Buchanan*, and told them I had spoken to Captain *Nicholson* for his tender, which they all approved of. I accordingly applied to Major *Gist*, to whom the despatches from *Virginia* had been shown, and obtained his consent to let Captain *Samuel Smith*, with a few men of his company, go in the tender to *Annapolis*. Captain *Samuel Smith* accordingly met me in the street just at dinner-time, and told me he was ready to go, and waited for orders. I had not thought, before, on the propriety of orders. The Committee was then broke up for dinner, and consequently I had no opportunity of consulting them immediately; and, for the sake of the secrecy which so important a business required, I thought it improper to communicate the matter to any others than the gentlemen who had seen the papers already, of whom three were gone to *Annapolis* to wait on the Council, Mr. *William Buchanan* had rode out of town, and Mr. *William Lux* and Mr. *Harrison*, with whom I had engaged to dine that day, were gone out of town. In these circumstances, I sat down, and, without the concurrence or advice of any person, I wrote very hastily those orders, which I delivered to Major *Gist*, and signed as Chairman of the Committee.

"I do candidly acknowledge to you I had my own doubts whether I was to consider General *Lee's* letter, directed to me as Chairman of the Committee, as a private letter to myself, or as a letter to the Committee; yet the contents of it, together with the despatches received from the Council of *Virginia*, I considered as a sufficient call upon me, and every person well affected to the interests of *America*, to use the best endeavours to seize persons of whom there were such strong reasons to believe their being inimical.

"I hope, gentlemen, the circumstances I have mentioned, which are all strictly true, and the extreme importance of the occasion, will at least palliate my offence in taking what may be deemed by some a very rash step, but which the necessity of the case will justify me in to you and the publick.

"I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

"SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN.

"To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County."

*Resolved*, That this Committee do highly disapprove of the Chairman's conduct in presuming to act in any matter without their concurrence and approbation, especially in matters that evidently do not come within their jurisdiction; and with regard to the Instructions given to Captain *Samuel Smith*, upon a late pressing occasion, though the necessity of the case may be urged as an apology for them, yet this Committee, always willing to move in the strictest line of their duty, and desirous to preserve due subordination and order in the community, do totally disavow and disapprove of them, knowing that the power necessary in such cases is not vested in the Committee. But, nevertheless, we are fully persuaded that the Chairman, in issuing these orders, was actuated only by that uniform, warm, and zealous attachment to our distressed, and perhaps, betrayed, country, which would otherwise have merited the thanks of every spirited friend of our invaded rights; and we trust this well-

meant excess, in so interesting a crisis, will find a more easy pardon with his vigilant countrymen than if he had been chargeable with a criminal neglect, or with a timidity still more dangerous and blameable.

Lieutenant *William Sterrett* appeared before the Committee, and produced an order from the Council of Safety for taking into his possession the Bags and Portmanteau of Mr. *Alexander Ross*, and convey the same to *Annapolis*, to the Council of Safety.

On which Mr. *Thomas Harrison* and Doctor *John Boyd* were appointed to proceed to Mr. *Grant's*, and examine the seal of the door; who returned, and report that the Papers and Effects were delivered according to order.

Captain *James Nicholson* applied to the Committee for a Vessel to assist him in raising two Vessels at *Whetstone*.

Upon which the Brig *Fortune* was appointed to proceed to *Whetstone*, and ordered to obey Captain *Nicholson's* instructions.

The following citations were produced before the Committee:

"In Council of Safety, *Annapolis*, April 20, 1776.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d instant.

"By order:

"G. DUVAL, Clerk.

"In Council of Safety, *Annapolis*, April 20, 1776.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. *William Lux*, Deputy-Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d instant.

"By order:

"G. DUVAL, Clerk."

Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman, and Mr. *William Lux*, Deputy-Chairman, of this Committee, applied for their advice and instructions therein; and it was judged expedient that they obey the said citations. But the Committee, at the same time, are of opinion that the powers vested in the Council of Safety do not justify the summoning any Member of this Committee to appear before them, unless they have been guilty of, or are chargeable with, "high and dangerous offences tending to disunite the people of this Province in their present opposition, or to destroy the liberties of *America*."

Mr. *George Lux*, Clerk to this Committee, produced also the following citation:

"In Council of Safety, *Annapolis*, April 20, 1776.

"*Ordered*, That Mr. *George Lux*, Clerk of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d instant, and bring with him the Proceedings of the said Committee in consequence of intercepted Letters from Lord *George Germaine* to *Robert Eden*, Esq., Deputy-Governour of *Maryland*, which were transmitted to them by the honourable the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*; and, also, all Resolves, Orders, Instructions, Requisitions, Letters, Papers, and Writings, relative to, or concerning the same, as Clerk of the said Committee of *Baltimore*.

"By order:

"G. DUVAL, Clerk."

*Resolved*, That he be permitted to take copies of the Proceedings, and repair to the Council of Safety, if he thinks proper.

Attested:

GEORGE LUX, Secretary.

At a meeting of the Committee, *April 23, 1776*:

Present: *William Lux*, Chairman *pro tempore*, *John Moale*, *Darby Lux*, *John Boyd*, *Andrew Buchanan*, *William Buchanan*, *John Merryman*, *Thomas Harrison*, *Walter Tolley*, Jun., *James Calhoun*, *James Gittings*, *George Lux*, Secretary.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Committee do recommend Mr. *John Christie* to the Delegates of this Province in Congress, and request them to use their best endeavours to procure for him a Second Lieutenantcy in the Continental Army.

The following Letter was written to the Council of Safety, and signed by all the Members present:

In Committee, *Baltimore*, April 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This Committee, on the late alarm, appointed Messrs. *Robert Purviance*, *David Stewart*, and *George*

*Woolsey*, to superintend the fitting out the Schooner *Resolution* as a tender, or armed vessel, for Captain *Nicholson*. As they have nearly completed her, and are in advance a considerable sum, you will please to furnish six or eight hundred pounds, as is convenient.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants.

At a meeting of the Committee, *April 29, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, C. Ridgely, (of William,) William Wilkinson, Thomas Harrison, John Boyd, Thomas Gist, Thomas Rutter, John Cockey, John E. Howard, James Gittings, James Calhoun, Thomas Sollers, William Aisquith, George Ristean.

Captain *George Woolsey* applied to the Committee for liberty to take his Brig *Rogers*, which has been detained by them at *Whetstone Point*, to be there sunk, if necessary; which permission was granted to him.

GEORGE LUX, *Secretary*.

At a meeting of the Committee, *May 6, 1776*:

Present: Samuel Purviance, Chairman, William Lux, Vice-Chairman, Andrew Buchanan, Benjamin Nicholson, William Buchanan, Thomas

Harrison, Z. McCubbin, C. Ridgely, (of William,) John Merryman, John E. Howard, John Cradock, George Ristean, William Aisquith, Abraham Britton, Thomas Sollers, Gist Vaughan, Benjamin Griffith, James Calhoun, F. Decker, Thomas Rutter, J. Sterrett, Darby Lux, John Boyd.

Lieutenant *Solomon* is added to the gentlemen appointed to carry about the Association and Enrollment Papers in *Pipe-Creek Hundred*.

*Thomas Constable* being cited before this Committee, and charged with "offences tending to disunite the good people of this Province in their opposition to the illegal measures of *Great Britain*," and being convicted thereof by the testimony of *Michael Kraner* and *Henry Rutter*, was directed to give security in the sum of two hundred and fifty Pounds sterling; which he accordingly did, with *John McDonough* as his security.

Captain *Edward Cockey* and Captain *Josiah Bowen* returned their Enrollments.

Captains *Bowen* and *Mercer* were appointed to disarm the Non-Associators and Non-Enrollers in *Patapsco*, Lower, and *Back River*, Lower, Hundreds.

#### MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*, on *Thursday, 18th January, 1776*:

Were present: The Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *Benjamin Rumsey*, and *James Tilghman*, Esquires.

The above Members were qualified before Mr. *Thomas Brooke Hodgkin*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

*Gabriel Duvall* was appointed Clerk, and qualified before Mr. *Hodgkin*, by taking the oath directed by the Convention.

The Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esquire, was chosen President.

Ordered, That Captain *John Allen Thomas* be allowed seven Shillings and six Pence per week, for the subsistence of each Recruit, till otherwise ordered by the Council.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas* two hundred Pounds, common money, to enable him to advance to, and subsist his Recruits.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay to Captain *Barton Lucas* one hundred and twenty Pounds, common money, for the purpose mentioned in the above order.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, half past nine o'clock.

Friday, January 19, 1776.

The Council met. The same Members present as on yesterday, and also *John Hall*, Esquire, who was qualified before Mr. *Jenifer* by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Archibald Buchanan* seven hundred and eighty Pounds seven Shillings and four Pence, common money, being the balance of his Account with the Province, as per account filed.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met pursuant to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Joseph Baxler* one hundred and twenty Pounds, common money, for subsist and advance money, for the Company of Regular Forces to be raised by Captain *Thomas Ewing*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Patrick Ewing* one hundred and twenty Pounds, for subsist and advance money for Captain *Nathaniel Ramsey's* Recruits.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Thomas Harwood* and Mr. *Thomas Goldsmith*, thirty Pounds each, for subsist and advance money for Captain *John Day Scott's* Recruits.

Instructions and Sailing Orders were given to Captain *Robert Forsythe*, of the Brig *Sam*, and to Captain *Thomas Kell*, of the Schooner *Dolphin*.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, half after nine o'clock.

Saturday, January 20, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Registers of the Commissary's and Land Offices, and Clerks of the Provincial Court, and of *Anne Arundel* County, immediately furnish the Council of Safety with lists of the Record Books in their respective Offices, and prepare for the removal of the Records and Papers in the said Offices to such place as shall be directed by the said Council.

Ordered, That a copy of the Resolves of the late Convention relative to the removal of the said Records and Papers, be immediately furnished to each of the said Registers and Clerks.

Ordered, That Mr. *Stephen West* deliver to *John Youst*, or order, the quantity of ten pounds weight of Gunpowder, (out of that purchased by the Convention from him,) to prove the Muskets made by the said *Youst* for the use of this Province.

Messrs. *Richard Thompson* and *Thomas Richardson* were appointed to prove the said Muskets.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *John Gunby*, or his order, two hundred Pounds, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *John Day Scott*, or his order, sixty Pounds, common money, for the purpose mentioned in the above order.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *James Hindman* two hundred Pounds, for the like purpose.

Mr. *Rumsey* has leave of absence.

Commission issued to *Patrick Sim*, Esquire, appointed Captain of the Second Company, of the battalion of regular forces, in the room of Captain *William Hyde*, who resigned.

Ordered, That he rank as youngest Captain of the said Battalion.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, half past nine o'clock.

Sunday, January 21, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday, except Mr. *Rumsey*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Lancelot Jacques*, *Charles Wallace*, *William Hyde*, *Allen Quynn*, *James Brice*, *William Whetcroft*, and *Beriah Maybury*, or any three of them, be requested to make a Chart of the Land and Water at the mouth of this River, specifying the width and depth of the Channel between *Horn-Point* and *Greenbury's Point*, and some distance without and within the same.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay

to Captain *Patrick Sim* one hundred and twenty Pounds, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the Resolves of the late Convention relating to the emission of Bills of Credit, be enclosed in a Letter (No. 2) to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, half past nine o'clock.

Monday, January 22, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Nathaniel Smith* two hundred Pounds, common money, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Bennet Brano* two hundred Pounds, common money, for subsist and advance money for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Samuel Smith* one hundred and twenty Pounds, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Tillard*, Esquire, First Major, and to *Joseph Galloway*, Esq., Second Major, of the *South-River* Battalion of Militia, in *Anne Arundel* County; and to Mr. *Pollard Edmonson*, Jun., appointed Third Lieutenant of the Fourth Independent Company, of regular forces, in the room of Mr. *William Goldsborough*, who resigned.

The following Agreement was made with Captain *John Pitt*:

"Whereas the honourable the late Convention of the Province of *Maryland* resolved that two Pilot-Boats be immediately employed, and stationed to gain and communicate intelligence of any attempt that might be made by the Men-of-War to come into this Province:

"I do hereby agree with the Honourable *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *John Hall*, and *James Tilghman*, Esquires, of the Council of Safety for this Province, to furnish one Pilot-Boat for the above purpose, at the rate of twenty-five Shillings per day, and immediately to sail with my said boat for the purpose of gaining intelligence agreeable to said resolution; and that I will from time to time use my best endeavours to gain such intelligence, and as occasion may require communicate the same to the Council of Safety.

"JOHN PITT."

Instructions were given accordingly to Captain *Pitt*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

The following Advertisement was ordered to be published in the *Maryland Gazette*:

"All Merchants and others who are desirous of undertaking to import and furnish this Province with a quantity of Salt, sufficient for the use of the inhabitants thereof, may be acquainted with the terms offered by the Conventional Congress, under which they may do the same, by attending the Council of Safety, on the 5th day of *February* next, at the City of *Annapolis*."

Mr. *J. Middleton* agreed to furnish a Boat for the like purposes, and on the same terms as Captain *Pitt*, and received his Instructions accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Captain *William Hyde* furnish the Council of Safety with an account of the Province Arms and Accoutrements delivered him last spring, of the condition of the same, and in whose hands they are; and that he do not permit the same, or any of them, to be removed or carried away from the City of *Annapolis*.

A copy of the Letter No. 3, relative to placing obstructions in the Channel of this River, was sent to Mr. *Stephen Steward*, and a copy of the Letter No. 4 to Mr. *William Roberts*.

Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, half past nine o'clock.

Tuesday, January 23, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That one barrel of Gunpowder and four hundred pounds weight of Lead, be sent by the Committee of

Observation for *Kent* County, under the care of a commissioned officer of Militia, to the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County, or to such person or persons in the same County as they shall order and direct.

*Ordered*, That one barrel of Gunpowder and four hundred pounds weight of Lead, be sent in the same manner to the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County; and half a barrel of Gunpowder and two hundred pounds weight of Lead, to the Committee of Observation for *Caroline* County.

Commission issued to *William Tillard*, Esquire, Quartermaster of the Battalion of Militia in *Anne Arundel* County, commanded by Colonel *John Weems*.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County send two and a half barrels of Powder and one thousand pounds weight of Lead, under the care of a commissioned officer of Militia, to the Committee of Observation for *St. Mary's* County; half a barrel of said Powder for Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Company, of regular troops, and the residue for the use of the two battalions of Militia in that County.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County send, under the care of a commissioned officer of Militia, one barrel of Gunpowder and four hundred pounds weight of Lead, to the Committee of Observation for *Calvert* County; one half of said Powder and Lead for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Independent Company, of regular forces.

*Ordered*, That eighty copies of the Articles of War be immediately printed.

Mr. *John Brice* produced and delivered to the Council a list of the Record Books of *Anne Arundel* County Court, which was ordered to be entered.

A copy of Letter No. 5, concerning the publick Records, was sent to Messrs. *Joseph Sim* and *Thomas Contee*, of *Prince George's* County.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met pursuant to adjournment.

A copy of Letter No. 6 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Benjamin Ford* one hundred and twenty-eight Pounds, for subsist and advance money for Captain *George Stricker's* Company of Light Infantry.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Benjamin Ford* one hundred Pounds, currency, for subsist and advance money for Captain *Lemuel Barrett's* Independent Company, of regular forces.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Henry Barnes* one hundred and twenty Pounds, currency, for subsist and advance money for Captain *John Stone's* Recruits.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Benjamin Ford* sixty Pounds, currency, to be lodged with Mr. *Thomas Johnson*, at *Fredericktown*, or, in his absence, to be left with Messrs. *Charles Beatty* and *Baker Johnson*, to be by them laid out in the purchase of Gunlocks.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Benjamin Ford* one hundred Pounds, currency, to be lodged with Messrs. *Charles Beatty* and *Baker Johnson*, to enable them to advance for Rifles for the use of Captain *George Stricker's* Company of Light Infantry.

Council adjourns till *Monday* next, to meet at *Baltimore* Town.

Baltimore Town, Monday, January 29, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on *Tuesday* last.

Mr. *George Ranken* transmits to the Council a list of the Record Books in the Secretary's Office, which was ordered to be entered.

Mr. *Vallette* transmits to the Council a list of the Record Books in the Prerogative Office, which was ordered to be entered.

The Journal of the Proceedings of the Convention was read.

The Council requested of Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman of the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore* Town,

that said Committee would furnish them with a Chart of the Northeast branch of *Patapsco River*, from *Whetstone Point*; also the soundings or depth of the water between that Point and *Gorsuch's Point*; also a plan of fortification and chevaux-de-frise, or other obstructions, to be placed in the River, together with an estimate of the expense.

The Council adjourns till ten o'clock, to-morrow morning.

— Tuesday, January 30, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

The following Advertisement was ordered to be published:

"BY THE COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

"All persons who are desirous to contract for supplying the Troops raised in this Province with the Rations allowed by the late Convention, are requested to attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on the 15th day of *February* next, and deliver in their proposals, which will be duly attended to. A ration, as settled by the Convention, to consist," &c.

*Ordered*, That one hundred handbills of the same be immediately printed.

Mr. *Purviance* attended the Council, and reported that, according to the requisition of yesterday, the Committee had appointed persons for the purposes therein mentioned.

Instructions and Sailing Orders were given to Captain *John Martin*, of the Brig *Friendship*.

Mr. *William Lux* was requested to purchase up, for the use of the Troops in this Province, all the coarse Cloths in *Baltimore Town*; also, Blankets and Plush for Breeches; and make report of the quantity and price to the Council of Safety, with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Lux* delivers to the Council the following propositions:

"The Pilot-Boat *Chatham* is bound for *Statia*, with money to purchase goods, to the amount of three thousand Pounds, or more, to the consignment of Mr. *Thomas Russell*, who goes out in her. The boat is valued at three hundred Pounds; and each shipper is to pay in proportion to the amount of his property in case she is lost. Mr. *Russell* will take one hundred barrels light Flour, on account of the Province, at six Shillings per barrel, and they to pay their proportion of the value of the vessel in case of loss.

"LUX & BOWLY."

Which was read and agreed to.

Instructions were accordingly given to Captain *Thomas Russell*.

Mr. *George Matthews*, Cannon Founder, in the neighbourhood of *Baltimore Town*, being requested to attend the Council of Safety, and give what information he could with regard to casting of Cannon, and the Cannon now in that place, informed that there were two twelve-pounders, six nine-pounders, six six-pounders, eight three-pounders, and two field-pieces—three-pounders; which, in his judgment and opinion, might be of some service, but not to be depended upon till they were bored again; that they had been unused a long time, and were scaly withinside of the guns; that there were seven or eight of the *Annapolis* guns left by Captain *Stone*, four-pounders, all good except one, which had lost a trunnion; might be made serviceable by having trunnions fixed on the outside with an iron hoop.

Mr. *Matthews* was also asked on what terms he would contract for founding cannon; thereupon expressed his opinion that, in his situation as a factor, he could not incur the expense necessary to be laid out in founding cannon and boring the same, unless he had a moral certainty that his owners should be no losers by undertaking the business.

That the wheel for boring cannon, and other apparatus, were expensive, and a work that would require some time before it could be brought to perfection, and that he did not think he could furnish forty eighteen-pounders in less than four months from this time. That he was going to *Philadelphia*, at the request of Mr. *Alexander*, in expectation of hearing proposals from Congress on the subject of founding cannon, and should be better able to judge whether it would be worth while to undertake the business, and would expect to hear from us on his return.

Council adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, January 31, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Hercules Courtenay* two hundred and eleven Pounds and two Pence, currency, being the balance due him from this Province, as per Account filed.

*Ordered*, That a Letter, in the following words, be sent to the Brigadiers-General of this Province, respectively:

Baltimore Town, January 31, 1776.

SIR: We are desirous of knowing what number of muskets are in the hands of the Militia of your brigade, either belonging to the publick or to individuals. We request you will furnish us with an account of them as soon as you conveniently can, distinguishing to what companies they respectively belong, and those which are good and serviceable from what are unfit for use; and that you recommend to and earnestly admonish those of your Militia whose guns are out of repair, and whose circumstances will admit of it, to have them immediately put into good order; but that if the owners of any such guns cannot, from their poverty, repair them, and they are only defective in the locks, that you have the same repaired and rendered fit for use at the publick expense. Writing immediately to the Colonels and other inferior officers we recommend as the best method of gaining information in the above particulars.

We are, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servants. (Signed by the Council.)

A conference was had with Mr. *Alcock* and Mr. *Massembaugh*, on the subject of Fortifications.

The Council called on Messrs. *Kecner*, *Messersmith*, and *Reddrick*, to know what quantity of Muskets they had made for the use of this Province in consequence of their contracts with Mr. *Alexander*.

Mr. *Keener* reported that he had made thirty; Mr. *Messersmith* that he had made twenty-seven, and repaired fifty-eight for the Ship *Defence*; Mr. *Reddrick* that he had made seventy.

*Ordered*, That Major *Gist* and Captain *Ewing*, or either of them, be requested to employ a skilful person to prove the said Muskets, or any others that may be hereafter made by the said *Keener*, *Messersmith*, and *Reddrick*, or either of them, under their aforesaid contracts; and that the said Major *Gist* and Captain *Ewing*, or either of them, be empowered to draw on the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County* for Powder sufficient for that purpose.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

— Thursday, February 1, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 7 sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Company of Light Infantry, in the regular forces of this Province, be armed with Rifles.

*Ordered*, That Messrs. *John Hanson*, Junior, *Charles Beatty*, and *James Johnson*, or any two of them, be requested to provide and furnish the said Company with good substantial and serviceable Rifles, necessary Bullet-moulds, and Powder-horns, and to draw the necessary orders on the Council of Safety, from time to time, to disburse the expense attending the same.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the Resolve of the late Convention, relative to the arming of the Troops, be transmitted to them, with a copy of the above Order.

*Ordered*, That the Clerk make out and send to the Justices of *Baltimore County* Court, a copy of the Resolutions of Convention relative to the payment of Levies.

*Ordered*, That the following agreement be entered, and a copy of the same be delivered to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*:

"Messrs. *Lux & Bowly* have agreed with the Council of Safety to take one hundred barrels of flour on board the Pilot-boat *Chatham*, on account and risk of this Province. You are therefore not to stop her intended voyage by reason of that quantity of provisions being laden on board said vessel."

*Ordered*, That the Committees of Observation for *Frederick* County be requested to collect all the publick Arms in their respective Districts; and where any of them have been delivered into the hands of individuals out of repair, and have been put into good order and made fit for service by them at their own expense, that the said Committees respectively transmit an account of the same to the Council of Safety, with the necessary expenses incurred, that such individuals may be reimbursed out of the publick Treasury, unless otherwise agreed at the time of such delivery; also to attend particularly to those Arms which are still out of repair, and to have them put into good order as soon as possible; and, as early as they conveniently can, to furnish the Council with a state of the whole.

*Ordered*, That copies of the above Order be sent to the Committees of Observation for the several Districts of *Frederick* County respectively.

*Resolved*, That the Rations for the Marines in the service of this Province be according as is expressed in the following table, to wit:

*Sunday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Beef, 1 lb. Turnips, 1 lb. Potatoes, 1 lb. Onions per week.  
*Monday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Pork,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint Peas, 4 oz. Cheese.  
*Tuesday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Beef, and Pudding.  
*Wednesday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Pork,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint Rice, 2 oz. Butter, 4 oz. Cheese.  
*Thursday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Pork,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint Peas.  
*Friday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Beef, and Pudding.  
*Saturday*: 1 lb. Bread, 1 lb. Pork,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint Peas, 4 oz. Cheese.

Half a pint of Rum per man per day, and discretionary allowance for particular occasions—such as action, extra duty, and the like. Three pints of Vinegar for six men per week.

Council adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, February 2, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

A Letter was received from *Robert Alexander*, Esquire, enclosing the following Resolves of Congress, viz:

"In Congress, January 20, 1776.

"It being necessary to procure a large quantity of Specie for the operations in *Canada*, which cannot be successfully carried on without that article,

"*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the General Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, upon the Continent, to employ proper persons within their respective Colonies, to collect all the Gold and Silver they can, and inform the Congress of the sum collected.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.*"

"IN CONGRESS, January 27th, 1776.—*Resolved*, That Monsieur *Jugé* be permitted to export the produce or manufactures of the Province of *Maryland*, (horned Cattle, Hogs, Sheep and Poultry excepted,) to any port or place whatsoever, (except to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, the *British Isles*, and the *British West-Indies*, and for the supply of the *British Navy* or *Army* in *America*,) to the amount of the Canvass imported by him into the said Province; the said value to be ascertained by the Committee of Inspection and Observation for *Baltimore* County.

"*Resolved*, nevertheless, That the indulgence in this instance ought not to be drawn into example, the same being granted to Mr. *Jugé* on account of the peculiar circumstances of his case, and that the said Mr. *Jugé* be enjoined by the aforesaid Committee of *Baltimore* to avoid, if possible, all *British Ships-of-War* and *Armed Cutters* on his voyage.

"Extracted from the Minutes:

"*CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.*"

Which were read, and thereupon

*Resolved*, That Messieurs *John Moale*, *Samuel Purviance*, and *William Lux*, and each of them, be appointed to collect all the Gold and Silver Coin that can be procured in *Baltimore* County, to comply with the Resolve of Congress;

Messieurs *Aquila Hall*, *Richard Dallam*, and *Aquila Paca*, in *Harford* County;

Messieurs *Henry Griffith*, *William Baird*, *John Hanson*, Jun., and *Michael Rayner*, in *Frederick* County;

Messieurs *Charles Carroll* (of *Carrollton*), *Thomas Dorsey*, and *John Weems*, in *Anne Arundel* County;

Messieurs *Thomas Contee*, *Stephen West*, and *William Turner Wootton*, in *Prince George's* County;

Messieurs *Robert Townsend Hooe*, *John Dent*, and *Samuel Love*, in *Charles* County;

Messieurs *Benjamin Mackall* 4th, *Alexander Somerville*, and *Patrick Sim Smith*, in *Calvert* County;

Colonel *George Plater*, *Richard Barnes*, and *Hanson Briscoe*, in *St. Mary's* County;

Messieurs *Peter Chaille*, *Samuel Handy*, and *John Done*, in *Worcester* County;

Messieurs *George Dashiell*, *Samuel Willson*, and *William Adams*, in *Somerset* County;

Messieurs *Henry Dickinson*, *William Richardson*, and *Benjamin Stainton*, in *Caroline* County;

Messieurs *William Ennals*, *James Murray*, and *Henry Steele*, in *Dorchester* County;

Messieurs *James Lloyd Chamberlaine*, *Edward Lloyd*, and *Greenbury Goldsborough*, in *Talbot* County;

Messieurs *Turbutt Wright*, *William Hemsley*, and *Samuel Thompson*, Jun., in *Queen Anne's* County;

Messieurs *Thomas Ringgold*, *Joseph Earle*, and *William Ringgold*, in *Kent* County;

Messieurs *Joseph Gilpin*, *William Rumsey*, and *Henry Ward Pearce*, in *Cecil* County.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the said Resolve of Congress, together with a copy of the Resolve of this Council, notifying the appointments aforesaid, be enclosed to the several persons appointed in each County respectively, in the following Letter, to wit:

Baltimore Town, February 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a resolve of Congress, for collecting gold and silver in this Province, as also a resolve of the Council of Safety of your appointment to collect the same in . . . . . County.

You are to inform the Council of Safety what sum you have been able to collect with all convenient speed, that they may transmit the gross amount of the whole to the Congress. We take it for granted that Continental money will be ordered us in exchange. In the mean time, by way of forwarding the business, you may have Provincial money from our Treasurer for any sum in gold or silver you may lodge with him.

The Council went to *Whetstone-Point*, to inform themselves of the situation thereof, and consider of the practicability of fortifying the same.

Council adjourns till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

Saturday, February 3, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

*Resolved*, That the gentlemen of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, who reside in *Baltimore* Town, or any three of them, be, and they are hereby requested to examine the Cannon lying at *Fell's Point*, and elsewhere in and near *Baltimore* Town, and cause such of them as may be found fit for service, not intended for the *Ship Defence*, to be lodged in some place of security, mounted on proper carriages as soon as they conveniently can, and make report of the state of the Cannon, and the expense of the Carriages, to the Council of Safety.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the Resolution of Congress relative to Monsieur *Jugé* be immediately transmitted to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Nathaniel Smith* one hundred Pounds, for subsist money for his Recruits.

Whereas *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *John Moale*, *Jeremiah Townley Chase*, *James Calhoun*, *Andrew Buchanan*, *Thomas Harrison*, *Benjamin Griffith*, *Isaac Guest*, *John Smith*, *John Boyd*, *William Aisquith*, and *William Buchanan*, acting Members of the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore* County, residing in and near *Baltimore* Town, have delivered into the Council of Safety proposals for fortifying the Town of *Baltimore*, and placing obstructions in the



Channel of the River, so as to prevent the approach of Men-of-War to the said Town, agreeable to the Resolve of the late Convention; and have offered to undertake the business and complete the same with all convenient speed, for the sum of six thousand two hundred Pounds, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purposes aforesaid; and are willing to give bond with condition for the due performance of their agreement:

Therefore *Resolved*, That the proposition made by the said gentlemen of the Committee of Observation be accepted; and that bond be taken, with conditions that if the said *Samuel Purviance, Jun., William Lux, John Moale, Jeremiah Townley Chase, James Calhoun, Andrew Buchanan, Thomas Harrison, Benjamin Griffith, Isaac Guest, John Smith, John Boyd, William Aisquith, and William Buchanan*, or the survivors of them, their heirs, executors, or administrators, do and shall, in all things, fulfil the resolve of said Convention, and their said obligators' agreement with the Council of Safety, and do and shall well and truly lay out and expend the aforesaid sum of six thousand two hundred Pounds currency, or so much thereof as may be necessary, in fortifying said Town, and placing obstructions in the Channel of the River, so as in all human probability will prevent Men-of-War approaching said Town, and do, from time to time, render a full and fair account of their expenses, and other transactions in the management of the business aforesaid, and also do and shall well and truly, and in a proper manner, complete the same fortifications and obstructions with all convenient speed, so as in all human probability to prevent the Men-of-War approaching said Town, then the bond to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue in law. Which bond was taken accordingly, and filed.

Instructions and Sailing Orders were given to *Joseph Oakman*, Captain of the Sloop *Two Sisters*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Doctor *Daniel Grant* four Pounds ten Shillings, for the use of his Room.

Council adjourns to the City of *Annapolis*, till *Tuesday* next.

Tuesday, February 6, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on *Saturday* last.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Henry Hollingsworth* one hundred Pounds, currency, to enable him to carry on his Saltpetre Works in *Cecil County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, February 7, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *John Gassaway* thirty Pounds, currency, on account of Captain *Nathaniel Rumsey's* Company.

Commission issued to *Jacob Duwall*, appointed Ensign of Captain *John Macgill's* Company of Militia, in *Prince George's County*.

Also, to *Edward Norwood*, appointed Captain, *Samuel Godman*, First Lieutenant, *James Walker*, Second Lieutenant, and *Horatio Johnson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel County*.

Also, to *Elisha Riggs*, appointed Captain, *John Marriott*, First Lieutenant, *Joseph Walker, Jun.*, Second Lieutenant, and *Horatio Johnson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Colonel *Smallwood* produced and delivered to the Council a copy of the Enrollment of Captain *Thomas Ewing's* Company, of regular forces, which was examined with the original, and ordered to be filed.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Stephen West* two hundred and fifty-nine Pounds nineteen Shillings and three Pence, for Powder and Lead purchased of him by the Convention.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, February 8, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay

to Lieutenant *John Kidd* six Pounds fifteen Shillings, for one month's pay.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Smallwood* a sum not exceeding fifteen hundred Pounds.

Commission issued to *Thomas Mayo*, appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain *John Boone's* Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel County*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Copy of Letter No. 9 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress; and a copy of No. 10 to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

*Ordered*, That the Register in Chancery immediately furnish the Council of Safety with a list of the Record Books in the Chancery Office, and prepare for the removal of the Records and Papers in said Office to such place as shall be directed by the said Council.

In consequence of the Resolve of the honourable Convention, made at *Annapolis*, on the 18th of *January* last past,

*Ordered*, That the Records of the Land Office, also, of the Secretary's Office, including the Provincial and Chancery Court, and also the Records of the Commissary's Office, be removed on *Monday* next from the City of *Annapolis* to *William Brown's* house, in *London Town*, and from thence on *Wednesday* next, if a fair day, to *Upper Marlborough*, and there be placed in the Store Houses of Messrs. *Samuel Hepburn* and *David Crawford*, under the care and management of one of the Clerks of the said Office respectively.

That the Records of the Secretary's Office, including the Provincial and Chancery Court, be committed to the care and management of Mr. *George Ranken*, one of the Clerks of the said Office.

That the Records of the Land Office be committed to the care and management of Mr. *David Stewart*, one of the Clerks of the said Office.

That the Records of the Commissary's Office be committed to the care and management of Mr. *Elie Vallette*, one of the Clerks of the said Office.

That two gentlemen of the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel County* be requested to attend the Records from the City of *Annapolis* to Mr. *William Brown's*, in *London Town*, and thence on *Wednesday* next, if a fair day, to *Queen Anne's*, when they are to deliver them to two gentlemen of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County*.

That two gentlemen of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County* be requested to receive the Records at *Queen Anne's*, on *Wednesday* next, and conduct them from thence, if a fair day, to *Upper Marlborough*, where they are to be lodged in the Store Houses of Messrs. *Samuel Hepburn* and *David Crawford*, agreeable to an order of this Council.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, February 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Rumsey* attended.

An agreement was made with Mr. *Hugh Young* for the exportation of Provision agreeable to a Resolution of Congress, also with Mr. *George Woolsey* for the like purpose, and copies thereof filed.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Hugh Young* fifteen hundred Pounds, currency.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to *George Woolsey* eighteen hundred Pounds, currency.

Permit was given to Mr. *Hugh Young* to export Tobacco and Iron, or Provision, and in return to import Salt.

Commission issued to *John Fulford*, appointed Captain of a Company of Matrosses, to be stationed at the City of *Annapolis*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Fulford* two hundred Pounds, common money, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County* be requested to collect all the publick Arms in their County; and where any of them have been delivered

into the hands of individuals out of repair, and have been put into good order and made fit for use by them at their own expense, that the said Committee transmit an account of the same to the Council of Safety, with the necessary expense incurred, that such individuals may be reimbursed out of the publick Treasury, unless otherwise agreed at the time of such delivery; also to attend particularly to those Arms which are still out of repair, and to have them put into good order as soon as possible, and as early as they conveniently can to furnish the Council with a state of the whole; and that the said Committee deliver such of the said Arms as are fit for service, and others as they are repaired, to Major Gist, or his order.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Spear*, of *Baltimore Town*, deliver to Colonel *Smallwood*, or to his order, one thousand nine hundred and eighty nine yards *Osnaburghs*, purchased of him by the Council of Safety, towards clothing the Regular Troops of this Province.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met pursuant to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Commissioners of the Loan Office be requested to furnish the Council of Safety with a list of the Bonds in that Office, and of the Obligors, the Date, and principal sums of Money in each, respectively.

A Letter was received from Mr. *Samuel Chase*, and answered.

A copy of the Letter No. 11 was sent to Captain *Nathaniel Ramsey*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, February 10, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 12 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *St. Mary's County*.

Mr. *George Ranken* delivers to the Council a list of the Record Books in the Chancery Office; which was ordered to be entered.

Commissions issued to *James Murray*, appointed Colonel; *John Dickinson*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Joseph Ennalls*, Jun., First Major; *Joseph Richardson*, Second Major, and *Robert Gilmer*, Quartermaster, of the Upper Battalion of Militia in *Dorchester County*.

Also, to *Thomas Ennalls*, appointed Colonel; *John Ennalls*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Robert Harrison*, First Major; *Thomas Muse*, Second Major, and *Thomas Jones*, Quartermaster, of the Lower Battalion of Militia in said County.

Also, to *William Traverse*, appointed Captain; *John Askom Traverse*, First Lieutenant; *Alexander Tolly*, Second Lieutenant, and *Phillips Ferguson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County, called the *Plymouth Greens*.

Also, to *Zacharias Campbell*, appointed Captain, and *Bartholomew Ennalls*, Jun., Second Lieutenant, of the *Transquakin* Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to Dr. *Thomas Bourke*, appointed Captain; *Ezekiel Vickers*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Fermin Eccleston*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Manning*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County, called the *Cambridge Blues*.

Also, to *Thomas Logan*, appointed First Lieutenant; *James Sullivan*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Pitt Airey*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County, called the *New-Market Blues*.

Copy of a Letter, No. 13, was sent to Mr. *William Spear*, of *Baltimore Town*.

Instructions and Sailing Orders were given to Captain *Thomas Moore*, of the Brig *Fortune*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *John Smith*, or his order, one thousand Pounds, agreeable to an order of the Committee of *Baltimore County*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Lux & Bowly* six hundred and eighty-seven Pounds four Shillings and one Penny, for clothing of the Troops.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

A Letter from the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*, respecting Captain *Joseph Robson's* Minute Company, was received, and answered.

Ordered, That Messrs. *William Lux* and *Daniel Bowly* deliver to Colonel *William Smallwood*, or his order, all the Cloth and Plush purchased by them by order of the Council of Safety for clothing the Regular Troops of this Province.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Allen Thomas* two hundred Pounds, currency, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Felix Lewis Massenbaugh* twenty Pounds, for his expense in attending the late Convention and this Council, and for his services as an Engineer.

Mr. *Felix Lewis Massenbaugh* was appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain *Fulford's* Artillery Company.

Captain *Thomas* proposed to the Council to procure Clothes and Blankets for his Company, the Council to allow him a sum not exceeding three Pounds five Shillings for each suit of Clothes, and a sum not exceeding fifteen Shillings for every Blanket; which was agreed to.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Monday, February 12, 1776.

Council met. Present as on *Saturday*.

Commissions issued to *Moses Lecompt*, Jun., appointed First Lieutenant of Captain *Joseph Robson's* Minute Company in *Dorchester County*, in the room of *Henry Keene*, who resigned, and to *Matthias Traverse*, Second Lieutenant of same Company.

A Letter was received from Captain *Joseph Robson*, concerning said Commissioners, and answered.

Ordered, That a commissioned officer and two privates, of Captain *William Hyde's* Company, guard the Records from the City of *Annapolis*.

And further Ordered, That a commissioned officer and two privates\*

Mr. *Richard Ridgely* was appointed Assistant Clerk to the Council of Safety, and qualified before Mr. *Jenifer* by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, February 13, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday; also *Thomas Smyth* and *Thomas Bedingfield Hands*, Esquires, who were qualified before Mr. *Jenifer*, by taking the oath prescribed by the Convention.

A Letter was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*, about Sulphur and Sail-Duck.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That Mr. *Charles Wallace*, Paymaster of the forces of this Province, enter into Bond, with sufficient security, in the sum of four thousand Pounds, currency, for the faithful discharge of his trust.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Watkins*, appointed Captain; *Thomas Noble Stockett*, First Lieutenant; *Samuel Watkins*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Harwood*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia belonging to the *South-River* Battalion of *Anne Arundel County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, February 14, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *John Watkins* two hundred Pounds, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Hindman* three hundred Pounds, to subsist and provide necessities for his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 15 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Talbot County*; a copy of Letter No. 16 to Captains *James Kent* and *William Henry*, in *Virginia*; and a copy of No. 17 to the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Robert Craig* five hundred Pounds, common money,

\* Blank here, in the Original.

to be lodged in the hands of Colonel *John Veazey*, to be by him laid out in the purchase of a ton of Gunpowder.

Commissions issued to *Archibald Anderson*, appointed First Lieutenant of Captain *James Hindman's* Independent Company, of regular troops, in the room of *William Goldsborough*, who resigned, and to *Edward Hindman*, appointed Second Lieutenant of said Company.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Copy of Letter No. 18 sent to Colonel *John Veazey*.

Mr. *Robert Craig* agreed with the Council to load the Brig *Blanche* with country produce, for the importation of Salt, agreeable to a Resolution of Congress.

Copy of agreement filed.

Adjourned till next day.

Thursday, February 15, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as yesterday, except Mr. *Hall*.

Commissions issued to *Abraham Simmons*, appointed Captain; *Thomas Tongue*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Morton*, Second Lieutenant, and *Abiel Hill*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel* County, belonging to the *South-River* Battalion.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messieurs *Samuel* and *Robert Purviance* five hundred and thirty-five Pounds eight Shillings, for Canvass, for the use of the forces of this Province, as per account.

Mr. *Robert Purviance* engages with the Council of Safety to return to them the four hundred and twenty-four yards of Canvass delivered to Mr. *Lux*; also, the one hundred and sixty-five yards delivered for the Sloop *Hornet*, and the one hundred and forty-three and a quarter yards delivered to Mr. *Hugh Young*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *St. George Peale* three Pounds nine Shillings, being the amount of his expense to *Marlborough*, to provide a house for the reception of the Records.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Robert Key* three Pounds ten Shillings, for Chests for the said Records.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, February 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Hall* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *William Brown* eight Pounds two Shillings and two Pence, being the expense of guarding the Records at his house.

Instructions and Sailing Orders were given to Captain *Francis Speake*, of the Ship *John*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messieurs *Jenifer & Hooe* one hundred and nine Pounds twelve Shillings and three Pence, being the balance of their account with the Province, as per account filed.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messieurs *John Archer & James Harris*, or their order, three hundred Pounds, to enable them to carry on their Linen Manufactory, in *Harford* County.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Robert Reynolds* two Pounds fifteen Shillings and six Pence, for three cords of Wood, for the use of the Council.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Woolford*, Captain of the Sixth Independent Company, of regular forces, in the room of *Samuel Barrett*, who resigned; and to *John Eccleston*, First Lieutenant, and *Hooper Hudson*, Second Lieutenant, of said Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Patrick Ewing* eighty Pounds, on account of Captain *Nathaniel Ramsay's* Company.

The Council agreed this day with Mr. *Samuel Cummins*, as Contractor for the Rations to be supplied the Battalion,

and Matross, and Independent Companies, raised by this Province, at, and for the sum of eight Pence three Farthings, common currency, in bills of credit issued by the Convention of this Province, each Ration; and further, that in case of the removal of any magazine of provisions from any particular place where the said Troops, or any part of them, may happen to be stationed, the Council of Safety agree to have the same removed at the risk and expense of the publick, as well as all carriage by land from the shore. And also agree to advance the sum of four thousand Pounds, within a month from the date hereof, and one thousand five hundred Pounds within two weeks from the expiration of the said month, to said Contractor, against any extraordinary expense or loss of Provisions that may happen from seizure, or destruction by the enemy; unless it should be occasioned by the negligence or carelessness of the said Contractor; and to settle accounts monthly.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, February 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Carroll*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Charles Wallace* fifteen hundred Pounds; and that the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay him five hundred Pounds, to be applied occasionally towards discharging the pay of the forces of this Province.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Peter Adams* two hundred Pounds, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Woolford* one hundred and fifty Pounds, for the purposes mentioned in the above order.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *George Stricker* four hundred and thirty-two Pounds sixteen Shillings, for subsist money, and to purchase Rifles, for the use of his Company of Light Infantry.

Mr. *Nicholas Harwood*, one of the Clerks of the Loan Office, delivered to the Council a copy of the names of the principals and securities, and also the sums due on Bonds in sterling, in the Loan Office; which was ordered to be filed.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *John Bullen* sixteen Pounds, for carting the Records.

Adjourned till Monday morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, February 19, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on Saturday, except Mr. *Hall*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Thomas Crackells* thirty Shillings, for riding express from *Marlborough* to this City.

A copy of a Letter (No. 18) was sent to the Committee of Safety, in *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That the Paymaster of the forces of this Province pay to Lieutenant *Thomas Goldsmith* fifteen Pounds, on account of Captain *Fulford's* Artillery Company.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

A copy of a Letter (No. 19) was sent to *Gustavus Scott*, Esquire, of *Somerset* County.

Ordered, That the Paymaster pay to Captain *Barton Lucas* one hundred Pounds, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That *John Youst* deliver unto Captain *Barton Lucas*, (for training his men,) or his order, all the Muskets, &c., which he has made for the use of this Province, and have been proved by Messieurs *Richard Thompson* and *Thomas Richardson*; and transmit an account of the number he shall deliver to the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That a Letter be sent to the Supervisors of the Saltpetre Works in this Province, respectively, in the words following, to wit:

SIR: The Committee of Safety for the City of *Philadelphia* have been kind enough to offer the Council of Safety that the managers of their publick Saltpetre works should

instruct any persons whom we might recommend to them for that purpose; therefore, should you find any difficulty arise in the management of the works under your care, you may (if you think proper) apply to their managers for such instructions as you may want.

The Council of Safety is very desirous of knowing what forwardness the works under your management are in, and request you would, from time to time, communicate to them what quantity of crude nitre you expect to furnish the publick with.

Adjourned till next day, half after nine o'clock.

Tuesday, February 20, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. Hall attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. William Spear one hundred and sixty-eight Pounds twelve Shillings and two Pence, being the balance of his accounts with the Province, as per account filed.

Commission issued to Felix Lucas Massenbaugh, appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain Fulford's Company of Matrosses.

Also, to Fielder Bowie, appointed Captain of a Company of Militia, in Prince George's County, belonging to the Eleventh Battalion.

Letter received from Colonel Sim, of Prince George's County, and answered. (Vide No. 20.)

Ordered, That the Paymaster pay unto Lieutenant Bennett Brano one hundred Pounds, on account of Captain Rezin Beall's Company.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met according to adjournment.

Captain Nathaniel Smith sent to the Council of Safety a copy of the Enrollment of his Company, which was examined with the original, and ordered to be filed.

Ordered, That Captain John Fulford be appointed to prove the Cannon to be furnished by Messieurs Samuel and Daniel Hughes, for the use of the Province, and that the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of Frederick County furnish him with Powder sufficient for that purpose.

A copy of the above order was sent to Captain Fulford, enclosed in a Letter, requesting him to comply therewith. (Vide No. 21.)

A copy of a Letter, (No. 22,) was sent to the Committee of Observation for Baltimore County.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, February 21, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurers be directed to exchange the Bills of Credit of this Province for any sum in Gold or Silver Coin that may be lodged with them by the several persons appointed to collect the same, to comply with the resolve of Congress.

Copies of Letter No. 23 were sent to the Committees of Observation for Worcester, Dorchester, Talbot, and Calvert Counties, respectively.

Mr. Tilghman has leave of absence.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, February 22, 1776.

Council met. Present the same as yesterday, except Mr. Tilghman and Mr. Hall.

Commissions issued to James Tootell, appointed Captain, Philemon Warfield, First Lieutenant, Launcelot Warfield, Second Lieutenant, and Thomas Warfield, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in Anne Arundel County.

Also, to George Watts, appointed Captain, David Kerr, First Lieutenant, Joseph Mackubin, Second Lieutenant, and Joshua Cromwell, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to Henry Hall, appointed Captain, John Worthington, (son of Brice,) First Lieutenant, Nicholas Worthington, Jun., Second Lieutenant, and Gilbert Teildhall, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to Absalom Anderson, appointed Ensign of Captain

Thomas Mulliken's Company, in said County, all belonging to the Severn Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. Robert Cummins four thousand Pounds, within a month from the 16th instant.

In consequence of the Resolve of the honourable Convention, made at Annapolis, 18th January last,

Ordered, That the Records of Anne Arundel County Court be removed to-morrow morning, if fair, if not, the first fair day, from the City of Annapolis to Mr. Rezin Gaither's house, in said County, and there committed to the care of one of the Clerks of Mr. John Brice.

Copy of Letter No. 24 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, February 23, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. Jenifer, who was directed by the Council to attend Mr. Johnson on publick business at Baltimore Town. Mr. Hall attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. Elie Vallette nine Pounds six Shillings, being the expense of removing the Records of the Commissary's Office.

Messieurs John Shaw and Archibald Chisholm agreed with the Council of Safety to stock the Gun-barrels made by Mr. Isaac Harris for the use of this Province, at the price the same are done in Philadelphia.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* deliver to Messrs. John Shaw and Archibald Chisholm fifty of the Gun-barrels left with him by Mr. Isaac Harris, to be stocked by said Shaw and Chisholm, and take their receipt for the same.

Ordered, That Major Thomas Tillard deliver to Mr. Isaac Harris three barrels of Gunpowder belonging to this Province, to be by him brought under a guard to the City of Annapolis, and there delivered to the Council of Safety, or to their order.

That the said Isaac Harris be empowered to hire a cart, and one or more horses, as also to employ two persons to assist him in bringing said three barrels of Gunpowder from Pig-Point to Annapolis, and to be a guard on the same.

That Colonel John Hall be, and he is hereby, appointed to receive the Gunpowder from Isaac Harris, and that he take care that the same be stored in some safe place in the City of Annapolis; and that the said John Hall deliver out, or cause to be delivered out, to Isaac Harris, so much of the said Gunpowder as may be necessary for proving the Muskets now made or making by him.

That Isaac Harris call on Mr. Stephen West, and request him to send up to the Council of Safety, by the said Harris, all the Gunlocks and Cutteau-Knives now in his possession, heretofore agreed for by Colonel Smallwood.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, February 24, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. John Bullin twenty-nine Pounds twelve Shillings and two Pence, for twelve hundred and seventy-five pounds of Sulphur.

A Letter was received from Colonel George Dashiell, and answered. (Vide No. 25.)

A Letter was received from the Committee of Correspondence for Queen Anne's County, and answered. (Vide No. 26.)

Also, a copy of a Letter, (No. 27,) sent to Colonel Peter Waters, of Somerset County.

Commissions issued to Phumer Williams, Captain, Benjamin Schoolfield, First Lieutenant, Ebenezer Finley, Second Lieutenant, and Thomas Williams, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in Somerset County.

Also, to William Fountain, Captain, Daniel Maddux, First Lieutenant, Staughton Maddux, Second Lieutenant, and Collin Fountain, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County, both belonging to the Seventeenth Battalion.

A Letter was received from Captain *James Hindman*, and answered. (Vide No. 28.)

Mr. *Hall* has leave of absence.

Council adjourns to *Baltimore* Town, till *Monday* next.

Baltimore Town, Monday, February 26, 1776.

Council met. Present as on *Saturday* last, except Mr. *Hall*. Mr. *Jenifer* and Mr. *Carroll* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *John Eccleston* thirty-five Pounds, on account of Captain *Thomas Woolford's* Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *Edward Veazey* two hundred Pounds, for subsist and advance money for his Recruits.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Veazey* three hundred and fifty Pounds, on account of his Company.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, February 27, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That Mr. *George Matthews* and Captain *Nathaniel Smith* be appointed to prove the Cannon to be furnished by Messrs. *Samuel* and *Daniel Hughes*, for the use of the Province; and that the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County deliver to Mr. *Matthews* and Captain *Smith*, or either of them, Powder sufficient for that purpose; the order of the 20th instant to Captain *Fulford* being superseded by reason of his necessary attendance here.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, February 28, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Instructions and Sailing Orders were given to Captain *George Wise*, of the Brigantine *Nancy*.

A Petition of sundry inhabitants of *Anne Arundel* County, against the issuing Commissions to the Officers of Mr. *John Burgess's* Company, which was referred by the late Convention to the Council of Safety, was read.

And thereupon Ordered, That the same be taken into consideration on *Friday*, the 8th of *March* next; and that notice be given to the parties concerned to attend the Council, at the City of *Annapolis*, on that day.

Summons issued to Major *Henry Ridgely* and Mr. *John Burgess*, accordingly.

Commissions issued to *Richard Stringer*, appointed Captain, *William Spurrier*, First Lieutenant, *Caleb Dorsey*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nicholas Ridgely*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel* County, belonging to the *Elkridge* Battalion.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, February 29, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Mr. *James Hutchings* agreed with the Council to load the Schooner *Fanny*, *James Carmichael* master, with country produce, for the importation of Salt, agreeable to a resolve of Congress.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Doctor *Alexander Stenhouse* four hundred and thirty-eight Pounds three Shillings and two Pence, for Medicines purchased of him by the Council of Safety for the use of the forces of this Province.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Daniel* and *John McHenry* four hundred and twenty-three Pounds three Shillings and six Pence, for four thousand and sixty-two and a half yards of *Osnaburghs*, purchased of them for the use of the regular Troops of this Province.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Daniel* and *John McHenry* deliver to Major *Gist* four thousand and sixty-two and a half yards of *Osnaburghs*, purchased of them by the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Robert* and *Samuel Purviance* deliver to Major *Gist* all the Canvass now in their possession, purchased of *Monsieur Jugé*, for Tents, by the late

Convention; and that he procure the same to be immediately made up.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, March 1, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That Major *Gist* furnish Captain *Fulford* with a quantity of Cloth sufficient to clothe his Company.

Mr. *Richard Ruxton Moore*, now appointed Third Lieutenant of Captain *Fulford's* Company of Matrosses. Commission issued to him accordingly.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *William Smith*, and *David Stewart*, pay to Messrs. *William Lux* and *Daniel Bowly* twelve hundred and two Pounds eighteen Shillings and nine Pence, being the balance of their account with the Province, in consequence of an adventure by the Schooner *Seaflower*.

Permit was granted to Messrs. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *William Smith*, and *David Stewart*, and others, concerned in the adventure per the Schooner *Seaflower*, to export the produce of this Province to the amount of four hundred and eighty-nine Pounds and five Pence, agreeable to a resolution of Congress.

Doctor *George Budd* was appointed Surgeon of the Ship *Defence*, and Doctor *Nathan Dorsey* Mate.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, March 2, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Commission issued to *Lilburn Williams*, appointed Third Lieutenant of Captain *Thomas Fulford's* Independent Company.

Resolved, That Major *Gist* be empowered to contract for fifty Camp-Kettles, and as many Hats as may be necessary for the Battalion, not exceeding seven Shillings each.

Mr. *Hugh Young* agreed with the Council to load the Schooner *Peggy* with country produce, and in return to import Salt, agreeable to a resolution of Congress.

Doctor *Charles Frederick Weisenthal* was appointed Surgeon of the Battalion.

Commission issued to *George Welch*, appointed Ensign of Captain *John Cox's* Company of Militia in *Baltimore* County, in the room of *David McClellan*, who removed out of the Province.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *David Grant* six Pounds fifteen Shillings, for the use of his room and Doorkeeper.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Lux* one thousand Pounds, currency, on account of the Ship *Defence*.

Adjourned to the City of *Annapolis*, till *Monday* next.

Annapolis, Monday, March 4, 1776.

Present of the Council, Mr. *Hall*, Mr. *Smyth*, and Mr. *Hands*.

A sufficient number of Members to compose a Council not having met, they adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, March 5, 1776.

Council met. Present: Mr. *Jenifer*, Mr. *Carroll*, Mr. *Hall*, Mr. *Tilghman*, and Mr. *Hands*. Mr. *Smyth* has leave of absence.

Seven o'clock at night.—The Council being informed by the Pilot-Boats stationed to gain and communicate intelligence, that a Ship-of-War was making up the Bay, a Letter was immediately sent by express to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, informing them thereof.

A Letter was also sent to Colonel *John Hall*, (vide No. 29,) and copies of the Letter No. 30 to Colonels *Thomas Dorsey* and *John Weems*, respectively.

Adjourned till next day, eight o'clock.

Wednesday, March 6, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That Captain *George Stricker's* Company of



Light Infantry immediately march to their station at the City of *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk twenty Pounds, to pay expenses and for other purposes; and that he render an account thereof.

Commissions issued to *James Brice*, appointed Captain, *St. George Peale*, First Lieutenant, *Frederick Green*, Second Lieutenant, *Nicholas Maccubbin*, Jun., Ensign, of an Independent Company in the City of *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Charles Wallace*, Esquire, one hundred and fifty Pounds, currency, for money advanced by him to Captain *Barton Lucas* for inlistments and subsist money, on his producing said *Lucas's* receipt for that sum, and lodging the same with the Treasurer.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met pursuant to adjournment.

The publick service requiring that the Regular forces now in *Annapolis* be armed as quick as possible,

Ordered, That Captain *William Hyde* deliver up to Major *Thomas Price* the eighty stands of publick Arms now in the possession of the said Captain *Hyde*, or of his Company of Militia, together with all things belonging to the said eighty stands of Arms; and that a receipt be given by the said Major *Thomas Price* for the same, or such part thereof as may be delivered; and that said Major *Thomas Price* return a list to the Council of what Arms he may receive.

Copies of Letter No. 31 were sent to the several Committees of Observation for *Frederick County*, respectively.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Thursday, March 7, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Commissions issued to *Bennett Combs*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *James Williams*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *St. Mary's County*.

Also, to *William Winters*, appointed Captain, *George Dent*, Jun., First Lieutenant, *Burdit Hamilton*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Barker*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Charles County*.

Also, to *William McPherson*, appointed Captain, *Peter Green*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Green*, Jun., Second Lieutenant, and *Leonard Hambleton*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Benjamin Philpot*, appointed Captain, *Henry Dent*, First Lieutenant, *Burford Cottrell*, Second Lieutenant, and *Philip Marshall*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Walter Hanson*, (son of *John*), appointed Captain, *Thomas Semes*, First Lieutenant, *Joseph W. Harrison*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Beale Turner*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *John Hanson*, (youngest), appointed Captain, *Henry Massey Hanson*, First Lieutenant, *James Russell*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Griffin*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Jonathan Yates*, appointed Captain, *Richard Hendly Cauts*, First Lieutenant, *John Neal*, Second Lieutenant, and *Raphael Boarman*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Walter Winter*, appointed Captain, *Richard Bennett Boarman*, First Lieutenant, *Jonathan Thomas*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nehemiah Gibbons*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *George Swann*, appointed Captain, *John Gwinn*, First Lieutenant, *Michael Stone*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Lamar*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Thomas Hanson Marshall*, appointed Captain, *George Dent*, First Lieutenant, *Henry Ward*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Grant*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *John Muskett*, appointed First Lieutenant, *William McCorkle*, Second Lieutenant, and *Samuel Stone*, Ensign, of Captain *Robert Sinnitts's* Company of Militia in said County.

Ordered, That Major *Price* immediately collect all the Lead in Town, and particularly the Buckshot, and lodge the same in the Magazine.

Mr. *Isaac Harris* was appointed Armourer to the Troops stationed in *Annapolis*.

In consequence of a Letter from two of the Deputies of this Province in Congress, permission was given to *Alexander Ross* to pass to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

Copy of Letter No. 32 was sent to the said Committee, in consequence of the above permission.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That Messrs. *Thomas Charles Williams & Co.*, deliver to Major *Price*, or his order, all the Gun-Flints purchased from them for the use of the Province.

Ordered, That Colonel *John Weems* immediately march his Battalion to *South-River Ferry*, and quarter them there, part on this and part on the other side of the Ferry; and should the Man-of-War and her Tenders attempt any landing there, that he be ready to repel them.

Ordered, That a copy of the above order be immediately despatched to Colonel *Weems* per express.

Copy of Letter No. 32 was sent by express to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

Copy of No. 33, by express, to Colonel *William Smallwood*.

Copy of No. 34, by express, to the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County*.

Copy of No. 35, by express, to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*; and copy of No. 36, per express, to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*.

Mr. *Carroll* was requested to go to *Baltimore Town* to assist in the necessary preparations there.

Ordered, That Captain *Rezin Beall's* Independent Company be stationed one half of them at *Port-Tobacco*, in *Charles County*, and the other half at *Drum-Point*, in *Calvert County*; and that they march to their several stations as soon as possible.

Copy of Letter No. 37 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Calvert County*.

Dr. *Michael Wallace* was appointed First Surgeon's Mate to the Battalion.

Commission issued to *William Frazer*, appointed Third Lieutenant of Captain *James Hindman's* Independent Company, in the room of *Pollard Edmonson*, who resigned.

Friday, March 8, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Carroll*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*, one thousand Pounds, currency, on account of Provisions for the Militia now in *Baltimore Town*.

A Letter was received from the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*, and answered. (Vide No. 38.)

Copy of Letter No. 39 was sent to Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine*; and a copy of No. 40 to Captain *James Hindman*.

Ordered, That Major *Thomas Price* deliver out of the publick Magazine to Colonel *Rezin Hammond*, forty pounds of Powder, one hundred and sixty pounds of Buckshot, and one hundred and twenty Gun-Flints, for the use of the *Severn Battalion*, to be safely kept by him, until necessity of going into actual service may require its being delivered out to the Militia.

Copy of Letter No. 41 was sent to Colonel *Joshua Beall*.

Ordered, That Captain *Pitt* and Mr. *Middleton* keep a good look-out in the Bay, near the mouth of this River, and see that no Vessel pass out of the harbour, or from below, to the mouth of *Patapsco*, unless they have licenses so to do from the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That Major *Tillard* deliver to Colonel *John Weems*, or his order, for the use of the Province, a barrel of Gunpowder now at *Pig-Point*, in the possession and under the care of the said *Tillard*, but that Colonel *Weems* do not distribute the same among the Companies of his Battalion until the service of the publick makes it absolutely requisite.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Richard Hall* fifty-two Pounds, currency, to pay the expense of carting the Records.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the Petition of *Henry Ridgely* and others, was referred to a future day, to be appointed by the Council; the *Elkridge* Battalion being ordered on duty to *Baltimore Town*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Thomas Hyde* fifty-five Pounds one Shilling and four Pence half-penny, for three thousand four hundred and eighty-one pounds of Lead.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Youst* two Pounds eleven Shillings and seven Pence, currency, for repairing Guns.

Ordered, That Captain *Barton Lucas* immediately march his Company to their station at the City of *Annapolis*.

Copy of Letter No. 42 was sent to the Committee of *Alexandria*, and copy of Letter No. 43 was sent to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*; copy of Letter No. 44 was sent to Mr. *Carroll*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

— Saturday, March 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 45 was sent to Mr. *Carroll*, enclosing a copy of Letter No. 46 to Captain *Stricker*.

Copy of Letter No. 47 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Talbot County*.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County* deliver to Colonel *John Weems*, or his order, one barrel of the Gunpowder purchased of Mr. *West*.

Ordered, That Major *Price* deliver to Colonel *Weems* two hundred Gun-Flints.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That Captain *Thomas Woolford's* Independent Company, of regular troops, be stationed at *Cambridge*, in *Dorchester County*.

Ordered, That Captain *James Hindman's* Company, of regular forces, be stationed at *Oxford*, in *Talbot County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Dr. *Michael Wallace* five Pounds, current money, for Lint.

Copy of Letter No. 48 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester County*.

Ordered, That Captain *John Gunby's* Independent Company, of regular troops, be stationed at *Princess Anne*, in *Somerset County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *Gunby* one hundred and fifty Pounds, on account of his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 49 was sent to Captain *Gunby*.

Ordered, That Colonel *John Weems* be directed to order two Companies of his Battalion, well armed, into the City of *Annapolis*, and hold the rest of his men ready to repel any hostilities that may be attempted against any part of the coast, in his department, by the Sloop-of-War or either of her Tenders, who are now off the mouth of the River *Severn*.

Copy of Letter No. 50 was sent to Mr. *Carroll*, and the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore County*.

Ordered, That Colonel *John Weems* be directed to march the remainder of his Battalion, now at *London Town*, and all the Militia in his department that he can get together who have not appeared there, and station them at proper places, to guard the shore where the Sloop-of-War and her Tenders are most likely to attempt landing.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

— Sunday, March 10, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

A Letter from Captain *Squires*, of the *Otter* sloop-of-war, to his Excellency the Governour, together with his Excellency's answer thereto, were communicated to the Council; upon which a copy of Letter No. 51 was sent to his Excellency by the Council.

An Express was sent to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey*, directing him to discharge the Battalion of Militia under his command.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County* one thousand Pounds, currency, on account of the Fortifications there.

Ordered, That Major *Gist* deliver to Lieutenant *John Stewart* one hundred Cartouch-Boxes.

Ordered, That Colonel *Francis Ware* send fifteen hundred weight of Lead immediately to the Committee of *Baltimore County*.

Copy of Letter No. 52 was sent to Mr. *Carroll* and the *Baltimore Committee*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

— Monday, March 11, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Orders were sent to Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine* and Colonel *Beall*, respectively, to discharge their Militia.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk twenty Pounds, currency, for expenses and other purposes.

Ordered, That Colonel *John Weems* be directed to march his Militia, or such of them as may be necessary, to repel any attempt that now is or may be made by the *Otter Sloop*, or her Tenders, at the mouth of *Fishing-Creek*, as also to be ready to assist the *Calvert Militia*.

Colonel *Ware* was ordered down to take the command of the Militia.

Copy of Letter No. 53 was sent to the Deputies in Congress.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

— Tuesday, March 12, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 54 was sent to the Committee of Observation of *Baltimore County*.

Copy of Letter No. 55 was sent to Captains *William Henry* and *James Kent*, of the Minute Companies in *Virginia*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

— Wednesday, March 13, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Mr. *Smyth* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for *Harford County* four hundred Pounds, currency, on account of the Minute Companies there.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Thomas Dorsey* two hundred Pounds, currency, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Omensetter* thirty Pounds, currency, on account of his contract with Mr. *Alexander*.

Copy of Letter No. 56 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Harford County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Rezin Beall* the sum of three hundred Pounds, currency, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, four thousand Pounds, currency, to be accounted for.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Mr. *Carroll* returned from *Baltimore Town*.

Mr. *Joseph Marbury* was appointed Quartermaster of the Battalion of Regular Troops.

Copy of Letter No. 57 was sent to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

— Thursday, March 14, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That Major *Price* be empowered to purchase or contract for the making of two hundred Rifles, with proper Powder-horns and Pouches.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., one hundred and twenty Pounds, currency, for so much in specie by him paid to *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, Esq.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *James Dick* the sum of twenty-one Pounds and nine Shillings, for Lead and Flints.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robert Townsend Hooe* be requested immediately to load the Sloop *Molly*, Captain *Conway*, with Tobacco, Corn, Flour, and Staves, on account and risk of this Province, upon the best and most reasonable terms; and that he apply to the Council of Safety for sailing orders for her when ready.

Ordered, That Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Independent Company be stationed at *Leonardtown*, in *St. Mary's* County.

Ordered, That Captain *John Watkins's* Independent Company be stationed at *Snow-Hill*, in *Worcester* County; that one half of Captain *Edward Veazey's* Independent Company be stationed in *Chestertown*, in *Kent* County, and the other half at *Blunt's Warehouse*, on *Kent Island*, in *Queen Anne's* County.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Robert Townsend Hooe* nine hundred Pounds, currency, on account of the above adventure.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County send two thousand five hundred pounds of Lead to the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Wells* seven Pounds seven Shillings and seven Pence, for three hundred and twenty-two pounds of Beef, given as a compliment by the Council of Safety to Captain *Boucher*, he having restored five Prisoners.

Ordered, That Captain *Joshua Beall*, of *Prince George's* County, deliver to Colonel *William Smallwood*, or his order, thirty barrels of Gunpowder imported in the Sloop *Molly*, *Thomas Conway*, Master.

Friday, March 15, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Commission issued to *Samuel Griffith*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Richard Finley*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Robinson*, Ensign, of Captain *William Frisby's* Company of Militia in *Kent* County.

Ordered, That Colonel *William Smallwood* be empowered to purchase all the Blankets and Cloth at *Bladensburg* and *Georgetown*, for the use of the Troops of this Province, and to convey the same to the City of *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That *James Tibbet*, master of the Brig *Wild Duck*, deliver to Mr. *William Houston* two thousand pounds weight of Gunpowder, and all the Small-Arms and accoutrements thereto belonging, the property of the Province of *Maryland*, imported in said Brig.

Copy of Letter No. 58 was sent to Mr. *Daniel Bowly*, of *Baltimore Town*.

The thanks of the Council were delivered by the President to Captain *Nicholson*, of the Ship *Defence*. (Vide No. 59.)

Copy of Letter No. 60 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Adam Lemaistre* two hundred Pounds, currency, for Medicine.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Stone*, Esq., one hundred and fifty Pounds, to defray the expenses of his deputation to the Congress.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Saturday, March 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Jenifer*.

Commissions issued to *Robert Bowie*, First Lieutenant, *William N. Dorsett*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Hoye*, Ensign of a Company of Militia in *Prince George's* County.

Also, to *William Ringgold*, appointed Captain, *Charles Cook*, First Lieutenant, *James Stinson*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Bailey*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Queen Anne's* County.

Commissions issued to *John Costen*, appointed Captain, *John Fisher*, First Lieutenant, *Andrew Sylvester*, Second Lieutenant, and *Henry Pratt*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Commissions issued to *James Boardley*, appointed Captain, *John Kent*, First Lieutenant, *James Earle*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nathan Brown*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Nathaniel Wright*, appointed Captain, *George Hanson*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Emory*, Second Lieutenant, and *Peter Ritch*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Nichols* five Pounds, currency, for two and a half days' Wagon-hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *John Stewart* two hundred Pounds, currency, on account of Captain *Thomas's* Company.

The thanks of the Council were sent to the several Brigadier-Generals, respectively. (Vide No. 61.)

Resolved, That as the exigencies may sometimes require that the Militia should be called into service before it can be convenient for the Brigadier-General of the Upper District of the *Eastern-Shore* to receive particular orders from the Council of Safety; and as no Field-Officers have been appointed to the command of the several Battalions of Militia in *Kent* County, it is recommended that the Committee of Observation for said County, until Field-Officers be appointed for the same, direct and regulate the operations of the Militia of the said County, in repelling any sudden attack or invasion, where circumstances will not admit of their applying to the Council of Safety or Brigadier-General of the Upper District for the *Eastern-Shore*, as they shall think most proper for the defence of said County; but it is requested that neither the said Brigadier-General or the said Committee proceed to act without receiving their orders from the Council of Safety or the said Committee, or without having their instructions from the Council or said Brigadier, where the circumstances of the case will admit an application for such orders or instructions without hazarding the publick safety. And that in all instances where the said Brigadier shall act without particular instructions, that he immediately convey intelligence of the cause and manner of their proceedings to the Council; and where the said Committee act without applying to the Council or the said Brigadier, that they also communicate, with the utmost despatch, the cause and manner of their proceedings to the Council, as well as to the said Brigadier, where it may be conveniently done. And the Militia of the said County are required to obey all such orders as shall be made by the said Brigadier or the said Committee in pursuance of this Resolve.

Copy of Letter No. 62 was sent to the Deputies in Congress.

The gentlemen appointed the 21st of *January* last to make a Chart of the Land and Water at the mouth of this River, specifying the width and depth of the Channel between *Horn-Point* and *Greenbury's Point*, returned a Chart thereof, and delivered the same to the Council; which was ordered to lie on the table.

Sunday, March 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

A Letter was received from Mr. *Chamberlaine*, Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County, and answered. (Vide No. 63.)

Copy of Letter No. 64 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Wright*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Major *Price* five hundred Pounds, currency, for Rifles.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County deliver to Major *Price* fifteen hundred Flints, five thousand pounds of Lead in Bullets, all the Hangers, Broad-swords, and Cutlasses; and also all the Arms belonging to the Province that are fit for service.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Major *Gist* one hundred and fifty Pounds, currency, to be accounted for.

Mr. *Hands* has leave of absence.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Monday, March 18, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Hands*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* deliver to Mr. *Charles Wallace* unsigned Bills of Credit, of this Province, to the amount of six thousand Pounds.

Copy of Letter No. 65 was sent to *William Hindman*, Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Williams*, appointed First Major, and *Thomas Snowden*, Second Major, of the Twenty-Fifth Battalion of Militia in *Prince George's* County.

Also, to *Thomas Richardson*, appointed Captain, *Ralph Crabb*, First Lieutenant, and *William Holmes*, Second Lieutenant, of a Company of Militia in said County.

And, also, to *Basil Waring*, the 3d, appointed Captain, and *William D. Beall*, First Lieutenant, of a Company of Militia in said County, belonging to the Twenty-Fifth Battalion.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Mr. *Jenifer* attended.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Joshua Beall*, of *Prince George's* County, deliver unto *George Mason* and *John Dalton*, Esquires, of *Fairfax* County, *Virginia*, or their order, ten barrels of Gunpowder, imported in the Sloop *Molly*, *Thomas Conway*, Master.

Copy of Letter No. 66 was sent to *George Mason* and *John Dalton*, Esquires.

Copy of Letter No. 67 was sent to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and copies of No. 68 to the Honourable *George Plater*, Esq., and Brigadier-General *Dent*, respectively.

*Ordered*, That a Magazine be built, at the publick expense, in the neighbourhood of Captain *James Tootell's*, under the inspection of *John Hall*, Esq., upon the following plan, viz: A brick-house, sixteen feet square, with a pigeon-house roof. The walls to be two bricks to the first floor, and a brick and a half afterwards; about nine feet pitch; walls to be battened with wooden blocks, and lathed and plastered; two small windows with iron bars; one door; two small centry boxes made with plank on end; an iron rod to prevent lightning falling on the Magazine.

As it may sometimes be necessary for the defence of this Province, that the Militia should be called into service to repel sudden attacks and invasions before it can be convenient for the Brigadiers-General and other Field-Officers to receive particular orders from the Council of Safety:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That, upon such exigencies, the several Brigadiers-General may call out and direct and regulate the operations of the Militia in their respective Districts according to the best of their skill and judgment; and that the other Field-Officers, where circumstances will not admit of their applying either to the Council of Safety or their Brigadiers for orders, have the like powers with respect to their several Battalions. But it is required that, in all instances where the Brigadiers shall proceed without particular orders, they immediately convey intelligence of the cause and manner of their proceedings to the Council of Safety; and where the other Field-Officers act without applying to the Council of Safety or their Brigadier, that they also communicate with the utmost despatch the cause and manner of their proceedings, to the Council of Safety, as well as to their Brigadier, when, from his situation, it may be conveniently done. And the Militia are required to obey all such orders as shall be made by the Brigadiers, or other Field-Officers, in pursuance of this resolve.

*Ordered*, That copies of the above Resolve be sent to the several Brigadiers-General respectively, requesting them to furnish the Colonel of each Battalion in their respective Districts with a copy thereof.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County send, under a guard of a commissioned officer and two privates of Captain *Veazey's* Company, two barrels and a half of Gunpowder, out of the Powder received from Captain *Tibbet*, to the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County, or to such person or persons as they shall appoint to receive it; also two barrels to the Committee of *Talbot* County; and one barrel to the said Committee, for the use of the Committee of *Caroline* County; and four and a half barrels to Mr. *Richard Harrison*, of *Cambridge*, for the use of *Dorchester*, *Somerset*, and *Worcester* Counties.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County send, under a guard of a commissioned officer and two privates of Captain *Woolford's* Company, one barrel of Gunpowder to the Committee of *Worcester* County, or to such person or persons as they shall appoint to receive it.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Stephen West* ninety-five Pounds eleven Shillings and one Penny, for Gunlocks and Cutteau-Knives.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County fifty-two Pounds and ten Pence, currency, to reimburse them for the expenses incurred in arming and accoutring Captain *Kent's* Minute Company.

Copy of Letter No. 69 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County; and copy of No. 70 to Mr. *Hugh Young*, of *Baltimore* Town.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Patrick Sim* thirty-nine Pounds thirteen Shillings, for Blankets for his Company.

*Stephen Gartrill* and *James Morris*, together with the charge against them, being sent under guard to the Council, by the Committee of Observation for the *Elkridge* Department of *Anne Arundel* County,

*Ordered*, That the said *Stephen Gartrill* and *James Morris* be committed to the custody of Colonel *William Smallwood*, till to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, March 20, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 71 was sent to Mr. *William Ennalls*, of *Dorchester* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *William Lux* and *David Bowly* one hundred and ninety-one Pounds six Shillings and six Pence, for clothing for the Troops.

Copy of Letter No. 72 was sent to Colonel *John Veazey*, of *Cecil* County.

*Ordered*, That all Vessels loaded with country produce on account and risk of this Province, proceed as soon as may be on their voyage, agreeable to contract.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County be requested to furnish the Council of Safety with an account of the Gunpowder and chests of Arms received by them from the northward, and also of the Cartouch-boxes delivered the Militia upon the late alarm, and to collect and lodge them in the Magazine at *Baltimore* Town; also to prove the Cannon offered the Committee by Mr. *Hercules Courtenay*, at his expense, and report the value and condition thereof to the Council.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Smallwood* be requested to send *Stephen Gartrill* and *James Morris*, under a guard, immediately to the Council of Safety.

Commissions issued to *Timothy McNemarra*, appointed Captain, *John Stewart McNemarra*, First Lieutenant, *Charles Johnson*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Carwan*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Dorchester* County.

Also, to *Benjamin Keene*, appointed Captain, *John Keene*, Jun., First Lieutenant, *Richard Tubman*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Griffith*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

The Proceedings of the Committee of *Anne Arundel* County having been read, charging *Stephen Gartrill* during

the time Mr. *Richard Hall* was on duty at *Baltimore Town*, with endeavouring to seduce said *Richard Hall* from his post; and the said *Stephen Gartrill* having been called upon and heard in his defence, and alleging, in excuse, that he was requested by the wife of the said *Richard Hall*, who had lately lost her child, to come home, and that he had no designs inimical to the people of this Province,

*Ordered*, That the said *Stephen Gartrill* ask pardon for his offence, at the head of the *Elkridge* Battalion, at the time of their next meeting, and that he be discharged on payment of one moiety of all expenses attending the bringing him down to *Annapolis*, and of the guard staying here.

The Proceedings of the Committee of Observation of *Anne Arundel* County being read, charging *James Morris* with speaking words inimical to the liberties of *America*, and that he was suspected of other high and dangerous offences, and the said *Morris* being called upon and heard in his defence,

*Ordered*, That the said *James Morris* give security for his appearance before the Committee of Observation, on the 1st *Thursday* in *April* next, and for his good behaviour in the mean time; and that he be dismissed for the present, on complying with the above order, and paying one moiety of all expenses attending the bringing him down to *Annapolis*, and of the guard staying here.

Copy of Letter No. 73 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel* County.

*James Morris*, recognized to the Council, in the sum of twenty Pounds, and three securities (*Richard Hall*, *Alexander Molville*, and *Stephen Gartrill*) in the sum of ten Pounds, currency, each, for the appearance of *James Morris* before the Committee of Observation for *Anne Arundel* County, on the 1st *Thursday* in *April* next, and for his good behaviour in the mean time.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of *Henry Ridgely* and others, against issuing Commissions to the Officers of Captain *John Burgess's* Company, be taken into consideration on *Wednesday*, the 3d day of *April* next, and that notice be given to the parties to attend the Council on that day.

Notice was given accordingly.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Joseph Robson*, of *Dorchester* County, deliver to Captain *Thomas Woolford* ten Muskets, with the accoutrements thereto belonging, the property of this Province, which were received from the Committee of *Kent* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Woolford* fifty-five Pounds thirteen Shillings and nine Pence for Blankets, for his Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Fluke* eight Pounds five Shillings, for wagonage.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *John Brice* fifty-five Shillings, for Walnut Plank.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Thomas Gassaway* eleven Pounds six Shillings and six Pence, for four hundred and fifty-three pounds of Lead.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Thursday, March 21, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 73 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's* County.

A Letter was received from the Committee of Observation for *Dorchester* County, and answered. (Vide No. 74.)

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Caroline* County be requested to send to the Committee of *Talbot* County for a barrel of Gunpowder lodged with them for the use of *Caroline* County, and that a commissioned officer of the Militia guard the same, and the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay the expense thereof.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *William Harrison* five hundred Pounds, currency, on account of Captain *Veazey's* Company.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Woolford* two hundred and fifty Pounds, currency, on account of his Company.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 73 was sent to the Committees of Observation for *Somerset* and *Worcester* Counties, *mutatis mutandis*.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Smallwood* deliver to Lieutenant *William Harrison* two bolts of Osnaburghs for the use of Captain *Veazey's* Independent Company.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Smallwood* deliver to Captain *Thomas Woolford* twenty pieces Osnaburghs, fifty Cartouch-boxes and Belts, thirty-one *French* Muskets and Bayonets with Slings, and half a ream of Cartridge-paper. The Osnaburghs to be equally distributed between the Captains *James Hindman*, *John Gunby*, *John Watkins*, and *Thomas Woolford*, for the use of their respective Companies.

*Ordered*, That Captain *Thomas Woolford* be empowered to contract for the making as many Bayonets and Scabbards as may be necessary for such of the Muskets in the hands of his Company as are not already fitted with them.

The Council contracted with *Edward Timmins* for the making of steel Ramrods, at five Shillings each.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Friday, March 22, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Carroll*.

The Council contracted with *Isaac Harris* to make two hundred steel Ramrods, at three Shillings and nine Pence each.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Smallwood* deliver to Lieutenant *John Stewart* fifty stand of *French* Arms, four bolts Osnaburghs, and half a ream of Cartridge-paper, for the use of Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Independent Company.

Copy of Letter No. 75 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County.

*Ordered*, That the Captains of the several Independent Companies, and also the Captains of the Artillery Companies, render a particular account of the expenditure of the Moneys supplied them for the use of their respective Companies, up to the 3d day of *April* next.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 76 was sent to Captain *John Allen Thomas*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County, or their order, their account of expenses for sending Powder and Arms to *Queen Anne's*, *Talbot*, and *Dorchester* Counties, as well as the expense of the carriage of Powder and Arms ordered to be sent from *Philadelphia* to *Chestertown*, under the care of Mr. *Huston*.

Copy of Letter No. 77 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Moses Chaille* three hundred and fifty Pounds, currency, on account of Captain *Watkins's* Company.

Copy of Letter No. 78 was sent to the Deputies of this Province in Congress; and copy of No. 79 to the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County.

Mr. *Charles Wallace* produced and delivered to the Council unsigned Bills of Credit, to the amount of six thousand Pounds, currency, which he was ordered to bring from the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

*Ordered*, That the same be delivered to the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore*.

Copy of Letter No. 80 was sent to the Chairman of the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Fredrick* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Silas Howell*, *William Sellars*, and *John Wilson*, (whose vessel was taken from them in *Chesapeake Bay* by the *Otter* sloop-of-war,) thirty Shillings each, to pay their expenses to *Philadelphia*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Saturday, March 23, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copies of Letter No. 81 were sent to Doctors *Ephraim Howard* and *Samuel Coale*, respectively.



Mr. *Nicholas Moore* was appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain *John Fulford's* Company of Matrosses, in the room of Mr. *Felix Lewis Baron Massenbaugh*, who resigned; and Mr. *William Campbell*, Third Lieutenant of said Company, in the room of Mr. *Moore*.

Commissions issued to them accordingly.

Copy of Letter No. 82 was sent to each Committee of Observation in the Province.

Upon application of *Robert Lee*, a person inlisted by a Sergeant of Captain *Thomas's* Company,

Ordered, That he be discharged on his returning his inlistment and subsist money.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Thomas Charles Williams & Co.* twenty-two Pounds four Shillings and six Pence, for Lead, &c., as per account.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Stone* fifty Pounds, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Fulford* two hundred Pounds, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Wheeldon* six Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence, for stocking eleven Muskets.

Copy of Letter No. 83 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Kent County*; and copy of No. 84 to Mr. *Stephen West*.

Adjourned till Monday morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, March 25, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday.

Commissions issued to *Baruch Duckett*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *Joseph Carleton*, Ensign, of Captain *Basil Waring's* Company of Militia in *Prince George's County*.

Copies of Letter No. 85 were sent the Honourable *George Plater, Esq.*, and Brigadier-General *Dent*, respectively.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Nicholas Maccubbin & Son* thirty-three Pounds seven Shillings, currency, for Shoes for the Troops.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Isaac Harris* twelve Pounds ten Shillings, per account.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Hugh Young* eighty-five Pounds thirteen Shillings and seven Pence, being the balance of his account in consequence of the adventure of the Brig *Nancy*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, March 26, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 86 was sent to the Chairman of the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County*; and copy of No. 87 to Mr. *Daniel Hughes*.

Commissions issued to *Aaron Riggs*, appointed Captain, *George Cullam*, First Lieutenant, *Brock Mockbee*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nathan Linthicum*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Lower District of *Frederick County*.

Also, to *Richard Smith*, appointed Captain, *Walter White*, First Lieutenant, *George Norris*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Hayes*, Ensign, of a Cadet Company of Militia in said District of said County.

Also, to *John Adlum*, appointed Captain, *John Furgeson*, First Lieutenant, *Christian Weaver*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Beatty*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Middle District of said County.

Also, to *Peter Mantz*, appointed Captain, *Adam Grash*, First Lieutenant, *Peter Adams*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nicholas White*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said District of said County.

And to *William Ritchie*, appointed Quartermaster of the Thirty-Third Battalion of Militia, *Frederick County*.

Copy of Letter No. 88 was sent to Colonel *Joshua Beall*, of *Prince George's County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Beriah Maybury* twenty-three Shillings and six Pence, for expenses incurred in sounding the depth of the River between *Greenbury's Point* and *Horn-Point*.

Copy of Letter No. 89 was sent to Captain *Burgess*, near *Antietam*, *Frederick County*.

Ordered, That Captain *Burgess* be appointed to prove the Cannon to be supplied by Messrs. *Samuel* and *Daniel Hughes*; and that the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County* deliver to the said Captain *Burgess* Powder sufficient for that purpose.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Joshua Beall* thirty Pounds, to be accounted for.

Copy of Letter No. 90 was sent to Colonel *Zadock Magruder*, of *Frederick County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, March 27, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *James Dick* twenty Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence, for three and a half barrels of Powder, purchased of Mr. *John Buchanan*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Robert Craig* thirty-two Shillings and three Pence, for repairing a Musket.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *David Henness* fifty Shillings, for the carriage of nineteen Muskets from *Fredericktown* to *Annapolis*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *James Thomas*, (a person in distress, occasioned by the seizure of his vessel at *Cape-Fear*, in *North-Carolina*,) thirty Shillings.

Copy of Letter No. 91 sent to Mr. *John Youst*.

Mr. *Tilghman* transmits to the Council a Resolve of Congress, dated March 14th, 1776, relative to the disarming Non-Associates, and persons disaffected to the cause of America.

Thereupon, it is Ordered, That copies thereof be sent to the several Committees of Observation in each County and District in this Province, respectively.

Resolved, That the Rev. *David Love* be appointed Chaplain to the Battalion of Regular Troops raised for the defence of this Province and liberties thereof.

Ordered, That all the Small-Arms now at *Baltimore Town*, belonging to the publick, and not delivered out to the Troops stationed there, be immediately sent by water under a guard to *Chestertown*, for the use of the Independent Companies on the *Eastern-Shore* side of the Bay; and that the Muskets imported in Captain *Tibbet*, and now in *Baltimore Town*, or on the way thither, be included in this order.

Also Ordered, That four hundred and thirty-four Cartouch-boxes, Belts, Bayonet-belts, and Slings, one ton of Gunpowder, and four tons of Lead, be sent to *Chestertown*, for the use of the Militia and Independent Companies on the *Eastern-Shore* side of the Bay; and that the Powder be taken out of the publick stock now at *Baltimore Town*, and the Lead out of the quantity imported in Captain *Tibbet*, and now arrived in *Baltimore Town*, or on the way thither.

That Major *Gist* be requested to assist Captain *Stone* in having the above order fully executed; and that Captain *Nicholson's* Pilot-Boat Tender convey the vessel transporting the same to the mouth of *Chester River*, with instructions to land the same at *Rock-Hall*, *Worton*, or some convenient place higher up the Bay, in case of danger.

Copy of Letter No. 92 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Thursday, March 28, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Mr. *John Thomas Boucher*, of the Ship *Defence*, having signified, by letter to the Council, his desire of resigning his Commission, the same was accepted, and a copy of Letter No. 93 was thereupon sent to him.

Ordered, That Dr. *Charles F. Weisenthal* be requested to purchase for the use of the regular service of this Province, thirty pounds of *Jesuits' Bark*, two pounds of Cantharides, one pound of Sponge, and four ounces of Opium.

Ordered, That Doctor *Charles F. Weisenthal* be paid by the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* four Pounds two Shillings and six Pence, for a Medicine Chest.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *John Omen-*

setter one hundred and ninety-five Pounds, for three hundred and twenty-five Cartouch-boxes, Bayonet-belts, and Gun-straps.

Copy of Letter No. 94 was sent to Mr. *Carroll*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Nathaniel Smith* eight Pounds thirteen Shillings and ten Pence, to defray his expenses to *Antietam*, to prove the Cannon made by Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes*; and six hundred and forty-three Pounds two Shillings, the balance of his general account, to the 3d of *April* next.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Gilbert Middleton* four Pounds, currency, in part, for providing for Colonel *Hall's* Battalion of Militia.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Lux* one thousand Pounds, on account of the Fortifications erecting at *Baltimore Town*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Lux* six hundred Pounds, on account of the Ship *Defence*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Friday, March 29, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 95 was sent to Messrs. *John Hanson*, *Charles Beatty*, and *James Johnson*, *Frederick County*; and copy of No. 96 to Colonel *Joshua Beall*, of *Prince George's County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Thomas Smyth*, Esquire, thirty-five Pounds sixteen Shillings, for forty-nine days' attendance as a Member of this Council, and for thirty Shillings by him paid for the carriage of Gunpowder, &c., as per account.

Mr. *Smyth* has leave of absence.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Saturday, March 30, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Hall*.

Commissions issued to *Joseph Walker*, appointed First Lieutenant of Captain *Elsha Riggs's* Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel County*, in the room of *John Marriot*, deceased, and to *Aquila Randall*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Roings*, Ensign, of said Company.

Copy of Letter No. 97 was sent to Captains *James Kent* and *William Henry*, *Northampton County, Virginia*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* be requested immediately to send by express the Letter directed to Captains *Kent* and *Henry*, together with three hundred Pounds, currency, to defray the expenses of their march to their respective Counties.

Ordered, That a copy of the above order, together with the Letter above-mentioned, be immediately sent to the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

Adjourned till Monday morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, April 1, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday, except Mr. *Smyth*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Michael Gratz* eighty-nine Pounds fourteen Shillings, for Blankets.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *John King* four Pounds ten Shillings for going express to *Antietam Forge*.

Copy of Letter No. 99 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*; copy of No. 100 to Messrs. *Baker Johnson* and *Charles Beatty*; and copy of No. 101 to the Committee of *Talbot County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Hall* and Mr. *Carroll* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Robert Cummins* fifteen hundred Pounds.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Mr. *John Campbell* three Pounds for Nails.

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Copy of Letter No. 102 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *St. Mary's County*, and copy of No. 103 to Captain *John Allen Thomas*.

Commission issued to *Matthew Talbot*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Stewart's* Company of Militia in *Harford County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Samuel Smith* two hundred and thirty-three Pounds nineteen Shillings and seven Pence, currency, being the balance of his general account to the 3d of *April*.

Copy of Letter No. 104 was sent to Captain *Rezin Beall*, and copy of No. 105 to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Thursday, April 4, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Mr. *Isaac Harris* five pounds of Powder to prove Muskets.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Lancelot Jacques* twenty-five Pounds fifteen Shillings, for six half faggots of Steel, and eight hundred and eight pounds of Bar Iron.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *George Stricker*, for the use of Mr. *George Baw*, ten Pounds, currency, for wagonage of two thousand five hundred pounds of Lead from *Fredericktown* to *Port-Tobacco*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *James Tootell* fifty Pounds, currency, on account of the new Magazine.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *George Stricker* four hundred and six Pounds one Shilling and one Penny, being the balance of his general account to the 3d of *April*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Henry Yost* and Mr. *John Unseld* deliver to Captain *George Stricker* all the Muskets and Bullet-moulds which are now finished by them for the use of the Province.

On hearing the Petition of *Henry Ridgely* and others, against the choice of Officers made by the Company under the command of Captain *John Burgess*,

Resolved, That the same be rejected; and that Commissions be made out to those persons of said Company who were chosen by the people on the 9th day of *September* last, as Captain, First and Second Lieutenants, and Ensign.

Commissions issued accordingly to *John Burgess*, elected Captain, *Davidge Warfield* First Lieutenant, *Basil Burgess* Second Lieutenant, and *William Simpson* Ensign.

The Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County* against *Robert Gassaway*, together with the charge against said *Robert Gassaway*, were laid before the Council, and read, in the following words, to wit:

"At a meeting of the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County*, on *April 1, 1776*:

"Mr. *Robert Gassaway*, according to order, being brought before the Committee, in custody of Captain *Philip Smith*, the charge exhibited against him (a copy whereof is herewith sent) was read; and he was informed by the Chairman that the Committee would hear anything he had to say in negation or mitigation of said offence. The said Mr. *Robert Gassaway* acknowledged the allegations to be substantially true, and offered nothing in mitigation of the charge.

"The Committee then taking into consideration the charge exhibited and proved against Mr. *Robert Gassaway*, by his own confession, and being of opinion that his offence is of a high and dangerous nature, and that his behaviour tended, as far as his influence would extend, to disunite the inhabitants of this Province in their present opposition,

"Resolved, That the said *Robert Gassaway* be immediately sent to the Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*, under a guard

of four men; and that Captain *Philip Smith*, and three men to be procured by him, be a guard for that purpose.

"Per order, JOHN HANSON, JR., Chairman."

The following is the charge exhibited against him:

"On the 26th day of *February*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, at a meeting of Captain *Valentine Creagar* and *Philip Smith's* Companies of Militia, the said *Robert Gassaway*, when at exercise as a private man, in Captain *Smith's* Company, stepped out of his rank, and publicly and loudly declared, before the aforesaid two companies, and in the presence of several other spectators, that it was better for the poor people to lay down their arms, and pay the duties and taxes laid upon them by the King and Parliament, than to be brought into slavery, and to be commanded and ordered about as they were. He was asked who he meant had brought the people into slavery. He said it was a parcel of great men; that at first they destroyed the tea at *Boston*, and then, knowing they had done wrong, did not know what they should do to save themselves; therefore ordered all *America* to be brought under arms, and say, Now, my brave boys, fight away, (clapping his hands to his neck,) for fear their necks would be stretched; that this was only done to save themselves, when they had done wrong, and were in fear of suffering for it.

"Mr. *Gassaway* was told that this was only his own opinion, and that he had better keep it to himself. He (*Gassaway*) said he was satisfied he was right; and further said, the best way was for the people to lay down their arms and petition the Congress to petition the King and Parliament; and if the Congress would not do it, then the people ought to petition the King and Parliament themselves, letting them know that they had laid down their arms; that this was the best method of having a reconciliation; and further said, he wished the eyes of the multitude were opened. That Mr. *Gassaway* had been told of this misbehaviour some time afterwards, and been advised to retract and make proper concessions; that he then repeated his opinion, and declared he was right."

*Robert Gassaway*, being brought before the Council of Safety, and having satisfied them that he had signed the Association, and had duly enrolled himself in a Company of Militia in *Frederick County*; and at the same time having acknowledged that he had greatly misconducted himself, and was sorry that it should be thought he would do anything to disunite the people of this Province, and having promised that he would be very careful of his words and actions for the future,

It is therefore *Resolved*, That he acknowledge that he was guilty of an offence that might have been of dangerous consequences, and ask pardon at the head of Captain *Smith's* Company; and upon payment of all expenses attending the guard, and otherwise complying with the above Resolve, that he be discharged from custody.\*

Copy of Letter No. 106 was sent to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, April 5, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Permit was granted to *William Logan* to pass with his Vessel and a cargo of goods to *Hobbs's Hole*, in the Colony of *Virginia*, he having taken the customary oath that he will not carry any letters or communicate any intelligence, directly or indirectly, to any person or persons inimical to *America*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation of *Charles County* three hundred Pounds, to enable them to procure Blankets and provide subsistence for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Independent Company.

Permit granted to Captain *Leyburne* to go to *Baltimore Town*.

\* I confess that I am sorry to think that I should have said anything that should have given any person reason to think that it was my desire to disunite the people, and acknowledge my error in so doing, and do promise for the time to come to behave myself carefully in the cause of *America*.

ROBERT GASSAWAY.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Tillard*, Quartermaster of the *South-River* Battalion, twenty-one Pounds five Shillings and three Pence, on account of the said Battalion when on duty.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the Naval Officers in the service of this Province be as follows, to wit:

Dollars per Month.	Dollars per Month.
Captain.....	Gunner's Mate.....
Lieutenants.....	Quarter-Gunner.....
Master.....	Armourer.....
Mate.....	Carpenter.....
Second Mate.....	Cooper.....
Midshipman.....	Steward.....
Captain's Clerk.....	Purser.....
Quartermaster.....	Cook.....
Boatswain.....	Seamen (able-bodied).....
First Mate.....	Surgeon.....
Second Mate.....	Surgeon's Mate.....
Yeoman.....	Chaplain.....
Coastwain.....	Pilot, according to the usual rates
Sailmaker.....	when absolutely necessary.
Gunner.....	

The Commander to give such further gratuity as may be necessary for the good of the service.

Commission issued to *John Nicholson*, appointed First Lieutenant of the Ship *Defence*, in the room of *John Thomas Boucher*, who resigned; also, to *Aquila Johns*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *John Bonnell*, Master, of said Ship.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *James Hindman* thirty Pounds eight Shillings and six Pence, being the balance of his general account to the 5th of *April*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Hindman* one hundred Pounds, to purchase Blankets for his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 107 was sent to Captains *James Kent* and *William Henry, Virginia*; and a copy of No. 108 to *William Hindman, Esq.*, Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*.

*Ordered*, That Major *Gist* send to the Council, under a guard of a commissioned officer and six privates, ten barrels of Musket Gunpowder, out of the Magazine at *Baltimore Town*; also, all the spare Gunlocks and Blankets, one hundred Cartouch-boxes and Belts, and four pair of Fencing-Foils; and that he hire a Wagon for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores furnish the Council with an account of the quantity of Musket Gunpowder in the Magazine at *Baltimore Town*, and whether there are any Arms arrived from the head of the Bay, and how many.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, April 6, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores of *Baltimore Town*, send down by the Wagon which comes with Powder, &c., part of the Shirting and other coarse Linen, and two hundred of the Hats lately arrived from *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Fulford* three hundred and thirty-eight Pounds three Shillings and four Pence, being the balance of his general account to the 3d of *April*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Oliver Whiddon* eight Pounds fifteen Shillings, for stocking fourteen Muskets.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* twelve Pounds, for the hire of his Teams six days.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Deards* forty Shillings, for Straw for the use of the Troops.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *George Gordon* four Pounds, on account of the Iron work for the Gun-Carriages.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Peter Adams* ninety-six Pounds eighteen Shillings, being the balance of his general account to the 3d instant.

Copy of Letter No. 109 was sent to the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

Adjourned till Monday morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, April 8, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Hall*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Joseph Middleton* thirty-seven Pounds ten Shillings, in part payment for his furnishing a Pilot-Boat for the purpose of gaining and communicating intelligence.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Hall* and Mr. *Rumsey* attended.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *William Reynolds* thirty Shillings, for the hire of his Horse six days.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *John Anis* thirty-five Shillings, for making a Coffin for, and burying a Sergeant of Captain *Adams's* Company.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Nathaniel Ramsey* three hundred and ninety-three Pounds four Shillings and one Penny.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to *William Niven* thirty-seven Pounds ten Shillings, for two hundred steel Ramrods.

Copy of Letter No. 110 was sent to Mr. *William Lux*, of *Baltimore Town*.

Copy of Letter No. 111 to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and copy of No. 112 to the Deputies of *Maryland*, in Congress.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Hall*.

Commissions issued to *William Fulton*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *John Hill*, Ensign, of Captain *James Mackey's* Company of Militia in *Cecil County*.

Also, to *John Cochran*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Dobson's* Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Elijah Cole*, appointed First Lieutenant, *James Turner*, Second Lieutenant, and *Elisha Rogers*, Ensign, of Captain *John Ogleby's* Company of Militia in said County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *James Miller* eighty Pounds five Shillings and three Pence, for Clothing, &c., for the Troops.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Benjamin Mackall* thirteen Pounds, for Powder purchased for the use of the Province.

Commissions issued to *Charles Williamson*, appointed Captain, *John Spikernall*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Gray*, Second Lieutenant, and *Daniel Kent*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Calvert County*.

Also, to *Thomas Trueman Greenfield*, appointed Captain, *Michael Tawney*, First Lieutenant, *Robert Skinner*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Mackall*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Frisby Freeland*, appointed Captain, *James Heighe*, First Lieutenant, *Edward Reynolds*, Second Lieutenant, and *Samuel Hance*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Walter Smith*, appointed Captain, *James Turner*, First Lieutenant, *John Clare*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Johnson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *John Wood*, appointed Ensign to Captain *Edward Wood's* Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Elias Laziney*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Richardson's* Company of Militia in *Prince George's County*.

Also, to *Christopher Driver*, appointed First Lieutenant, and *Robert Postlethwait*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Caroline County*.

Copy of Letter No. 113 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, April 11, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Hall* attended.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Barton Lucas* sixty-nine Pounds fifteen Shillings, being the balance of his general account to the 3d instant.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messieurs *Beriah Maybury*, *Cornelius Garretson*, and *William Waller*, nine Pounds each, for sounding the depth of the River between *Greenbury's Point* and *Horn-Point*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *John Gibson* three Pounds five Shillings, for Boat hire, &c., as per account.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Hoskin Stone* forty-eight Pounds ten Shillings, being the balance of his general account to the 3d instant.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Major *Thomas Price* thirty-nine Pounds three Shillings and nine Pence, for Clothing for the Troops.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Major *Price* fifteen Pounds four Shillings and three Pence, the amount of his account for subsistence, till the 14th *March*.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Mr. *Isaac Harris*, all the Muskets now in the Magazine, which are not fitted with steel Ramrods, in order that they may be fitted therewith.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Doctor *Benjamin Kennedy* forty-four Pounds three Shillings and four Pence, for Medicine for the Troops.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Doctor *Michael Wallace* fifty Pounds, currency, for Medicine.

Copy of Letter No. 114 was sent to Captain *James Hindman*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *John Hall* one hundred and twenty-nine Pounds six Shillings and six Pence, to discharge the pay of his Battalion when on duty the 19th *March* last.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Jacob Brice* three Pounds ten Shillings and ten Pence, the amount of his account for Subsistence till the 14th *March*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Day Scott* seventy-two Pounds seventeen Shillings, the balance of his general account to the 3d instant.

Commissions issued to *Robert Hitch*, appointed Captain, *Jacob Bell*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Humphreys*, Second Lieutenant, and *George Tull*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Somerset County*, belonging to the First Battalion of this Province.

Also, to *Joseph Maccubbin*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Joshua Cromwell*, Second Lieutenant, and *Benjamin Wright*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel County*, belonging to the *Severn Battalion*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, April 12, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Christopher Richmond* five Pounds eleven Shillings and six Pence, the amount of his account for subsistence till 14th *March*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Patrick Sim* one hundred and forty-one Pounds eighteen Shillings and three Pence, being the balance of his general account till the 3d instant.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Gilbert Middleton* seven Pounds thirteen Shillings and six Pence, for Boat hire.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to *Athanasius Ford* one hundred and eighty-three Pounds one Shilling and five Pence, for providing subsistence for Captain *John Allen Thomas's* Independent Company.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores send in a Boat to be procured, forty-one Blankets to Captain *Nathaniel Ramsey*, for the use of his Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Watkins* thirty-two Pounds fourteen Shillings and ten Pence, to discharge the pay subsistence of his Company, when on duty the 18th *March* last.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, April 13, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Peter Waters* nineteen Pounds one Shilling and three Pence, to discharge the pay of his Battalion of Militia, when on duty 9th *March* last.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *George Dashiell* thirteen Pounds four Shillings and six Pence, to discharge the pay of his Battalion.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *George Dashiell* thirty Shillings, for Boat hire, in removing Stock from an Island in *Somerset* County.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Thomas Contee* thirty-three Pounds seven Shillings, for Muskets, purchased for Captain *Stone's* Company.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Thomas Contee*, for the use of Mr. *William Allein*, seventeen Pounds thirteen Shillings, for Boat hire for the *Hornet* and *Wasp*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Day Scott* thirty-eight Pounds and eight Pence, for Clothing for his Troops.

Copy of Letter No. 115 was sent to Mr. *Richard Harrison*, of *Martinico*.

Instructions were given to Captain *Thomas Kell*.

Copy of Letter No. 116 was sent to the Committee of Safety for the Colony of *Virginia*.

Copy of Letter No. 117 was sent to *Thomas Smith* and *Thomas Bedingfield Hands*, Esquires.

Commissions issued to *Joseph Burgess*, appointed First Lieutenant, *John Norwood*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Cornelius Howard*, Ensign, of Captain *Brice Howard's* Company of Militia, in *Anne Arundel* County.

*Ordered*, That the Arms, Accoutrements, Blankets, &c., mentioned in Letter No. 117, be put on board Captain *Waters's* Boat, and sent to *Baltimore* Town, and from thence, with the other things mentioned in said Letter, to *Chester-town*; and that a commissioned officer and two privates guard the same.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Edward Timmons* seven Pounds ten Shillings, for thirty Ramrods.

*Ordered*, That Major *Gist* send to the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County one ton of Musket Gunpowder, four tons of Lead, four hundred and fifty-four Cartouch-boxes and Belts, four hundred and fifty-four Bayonet-belts, and four hundred Gun-slings; and, also, sixty of the Guns and Bayonets now in the possession of Captain *Nathaniel Smith's* Company of Matrosses.

*Ordered*, That Major *Gist* deliver the fifty-five stand of Arms which are in the Magazine at *Baltimore* Town, to Captain *Nathaniel Smith*.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, April 15, 1776.

Council met. Present as on *Saturday*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *William Lux*, Agent for the Ship *Defence*, eight hundred Pounds.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Allen Thomas* sixty-one Pounds five Shillings and eleven Pence, being the balance of his general account.

Copy of Letter No. 118 was sent to Colonel *Smallwood*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, April 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Isaac McHard* supply Captain *Samuel Smith* with Bread, for the use of his Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Ewing* two hundred Pounds, on account of his Company.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *John Shaw* and *Archibald Chisholm* twenty-two Pounds six Shillings and eight Pence, for stocking Muskets, &c., as per their account.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Richard*

*Ridgely* eight Pounds, currency, to pay an Express to *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Robert Collett* thirty Shillings, for painting Gun-Carriages.

In consequence of intercepted letters received from the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, (copies of which are inserted in the Letter-Book, and follow No. 120,) the Council appointed a deputation of two of their body, (Messrs. *Carroll* and *Hall*,) and requested *William Paca*, Esquire, to wait on the Governour with them, and desire a sight of his letter of the 27th of *August* to Lord *Dartmouth*; and in case the same could not be procured, to ask his parole that he would not leave the Province till the meeting of the Convention.

The gentlemen reported, that they waited on his Excellency accordingly, and desired a sight of the letter; to which he answered, that he had sent away the copy of that letter, with all his papers of consequence, last fall, and could not remember the particulars; but observed, we might be convinced there was nothing of a nature unfriendly to the peace of this Province, because the troops going southward were not ordered here. He asserted, also, upon his honour, that he had not endeavoured to influence the Ministry, by traducing the characters of individuals; some he had spoken well of, others he had recommended as sufferers. The gentlemen of Congress he had spoken of as acting in the line of moderation.

That they then informed his Excellency they were instructed to ask his parole that he would not leave the Province till the meeting of the Convention. The Governour complained of being unjustly suspected, gave them his letters from *William Eden*, Esquire, his brother, one of the Under Secretaries of State; also, from Lord *Dartmouth*; copies of which he gave leave to take, (and are inserted in the letter-book;) and desired time till the next day, twelve o'clock, to give his definitive answer.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, April 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 119 was sent to *Thomas Smith* and *T. B. Hands*, Esquires.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Robert Reynolds* thirty-two Shillings, for two cords of Wood for the use of the Council of Safety.

An answer was received from the Governour, by Letter addressed to the gentlemen who waited on him, (Vide Letter-Book, next before No. 120.) In answer to which, copy of Letter No. 120 was sent to his Excellency.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* deliver to Mr. *Benjamin Harwood* unsigned Bills of Credit of this Province to the amount of five thousand Pounds.

Permit was granted to *William Jones*, of the Sloop *Sally*, belonging to Mr. *Robert Cummins*, Victualler to the Troops, to pass and repass with Provisions to any part of this Province.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Black* and *McConnell* fifty-seven Pounds five Shillings and one Penny, for Clothing for the Troops.

Commissions issued to *Richard Weems*, appointed Captain, *Gideon Dare*, First Lieutenant, and *Benjamin Harrison*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Walter Hanson*, of *Charles* County, thirty-five Pounds, currency, to defray his expenses in attending the Powder-Mills in *Pennsylvania*, or elsewhere, for instruction; which said sum Mr. *Hanson* agrees to refund in case he does not erect a Powder-Mill in this Province; but if Mr. *Hanson* should erect a Powder-Mill, it is left to the consideration of the next Convention whether the money aforesaid be returned or not. Mr. *Hanson* further agrees to give this Province the preference in the disposal of all Powder which he shall manufacture, provided he erects the said Mill.

Copy of Letter No. 121 was sent to the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress, and also a copy of No. 122.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.



Thursday, April 18, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Allen Quynn* eight Pounds fifteen Shillings, for two thousand three hundred and forty-six feet of Plank.

*Alexander Ross*, according to order, being brought before the Council, in custody of Captain *Peter Adams* and Mr. *Benjamin Chambers*,

*Ordered*, That he be kept in custody of Captain *Adams* till to-morrow morning.

A Letter was received from *John Hancock*, Esq., enclosing the following Resolves of Congress, to wit:

"In Congress, April 16, 1776.

"Whereas information has been this day laid before Congress, from which there is great reason to believe that *Robert Eden*, Esquire, Governour of the Colony of *Maryland*, has lately carried on a correspondence with the *British* Ministry highly dangerous to the liberties of *America*:

"*Resolved*, therefore, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be earnestly requested immediately to cause the person and papers of Governour *Eden* to be seized and secured, and such of the papers as relate to the *American* dispute without delay conveyed safely to Congress; and that copies of the intercepted Letters from the Secretary of State be enclosed to the said Council of Safety.

"*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be requested to cause the person and papers of *Alexander Ross* to be immediately seized and secured; and that the papers be sent safely to Congress.

"And to prevent said *Alexander Ross* having any opportunity to escape,

"*Resolved*, That the like request be made to the Committees of Observation for *Baltimore* and *Frederick* Counties, in *Maryland*, in one of which Counties the said *Ross* probably now is.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"*CHARLES THOMSON*, Secretary.

"*Ordered* by Congress to be transmitted to the honourable the Council of Safety of the Colony of *Maryland*.

"*JOHN HANCOCK*, President."

After consideration of the above Resolves, a copy of Letter No. 123 was sent to *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Congress.

Adjourned till next day, nine o'clock.

Friday, April 19, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Conway* twenty-five Pounds, currency, as a gratuity for his diligence and care in importing Powder.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Jenifer* and *Hooe* two hundred and fifty-six Pounds one Shilling and eight Pence, being the balance of their account in consequence of an adventure by the Sloop *Molly*, *Thomas Conway*, master.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Jacob Schley* sixty Pounds nine Shillings and three Pence, for repairing Muskets, &c.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Thomas Conway* twelve Cutlasses.

Copy of Letter No. 124 was sent to Mr. *Richard Harrison*, *Martinico*; and copy of No. 125 to the Deputies of *Maryland* in Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk twenty Pounds, to pay expenses, &c.; and that he render an account of the expenditure of the same.

Copy of Letter No. 126 was sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Ware*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Benjamin Brookes* two hundred and fifty Pounds, on account of Captain *John Gunby's* Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the said Shore pay to Captain *Thomas Woolford* one hundred Pounds, currency.

The Council agrees with *Jacob Schley*, of *Frederick* County, who is to supply ten large Rifles, carrying a ball of

four ounces weight, for a sum not exceeding fifteen Pounds each.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, April 20, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Commissions issued to *Alexander McFadon*, appointed First Lieutenant, *John Peter*, Second Lieutenant, and *Edward Gale*, Ensign, of Captain *Thomas Richardson's* Company of Militia in the Lower District of *Frederick* County.

Also, to *Joseph Smith*, appointed Colonel of the Thirty-Sixth Battalion, in the room of *Samuel Beall*, who resigned; *Richard Davis*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Charles Swearingen*, First Major, and *Christian Orndorff*, Second Major, of said Battalion.

Also, to *John Reynolds*, appointed Captain of a Company of Militia in the Upper District of *Frederick* County, in the room of *Christian Orndorff*, appointed Second Major of the thirty-sixth Battalion; *Abraham Baker*, First Lieutenant, and *Christopher Orndorff*, Second Lieutenant, of said Company.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *John Stull* thirty-seven Pounds nineteen Shillings and six Pence, for fifty-one Blankets.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Jacob Schley* fifty Pounds, on account of his contract for Rifles.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *George Lux*, Clerk to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d instant, and bring with him the Proceedings of the said Committee in consequence of copies of intercepted Letters from Lord *George Germaine* to *Robert Eden*, Esq., Deputy Governour of *Maryland*, which were transmitted to them by the honourable the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*; and, also, all Resolves, Orders, Instructions, Requisitions, Letters, Papers, and Writings, relative to, or concerning the same, which now are in his possession, or were delivered to him as Clerk of the said Committee of *Baltimore*.

The Governour having desired that Messrs. *Charles Carroll*, *John Hall*, *James Tilghman*, and *William Paca*, would attend him at ten o'clock this morning, they waited on him accordingly, and he delivered them the original in his own handwriting, of which the following is a copy:

"Saturday morning.

"GENTLEMEN: I took the liberty of sending for you this morning, and hope the motive of my so doing will not be disagreeable.

"Your polite behaviour to me and the confidence you have reposed in me, (which evinces your good opinion of my past and present conduct,) deserve the best return I can make. I see that your personal safety and future respect from your constituents are involved in my meriting that opinion, and not disgracing that confidence; therefore, what you could not by requisition, however respectful, or your representation of probably a more disagreeable proceeding, obtain from me—my parole not to leave the Province till the Convention met, I voluntarily now give you, as your conduct towards me justly entitles you to it."

Mr. *Allen Quynn* was appointed Messenger to the Council.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d instant.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *William Lux*, Deputy Chairman of the Committee of *Baltimore*, attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Monday*, the 22d instant.

*Ordered*, That *Alexander Ross* be brought before the Council at three o'clock, in the afternoon.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Mr. *Benjamin Harwood* acknowledges before the Council to have received five thousand Pounds, currency, from the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore*, in consequence of an order for that purpose.

*Alexander Ross*, according to order, was brought before the Council and examined, and after examination, was remanded back in custody of Captain *Adams*.

And thereupon, *Ordered*, That the said *Alexander Ross* deliver to Colonel *Smallwood's* order, all and singular his papers, of what sort soever, now at *Daniel Grant's* Tavern, in *Baltimore* Town.

*Ordered*, That the officer appointed to bring *Alexander Ross's* papers from *Baltimore* Town have full power to take possession of the said *Ross's* portmanteau, and all the papers lodged with Mr. *Grant*, and to convey the same to the Council.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, April 22, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Smith* attended.

Captain *Kell* having resigned the Schooner *Dolphin*, *Duncan Hill* was admitted and sworn Captain, and desired to advert to the Instructions heretofore given Captain *Kell*, and to govern himself by them.

The following lines were addressed to the Committee of *Northampton* County, in *Virginia*, at the foot of the Instructions, viz:

"The Council of Safety return many thanks to the Committee of *Northampton* County, in *Virginia*, for their friendly assistance heretofore to Captain *Kell*; and as he has resigned the command, request the continuance of their favour and advice to Captain *Duncan Hill*."

Captain *John Allen Thomas* has leave to procure leathern Caps for his Independent Company, instead of Hats.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *George Stricker* fifty-one Pounds eighteen Shillings, for one hundred and two pair of Shoes, and the wagonage of them to *Annapolis*.

*Resolved*, That there be a Convention of the Delegates of this Province held at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Tuesday*, the 7th of *May* next.

Copies of Letter No. 127 were sent to the Delegates in Convention for each County and District within the Province, respectively; and a copy of No. 128 to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *John Allen Thomas* thirteen Muskets, four Rifles, six Musket Bullet-moulds, four Rifle Bullet-moulds, and five and a half rolls of *Osnaburghs*.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *John Allen Thomas*, for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Independent Company, twenty-nine Muskets, four Rifles, Powder-horns, Pouches, and Bullet-moulds, six Musket Bullet-moulds, three hundred Gun-flints, one hundred Gun-slugs, sixty-two Cartouch-boxes and Belts, one hundred and four Hats, and five bolts of *Osnaburghs*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *John Allen Thomas* be requested to purchase all the Buckshot he can procure in *St. Mary's* County.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Joshua Beall* be requested to send four barrels and twenty kegs of Musket Gunpowder, out of the Gunpowder now in his possession, to the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County, and thirty-five Muskets from *John Yost*, in a covered wagon, under a guard of a commissioned officer and two privates, of Militia; the thirty-five Muskets for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Observation for *Charles* County be requested to convey one barrel and ten kegs of the Gunpowder to be sent them by Colonel *Joshua Beall*, to the Committee of Observation for *St. Mary's* County, and one barrel and ten kegs of the same Powder to the Committee of *Calvert* County; also, six hundred pounds of Lead to the Committee of *St. Mary's* County; and six hundred pounds of Lead to the Committee of *Calvert* County, for the use of the said Counties.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, April 23, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Colonel *John Veazey* returns to the Council five hundred Pounds, in Bills of Credit of this Province, which were sent him by Captain *Robert Craig*, on the 14th day of *February* last, for the purpose of purchasing Gunpowder.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Allen Thomas* twenty-eight Pounds fourteen Shillings and five Pence, being the balance of his general account to the 3d of *April*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas* three hundred and ninety-four Pounds one Shilling and eight Pence, on account of his Company.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Athanasius Ford*, of *St. Mary's* County, pay to Captain *John Allen Thomas* twenty-seven Pounds seven Shillings and six Pence, for so much money paid him over and above the just amount of his account, on the 12th instant.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Thomas* half a realm of Cartridge-Paper, and ten pieces of Check.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

*Alexander Ross* was brought before the Council, in custody of Captain *Peter Adams*, was examined, and remanded back in custody as aforesaid.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Smallwood* detach a commissioned officer to arrest *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, *William Lux*, Deputy Chairman, and *George Lux*, Clerk of said Committee, wherever they may be found in the Province of *Maryland*; and that the said officer bring the said *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., *William Lux*, and *George Lux*, to the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*, under a sufficient guard.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, April 24, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Mr. *William Lux*, in obedience to the order of the 20th instant, appeared before the Council, and delivered to them an attested copy of the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, in consequence of intercepted Letters from Lord *George Germaine* to *Robert Eden*, Esquire, Deputy Governour of *Maryland*, which were transmitted to them by the honourable Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly. Mr. *Hands* attended.

Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, in obedience to the order of the 20th instant, appeared before the Council, and was informed by the President that instructions of a very extraordinary nature from him as Chairman of the Committee of *Baltimore* County to Captain *Samuel Smith*, and other matters of great importance, had come to the knowledge of the Council of Safety, for which they had thought proper to call him before them to answer the charge which they imported.

The Instructions were then read in presence of Mr. *Purviance*, and are as follows:

"*Baltimore*, April 14, 1776.

"SIR: You are requested by the gentlemen of the Committee to proceed in Captain *Nicholson's* tender, with any officer he may send to assist you, and such a number of armed men as may be necessary, and therewith proceed as speedily as possible for *Annapolis*. Should you, before you get there, meet the Governour's boat or barge, you must by all means endeavour to board her. And in case Governour *Eden*, his Secretary Mr. *Smith*, or Mr. *Alexander Ross*, are found on board, you are by all means to seize their persons and papers, and instantly return with them under the strictest guard to *Baltimore*; for doing which you may depend on being protected and justified by the Committee, and held blameless. In case you should not meet such boat or persons, you will please to proceed immediately to *Annapolis*, and use every precaution to prevent alarm, by obliging the men not to appear in numbers on deck, and causing the boat to lie at a distance, whilst you go ashore with the letter delivered you for the gentlemen of the *Baltimore* Committee, who may be at *Annapolis*, whose directions you will please to follow after your arrival there.

"You will please to take blunderbusses, and any quantity you see necessary of arms, out of Captain *Nicholson's* vessel, which he will readily furnish. Please to consult in every-

thing with the officer which Captain *Nicholson* sends with you, and let your measures be kept as secret as possible from the men, at least till it comes to the execution.

"I am, sir, on behalf of the Committee, your very humble servant,

"SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JUN., *Chairman*.

"To Captain *Samuel Smith*."

On the back of the above Instructions was thus endorsed, to wit:

"April 16, 1776.

"SIR: You will take care to proceed with what number of men you may think necessary out of your company, agreeable to the annexed instructions. Wishing you a pleasant and prosperous voyage, am yours truly,

"M. GIST.

"To Captain *Samuel Smith*."

Mr. *Purviance* was then examined concerning the said Instructions, and other matters, and his examination taken in writing, a copy whereof is filed. He was told by the President he might be furnished from the Clerk with a copy of his examination, in order that he might explain such of his answers as he thought proper.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes* two hundred Pounds, currency.

*Ordered*, That Captain *James Nicholson*, Major *Mordecai Gist*, and Captain *Samuel Smith*, immediately attend the Council of Safety, at the City of *Annapolis*; and that the Clerk make out and deliver to the Messenger separate copies, to be served on them respectively.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, April 25, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the person and papers of *Alexander Ross*, together with a copy of his examination, be sent under a guard to the honourable Congress; and that Colonel *Smallwood* be requested to appoint a commissioned officer and two privates to be a guard for that purpose.

Copy of Letter No. 129 was sent to the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Congress; and copy of No. 130 to the Deputies of this Province in Congress.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County eighty-six Pounds four Shillings and six Pence, to discharge the pay of the Minute Companies there.

Copy of Letter No. 131 was sent to *John Hanson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee for the Middle District of *Frederick* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Samuel Turbutt Wright* sixty Pounds, on account of Captain *Veazey's* Independent Company.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Lieutenant *Samuel Turbutt Wright* three Blankets and three pieces Britannias, for Captain *Edward Veazey's* Company.

Mr. *Purviance* appeared, and presented to the Council an explanation of some of the answers he made to the questions propounded to him yesterday; which were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, April 26, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Jenifer*.

Permits granted to the Boat *Gimlet*, *Gilbert Middleton* master, and Schooner *Ranger*, *George Steel* master, to pass to *Baltimore* Town.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *John Brice* ten Pounds, currency, for repairing a house for the reception of the Records of *Anne Arundel* County.

Captain *James Nicholson*, in obedience to the order of the 24th instant, having appeared before the Board, in consequence of instructions he had given his First Lieutenant, the Council proceeded to hear what he had to allege as a justification or excuse for giving said orders.

He urged a conversation with Mr. *Purviance*, Chairman

of the Committee of *Baltimore* County; and that he showed him a letter from General *Lee*. And Captain *Nicholson* declaring upon his honour that he expected his office was to act only on the water, and that he expected Captain *Smith* would have applied to the Council of Safety for instructions, and having before made concessions by his letter of the 21st instant,

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Captain *Nicholson* be informed of the opinion of this Board, that General *Lee* has no authority within this Province; and that Mr. *Purviance* exceeded his power in giving directions to the purport he had done; and that he be cautioned to be more on his guard for the future.

Major *Mordecai Gist*, in obedience to the order of the 24th instant, having also appeared before the Council, in consequence of his instructions to Captain *Samuel Smith*, and alleging he gave the same in a hurry, and through inadvertency, and declaring upon his honour that he apprehended Captain *Smith*, when he came to *Annapolis*, was to take his orders from the Council of Safety,

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That he be informed as above the opinion of this Board; and that he be cautioned to be more on his guard for the future.

Captain *Samuel Smith*, in obedience to the order of the 24th instant, also appeared before the Council, and was examined with respect to the instructions he received from Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, and his conduct after his arrival at *Annapolis*, in consequence of said instructions; in vindication whereof he presented a representation of his conduct to the Council, in writing; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Gordon* five hundred and ninety-six Pounds four Shillings, for nine hundred and ninety-four Cartouch-boxes, Bayonet-belts, and Gun-slings.

Commissions issued to *Samuel Calwell*, appointed Captain, *Thomas Hutchens*, First Lieutenant, and *Joseph Sewell*, Second Lieutenant, of a Company of Militia in *Harford* County, belonging to the Eighth Battalion.

Also, to *James McComas*, appointed Captain, *Benjamin Scott*, First Lieutenant, *Martin Preston*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Steel*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County, belonging to the said Battalion.

Also, to *Benjamin Bussey*, appointed Captain, *Joshua Mills*, First Lieutenant, *Azael Hitchcock*, Jun., Second Lieutenant, and *Joseph Ames*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia of said Battalion.

Also, to *Robert Harris*, appointed Captain, *William Coale*, First Lieutenant, *William Downes*, Second Lieutenant, and *Joshua Renshaw*, Ensign, of a Company in same Battalion.

Also, to *James St. Clair*, appointed Second Lieutenant to Captain *McComas's* Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Alexander Cowen*, appointed Captain, *John Beale Howard*, First Lieutenant, *Samuel Groome Osburn*, Second Lieutenant, and *Lambert Wilmer*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *William Webb*, appointed Captain, *Ignatius Wheeler*, First Lieutenant, *William Fisher*, Second Lieutenant, and *Samuel Webb*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *Joseph Patrick*, appointed Captain, *Winston Dallam*, First Lieutenant, *Samuel Bailey*, Second Lieutenant, and *Richard Ward*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Also, to *John Jolly*, appointed Captain, *John Montgomery*, First Lieutenant, *James Wilson*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Thomas*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in said County.

Mr. *Purviance* appeared, and was informed by the President that the Council of Safety, on considering his conduct, and the high and dangerous offence of assuming the supreme Executive power in this Province, had resolved that he should enter into a recognisance in the sum of five hundred Pounds, current money, for his appearance at the Convention, on *Thursday* the 9th day of *May* next, as this matter would then be laid before that meeting for their consideration. His Recognisance is as follows:

"You, *Samuel Purviance*, acknowledge yourself to owe

and justly stand indebted unto the honourable the Council of Safety for the Province of *Maryland*, in the full and just sum of five hundred Pounds, current money, to be levied of your body, goods and chattels, lands and tenements, in case you do not make your personal appearance at the next Convention, on *Thursday*, the 9th of *May* next, then to answer to such things as may be objected against you, and not depart from said Convention without the leave thereof."

The said *Samuel Purviance* acknowledged himself to be content therewith.

Copy of Letter No. 132 was sent to Captain *James Nicholson*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *James Nicholson* two hundred Pounds, on account of the Sea Forces under his command.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *George Gordon* ten Pounds, currency.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Lux* thirty-three Pounds seventeen Shillings and four Pence, for the use of Mr. *Andrew Stigar*, for Provisions for the Troops whilst at *Whetstone-Point*, on the late alarm.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, April 27, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Philip Littig* sixty-five Pounds, on account of his contract with Mr. *Alexander*, for Muskets.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to the Clerk twenty Pounds, to pay expenses, and for other purposes; and that an account be rendered of the expenditure thereof.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *William Smallwood* twelve Pounds, currency, for so much money by him advanced to defray Captain *Adams's* expenses in guarding *Alexander Ross* to *Philadelphia*.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant-Colonel *Francis Ware* nineteen Pounds and four Pence, being the amount of his account for subsistence till 14th of *March*.

Mr. *Carroll* has leave of absence till *Thursday* next.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Thomas Hyde* and *William Wilkins* be appointed Supervisors of the Bills of Credit to be printed and struck by virtue of a Resolve of the late Convention.

Copy of Letter No. 133 was sent by express to *John Rogers*, Esquire.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *Richard Graves* nineteen Pounds fifteen Shillings and six Pence, to discharge the pay of his Company when on duty the 8th of *March* last.

Adjourned till *Monday* morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, April 29, 1776.

Council met. Present as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Carroll*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *William Sterrett* thirty Shillings and two Pence.

Mr. *Tilghman* has leave of absence.

Tuesday, April 30, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Tilghman*.

*Ordered*, That Captain *John Fulford* have two pieces of Cannon, which are now at Mr. *Richard Spriggs's*, to be brought to the City of *Annapolis*, and valued by Major *Price* and Captain *Fulford*; and that they report the valuation of the same to this Board.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *William Nevin* twenty-nine Pounds eight Shillings and three Pence, for steel Ramrods.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer pay to Captain *James Brice* two Pounds eight Shillings and nine Pence, for thirteen pounds of Powder.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Pitt* one hundred and twenty-six Pounds five Shillings, being the amount of his account for furnishing a Pilot-Boat to the 3d of *May*.

Adjourned till three o'clock, and met accordingly.

Mr. *Frederick Green*, of the City of *Annapolis*, Printer, contracted with the Council of Safety for printing the new emission of Money, according to the resolve of the last Convention; and for his services therein, he is to be paid in proportion to what he was allowed for printing the former emission of Convention Money.

The following Notice was ordered to be published in the *Maryland Gazette*, to wit:

"The gentlemen who were appointed to collect gold and silver coin, are directed to take notice, that we have now received Continental money; and that whatever gold and silver they bring in will be immediately exchanged at the Treasury.

"Per order:

G. DUVAL, Clerk."

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Doctor *Michael Wallace* one hundred and four Pounds nine Shillings and six Pence, for Medicine, &c., as per account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, May 1, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *James Taylor*, five Pounds, currency, in part payment for his making Gun-Carriages.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to *John Hall*, Esquire, fifty-eight Pounds sixteen Shillings, for eighty-four days' attendance as a Member of the Council, to the 1st instant inclusive.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Nicholas Ruxton Moore* eleven Pounds thirteen Shillings and four Pence, for his expenses to and from *Philadelphia*, to carry Gold and Silver Coin for the operations in *Canada*.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Frederick Green* six Pounds three Shillings and three Pence, for the purposes mentioned in the above order.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Frederick Green* seventy-four Pounds, in part payment of his account against the Province for Printing.

Copy of Letter No. 134 was sent to Captain *Jeremiah Holden*; copy of No. 135 to Captain *John Valiant*; copy of No. 136 to Mr. *William Lux*; copy of No. 137 to Mr. *Hugh Young*; and copy of No. 138 to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore Town*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, May 2, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Charles Wallace* three thousand Pounds, currency.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* thirteen Pounds five Shillings and two Pence, for carting materials for the Magazine.

Copy of Letter No. 139 was sent to Colonel *William Smallwood*.

Copy of Letter No. 140 was sent to Mr. *Henry Yost*, of *Frederick County*; and copy of No. 141 to Mr. *John Unsold*, of said County.

The Council requested Major *Price* to cause any Arms that may be lodged at *Fredericktown*, belonging to the publick, by *Henry Yost*, *John Unsold*, or any other person, to be brought safely to *Annapolis*, by the first opportunity.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores send to the City of *Annapolis*, in a boat to be procured for that purpose, one half of all the Linens, of every kind, now in the Magazine, and ten reams of Cartridge-paper; and render an account of all the Stores in said Magazine, particularizing the Muskets fit for service from those which are unfit, and the Provincial from the *French*.

*Ordered*, That Mr. *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil County* send down to the City of *Annapolis* by Mr. *Gilbert Middleton*, all the coarse Linen manufactured for the use of this Province.

Adjourned till next day.

Friday, May 3, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 142 was sent to Lieutenant-Colonel *Thomas Ware*; copy of No. 143 to Colonel *Joseph Sim*, of *Prince George's County*; copy of No. 144 to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick County*; and copy of No. 145 to Colonel *Zadock Magruder*, Lower District of *Frederick County*; and copy of No. 146 to Mr. *George Woolsey*, of *Baltimore Town*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to *Charles Wallace*, Esquire, Paymaster, one thousand Pounds, currency.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Benjamin Rumsey*, Esquire, forty-two Pounds, for sixty days' attendance as a Member of the Council.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Edward Timmonds* seven Pounds five Shillings and five Pence, for thirty-two steel Ramrods.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, May 4, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Rumsey*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *William Ringgold*, Jun., twenty-five Pounds twelve Shillings and six Pence, to discharge the pay of his Militia Company when on duty, from the 7th to the 10th of *March* last.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Lux*, (for the use of *James Jaffray*,) thirteen Pounds two Shillings, for Cloth for the use of the Troops.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *William Lux*, (for the use of Messrs. *Frisby*, *Henderson*, and *James Hollingsworth*,) twelve Pounds, currency.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Robert Purviance*, *David Stewart*, and *George Woolsey*, five hundred Pounds, on account of the Schooner *Resolution*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *Barton Lucas* sixty-six Pounds and seven Pence, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores at the City of *Annapolis* deliver to Captain *Nathaniel Smith* all the Small-Arms which were brought from *Frederick County*, and one hundred small Cartouch-Boxes.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Thomas Smyth*, Esq., eighty-nine Pounds thirteen Shillings and six Pence, for money advanced by him for Shoes, Rifles, &c., as per account.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smyth*, Esquire, eleven Pounds four Shillings, for sixteen days' attendance as a Member of the Council.

Adjourned till Monday morning, ten o'clock.

Monday, May 6, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday, except Mr. *Smyth*. Mr. *Tilghman* attended.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *Samuel Miller* three Pounds, currency, for Boat-hire.

Adjourned till next day.

Tuesday, May 7, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday. Mr. *Jenifer* and Mr. *Carroll* attended.

Copy of Letter No. 147 was sent to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Capt. *James Nicholson* five hundred and fourteen Pounds, on account of the forces on board the Ship *Defence*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Mr. *James Geoghegan* one hundred and forty-five Pounds seventeen Shillings and six Pence, for providing subsistence for Captain *Gunby's* Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Mr. *William Winder*, of *Somerset County*, eight Pounds five Shillings, for guarding Powder, as per account.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Thomas*

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Contee six Pounds sixteen Shillings, for Rugs and Blankets for the Troops.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, May 8, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *John Day Scott* six Pounds eighteen Shillings, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *John Shaw* and *Archibald Chisholm* twenty-three Pounds sixteen Shillings and six Pence, for stocking Muskets.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Thomas Wright* nine Pounds eight Shillings and two Pence, to defray the expense of repairing the Guns of indigent persons belonging to Captain *Barnes's* and *Ellicott's* Companies of Militia, in *Queen Anne's County*.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Weems* ninety-six Pounds eleven Shillings and four Pence, to discharge the pay of the Companies of Captains *Richard Chew*, *John Deal*, *Richard Weems*, and *Abraham Simmons*, when on duty the 8th of *March* last.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *William Brogden* twenty-one Pounds sixteen Shillings and three Pence, to discharge the pay of his Company, when on duty on the late alarm.

A number of Vessels having been sunk in the Channel of the River *Patapsco*, near *Whetstone-Point*, for the safety and protection of *Baltimore Town*, and the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County* having given information to this Board, by letter dated the 6th instant, that their Boom is now laid down, and so far secured that they judge the Vessels that were sunk at *Whetstone-Point* might be removed,

Therefore Ordered, That the said Vessels be raised with all convenient speed, under the direction of the said Committee; and that Captain *James Nicholson*, with the Ship *Defence* and her Tenders, assist in executing this order.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, May 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Peter Adams* twelve Pounds five Shillings, currency, for expenses incurred in guarding *Alexander Ross* to *Philadelphia*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer aforesaid pay to *George Gordon* two Pounds fifteen Shillings and nine Pence, for repairing a Dungeon wherein to confine culprit Soldiers.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Richard Ridgely* four Pounds nineteen Shillings, currency, for the purchase of twelve iron Pots, for the use of Captain *James Hindman's* Independent Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *James Hindman* one hundred and sixty-six Pounds, for subsist for his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Hindman* the further sum of two hundred and fifty Pounds, for the purchase of Clothes for his Company.

Copy of Letter No. 148 was sent to Captain *James Hindman*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, May 10, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *John Halmerston*, for the use of the Committee of Observation for *Charles County*, the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, currency, to provide subsist for Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company, of regular troops.

Ordered, That the Treasurer aforesaid pay to *William Lux* two thousand Pounds, on account of the Ship *Defence*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, May 11, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay



to Doctor *John Boyd* fifty-three Pounds fifteen Shillings, currency, for Medicine purchased of him by Doctor *Weisenthal*, for the use of the Troops in this Province.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *James Dick* three Pounds nineteen Shillings and eight Pence, for iron Pots.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *George Stricker* thirty-five Pounds nineteen Shillings, for Shoes.

Adjourned till *Monday*, ten o'clock.

Monday, May 13, 1776.

Council met. Present as on *Saturday*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Dr. *Weisenthal* forty-two Pounds nineteen Shillings, currency, for Medicine provided by him for the Troops.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Doctor *Weisenthal* forty-five Pounds, for three months' pay as Surgeon of the First *Maryland* Battalion.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Doctor *William Dashiell* twenty-two Pounds ten Shillings, for three months' pay as Surgeon's Mate.

Copy of Letter No. 149 was sent to Colonel *William Smallwood*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer aforesaid pay to Captain *Edward Veazey* seven hundred Pounds, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer aforesaid pay to *Richard Thompson*, for the use of *John Yost*, one hundred and fifty Pounds, to enable him to carry on his Gun Manufactory.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to *James Mills* four Pounds twelve Shillings and one Penny, currency, for the carriage of Powder from *Chestertown* to the lower Counties on the *Eastern-Shore*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, May 14, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Richard Thompson* was appointed Supervisor of the Salt-petre Works in the Lower District of *Frederick* County, in the room of Mr. *Richardson*, who had resigned.

It was thereupon Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to said *Thompson* one hundred Pounds, allowed by the late Convention for that purpose.

A resolve of Congress was communicated to this Board, relative to the apprehension of a certain *Kirkland*, who lately made his escape from the Jail of *Philadelphia*, wherein he was confined by order of Congress;

And thereupon Ordered, That advertisement be immediately inserted in the *Maryland* Newspapers for the apprehension of said *Kirkland*, as also a copy of said resolution, together with the advertisement, be forthwith transmitted to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, by express.

Copy of Letter No. 150 was sent to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

Commissions issued to *Joseph Douglass*, appointed Captain, *Thomas Eaton*, First Lieutenant, *Joseph Nicolls*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Dawson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Caroline* County, belonging to the Fourteenth Battalion of this Province.

Also, to *Richard Andrews*, appointed Captain, *Henry Richards*, First Lieutenant, *Samuel Andrews*, Second Lieutenant, and *Frederick Cawsey*, Ensign, for a Company in the same County, and belonging to the same Battalion.

Also, to *Charles Baker*, appointed Captain, *Moses Johnson*, First Lieutenant, *Richard Hutchings*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nicholas Amos*, Ensign, in a Company of Militia in *Harford* County, belonging to the Eighth Battalion.

Also, to *George Noble Swart*, appointed Captain, *Nehemiah* —, First Lieutenant, *James Bartlett*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Dafey*, Ensign, of an Independent Company of Militia in *Queen Anne's* County, by virtue of a special license from the Committee of Observation.

Also, to *Nathaniel Pigman*, appointed Captain, *Benjamin Gaither*, First Lieutenant, *Samuel Riggs*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Gaither*, Ensign of Militia, in the Lower District of *Frederick* County, belonging to the Twenty-Ninth Battalion.

Commissions issued to *Elias Hardon*, appointed Captain, *Allen Bowie*, Jun., First Lieutenant, *James Lackland*, Second Lieutenant, and *Samuel Swearingen*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Lower District of *Frederick* County, belonging to the Twenty-Ninth Battalion.

Copy of Letter No. 151 was sent to Mr. *Thomas Russell*; No. 152 to the Committee of Observation for *Kent* County; No 153 to Captain *Edward Veazey*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Thomas B. Hands*, Esq., sixteen Pounds two Shillings, for twenty-three days' attendance as a Member of the Council of Safety.

Mr. *Hands* has leave of absence.

Adjourned till next day.

Wednesday, May 15, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday, except Mr. *Hands*.

Commissions issued to *Ebenezer Reyner*, appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain *Isaac Perkins's* Company of Militia in *Kent* County.

Also, to *John Shipley*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Brice Howard's* Company of Militia in *Anne Arundel* County, belonging to the *Elkridge* Battalion.

Also, to *Francis Martin*, appointed Captain, *Richard Speake*, First Lieutenant, *Theobald Smallwood*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Jones*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Charles* County, belonging to the Twenty-Sixth Battalion.

Also, to *John Bennett*, appointed Captain, and *William Hill*, First Lieutenant, in the Upper District of *Frederick* County, belonging to the Thirty-First Battalion.

Also, to *John Usher Carleton*, appointed Captain, *Thomas Flemming*, First Lieutenant, *Henry Hardman*, Second Lieutenant, and *Richard Potts*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Middle District of *Frederick* County, belonging to the Thirty-Fourth Battalion.

Also, to *Philip Merony*, appointed Captain, *Carleton Tannehill*, First Lieutenant, *Henry Merony*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Wilson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in same District, and belonging to the same Battalion.

Also, to *Richard Balsell*, appointed Captain, *John Mortender*, First Lieutenant, *John Shistaker*, Second Lieutenant, and *Christian Lessar*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the same District, belonging to the Thirty-Seventh Battalion.

Commissions issued to *Mordecai Beall*, appointed Captain, *William Beckwith Head*, First Lieutenant, *Bigger Head*, Second Lieutenant, and *Isaac Miller*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Middle District of *Frederick* County, belonging to the Thirty-Seventh Battalion of this Province.

Also, to *James Ogle*, appointed Captain, *Henry Matthews*, First Lieutenant, *George Neet*, Second Lieutenant, and *Ignatius Elder*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the same District, and of same Battalion.

Also, to *William Smith*, Jun., appointed Captain, *William Carmach*, Jun., First Lieutenant, *John Kennedy*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Parkison*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in same District, belonging to the same Battalion.

Also, to *John McClester*, appointed Captain, *Samuel Townsend*, First Lieutenant, *Charles Hickman*, Second Lieutenant, and *George Jones*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Somerset* County, belonging to the First Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *James Tootle* forty-nine Pounds seventeen Shillings, for building a Magazine.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Tootle* twenty-four Pounds fourteen Shillings and two Pence, for subsist of the *Severn* Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Captain *Thomas Woolford* one hundred Pounds, on account of his Company.

Commissions issued to *Ebenezer Handy*, appointed Captain, *George Parsons*, First Lieutenant, *James Purdue*, Second Lieutenant, and *Boaz Walston*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Worcester* County, belonging to the Tenth Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay

to Colonel *George Dashiell* eighteen Pounds, for three months' pay of his Adjutant.

Commissions issued to *Elijah Stockley*, appointed Captain, *James Johnson*, First Lieutenant, *Stephen Buchanan*, Second Lieutenant, and *Elijah Casey*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Worcester County*.

Also, to *Jesse Gray*, appointed Captain, *Jesse Davis*, First Lieutenant, *James King*, Second Lieutenant, and *Elihu Hazard*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Worcester County*, belonging to the Tenth Battalion.

Also, to *Thomas Warring*, appointed Captain, *James Prather*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Humphreys*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Jess Jacob*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Shipton District*, in *Frederick County*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, May 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Commissions issued to *John Rothe*, appointed Captain, *Robert Harrison*, First Lieutenant, *Joshua Harrison*, Jun., Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Harrison*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Talbot County*, belonging to the Thirty-Eighth Battalion.

Also, to *Nicholas Martin*, appointed Captain, *John Singleton*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Delihay*, Second Lieutenant, and *David Robinson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Talbot County*, belonging to the Thirty-Eighth Battalion.

Also, to *James Lloyd*, appointed Captain, *Thomas Coward*, First Lieutenant, *Levin Speden*, Second Lieutenant, and *Solomon James*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Talbot County*, belonging to the Fourth Battalion.

Also, to *Richard Keene*, (son of *William*.) appointed Ensign of Captain *Fauntleroy's* Company of Militia, in *Caroline County*, belonging to the Twenty-Eighth Battalion.

Also, to *Samuel Smith*, appointed Captain, *John Stevenson*, First Lieutenant, and *James Cain*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Harford County*, belonging to the Twenty-Third Battalion.

Also, to *Samuel Griffith*, appointed Captain, and *John Hall Hughes*, First Lieutenant, of a Company of same County and same Battalion.

Also, to *George Patterson*, appointed Captain of a Company in same County and same Battalion.

Also, to *Henry Willson*, Jun., appointed Captain of a Company in same County and same Battalion.

Also, to *John Daugherty*, appointed Captain, *Francis Baker*, First Lieutenant, *William Marsh Cartrey*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Gibson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Talbot County*, belonging to the Fourth Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *Peter Adams* twenty-three Pounds nineteen Shillings and six Pence, for making Clothes for his Company.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Ensign *Benjamin Chalmers* three Pounds thirteen Shillings and seven Pence, for expenses incurred for apprehending *Alexander Ross*.

Brigadier-General *Hooper* having formed the following Companies into a Corps,

Ordered, That Commissions issue agreeable to his recommendation, as follows:

To *William Traverse*, appointed Colonel, *Daniel Fallen* Major, and *Levin Parker*, Quartermaster, of said Corps.

Also, to *Henry Lake*, appointed Captain, *Levi Willin*, First Lieutenant, *Luke Robinson*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Todd*, Ensign, of a Company of said Corps.

Also, to *Matthias Traverse*, appointed Captain, *John Ashcom Traverse*, First Lieutenant, *Alexander Tolly*, Second Lieutenant, and *Philip Furguson*, Ensign, of a Company of said Corps.

Also, to Captain *McNemara's* Company, heretofore commissioned, and a fourth company, consisting of forty-three men, hereafter to be commissioned by special license of the Committee of Observation of *Dorchester County*.

Ordered, That the Colonel and Major of said Corps rank as Lieutenant-Colonel and Second Major.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores at the City of

*Annapolis* deliver to Major *Price* twenty-five of the smallest Gunlocks imported in Captain *Tibbet*, for Mr. *White*, Riflemaker.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Weems* sixty-four Pounds seven Shillings and nine Pence, for pay of his Battalion when on duty.

Copy of Letter No. 154 was sent to the Committee of Safety of *North-Carolina*; letter No. 155 to the Committee of Observation at *Wilmington*, in *New-Castle County*.

Adjourned till next day.

Friday, May 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Ea. Haynes* one hundred Pounds, on account of Prisoners of *North-Carolina*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, May 18, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Joseph Middleton* ninety-one Pounds five Shillings, it being the balance of his account for furnishing a Pilot-Boat to 3d day of this instant.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

Monday, May 20, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Lax*, agent for the Ship *Defence*, two hundred Pounds.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Nicholas Thomas*, for the use of Major *Jeremiah Banning*, one Pound four Shillings and eight Pence, for his military attendance on the late alarm.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Major *Price*, for the use of Captain *Thomas Woolford's* Company of Regulars, ten Rifles, with ten Powder-horns and Pouches, twenty-nine Muskets, with Bullet-moulds equivalent, and also thirty-seven Blankets.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *George Plater*, for the use of *John Mason*, two Pounds thirteen Shillings and six Pence, for Shot sold to Captain *J. A. Thomas*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to Brigadier-General *Chamberlaine* forty-one Pounds thirteen Shillings and six Pence, for pay of Militia in *Talbot County*, on duty in the late alarm.

Copy of Letter No. 156 was sent to *Gerard Hopkins*, Deputy Commissary at *Baltimore Town*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *George Gordon* twenty Pounds, and also the further sum of seven Pounds ten Shillings, (in separate orders,) in part payment for Gun-Carriages.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Richard Barnes* thirty-one Pounds nine Shillings and two Pence, for pay and subsist of a Company of his Battalion, on duty on the late alarm.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Royston* one Pound fifteen Shillings and three Pence, currency, for work done to Wheel-Carriages.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Garretson* one Pound fourteen Shillings and nine Pence, for sundries furnished Captain *Fulford*.

Commissions issued to *Robert Owens*, appointed Captain, *Edward Crow*, First Lieutenant, *Charles Penn*, Second Lieutenant, and *Thomas Conner*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Lower District of *Frederick County*, belonging to the Sixteenth Battalion.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Lieutenant *Eli Dorsey*, for the use of Captain *Watkins's* Independent Company, eleven Rifles, with Powder-horns and Pouches, and twenty-seven Muskets, with Bullet-moulds equivalent thereto.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, May 21, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *James Taylor* fifteen Pounds, in part, for Gun-Carriages.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to *William Lux*, for the use of *William Hoffman*, five Pounds fourteen Shillings, for nineteen reams of Cartridge-paper.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *William Stewart*, for the use of Captain *Samuel Smith*, twenty Pounds fifteen Shillings and six Pence, for boarding and nursing his sick men.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Major *Price* one hundred and thirty-two Pounds fifteen Shillings and six Pence, for leather Breeches, Intrenching Tools, &c., delivered into the Magazine for the use of the Troops.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Clerk twenty Pounds for Expresses, and other trifling expenditures.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, May 22, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *Joshua Beall* one hundred and forty-six Pounds five Shillings, for pay and subsist of his Battalion when on duty.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to said Colonel *Beall* eighty-seven Pounds eight Shillings and five Pence, for expenses in guarding the Magazine at *Bladensburgh*, and attending the delivery of Powder, &c.

*Ordered*, That the Captains of the Brigs *Fortune* and *Rogers*, and Schooner *Ninety-Two*, immediately order their vessels down to the Port of *Annapolis*, and wait upon the Council of Safety for Instructions and Sailing Orders.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore* Town deliver to Captain *Campbell* (on loan) three hundred weight of Sheet Lead.

Copy of Letter No. 157 was sent to Captain *James Nicholson*.

Commissions issued to *William Morgan*, appointed Captain, *John Farmer*, First Lieutenant, *Daniel Root*, Jun., Second Lieutenant, and *William Prigg*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Harford* County.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Brown* five Pounds fifteen Shillings, for supplying the *South-River* Battalion with Provisions when on duty.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to *William Nevin* forty Pounds, in part of his account for Ramrods, &c.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Gunby* one hundred and twenty-six Pounds seventeen Shillings and nine Pence, for balance of his general account to the 3d instant.

Adjourned till next day.

Thursday, May 23, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Colonel *John Stull* eighteen Pounds, for three months' pay of his Adjutant.

*Ordered*, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Fulford* one hundred and one Pounds nine Shillings, for Gun-Carriages.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore* County deliver to Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes* whatever quantity of Powder may be necessary for the proof of Cannon to be supplied this Province according to his contract.

Commissions issued to *Stephen Hyland*, appointed Captain, *William Veazey*, First Lieutenant, *William Mauldin*, Second Lieutenant, and *Nathan Arrants*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Cecil* County.

Also, to *William Clayland*, appointed Captain in *Joseph Bruff's* Company of Militia, in *Talbot* County, belonging to the Fourth Battalion.

Also, to *Robert Hall*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Jacob Gibson's* Company, in same County, and belonging to the same Battalion.

Also, to *Jonathan Abell*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Perry Benson*, Second Lieutenant, and *Jonathan Gibson*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Talbot* County, belonging to the Thirty-Eighth Battalion.

Also, to *John Imprey Dawson*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *James Lowe*, Ensign, of Captain *Haddaman's* Company of Militia, in the same County, belonging to same Battalion.

An order having heretofore passed this Board for weighing the Vessels sunk in the Channel of the River *Patapsco*, near *Whetstone-Point*, and that Captain *James Nicholson*, with the Ship *Defence* and her Tenders, should assist in executing the same; which order hath not hitherto, we are informed, been complied with by reason of the necessary absence of Captain *Nicholson*, and one or both of his Tenders; we therefore, being desirous of having said vessels weighed with all convenient speed, do request that Messrs. *Jesse Hollingsworth*, *Isaac Vanbibber*, and *Benjamin Griffith*, or any two of them, would cause said vessels to be weighed up at the publick expense; and do hereby authorize and empower them, or any two of them, to employ proper vessels and labourers for that purpose, and to call to their assistance the Ship *Defence*, or her Tenders, when they return to the Harbour of *Baltimore* Town.

And further, to cause said vessels to be re-appraised on oath, rigged, and otherwise put in the same state they were in when sunk, as near as may be, and return an account of said re-appraisement, and of expenses from time to time, to the Council of Safety.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Beall* be requested to send the Muskets made by *John Yost*, at *Georgetown*, to *Port-Tobacco*, in *Charles* County, for the use of Captain *Rezin Beall's* Company, of regular troops, stationed there, and also send the Powder now at *Bladensburgh* to a Magazine near Captain *Tootle's*, in the neighbourhood of *Annapolis*, in a wagon hired for that purpose.

*Ordered*, That Colonel *Smallwood* be requested to detach an Ensign, with a Sergeant and four privates, to guard the Powder, now in the possession of Colonel *Beall*, from *Bladensburgh* to the Magazine near Captain *Tootle's*, in the neighbourhood of *Annapolis*.

*Ordered*, That the *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ennalls* one hundred and forty Pounds six Shillings and four Pence, for pay of his Battalion on duty.

*Ordered*, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *William Richardson* twelve Pounds, for two months' pay of an Adjutant to his Battalion.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Robert Cummings* one thousand Pounds, for victualling Troops.

*Ordered*, That the Commissary of Stores at the City of *Annapolis* deliver to *Isaac Harris* five pounds of Powder for proving Musket-barrels.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Messrs. *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes* five hundred Pounds, as advance money on account of contract for Cannon.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, May 24, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

*Ordered*, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Thomas Contee*, for the use of *John Stonestreet*, three Pounds thirteen Shillings and two Pence, on account of the *North-Carolina* Prisoners.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *William Neele*, for the use of *Hugh Young*, fourteen hundred and eighty-five Pounds eight Shillings and eleven Pence, for amount of cargo of the Brig *Brith*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Messrs. *Lux & Bowly* eight hundred and thirty-two Pounds fifteen Shillings and three Pence, the balance of their general account of Ship *Defence*.

*Ordered*, That the said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Tootle* thirty-nine Pounds six Shillings and five Pence, for wages and other disbursements when on board the *Wicked Dick*.

Copy of Letter No. 159 was sent to the Committee of Safety of *North-Carolina*.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Mr. *Thomas Ringgold* five hundred Pounds, to enable him to prosecute a Salt Work, on his bond.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Tillard* seven Pounds ten Shillings and six Pence, for amount of Mrs. *Ferguson's* account, and his own, for providing subsistence of the *South-River* Battalion.

Commissions issued to *Denwood Hicks*, appointed Captain, *Moses Lecompt*, First Lieutenant, *Henry Keene*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Budd*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Dorchester* County.

Also, to *Joseph Robson*, appointed Captain, *Moses Lecompt*, First Lieutenant.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Wynn Loockerman*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *Alexander Waddell*, Ensign, of Captain *Joseph Richardson's* Company of Militia, in *Caroline* County, belonging to the Fourteenth Battalion.

Also, to *Plummer Williams*, appointed Captain, *Benjamin Schoolfield*, First Lieutenant, *Ebenezer Finley*, Second Lieutenant, and *Richard Williams*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Somerset* County, belonging to the Seventeenth Battalion.

Also, to *Nathaniel Potter*, heretofore appointed by the Convention Captain of a Company of Militia in *Caroline* County, belonging to the Fourteenth Battalion.

Also, to *Thomas Bourk*, appointed Captain of the *Cambridge Blues*, heretofore commissioned by the Convention, but having mislaid or lost their commissions under the appointment of the Convention in *January* last.

Adjourned till next day.

— Saturday, May 25, 1776.

Council met. Present as yesterday.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *Richard Tilghman Earle* thirty Shillings, for Brimstone lodged in *Charles Wallace's* Store.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *John Gibson* three Pounds, for the carriage of Letters, Packets, &c., to *Eastern-Shore*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Eastern-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation of *Dorchester* County, or their order, nineteen Pounds and one Penny, for sundries by them expended for publick uses, as per account filed.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Robert Goldsborough*, Esq., or order, fifty-five Shillings, for so much by him paid an Express from *Cambridge* to the Committee of *Somerset* County.

Commissions issued to *Walter Tolly*, Junior, appointed Colonel; *Darby Lux*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Gittings*, First Major; *Thomas Sollers*, Second Major; and *Benjamin Rogers*, Quartermaster, of the *Gunpowder* Battalion, in *Baltimore* County.

Also, to *William Buchanan*, appointed Colonel; *John Maale*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Benjamin Nicholson*, First Major; *Thomas Jones*, Second Major; and *James Calhoun*, Quartermaster, of *Baltimore* Town Battalion, in *Baltimore* County.

Also, to *Thomas Gist*, Senior, appointed Colonel; *Samuel Owens*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Cradock*, First Major; *Isaac Hammond*, Second Major; and *Joseph Gist*, Quartermaster, of *Soldier's Delight* Battalion, in *Baltimore* County.

Copy of Letter No. 160 was sent to Captains *Ridley*, *Maubrey*, and *Sand*, respectively.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Neile*, of *Baltimore* Town, fifteen hundred and forty-five Pounds ten Shillings and four Pence, for the Schooner *Nancy*, and the amount of her cargo, insured by this Province, and captured at *St. Eustatia*.

Commissions issued to *James Martin*, appointed Captain, *William Handy*, Junior, First Lieutenant, *William Selby*, (of *William*), Second Lieutenant, and *Patrick Glasgow*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia in *Worcester* County, belonging to the Tenth Battalion.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *James Murray* seven Pounds ten Shillings, currency, for the payment of the carriage of publick Arms from *Dorchester* County to *Worcester*.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore*

Town deliver to *Isaac Harris*, or his order, all the Gunlocks now in the publick Magazine at that place.

Ordered, That the Commissary appointed to supervise the Gunlock Manufactory at *Fredericktown* deliver to Major *Price*, or his order, all the Gunlocks already manufactured for publick use.

Commissions issued to *Zaccheus Onion*, appointed Captain, *Sutton Gudgeon*, First Lieutenant, and *Philip Chamberlaine*, Second Lieutenant, of a Company of Militia in *Baltimore* County, belonging to *Gunpowder* Battalion.

Also, to *John Tully Young*, appointed Captain, *John German*, First Lieutenant, *Philip Colvin*, Second Lieutenant, and *William Galloway*, Ensign, of a Company of Militia, in the same County, belonging to the same Battalion.

Also, to *Job Garretson*, appointed Captain, *John Long*, First Lieutenant, *William Graves*, Second Lieutenant, and *Joseph Stansbury*, Ensign, of a Company belonging to same Battalion.

Also, to *John Mercer*, appointed Captain, *Benjamin Buck*, First Lieutenant, *William Clark*, Second Lieutenant, and *Benjamin Stansbury*, Ensign, of a Company belonging to same Battalion.

Also, to *Josias Bowen*, appointed Captain, *William Mackubbin*, First Lieutenant, *Vincent Green*, Second Lieutenant, and *Job Smith*, Ensign, of a Company belonging to same Battalion.

Also, to *John Standiford*, appointed Captain, *Edward Oldham*, First Lieutenant, *James Oglevie*, Second Lieutenant, and *Shadrach Green*, Ensign, of a Company belonging to same Battalion.

Ordered, That the above six Companies, together with Captain *William Cromwell's* and Captain *James Bosley's*, constitute the *Gunpowder*, or Tenth, Battalion.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to the Committee of Observation for the Middle District of *Frederick* County sixty Pounds, on account of the *North-Carolina* Prisoners.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Weedon* ten Pounds fifteen Shillings, it being the balance of account for stocking twenty Muskets and two Gunlocks, at twelve Shillings and six Pence each, as per receipt.

Commissions issued to *Pollard Edmondson*, appointed First Lieutenant, *John Waters*, Second Lieutenant, and *Richard* ———, Third Lieutenant, of Captain *John Gunby's* Independent Company of Regulars.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to *James Tilghman*, Esq., sixty-seven Pounds four Shillings, for his attendance as a Member of the Council of Safety ninety-six days.

Ordered, That the Treasurer aforesaid pay to *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer* seventy-nine Pounds two Shillings, for one hundred and thirteen days' attendance in Council.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, fifty-six Pounds fourteen Shillings, for eighty-one days' attendance in Council.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Benjamin Rumsey* twenty-eight Shillings, for two days' attendance in Council.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Gabriel Duwall* one hundred and eight Pounds nineteen Shillings and three Pence, for one hundred and five days' attendance as Clerk, and amount of his account filed.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Mr. *Richard Ridgely* sixty-nine Pounds two Shillings, currency, for his attendance as Assistant Clerk, and amount of account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Allen Quynn* four Pounds four Shillings, for six days' attendance as Messenger to the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Robert Reynolds*, for eighty-eight days' attendance as Door-keeper, and amount of his account filed, forty-seven Pounds three Shillings and six Pence, currency.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *John Hall*, Esq., sixteen Pounds sixteen Shillings, for twenty-four days' attendance as a Member of the Council.

Thus ended the Proceedings of the Council of Safety, this 25th day of *May*, 1776.

Signed by order of the Council.

R. RIDGELY, Clerk.

## MARYLAND CONVENTION.

At a Convention of Delegates, chosen by the several Counties of the Province of *Maryland*, at the City of *Annapolis*, on *Wednesday*, the 8th of *May*, 1776. Present:

FOR ST. MARY'S COUNTY.—*Richard Barnes, John Reider, Athanasius Ford.*

FOR CHARLES.—*Josias Hawkins, Robert T. Hooe, William Harrison, Joseph H. Harrison.*

FOR CALVERT.—*Edward Gantt, Patrick Smith, William Allein.*

FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S.—*Thomas Contee, Robert Tyler.*

FOR ANNE ARUNDEL.—*Charles Carroll, Barrister, Thomas Johnson, Jr.*

FOR FREDERICK, LOWER DISTRICT.—*Henry Griffith.*

MIDDLE.—*Charles Beatty, Baker Johnson.*

UPPER.—*William Baird.*

FOR BALTIMORE.—*Benjamin Nicholson, Walter Tolley, Jr.*

FOR HARFORD.—*Thomas Bond.*

FOR CECIL.—*John Veazey, Jun., Joseph Gilpin, John D. Thompson, Patrick Ewing, William Currer.*

FOR KENT.—*Peregrine Letherbury, William Sluby, Thomas Ringgold.*

FOR QUEEN ANNE'S.—*James Hollyday, Turbutt Wright, Thomas Wright, Richard T. Earle, James Tilghman.*

FOR TALBOT.—*James Lloyd Chamberlaine, Nicholas Thomas, Pollard Edmondson.*

FOR DORCHESTER.—*Robert Goldsborough, Henry Hooper, James Murray, John Ennals.*

FOR CAROLINE.—*Nathaniel Potter, William Richardson, Henry Dickinson, Richard Mason.*

FOR SOMERSET.—*George Dashiell, Gustavus Scott, Peter Waters.*

FOR WORCESTER.—*Peter Chaille, Samuel Handy, John Done, Joseph Dashiell.*

The Honourable *Charles Carroll*, Esquire, Barrister, was chosen President.

Ordered, That *Gabriel Duwall* be continued Clerk to the Convention, and that he qualify himself as such by taking oath that he will faithfully, diligently, and honestly discharge the office of Clerk to the Convention of *Maryland*, and that he will not disclose or reveal the secrets thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Allen Quynn* be continued Messenger, and Mr. *Robert Reynolds* Doorkeeper to the Convention; and that they severally qualify themselves as such by taking the oath of office and secrecy, as above directed to be taken by the Clerk.

Ordered, That the resolve of Secrecy entered into at the last session of Convention be observed this session.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 9, 1776.

Convention met. All the Members present as on yesterday.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Col. *George Plater*, a Member for *St. Mary's* County, appeared and took his seat in the House. Mr. *Sudler* appeared in the House.

A Remonstrance from the Committee of Observation for the Lower District of *Frederick* County, relating to the payment of Publick Taxes; a Petition from the Lieutenants of the Second Independent Company of Regular Troops, praying to be removed from said Company; a Petition from *William Faris*, of the City of *Annapolis*; and the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County against *Alexander Wickham*, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Certificates of the qualification of the Clerk, Messenger, and Doorkeeper, were produced and filed.

The Proceedings of the Council of Safety, in consequence of intercepted Letters from Lord *George Germaine* to *Robert Eden*, Esquire, Deputy Governour of *Maryland*, were laid before the Convention, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On reading a second time the Representation of the Committee of *Talbot* County, of the case of *Alexander Wickham*,

Ordered, That the said *Alexander Wickham* be commit-

ted to the custody of a guard, to be appointed by Colonel *William Smallwood*, until the Convention shall take order in the premises, and that the guard from the Independent Company commanded by Captain *Hindman* be discharged of the said *Alexander Wickham*.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

Post Meridiem. Convention met. Mr. *Rumsey*, Mr. *Hall*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Love*, Mr. *Lloyd*, and Mr. *J. T. Chase*, appeared in the House.

A Memorial from *Francis Baker*, of *Talbot* County, praying a remission of that part of the sentence pronounced against him at the last session of Convention which forbids him to offer himself for any office of trust, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On reading a second time the Petition of Lieutenants *Uriah Forrest*, *William Bowie*, and *Benjamin Brooks*, of the Second Independent Company of Regular Troops,

Ordered, That Captain *John Gunby* appear before this Convention, or, in the recess thereof, before the Council of Safety, on *Monday*, the 20th instant, to answer the charge exhibited against him in said Petition.

Ordered, That summonses issue to *Henry Jackson* and Lieutenants *William Bowie* and *Benjamin Brooks*, of *Somerset* County, Captain *James Handy*, of *Worcester* County, and Mr. *Robert Cummins*, of *Baltimore* County, to appear before this Convention, or, in the recess thereof, before the Council of Safety, on *Monday*, the 20th instant.

On reading a second time the Petition of *William Faris*, Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine into the facts set forth in the said Petition, and report thereon to the Convention; and that Mr. *Griffith*, Mr. *Joseph Dashiell*, and Mr. *Hawkins*, be a Committee for that purpose.

Ordered, That *Alexander Wickham* be allowed the sum of three Shillings and six Pence per day during his confinement, for subsistence.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, May 10, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read. Mr. *Beall* appeared in the House.

Mr. *Griffith* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to examine into the facts set forth in the Petition of *William Faris*; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Robert Wood*, of *Frederick* County, relating to the erecting a Sheeting and Slitting Mill; the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County, on the 6th instant; a Petition from *James Hutchings*, of *Queen Anne's* County, against the conduct of *Samuel Purviance*; a Petition from the *Pomonkey* Company of Militia, in *Charles* County; Proposals from *Henry Hollingsworth*, of *Cecil* County, to manufacture Gun-barrels; a Petition from *John Brewer*, of the City of *Annapolis*; and a Petition from the inhabitants of *Prince George's* County, on *Potomack River*, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Jordan* appeared in the House.

The Convention being informed that Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Junior, was attending, agreeable to his recognisance, entered into by order of the Council of Safety on the 26th day of *April* last,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine the papers laid before the Convention by the Council of Safety relative to the conduct of the said *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., and report the charge arising therefrom; and Mr. *Hollyday*, Mr. *Goldsborough*, and Mr. *T. Johnson*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

Post Meridiem. Convention met.

A Petition from the Committee and inhabitants of the Upper District of *Frederick* County; a Petition from the



Committee and others, the freemen of the Lower District of said County; a Memorial from Captain *Edward Veazey*, of the Seventh Independent Company, of Regular Troops; and a Remonstrance from the Committee of Observation for *Talbot County*, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Hollyday* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to examine the papers laid before the Convention by the Council of Safety, relative to the conduct of the said *Samuel Purviance*, Jun.; which was read a first and second time, and follows in these words, to wit:

"By the Committee appointed to examine the papers laid before the Convention by the Council of Safety, relative to the conduct of *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., of *Baltimore Town*, &c.

"Your Committee do report, that they have examined the papers laid before the Convention, from which it appears to your Committee that the charge arising from the said papers falls under the following heads:

"*First*. That the said *Samuel Purviance*, since the rising of the last Convention, hath usurped a power to direct the operations of the military force of this Province, (at a time when the Council of Safety, to whom the same solely and properly belongs in the recess of Convention, was sitting, and might, without inconvenience, have been applied to,) as appears by his letter of instructions to Captain *Samuel Smith*, of Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion, bearing date the 14th day of *April* last, a copy of which, attested by the Clerk of the Council of Safety, your Committee refer to.

"*Secondly*, That the said *Samuel Purviance*, being (at the time of his writing the said letter, and giving the said instructions) Chairman of the Committee of *Baltimore County*, did write the said letter, and give the said instructions, under colour of his said office of Chairman, and as if at the request of the said Committee; whereas the said Committee were not consulted thereon, nor made acquainted therewith, as appears by the said letter and instructions, and by the proceedings of the said Committee, attested copies whereof, among the said papers, are referred to.

"*Thirdly*, That the said *Samuel Purviance*, by writing and speaking, and particularly by a letter by him written to the President of the Congress, some time about the middle of *April* last, hath unjustly represented the Convention and Council of Safety as irresolute and afraid to execute the trusts reposed in them, and endeavoured to draw a suspicion upon them of a want of spirit and zeal in the execution of their duty.

"All which is humbly submitted to the consideration of the honourable Convention.

"By order:

"R. RIDGELY, Clerk Com."

On consideration whereof,

*Resolved*, That *Thursday* next be appointed for the appearance of *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., to answer the charge exhibited against him; but if it should appear, by affidavit, that Mr. *John Smith* (whose testimony Mr. *Purviance* alleges is material to him) cannot be had here on that day, then the Convention do order that Mr. *Purviance* shall appear as aforesaid on the *Saturday* following, at nine o'clock.

Mr. *Mackall* and Mr. *Buchanan* appeared in the House.

On reading a second time the Petition of *James Hutchings*, of *Queen Anne's County*, against the conduct of *Samuel Purviance*, Jun.,

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration on *Thursday* next.

The Proposals of *Henry Hollingsworth* being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider of the same, and report their opinion thereon.

And Mr. *Gilpin*, Mr. *Ringgold*, and Mr. *Rumsey*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, May 11, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

A Petition from *George French*, Sheriff, and *Joshua*

*Tesstil*, one of the Deputy Sheriffs of *Frederick County*; a Petition from *Abraham Langanfelter*, *David Alsbaugh*, and *Henry Barnes*, languishing Debtors in *Frederick County Jail*; and a Petition from *Philemon Downes*, late Sheriff of *Queen Anne's County*, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That all Petitions relative to Proceedings of Committees of Observation against Non-Enrollers be referred to the Committee appointed to examine into the facts set forth in the Petition of *William Faris*.

Mr. *Allein* and Mr. *Plater* have leave of absence till *Monday* next.

On reading a second time the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County*, of the 6th instant, relative to the Rev. Mr. *John Eversfield* and Mr. *Ralph Forster*,

*Resolved*, That the Resolutions of the last session of Convention sufficiently provide for the case stated in the said Proceedings of the Committee.

Mr. *Reider* has leave of absence.

On reading a second time the Petition of *Robert Wood*, of *Frederick County*,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider of the same, and report their opinion thereon.

And Mr. *Gilpin*, Mr. *Beatty*, and Mr. *J. T. Chase*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Convention will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governor *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon.

Mr. *Ringgold* and Mr. *Nicholson* have leave of absence till *Monday* next.

Convention adjourns till *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, May 13, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Reider*, Mr. *Nicholson*, and Mr. *Allein*.

The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read.

The Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Calvert County*, on the complaint of *Joseph Wilkinson* against *James Weems*, were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to examine and adjust the several claims on the Treasury.

And Mr. *Earle*, Mr. *Contee*, Mr. *Tolley*, Mr. *Hoe*, and Mr. *Chamberlaine*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

The Petition of *Purnal Johnson* was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Dallam* appeared in the House.

On reading a second time the Petition of *Philemon Downes*, late Sheriff of *Queen Anne's County*, and considering the same,

*Resolved*, That the case therein stated is provided for in the Resolutions of the Convention, held the 26th of *July* last; and that the Committee for licensing suits in *Queen Anne's County* ought to grant licenses to sue or warrant, as the case may require, under the limitations expressed in the said Resolves of *July*.

The Memorial of *Francis Baker*, of *Talbot County*, was read a second time, and considered,

And thereupon *Resolved*, That the same be rejected.

On considering the Representation from the Committee of *Talbot County*, of the case of *Alexander Wickham*,

*Resolved*, That he be discharged, being a person too insignificant and contemptible for the further notice of this Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That in all cases in which the Council of Safety, or any Committee of Observation within this Province, shall be in want of a Witness or Witnesses, in any fact properly depending before them, that they issue subpoena, requiring the attendance of the said Witness or Witnesses, at a time and place by the said Council or Committee to be appointed; and in case of disobedience, that they issue attachment of contempt, directed to some Captain of the Militia, requiring him to take the body of the Wit-

ness or Witnesses disobeying as aforesaid, and him or them bring before the said Council or Committee, to answer the contempt; and may fine the said Witness or Witnesses not exceeding the sum of five Pounds, current money. And if it shall happen that any Witness shall refuse to declare on oath the truth of his or her knowledge, touching the fact under the consideration of such Council or Committee, that they have full power and authority to commit such Witness to the custody of some Captain of Militia within the County where such Witness resides, and by him to be safely kept until such Witness shall comply as aforesaid. *Provided, always,* That this Resolution shall not be understood to compel Witnesses to give evidence in cases in which they are interested, and they declare the same on oath when required.

*Resolved,* That the expenses arising on such attachment or commitment be defrayed out of the property of the person attached or committed.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Convention met.

Mr. *Somervill* appeared in the House.

A Memorial from the Committee of Observation for *Cecil* County, and an Address and Petition from the Officers and Associators in the Thirtieth or *Susquehanna* Battalion of Militia, in said County, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On reading a second time the Petition of *Purnal Johnson*,

*Resolved,* That the same be referred to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, and that the said Committee report to this Convention their opinion of the merits of said Petition.

*Ordered,* That the Clerk transmit a copy of the above Resolve, together with a copy of the Petition, to the Committee of *Baltimore* County.

On motion, *Resolved,* That a Committee be appointed to consider of the further means of defence necessary for this Province.

And Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Goldsborough*, Mr. *Hollyday*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Tilghman*, and Mr. *Plater*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

On reading a second time the Remonstrance from the Committee of Observation for *Talbot* County,

*Resolved,* That the Fourth Battalion of Militia in said County be composed of the Companies of the Captains *Joseph Bruff*, *Jacob Gibson*, *Nathaniel Cooper*, *John Daugherty*, *James Lloyd*, *Samuel Abbot*, *Thomas Gordon*, and *Greenbury Goldsborough*; and that the Companies of the Captains *James Benson*, *Henry Banning*, *John Rolle*, *William Hambleton*, *William Webb Haddaway*, and *Nicholas Martin*, in said County, form the Thirty-Eighth Battalion.

The Remonstrance of the Committee of the Lower District of *Frederick* County being read a second time,

*Resolved,* That the same be referred for consideration till next session of Convention.

On reading a second time, and considering the Memorial of Captain *Edward Veazey*,

*Resolved,* That the same be rejected.

On reading a second time the Petition of *Abraham Linganfelter*, *David Alsbaugh*, and *Henry Barnes*, languishing Debtors in *Frederick* County Jail,

*Resolved,* That the same be referred to the consideration of the next session of Convention; but that it is in the mean time recommended to the several Creditors of said Petitioners to accept the composition offered by them, provided the same be a just and fair one.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read,

*Resolved,* That this Convention will, on to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the same.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, May 14, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. *Stull*, Mr. *Allein*, and Mr. *Nicholson*, appeared in the House.

A Petition from the freemen belonging to the Twenty-Ninth Battalion of Militia; a Petition from the Committee and others, the inhabitants of the Middle District of *Frederick* County; a Letter from Colonel *John Murdock*, of the Twenty-Ninth Battalion; a Petition from *Jacob Keaport*, of *Baltimore* County; and an application from *Michael Cocendofer*, of *Frederick* County, for a sum of money to enable him to carry on a Stocking Manufactory; were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved unanimously*, That upon every Vote, the Delegates from each County be severally called, and the yeas and nays respectively taken, if required by a County, and that the same be recorded with the Proceedings of the Convention.

*Resolved*, That all the Votes and Proceedings of the Convention be published, except such as relate to military operations, and such others as shall be particularly ordered not to be published.

On reading a second time the application of *Michael Cocendofer*,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to receive all proposals relative to the establishment of Manufactories, and report their opinion thereon.

And Mr. *Gilpin*, Mr. *Rumsey*, Mr. *Earle*, Mr. *Ewing*, and Mr. *Beall*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

The Petition of *Jacob Keaport*, of *Baltimore* County, being read a second time,

*Resolved*, That the same be rejected.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Convention met.

A Recommendation of Field-Officers, and a Petition for Commissions for said Officers, from the Captains *Gist Vaughan*, *Micajah Merryman*, *John Stevenson*, (son of *Edward*.) *John Forster*, *Stephen Gill*, (son of *John*.) *John Talbot*, *Edward Cockey*, and *John Cockey*, were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province, being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the same, Mr. *Plater* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Plater* reported: That the Committee, according to order, had taken under their consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress and of the Council of Safety thereupon, but, not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider further of the said Letters and Proceedings.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 15, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On reading a Letter from Captain *John Allen Thomas*, of the Fifth Company of Independent Regular Troops,

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the conduct of Mr. *Robert Cummins*, and the reason why he has not supplied the Troops with Rations, as regulated at the last Convention, agreeable to his contract with the Council of Safety.

And Mr. *Scott*, Mr. *Hooe*, Mr. *Plater*, Mr. *Hooper*, and Mr. *Barnes*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Whereas it is necessary that the peace and good order of the Province should be maintained as much as possible; and it appearing to this Convention that sundry Officers, appointed for that purpose, have refused to take upon them the respective trusts to which they have been appointed, alleging scruples to take the usual Oaths to the Government, during the unhappy differences with *Great Britain*:

*Resolved*, That the said Oaths be dispensed with during the said differences; and that the persons already appointed, or who may hereafter be appointed, do qualify themselves for their trusts by taking the respective Oaths of office to which they are or may be appointed; and all persons concerned, either in administering or taking the said Oath of office, independent of the said Oaths to the Government, may rest assured that proper care shall be taken, upon the settlement of those differences, (an event we most ardently wish for,) to indemnify them against any penalties directed by any laws to be inflicted on persons acting as aforesaid without having first taken said Oaths.

*Ordered*, That Captain *John Bonnett's* Company of Militia, in the Upper District of *Frederick* County, be assigned a Company of Light Infantry to Colonel *John Stull's* Battalion, and that the Council of Safety issue Commissions to the Officers of said Company.

A Memorial from the *Baltimore* Independent Company of Militia, praying leave to continue and be considered as an Independent Company of Militia, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province, being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the same; Mr. *Plater* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Plater* reported: That the Committee had, according to order, taken into their consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon; but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will, in the afternoon, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider further of the said Letters and Proceedings.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Convention met.

The Petitions of *Seth Paddock* and *Daniel Adams*, of the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 16, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The Petition of *Hunlock Palfrey*, of *New-England*, and a Petition from the freemen belonging to the Twenty-Ninth Battalion of Militia, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Nicholas Harwood* was appointed Assistant Clerk to the Convention.

*Ordered*, That he qualify himself as such by taking the oath of office and secrecy, as directed to be taken by the Clerk.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of five persons be appointed to consider of and report proper alterations or additions to the Resolutions of Convention for encouraging the making Marine Salt.

And Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Plater*, Mr. *Chaille*, Mr. *Handy*, Mr. *Hooper*, and Mr. *Jordan*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider and report proper alterations or additions to the Resolutions of Convention for erecting a Powder-Mill; and that the same Committee also examine the Accounts of the Supervisors of Saltpetre Works, and report thereon.

And Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Rumsey*, Mr. *Ringgold*, Mr. *Gilpin*, Mr. *Hooper*, and Mr. *Hoe*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

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Certificate of Mr. *Harwood's* qualification was produced and filed.

On reading a second time the Proceedings of the Committee of *Calvert* County, on the complaint of *Joseph Wilkinson* against *James Weems*,

*Resolved*, That the same be taken into consideration on *Tuesday* next, at nine o'clock in the morning; and that the Clerk transmit copies of the above Resolution to the said *Joseph Wilkinson* and *James Weems*, respectively.

On motion, *Resolved*, That one Shilling per day be allowed as a Ration for the Militia of this Province, when called into actual service.

On reading a second time the Memorial of the *Baltimore* Independent Company, now commanded by Captain *John Sterrett*,

*Resolved*, That the same be granted.

On reading a second time the Recommendation of Field-Officers, and Petition for Commissions for said Officers, from the Captains *Gist Vaughan*, *Micajah Merryman*, *John Stevenson*, (son of *Edward*,) *John Forster*, *Stephen Gill*, (son of *John*,) *John Talbott*, *Edward Cockey*, and *John Cockey*,

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the same be rejected.

Mr. *Mackall* has leave of absence for a few days.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Met according to adjournment.

The Petition of *Charles Lansdale*, of *Prince George's* County, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *George Brent*, a Member for that District of *Frederick* County which lies to the west of *Licking-Creek*, appeared and took his seat in the House.

On hearing and considering the Petition of *James Hutchings*, and the allegations and proofs offered in support thereof, as well as the allegations and proofs offered by *Samuel Purviance*, in defence of his conduct;

*Resolved*, That the said *Samuel Purviance* acted in a public character, and that the pressing emergency on which he thus acted renders his conduct blameless.

*Resolved*, That the said *Samuel Purviance* be allowed all just and reasonable expenses attending the complaint exhibited against him by the said *James Hutchings*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to ascertain the same; and Mr. *Plater*, Mr. *Beall*, and Mr. *J. T. Chase*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

A Petition from *John McFadon*, of *Baltimore* Town, relative to the establishment of a Linen Manufactory, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for further consideration till *Saturday* next.

Convention adjourns till *Saturday* morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, May 18, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on *Thursday*, except Mr. *Mackall* and Mr. *Smith*. The Proceedings of *Thursday* were read.

A Letter from *James Duane*, Esquire, enclosing Resolutions of Congress, and a Memorial from the freemen of *North Susquehannah* Hundred, in *Cecil* County, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Griffith* brings in, and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to consider of the several Petitions relative to proceedings of Committees of Observation against Non-Enrollers; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Griffith*, Mr. *Currer*, and Mr. *Letherbury*, have leave of absence.

The Convention, agreeable to the Order of the Day, took into their consideration the charges reported against *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., of *Baltimore* Town, and on hearing Mr. *Purviance*, and the several witnesses by him produced,

*Resolved*, That the said *Samuel Purviance*, since the rising of the last Convention, hath usurped a power to direct the operations of the military force of this Province, at a time when the Council of Safety (to whom the same solely and properly belongs, in the recess of Convention) was sitting, and might, without inconvenience, have been applied to.

That the said *Samuel Purviance*, being (at the time of his writing the said Letter and giving the said Instructions) Chairman of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, did write the said Letter and give the said Instructions under colour of his said office of Chairman, and as if at the request of the said Committee; whereas the said Committee were not consulted thereon nor made acquainted therewith.

That the said *Samuel Purviance*, by writing and speaking, and particularly by a Letter by him written to the President of the Congress, some time about the middle of *April* last, hath unjustly represented the Convention and Council of Safety as irresolute and afraid to execute the trusts reposed in them, and endeavoured to draw a suspicion upon them of a want of spirit and zeal in the execution of their duty.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for further consideration till *Monday* next.

Convention adjourns till *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

Monday, May 20, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on *Saturday*, except Mr. *Griffith*, Mr. *Currer*, Mr. *Letherbury*, Mr. *Tyler*, and Mr. *Lloyd*. The Proceedings of *Saturday* were read.

Mr. *Smith* appeared in the House.

The Convention being informed that *Elisha Winters*, of *Kent* County, was willing to contract for the making a quantity of Fire-Arms for the publick,

*Resolved*, That the terms offered by the said *Elisha Winters* be referred to the Committee appointed to consider of the proposals of *Henry Hollingsworth*.

The President laid before the Convention a Letter from the Deputies of this Province in Congress, enclosing the following Resolution, to wit:

"IN CONGRESS, May 15, 1776.—Whereas his *Britannick* Majesty, in conjunction with the Lords and Commons of *Great Britain*, has, by a late Act of Parliament, excluded the inhabitants of these United Colonies from the protection of his Crown: And whereas no answer whatever to the humble Petitions of the Colonies for redress of grievances and reconciliation with *Great Britain*, has been, or is likely to be given, but the whole force of that Kingdom, aided by foreign mercenaries, is to be exerted for the destruction of the good People of these Colonies: And whereas it appears absolutely irreconcilable to reason and good conscience for the People of these Colonies now to take the oaths and affirmations necessary for the support of any government under the Crown of *Great Britain*; and it is necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said Crown should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of Government exerted under the authority of the People of the Colonies, for the preservation of internal peace, virtue, and good order, as well as for the defence of their lives, liberties, and properties, against the hostile invasions and cruel depredations of their enemies:

"Therefore *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the respective Assemblies and Conventions of the United Colonies, where no Government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs has been hitherto established, to adopt such Government as shall, in the opinion of the Representatives of the People, best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, and *America* in general.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

Which was read; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report thereon.

And Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Goldsborough*, Mr.

*Hollyday*, and Mr. *Tilghman*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

The Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's* County, on the 16th instant, were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the Merchants of *Dorchester* County, a Letter from *John Hanson*, Jun., of *Frederick* County, and a Petition from the Minute Company lately commanded by Captain *William Henry*, praying to be established a Company of Militia, under their late Officers, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem*. Met according to adjournment.

*Ordered*, That the Muskets made and sent hither by *Henry Yost* and *John Unsold*, of *Frederick* County, in consequence of their respective contracts with the Council of Safety, on the 28th day of *November* and 14th of *December* last, be returned to them as unfit for service, and that they pay the expense of sending them here.

Mr. *T. Johnson* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to consider of the Resolution of Congress of the 15th instant, and report thereon; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*Ordered*, That the Committee of Claims estimate and report to the Convention a proper allowance to the Surgeons and Adjutant who attended the Minute Companies commanded by the Captains *James Kent* and *William Henry*, when ordered on duty to the assistance of *Northampton* and *Accomack* Counties, in *Virginia*.

*Ordered*, That the Petition of the Lieutenants *Uriah Forrest*, *William Sprigg Bowie*, and *Benjamin Brooks*, against Captain *John Gunby*, be postponed for consideration till to-morrow.

On reading a second time the Petition of the freemen belonging to the Twenty-Ninth Battalion, and considering the same,

*Resolved*, That it be dismissed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be empowered immediately to contract with proper persons to raise the Vessels lately sunk in *Patapsco River* for the preservation of *Baltimore Town*, and to rig and put those Vessels in the same state that they were before they were sunk. And the said Council of Safety, for the time being, be also empowered to appoint proper persons, (not less than three,) who, on oath, shall ascertain and return the difference of value, if any, of the same Vessels, occasioned by the sinking thereof. And that the said Council of Safety pay the expenses of raising the said Vessels, and putting them in order as aforesaid, out of the publick money, as well as any actual expenses incurred by the owners for wages and maintenance of the crews of the said Vessels, and a reasonable monthly allowance for the time the Vessels have been and shall be out of the possession and power of their owners.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, May 21, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. *Tyler* appeared in the House.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Captain *William Henry* five hundred and forty-four Pounds fifteen Shillings and six Pence, to discharge the pay and subsistence of his Minute Company.

The Convention took into their consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to report on the Resolution of Congress of the 15th instant, and thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved, unanimously*, That the People of this Province

have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal Government and Police of this Province.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That it is the opinion of this Convention that this Convention hath ample power to draw the whole force of this Province into action, against the armed force that is or may be employed to carry into execution the several unconstitutional and oppressive Acts of the *British* Parliament for laying Taxes in *America*, to enforce the collection of those Taxes, and for altering and changing the Constitution and internal Police of some of the United Colonies.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That this Province hath hitherto exerted itself, and will, upon all occasions, continue to exert itself, with cheerfulness and alacrity, in the common cause, agreeable to the faith pledged in the union of the Colonies: and if it shall appear to this Province necessary to enter into a further compact with the other Colonies, for the preservation of the constitutional rights of *America*, this Province will enter into such further engagement for that purpose.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That this Convention, by a resolution of the 15th day of this instant, hath made sufficient provision to prevent a necessity for any person within this Province now taking the oaths for the support of Government under the Crown of *Great Britain*, and that it is the opinion of this Convention that it is not necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said Crown should be now totally suppressed in this Province, and all the powers of Government exerted under the authority of the People.

*Resolved,* That the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman, Esq.,* and *Thomas Johnson, Jun., Robert Alexander, Samuel Chase, Robert Goldsborough, William Paca, Thomas Stone,* and *John Rogers,* Esquires, Deputies, now re-elected by ballot to represent this Province in Congress, be, and they or any three or more of them are, empowered to represent this Province in Congress until the end of the next session of Convention, as fully as they might, until the end of this session of Convention, have done the same under their former appointment.

*Resolved, unanimously,* That as this Convention is firmly persuaded that a reunion with *Great Britain* on constitutional principles would most effectually secure the rights and liberties, and increase the strength and promote the happiness of the whole Empire—objects which this Province hath ever had in view—the said Deputies are bound and directed to govern themselves by the Instructions given to them by this Convention, in its session of *December* last, in the same manner as if the said Instructions were particularly repeated.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Convention proceeded to take into consideration the Petition of Lieutenant *Uriah Forrest*, preferred on behalf of himself and Lieutenants *William Sprigg Bowie* and *Benjamin Brooks*, setting forth that, from the conduct of their Captain, *John Gunby*, of the Second Independent Company, of regular troops, they had cause to suspect his zeal for the rights and liberties of *America*, and praying to be removed from said Company. And on hearing and considering the proofs and allegations offered, as well by the Petitioners as the said *John Gunby*,

*Resolved,* That it is the opinion of this Convention that the said Captain *John Gunby*, far from having given any just cause to suspect his zeal for the rights and liberties of *America*, hath, by his conduct, manifested a laudable zeal in defence of the rights and liberties of *America* in general, and this Province in particular.

*Resolved therefore,* That the said Petition be rejected.

Mr. *Bond* has leave of absence for a few days.

The Order of the Day for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province, being read,

*Ordered,* That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the Proceedings of the Committee of *Calvert* County, on the complaint of *Joseph Wilkinson* against *James Weems*, was referred for consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday, May 22, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Potter*. The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

The Committee for that purpose appointed, bring in and deliver to Mr. President, a Report on the proposals of *Henry Hollingsworth* to manufacture Gun-barrels; also a Report on the terms offered by *Elisha Winters*, of *Chestertown*, in *Kent* County, to manufacture Fire-Arms; which were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Proceedings of the Committee of *Baltimore* County, on the conduct of *Alexander McGee*; a Petition from *Joseph Renshaw*, of *Baltimore* County; and a Petition from the Freeholders and Associators of *Sassafras-Neck*, *Cecil* County, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention, taking into consideration the Resolutions of *Saturday* last, on the charge against *Samuel Purviance, Jun.,* of *Baltimore* Town,

*Resolved,* That *Samuel Purviance, Jun.,* be called before this Convention, and be informed by Mr. President of the Resolutions had on *Saturday* last on the articles of charge against him; and further, that this Convention highly disapprove and condemn his conduct in usurping the power to direct the operations of the military force of this Province, and in using his character of Chairman, and engaging the countenance and promising the protection and indemnity of the Committee, without the orders of the Committee, assembled as such. That it appears to this Convention that the said *Samuel Purviance*, in his usurpation of the power to direct the military force of this Province, was considerably influenced by a person not residing in this Province, nor having any interest or property therein, and that it would be of the most dangerous tendency to the peace of this Province, and to the safety and security of the good people thereof, to suffer any person or persons, other than those entrusted with the proper authority by this Province, and more especially such as do not reside nor have any interest therein, to interfere in the direction of the internal affairs, civil or military, of said Province. That this Convention hath no intention or desire to prevent any person from freely examining into the conduct of the Convention, or any other publick body within this Province, or into the conduct of any individuals thereof, or to exercise his judgment, or to communicate his sentiments as to the abilities or fitness of any man to fill the office to which he is appointed. That it is necessary, for the purpose of filling the places of highest trust with the best and most approved characters in the community, and for the preservation of publick liberty, that there should be such free investigations. But that it is equally necessary for maintaining order, that the publick bodies should not be wantonly and licentiously traduced by misrepresentations of them and their conduct, to those especially who stand high in the present system of authority or command in *America*. That if the representations of the said *Samuel Purviance* concerning the Convention and Council of Safety to the President of the Congress and General *Lee* were true, such representations could not be serviceable to the publick, because neither the President of the Congress nor General *Lee* could displace, nor could properly have any influence towards displacing any individual of either of those bodies, however unequal he might be to his publick station; but that such representations being indeed false, the calumny might have proved highly prejudicial to the cause of *America* in general, and to this Province in particular.

That this Convention are therefore of opinion, that justice would well warrant a more exemplary punishment to be inflicted on the said *Samuel Purviance* for his said misdoings; but that, in consideration of his active zeal in the common cause, and in expectation that he will hereafter conduct himself with more respect to the publick bodies necessarily entrusted with power, mediately or immediately, by the people of this Province, and will be more attentive to propriety, this Convention hath resolved that the said *Samuel Purviance* for his said conduct be censured and reprimanded, and that Mr. President do from the chair censure and reprimand him accordingly, and that he be thereupon discharged.

And thereupon the said *Samuel Purviance, Jun.,* being



called in, and being at the bar of this House, Mr. President communicated to him the resolve of Convention, and did censure and reprimand him accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to view and value the Linen manufactured and transmitted to the Council of Safety by *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil County*, in pursuance of his engagement with the Convention, at their session in *December* last.

And *Mr. Hooe*, *Mr. Gilpin*, *Mr. Ewing*, *Mr. Chamberlaine*, and *Mr. Contee*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Met according to adjournment.

*Mr. Rumsey* has leave of absence.

The Committee for that purpose appointed, bring in and deliver to Mr. President, a Report on the Memorial of *Edward Lloyd*, Esquire; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On reading a second time the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Prince George's County*, relative to the *Rev. Mr. John Eversfield*,

*Resolved*, That in consideration of the age and infirmities of the said *John Eversfield*, and his want of abilities to exert any dangerous influence, that he be discharged on paying the expenses of his confinement.

*Mr. T. Johnson* brings in and delivers to Mr. President, a Report from the Committee appointed to consider of and report proper alterations or additions to the Resolutions of Convention, for encouraging the making of Marine Salt; which was read a first and second time, and thereupon the Convention, taking the same into consideration,

*Resolved*, That a publick Salt Work be erected on or near the Bay, near the mouth of *Potomack*, and another on the Sea-board of this Province; and that the said works be carried on on the publick account, under the management and direction of such persons as shall be appointed by the Council of Safety for the time being; and that any sum of publick money, not exceeding the sum of five hundred Pounds, may, by order of the said Council of Safety, be expended in erecting and carrying on each of the said works. And that for encouraging private people to set up and carry on Salt Works, the Council of Safety, for the time being, may, on proper security, and such terms as they approve of, advance of the publick money any sum or sums not exceeding five hundred Pounds, for erecting and carrying on each of two or more Salt Works in this Province; so that such advances for the encouragement of private Salt Works exceed not in the whole fifteen hundred Pounds, common money; and that no publick money be advanced for erecting and carrying on Salt Works under the resolution of Convention held at *Annapolis*, the 26th day of *July* last.

On reading a second time the Report from the Committee appointed to consider the proposals of *Henry Hollingsworth*, the Convention took the same into consideration; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the sum of five hundred Pounds be advanced to the said *Henry Hollingsworth*, out of the publick Treasury, he giving bond in double that sum, conditioned for the payment of the sum so advanced in good substantial Gun-barrels, that will stand the usual proof, well bored and ground, three-fourths of an inch in the bore, and three and a half feet in the barrel, at twenty Shillings per barrel; and good, substantial, well manufactured, and finished steel bayonets, at eight Shillings per bayonet, in four months after the date thereof; and upon completing the said or any subsequent contract for the like purpose, a sum not exceeding five hundred Pounds, on the like condition, be advanced by the Convention or Council of Safety, so long and as often as they shall think the publick exigency will require it.

*Resolved*, That as a laudable desire to attain a competent knowledge in the art of making Saltpetre, and to diffuse this knowledge as extensively as possible, appears to this Convention to have been the motive that induced the said *Henry Hollingsworth* to incur the expense of thirty Pounds, in employing a certain *John Mingle*, a man of reputed skill in the said business, and he being further encouraged thereto by the advice and concurrence of some of the Members of this House, that the said expense be allowed in his

general account as Supervisor of the Saltpetre Work in *Cecil County*.

The Convention took into their consideration a Report from the said Committee, on the terms offered by *Elisha Winters*, of *Chestertown*, in *Kent County*, and came to the following Resolutions thereon, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the sum of eight hundred and fifty-five Pounds, common money, be advanced to the said *Elisha Winters*, out of the publick Treasury, he giving bond in double that sum, with sufficient security, conditioned for the delivery of six hundred stand of Muskets, three-fourths of an inch in the bore and three and a half feet in the barrel; to be well stocked with walnut, and well finished with strong, substantial double-bridled locks, strong brass mounting, substantial steel bayonets and ramrods, and swivels for slings, agreeable to a sample this day produced to the Convention, at the rate of four Pounds five Shillings, common money, for each Musket so finished; the said Muskets and accoutrements to be delivered to the order of the Convention, or the Council of Safety of this Province, for the time being, in the following proportions, to wit: Forty per month for the first three months from the date of the contract, and the residue in nine months thereafter, in proportions of not less than fifty per month; the said *Elisha Winters* to be furnished in due time, by order of the Convention or Council of Safety for the time being, with barrels and bayonets, of the dimensions and quality as aforesaid, at the head of *Elk River*, in *Cecil County*, at the rate of twenty Shillings, common money, each, for the barrels, and eight Shillings, like money, each, for the bayonets. That a further sum of four hundred and twenty-seven Pounds ten Shillings, like money, be advanced him, upon the delivery of three hundred of the said Muskets and accoutrements as aforesaid; and upon the delivery of the residue, as aforesaid, that the further sum of four hundred and twenty-seven Pounds ten Shillings be paid him as the balance of the amount of the said six hundred Muskets and accoutrements, at four Pounds five Shillings, common money, deducting the cost of the barrels and bayonets as aforesaid.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all persons employed in the manufacturing or repairing of Arms for the publick, or in repairing Arms for the use of the Militia, by order or appointment of any Field-Officer of the Militia, and all persons who are personally employed in erecting or working of Powder-Mills, or in working in any publick Saltpetre or Marine Salt Works, carried on for the use and on account of the publick, shall, during the time they are actually so employed, within one year next following, be exempt from attending on musters.

*Resolved*, That no Muskets or Rifles, except by the owner thereof on his removal to reside out of this Province, or any Gun-barrels, Gun-locks, or Bayonets, be carried out of this Province, without the leave of the Council of Safety for the time being.

On reading a second time the Petition of *Charles Landsdale*, of *Prince George's County*,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred to the Committee appointed to examine the several claims on the Treasury.

A Memorial from *Henry Ridgely*, of *Elkridge*, in *Anne Arundel County*; a Memorial from *Stephen Gartrill*, of said *County*; and a Petition from *Isaac McHard*, of the City of *Annapolis*, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee for that purpose appointed bring in and deliver to Mr. President the following Report, to wit:

The Committee appointed to view and value the Linen manufactured and sent to the Council of Safety by *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil County*, do report, that seven pieces of Linen, delivered in to the Commissary of Stores, containing two hundred and eighty-one and a half yards, are of the value of three Shillings and six Pence currency per yard; and that one piece, containing twenty-one yards, is of the value of two Shillings and three Pence currency per yard.

All which is submitted to the honourable Convention.

Signed per order of the Committee.

N. HARWOOD, Clerk.

Which was read and agreed to.

Sundry Remonstrances and Petitions from the Fifth and Twentieth Battalions of Militia, in *Queen Anne's County*, were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention took into consideration the Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for *Calvert* County, in the case of *James Weems*; and it appearing that the facts stated in the said *Weems's* Letter to the said Committee, on the 26th day of *February* last, are true,

*Resolved*, That the said *James Weems* was not guilty of a breach of the resolve of Congress, referred to in the Proceedings of the said Committee, and that the said Committee erred in the determination by them made.

A Petition from the Officers and Privates thereunto subscribed, of a Company of Militia in *Linganore*, in the Middle District of *Frederick* County, against their Captain, *Basil Dorsey*, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read,

*Ordered*, That the same be referred for further consideration till to-morrow.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Thursday, May 23, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Bond*.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to examine into the expenditure of the money placed in the hands of Mr. *William Lux*, as agent for the Ship *Defence*. And Mr. *Ringgold*, Mr. *Beall*, Mr. *Richardson*, Mr. *Murray*, and Mr. *Turbutt Wright*, were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. *Baird* has leave of absence.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to consider of the expediency of exempting the Masters and Scholars of publick and other Schools from attending on Musters; and Mr. *Plater*, Mr. *Scott*, and Mr. *T. Johnson* were elected by ballot a Committee for that purpose.

The Order of the Day, for taking into consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon, being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider of the same, Mr. *Plater* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Plater* reported, that the Committee had, according to order, taken into their consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon; but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will, in the afternoon, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider further of the said Letters and Proceedings.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem*. Met according to adjournment. Mr. *Stull* has leave of absence.

Mr. *Ringgold* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to report proper alterations and additions to the resolutions of Convention for erecting a Powder-Mill, and for the examination of the accounts of the Supervisors of publick Saltpetre Works; also a Report from the Committee appointed to examine into the conduct of Mr. *Cummins*, and the reason why he has not supplied the Troops with Rations, agreeable to his contract with the Council of Safety; which were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeable to order, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon; Mr. *Plater* in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Plater* reported that the Committee had, according to order, taken into their consideration the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the

Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon; but not being able to go through the same, had directed him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Convention will, on to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider further of the said Letters and Proceedings.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Commanding Officer of the Troops at *Annapolis* permit the bail of *James Conway*, a private in Captain *Scott's* Company, to take the said *Conway* into his possession, in order to be surrendered in discharge of his said bail.

The Committee for that purpose appointed, bring in and deliver to Mr. President, a Report on the Petition of *Basil Brooke*, Jun., which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Gilpin*, from the Committee appointed to receive proposals relative to the establishment of Manufactories, brings in and delivers to Mr. President, a Report on the Memorial of *Alexander McFadon*, of *Georgetown*, in *Frederick* County; also a Report from the said Committee relative to a Paper Manufactory; which were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Friday, May 24, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Rumsey*, Mr. *Baird*, Mr. *Handy*, and Mr. *Stull*.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On hearing Mr. *Daniel Hughes*, as to the execution of the contract made by *Samuel Hughes*, on behalf of himself and the said *Daniel Hughes*, for the casting and furnishing Cannon for the publick,

*Resolved*, That inquiry be made what is the standard proof of Cannon contracted for on account of the Continent, and that the same proof be had of the Cannon to be furnished by the said *Hugheses* on their contract.

*Resolved*, That notwithstanding the said *Hugheses* have not furnished the publick with Cannon within the time they contracted to do the same, that, on their pursuing the work with diligence, the Council of Safety for the time being, take the whole number contracted for on the account and for the use of the publick.

The Petitions of *Patrick O'Bryan* and *John Brown*, late farmers of his Lordship's Quit-Rents in *Queen Anne's* County, were severally read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Ringgold* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to examine into the expenditure of the money placed in the hands of Mr. *William Lux*, as agent for the Ship *Defence*; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *George Adams*, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, the Proceedings of the Continental Congress, and of the Council of Safety of this Province thereupon; Mr. *Plater* in the chair. After some time spent therein, Mr. President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Plater* reported from the Committee several Resolutions, which were read, and agreed to, and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that the Council of Safety of this Province, upon the subject of the late intercepted Letters to Governour *Eden*, duly and properly exercised the powers delegated to them.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that upon the evidence before them of the correspondence which his Excellency Governour *Eden* has, from time to time, held with Administration, it does not appear that such correspondence has been with an unfriendly intent, or calculated to countenance any hostile measures against *America*.

Whereas, by a late intercepted Letter from Lord *George Germaine*, one of the Secretaries of State, to his Excellency the Governour, it appears that a great armament of land and sea forces was in readiness to proceed to the southward, in his Lordship's expressions, "in order to attempt the restoration of legal Government in that part of *America*," but in effect to invade and subdue the Southern Colonies; which

armament was to proceed in the first place to *North-Carolina*, and from thence either to *South-Carolina* or *Virginia*, as circumstances of greater or less advantage should point out; if to the latter it might have very important consequences to this Province; and therefore in the said Letter his Excellency is called on well to consider of every means by which he may, in conjunction with Lord *Dunmore*, give facility and assistance to the operations of the said armament: And whereas, the Governour must, if he remains in the exercise of the powers of Government, fulfil and execute the instructions of Administration, or hazard the displeasure of the King, which it cannot be expected he will do: And whereas, by Act of Assembly of this Province, the powers of Government, in the absence of the Governour, devolve upon the President of the Council, and therefore the Governour's departure cannot occasion a dissolution or suspension of the present established form of Government within this Province, which this Convention doth not think ought now to be changed:

Therefore *Resolved*, That it be signified to the Governour, that the publick quiet and safety, in the judgment of this Convention, require that he leave this Province, and that he is at full liberty to depart peaceably with his effects.

Upon the last Resolve, the yeas and nays being required, they were as follow:

## FOR THE AFFIRMATIVE.

<i>St. Mary's County.</i>	<i>Baltimore County.</i>
Mr. Jordan, - - - aff.	Mr. Nicholson, - - - aff.
" Barnes, - - - aff.	" Tolley, - - - aff.
" Plater, - - - aff.	" Chase, - - - aff.
" Ford, - - - aff.	<i>Harford County.</i>
<i>Charles County.</i>	Mr. Hall, - - - aff.
Mr. Hawkins, - - - aff.	" Love, - - - aff.
" Hooe, - - - neg.	" Dallam, - - - aff.
" J. H. Harrison, - aff.	<i>Cecil County.</i>
" W. Harrison, - aff.	Mr. Veazey, - - - neg.
<i>Calvert County.</i>	" Gilpin, - - - aff.
Mr. Somerville, - - aff.	" Thompson, - - - aff.
" Gantt, - - - aff.	" Ewing, - - - aff.
" Allein, - - - aff.	<i>Queen Anne's County.</i>
<i>Prince George's County.</i>	Mr. Hollyday, - - - aff.
Mr. Beall, - - - aff.	" Tur. Wright, - neg.
" Contee, - - - aff.	" Thomas Wright, aff.
" Tyler, - - - aff.	" Earle, - - - aff.
<i>Anne Arundel County.</i>	" Tilghman, - - - neg.
Mr. Carroll, barrister, aff.	<i>Somerset County.</i>
" T. Johnson, - - - aff.	Mr. G. Dashiell, - aff.
" Paca, - - - aff.	" Scott, - - - neg.
<i>Frederick County.</i>	" Waters, - - - aff.
Mr. Beatty, - - - aff.	<i>Worcester County.</i>
" B. Johnson, - - - aff.	Mr. Chaille, - - - neg.
" Brent, - - - aff.	" Done, - - - aff.
	" J. Dashiell, - - - aff.

## FOR THE NEGATIVE.

<i>Kent County.</i>	<i>Dorchester County.</i>
Mr. Buchanan, - - neg.	Mr. Goldsborough, - neg.
" Sudlar, - - - neg.	" Hooper, - - - neg.
" Slubey, - - - neg.	" Murray, - - - neg.
" Ringgold, - - - neg.	" Ennalls, - - - neg.
<i>Talbot County.</i>	<i>Caroline County.</i>
Mr. Chamberlaine, - neg.	Mr. Richardson, - - aff.
" Thomas, - - - neg.	" Dickinson, - - - neg.
" Edmondson, - - neg.	" Mason, - - - neg.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five persons be appointed to wait on the Governour, and deliver him copies of the said Resolutions, together with the following Address, to wit:

To His Excellency ROBERT EDEN, Esquire, Governour of MARYLAND.

May it please your Excellency:

We are commanded by the Convention to wait upon your Excellency, and to communicate to you the resolutions they have this day entered into; and we are instructed to assure your Excellency that the Convention entertains a favourable sense of your conduct relative to the affairs of *America*, since the unhappy differences have subsisted between *Great Britain* and the United Colonies, as far as the same hath come to their knowledge, and of their real wishes for your return to resume the Government of this Province, whenever we shall happily be restored to peace and that connection

with *Great Britain* the interruption and suspension of which have filled the mind of every good man with the deepest regret. From the disposition your Excellency hath manifested to promote the real interests of both countries, the Convention is induced to entertain the warmest hopes and expectations that, upon your arrival in *England*, you will represent the temper and principles of the people of *Maryland* with the same candour you have hitherto shown, and that you will exert your endeavours to promote a reconciliation upon terms that may be secure and honourable both to *Great Britain* and *America*.

Mr. President, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Plater*, and Mr. *Hollyday*, were elected by ballot a Committee accordingly.

On reading a second time the Report from the Committee appointed to examine into the expenditure of the money placed in the hands of Mr. *William Lux*, as agent for the Ship Defence,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred for consideration till the next session of Convention.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Harrison* has leave of absence.

It being represented to this Convention that an appeal lately depending in the High Court of Appeals, between *Pellett* and others, appellants, and *Robert Long's* lessee, appellee, is lately dismissed, because the same could not longer continue, in the absence of the appellants' counsel, who was necessarily attending the publick business as a Representative in Convention; and because it is fit and proper that equal justice should be done all in any general provision that may be made to aid the proceedings in Courts, and prevent the loss of suits which have continued, or may continue, from the present disturbed state of affairs, longer than the law allows;

It is therefore *Resolved*, That no execution issue on the original judgment from which the said appeal was granted, or on the said dismissal, until the general state of the suits depending in the Courts shall be considered, and remedy provided or refused to be provided to prevent their discontinuance or dismissal because of their too long continuance; and that if any execution hath issued or should issue contrary hereto, the same be not served.

An application from Doctor *Charles Alexander Warfield*, of *Anne Arundel County*, for the sum of six hundred Pounds, to enable him to carry on a Saltpetre Manufactory, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Plater* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to consider of the expediency of exempting the Masters and Scholars of publick and other Schools from attending on Musters; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial from Major *Thomas Price*, on behalf of himself and the Officers of the Rifle Company from this Province in the Continental service, was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Court of Admiralty be erected for the purpose of determining upon such Captures and Seizures of Vessels as are or shall be made according to the late resolves of the Continental Congress upon that subject, and brought into this Province.

*Resolved*, That a Committee, to consist of five persons, be appointed to devise a proper establishment for such Court of Admiralty.

And Mr. *T. Johnson*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Plater*, Mr. *J. T. Chase*, and Mr. *Hooe*, were elected, by ballot, a Committee accordingly.

A Memorial from the Officers of the Battalion of Regulars stationed at *Annapolis*, was read a first and second time, and referred to the consideration of a Committee for that purpose to be elected.

Mr. *Hollyday*, Mr. *Goldsborough*, and Mr. *Tilghman*, were elected, by ballot, a Committee accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the appointment of Field-Officers for the Militia in *Kent County* be postponed till the next session of Convention.

The Convention proceeded to ballot for Field-Officers for

the Militia in *Baltimore* County, when the following persons were elected, to wit:

*Gunpowder* Battalion: *Walter Tolley*, Junior, Colonel; *Darby Lutz*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *James Gittings*, First Major; *Thomas Sollers*, Second Major; *Benjamin Rogers*, Quartermaster.

*Soldier's Delight* Battalion: *Thomas Gist*, Sen., Colonel; *Samuel Owings*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *John Craddock*, First Major; *Isaac Hammond*, Second Major; *Joseph Gist*, Quartermaster.

*Baltimore Town* Battalion: *William Buchanan*, Colonel; *John Moale*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Benjamin Nicholson*, First Major; *Thomas Jones*, Second Major; *James Calhoun*, Quartermaster.

Convention adjourns till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Saturday, May 25, 1776.

Convention met. All Members present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Ringgold* and Mr. *William Harrison*.

The Proceedings of yesterday were read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a Passport for his Excellency Governour *Eden*, and to draft a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*.

And Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *T. Johnson*, and Mr. *Hollyday*, were elected, by ballot, a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. *Handy* appeared in the House.

Mr. *Ewing* has leave of absence.

Mr. *Hollyday* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee to whom the Memorial of the Battalion of Regulars was referred; which was read, and ordered lie on the table.

Mr. *Paca* brings in and delivers to Mr. President a Report from the Committee appointed to devise a proper establishment of a Court of Admiralty, for the trial of such Captures and Seizures as may be made pursuant to the late resolves of the Continental Congress on that subject, and brought into any Port or District within this Province; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial from Captain *George Stricker* was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Turbutt Wright* has leave of absence.

The Convention took into their consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to devise a proper establishment for a Court of Admiralty, for the trial of such Captures and Seizures as are or may be made pursuant to the late resolves of the Continental Congress on that subject, and brought into any Port or District within this Province, and thereupon came to the following Resolutions, to wit:

*Resolved*, That a Court of Admiralty be established for the trial of such captures and seizures, with full power to take cognizance of all libels on account of such captures and seizures, and to proceed to a final determination and decree thereupon; which Court shall consist of a Judge to hear and determine, a Register to record the proceedings, and a Marshal to call the said Court and execute the several processes thereof; the said Judge to be nominated and commissioned by the Convention, or, in the recess thereof, to be nominated and commissioned by the Council of Safety for the time being; and the said Register and Marshal to be nominated and appointed by the Judge of the said Court. The commission of the said Judge, and the nomination and appointment of the said Register and Marshal, to be during the will and pleasure of the Convention for the time being. The process and form of proceeding to be as usual in the Courts of Admiralty; but if either libellant or defendant, on any controverted material fact between them, demand a trial of the said fact by a jury, in such case shall order and direct the Marshal to summon, out of the neighbourhood where the Court is held, a jury of freeholders, to find and say the truth of the said fact on oath; and upon the verdict of the said jury, shall pronounce his decree accordingly; the final determination and decree of the said Judge to be subject to such appeal, and in such manner, as recommended in the resolutions aforesaid of the Congress. The fees for proceedings in this Court to be the same with the fees heretofore allowed the Court of Admiralty by an act passed in 1763, entitled "An act for amending the staple of Tobacco, &c.;" the said fees to be paid in money at the rate of twelve shillings and

six pence, common money, per hundred; and the allowances to juries and witnesses to be the same as heretofore made to juries and witnesses in the common-law County Courts of this Province. This Court to be held at such place as the Judge shall think convenient for the trial of such captures and seizures as are or shall be made as aforesaid.

*William Hayward*, Esq., was unanimously elected Judge of the said Court of Admiralty.

The Committee for that purpose appointed, bring in a Passport for his Excellency Governour *Eden*, and a draft of a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*; which were read, and agreed to.

Adjourned till three o'clock.

*Post Meridiem.* Met according to adjournment.

Whereas his *Britannick* Majesty King *George* has prosecuted, and still prosecutes, a cruel and unjust war against the *British* Colonies in *America*, and has acceded to acts of Parliament, declaring the People of the said Colonies in actual rebellion: And whereas the good People of this Province have taken up arms to defend their rights and liberties, and to repel the hostilities carrying on against them, and whilst engaged in such a contest, cannot, with any sincerity or devotion of heart, pray for the success of his Majesty's arms:

Therefore *Resolved*, That every Prayer and Petition for the King's Majesty, in the Book of Common Prayer and administration of the Sacraments, and other rites and ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of *England*, except the second Collect for the King in the Communion service, be henceforth omitted in all Churches and Chapels in this Province, until our unhappy differences are ended.

On reading a second time the Report from the Committee to whom the Memorial of the Officers of the Battalion of Regulars was referred, the Convention took the same into consideration,

And thereupon *Resolved*, That it will be most conducive to the publick service, that the Council of Safety be at liberty to prefer such persons as shall appear to them to be most meritorious; in which promotions the Convention doubt not the Council will give a proper attention to justice.

That as the contract for furnishing the troops with rations includes the officers, as well as privates, and the emoluments of the contractor being to arise upon his furnishing the rations in specie, the officers cannot be allowed the alternative of receiving the ration or cash, during the subsistence of the present contract, without a breach thereof on the part of the publick.

That no person or persons shall, after the 1st day of *June* next, deal or barter with any private soldier, knowing him to be such, without the license in writing of the Colonel or Major of the Battalion, or Captain, or commanding officer for the time being, of the company or party to which such soldier shall belong, under the penalty of such sum, not exceeding fifty shillings, common money, as shall be adjudged by the Committee of Observation for the County where such soldier shall be stationed, or where the offender shall reside. And that upon complaint of the Colonel, Major, Captain, or other commanding officer, as aforesaid, to such Committee, of any breach of this resolve, the said Committee shall have power to call the offender before them, and, upon inquiry into the complaint and conviction of the offender, to impose such fine upon him or her as in their discretion they shall adjudge, not exceeding the said sum of fifty shillings. And, upon non-payment thereof, may, by warrant under their hands, empower any person they shall judge proper to levy the same, by distress and sale of the goods of the offender; which fine, when so levied, shall be paid into the hands of the Captain or commanding officer for the time being of the company or party to which such soldier shall belong, and by him paid to the Treasurer of that Shore where the offence shall be committed.

That a Court-Martial shall be empowered to punish theft, committed by any soldier enlisted in the service of this Province, by fine, not exceeding forty shillings, common money, or by whipping on the bare back, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes, for any one offence, at the discretion of such Court-Martial.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the

Committees of Observation to require the owners of Cattle kept on the Islands, where they may think such Cattle will probably otherwise fall into the hands of the enemy, to remove such Cattle, and afford them the necessary assistance to do the same.

The Convention took into consideration the Report from the Committee appointed to consider the expediency of exempting the Masters and Scholars of publick and private Schools from attending Musters; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the Masters and Scholars of the several Schools, both publick and private, in the Province of *Maryland*, except the Masters and Scholars of the Free-School at *Chestertown*, in *Kent* County, shall hereafter be exempted from exercising, either in the several Militia Companies wherein they are or may be enrolled, or in Battalion upon Battalion days; and instead thereof, shall exercise in Companies, whereof the Masters and Tutors shall act as officers, at least once every week: it being the sense of this Convention, that the Masters and Scholars shall be exempted from exercising with the Militia; but that no Master or Scholar between the ages of sixteen and fifty, shall be exempted from enrolling in the Militia, and, upon an alarm, marching with the respective Companies in which they now are, or may be enrolled.

On reading a second time the Report from the Committee appointed to consider and report proper alterations and additions to the Resolves of Convention for erecting a Powder-Mill, and for examination of the Accounts of the Supervisors of the publick Saltpetre Works; the Convention took the same into consideration, and came to the following Resolutions thereon:

Whereas at a Convention held at *Annapolis*, the 26th day of *July* last, it was resolved that a sum not exceeding one thousand Pounds, common money, should be appropriated for erecting and working a Powder-Mill, on the account of this Province; and, by a resolution of the last session of Convention, the Council of Safety were empowered to advance on loan for two years without interest, on bond with good security, any part of the said one thousand Pounds to such person or persons as would undertake and give good security for erecting and working a Powder-Mill, on the terms in the same resolution mentioned; the same Powder-Mill to be erected within fourteen and not less than six miles from *Baltimore* Town; but no contract having been yet made for erecting a Powder-Mill in this Province, owing in some measure to the limitation of the distance from *Baltimore* Town, within which the said Powder-Mill is directed to be built, and because it is hoped and expected that a greater quantity of Saltpetre will be manufactured in this Province than can be made into Gunpowder at one Mill, and one Mill cannot make a sufficient quantity of Gunpowder for the use of the inhabitants of this Province:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said one thousand Pounds, or any part thereof that may be necessary, be applied and expended by the Council of Safety for the time being, in erecting and working a Powder-Mill within this Province, on account of the publick. And that a sum of money, not exceeding five hundred Pounds, be advanced by the Council of Safety for the time being, to any person who will undertake and give security for erecting a Powder-Mill at any place within this Province, which shall be thought proper by the Council of Safety, on the terms of the said resolution of the last session of Convention.

And to encourage and induce the good people of this Province to make Crude Nitre,

It is *Resolved*, That to every person who will carry in and deliver at the said publick Powder-Mill, within one year next after the same shall begin to work, any quantity of good Crude Nitre manufactured within this Province, there shall be delivered good Gunpowder, after the rate of three-quarters of a pound of Powder for one pound of good Crude Nitre.

That instead of the two Shillings per pound, directed to be paid by the Supervisors of Saltpetre Works, to private persons manufacturing and delivering Crude Nitre, there be allowed and paid after the rate of three Shillings and nine Pence for every pound of good Crude Nitre so manufactured and delivered.

And whereas the several Supervisors of the publick Saltpetre Works, except those of *Kent*, *Queen Anne's*, *Prince*

*George's*, and *Calvert* Counties, have omitted to lay their Accounts before this Convention;

It is *Resolved*, That the examination of such Accounts lay over to the next session of Convention, and that the Supervisors be, and they are hereby, directed to lay a full state of their Accounts, and the success of the works under their care, before this Convention at their next sitting.

The Convention took into their consideration a Report from the Committee appointed to receive proposals relative to the establishment of Manufactories within this Province; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the sum of three hundred Pounds, common money, without interest, until the first day of *May* next, be advanced to *Alexander McFadon*, of *Georgetown*, in *Frederick* County, he giving bond, with good security, to make a return or payment thereof in good Linen, of such quality as this or a future Convention, or, in their recess, the Council of Safety of this Province, shall and may order and direct, in the proportions and at the times following, to wit: one-third part thereof on or before the 1st day of *November* next, and the remainder on or before the 1st day of *May* ensuing, at such rates and prices as may be allowed by the said Convention, or the Council of Safety in the recess thereof.

• *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety of this Province be empowered to advance to *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil* County, any sum of money not exceeding three hundred Pounds, common money, on his complying with his former contract, on the terms and conditions, and for the purposes in his said former contract mentioned, so long and as often as the said Council of Safety shall conceive the publick exigencies shall require the same.

On reading a second time the report from the Committee appointed to devise ways and means for the establishment of a Paper Manufactory, the Convention took the same into consideration; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the sum of four hundred Pounds, common money, be advanced to *James Dorsett*, of *Baltimore* County, he giving bond with sufficient security to repay the same within two years, without interest, either in cash, or Writing or Cartridge-Paper, or in such proportions of each as this or a future Convention, or Council of Safety in their recess, shall direct and order; that is to say: one-third part thereof within twelve months, and the other two-thirds within two years from the date of said bond; he at the same time engaging to build a Mill for that purpose within six months from the date of his said contract; and to sell to the inhabitants of this Province any kind of paper which he may make as cheap as the same can or shall be sold at any Mill in the Province of *Pennsylvania*.

*Edward Lloyd*, of *Talbot* County, *Barnaby Egan* and *Basil Brooke*, Jun., of *Calvert* County, *William Faris* and *John Brewer*, of *Anne Arundel* County, and *George French* and *Joshua Tessill*, of *Frederick* County, having applied to this Convention to be relieved from the fine assessed on them respectively for not enrolling, and this Convention not having time now fully to examine into the merits of the several applications,

*Resolved*, That the Committees forbear to levy the said fines until the end of the next session of Convention, and to stay all further proceedings therein.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Paymaster be appointed for the *Eastern-Shore*, and that he be allowed the sum of twelve Dollars per month, for executing the said office.

*Resolved*, That the said Paymaster, before he enter upon the execution of his office, give bond, with sufficient security, in the sum of five thousand Pounds, current money, payable to the Honourable *Matthew Tilghman* and *James Lloyd Chamberlaine*, Esquires, for the due execution of his said office.

*Resolved*, That the sum of twelve Dollars per month be from henceforth deducted from the salary of the Paymaster of the *Western-Shore*.

*Mr. Robert Lloyd Nicols* was elected by ballot to the said office of Paymaster for the *Eastern-Shore*.

Whereas, it is highly necessary that regular and methodical accounts of all publick moneys should be kept, that the due expenditure thereof may at all times be readily evinced:



It is *Resolved*, That a Committee, or Board, of two persons, be appointed, who shall and may, in the recess of Convention, cause a set of books to be opened, and proper accounts to be raised, entered, and made up, of the expenditure, loan, or other disposition of all publick moneys, by or under the authority of Convention; and for that purpose, that the said Committee, or Board, be empowered to appoint and employ a skilful accountant. Each of the said two persons to be allowed fourteen Shillings for every day he shall be employed in the service aforesaid; and the said accountant to be allowed and paid such reasonable reward as the said Committee, or Board, shall agree for with him.

Mr. *Ringgold* and Mr. *Richardson* were elected by ballot to compose the said Board.

It is declared that the Captain of the Company of Light Infantry, having an elder commission, is entitled to and hath precedence of any Captain having a commission of a later date.

The Convention having, on motion, considered the situation of the officers and privates of Captains *Barnes* and *Elliott's* Companies of Militia, in *Kent Island*, do

*Resolve*, That the said Companies be not hereafter obliged to join in Battalion off the said Island, unless when the publick service may require that they should march to some other part of this Province, anything in the proceedings of the last Convention, or the Committee of Observation for *Queen Anne's County*, notwithstanding.

*Resolved*, That the said two Companies meet and exercise together at such times and places, on the said Island, as the Field-Officers of the Battalion to which they belong shall appoint, not oftener than once in every week, nor seldomer than once in every two months, the day of their exercising together being accounted as the day of exercise for the week.

*Resolved*, That Captain *George Noble Sweat's* Company of Militia in *Queen Anne's County*, be added to the Twentieth Battalion of Militia of this Province.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all Petitions, Applications,

and Reports to Convention this present session, and all Petitions, Applications, and Reports to Convention in their last session, whereon no final order hath been made, be referred for consideration to the next session of Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That nine persons, (five of whom residing on the *Western*, and four on the *Eastern-Shore*,) be elected by ballot a Council of Safety, and be and continue such until the end of the next session of Convention; and that until that time they, or any four or more of them, having taken the oath prescribed to be taken by the Council of Safety, by a resolution of the last session of Convention, shall have and exercise the like and same powers as the present Council of Safety had or might exercise under the resolutions of the last session of Convention, from the time of their appointment until the end of this session.

The ballots being accordingly taken, *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, *John Hall*, *Benjamin Rumsey*, and *George Plater*, Esquires, of the *Western-Shore*, and *James Tilghman*, *Thomas Smyth*, *Thomas Bedingfield Hands*, and *William Hayward*, Esquires, of the *Eastern-Shore*, appeared to be and were declared duly elected.

*Resolved*, That each Member of the Council of Safety be allowed and paid fourteen Shillings, common money, out of the Treasury of this Province, for every day such Member shall sit, or be absent from home on publick business.

The Journal of Accounts was read and assented to.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay the several sums allowed in the same.

*Ordered*, That *James Hollyday* and *Jeremiah Townley Chase*, Esquires, revise the Journal of the Proceedings of this Convention.

The Convention adjourns till the first *Monday* in *August* next, to sit at this place; but the Council of Safety may convene the Convention at any other time or place, if they shall judge it necessary.

Signed by order of the Convention,  
*GABRIEL DUVAL*, Clerk.

CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

At a General Assembly of the Governour and Company of the *English Colony of Connecticut*, in *New-England*, in *America*, holden at *Hartford*, in said Colony, on the second *Thursday* of *May*, (being the ninth day of said month,) and continued, by several adjournments, until the eighth day of *June* following, *Anno Domini 1776*—Present:

The Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour.  
The Hon. *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., Deputy Governour.  
*Jabez Hamlin*, Esq.,  
*Elisha Sheldon*, Esq.,  
*Eliphalet Dyer*, Esq.,  
*Jabez Huntington*, Esq.,  
*William Pitkin*, Esq.,  
*Abraham Davenport*, Esq.,

} Assistants.

Representatives or Deputies of the Freemen of the several Towns are as follows, viz:

FOR *HARTFORD*.—Colonel *John Pitkin*, Colonel *Thomas Seymour*.  
FOR *WINDSOR*.—Captain *Josiah Bissel*, Captain *Henry Allyn*.  
FOR *SYMSBURY*.—Captain *Judah Holcomb*, Mr. *Benjamin Farnham*.  
FOR *EAST-WINDSOR*.—Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*, Mr. *Benoni Olcott*.  
FOR *HADDAM*.—Captain *Joseph Brooks*, Mr. *Phineas Braynerd*.  
FOR *FARMINGTON*.—Captain *Selah Hart*, Colonel *Fisher Gay*.  
FOR *SOMERS*.—Mr. *Reuben Sikes*, Captain *Abiel Pease*.  
FOR *STAFFORD*.—Colonel *Stephen Moulton*, Captain *John Davis*.  
FOR *TOLLAND*.—Colonel *Samuel Chapman*, Captain *Solomon Wells*.  
FOR *GLASTENBURY*.—Mr. *Ebenezer Plummer*, Mr. *Elijah Hollister*.  
FOR *EAST-HADDAM*.—Mr. *Daniel Brainard*, Mr. *Jabez Chapman*.

FOURTH SERIES.—VOL. V.

FOR *COLCHESTER*.—Mr. *Daniel Foot*, Captain *Peter Bulkley*.  
FOR *WILLINGTON*.—Major *Elijah Fenton*, Captain *Timothy Pearl*.  
FOR *ENFIELD*.—Major *Nathaniel Terry*, Mr. *Nathaniel Chapin*.  
FOR *BOLTON*.—Mr. *Benjamin Trumbull*, Mr. *Seth King*.  
FOR *MIDDLETOWN*.—Mr. *Titus Hosmer*, Colonel *Comfort Sage*.  
FOR *WEATHERSFIELD*.—Major *John Chester*, Colonel *Thomas Belden*.  
FOR *HEBRON*.—Captain *Obadiah Hosford*, Mr. *Neziah Bliss*.  
FOR *SUFFIELD*.—Captain *John Harman*, Captain *Abraham Granger*.  
FOR *CHATHAM*.—Mr. *Ebenezer White*, Major *John Penfield*.  
FOR *NEW-HAVEN*.—Mr. *Samuel Bishop*, Jun., Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*.  
FOR *WALLINGFORD*.—Mr. *Samuel Beach*, Mr. *Oliver Stanly*.  
FOR *GUILFORD*.—Colonel *Andrew Ward*, Jun., Mr. *John Burgess*.  
FOR *DERBY*.—Captain *John Holbrook*, Mr. *Eliphalet Hotchkiss*.  
FOR *WATERBURY*.—Mr. *Joseph Hopkins*, Captain *Ezra Brownson*.  
FOR *MILFORD*.—Mr. *Ephraim Strong*, Captain *Isaac Miles*.  
FOR *BRANFORD*.—Captain *Edward Russell*, Major *William Douglass*.  
FOR *DURHAM*.—Colonel *Elihu Chauncey*, Colonel *James Wadsworth*.  
FOR *NEW-LONDON*.—*Richard Law*, Esq., Mr. *William Hillhouse*.  
FOR *NORWICH*.—Mr. *Benjamin Huntington*, Mr. *Rufus Lathrop*.  
FOR *LYME*.—Major *Samuel Selden*, Mr. *Marshfield Parsons*.

FOR KILLINGWORTH.—Mr. *Stephen Wilcox*, Mr. *Hezekiah Lane*.  
 FOR GROTON.—Captain *William Ledyard*, Captain *Benedam Gallop*.  
 FOR STONINGTON.—Mr. *John Dean*, Major *Charles Phelps*.  
 FOR SAYBROOK.—Captain *Samuel Shipman*, Colonel *William Worthington*.  
 FOR PRESTON.—Captain *Jeremiah Halsey*, Mr. *Samuel Tyler*.  
 FOR FAIRFIELD.—Mr. *Samuel Squier*, Mr. *Thaddeus Burr*.  
 FOR NORWALK.—Colonel *Thomas Fitch*, Mr. *Thaddeus Betts*.  
 FOR RIDGEFIELD.—Mr. *Samuel Olmstead*, Colonel *Philip Burr Bradley*.  
 FOR STAMFORD.—Colonel *David Waterbury*, Mr. *Benjamin Weed*.  
 FOR STRATFORD.—Captain *Robert Fairchild*, Colonel *Ichabod Lewis*.  
 FOR NEW-FAIRFIELD.—Mr. *Ephraim Hubbel*, Captain *Nehemiah Beardsley*.  
 FOR GREENWICH.—Colonel *John Mead*, Dr. *Amos Mead*.  
 FOR DANBURY.—Colonel *Joseph Hall Cook*, Captain *Daniel Taylor*.  
 FOR REDDING.—Mr. *Hezekiah Sanford*, Mr. *Seth Sanford*.  
 FOR WINDHAM.—Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, Mr. *Samuel Webb*.  
 FOR LEBANON.—Colonel *William Williams*, Captain *Jeremiah Mason*.  
 FOR MANSFIELD.—Colonel *Experience Storrs*, Captain *Amariah Williams*.  
 FOR CANTERBURY.—Mr. *David Payne*, Mr. *John Harmeck*.  
 FOR POMFRET.—Mr. *Thomas Williams*, Mr. *Nathan Frink*.  
 FOR ASHFORD.—Captain *Benjamin Sumner*, Mr. *Ezra Smith*.  
 FOR VOLUNTOWN.—Captain *John Gordon*, Mr. *Ezra Crary*.  
 FOR WOODSTOCK.—Captain *Elisha Child*, Mr. *William Skinner*.  
 FOR PLAINFIELD.—Captain *Andrew Backus*, Mr. *Joshua Dunlap*.  
 FOR KILLINGLY.—Captain *Stephen Crosby*, Mr. *Daniel Watrous*.  
 FOR COVENTRY.—Mr. *Ebenezer Kingsbury*, Mr. *Ephraim Root*.  
 FOR LITCHFIELD.—Mr. *Jedediah Strong*, Mr. *Abraham Bradley*.  
 FOR WOODBURY.—Mr. *Daniel Sherman*, Captain *Increase Moseley*.  
 FOR SHARON.—Mr. *John Canfield*, Captain *Caleb Jewet*.  
 FOR TORRINGTON.—Mr. *Ephraim Bancroft*, Captain *Shubael Griswold*.  
 FOR SALISBURY.—Captain *Abiel Camp*, Colonel *Joshua Porter*.  
 FOR CORNWALL.—Mr. *Edward Rogers*, Mr. *John Pearce*.  
 FOR NEW-HARTFORD.—Captain *Matthew Gillett*, Captain *Isaac Kellog*.  
 FOR GOSHEN.—Col. *Ebenezer Norton*, Mr. *Asaph Hall*.  
 FOR KENT.—Captain *Jethro Hatch*, Capt. *Moses Averill*.  
 FOR WESTMORELAND.—Mr. *John Jenkins*, Captain *Solomon Strong*.  
 FOR CANAAN.—Captain *John Ensign*, Capt. *John Watson*.  
 FOR NEW-MILFORD.—Major *Samuel Canfield*, Captain *Sherman Boardman*.  
 FOR HARWINTON.—Captain *John Willson*, Mr. *Josiah Phelps*.

*Erastus Wolcott*, Esq., Speaker of the House of Representatives; *Titus Hosmer*, Esq., Clerk.

This day being appointed, by the Royal Charter and the laws of this Colony, for the election of the publick Officers of the Colony, viz: Governour, Deputy Governour, Assistants, Treasurer, and Secretary, proclamation was made in manner accustomed, and then the votes of the Freemen were given in to the persons appointed by the Assembly to receive, sort, and count them, and to declare the names of such persons as shall be chosen to any of the forementioned offices, according to law; which persons, so appointed, were *Jabez Hamlin*, *Elisha Sheldon*, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Abraham Davenport*, Esquires, Colonel *Tho-*

*mas Seymour*, Major *John Chester*, Mr. *Oliver Stanley*, Colonel *Andrew Ward*, Jun., Mr. *William Hillhouse*, Mr. *Rufus Lathrop*, Colonel *Thomas Fitch*, Dr. *Thaddeus Betts*, Mr. *Samuel Webb*, Mr. *Ebenezer Kingsbury*, Colonel *Joshua Porter*, Mr. *John Canfield*; who were all sworn to a faithful discharge of that trust.

And the votes of the Freemen being brought in, sorted, and counted,

The Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., is chosen Governour of this Colony for the year ensuing;

The Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., is chosen Deputy Governour of this Colony for the year ensuing;

*Jabez Hamlin*, *Elisha Sheldon*, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *William Pitkin*, *Roger Sherman*, *Abraham Davenport*, *Joseph Spencer*, *Oliver Wolcott*, *Samuel Huntington*, *Richard Law*, and *William Williams*, Esquires, were chosen Assistants for the year ensuing;

*John Lawrence*, Esq., is chosen Treasurer of this Colony for the year ensuing;

*George Wyllis*, Esq., is chosen Secretary of this Colony for the year ensuing.

#### *An Act for establishing Naval Officers in this Colony.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That the Governour, for the time being, shall be Naval Officer in this Colony.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That there shall be kept at the Port of *New-London*, one Naval Officer; at the Port of *New-Haven*, one other Naval Officer; at the Port of *Middletown*, one other Naval Officer; and at the Port of *Norwalk*, one other Naval Officer; and that the Governour, for the time being, depute some proper person, at each of said Ports, as Naval Officers; and take bond, with sufficient surety, in the sum of one thousand Pounds, for the faithful discharge of their duty therein, to enter and clear out Vessels and their cargoes; and to do and act therein in such way and manner, and according to such rules as to their offices aforesaid respectively appertain.

Whereas, it is recommended by the honourable Continental Congress to the several Legislatures in the United Colonies, as soon as possible to erect Courts of Justice, or give jurisdiction to the Courts now in being, for the purpose of determining concerning captures, &c., and to provide that all trials in such case be had by a Jury, under such qualifications as to the respective Legislatures shall seem expedient:

*Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That the respective County Courts in this Colony be, and they are hereby, authorized, empowered, constituted, and appointed to try, judge, and determine, by Jury or otherwise, as in other cases, concerning all captures that have or shall be taken and brought into said respective Counties; and that the civil law, the laws of nations, and the resolutions of Congress, be the rule of their adjudications, determinations, and proceedings therein; and said respective County Courts are hereby authorized and empowered to constitute and appoint such proper officers under them as they shall find necessary and expedient for the purposes aforesaid.

*Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That appeals be allowed to the Continental Congress, under the restrictions and agreeable to the directions and resolves of said Congress; and that the fees for said Court, and the respective officers thereof, be reasonable, and such as are customary in the neighbouring Colonies, or may be established by said Congress; and the Judge of said respective County Courts is hereby authorized to call said Court for said purpose, at any place within the respective Counties as shall be most convenient and expedient.

#### *An Act for repealing an Act of this Colony, entitled "An Act against High Treason."*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That the aforesaid act, and every part and paragraph thereof, be, and the same is hereby repealed and made null and void.

*An Act in alteration of an Act entitled "An Act prescribing forms of Writs, Processes, &c."*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That for the future, all Writs and Processes in law or equity shall issue in the name of the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut*, instead of his Majesty's name; and that in all Summonses, Attachments, or other Processes, before an Assistant or Justice of the Peace, the words "one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace" be omitted; and that instead thereof, be inserted "Justice of the Peace;" and that no Writ or Process shall bear any date save the year of our Lord *Christ* only, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

*An Act in alteration of an Act entitled "An Act for prescribing and establishing forms of Oaths in this Colony."*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That the several forms of Oaths here following be, and they are hereby established, to be taken and administered unto the several and respective officers and persons for whom they are appointed, as followeth:

*For the Freemen, viz:*

"You, *A B*, being, by the Providence of *God*, an inhabitant within this Colony of *Connecticut*, and now to be made free of the same, do swear by the ever living *God*, to be true and faithful to the Governour and Company of said Colony, and the Government thereof, as was established and is expressed by Charter; and whensoever you shall give your vote or suffrage touching any matter which concerns this Colony, being called thereunto, you will give it as in your conscience you shall judge will conduce to the best good of the same, without respect of persons or favour of any man. So help you *God*."

*For the Grand Jurors, viz:*

"You do swear by the name of the ever living *God*, that you will diligently inquire after and true presentment make of all breaches of the law that shall come to your knowledge, according to your charge, (unless some religious tie of conscience, surely bottomed upon the word of *God*, bind you to secrecy;) the secrets of the cause, your own, and your fellows, you duly observe and keep; you will present no man for envy, hatred, or malice; neither will you leave any man unrepresented for love, fear, favour, or affection, or in hope of reward; but you will present things truly, as they come to your knowledge, according to the best of your understanding, and according to the laws of this Colony. So help you *God*."

*For the Petit Jurors, viz:*

"You do swear by the ever living *God*, that, without respect of persons or favour of any man, you shall well and truly try and true deliverance make between the Governour and Company of the Colony of *Connecticut* and the prisoner at the bar, whom you shall have in charge, according to your evidence and the laws of this Colony. So help you *God*."

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the forms of the oaths in said act established for Freemen, Grand Jurors, and Petit Jurors, and the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, be, and are hereby repealed and made null and void, any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

*An Act in alteration of one paragraph of an Act entitled "An Act for preventing and punishing Riots and Rioters."*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That the form of the Proclamation prescribed by said act be, and the same is hereby altered; and that instead of the form in said act inserted, be the following, viz: The Governour and Company of this Colony charge and command all persons assembled immediately to disperse themselves, and peaceably to depart to their habitations, or to their lawful business, upon the pains and penalties contained in the act or law of this Colony, entitled "An act for

preventing and punishing Riots and Rioters;" and the persons authorized by said act for the future shall make use of the foregoing form instead of the form by said act prescribed and directed.

*An Act in further addition to an Act entitled "An Act for forming and regulating Militia, and for the encouragement of military skill, for the better defence of this Colony."*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That all the Troops of Horse in this Colony shall be formed into Regiments of Light-Horse, as followeth, viz: That the Troops of Horse in the First, Second, Sixth, Seventh, Tenth, and Twenty-Third Regiments of Militia, be, and they are hereby made and declared to be one entire and distinct Regiment of Light-Horse, and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the First Regiment; that the Troops of Horse in the Third, Eighth, Twelfth, and Twenty-Fifth Regiments of Militia, be, and they are hereby made and declared to be one entire and distinct Regiment of Light-Horse, and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the Second Regiment; that the Troops of Horse in the Fourth, Ninth, and Sixteenth Regiments of Militia, be, and they are hereby declared to be one entire and distinct Regiment of Light-Horse, and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the Third Regiment; that the Troops of Horse in the Fifth, Eleventh, Nineteenth, Twenty-First, and Twenty-Second Regiments of Militia, be, and they are hereby declared to be one entire and distinct Regiment of Light-Horse, and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the Fourth Regiment; that the Troops of Horse in the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Regiments of Militia, be, and they are hereby declared to be one entire and distinct Regiment of Light-Horse, and shall be distinguished and called by the name of the Fifth Regiment. That there shall be only one Colonel and one Lieutenant-Colonel to command the whole, and one Major in each of said Regiments, from time to time appointed by the General Assembly, who shall be commissioned by the Governour of this Colony for the time being; and the said Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and the Majors, of each of said Regiments, shall be subject to the command of the General or Commander-in-Chief of the Militia for the time being, and shall have the same duty, power, and authority, as the officers of the same rank in the Regiments of Militia already by law have; and said Regiments of Light-Horse shall be liable to such Regimental duty as the Regiments of Militia are already by law liable.

*And be it further enacted,* That every Trooper already inlisted in any Troop of Light-Horse in this Colony shall equip himself with arms and accoutrements according to law, within three months next after the rising of this Assembly; and that every person that shall hereafter inlist into any of said Troops of Light-Horse shall, within six months next after his inlistment, equip and accoutre himself as aforesaid; and, in default thereof, such Trooper or Troopers shall be reduced to the Foot Company or Companies, within the limits of which they inhabit, and be liable to do duty in the same as he or they were before they inlisted into said Troop as aforesaid, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

*An Act for the alteration of the Penalty of the Law of this Colony, entitled "An Act in addition to the Law of this Colony entitled 'An Act for the encouragement of Military Skill, for the better defence of this Colony.'"*

Whereas it is provided in said act that, in case any Soldier shall disobey orders given him by any Colonel, or chief officer of any Regiment, pursuant to orders given, &c., by the Captain-General for the time being, relative to marching for the defence of any towns or places in this or the neighbouring Governments attacked by an enemy, or in danger thereof, such Soldier so refusing shall be liable to suffer the penalty of forty Shillings only, which is found not to be adequate to the merit of the offence:

*Therefore be it resolved by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That whensoever any Soldier or

Soldiers, belonging to any of the Regiments in this Colony, shall refuse to muster and march according to orders given him by his Commanding Officer for the purposes mentioned in said act, such Soldier so refusing shall suffer the penalty of ten Pounds, lawful money, for the use of the Colony, any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

*An Act in further addition to the Law of this Colony, entitled "An Act for forming and regulating the Militia, and for the encouragement of Military Skill, for the better defence of this Colony."*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That the Military Companies in the Towns of *East-Haddam* and *Colchester*, except the Company in the Society of *Marlborough*, shall be, and they are hereby made and constituted a distinct and entire Regiment, and shall be called and known by the name of the *Twenty-Fifth Regiment*, and shall have and enjoy all the privileges and be under the same regulations as the other Regiments in this Colony by law have and are subject to.

*An Act for the more effectual carrying into execution the several Acts relative to the making of Saltpetre and Gunpowder within this Colony.*

Whereas by an act of this Assembly in *May, 1775*, there was a premium of four shillings on the pound granted for all Saltpetre made in this Colony before the 1st day of *June, 1776*; and *December, 1775*, a bounty or premium of two shillings on the pound for all Saltpetre manufactured in this Colony from and after the 1st day of *June, 1776*, and before the 1st day of *January, 1777*; and that Inspectors should be appointed to view and inspect the same, and administer an oath, and certify as therein described, and purchase and receive the same for the use of this Colony; and by a further act in the same session, it was resolved that the Selectmen in each town within this Colony should be the Inspectors of Saltpetre, with all the power and authority of said acts given to Inspectors of Saltpetre, &c.; but no time being mentioned in said act for delivering the Saltpetre to the Inspectors, nor price affixed for the purchase, and sundry other regulations being necessary to carry the aforesaid acts into execution:

*Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That for all Saltpetre made in this Colony before the 1st day of *June, 1776*, on which the premium of four shillings on the pound is claimed, shall be delivered for inspection to the Selectmen authorized and empowered to inspect the same, or by them inspected, within fifteen days, at farthest, after the last day of *May* instant; and that after the 1st day of *June*, the manufacturers producing the same for inspection, shall make oath before the Inspector or Inspectors that the said Nitre or Saltpetre, produced as aforesaid, was made and manufactured before the 1st day of *June*, otherwise it shall be considered as made after; and that all the Saltpetre made as aforesaid after the last day of *May*, and before the 1st day of *January* next, in order to be entitled to the premium of two shillings on the pound, shall be treated and conducted in the same manner, having respect to the 1st day of *January* as before to the 1st day of *June*; and that, upon the whole, it shall be the duty of the Inspector or Inspectors carefully to see that all the Saltpetre offered or delivered to them for inspection be pure, clean, and dry, and free from any corrupt mixture, before they give any certificate of the same; and on the same being so found, shall give a certificate thereof, with the other requisites, before either the premium or purchase money shall be paid therefor; and the Saltpetre produced to the Inspectors as aforesaid shall be delivered in casks, or other packages, proper and sufficient for transportation to the Powder-Works, with the maker's name, and the name of the town wherein made, thereon.

*And be it further enacted,* That for all the Saltpetre made and manufactured in this Colony before the 1st day of *January* next, inspected, and found to be pure, clean, dry, and unmixed, and fit for use according to law, and so delivered to the Inspector or Inspectors, in proper packages, marked as aforesaid, for the use of the Colony, shall be paid for out

of the Colony Treasury the sum of three shillings per pound, for every pound, only deducting therefrom one half-penny on each pound delivered as aforesaid as a general estimate on the whole for transportation to the respective Powder-Mills erected and allowed in this Colony, and for other charges attending the same: *Provided, nevertheless,* That all persons who have made and manufactured Saltpetre, and have already procured the same to be inspected and delivered to the Inspectors for the use of this Colony, shall be entitled to receive the price aforesaid therefor, notwithstanding the same may not be put up in casks or packages, marked, as aforesaid.

*And be it further enacted,* That the several Inspectors convey and deliver, with all convenient despatch, all the Saltpetre by them received as aforesaid, to the owner or owners of the several Powder-Mills in this Colony assigned by the Governour and Committee of Safety for the time being to receive the same, taking his or their receipt therefor, and the same transmit and lodge with the Committee of Pay-Table; and the Inspector or Inspectors performing their duty as aforesaid shall be entitled to a reasonable allowance for his or their trouble and services as aforesaid, to be adjusted by the Committee of Pay-Table, who shall order payment of the same accordingly. And to the intent that all frauds, and impure or corrupt mixtures may be detected, and the persons concerned therein be duly punished,

*Be it further enacted,* That the Inspector or Inspectors delivering, as also the owner, owners, or overseers, of the Powder-Mills receiving the Saltpetre as aforesaid, shall make and keep a true, just, and fair entry of all the Saltpetre delivered and received as aforesaid, and the names of the makers thereof; and whoever shall be found guilty and be convicted of any fraudulent and impure mixture in the Saltpetre by them made and delivered for inspection as aforesaid, shall forfeit to the Treasurer of this Colony the value of the premium and pay granted and allowed on the Saltpetre in which such mixture shall be found. And the owner or owners of the several Powder-Mills shall well and truly and faithfully make up, or cause to be made, all the Saltpetre delivered to them as aforesaid into good merchantable Powder, well dried, fit for use, and find all the other materials necessary therefor, and the same put up in good, tight, sizeable casks, which shall contain either one hundred, one-half, or one-quarter hundred weight of Powder each, marked with the just and true weight of the cask, and also the initial letters of the maker's name, and the same deliver to the Governour and Committee of Safety of this Colony, or to their order, for the use of this Colony; and shall receive therefor, out of the Colony Treasury, at the rate of nine dollars per hundred for every hundred weight of good merchantable Powder made and delivered as aforesaid, upon a certificate thereof had and obtained of the Governour, or the Governour and Committee of Safety, produced to the Committee of Pay-Table of this Colony.

*And be it further enacted,* That the Governour and Committee of Safety for the time being, from time to time, order and give directions for the disposal of all their Powder made at the several Powder-Mills within this Colony, and, if need be, erect convenient houses for the reception of the same, in such places as they think proper.

The form of the Oath, as follows, viz:

"You, *A B*, do swear by the ever living *God*, that the Saltpetre by you now exhibited to be inspected was made and manufactured out of materials collected within this Colony by you or on your account, and that the same was manufactured before the 1st day of . . . . ., and that no certificate hath been obtained or given therefor. So help you *God*."

The form of the Certificate, as follows, viz:

"This may certify, that a quantity of Saltpetre offered for inspection by *A B*, of *H*, the maker thereof, amounting to . . . . . weight, is well and carefully inspected, and, according to . . . best judgment and skill, the same is found to be pure, clean, and dry, free from any corrupt mixture; the said *A B* having made oath according to the directions of the law in such case made and provided, which Saltpetre is received for the use of the Colony. Dated at *H*, . . . day of . . . . ., A. D. . . . .

" . . . . . , } Selectmen  
" . . . . . , } or Selectman."

Whereas the article of Salt is of great importance and necessity for the use of the inhabitants of this Colony, and the obtaining the same in the usual way of importation is rendered difficult and uncertain; it is therefore judged necessary to encourage the manufacturing thereof in this Colony:

Whereupon it is *Resolved by this Assembly*, That the sum of one hundred Pounds be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to the persons or persons that shall erect proper Works and Vats for the making and manufacturing common Salt within this Colony, and shall actually make therein the first five hundred bushels of good merchantable Salt; and that the sum of eighty Pounds shall, in like manner, be paid to the person or persons that shall erect and set up proper Works and Vats within this Colony, and make and manufacture therein the second five hundred bushels of Salt; that the sum of sixty Pounds shall, in like manner, be paid to the person or persons that shall erect and set up proper Works and Vats within this Colony, and make and manufacture therein the third five hundred bushels of such Salt; and that the sum of forty Pounds shall, in like manner, be paid to the person or persons who shall erect and set up proper Works and Vats within this Colony, and make and manufacture therein the fourth five hundred bushels of such Salt: *Provided*, said several quantities of Salt be made and manufactured, and a certificate under oath, or proper evidence thereof, be produced by or before the 1st day of October, 1777.

*And it is further Resolved*, That as soon as any person or persons shall make and manufacture either of the aforesaid quantities of Salt, and produce a certificate under oath, or other proper evidence thereof, shall be entitled to receive the premium for the same.

*An Act for raising and equipping a body of Minute-men to be held in readiness for the better defence of this Colony, and for repealing an Act of the same title made and passed by this Assembly in DECEMBER, 1775.*

Whereas the *English American Colonies* are threatened with the immediate exertion of Ministerial power and rage, and their utmost efforts are making to reduce us to bondage and slavery, by their own and foreign additional Troops, which may be daily expected to invade and attempt to lay waste this country with fire and sword; it is therefore of great importance for the salvation of this country that its inhabitants should be put into the best situation for self-defence and preservation:

*Therefore be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That one-third part of the Second, Third, Fourth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Twentieth Regiments, and one-quarter part of the other Regiments of Militia, or a number equal thereto, be forthwith inlisted or detached from the limits of the several Regiments in this Colony, to be held in readiness for the defence of this, or any of the adjoining Colonies. And that the same may be speedily effected,

*Be it further enacted*, That the Colonels, or chief officers of the respective Regiments, shall forthwith order the chief officer of each Company in their respective Regiments to convene their several Companies, and also give notice to, and request the attendance at the same time and place, of all others within the limits thereof who are obliged to keep arms, and who are between sixteen and fifty-five years of age; and being so convened, to inlist out of any of them, or otherwise, as soon as may be, the number, if he and they shall be able.

*And be it further enacted*, That if a sufficient number shall not voluntarily offer and inlist as aforesaid, the Captain, or chief officer, with the advice and assistance of the other commissioned officers of such Company, shall forthwith detach and impress out of said Company of Militia, such number of able-bodied men as shall appear to be wanting of the inlisted men, to make up the complement aforesaid; and every man so detached shall be considered and holden in the same manner and for the same purposes, and perform the same duties, as the Volunteers inlisting as aforesaid, on penalty of ten Pounds, to be forfeited to the Treasurer of this Colony, to be recovered by bill, plaint, or information, in any court proper to try the same; and the said Captains, or chief officers, of said Companies shall immediately

execute said orders, and make returns of their doings to the chief officer of the Regiments; and thereupon the Field-Officers of each Regiment of Militia shall form into distinct Companies, consisting of about sixty-eight rank and file each, and shall thereupon, with the advice of the Captains and commissioned officers of the several Companies of their respective Regiments, nominate officers for said new formed Companies, viz: one Captain, two Lieutenants, and one Ensign, out of such as have borne, or do sustain commissions of equal rank, and make return of such choice, with a Muster-Roll of the Companies, to his Honour the Governour, who, on receipt thereof, is authorized to commissionate the proper officers accordingly.

*And be it further enacted*, That his Honour the Governour, with the advice of the Committee of Safety, be, and he is hereby, authorized to form said Companies into distinct Regiments, and especially appoint and empower such of the Field-Officers of the Militia to take command of such new formed Regiments as he shall think proper and expedient.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That each of such officers and soldiers shall completely equip themselves with a good musket and bayonet, half a pound of powder, two pounds of bullets fit for his gun, six flints, a powder-horn, cartouch-box, and also a good blanket and knapsack, to the acceptance of the Captain, and the same hold in constant readiness for service, for which they shall be allowed and paid a premium of forty shillings each; and the Captains of each Company shall procure a drum and fife for the use of the same, for which he shall be paid by the Colony, and at the end of the service said Captain shall secure the same for the use of the Colony. And it shall be the duty of the Captains and commissioned officers of said Companies carefully to attend to, and see that their said Companies are forthwith furnished with arms, and equipped as aforesaid; and to that end they are authorized and directed to call them together, and such part of them as they shall find needful, as often as necessary, to examine their equipments, and see that they are furnished as aforesaid, and said Companies, when collected, may choose their non-commissioned officers; and if any of said Minute-men shall not be able to furnish his arms as aforesaid, and they cannot be otherwise obtained, such deficiency may be supplied by impressing the same; and any proper civil authority, on application of the Captain for that purpose, shall grant warrants accordingly, in which case such deficient soldier shall receive but half the aforesaid premium, and the owner shall receive such reward for the use of such arms so impressed as this Assembly shall judge reasonable, according to the nature and length of the service to which it shall be put, and if lost or damaged therein, then the value to be paid. And the powder and balls used in said service shall be paid for, or found by the Colony; and if it cannot otherwise be had, it shall be supplied by the towns. And said officers and Minute-men shall be allowed, for the time necessarily spent in meeting for the purposes aforesaid, at the rate of pay and billeting as allowed for the Troops heretofore raised by order of the Assembly.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the officers and soldiers of the Regiments and Companies, raised and formed as aforesaid, shall hold themselves in constant readiness to march at the shortest notice for the defence of this, or any of the adjoining Colonies, in obedience to the orders of the Captain-General of this Colony, and other their superior officers; and when they are called out into actual service, shall have and receive like wages and billeting allowance, and be subject to the same laws and regulations as those to which the other officers and soldiers, already raised and inlisted for defence of this Colony by order of the General Assembly, are entitled or subjected.

*And be it further enacted*, That the Regiments and Companies raised and formed as aforesaid, shall be exempted from military duty in any other Regiment or Company, and shall continue to be held under the aforesaid regulations during the pleasure of this Assembly, not exceeding one year from and after the first day of June next; and shall then be disbanded and returned into the Regiments and Companies of Militia to which they respectively belong, and be again subject to military duty therein, said inlistment or detachment notwithstanding: *Provided, nevertheless*, That the provisions of this act shall not extend to include or affect the Twenty-Fourth Regiment of Militia in this Colony.



*Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the third part of the Third, Eighth, and Twentieth Regiments, and quarter part of the Militia in the First Regiment, and the rest on the east side of *Connecticut River*, lately ordered by his Honour the Governour and Committee of Safety to be drafted, equipped, and held in readiness according to such order, shall be on the same footing, encouragement, allowance and regulation, in every respect, as in this act is provided, including the premium allowed by the order of the Governour and Committee of Safety. *Provided, nevertheless,* That any of the men who were detached or impressed by virtue of said order, and shall not voluntarily inlist upon the encouragement of this act, may be released, unless it should be found necessary to retain or detach them, or any part of them, to fill up the complement as required by this act, within their respective limits.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the act entitled "An Act for raising and equipping a body of Minute-men, to be held in readiness for the better defence of this Colony," made and passed by this Assembly in *December*, 1775, be repealed, and the same is hereby repealed, and made void.

*And be it further enacted and provided,* That any Minute Companies which may have been formed by virtue of said repealed act, and their officers chosen and commissioned accordingly, shall be considered as part of the Minute-men directed by this act to be raised, and in lieu of so many within the limits to which they belong; and such Companies shall be under the same regulations and advantages, including the premium allowed by said former act, as if they had been raised by virtue of this act.

*Provided, nevertheless, and be it further enacted,* That the Companies of Minute-men raised by virtue of this act shall not be continued in actual service more than the term of three months at one time, before they are relieved or permitted to return home; anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

*And it is further provided,* That the premiums aforesaid shall not be paid until such officers and soldiers shall be completely equipped, as by this act is required. And as it is not reasonable that any should avail themselves of the aforesaid premiums, and not be ready and able to perform the service which it is meant and given to encourage; therefore if any of such Minute-men, having received such premium, shall inlist into, or engage in either of the Regiments now ordered to be raised by this Assembly, or any other already raised and in service, he shall be liable to refund such premium, or to have the same deducted from his wages in said Regiment's service.

*An Act for raising a Battalion or Regiment of Troops within this Colony, to march to Boston, or elsewhere, in pursuance of a Regulation now made by the honourable Continental Congress for the defence of the United Colonies.*

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That one Regiment or Battalion of Troops shall be forthwith raised by voluntary inlistment, for the defence of this and the rest of the United Colonies, as the case may require, to consist of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, and eight Companies, with one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, one Fifer, and seventy-six Privates, to each Company, and a staff, to consist of one Chaplain, one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, one Surgeon, one Surgeon's Mate; that the said officers and soldiers shall be under the same command, laws, and regulations, that the Continental Troops now are; and shall have, and be entitled to the same pay, wages, and allowances, billeting and provisions, and the same premium for arms, accoutrements, blankets, and knapsacks, from the date of their commissions and inlistments, as the Continental Troops now in service under the immediate command of his Excellency General *Washington* have and do receive; and that said Battalion, or such part as may be inlisted for and holden in said service the term of two years, from the 14th of *May* instant, unless sooner discharged by Congress, in which case they shall be allowed one month's pay on their discharge; or if they cannot be prevailed to engage for that term, that they, or any part of

them, be inlisted for one year only, from said 14th of *May*, and be accordingly holden, unless sooner discharged as aforesaid.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony have, at this session, enacted that one Regiment or Battalion of Troops shall be forthwith raised by voluntary inlistment, pursuant to a request of the honourable Continental Congress, and for Continental service; and the said Troops may inlist for one or two years, as they choose, from the 14th day of *May* instant, unless sooner discharged by said Congress, &c.: For the encouragement of such able-bodied effective men as shall inlist to engage in said service,

It is *Resolved by this Assembly,* That the pay of each Sergeant shall be forty-eight shillings, each Corporal forty-four shillings, each Drummer forty-four shillings, each Fifer forty-four shillings, and each Private forty shillings, per calendar month, during their service, and shall have one month's pay advanced before they march, and be allowed one penny per mile for marching expenses, out and home; also, twelve shillings to each man who shall supply himself with a good blanket, and take the same away with him at the end of the campaign, and such further encouragements as are allowed by said Congress to the forces now raising for Continental service.

*An Act for raising two Regiments of Troops within this Colony, for the special defence of the same.*

Whereas the present alarming movements and appearances of the Ministerial Army and Navy are such as render it highly probable that a sudden attack will soon be made by them upon this and the neighbouring Colonies, for the most hostile and destructive purposes; which, to prevent,

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That one Regiment of the inhabitants of this Colony shall be immediately raised by voluntary inlistment; and that the Troops already raised, at and about *New-London* and *New-Haven*, shall in the same way be augmented into a second Regiment, for the special defence of this and the neighbouring Colonies, as the case may require; each of said Regiments to consist of one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major, and eight Companies, with one Captain, two Lieutenants, one Ensign, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer, and seventy-six Privates, to each Company; and a staff, to consist of one Chaplain, one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, one Surgeon, and one Surgeon's Mate, to each Regiment; and the same pay, wages, and allowance, billeting and provisions, and the same premiums for supplying themselves with arms and accoutrements, blankets and knapsacks, shall be given to them whilst in service of this Colony as were given and allowed by this Colony to the Troops raised by this Assembly in *April*, 1775, and shall be under the same laws and regulations; and said Regiments, when raised, shall be holden until the 1st day of *January* next, unless sooner discharged, and shall be marched and stationed, from time to time, as the Captain-General shall order and direct, according to the exigencies of publick affairs, and be subject to join the Continental Army, if ordered by the Captain-General, or Commander-in-Chief; in which case both officers and soldiers shall be under the same laws, regulations, pay, wages, and allowance in all respects, as the Troops in the Continental Army shall then be under, and be subject to the same general command during their junction with said Army.

*And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That such Troops, raised as aforesaid, as shall neglect or be unable to furnish arms or accoutrements for the premium aforesaid, shall be furnished, armed, and accoutred, in the same way and manner as the Troops raised by this Assembly in *July* last were furnished and provided for.

Whereas the General Assembly of this Colony, in their present session, enacted that one Regiment of the inhabitants of this Colony be immediately raised by voluntary inlistments, and that the Troops at and about *New-London* and *New-Haven* shall, in the same way, be augmented into a second Regiment for the special defence of this and the neighbouring Colonies, and be subject to join the Continental Army, if ordered by the Captain-General, or Commander-in-Chief, as the case may require, and to be holden in said service until the 1st day of *January* next, unless sooner discharged;

and for the encouragement of such able-bodied and effective men as shall voluntarily enlist themselves into said service to the acceptance of proper officers,

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That every such person as aforesaid, on such enlistment, shall be entitled to twelve shillings premium, in case he supply himself with a blanket, knapsack, and clothing, to the acceptance of his Captain, and one month's pay advance; that each Sergeant shall receive forty-eight shillings, each Corporal, Drummer, and Fifer, forty-four shillings, and each Private forty shillings, per calendar month, for wages during their continuance in said service; that each man so enlisted as aforesaid, who shall provide arms for himself, well fixed with a good bayonet and cartouch-box, shall be paid a premium of ten shillings, and in case such arms are lost by inevitable Providence, such man so providing himself, shall be allowed and paid the just value of such arms and implements so lost, deducting said premium of ten shillings; said premium of ten shillings to be paid as soon as such man shall be so provided as aforesaid. A particular account shall be taken of all the arms that may be used, and the same appraised by indifferent judges; and each man so engaging as aforesaid shall, upon his enlistment, be entitled to six pence per diem for billeting money, until he is otherwise provided for by the publick.

And it is further *Resolved by this Assembly*, That if said Troops be raised as aforesaid, or any part of them shall be ordered by the Captain-General, or Commander-in-Chief, to join the Continental Army, or be taken into Continental service or pay, they shall be entitled to the same wages to be continued as above, and be allowed one penny per mile, out and home, for marching expenses; and every man in the Continental service, who shall provide himself with a good blanket, shall receive twelve shillings, lawful money, therefor, and take it away with him at the end of the campaign, and have such other encouragement as will be given to the Continental Troops.

This Assembly do appoint *Andrew Ward*, Esq., Colonel, *Obadiah Johnson*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *William Douglass*, Esq., Major, of the Regiment now to be raised in this Colony, and to serve in the Continental Army.

*David Waterbury*, Jun., Esq., Colonel, *Comfort Sage*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Oliver Smith*, of *Stonington*, Esq., Major, of the Regiment now to be raised and stationed at or near *New-London*.

*Benjamin Hinman*, Esq., Colonel, *Philip Burr Bradley*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, and *David Dimon*, Esq., Major, of a Regiment now to be raised for the defence of this Colony.

This Assembly appoints—

*Joseph Thompson*, of *New-Haven*, Captain, *Samuel Wilcott*, of *New-Haven*, First Lieutenant, *John Prudden*, Jun., of *Milford*, Second Lieutenant, *Edward Tilley*, of *New-Haven*, Ensign, of a Company in a Regiment to be raised and stationed at and about *New-London* and *New-Haven*.

*Jonathan Wells*, of *Hartford*, Captain, *David Johnson East*, of *Windsor*, First Lieutenant, *Howel Woodbridge*, of *Glastenbury*, Second Lieutenant, *Roger Bull*, of *Wethersfield*, Ensign, of a Company.

*Abiel Pease*, of *Somers*, Captain, *Thomas Abby*, of *Enfield*, First Lieutenant, *Israel Comene*, of *Hartford*, Second Lieutenant, *Abner Wood*, of *Stafford*, Ensign, of a Company.

*Eliphalet Bulkley*, of *Colchester*, Captain, *Ithamar Harvey*, of *East-Haddam*, First Lieutenant, *Richard Johnson*, of *Haddam*, Second Lieutenant, *David Spencer*, of *East-Haddam*, Ensign, of a Company.

*Noah Phelps*, of *Simsbury*, Captain, *Consider Williston*, of *Suffield*, First Lieutenant, *Samuel Carver*, of *Bolton*, Second Lieutenant, *Samuel Smith*, of *East-Windsor*, Ensign, of a Company in a Regiment ordered to be raised for the service of the Continent.

*Noadiah Hooker* Captain, *John Skinner* First Lieutenant, *Peleg Heath* Second Lieutenant, *Lemuel Hotchkiss* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Waterman Cleft* Captain, *Daniel Allen* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Morgan* Second Lieutenant, *Jonathan Nicholson*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*John Ripley* Captain, *Andrew Fitch* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Wales*, 3d, Second Lieutenant, *Ichabod Bosworth* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Abner Pryor* Captain, *James Steel* First Lieutenant, *Jonathan Parker* Second Lieutenant, *Benjamin Henshaw*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*James Dana* Captain, *Elijah Sharp* First Lieutenant, *Squire Hill* Second Lieutenant, *Ephraim Kingsbury* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*James Arnold* Captain, *Samuel Barker* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Bunnell* Second Lieutenant, *Michael Brownson* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Benjamin Cutler* Captain, *William Manning* First Lieutenant, *Joseph Durkee* Second Lieutenant, *Obadiah Child* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Noble Benedict* Captain, *Jabez Botsford* First Lieutenant, *Gamaliel Northrop* Second Lieutenant, *Timothy Taylor* Ensign, of a Company in a Regiment to be raised for the defence of this and the neighbouring Colonies.

*Matthew Mead* Captain, *Sylvanus Mead* First Lieutenant, *Samuel Hart* (5th) Second Lieutenant, *Jeremiah B. Eells* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Elijah Abel* Captain, *John Blackleach* First Lieutenant, *William Hawley* Second Lieutenant, *Judson Whiting* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Isaac Cook* Captain, *Stephen Hall* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Edwards* Second Lieutenant, *John Humphrey* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Josiah Starr* Captain, *Thomas Tanner* First Lieutenant, *Josiah Stoddard* Second Lieutenant, *Jonathan Belamy* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Jonathan Johnson* Captain, *John Hanmer* First Lieutenant, *Thomas Stephenson* Second Lieutenant, *Timothy Towner* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Bezaleel Bebee* Captain, *Jesse Cook* First Lieutenant, *James Watson* Second Lieutenant, *Wait Beach* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Benjamin Mills* Captain, *Daniel Brinsmaid* First Lieutenant, *Elijah Foster* Second Lieutenant, *Thaddeus Hurd* Ensign, of a Company in said Regiment.

*Rev. Benjamin Trumbull*, to be Chaplain of the Regiment now to be raised for the Continental service.

*Rev. Nathaniel Eells*, of *Stonington*, to be Chaplain of the Regiment now to be raised and stationed at and near *New-London*.

“*JONATHAN TRUMBULL*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

“To . . . . ., Greeting:

“I do hereby authorize and empower you, by beat of drum or otherwise, to raise, by voluntary enlistment, a Company, consisting of ninety able-bodied men, including officers, for the defence of this and the neighbouring Colonies, to be holden in said service until the 1st day of *January* next, unless sooner discharged, according to an act of the General Assembly of this Colony, passed in *May*, 1776; and you will publish the resolve of Assembly herewith committed to you in that behalf, for the encouragement of those who incline to enlist; and the Colonels of the several Regiments in this Colony, and the commanding officers of the Companies in those Regiments, are hereby required to lend you their aid, and muster the Companies under their command, if need be, for the purpose aforesaid.

“Given under my hand this . . . . day of *May*, 1776

“In the Lower House the above draft is accepted.

“Test: *TITUS HOSMER, Clerk.*

“Concurred in the Upper House.

“Test: *GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.*”

“I . . . . ., of . . . . ., do acknowledge myself enlisted a soldier in a Regiment now raising by the Colony of *Connecticut*, to be under the command of . . . . ., Esq., subject to the orders and regulations of said Regiment, and entitled to their privileges, until the 1st day of *January*, 1777, unless sooner discharged by proper authority.

“In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, this . . . . . day of . . . . . A. D. 1776.

“In the Lower House, the above draft is accepted and approved of.

“Test: *TITUS HOSMER, Clerk.*

“Concurred in the Upper House.

“Test: *GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.*”

"JONATHAN TRUMBULL, *Esq.*, *Governour of the Colony of CONNECTICUT* :

"To . . . . ., *Greeting* :

"I do hereby authorize and empower you, by beat of drum or otherwise, to raise . . . . . by inlistments, a Company of able-bodied, effective volunteers, to consist of ninety men, including officers, for the defence of this and the other United Colonies, during the term of one or two years after the 14th day of *May* instant; and the Colonels of the respective Regiments of Militia, and the several officers thereof, are required to afford you all proper aid and assistance; and the Captains in the several Regiments are hereby required to muster their respective Companies when requested thereunto by you, for the purpose aforesaid.

"Given under my hand this . . . . . day of *May*, 1776.

"In the Lower House, the above draft is accepted and approved.

"Test: TITUS HOSMER, *Clerk*.

"Concurred in the Upper House.

"Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*."

"I . . . . . of . . . . . do acknowledge to have voluntarily inlisted myself a soldier to serve in a Regiment of Foot, raised by the Colony of *Connecticut*, for the defence of the United Colonies, to be commanded by . . . . ., during the term of . . . . . year, from and after the 14th day of *May*, 1776, according to directions of Congress.

"As witness my hand, the . . . . . day of . . . . ., in the year of our Lord 1776.

"In the Lower House, the above draft is accepted and approved of.

"Test: TITUS HOSMER, *Clerk*.

"Concurred in the Upper House.

"Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*."

Whereas, in the Act passed in the present session of this Assembly for the raising of two Regiments, it is provided, that each Regiment shall consist of eight Companies, &c.: upon reconsideration,

It is *Resolved*, That the Regiment to be stationed at *New-London*, and places adjacent upon the sea-coast, shall consist of and be augmented to nine Companies, with the same number of officers that the other Companies are to have.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That if any of the soldiers of the Continental Regiment to be raised by order of this Assembly, shall not be able seasonably to supply themselves upon the Continental encouragement, and cannot be supplied by Colony Arms, such number as shall be wanting shall be forthwith purchased by the Selectmen of the respective towns, or any of them, to supply the deficiency, who shall deliver such arms to the Captain of the Company to which such person for whose use they are obtained shall belong, taking his receipt; and the said Selectmen exhibit the account of the cost of such arms to the Committee of the Pay-Table, who shall draw on the Treasurer for the amount of their accounts of the cost of purchasing such arms; and if a sufficient supply cannot be obtained in that way, the number wanting to make good such deficiency shall be impressed from householders, or others, not in the Militia roll; and proper warrants shall be given for that purpose, by any of the civil authority; and the owner and owners of such impressed arms may demand a receipt of the officer who shall impress and receive the same, and shall be paid the sum of five shillings for the use of each gun so impressed; and in case of loss, the owner shall be paid the value thereof, deducting the said sum of five shillings; and all arms used in said Regiment shall be appraised by two judicious persons, to be appointed and sworn by the next Assistant or Justice of the Peace.

*And it is further resolved*, That the Captain, or chief officer of each Company in said Regiment, shall take a particular account of all the arms used in his Company, distinguishing such as soldiers provide for themselves, such as belong to the Colony, such as shall be purchased, and such as shall be impressed as aforesaid; and shall transmit the same, with the prices annexed, to the Committee of Pay-Table. And his Honour the Governour is hereby authorized and desired to appoint a proper person or persons to muster said Companies.

Whereas this Assembly have ordered three Regiments to be raised and equipped for the defence of this Colony, and

for the purposes expressed in their acts, and some of the officers appointed to command the same may fail to accept the trust, or, by death or otherwise, vacancies may happen:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be desired, and he is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint any officer or officers, to fill up any vacancy that shall happen as aforesaid, and to commissionate them accordingly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety be, and they are hereby authorized, to take care and give orders and directions for selecting out and regulating a proper number of officers and men from the Regiment raised, and now ordered to be raised and stationed at *New-London* and the sea-coasts, or to appoint other officers as they may find necessary, to be employed and exercised as Matrosses or Artillerymen, for managing the cannon at the Fortifications erected or erecting there, and for the proper duty and services of that department, and to give such orders as shall be proper and necessary to have such establishment made and carried into execution.

Whereas the Companies raised by his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety, and stationed at *New-London*, *New-Haven*, *Groton*, and *Stonington*, are put upon the Continental plan of pay and provisions, and it having been resolved by this Assembly to augment them to a full Regiment, and that the Regiments now ordered to be raised for the defence of this Colony be upon the regulations established by this Assembly in *April*, 1775, and it being inconvenient that the Companies in said Regiments should be upon different footings,

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour and Committee of Safety be desired and directed, by all proper ways to endeavour to bring said Companies upon the present Colony plan and Regulations, by directing new inlistments, or other proper methods, to continue the officers by his Honour before appointed to command them, or appoint others as occasion shall require or they shall judge necessary; and as soon as their places can be supplied, and it shall be judged safe by his Honour and said Committee, they are to discharge said Companies, or such numbers of the men as shall not engage upon the present Colony plan, and procure their places to be filled, and said Companies completed as soon as may be.

Whereas the exigencies of Government render it necessary that a further sum of Money, or Bills of Credit, be emitted,

*Be it therefore enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in the General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That there be forthwith imprinted the sum of sixty thousand Pounds, in Bills of Credit on this Colony, equal to lawful money, of suitable denominations, from one Shilling to forty Shillings; ten thousand Pounds of which shall be of the denomination of six Shillings and under, and of the same tenor with the late emissions of the Bills of Credit of this Colony, without interest, payable at or before the 1st day of *January*, 1781, dated the 7th of *June*, 1776. And *Jabez Hamlin*, *William Pitkin*, *George Wyllys*, *Elisha Williams*, *Benjamin Payne*, *Thomas Seymour*, and *Jesse Root*, Esquires, or any three of them, are appointed a Committee for the purpose aforesaid, to take care said Bills are imprinted with all convenient speed, and to sign and deliver the same to the Treasurer of this Colony, taking his receipt therefor; and either one of the said Committee signing of the denomination of six Shillings and under, shall be sufficient, and any two signing the other Bills shall be also sufficient; and said Committee shall be sworn to a faithful discharge of their trust; and the Treasurer is hereby directed to pay out said Bills according to the orders of this Assembly. And for providing an ample and sufficient fund to call in, sink, and discharge, the aforesaid sum to be emitted as aforesaid,

*Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That a tax of eight Pence on the Pound be, and is hereby granted and ordered to be levied on all the Polls and rateable Estate in this Colony, according to the list thereof to be brought into this Assembly in *October*, 1778, with the additions; which tax shall be collected and paid into the Colony Treasury by the last day of *December*, 1780; which tax may be discharged by paying any of the Bills issued by order of this Assembly, Continental Bills, or lawful money; and the Treasurer of this Colony is hereby ordered and directed to send out his warrants for collecting said tax accordingly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the following be, and hereby is, established as the form of the Commission for the Chief Judge of the Superior Court; and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same.

*"The Governour and Company of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA.*

*"To all people to whom these presents shall come, greeting:*

"Know ye, that we have assigned, constituted, and appointed, and by these presents do assign, constitute, and appoint . . . . ., of said Colony, Esquire, to be Chief Judge of our Superior Court of Judicature, to be holden within our Colony of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*, in *America*, with authority to use and exercise all powers and jurisdictions belonging to the Chief Judge of our said Court, and to do that which to justice doth appertain to the laws in force in our said Colony; and the said . . . . ., assisted by two or more of the Judges of our said Superior Court, whom we have assigned by our commission for that purpose, to hear, try, and determine all causes and matters, civil and criminal, by law cognizable in the said Court, and to award execution thereon accordingly.

"In testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed. Witness . . . . ., Esquire, Governour of our said Colony of *Connecticut*, and with the consent of the General Assembly of the same, this . . . day of . . . . ., *Anno Domini* . . . . .

" . . . . ., *Governour.*

"By his Honour's command."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the following be, and hereby is, established as the form of the Commission for the Assistant Judges of the Superior Court; and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same.

*"The Governour and Company of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA.*

*"To all people to whom these presents shall come, greeting:*

"Know ye, that we have assigned, constituted, and appointed, and by these presents do assign, constitute, and appoint, *A, B, C, D*, of this Colony, Esquires, to be Judges of our Superior Courts of Judicature, to be holden within our Colony of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*, in *America*, to assist the Chief Judge of our said Superior Court, whom, by our commission, we have appointed to that office, to inquire of, hear, and determine, by a Jury, or otherwise, according to law, all causes and matters, civil and criminal, cognizable by our said Superior Court. And we do also assign, constitute, and appoint you, the said *A, B, C, D*, or any three of you, in the absence of the Chief Judge of our said Court, to be Judges of our said Superior Courts of Judicature, with authority to use and exercise all powers and jurisdictions belonging to the said Court, and to do that which to justice doth appertain, according to the laws in force in our said Colony, and to hear, try, and determine, all causes and matters, civil and criminal, by law cognizable in the said Court, and to award execution thereon accordingly.

"In testimony whereof we have caused the publick seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed. Witness . . . . ., Esquire, Governour of our said Colony of *Connecticut*, and with the consent of the General Assembly of the same, this . . . . . day of . . . . ., *Anno Domini* 177 .

" . . . . ., *Governour.*

"By his Honour's command."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the following be, and hereby is, established as the form of the Commission for a Judge of the County Court, and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same.

*"The Governour and Company of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA.*

*"To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:*

"Know ye, that we have assigned, constituted, and appointed, and by these presents do assign, constitute, and appoint . . . . ., of the said Colony, Esquire, to be Judge of our County Court, to be holden in our County of . . . . ., in our Colony of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*, with authority to use and exercise all powers and jurisdictions belonging to the said Court, and to do that which to justice doth appertain, according to the laws in force in our said Colony; and the said . . . . ., assisted with two or more Justices of the Peace and Quorum, to hear, try, and determine all causes and matters, civil and criminal, by law

cognizable in the said Court, and to award execution thereon accordingly.

"In testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed. Witness . . . . ., Esquire, Governour of our said Colony of *Connecticut*, and with the consent of the General Assembly of the same, this . . . day of . . . . ., *Anno Domini* 177 .

"By his Honour's command:

" . . . . ., *Secretary.*"

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the following be, and hereby is, established as the form of the Commission for the Judges of the Courts of Probate within this Colony; and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same.

*"The Governour and Company of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA.*

*"To . . . . ., Esquire, Greeting:*

"Know ye, that we have assigned you, and every of you, jointly and severally, to keep the peace within the County of . . . . ., within the Colony aforesaid; and to keep, and cause to be kept, all the laws and ordinances that are or shall be made for the good of the peace and conservation of the same, and for the quiet rule and government of the people of the County aforesaid; and to chastise and punish all persons offending, in the County aforesaid, against the said laws or ordinances, or any of them, as according to those laws and ordinances shall be fit to be done; and to cause to come before you, or any of you, all those persons who shall threaten any one in his person or estate, to find sufficient sureties for the peace and good behaviour, or in default of their finding sureties, to commit them to Jail or safe custody until they shall do so. And we have assigned you to assist the Judge of the County for the County aforesaid, to inquire of, hear, and determine, by a Jury, or otherwise, according to law, all causes, matters, and things, civil and criminal, cognizable by the said Court; and we do also assign you, the said . . . . ., and each of, and every of you, to hear and determine all causes, matters, and things, civil and criminal, which any one assistant in this corporation now hath, or hereafter shall have power by law to hear and determine. And we command you, and every of you, diligently to attend the keeping of the peace, laws, and ordinances, and all and singular other the premises, and perform and fulfil the same, doing therein that to justice appertains, according to the laws of this Colony.

"In testimony whereof we have caused the seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed. Witness . . . . ., Esquire, Governour of our said Colony of *Connecticut*, and with the consent of the General Assembly of the same, in . . . . ., this . . . day of . . . . ., *A. D.* 177 .

"By his Honour's command:

" . . . . ., *Secretary.*"

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the following be, and hereby is, established as the form of a Commission for a Field-Officer of a Regiment of Militia in this Colony, and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same.

*"J. T., Esq., Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA:*

*"To . . . . ., Esq., Greeting:*

"Whereas you are appointed by the General Assembly of said Colony to be . . . . . of the . . . . . Regiment of Horse and Foot in said Colony; reposing special trust and confidence in your fidelity, courage, care, and good conduct, I do, by virtue of the laws of this Colony, constitute and appoint you to be . . . . . Regiment. You are therefore to take said Regiment into your care and charge, as their . . . . ., and carefully and diligently to discharge that care and trust in ordering and exercising them, both officers and soldiers, in arms, according to the rules and discipline of war; keeping them in good order and government, and commanding them to obey you as their . . . . ., for the service of this Colony; and they are commanded to obey you accordingly. And you are to conduct and lead forth the said Regiment, or such part of them as you shall, from time to time, receive orders from me, or from the Governour of this Colony for the time being, to encounter, repel, pursue, and destroy, by force of arms and by all fitting ways.

and means, all the enemies of this Colony who shall, at any time hereafter, in a hostile manner, attempt or enterprise the invasion, detriment, or annoyance of this Colony. And you are to observe and obey such orders and instructions as, from time to time, you shall receive from me, or other your superior officers, pursuant to the trust hereby reposed in you and the laws of this Colony.

"Given under my hand and the seal of this Colony, at . . . . ., this . . . . . day of . . . . ., A. D. 177 .

"By his Honour's command :

" . . . . ., Secretary."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the form of a Commission for the Captain and Subaltern Officers of a Company of Militia in this Colony shall be as follows, and the Governour and Secretary are desired and directed to sign the same.

"J. T., Esq., Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief of the ENGLISH Colony of CONNECTICUT, in NEW-ENGLAND, in AMERICA :

"To . . . . ., Gent., Greeting :

"You being by the General Assembly of this Colony accepted to be . . . . ., reposing special trust and confidence in your fidelity, courage, and good conduct, I do, by virtue of the laws of this Colony me thereunto enabling, appoint and empower you to take the said . . . . . into your care and charge, as their . . . . ., carefully and diligently to discharge that trust, exercising your inferior officers and . . . . . in the use of their arms, according to the discipline of war, keeping them in good order and government, and commanding them to obey you as their . . . . . for the service of this Colony ; and you are to observe all such orders and directions as, from time to time, you shall receive, either from me or from other your superior officers, pursuant to the trust hereby reposed in you.

"Given under my hand and the seal of this Colony, in . . . . ., this . . . . . day of . . . . ., A. D. 177 .

"By his Honour's command :

" . . . . ., Secretary."

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Selectmen in the respective Towns in this Colony, at or before the 1st day of September next, shall take and transmit to his Honour the Governour a particular account of all the persons in their respective Towns in this Colony, as well negroes or slaves for life as white persons, distinguishing the number of those who are under the age of twenty years from those who are above that age, the sexes, or whether married or single, those in the Militia, and all able-bodied men who do not belong to the Militia ; also all those who are now in actual service ; thereby to enable his Honour to prepare a complete answer to a letter lately received from the Honourable John Hancock, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress ; and that this act be forthwith distributed by the Representatives in the present Assembly ; and that the account, or whole number of the persons in each Town, be attested on oath by the Selectmen thereof, to have been faithfully and truly made and completed.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Treasurer of this Colony take the legal ways and means to enforce the collection of the Taxes due to this Colony, with all convenient speed : *Provided, nevertheless*, That upon any of the Collectors of such Rates producing to the Treasurer of this Colony a certificate, under the hands of the civil authority and Selectmen to which such Collectors belong, therein expressing the sum and amount of the Rates or Taxes arising on the lists of such persons in their respective rate-bills who are actually abroad in the defence of the United Colonies, which is not collected, the said Treasurer is hereby ordered and directed not to enforce the collection of such sum expressed and certified as aforesaid, until their return, or a more convenient season.

Whereas, it is for publick benefit to support the credit of the Continental Currency passing in this Colony ; and for that end, of importance that the same should be received in payment of publick taxes :

*It is therefore resolved by this Assembly*, That the Treasurer of this Colony may, and he is hereby directed to receive the paper bills of the Continental currency, when offered in payment of Colony taxes, or any debts payable to the Treasurer of this Colony, until otherwise instructed by this Assembly.

*An Act to restrain the exportation of Rum, Sugar, Molasses, Salt, and other WEST-INDIA productions, out of this Colony, for the time therein limited.*

Whereas, it hath been represented to this Assembly that sundry persons are engrossing Rum, Sugar, Molasses, Salt, and other *West-India* goods, with an intent to export the same out of this Colony, whereby great inconveniences may at present arise :

*Be it enacted by the Governour, Council, and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same*, That no Rum, Sugar, Molasses, Salt, or other *West-India* goods, shall be exported out of this Colony, by land or water, on or before the 1st day of November next, under the same penalties and forfeitures as already expressed in one statute of this Colony, entitled "An act to enable the Governour to lay an embargo, and for rendering the same when laid effectual ;" or shall be otherwise punished by forfeiting the value of such goods so put on board, shipped or exported ; and that all offenders shall be proceeded against in like manner and form as in and by said statute is provided ; and that his Honour the Governour be desired forthwith to issue his Proclamation prohibiting such exportation accordingly. *Provided, nevertheless*, That any *West-India* goods necessary for the use of the Continental Army, upon application made to his Honour the Governour by the Continental Congress, or his Excellency General Washington, may be permitted to be exported by the license of his Honour ; anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Oliver Ellsworth, Esq., is appointed, directed, and empowered, forthwith to proceed to Major-General Schuyler at Albany, or elsewhere, and lay before him the Accounts and Pay-Rolls of the several Regiments and Companies raised in this Colony, and employed the last year in Continental service at Canada, and which have been already paid by this Colony, and request of him a Warrant for repayment of the sums advanced and paid to said Continental Troops aforesaid, and to receive, safe keep, and convey and deliver to the Treasurer of this Colony whatever sum or sums he may receive on account as aforesaid, and take his receipt therefor, and the same lodge with the Secretary of this Colony.

This Assembly do appoint the Honourable Matthew Griswold, Eliphalet Dyer, Jabez Huntington, William Williams, and Richard Law, Esquires, Messrs. Titus Hosmer, Benjamin Huntington, Colonel Jedediah Elderkin, William Hillhouse, and Nathaniel Wales, Jun., to be a Council or Committee of Safety, to assist his Honour the Governour when the Assembly is not sitting, with full power and authority to order and direct the Militia and Navy of this Colony, and the marches and stations of the Troops that have been or shall be enlisted and assembled for the special defence of this or the neighbouring Colonies, or any part or parts thereof, as they shall judge necessary, and to give all necessary orders from time to time for furnishing and supplying the Militia, Troops, and Navy, in every respect and to every purpose that may be needful to render the defence of these Colonies effectual, with full power and authority to fulfil and execute every trust already reposed or that shall be reposed by this Assembly in his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety aforesaid. And this Assembly do expect and desire his Honour the Governour to notify and convene the whole of said Council on all important occasions and business which may be before them ; but where the necessity and safety of the publick may require greater despatch than can consist with the notice and attendance of the whole, and on smaller matters, his Honour the Governour, at his discretion, may convene a smaller number, not less than five to be a quorum, to act with him in the matters and business as aforesaid.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the pay of the Council of Safety shall be to each man eight Shillings per day for his time and expenses in that service ; and the Committee of Pay-Table are directed to draw on the Treasurer for the same accordingly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour be desired, and he is hereby requested, to prepare authenticated copies of the Petitions to the King, and Letters to the Secretary of State, &c., passed since the beginning of the present unhappy contest between Great Britain and the American Colonies, and transmit them to the Continental Congress.



His Honour the Governour having laid before this Assembly the doings and proceedings of himself, with the advice of the Council of Safety, assigned him relative to the fortifying of the Port and Harbour of *New-London*, pursuant to a resolve of this Assembly in *December* last, which doings and proceedings are approved of: And it being represented to this Assembly that the Works are not yet completed, and that it is necessary to employ more hands in said Works,

It is *Resolved and Ordered*, That his Honour the Governour be directed, and is hereby desired, with the advice and assistance of the Committee of Safety, to carry on and complete said Works, and to employ as many men as they may judge proper and convenient, and to give such orders and instructions, from time to time, as to them may seem meet and convenient.

Whereas a representation hath now been made to this Assembly that some of the Soldiers in the service of this Colony last year who were returned Deserters have received their whole wages, the return of their desertion notwithstanding—in Colonel *Storrs's* Company, ten; in Captain *Mosely's* Company, thirty; in Captain *Knowlton's* Company, seven; in Captain *Clark's* Company, two; in Captain *Elliott's* Company, two;—and a Committee having been now appointed to inquire whether the mistake happened fraudulently, designedly, or accidentally, and who, and how far any person or persons were fraudulently or inadvertently concerned and instrumental therein, and what is proper further to be done therein, and said Committee having now reported that the several persons concerned in the premises not being present, and that they are not now furnished with any documents to investigate the true state and circumstances of the several matters aforesaid, which said report of said Committee is now accepted and approved,

It is therefore *Resolved*, That his Honour the Governour be directed to write to the Delegates from this Colony to the Continental Congress, advising them of the matters aforesaid, that no prejudice may accrue to this Colony therein; and that the Committee of Pay-Table be, and they are hereby, appointed and empowered fully to examine into the several matters and facts aforesaid in such way and manner as to them shall appear proper and necessary, and make report of what they shall find in the premises to the next session of this Assembly.

Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, Captain *William Ledyard*, Captain *Samuel Squire*, Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, and Mr. *Jedediah Strong*, are appointed a Committee to purchase five thousand pair of Yarn Stockings for the use of the Army in *Canada*, upon the best terms they can, as soon as may be, and make report to his Honour the Governour, with a fair account of the number they respectively furnish, and the prices they cost; and his Honour the Governour is desired thereupon to cause said Stockings to be transported to *New-York*, and there to be delivered to *John Alsop*, or *Francis Lewis*, Esquires, agreeable to the request of the Congress; and, also, to transmit the accounts of the cost of said Stockings to *Roger Sherman*, Esq., that the same may be speedily repaid.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That there be a further premium of two Shillings and six Pence, lawful money, paid out of the Colony Treasury for every double-bridled good and well-made Gunlock that shall be made and manufactured within the Colony after the 10th day of *June* instant, and before the 20th day of *October* next, in addition to the premium or bounty of one Shilling and six Pence heretofore granted by this Assembly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That his Honour the Governour and the Committee of Safety be authorized and required, and they are hereby authorized and required, to examine and adjust all accounts of expenses incurred or that may be incurred, or for services that have been or may be done, on account and for the use of this Colony, by order of that honourable Board in pursuance of any Act, Resolution, or direction of the General Assembly, and certify the sum or sums they may find due on such Accounts to the Committee of the Pay-Table, who shall receive and file such certificates, and draw on the Treasurer for the sum or sums therein contained accordingly.

This Assembly do appoint, empower, and desire his Honour the Governour, during the present session of this Assembly, to fill up the blank Commissions for private Ships-of-War,

and Letters of Marque and Reprisal, sent or that shall be sent, from time to time, by the President of the Congress to this Assembly, and the same deliver to the person or persons intending to fit out such private Ships-of-War, who shall apply for the same; and, also, to see the proper bonds executed and sent with such Commissions, and see the same duly returned, agreeable to the resolutions of the honourable Continental Congress.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Committee of Pay-Table be, and they are hereby, directed to receive and adjust the Accounts of supporting the Continental Prisoners in this Colony; and prepare authentick copies thereof, properly attested, and transmit them to his Honour the Governour, who is desired to forward the same, to be laid before the honourable Continental Congress for payment.

Whereas it appears that there is still an arrearage of Supplies or Rations due to the Officers and Soldiers that went from this Colony last year in the Northern Army; wherefore, that what is right and just may be done to them therein,

It is *Resolved and Ordered*, That the Commissaries appointed last year by this Colony do, as soon as may be, collect an exact Account of what quantity or part of the daily Rations was delivered out, and of all such arrears that may be justly due to said Officers and Soldiers, from the Colonels of the respective Regiments that marched to the northward, duly certified by said Colonels and the Quartermasters of said several Regiments, or by the Commissary of Supplies, or other proper or sufficient evidence; and that they exhibit such Accounts, as soon as may be, to the Commissary-General of the Northern Department, and obtain payment thereof as far as may be; and, in case of failure, that they apply to the Pay-Table with such Accounts and Vouchers, who are hereby directed to adjust and order payment of what they shall find justly due, after deducting therefrom to each Soldier what they have received on account of Continental allowance made by General *Schuyler* for billeting and additional days, over and above the Colony allowance, which is two Shillings and six Pence per week in billeting, and about eight Shillings per man for the whole term of their enlistment in the addition of days.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Home Commissaries be, and they are hereby, directed speedily to settle their Accounts with the General and Deputy Commissaries whom they have supplied in their different departments with Provisions, warlike Stores, &c., and take duplicate copies of their Accounts when stated, settled, and subscribed by Commissaries, observing, as nearly as can be, a distinction between the Supplies that were antecedent to the 3d of *August* last, and those that were subsequent to that time; one set of which copies will be vouchers for the Home Commissaries to settle with the Committee of Pay-Table, and the other to be made use of in supporting the Colony's demand on the Continental Congress for reimbursement.

Whereas it is of importance as well as necessary that the Troops that lately went to the Camp at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, also those that marched to *New-York*, in Continental service, all from this Colony, and now returned, should be immediately paid off without further delay: It is thereupon

*Resolved and Ordered*, That Colonel *James Wadsworth*, Jun., Colonel *Matthew Talcott*, and Colonel *Ichabod Lewis*, be, and they are hereby, appointed and empowered to collect and receive all the Pay-Rolls of the several Companies that marched in the service aforesaid, and apply to the General to allow and settle the same, and obtain his order for the payment of the moneys due thereon, for the benefit of the Officers and Soldiers to whom it is due, and deliver and pay the same accordingly; and the Committee of the Pay-Table are hereby ordered and directed to adjust and give order for the payment of all losses of arms, accoutrements, as also for expenses of sickness for such Officers and Soldiers, in the same manner and according to the same rules and regulations that have, or are hereby established, for the benefit of those Officers and Soldiers that have been raised and sent out by special order of this Assembly, and to state an account thereof, in order that it may be transmitted to Congress for payment.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Committee of the Pay-Table be directed, and they are hereby directed and empowered, to settle and adjust the Account or Accounts with the respective Commissaries employed by this Colony,

under oath, and that they draw on the Colony Treasurer for such sum or sums as may be found respectively and justly due to them upon such settlement and adjustment as shall be made as aforesaid, and to receive whatever sums shall be found due to the Colony, and pay over to the Treasurer; and also to settle and adjust Accounts with the Commissary-General, and to make such allowances to him for his trouble in receiving in and delivering out stores, provisions, &c., as they shall judge just and reasonable, and draw on the Treasurer therefor.

This Assembly do appoint, authorize, and empower, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esq., of *Windham*, to liquidate, adjust, and settle, the Account or Accounts subsisting between this Colony and *Elisha Pain*, Esq., late King's Attorney for the County of *Windham*, and to receive, secure, and recover, whatever balance may be found due thereon, and account render of his doings in the premises to this Assembly.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That all accounts of expenses incurred for making necessary provisions for sick Soldiers of this Colony in the Army of the late campaign, when they could not be otherwise supplied without great inconvenience and danger to the sick, and which provisions were approved and directed by any of the Surgeons of said Army, may be laid before the Committee of Pay-Table, and being properly certified and attested, said Committee are hereby authorized and directed to settle and adjust the same, and draw on the Treasurer for payment of what they shall find just and reasonable; and also, in case any Officer or Soldier, in battle or otherwise, by inevitable Providence and without his default, shall lose or destroy his arms, clothing, or accoutrements, or the same shall be so lost or destroyed, upon proper evidence thereof being produced to said Committee of Pay-Table, they are also authorized to receive and examine the accounts thereof, and draw on the Treasurer for the just and reasonable value thereof.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the several Postmasters be, and they are hereby directed to prepare their accounts of debts and credits arising in their offices, whilst employed by this Assembly, and lay the same before the Committee of Pay-Table for adjustment; and all special Posts, who have in fact been in the Continental service, be, and they are hereby, advised to prepare true and attested accounts of their service and expenses, and procure authentick certificates of their services, from the person or persons by them employed and encouraged, or from such persons as are knowing to their being so employed and encouraged, that they may be properly laid before the honourable Continental Congress for payment.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Colonels of the Militia Regiments marched to *New-York*, on the first and last requisitions of General *Washington*, be, and they are hereby directed speedily to forward the Pay-Rolls of the several Companies in their respective Regiments, to his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety, to be adjusted, and authentick copies thereof prepared, to be transmitted by his Honour the Governour to General *Washington*, for payment.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Commissaries of the Militia Regiments that marched to *New-York*, on requisition of General *Washington*, be, and they are hereby directed to prepare their accounts of supplies for those Regiments, and lay the same before his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety, for adjustment, and to be transmitted to General *Washington*, for his order for their payment.

It being represented to this Assembly by the Committee appointed in *May* last to procure three thousand stands of Arms for the use of this Colony, which were to have been completed by the 1st day of *May* instant, that by means of unforeseen difficulties and delays they have not been able yet to obtain the number ordered, and some of those engaged are yet in the hands of the workmen unfinished; and the Colony not being supplied with a sufficient quantity of Arms,

*It is therefore resolved by this Assembly*, That the acts and resolves of this Assembly for procuring, encouraging and regulating the manufacture of Fire-Arms and Locks, according to the directions there given, and the provisions thereof, be, and they are hereby revived, and shall be and continue in force until the session of this Assembly in *October* next;

and the Committee therein named are directed to use their utmost care and vigilance to provide and procure the number of such Arms as are thereby directed and ordered, and make report of their doings in the premises.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the inhabitants of the Town of *Saybrook* have liberty to build a Battery at the place where the old Fort stood in said town, so that it be well constructed, to contain six carriage-guns, for the defence of said town and harbour; and that the inhabitants be encouraged thereto with the assistance of twenty men from the Regiment to be stationed at *New-London*, &c., in labouring to build said Fort, and to guard the same so long as the Governour and Council of Safety shall think fit; and that said Fort be furnished with three good carriage-guns, in addition to those that be already there; all to be mounted on proper carriages, and furnished with a sufficiency of powder and ball, and all other necessary implements for said guns and Fort, as soon as may be, at the expense of this Colony, to be under the direction of his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety, during the pleasure of this Assembly.

Whereas it is represented to this Assembly, that sundry of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers belonging to some of the Regiments in this Colony, have, in a late instance, refused to march to *New-York*, for the defence of this and that Colony, pursuant to orders given for that purpose by the Captain-General of this Colony, agreeable to the laws in such case made and provided, by which refusal of such Soldiers, &c., the peace and safety of the good people of these Colonies are greatly exposed to danger, &c.:

*It is thereupon resolved by this Assembly*, That the Attorney for the Governour and Company of this Colony in the County of *Fairfield*, be, and he is hereby ordered and directed, without delay, to examine and inquire into the grounds and foundations of the matters aforesaid, and, where he finds sufficient cause, to pursue such legal prosecutions as are necessary to trying such supposed offenders, and in case they are found guilty, to suffer the just punishment provided by law, and prevent the mischief threatened thereby.

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the respective Towns in this Colony that have supplied any Powder for the publick, shall lay in their accounts thereof, before the Committee of the Pay-Table, well authenticated; and thereupon the said Committee shall adjust the same, together with such reasonable allowance for their trouble and expense therein, as the said Committee shall think just, and give an order in favour of the Selectmen of such Town upon any of the Powder-Mills in this Colony, to be refunded in Powder, for such quantity as said Committee shall judge just and reasonable.

Whereas the article of Sulphur is necessary, and must be speedily procured for publick use; and whereas one Mr. *Thomas Bidwell*, of *Pennsylvania*, has proposed to this Assembly that upon his receiving from the Colony twenty suitable pots, with their receivers, and the privilege of using the Sulphur Ore drawn from the Lead-Mine in *Middletown*, free from charge, and the Colony taking off from his hands all the well-wrought, refined, and genuine Sulphur, which he shall manufacture within this Colony, out of Ore found within the same, at the price of two Pounds ten Shillings for each hundred weight of such Sulphur made and manufactured as aforesaid, within the space of two years next after the 1st day of *June*, 1776, he will immediately enter upon and continue the manufacturing of such Sulphur in this Colony, upon Ore found within the same, for the space aforesaid, for the use of this Colony, and deliver what Sulphur he shall so make to the Colony at said price; and at the expiration of said term, or whensoever he shall quit said business here, he will fully communicate to some proper person, in the interest of this Colony, and an inhabitant of the same, for the benefit of the Colony, all the skill and art of manufacturing Sulphur, and leave such pots and receivers in the condition they shall then be found in, to the use of the Colony; which proposals are accepted by this Assembly on this condition, that the Colony will not at present engage to receive more than fifty tons of Sulphur, to be made and manufactured by said *Bidwell* as aforesaid.

*Therefore it is resolved by this Assembly*, That twenty suitable pots, and their receivers, for the manufacturing Sulphur, shall be forthwith provided at the expense of this Colony, and delivered to said *Bidwell*, at such place within

said Colony as he shall choose to erect his Works in, for the manufacture aforesaid; and he hath full liberty to make use of the Sulphur Ore raised at *Middletown*, free from any charge to him therefor, for the purpose aforesaid. And Colonel *Joshua Porter* is appointed with the said *Bidwell*, to procure the said twenty pots and receivers, for the purpose aforesaid, in the best manner they can for the publick advantage.

And it is further resolved by the authority aforesaid, That this Colony will take and receive of the said *Bidwell* the Sulphur to be by him made and manufactured of the materials found within this Colony within the term aforesaid, and at the price aforesaid, not exceeding fifty tons; and his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety are hereby empowered to do and order what further may be found necessary to execute the design of this resolve.

Resolved by this Assembly, That his Honour the Governour and Council of Safety be, and they are hereby desired to order an account of the whole expense of raising and marching Colonel *Burrell's* Battalion to *Albany*, together with the expenditure of the twelve thousand five hundred Dollars received for that purpose, to be collected and properly stated, and laid before the honourable Continental Congress for settlement.

Whereas information has been given to this Assembly, that Captain *Daniel Hill*, Lieutenant *Peter Lyon*, and Ensign *Samuel Hawley*, all of the Eleventh Company in the Fourth Regiment in this Colony, under the command of *Gold Selleck Silliman*, Esquire, Colonel of said Regiment, have, instead of forwarding, as it was their duty to do, endeavoured to obstruct and embarrass, and have, in fact, neglected and refused to obey certain orders given out to said officers by said Colonel, in pursuance of orders from the Governour, the Captain-General, some time in *March* last, for the purpose of inlisting or detaching a certain number in said Company to march for *New-York*; which orders the said officers have severally contemptuously disobeyed, and greatly obstructed the execution thereof: Whereupon this Assembly order and decree, that a precept be issued forth by the Secretary of this Colony, immediately to arrest the bodies of them, the said *Daniel Hill*, *Peter Lyon*, and *Samuel Hawley*, respectively, and them have before this Assembly, to answer to the said information, and be further dealt with as to justice appertains; and that Colonel *Silliman*, with other proper evidences, be also cited to appear.

Whereas the honourable Continental Congress have lately ordered and delivered to the Delegates of this Colony the sum of ten thousand five hundred Dollars, to defray the expense of raising a Regiment ordered by Congress to be raised in this Colony; and whereas *Oliver Wolcott*, Esquire, one of said Delegates, took for his own use on account of this Colony, out of said sum, the sum of one hundred and forty Dollars; and *Roger Sherman*, Esquire, took for his own use on account of this Colony, the sum of one hundred Dollars, and also sixteen Dollars given to bring the remainder, being ten thousand two hundred and forty-four Dollars, to the Treasurer of this Colony, and the same is delivered to said Treasurer:

It is now Resolved, That the Treasurer charge the said *Roger Sherman* and *Oliver Wolcott*, Esquires, with the several sums received as aforesaid in account.

And it is further Resolved, That the Treasurer replace the aforesaid sums of two hundred and forty Dollars, for the purpose of defraying the expense of raising said Regiment, and charge the said sixteen Dollars in said account.

Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, Captain *Jeremiah Wadsworth*, Mr. *Thaddeus Burr*, Mr. *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., and Mr. *Jedediah Strong*, are appointed a Committee to procure eighteen hundred Pounds, lawful money, in Specie, in exchange for Bills, and pay the same to his Honour the Governour, to be improved for the use of the Northern Army, agreeable to a request of the Congress; and the Committee of Pay-Table are directed to draw upon the Treasurer in their favour for said sum in bills, taking their receipt, to improve the same to the purpose aforesaid, and render their account. And his Honour the Governour is desired, on receipt of said sum, or any part thereof, to forward the same to the proper Treasurer, Paymaster, or officer, to be used for the purpose aforesaid, and lay the account thereof before the Congress, that the same may be replaced in the Treasury as soon as may be.

Whereas, in the present session of this Assembly, a Committee was appointed to procure a sum of money in Specie, in exchange for Bills, and pay the same to his Honour the Governour, to be improved for the use of the Northern Army, agreeable to a request, &c.; and whereas it now appears that a more expeditious method of collecting the same is devised:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the said appointment be, and the same is hereby revoked and made null and void.

The honourable Continental Congress having lately requested of this Colony to furnish a quantity of Hard Money or Specie for the use of the Northern Army, and engaged to replace the same in Continental Bills, &c.,

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Treasurer of this Colony be, and he is hereby directed to procure, in addition to what he has in Colony stock on hand, and can be conveniently spared, so as to make the sum of eighteen hundred Pounds, lawful money, in Specie, in the whole, and the said sum forward and deliver to the proper Treasurer, Paymaster, or Receiver, of the Continental Army, for the Northern Department, taking his receipt therefor, and the same deliver to his Honour the Governour, with his account of expenses attending the same; who is desired to have the same properly laid before the said honourable Continental Congress, that the same may be replaced in the Treasury as soon as may be; said Treasurer to be allowed said sum in account, and to be charged with the same when received and replaced as aforesaid.

Resolved by this Assembly, That Colonel *Selah Hart* be, and he is hereby appointed, in addition to the Committee appointed by this Assembly in *May* last, to provide such store of Lead as they shall judge necessary for the use of this Colony; and said Committee are further authorized and directed, on behalf of this Colony, to contract for, purchase, and take the Lead Ore that is or may be raised out of the Lead-Mine found in the possession of Mr. *Matthew Hart*, in *Farmington*, and to dig and raise Ore in said Mine so far as shall appear to them profitable and necessary, for the benefit of this Colony.

Ordered, That the Committee of the Pay-Table of this Colony draw on the Treasurer in favour of Colonel *Joshua Porter*, of *Salisbury*, Overseer of the Cannon-Foundry carrying on at the Furnace in said Town, for the sum of eight hundred Pounds, in Continental or this Colony bills, keeping a proper account thereof, and taking his receipt therefor, to account for the improvement thereof in the service aforesaid, when thereto required.

Resolved, That *Thaddeus Burr*, Esquire, call upon the Postmasters from *Hartford* to *Greenwich*, on the road to *New-York*, and receive their accounts of the sums of money received by them respectively, for postage of Letters, between the 15th day of *June* and 15th of *November*, 1775, and adjust the same with them; and that he collect and receive the several balances due on such accounts, and render his account thereof to the Treasurer of this Colony when required.

Whereas this Assembly, at their session in *October* last, appointed *Oliver Wolcott* and *Andrew Adams*, Esquires, a Committee to settle and adjust Accounts with *Daniel Sherman* and *Benjamin Stiles*, Esquires, for five hundred Pounds, by them received out of the Treasury of this Colony, to pay off and discharge the Prizes in the *Ousatonic River* Lottery, which Committee were directed to make report of their doings in this Assembly; and said Committee having made no report or done anything relating thereto, because the said *Oliver Wolcott*, Esquire, hath not nor now is able to attend the same:

Therefore Resolved by this Assembly, That *Andrew Adams* and *Reuben Smith*, Esquires, of *Litchfield*, be, and they hereby are, appointed a Committee to settle and adjust the Accounts with the said *Daniel Sherman* and *Benjamin Stiles*, Esquires, of their doings in the premises, as also their services, and receive of them whatever sum or part of said five hundred Pounds may be left in their hands not disposed of for the use aforesaid; and the said *Daniel Sherman* and *Benjamin Stiles*, Esquires, are directed to render their account and payment as aforesaid to this Committee, who are to make report to the next General Assembly of their doings in the premises.

Whereas information has been given to this Assembly, that Captain *Hezekiah Brown*, of the Twelfth Military Company, in the Tenth Regiment in this Colony, under the command of Colonel *James Wadsworth*, Colonel of said Regiment, hath, instead of forwarding, as it was his duty to do, endeavoured to obstruct and embarrass, and hath in fact neglected and refused to obey certain orders given out to him by *Jonathan Baldwin*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel of said Regiment, in pursuance of orders from the Captain-General of this Colony, to detach men for the service and defence of this Colony, &c.: Whereupon this Assembly order and direct, that a precept be issued forth by the Secretary of this Colony, immediately to arrest the body of him the said *Hezekiah Brown*, and him have before this Assembly, to answer to the said information, and further dealt with as to justice appertains; and Colonel *Baldwin*, with other proper evidence, be also cited to appear, &c.

It being represented to this Assembly by the Selectmen of the Town of *New-Milford*, that Captain *Isaac Bostwick* was appointed by the inhabitants of said *New-Milford*, at their meeting held in *December*, 1774, a Collector, to collect the Colony rate or tax, made on the list of the inhabitants of said town in 1774, payable to the Treasurer of this Colony by the last day of *December*, 1775, and in *July* last this Assembly did appoint the said *Isaac Bostwick* a Captain in Colonel *Webb's* Regiment, raised for the defence of this Colony; and that the said *Bostwick* did enter into said service, and still continues in said service, therefore being unable to collect said rate: Whereupon, the inhabitants of said town, in town-meeting, held in *December*, 1775, appointed Mr. *Benjamin Bostwick*, Jun., to collect said rate, and pray that the Assembly would order and direct the Treasurer of this Colony to issue his warrant to the said *Benjamin Bostwick*, Jun., to levy and collect the same. Whereupon this Assembly do order and direct that the Treasurer of this Colony issue his warrant to the said *Benjamin Bostwick*, Jun., to levy and collect the said rate or tax as aforesaid.

This Assembly do appoint Colonel *Thomas Fitch*, Mr. *Rufus Lathrop*, Mr. *Ebenezer Plummer*, Mr. *Samuel Bishop*, Jun., Major *Samuel Selden*, Colonel *Joseph Hall Cook*, Colonel *Experience Storrs*, and Colonel *Philip Burr Bradley*, a Committee to audit and adjust the Colony Accounts with the Treasurer of this Colony, and make report of their doings in the premises to this Assembly.

This Assembly do appoint *Henry Champion*, Esq., to be Colonel of the Twenty-Fifth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Dyer Throop*, Esquire, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twenty-Fifth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Jabez Chapman*, Esq., to be Major of the Twenty-Fifth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Obadiah Hosford*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twelfth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Jeremiah Mason*, Esq., to be Major of the Twelfth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Seth Smith*, Esq., to be Major of the Eighteenth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Fisher Gay*, Esq., to be Colonel of the Fifteenth Regiment of Militia in this Colony;

*Selah Hart*, Esq., to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fifteenth Regiment of Militia in this Colony, in the room of *Fisher Gay*, Esq., promoted.

Upon the Memorial of *Seth Adams*, of *Wilbraham*, in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, showing that in *April* last he purchased thirty-nine bushels of Salt and one hogsheaf of Rum in this Colony, to carry to his own house in said *Wilbraham*, as soon as he could conveniently have transported the same, praying for liberty now to carry the Salt and Rum out of this Colony, &c., as per Memorial, &c.:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, The Memorialist have, and liberty and license is hereby granted to him, to transport said Rum and Salt out of this Colony to said *Wilbraham*, the late embargo laid by this Assembly notwithstanding.

Upon the Memorial of *Amariah Plum*, a soldier in Colonel *Hinman's* Regiment, raised for the defence of this Colony in the year 1775, showing to this Assembly that he was a soldier in Captain *Watson's* Company, in said Regiment, at the siege of *St. John's*, in the Province of *Quebeck*; that, in obedience to the orders of his officers, he was, on the first day of said siege, in a detachment at some distance

from said garrison, where they were fired upon and engaged by a party of the enemy, in which action he was wounded by a musket ball, which broke the bone of his thigh, whereby he fell into the hands of the enemy, and was conveyed into said garrison, and there remained until the surrender of the same; that by the badness of the wound, &c., the Memorialist has the mortification to find himself still a cripple, and so must remain through life, being thereby in a great measure disabled from labour, the only means in his power of supporting himself and family, praying this Assembly to grant relief, &c., as per Memorial on file:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the sum of twenty-five Pounds, lawful money, be granted, and the same is hereby granted to the said *Amariah Plum*, on his Memorial as aforesaid; and the Treasurer of the Colony is hereby ordered to pay the same accordingly; that the deposition on which said Memorial is granted be lodged with the Committee of the Pay-Table by the Memorialist; and that said Committee thereupon give him an order on the Treasurer for said sum.

Upon the Memorial of *Robert Fairchild*, *Stephen Burroughs*, and *Abraham Brinsmaid*, all of *Stratford*, representing that it is needful, in their opinion, to have another Powder-Mill built in this Colony, for manufacturing Gunpowder for publick use, and that *Stratford* is the most proper place; and praying for liberty to erect the same in said Town, where they have a convenient place, &c., as per Memorial on file:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, The Memorialists have liberty, and license is hereby granted them, to erect such Powder-Mill in said *Stratford*, for the purpose aforesaid, under the regulations which other Powder-Mills in this Colony by law are.

Upon the Memorial of *Isaac Bostwick*, of *New-Milford*, in *Litchfield* County, showing to this Assembly that he was a Captain in Colonel *Webb's* Regiment, and that he received, for the use of the Colony, twenty-three stands of Arms, and gave his receipt for the same; which were carried and used in publick service, and, at the end of the campaign, returned to the Selectmen of the Towns of *Kent*, *Salisbury*, and *Canaan*, and were again delivered out to the soldiers going against *Quebeck*; and the said *Bostwick* not being able to procure receipts for the same, praying that the Committee of the Pay-Table may be directed to pay the Memorialist his full wages, taking his bond, &c., as per Memorial on file:

*Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Committee of the Pay-Table be, and they are hereby, directed to pay to the Memorialist the full sum due to him, and to take his bond, payable to the Treasurer of this Colony, with proper conditions for the security of the value of said Arms unaccounted for; and that the Memorialist do account for said Arms, or pay the value thereof in some reasonable time.

Upon the Memorial of *James Law*, of *Lebanon*, in *Windham* County, showing that he was a soldier in the service of this Colony and Continent in the year 1775, in the Army near *Boston*; was drawn off and engaged in the battle of *Bunker's Hill*, the 17th day of *June*, when he had the misfortune to have his right arm broken by a shot from the Ministerial Troops, by which he has wholly lost the use of his hand; is a Joiner by trade; about twenty-two years old; has no estate, nor any means of supporting himself but by labour, which, by means thereof, he is unable to perform, and thereby deprived of his prospects of support and comfort, praying for relief, &c., as per Memorial on file:

It is therefore *Resolved by this Assembly*, That the Treasurer of this Colony pay unto the said *James Law* the sum of fifty Pounds, in current bills of credit, as and for a relief and support to him under his disabled and distressed circumstances.

The Report of the Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, Esq., and the rest of the Committee appointed to inquire into the allegations of a certain complaint exhibited to the present Assembly by Mr. *Jeremiah Halsey* against Captain *Edward Mott*, as on file, is accepted by this Assembly,

And thereupon *Resolved*, That there doth not appear sufficient grounds or foundation for this Assembly to make any further inquiry thereon.

This Assembly do grant to his Honour Governour *Trumbull* the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds, for the first half of his salary the current year.

This Assembly do grant to his Honour Deputy Governour *Griswold*, the sum of fifty Pounds, for the first half of his salary the current year.

This Assembly do grant to his Honour Governour *Trumbull* the sum of one hundred Pounds for his extraordinary services the year past; and order and direct the Treasurer to pay the same accordingly.

This Assembly do grant to *John Lawrence*, Esq., Treasurer, the sum of one hundred and eighty Pounds, as and for his salary the year past.

This Assembly do grant to *George Wyllys*, Esq., Secretary, the sum of twenty Pounds, as and for his salary in the year past; and direct the Treasurer to pay the same to him accordingly.

Whereas this Assembly, at their present session, have made many preparations for a defence against the increasing hostilities and efforts of our unnatural enemies; yet, considering the alarming situation of the United Colonies, being threatened with the whole force of *Great Britain*, united with all such foreign mercenaries as they are able to engage to assist in the execution of their causeless vengeance on these devoted Colonies, and to burn and destroy our Sea-port Towns, and to spread rapine, murder, and destruction, throughout the whole; in this situation our utmost efforts cannot be too much, and it is the duty of every individual to contribute all in his power to serve and defend our most important cause:

Therefore the Assembly do most earnestly recommend it to all persons, of every rank and denomination, to furnish themselves, with all possible expedition, with good sufficient fire-arms, and other warlike accoutrements, and with bullets sufficient and fit for their guns; and especially that all able-bodied men, who are not of the standing Militia, and such as have been dismissed from common military exercise, form themselves into Companies, choose their officers, according to the number of such who can convene together, and equip themselves, so as to be in readiness for mutual defence

against our common enemy. That all the Field-Officers put themselves in readiness, to conduct and lead forth their respective corps on the most sudden call; and, in the mean time, use their utmost endeavours and care, with the assistance of the commissioned officers in their respective Regiments, to encourage military skill and every warlike preparation, and see that all defective arms be immediately repaired. That the Committee appointed to procure fire-arms to be made in this Colony, use their utmost diligence to promote the same, and purchase all good arms for sale, except such as any person hath for his own proper use. The events of this year may prove most decisive to these Colonies; and as all human care, efforts and exertions are but fruitless attempts for our security and defence, and will prove vain and abortive, unless attended with the blessing of Heaven, which we have no reason to expect but on a sincere repentance and reformation; wherefore, in the day of darkness and threatening calamity, it is most earnestly recommended to and pressed upon all persons, of every rank and denomination in this Colony, to promote and cultivate charity and benevolence one towards another; to abstain from every species of extortion and oppression; sincerely to repent and break off from every sin, folly, and vice; to live in peace, love, and harmony, among themselves; to look up with earnest importunity to Heaven for help, success, salvation, and deliverance; and, with careful attention to the use of means, hope and trust in the Lord of Hosts, who presides over universal nature, guides and governs all; and we need not fear or be dismayed at all the attempts or numerous horrors with which we are threatened.

It is therefore *Ordered*, That the foregoing be printed and distributed, and be read and published in all the religious societies in these Colonies.

This Assembly is adjourned by Proclamation, &c., until his Honour the Governour, or, in his absence, the Deputy Governour, shall see cause to call it to meet again.

Test:

GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

#### CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Friday, March 1, 1776.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire*, with a Petition from the said Colony, and sundry papers, were read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Franklin*.

A Petition from the inhabitants of *Falmouth*, being presented, was read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *Reed*, and Mr. *Paca*.

A Letter from *J. Mease*, Commissary, with sundry queries, to which he requests the answers of Congress, that he may know how to conduct the business entrusted to him, was laid before Congress and read:

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Hewes*.

A Memorial of the Merchants, Traders, and others, of the City of *Philadelphia*, was presented and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of the Whole.

The General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* having transmitted to Congress a state of the Accounts of their Colony against the Continent,

*Resolved*, That the same be referred, for liquidation, to the Committee of Claims.

*Resolved*, That an addition of 34 Dollars a month be added to the pay of *Joseph Reed*, Esq., Secretary to General *Washington*, on account of the extraordinary services at present attending that office, by reason of the General's direction of the Naval Department.

*Resolved*, That the Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 14th

instant, with Lord *Drummond's* Letter to General *Robertson* enclosed.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to treat with the owners of some Medicines lately imported, and to purchase the same, on the most reasonable terms, for the use of the Continent.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress proceeded to the appointment of the General Officers and Staff for the Middle and Southern Departments.

*Resolved*, That Major-General *Lee* be appointed to take the command of the Continental Forces in the Southern Department.

The Congress proceeded to the election of six Brigadier-Generals, and, the ballots being delivered in and examined, the following gentlemen were chosen: *John Armstrong*, Esq., *William Thompson*, Esq., *Andrew Lewis*, Esq., *James Moore*, Esq., the Right Honourable *William Earl of Stirling*, and *Robert Howe*, Esq.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Armstrong* be directed to repair to *South-Carolina*, Brigadiers *Lewis* and *Howe* to *Virginia*, and Brigadier-General *Moore* to *North-Carolina*, and take the command of the forces in those respective Colonies, until they receive further orders from Congress or a superior officer.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Thompson* be directed to repair to *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That the Orders of the Day be postponed to *Monday*.

Adjourned to *Monday* next, ten o'clock.

Monday, March 4, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Alsop* be appointed a Member of the Committee of Claims, in the room of Mr. *Lewis*, who is absent, and that Mr. *Whipple* be appointed a Member of the said Committee, in the room of Mr. *Bartlett*, who desires to be excused from that service.

*Resolved*, That in case of the absence of any standing Member of the Committee of Claims, the Delegates of the



Colony to which he belongs be empowered to nominate one of their Members to act in the stead of the absent Member, until his return.

A number of Letters and Papers, being received, were read, viz:

A Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, dated 28th *February*, enclosing a recommendation of gentlemen for Field-Officers of the four Battalions ordered to be raised in that Colony.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

A Memorial from sundry Merchants in *Montreal*, respecting *Indian Trade*;

A Resolution of the Committee of Inspection for the County of *Accomack*;

Two Letters from Brigadier-General *Wooster*, of the 11th and 13th *February*, with seven papers enclosed;

Two from Brigadier-General *Arnold*, one of the 1st, and the other of the 12th, of *February*;

Four from General *Schuyler*, dated the 15th, 20th, 21st, and 23d, of the same month;

One from General *Lee*, of the 29th;

One from the Convention of *New-Hampshire*, of the 8th;

And one from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*; were read, and referred till to-morrow for consideration.

*Resolved*, That the Memorial from the Merchants of *Montreal* be referred to a Committee of five:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *L. Morris*, and Mr. *Tilghman*.

That the Resolution from the Committee of *Accomack*, be referred to the Committee of the whole Congress.

That the Letters from Major-Generals *Lee* and *Schuyler*, and from Brigadier-Generals *Wooster* and *Arnold*, be referred to the Committee appointed to prepare Instructions for the Commissioners going to *Canada*.

That the other Letters be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to examine and report the number and circumstances of the Permits granted for exporting produce, &c., brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the restraint be taken off, which, by a resolve of the 26th of last month, was laid upon Vessels loading or loaded with produce for *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British West-Indies*, in consequence of permissions granted for Arms and Ammunition, imported into these Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed, with all possible expedition, to send, under a guard, ten tons of Powder to *Cambridge*, for the use of the Army under the command of General *Washington*.

The Committee, to whom the Memorial from sundry inhabitants of *Northumberland*, and the Petition from the inhabitants near *Pittsburgh*, were referred, brought in their Report, which was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Beslestre*, Major *Longeul*, and Captain *Lotbiniere*, three of the *Canadian* Prisoners who are at *Bristol*, in *Pennsylvania*, be permitted to come to *Philadelphia*, to confer with the Committee on Prisoners, and there wait the orders of Congress.

The Order of the Day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Tuesday, March 5, 1776.

Sundry Letters being received, were read, viz:

Two Letters from General *Schuyler*, dated the 26th and 27th of *February*, with four papers enclosed, among which was a Letter from *James Deane* to General *Schuyler*, dated the 24th of the same month.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from *James Deane* be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *W. Livingston*.

A Letter from General *Wooster*, 21st of *February*, 1776.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee to whom was referred, among other things, the

Memorial of a number of inhabitants of the County of *Northumberland*.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, As the said Memorial relates merely to disputes between the Memorialists and other inhabitants of said County, and to complaints against Justices of the Peace of the said County, and as the common Courts of Judicature, and especially the Legislature of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*, are altogether competent for remedying the grievances complained of, that the said Memorial, with the papers therewith delivered, be transmitted to the Assembly of said Colony.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 14th of *February*, and the Letter from Lord *Drummond* to General *Robertson* enclosed; and after some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have taken into consideration the Letter and papers to them referred, but have come to no resolution thereon.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, so far as it has not been considered by the Committee of the Whole, be referred to the Committee to whom his other Letters, of the 24th and 30th of *January*, were referred.

The Order of the Day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Wednesday, March 6, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 26th of *February*, was read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee to whom his other Letters are referred.

A Letter from *J. Palmer*, enclosing a Report of a Committee of the General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, respecting Lead, was read:

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed on the 31st of *July* last, to inquire in all the Colonies after virgin Lead, Leaden Ore, and the best method of collecting, smelting, and refining it, and also the cheapest and easiest methods of making Salt in these Colonies, be discharged, and that the business of the said Committee be referred to the Committee appointed on the 23d of *February* last, to consider of further ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre, &c.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from *J. Palmer*, with the enclosed Report, be referred to the last-mentioned Committee.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated 18th and 21st of *February* last, enclosing the Proceedings of a Council of War, was read.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Thomas* be appointed to the command of the forces in *Canada*, and that General *Washington* be directed to order him immediately to repair to that Province.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Thomas* be promoted to the rank of a Major-General, and that a Commission be sent to him accordingly.

*Ordered* That the President acquaint General *Washington*, by express, of this arrangement.

*Resolved*, As several members of the Marine Committee are absent, that their places be supplied by Mr. *Huntington*, for *Connecticut*, Mr. *Sergeant*, for *New-Jersey*, Mr. *Harrison*, for *Virginia*, and Mr. *E. Rutledge*, for *South-Carolina*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to send five tons of Powder to *New-York*, for the use of the Continental Troops there, and five tons of Powder to the Southern Department for the use of the Continental Troops in the said Department.

That the said Committee be directed to return to the Colony of *Maryland* the Powder borrowed by Mr. *Harrison*, and to the Colony of *New-York*, and to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, the Powder borrowed of them.

That the said Committee be directed to deliver to the Delegates of the *Delaware* Government one ton of Powder, for which they are to be accountable; to return to the Colony of *New-York* the Powder borrowed of that Colony; and to the Delegates of *New-Jersey* one ton of Powder, for which the Colony of *New-Jersey* is to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the President inform General *Schuyler* that the Congress judge it necessary he should remain at *Albany*, to make the proper arrangements respecting the Army destined for *Canada*, and therefore that he establish his Head-Quarters at *Albany* until further orders.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Bullitt*, Esq., be appointed Deputy Adjutant-General in the Southern Department, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *Wayne* the Arms in their possession, for the purpose of arming his Battalion, retaining so many as will be necessary for the guard that is to attend the Powder to *Cambridge*.

The Order of the Day being renewed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, March 7, 1776.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 29th of *February*, and a Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 23d of the same month, were received and read.

*Resolved*, That an Order for one hundred thousand Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Delegates of *Connecticut*, in part of the money advanced by said Colony, on account of the Continent, said Colony to be accountable; and that the said Colony be desired to send forward their Accounts, with proper vouchers, in order for liquidation and payment.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to retain so many of the Arms yesterday ordered to be delivered to Colonel *Wayne*, as will be necessary for the guard that is to attend the Powder to *Cambridge*.

The Congress being informed that *Isaac Melchior*, on the evening of *Saturday* last, treated the President of this Congress with great rudeness, and made use of several disrespectful and contemptuous expressions towards him and this Congress,

*Ordered*, That the said *Isaac Melchior* attend the Congress to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, to answer for his conduct.

*Resolved*, That *Edward Hand*, Esquire, be promoted to be Colonel of the Battalion of Riflemen in the Army at *Cambridge*, and *James Chambers*, Esquire, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the same.

That *William Winds*, Esq., be promoted to be Colonel of the First *New-Jersey* Battalion, and that *Matthias Ogden*, Esquire, be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the same.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on the Applications and Qualifications of Officers be directed to supply the First and Third *New-Jersey* Battalions with proper Medicine-Chests and Instruments.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, with Affidavits, relative to the capture of the *Amboy* Packet-boat, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington* were referred.

The Committee to whom the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire* was referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To *Hall* and *Sellers*, for Printing the Continental Bills of Credit, the sum of 1735.4 Dollars;

To *Frederick Becking*, for one hundred and two reams of Paper for the Continental Bills of Credit, the sum of 707.2 Dollars;

To the Estate of *David Hall*, deceased, for Stationery for the service of Congress, the sum of 50.6 Dollars;

To *Robert Erwin*, for twenty cords of Wood, the sum of 80 Dollars;

To *Wallore Meng*, for Canteen-straps, the sum of 84.3 Dollars;

To *Jared Tracey*, for carrying money from *Philadelphia* to *Cambridge*, the sum of 36 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to *Josiah Bartlett*, Esquire.

To sundries on certificates for Provisions furnished several Rifle Companies, the sum of 35.3 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to *John Alsop*, Esquire.

To *Thomas Apty*, for boarding several Prisoners taken from on board the *Rebecca* and *Ann*, the sum of 54.7 Dollars.

To *Robert Erwin*, for Wagonage, the sum of 637.7 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for electing the Field-Officers for the four Battalions ordered to be raised in the Colony of *New-York* for the defence of the said Colony.

The Order of the Day being renewed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, March 8, 1776.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress proceeded to the election of Field-Officers of the four Battalions ordered to be raised in the Colony of *New-York* for the defence of the said Colony, and the ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were chosen:

*Alexander McDougall*, Esquire, Colonel, *Herman Zedwitz*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Joseph Benedict*, Esq., Major, of the First Battalion.

*James Clinton*, Esquire, Colonel, *Henry B. Livingston*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Peter P. Schuyler*, Esquire, Major, of the Second Battalion.

*Frederick Weisenfels*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *John Fisher*, Esquire, Major, of the Third Battalion.

*Cornelius D. Wynkoop*, Esquire, Colonel, *Philip Cortlandt*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, *John Nicholson*, Esq., Major, of the Fourth Battalion.

The Congress being informed that Mr. *Melchior* was attending, agreeable to the order of yesterday:

*Ordered*, That he be called in.

Mr. *Melchior* appearing, the particulars of the charge were repeated to him, and on his assuring the House of his not remembering his having behaved with the disrespect mentioned, owing to the particular circumstances he happened to be under, and asking pardon of the Congress and President for his indecent behaviour,

*Ordered*, That in consideration of Mr. *Melchior's* former services, and his present concessions, he be dismissed from further attendance.

The Committee, to whom the several Letters from Major-General *Lee*, Major-General *Schuyler*, Brigadier-General *Wooster*, and Brigadier-General *Arnold*, were referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration; and thereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners who are appointed to go to *Canada* be desired to inquire into the cause of the imprisonment of the Officers of Militia in that country, and others, and take such measures, in concert with the Commanding Officer of the Continental forces there, for their enlargement or confinement, as are consistent with the principles of justice, and the safety of the United Colonies.

That the provisions made by General *Lee* and General *Schuyler* to supply the Army in *Canada* with Pork, the direction given by General *Lee* to have Wheat ground into Flour for their use, and his contract with the company of carpenters, be approved; and that Mr. *Peter Zabriskie*, of *Hackinsack*, be employed to transport the Pork, to be procured in *New-Jersey*, to *Hudson's River*, according to General *Schuyler's* desire.

That when the articles specified in the Rations allowed to the Prisoners of War cannot be procured, the persons who supply them with other Provisions be entitled to eight Pence, *New-York* currency, a day, for every Prisoner.

That Indians be not employed as soldiers in the armies of the United Colonies, before the Tribes to which they belong shall, in a National Council, held in the customary manner, have consented thereunto, nor then, without express approbation of Congress.

That General *Schuyler* be directed to provide such a number of Batteaus for the service in *Canada*, as shall be sufficient for it.

That General *Schuyler* be desired to purchase the Cloth which Mr. *Henry*, of *Albany*, hath, for Tents.

That the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia* be desired to collect all the Gold and Silver Coin they can, to be exchanged for Continental Bills, for the service of *Canada*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire and report the best ways and means of supplying the Army in *Canada* with Provisions and necessaries:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Wolcott*, and Mr. *L. Morris*.

*Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of the Committee for making of Muskets and Bayonets, &c., for the sum of ten thousand Dollars, they to be accountable for the expenditure thereof.

A Letter from Colonel *Hazen*, of the 18th of *February*, enclosing an Account and estimate of the losses he has sustained, being received, was read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *S. Adams*, who are directed to examine the said Account, and report upon the several articles.

A Letter from Governour *Trumbull*, dated the 2d instant, and a Letter from General *Lee*, of the 5th, being received, were read.

The Order of the Day being renewed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Saturday, March 9, 1776.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be written to General *Washington*, desiring him to send Captain *Conner*, of the Rifle Battalion, to *Philadelphia*, the Congress having occasion to employ him in the Southern Department.

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions for the Commissioners going to *Canada*, brought in a draft, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table for the perusal and consideration of the Members.

A Petition of Mr. *Stephen Decatur*, Master of the Schooner *L'Esperance*, of the Island of *Hispaniola*, was presented and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said *Stephen Decatur* be permitted to load the Schooner *L'Esperance*, of *Hispaniola*, with the produce of these Colonies, (horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, and Lumber for making Casks, excepted,) and export the same to the Island of *Hispaniola*; and that the said *Stephen Decatur* do take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* Men-of-War and Cutters on his voyage, and use his utmost endeavours to import into these Colonies the Powder and Arms mentioned in his Memorial, and proposed to be imported by him.

A Petition from *John Baptisto Hugonene*, Master of the *Tartar*, the *Marc Anthony*, was presented and read; and the same being taken into consideration:

*Resolved*, That *John Baptisto Hugonene*, Master of the *Tartar*, the *Marc Anthony*, be permitted to load the said vessel, in which he imported a small quantity of Ammunition, with the produce of these Colonies, (horned Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, and Lumber for making Casks, excepted,) and export the same to the Island of *Martinique*; and as the said vessel is not sufficient to carry the amount of the cargo by him imported, that he be permitted to purchase and load another vessel with produce under the exceptions before expressed, and export the same to the said Island of *Martinique*; and that the said *John Baptisto Hugonene*, and the master of the vessel which he shall purchase, do take every possible precaution to avoid all *British* Ships-of-War and Cutters on their voyage, and that he use his utmost endeavours to import into these Colonies the Powder and Arms mentioned in his Memorial, and proposed to be imported by him.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed, to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the Southern Department:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *S. Adams*, Mr. *Sergeant*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

*Resolved*, That the following gentlemen be appointed and authorized to sign and number the Bills of Credit of four millions of Dollars, now emitting, viz:

Samuel Morris,	Thomas Morris,	Adam Hubley,
John Kaighn,	Mordecai Lewis,	Joel Evans,
Nicholas Garrison,	Cornelius Barnes,	John Mease,
Joseph Watkins,	Jonathan B. Smith,	John Purviance,
Anthony Morris,	Robert Tuckniss,	Robert Hazlehurst,
Frederick Kuhl,	Thomas Coombe,	Walter Shee,
Matthew Clarkson,	Daniel Clymer,	Joseph Redman,
John Ord,	George Campbell,	Phineas Bond,
William Webb,	Joseph Parker,	William Masters,
Isaac Hazlehurst,	Robert Evans,	John Salter,

John Howard,	John Shaw, Jun.,	George Douglas,
Thomas Leech,	James Thompson,	Peter Stretch,
Thomas Smith,	Benjamin Brannan,	Samuel C. Morris,
Philip Kinsey,	Samuel Sellers,	Samuel Hillegas,
Robert Roberts,	Isaac Pearson,	Nathan Sellers,
Isaac Howell,	John Sellers,	George Gray, Jun.,
James Milligan,	Benjamin Jacobs,	James Ash,
Tench Tilghman,	Israel Wheelen,	Samuel Massey,
Joseph Bullock,	Josiah Hewes,	John Williams,
David Duncan,	Andrew Tybout,	William Coates.

*Resolved*, That before the Signers enter upon their office, they shall respectively take an oath or affirmation before any Magistrate, which shall be filed with the Committee of the Treasury, to the following effect: that they shall well and truly sign and number all the Bills to be delivered to them by the Inspectors of the Press appointed by the Congress, and the same so signed and numbered, shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Continental Treasurers, or one of them.

And, for avoiding the danger from fire, robbery, or negligence,

*Resolved*, That the Inspectors of the Press shall not deliver to any class of Signers more than two parcels of two hundred sheets each, to be in their hands at any one time.

*Resolved*, That no Oath, by way of test, be imposed upon, exacted, or required of any of the inhabitants of these Colonies, by any Military Officers.

*Ordered*, That this Resolve be published.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver one ton of Powder to the Delegates of *Maryland*, for the publick service in that Colony.

The Order of the Day being renewed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* next.

— Monday, March 11, 1776.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, of the 8th, enclosing three papers; and

A Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, of the 7th, enclosing an application from *Patrick Sinclair*, a prisoner, for leave to return to *Europe*, were laid before Congress and read.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Letter from the Convention of *New-York*, and the application of *Patrick Sinclair*,

*Resolved*, That *Patrick Sinclair* be allowed to return to *Europe*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2,500 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *Alsop*, Mr. *Lewis*, and Mr. *Sherman*, to enable them to pay for the Shoes purchased by them for the Northern Army.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with General *Lee*, respecting the ways and means of defending *New-York*.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *Whipple*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To *Benjamin Town*, for seven hundred and eighty-nine Canteens, the sum of 341.9 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Applications and Qualifications be directed to provide six Medicine-Chests for the six *Virginia* Battalions.

The Congress took into consideration the Instructions to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, and having spent some time thereon,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Tuesday, March 12, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*, Commissary, he to be accountable.

A Petition from *Edmund Custis*, and a Letter from the Committees of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, were presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred to the Committee of the whole Congress.

A Letter from sundry inhabitants of *Westmoreland*, of the 6th instant, was read:

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A Petition from Doctor *Hall Jackson*, of the 12th of *February* last, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Instructions to the Commissioners going to *Canada*; and after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The Committee to whom the Letter from Colonel *Moses Hazen*, and the Report of persons appointed to state the account of losses and damages sustained by him in *Canada*, were referred, brought in their Report, which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to, as follows:

It appears to your Committee that the loss and damage sustained by Colonel *Hazen* in *Canada* have not been estimated with sufficient accuracy; that some of the articles enumerated in the inventory are presumed to be overrated, the quantities of several others reducible to exactness in number, weight, or measure, are not ascertained, and the reasons for the knowledge or belief of any of them by the witnesses are not explicit enough in their examination; that, although the grain, grass, and hay, mentioned in the account, are admitted by Colonel *Hazen*, in his letter, to have been partly destroyed by the Ministerial Troops, the whole value is extended; that the estimate of the crops are so general, it cannot be discovered by what rule they were formed, or to what standard adjusted; that the damages done to the dwelling-house, stone-house, out-houses, barn, and farms, are not particularized or specified; that a considerable part of what a reimbursement is claimed for, is household furniture, wearing apparel, tools, utensils, cables, and anchors, suggested to have been plundered by the troops of the United Colonies, and *Canadians* who joined them; and your Committee believe that no reparation of the like kind hath yet been made by Congress; and that the profit which might have been made of the mills and houses, if the owner had not been deprived of the use of them, being merely contingent and conjectural, are such as have not usually been made good in similar cases: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners who are going to *Canada* be desired to appoint proper persons to examine, state, and settle an account of the loss and damage Colonel *Hazen* hath sustained in his property and possessions in *Canada* by the forces of the United Colonies, and report the same, with any special matters they may think fit, to Congress; annexing to their Report the estimates, examinations of the witnesses, and other papers relating thereto.

*Resolved*, That if any of the gentlemen appointed Field-Officers in the four Battalions raising in *New-York* for the defence of that Colony, are provided for in *Canada*, they be directed to continue there, exercising the offices to which they are appointed; and that others be elected in their room in the four Battalions aforesaid; and that such of them as are not provided for in *Canada*, be directed immediately to repair to their respective Battalions.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Wednesday, March 13, 1776.

A Letter from the Committee of *Essex*, in *New-Jersey*, of the 7th, and a Letter from Captain *J. Macpherson*, of the 12th, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That an Order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Samuel Fairlamb*, Contractor for supplying Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion with Rations, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Bills drawn by the Treasurers of *North-Carolina*, for the use of the Continental Troops in that Colony, be paid.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Colony of *Maryland* with five hundred pounds of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of *Cecil County*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed to inquire and report the best ways and means of raising the necessary supplies to defray the expenses of the War for

the present year, over and above the emission of Bills of Credit.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Ward*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, to sundries, for expenses incurred at the Oration in memory of General *Montgomery*, the sum of 94.3 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to Doctor *Franklin*.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Committee to whom the Memorial from the *Indian* Traders at *Montreal* was referred, brought in their Report.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, the Memorial of *Edmund Custis*, the Letters from the Committees of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, the Letters from General *Washington*, and the state of the Trade of the United Colonies.

And after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair; and Mr. *Ward* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration some of the matters referred to them, but not having come to any resolution, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the matters heretofore referred to them.

Mr. *W. Livingston* moved for leave to bring in a Resolution for appointing a Fast; which was granted.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to purchase the Armed Vessel now in the River *Delaware*, on the most reasonable terms, for the service of the Continent, and that her destination be left to the said Committee.

*Resolved*, That the expenses of the Horses of Aids-de-Camp, when travelling in the publick service, be charged to the account of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Thursday, March 14, 1776.

The Committee appointed to confer with General *Lee* respecting the defence of *New-York*, brought in their Report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That eight thousand Men be ordered for the defence of the Colony of *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That Orders issue to Colonel *Irvine*, Colonel *Shee*, and Colonel *Magaw*, of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, and to Colonel *Dayton*, of the *New-Jersey* Troops, to march immediately, with their respective Battalions, to *New-York*, and to put themselves under the direction of the commanding officer there.

A Letter from General *Prescott*, of the 14th, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Prisoners be directed to confer with General *Prescott* on the subject of his Letter, and report to Congress.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed in their respective Colonies who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of *America*, or who have not associated, and shall refuse to associate, to defend, by arms, these United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the *British* Fleets and Armies; and to apply the Arms taken from such persons in each respective Colony, in the first place to the arming the Continental Troops raised in said Colony; in the next, to the arming such Troops as are raised by the Colony for its own defence; and the residue to be applied to the arming the Associators; that the Arms, when taken, be appraised by indifferent persons, and such as are applied to the arming the Continental Troops be paid for by the Congress, and the residue by the respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety.

*Ordered*, That a copy of the foregoing Resolve be transmitted, by the Delegates of each Colony, to their respective Assemblies, Conventions, or Councils or Committees of Safety.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,  
To *William Hencher*, for Wagon-hire, in conveying Captain *Stevenson's* Baggage, &c., to *Cambridge*, the sum of 58.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Moses Hunter*;

To *Rachel Stille*, for boarding several Officers, Prisoners, to the 8th of *March* instant, the sum of 224.7 Dollars;

To *Joseph Fineur*, for five hundred and eleven tin Cartridge-Boxes, the sum of 221.4 Dollars.

Ordered, The above Accounts be paid.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Friday, March 15, 1776.

Sundry Letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz: One from General *Washington*, of the 7th, with two papers enclosed, with a number of intercepted Letters; two from Lord *Stirling*, of the 12th and 13th; one from Lieutenant-Colonel *Allen*, of the 13th; one from the Convention of *New-York*; and one from General *Schuyler*, of the 6th.

Resolved, That the expenses of the Horses of General Officers, when travelling in the service of the Continent, be defrayed by the United Colonies.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. H. Lee* and Mr. *Franklin* call on General *Lee*, and direct him immediately to repair to the Southern Department, and take the command of the forces there.

Resolved, That four Muskets and Bayonets be lent to the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the use of the guards that accompany the Powder sent to that Colony.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *New-York*; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had come to certain Resolutions; which, being read, were agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That Captain *Nelson*, with his Rifle Company, be directed immediately to repair to *New-York*.

Resolved, That the Governour of *Connecticut*, the Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of *New-York* and *New-Jersey*, be requested to hold their Militia in readiness to march in such numbers, and at such times, for the defence of *New-York*, as the Continental Commander at *New-York* shall desire; and that the pay of the Militias called to the defence of *New-York* be the same as that of the Continental Troops raised and employed in the Middle Department, to commence from the time they begin their march.

Resolved, That Lord *Stirling* be directed to order the Troops destined for *Canada* to proceed on their march, agreeable to their former orders.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Saturday, March 16, 1776.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, of the 14th, enclosing a copy of General Orders for the defence of *New-York*, was laid before Congress, and read.

Resolved, That a Letter be written to Lord *Stirling*, directing him immediately to send forward the Powder destined for *Cambridge*, unless he has received express advice from General *Washington* that the enemy's Fleet and Army have sailed out of the Harbour of *Boston*.

Resolved, That the Account of Mr. *Price*, of *Canada*, be referred to the Committee of Claims.

A Petition from *Coquataginta*, or Captain *White-Eyes*, was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to a Committee of three. The Members chosen, Mr. *L. Morris*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *R. H. Lee*.

Resolved, That Captain *Duncan Campbell*, a prisoner at *Lancaster*, be permitted to come to *Philadelphia*, to meet his wife and children, and there reside till further orders.

Mr. *W. Livingston*, pursuant to leave granted, brought in a Resolution for appointing a Fast, which was agreed to, as follows:

In times of impending calamity and distress, when the liberties of *America* are imminently endangered by the secret machinations and open assaults of an insidious and vindictive Administration, it becomes the indispensable duty of these hitherto free and happy Colonies, with true penitence of heart, and the most reverent devotion, publicly to acknowledge the overruling Providence of *God*; to confess and deplore our offences against him; and to supplicate his interposition for averting the threatened danger, and prospering our strenuous efforts to the cause of freedom, virtue, and posterity.

The Congress, therefore, considering the warlike preparations of the *British* Ministry to subvert our invaluable rights and privileges, and to reduce us by fire and sword, by the savages of the wilderness, and our own domesticks, to the most abject and ignominious bondage; desirous, at the same time, to have people of all ranks and degrees duly impressed with a solemn sense of *God's* superintending Providence, and of their duty devoutly to rely, in all their lawful enterprises, on His aid and direction, do earnestly recommend that *Friday*, the 17th day of *May* next, be observed by the said Colonies as a day of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer; that we may, with united hearts, confess and bewail our manifold sins and transgressions, and, by a sincere repentance and amendment of life, appease His righteous displeasure, and, through the merits and mediation of *Jesus Christ*, obtain His pardon and forgiveness; humbly imploring His assistance to frustrate the cruel purposes of our unnatural enemies, and, by inclining their hearts to justice and benevolence, prevent the further effusion of kindred blood. But if, continuing deaf to the voice of reason and humanity, and inflexibly bent on desolation and war, they constrain us to repel their hostile invasions by open resistance, that it may please the Lord of Hosts and the God of Armies, to animate our officers and soldiers with invincible fortitude, to guard and protect them in the day of battle, and to crown the Continental arms, by sea and land, with victory and success; earnestly beseeching Him to bless our civil rulers, and the Representatives of the people, in their several Assemblies and Conventions; to preserve and strengthen their union, to inspire them with an ardent, disinterested love of their country; to give wisdom and stability to their councils; and direct them to the most efficacious measures for establishing the rights of *America* on the most honourable and permanent basis; that He would be graciously pleased to bless all His people in these Colonies with health and plenty, and grant that a spirit of incorruptible patriotism, and of pure, undefiled religion, may universally prevail; and this Continent be speedily restored to the blessings of peace and liberty, and enabled to transmit them inviolate to the latest posterity. And it is recommended to Christians of all denominations, to assemble for publick worship, and abstain from servile labour, on the said day.

Ordered, That the foregoing Resolve be published.

Resolved, That another Brigadier-General be appointed in the Continental Army.

The ballots being taken and examined, the Baron *De Woedtke* was elected.

Resolved, That *Frederick William* Baron *De Woedtke*, appointed a Brigadier-General in the Army of the United Colonies, be ordered immediately to repair to *New-York*, there to remain until the Commissioners appointed to go into *Canada* shall reach that Colony; and that he be directed to join and accompany them into *Canada*, and there serve under the command of the Continental Troops in that Province.

Resolved, That *Carpenter Wharton*, Commissary, continue, agreeable to his Contract, to supply with Rations the *Pennsylvania* Battalions serving in *New-York*.

A Petition from *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson* was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, inhabitants of *Philadelphia*; the Memorial from *Edmund Custis*; the Letters from the Committees of *Accomack* and *Northampton*; and the Petition from *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson*, &c.



And after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have had under consideration the matters to them referred; but not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the matters referred to them.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, March 18, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers be directed to lay on the table an account of the Silver and Gold Coin in the Treasury.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur *Arundel* be directed to repair to the Southern Department, and put himself under the command of General *Lee*; and that General *Lee*, if he find him capable, be directed to employ him in the Artillery service.

*Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*, Commissary, for the sum of 20,000 Dollars, to be applied to the procuring necessaries, and to the payment of the subsistence of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions; and that the Colonels be directed to account with Mr. *Mease* for the several sums advanced to them.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia*; the Memorial of *Edmund Custis*; the Letters from the Committees of *Accomack* and *Northampton*; and the Petition of *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson*; and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported that the Committee had taken into consideration the matters to them referred, and have come to sundry Resolutions; but that, not having concluded, they desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Mr. *Henry* not having accepted the commission of Colonel, the Congress proceeded to the election of a Colonel for the First *Virginia* Battalion; and the ballots being taken,

*William Christian*, Esq., formerly Lieutenant-Colonel in said Battalion, was elected Colonel; and

*Francis Eppes*, Esq., formerly Major, was elected Lieutenant-Colonel; and

*John Green*, Esq., was elected Major.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Memorials of the Merchants, Traders, and others, inhabitants of *Philadelphia*; the Memorial of *Edmund Custis*, &c.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, March 19, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur *Dohicky Arundel* be appointed a Captain of Artillery in the Continental service.

That General *Lee* be directed to set on foot the raising a Company of Artillery, and that it be recommended to the Convention or Committee of Safety of *Virginia* to appoint the other officers of the said Company of Artillery.

A Letter from Colonel *Dayton*, of the 15th, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee for procuring Muskets.

A Letter of the 17th, from the Convention of *New-Jersey*, was laid before Congress, and read. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Captain *Woolverton*, with his Company, be taken into the service of the United Colonies; and that he be directed to repair, with his Company, as soon as properly armed and accoutred, to *New-York*, and put himself under the commanding officer there; and that the pay of Captain *Woolverton's* Company commence from the time they are provided with arms and accoutrements.

A Letter from Colonel *Belestre*, of the 16th, a *Canadian* Prisoner, and sundry Letters from *Cameron* and *Smith*, were read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sup-

ply Captain *Barry*, of the Brig *Lexington*, with one ton of Powder.

*Ordered*, That the Committee to whom was referred the state and situation of the Prisoners at *Trenton*, report thereon as soon as possible.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General, for the use of the Army under the immediate command of General *Washington*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 50,000 Dollars be sent to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Army under his command.

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions, &c., to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, brought in a draft of further Instructions, and of a Commission, which were read.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Memorial from the Merchants, Traders, and others, inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, the Memorial from *Edmund Custis*; the Letters from the Committees of *Accomack* and *Northampton*; and the Petition of *Joseph Blewer* and *Daniel Robinson*; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the matters referred to them, and had come to sundry Resolutions; which he delivered in.

The Report of the Committee being read, was agreed to, and is as follows:

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of these Colonies be permitted to fit out Armed Vessels to cruise on the enemies of these United Colonies.

That all Ships, and other Vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark, by any Armed Vessel fitted out by any private person or persons, and to whom commissions shall be granted, and being libelled and prosecuted in any court erected for the trial of maritime affairs, in any of these Colonies, shall be deemed and adjudged to be lawful prize, and condemned to and for the use of the owner or owners, and the officers, marines, and mariners, of such vessel, according to such rules and proportions as they shall agree on.

*Provided always*, That this resolution shall not extend, or be construed to extend, to any vessel bringing settlers, arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, to and for the use of these Colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof, who are friends to the *American* cause, or to such warlike stores, or to the effects of such settlers.

That all Ships or Vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandise, belonging to any inhabitant of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any of the Vessels of War of these United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, one-third to the officers and men on board, and two-thirds to the use of the United Colonies.

That all Ships or Vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant of *Great Britain*, as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any Vessel of War, fitted out by and at the expense of any of the United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, and divided in such manner and proportions as the Assembly or Convention of such Colony shall direct.

Upon motion made,

*Resolved*, That all Vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and cargoes, belonging to inhabitants of *Great Britain*, as aforesaid, and all Vessels which may be employed in carrying supplies to the Ministerial armies, which shall happen to be taken near the shores of any of these Colonies, by the people of the country or detachments from the Army, shall be deemed lawful prize; and the Court of Admiralty within the said Colony is required, on condemnation thereof, to adjudge that all charges and expenses which may attend the capture and trial, be first paid out of the moneys arising from the sales of the prize, and the remainder equally divided among all those who shall have been actually engaged and employed in taking the said prize: *Provided*, That where any detachment of the Army shall have been employed as aforesaid, their part of the prize-money shall be distributed among them in proportion to the pay of the officers and soldiers so employed.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to draw up a Declaration, pursuant to the Report of the Committee, and lay the same before Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

*Resolved*, That it be an instruction to said Committee to receive and insert a clause or clauses, that "all seamen and mariners on board of merchant-ships and vessels, taken and condemned as prizes, shall be entitled to their pay, according to the terms of their contracts, until the time of condemnation."

The Committee to whom the Letters and Queries from Mr. *Mease* were referred, brought in their Report; which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Whipple* be appointed a Member of the Marine Committee, and of the Committee for receiving the applications and examining the qualifications of gentlemen applying for offices in the Continental service.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington*, of the 14th and 26th of *February* last, and the Letter from Lord *Stirling*, of the 25th of the same month, were referred, brought in their Report, which was read; and the same being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the first part thereof be recommitted.

*Resolved*, That the value of the Passage-boat *York* be made good to *Michael Kearney*, Jun., the owner thereof, it appearing that she was impressed into the Continental service, and employed in taking the Ship *Blue-Mountain Valley*, and, for that reason, afterwards seized and detained by order of Captain *Parker*, Commander of the *British* ship-of-war *Phenix*; and that Lord *Stirling* be desired to appoint proper persons to value the said boat, and report such valuation to Congress.

*Resolved*, That a Member be elected for the Secret Committee, in the room of Mr. *Bartlett*, who is absent.

The ballots being taken and examined, Mr. *R. H. Lee* was elected.

Adjourned till ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Wednesday, March 20, 1776.

A Letter from Lord *Stirling*, of the 16th, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That three Members be elected for the Committee appointed to consider the propriety of a War Office, in the room of three who are necessarily absent by reason of sickness.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Johnson*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3,000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Magaw*, for the purpose of purchasing Fire-Arms for his Battalion, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Magaw* be directed to have a Pike or Spear made, and to lay the same before Congress, with an account of the cost.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Instructions and Commission to the Deputies or Commissioners appointed to go to *Canada*; which being debated by paragraphs, were agreed to, as follows:

#### *Instructions, &c.*

GENTLEMEN: You are, with all convenient despatch, to repair to *Canada*, and make known to the people of that country the wishes and intentions of the Congress with respect to them.

Represent to them that the arms of the United Colonies, having been carried into that Province for the purpose of frustrating the designs of the *British* Court against our common liberties, we expect not only to defeat the hostile machinations of Governor *Carleton* against us, but that we shall put it into the power of our *Canadian* brethren to pursue such measures for securing their own freedom and happiness, as a generous love of liberty and sound policy shall dictate to them.

Inform them that, in our judgment, their interests and ours are inseparably united; that it is impossible we can be reduced to a servile submission to *Great Britain* without their sharing our fate; and, on the other hand, if we shall obtain,

as we doubt not we shall, a full establishment of our rights, it depends wholly on their choice whether they will participate with us in those blessings, or still remain subject to every act of tyranny which *British* Ministers shall please to exercise over them. Urge all such arguments as your prudence shall suggest, to enforce our opinion concerning the mutual interest of the two countries, and to convince them of the impossibility of the war being concluded to the disadvantage of these Colonies, if we wisely and vigorously co-operate with each other.

To convince them of the uprightness of our intentions towards them, you are to declare, that it is our inclination that the people of *Canada* may set up such a form of Government as will be most likely, in their judgment, to produce their happiness; and you are, in the strongest terms, to assure them, that it is our earnest desire to adopt them into our Union, as a sister Colony, and to secure the same general system of mild and equal laws for them and for ourselves, with only such local differences as may be agreeable to each Colony respectively.

Assure the people of *Canada* that we have no apprehension that the *French* will take any part with *Great Britain*; but that it is their interest, and we have reason to believe their inclination, to cultivate a friendly intercourse with these Colonies.

You are from this, and such other reasons as may appear most proper, to urge the necessity the people are under of immediately taking some decisive step, to put themselves under the protection of the United Colonies. For expediting such a measure, you are to explain to them our method of collecting the sense of the people, and conducting our affairs regularly by Committees of Observation and Inspection in the several districts, and by Conventions and Committees of Safety in the several Colonies. Recommend these modes to them. Explain to them the nature and principles of Government among freemen; developing, in contrast to these, the base, cruel, and insidious designs involved in the late act of Parliament for making a more effectual provision for the government of the Province of *Quebeck*. Endeavour to stimulate them, by motives of glory as well as interest, to assume a part in a contest by which they must be deeply affected, and to aspire to a portion of that power by which they are ruled, and not to remain the mere spoils and prey of conquerors and lords.

You are further to declare, that we hold sacred the rights of conscience, and may promise to the whole people, solemnly in our name, the free and undisturbed exercise of their religion; and, to the clergy, the full, perfect, and peaceable possession and enjoyment of all their estates; that the government of everything relating to their religion and clergy shall be left entirely in the hands of the good people of that Province, and such Legislature as they shall constitute; provided, however, that all other denominations of Christians be equally entitled to hold offices, and enjoy civil privileges, and the free exercise of their religion, and be totally exempt from the payment of any tithes or taxes for the support of any religion.

Inform them that you are vested, by this Congress, with full powers to effect these purposes; and, therefore, press them to have a complete representation of the people assembled in Convention, with all possible expedition, to deliberate concerning the establishment of a form of Government, and a union with the United Colonies. As to the terms of the union, insist on the propriety of their being similar to those on which the other Colonies unite. Should they object to this, report to this Congress the objections, and the terms on which alone they will come into our Union. Should they agree to our terms, you are to promise, in the names of the United Colonies, that we will defend and protect the people of *Canada* against all enemies, in the same manner as we will defend and protect any of the United Colonies.

You are to establish a free press, and to give directions for the frequent publication of such pieces as may be of service to the cause of the United Colonies.

You are to settle all disputes between the *Canadians* and the Continental Troops, and to make such regulations relating thereto, as you shall judge proper.

You are to make strict and impartial inquiry into the cause of the imprisonment of Colonel *Du Fee*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Nesfeu*, Major *St. George Du Pree*, and Major *Gray*, officers of the Militia, and of *John Fraser*, Esquire, late a

Judge of the Police at *Montreal*, and take such orders concerning them as you shall judge most proper.

In reforming any abuses you may observe in *Canada*, establishing and enforcing regulations for preservation of peace and good order there, and composing differences between the Troops of the United Colonies and the *Canadians*, all officers and soldiers are required to yield obedience to you; and, to enforce the decisions that you or any two of you may make, you are empowered to suspend any military officer from the exercise of his commission, till the pleasure of the Congress shall be known, if you, or any two of you shall think it expedient.

You are also empowered to sit and vote as members of Councils of War, in directing fortifications and defences to be made, or to be demolished, by land or by water; and to draw orders on the President for any sums of money, not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars in the whole, to defray the expense of the works.

Lastly, you are, by all the means you can use, to promote the execution of the resolutions now made, or hereafter to be made, in Congress.

On motion made, *Resolved*, That the following additional Instructions be given to the Commissioners aforesaid:

You are empowered and directed to promote and encourage the trade of *Canada* with the *Indian* nations, and to grant passports for the carrying it on as far as it may consist with the safety of the troops, and the publick good.

You are also directed and authorized to assure the inhabitants of *Canada*, that their commerce with foreign nations shall, in all respects, be put upon an equal footing with, and encouraged and protected in the same manner, as the trade of the United Colonies.

You are also directed to use every wise and prudent measure to introduce and give credit and circulation to the Continental money in *Canada*.

In case the former resolution of Congress respecting the *English American* Troops in *Canada* has not been carried into effect, you are directed to use your best endeavours for forming a battalion of the *New-York* Troops in that country, and to appoint the Field and other officers out of the gentlemen who have continued there during the campaign, according to their respective ranks and merit; and, if it should be found impracticable, you are to direct such of them as are provided for in the four battalions now raising in *New-York*, to repair to their respective corps. To enable you to carry this resolution into effect, you are furnished with blank commissions, signed by the President.

*Resolved*, That the Memorial from the *Indian* Traders, residing at *Montreal*, be delivered to the Commissioners going to *Canada*.

The draft of the Commission being taken into consideration, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, as follows:

The Delegates of the United Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, &c., to *Benjamin Franklin*, LL. D., Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at *Paris*, F. F. S. &c., &c., one of the Delegates of the Colony of *Pennsylvania*; *Samuel Chase*, Esq., one of the Delegates of the Colony of *Maryland*, and *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, of the said Colony of *Maryland*, Esq., greeting:

Know ye, That we, reposing special trust and confidence in your zeal, fidelity, abilities, and assiduity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, or any two of you, Commissioners for and on behalf of us, and all the people of the United Colonies, whom we represent, to promote, or to form a union between the said Colonies and the people of *Canada*, according to the instructions herewith delivered you, and such as you may hereafter receive; and to execute all such matters and things as you are or shall be directed by your said instructions; and we do require all officers, soldiers, and others, who may facilitate your negotiation, or promote the success thereof, to aid and assist you therein; and you are from time to time to transmit and report your proceedings to Congress. This Commission to continue in force till revoked by this or a future Congress.

Dated at *Philadelphia*, this . . . . . day of . . . . .

By order of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Adams*, and Mr. *Chase*, be appointed to confer with Mr. *Wrixon*, to examine into his military abilities, and inquire whether he is willing to

engage in the service of the United Colonies, and report to Congress.

Colonel *St. Clair* having informed Congress that *Michael Hufnagel*, appointed a First Lieutenant, and *James O'Hara* and *Abel Morris*, appointed Ensigns in his Battalion, have declined to accept their Commissions, the Committee on Qualifications recommended *Thomas Butler* in the room of *M. Hufnagel*, *George McCulloch* in the room of *James O'Hara*, and *George Ross* in the room of *Abel Morris*.

*Resolved*, That Commissions be granted accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of the Colony of *New-Jersey* be desired to remove the Prisoners from *Trenton*, to such place or places in that Colony as may be thought convenient, at a proper distance from the sea and post-roads, subject to the regulations formerly made respecting Prisoners.

*Resolved*, That all Officers, prisoners, who shall refuse to subscribe the Parole ordered by Congress, be committed to Prison.

The Committee appointed to promote the making of Muskets, &c., to whom part of Colonel *Dayton's* Letter respecting the quality of the Arms taken by Colonel *Heard*, on *Long-Island*, was referred, brought in their Report, which was read; whereupon, the Congress came to the following Resolution:

Whereas in the execution of the resolve of Congress of the 14th of *March*, respecting the disarming of disaffected persons, many Fire-Arms may be taken which may not be fit to arm any of the Troops mentioned therein:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That all the Fire-Arms so taken, being appraised according to said resolve, none of them shall be paid for but those that are fit for the use of such Troops, or that may conveniently be so made, and the remainder shall be safely kept by the said Assemblies, Conventions, Councils or Committees of Safety, for the owners, to be delivered to them when the Congress shall direct.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing Resolution be published.

The Committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the Army in *Canada* with Provisions and necessaries, brought in their Report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

A Petition of *John Secord* was presented to Congress and read, and the consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was deferred till to-morrow.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

To *Abraham Hunt*, for Provisions, Fire-wood, &c., to the Prisoners at *Trenton*, and for Horse-hire for the publick service, the sum of 607.6 Dollars;

To *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq., for necessaries furnished the Rifle Companies, the sum of 129.7 Dollars, of which sum, 44.3 Dollars are to be charged to Captain *Hendricks*, and 65 dollars to Captain *Chambers*;

To sundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to one of the Rifle Companies, the sum of 122.5 Dollars, of which sum 101.4 Dollars, being for Rifles, &c., furnished to Captain *Cluggage's* Company, to be charged to said Company; the amount of the certificates to be paid to *Bernard Dougherty*, Esq.;

To *William Bauseman*, for Provisions, &c., furnished the Prisoners in *Lancaster*, the sum of 1528.8 Dollars;

To the Committee of *Frederick*, the sum of 52.7 Dollars, to be paid to *Thomas Johnson*, Esq.;

To *Francis Lee*, for four hundred and eighty-three Meals dieting of General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 43.3 Dollars;

To *Conrad Ulster*, for one hundred and eighty-five Meals dieting the said men, 19 Dollars;

To *Mary Bryant*, for two hundred and eighty-eight Meals dieting the said men, 28 Dollars;

To *Ann Todd*, for one hundred and fifty-eight Meals dieting the said men, the sum of 15.8 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the above Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, March 21, 1776.

A Letter of the 7th, from General *Schuyler*, with a Return of the Forces before *Quebeck*, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee to whom

the former Letters from the General were committed, viz : Mr. Wythe, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. S. Adams.

*Resolved*, That General Washington be directed to send an account of the Troops in his Camp, who are deficient in Arms, to the several Assemblies or Conventions of the Colonies to which those men belong; and request them to send a sufficient number of Arms for the men coming from the respective Colonies, and that if Arms cannot be procured, such as have not Arms be dismissed the service.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania be requested to employ some trusty persons in each County, to purchase as many good Muskets as will be sufficient to arm the Battalions raised in said Colony; and that they exert their utmost diligence in procuring the said Arms speedily, and on the most reasonable terms; that an order for 12,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of said Committee, to pay for the Arms, the said Committee to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 600 Dollars be sent to Colonel Charles Stewart, and that he be desired to muster Captain Woolverton's Company, and when he finds them properly armed, accoutred, and ready to march, to furnish them with necessaries, and to expedite their march to New-York, agreeable to the orders of Congress; Mr. Stewart to be accountable for the money put into his hands.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur le Chevalier de St. Aulaire be permitted to raise an Independent Company of Rangers in Canada, with the pay of a Captain; or, in case he shall not be able to raise such a Company, that he be recommended to the commanding officer in Canada, to be employed in such service there as may be thought suitable to his genius and ability.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, and Committees of Correspondence and Inspection, that they exert their utmost endeavours to promote the culture of Hemp, Flax, and Cotton, and the growth of Wool, in these United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the said Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, that they take the earliest measures for erecting and establishing, in each and every Colony, a Society for the improvement of Agriculture, Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, and to maintain a Correspondence between such Societies, that the rich and numerous natural advantages of this country, for supporting its inhabitants, may not be neglected.

That it be recommended to the said Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety, that they forthwith consider of ways and means of introducing the manufactures of Duck and Sail Cloth, and Steel, into such Colonies where they are not now understood, and of encouraging, increasing and improving them where they are.

*Ordered*, That the last three Resolutions be published.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to superintend the Printing the Journals of Congress; and that, if the present Printer cannot execute the work with sufficient expedition, they be empowered to employ another Printer.

The Members chosen, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Allen.

Colonel Magaw, agreeable to the Order of yesterday, sent to Congress two samples of Spears.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, March 22, 1776.

A Letter of the 13th, from General Washington, enclosing the Proceedings of a Council of War; also, a Letter from Lord Stirling, of the 19th, were laid before Congress, and read.

A Petition from Thorowgood Smith, and others, was presented to Congress, and read, setting forth, that they have procured a Vessel, and raised money to fit her out as a Privateer, in order to cruise and guard the Coast of Virginia, and praying that a Commission be granted to William Shippen, to whom they propose to give the command of said Vessel; and further, that the Congress will grant them a small quantity of Powder, upon their making satisfaction for the same:

*Resolved*, That a Commission be granted to William Shippen, as Captain of the above-mentioned Vessel, for the purposes aforesaid.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell Captain William Shippen three hundred pounds of Powder, for the use of his Vessel.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Declaration pursuant to certain Resolutions, brought in a draft; which was read.

*Resolved*, That the Petition of John Secord be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. Penn, Mr. E. Rutledge, and Mr. Jay.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

On account of expenses in conveying Powder, the sum of 8.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to John Morton, Esquire;

To Matthias Slough, for Provisions furnished the Prisoners in Lancaster, the sum of 226.8 Dollars;

To Ephraim Blaine, for sundry articles omitted in the account of expenses at the Treaty held with the Indians at Fort-Pitt, the sum of 90.5 Dollars;

To sundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to Captain Stevenson's Company in Virginia, the sum of 58.3 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to Timothy Matlack, of which 14.7 Dollars, being for a Rifle, to be charged to Captain Stevenson.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 750 Dollars be advanced to the Baron De Woodtke, he to be accountable out of his pay.

*Resolved*, That the rank of all such Officers in the Continental Army as held similar Commissions in that service before the term of their late appointment expired, be settled by the dates of their former, and not their present Commissions.

The Assembly of the Counties on Delaware, having recommended a gentleman to be Major of the Battalion ordered to be raised in that Colony, in the room of John Macpherson, Jun., Esquire, who fell before Quebec, and never received his Commission, the Congress proceeded to the election; and the ballots being taken and examined,

Thomas McDonough was elected.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 12,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of the Committee of Safety of Delaware Government, for the use of the Battalion raised in that Colony, the said Committee to be accountable.

The Congress took into consideration the Declaration brought in by the Committee; and, after debate, the further consideration thereof, at the request of a Colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary publish the substance of the Letters received from the Camp at Cambridge.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be empowered to dispose of the Coal on board of the Blue-Mountain Valley, in such manner as they shall judge most for the benefit of the United Colonies.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, March 23, 1776.

A Letter from James Young was laid before Congress, and read, requesting that his son John, who eloped from him last January, and got on board the *Phoenix* ship-of-war, but is now fortunately a Prisoner in New-York, may be permitted, on his parole, to reside at the estate of his late grandfather, Doctor Grame:

*Resolved*, That Mr. Young's request be granted.

A Letter from Lord Stirling, of the 18th, enclosing a Letter from William De Hart, and a Letter from the Captains and Subalterns of the First New-Jersey Battalion; also, a Memorial from Thomas Scott, of Hunterdon, desiring that he may be appointed a Captain of a Company of Rangers; and a Letter from S. Badlam, were laid before Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That the said Letters be referred to the Committee on Qualifications.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 30,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Thomas Lowry*, Commissary, for the use of the *New-Jersey* Battalions, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 2700 Dollars be advanced to Mr. *T. McKean*, he to get the same exchanged for specie, and pay the same into the Treasury.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended *Peter Scull* to be a Brigade-Major in the Army of the United Colonies, in the Middle Department;

*Joseph Davenport* to be a Captain, in the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion, in the room of Mr. *Scull*;

*Evan Edwards* to be a Captain in said Battalion, in the room of Mr. *Alice*, who has resigned;

*William Tilton* to be a First Lieutenant in said Battalion, in the room of *Evan Edward*;

*Garret Steddiford* to be an Ensign in the said Battalion;

And having also recommended the following persons for Colonel *Irvine's* Battalion, viz:

*Robert Wilson* to be a First Lieutenant, in the room of *William McClelland*, resigned;

*John Alexander* to be a First Lieutenant, in the room of *Robert White*, resigned;

*Andrew Irvine* to be a Second Lieutenant, in the room of *John Alexander*;

—— *Neeper*, an Ensign in the room of *John Murray*, who has resigned;

*Resolved*, That Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3200 Dollars, in specie, be advanced to Mr. *Cole*, to be by him delivered to the Commanding Officer in *Canada*, for the service of the Continent, and that he be desired to proceed thither immediately.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. *Jonathan Potts*, for attendance on the Second and Fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalions, the sum of 67.6 Dollars;

To Colonel *Nathaniel Heard*, for expenses in the expedition against the Tories on *Long-Island*, the sum of 2161.6 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Declaration; which was agreed to, as follows:

Whereas the Petitions of the United Colonies to the King, for the redress of great and manifest grievances, have not only been rejected, but treated with scorn and contempt, and the opposition to designs evidently formed to reduce them to a state of servile subjection, and their necessary defence against the hostile forces actually employed to subdue them, declared rebellion: And whereas an unjust war hath been commenced against them, which the commanders of the *British* fleets and armies have prosecuted, and still continue to prosecute, with their utmost vigour, and in a cruel manner, wasting, spoiling, and destroying the country, burning houses and defenceless towns, and exposing the helpless inhabitants to every misery from the inclemency of the winter, and not only urging Savages to invade the country, but instigating *Negroes* to murder their masters: And whereas the Parliament of *Great Britain* hath lately passed an act, affirming these Colonies to be in open rebellion, forbidding all trade and commerce with the inhabitants thereof, until they shall accept pardons, and submit to despotick rule, declaring their property, wherever found upon the water, liable to seizure and confiscation, and enacting, that what had been done there by virtue of the Royal authority were just and lawful acts, and shall be so deemed; from all which, it is manifest that the iniquitous scheme concerted to deprive them of the liberty they have a right to by the laws of Nature and the *English* Constitution, will be pertinaciously pursued: It being therefore necessary to provide for their defence and security, and justifiable to make reprisals upon their enemies, and otherwise to annoy them, according to the laws and usages of nations, the Congress, trusting that such of their friends in *Great Britain* (of whom, it is confessed, there are many entitled to applause and gratitude for their patriotism and benevolence, and in whose favour a discrimination of property cannot be made) as shall suffer by captures, will impute it to the authors of our common calamities, do declare and resolve, as followeth, to wit:

*Resolved*, That the inhabitants of these Colonies be per-

mitted to fit out Armed Vessels to cruise on the enemies of these United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That all Ships and other Vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and all goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant or inhabitants of *Great Britain*, taken on the high seas, or between high and low water mark, by any Armed Vessel, fitted out by any private person or persons, and to whom commissions shall be granted, and being libelled and prosecuted in any Court erected for the trial of maritime affairs, in any of these Colonies, shall be deemed and adjudged to be lawful prize; and, after deducting and paying the wages which the seamen and mariners on board of such captures as are merchant ships and vessels shall be entitled to, according to the terms of their contracts, until the time of the adjudication, shall be condemned to and for the use of the owner or owners, and the officers, marines, and mariners of such Armed Vessel, according to such rules and proportions as they shall agree on: *Provided, always*, That this resolution shall not extend to any vessel bringing settlers, arms, ammunition, or warlike stores to and for the use of these Colonies, or any of the inhabitants thereof, who are friends to the *American* cause, or to such warlike stores, or to the effects of such settlers.

*Resolved*, That all Ships or Vessels, with their tackle, apparel and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitant of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any of the Vessels-of-War of these United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited; one-third, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and marines as aforesaid, to the officers and men on board, and two-thirds to the use of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That all Ships or Vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandises, belonging to any inhabitants of *Great Britain* as aforesaid, which shall be taken by any Vessel of War fitted out by and at the expense of any of the United Colonies, shall be deemed forfeited, and divided, after deducting and paying the wages of seamen and mariners, as aforesaid, in such manner and proportions as the Assembly or Convention of such Colony shall direct.

*Resolved*, That all Vessels, with their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and cargoes, belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, as aforesaid, and all Vessels which may be employed in carrying supplies to the Ministerial armies, which shall happen to be taken near the shores of any of these Colonies, by the people of the country, or detachments from the Army, shall be deemed lawful prize; and the Court of Admiralty within the said Colony is required, on condemnation thereof, to adjudge that all charges and expenses which may attend the capture and trial be first paid out of the moneys arising from the sales of the prize, and the remainder equally divided among all those who shall have been actually engaged and employed in taking the said prize. *Provided*, That where any detachments of the Army shall have been employed as aforesaid, their part of the prize-money shall be distributed among them in proportion to the pay of the officers and soldiers so employed.

*Resolved*, That the foregoing Resolution be published.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of five be appointed to consider of the fortifying one or more Ports on the *American* coast, in the strongest manner, for the protection of our Cruisers, and the reception of their Prizes; that they take the opinion of the best Engineers on the manner and expense, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *R. Morris*, and Mr. *Whipple*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners appointed to go to *Canada*, or any two of them, be empowered, if they think it necessary for the service of the United Colonies, to raise a number of Independent Companies, not exceeding six, and to appoint the Officers; that they also be empowered to fill up all vacancies that may happen in the Army of the United Colonies in *Canada*, while they are there.

*Resolved*, That 1066 $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars, in Continental money, over and above the 1600 Dollars to be paid them in specie, be advanced to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, to defray their expenses, they to render an account.

*Resolved*, That 400 Dollars, in specie, be paid to Mr. *Walker*, in full for so much by him lent to General *Wapster*.



for the use of the Army in *Canada*; and that General *Wooster's* note be taken up and cancelled.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies; and that sundry motions offered by the Members from *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Maryland*, and *Virginia*, be referred to said Committee.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, March 25, 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress, and read:

One from General *Washington*, of the 19th, wherein he informs Congress that, on the 17th, the enemy evacuated *Boston*, and our Troops took possession of it;

One from General *Schuyler*, of the 12th;

One from Lord *Stirling*, of the 21st; and

One from the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Congress, in their own name, and in the name of the Thirteen United Colonies, whom they represent, be presented to his Excellency General *Washington*, and the Officers and Soldiers under his command, for their wise and spirited conduct in the siege and acquisition of *Boston*; and that a Medal of gold be struck in commemoration of this great event, and presented to his Excellency; and that a Committee of three be appointed to prepare a letter of thanks, and a proper device for the Medal.

The Members chosen, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Hopkins*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr. *Dugan* and Colonel *Ritzema*,

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Mr. *Allen*.

*Resolved*, That 20,000 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *Virginia*, for the use of the Battalions in that Colony; the said Delegates to account for the expenditure thereof.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the Southern Department, brought in their Report, which was read, as follows:

That it appears highly probable that a very considerable force will be exerted in that department by our enemies early in the spring; that the Continental forces employed in *South-Carolina* and *Virginia*, respectively, cannot prudently be solely relied on for the defence of those Colonies; that notwithstanding *South-Carolina* and *Virginia* are at a very great separate expense in armed vessels, rendered absolutely necessary by the situation and circumstances of those countries; that the Militia of *South-Carolina* are obliged to perform a very laborious duty, which, from the smallness of their number, and the consequent quick rotation, is excessively burdensome; and that the Colony of *Virginia*, in addition to the six Continental Battalions already there, have resolved to raise, and are now embodying, three other Battalions.

Whereupon the Congress came to the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Convention or Council of Safety of *South-Carolina* be permitted to raise and embody two other Battalions, and that they be on the pay and at the expense of the Continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered.

That the three Colonial Battalions of *Virginia* be also on the pay and at the expense of the Continent, as soon as they shall be armed fit for service, and accordingly mustered.

The Committee aforesaid further reported: That the Council of Safety of *Virginia* hath contracted for the subsistence of the Third Battalion in that Colony, at six Pence half-Penny a ration; of the Fifth, at eight Pence; and of the Second, Fourth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth, at seven Pence half-Penny a ration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That those Contracts be confirmed.

*Resolved*, That a Deputy Mustermaster-General be appointed for the Southern Department.

The ballots being taken and examined, *Edmund Randolph*, Esquire, was elected.

*Resolved*, That *E. Randolph*, Esq., be empowered to appoint two Deputy Mustermasters under him; one for *North-Carolina*, and the other for *South-Carolina* and *Georgia*.

*Resolved*, That the Order of the Day be postponed.

The Congress then took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the ways and means of supplying the Troops in *Canada* with Provisions and necessaries.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Schuyler* be directed to take such order respecting the supplies of Provisions necessary for the Troops in *Canada*, as he may deem expedient.

The Congress, being of opinion that the reduction of *Quebeck*, and the general security of the Province of *Canada*, are objects of great concern,

*Ordered*, That General *Washington* be directed to detach four Battalions into *Canada*, from the Army under his command, as soon as he shall be of opinion that the safety of *New-York* and the Eastern service will permit.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, March 26, 1776.

The Congress being informed that Mr. *Ward*, one of the Delegates of *Rhode-Island*, departed this life yesterday,

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, in a body, attend the Funeral of Mr. *Ward*, to-morrow, with a Crape round the arm; and that the Congress continue in mourning for the space of one month.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Hopkins*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *Wolcott*, be a Committee to superintend the Funeral; and that they be directed to apply to the Reverend Mr. *Stillman*, and request him to preach a Funeral Sermon on the occasion.

That the said Committee be directed to invite the Assembly and Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and other publick bodies in *Philadelphia*, to attend the Funeral.

*Resolved*, That the Privates of the Companies ordered from *Maryland* to *Accomack* and *Northampton*, in the Southern Department, be allowed the pay of the Privates in that department, which is 6 $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars per calendar month.

*Resolved*, That if the Convention or Council of Safety of *North-Carolina* shall judge it necessary for the common safety to raise one or two more Battalions, the same, when armed, fit for service, and mustered, be taken into the pay of the Continent.

*Resolved*, That an Order be sent to Commodore *Dougllass* immediately to repair to the Lakes, and take the command of the Vessels on that station.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Thursday*.

Thursday, March 28, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *William Barrel*, of *Philadelphia*, for the sum of 20,000 Dollars, in full for Tent-Cloth, sent by him to Colonel *Mifflin*, for the use of the Army under the command of General *Washington*; the money being paid in consequence of the General's Letter of the 13th; to be charged to the Account of the General.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be empowered to purchase, on the most reasonable terms they can, the Ship *Molly*, for the use of the Continent, and to fit her out, with all possible expedition, to join Captain *Barry*, on his cruise along the Coast, between *New-York* and *Virginia*.

A Memorial of Mr. *Thomas Walker* was presented to Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

Two Letters, of the 27th, from the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, were read.

*Resolved*, That the President return an Answer, and inform the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey* that the Congress see no reason to alter or countermand the Requisition of the 15th, and that, therefore, they be requested to expedite the march of the Troops to *New-York*, agreeable to the Requisition of the commanding officer.

The Congress proceeded to the election of a Colonel of the Third Battalion, ordered to be raised in the Colony of *New-York*; and, the ballots being taken, *Rudolphus Ritzema* was elected.

The Committee appointed to confer with Colonel *Ritzema* and Mr. *Dugan*, brought in their Report; which was read.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *Jeremiah Dugan*, as a reward for his services in *Canada*.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Jeremiah Dugan* be appointed a Major, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, to command a body of three hundred Rangers.

That the said Rangers be divided into three Companies, each to consist of one hundred men, and to be commanded by a Captain and two Lieutenants; that the Captains and Lieutenants be recommended by Lieutenant-Colonel *Dugan* to the Commissioners going to *Canada*, for their approbation; and that, if they approve the gentlemen recommended, they grant them Commissions.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *William Finney* be appointed a Deputy Quartermaster in the Southern Department.

*Resolved*, That two Engineers be employed for the Southern Department.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *James Mease* for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

Information being given to Congress that some Prisoners in the Jail of *Philadelphia* have meditated an escape, and are near carrying their plan into execution,

*Resolved*, That the Jailer be directed to confine *John Connolly*, *J. Smith*, and *Moses Kirkland*, in separate apartments, and suffer no person to converse with any of them, without special orders of Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia* be directed by Mr. *McKean*, to call to his assistance a guard of fifty men from the Barracks for the defence of the Jail; and that the Sheriff be further directed to keep secret any intimation given him of a design to rescue his Prisoners, and to employ every means to discover and apprehend those concerned in such design.

*Resolved*, That an Order for one thousand Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mr. *Samuel Fairlamb*, for the use of the Fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, he to be accountable.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, March 29, 1776.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress, and read:

Two from General *Schuyler*, of the 19th and 21st, with a copy of the Treaty held with the *Indians* at *Albany*, &c.;

One from the Convention of *New-York*, of the 26th;

One from *Allan McDonald*.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from *Allan McDonald* be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

That the other Letters, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Mr. *William Henry & Co.* fifteen pounds of Powder, to prove the Muskets he has contracted to make for the Continent.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the means of supplying the Troops in *Canada*:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That a Deputy Commissary-General of Stores and Provisions be appointed for the Army of the United Colonies in *Canada*.

The ballots being taken and examined, Mr. *J. Price* was elected.

*Resolved*, That the last paragraph of the Report be re-committed, and that the Committee be empowered to confer with such persons as they judge proper on the subject, and report to Congress as soon as conveniently they can.

A Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, and one from Captain *John Macpherson*, were received, and read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, March 30, 1776.

*Resolved*, That sixty Dollars be advanced to Monsieur *Arundel*, to be deducted out of his pay, and that he be directed immediately to repair to the Southern Department, and put himself under the command of General *Lee*.

*Resolved*, That Monsieur *Dechambault* and his companion be permitted to come to *Philadelphia* and transact some private business, and then return to *Bristol*.

The Congress proceeded to the election of two Engineers for the Southern Department; and the ballots being taken, *John Stadler* and Monsieur *Massenbach* were elected.

The Congress took into consideration the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*; and thereupon

*Resolved*, That the Minute-men employed by Congress under the command of Colonel *Heard*, in the expedition to *Long-Island*, be allowed, while on that service, the same pay and rations as the Continental Troops in the Middle Department.

*Resolved*, That the Delegates for *New-York* be directed to prepare an Answer to the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, and assign the reasons of the foregoing resolution.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To *William Trickett* for Stationery for the publick service, the sum of 41.7 Dollars.

To *Philip Apricht* for Provisions to General *Lee's* guard, the sum of 4.7 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to *Adam Kimmel*.

To sundries, on certificates for necessaries furnished to the Rifle Companies, the sum of 44.2 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Matthias Slough*, Esquire; and that 2.5 Dollars, part of said sum, be charged to Captain *Cresap's* Company.

To sundries, on certificates for Rifles, Shirts, &c., furnished to Captain *Cluggage's* Company, the sum of 81.1 Dollars, which ought to be paid to *John Montgomery*, Esquire, and charged to said Company.

To *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster, on an account now settled, the sum of 409.3 Dollars.

To *Sacheverel Wood*, for Provisions furnished by him to several Prisoners now in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, the sum of 137.6 Dollars.

To *Thomas Dewees*, for Provisions for *Connolly*, *Cameron*, *Smith*, and *Kirkland*, the sum of 57.8 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee appointed to confer with Major *Wrixon*, brought in their Report; which was read.

*Resolved*, That each Regimental Surgeon be allowed a Mate.

*Resolved*, That the pay of a Surgeon's Mate be eighteen Dollars per month.

*Resolved*, That suitable Chirurgical Instruments be purchased with each Medicine-Chest.

*Resolved*, That the quantity and value of the Instruments be postponed to *Monday* next.

*Resolved*, That each Brigadier-General, when on command, be empowered to appoint a Brigade-Major.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, April 1, 1776.

*Resolved*, That Captain *D. Arundel* be allowed 48.5 Dollars, in full for pay and subsistence of a Captain, from the 8th of *February*, the time he was recommended to General *Schuyler*, to the 19th of *March*, when he received his Commission.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *J. Mease*, Commissary, be directed to advance Captain *Romans* one month's pay for himself and the officers and men of his Company, and also subsistence money to *Albany*.

The Committee to whom the application of Captain *White-Eyes* was referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That the same be referred for consideration till to-morrow.

The Congress having, on the 17th of *February* last, appointed a Standing Committee for superintending the Treasury, with power, among other things, to employ and instruct proper persons for liquidating the publick accounts; and the said resolutions not being sufficiently explicit, with respect to the manner and place of settling those accounts, and it being a matter of great consequence that the publick accounts should be regularly stated and kept, and justly liquidated and settled:

*Resolved therefore*, That a Treasury Office of Accounts shall be instituted and established, and that such office shall be kept in the city or place where Congress shall, from time to time, be assembled and hold their sessions.

That the said Office of Accounts be under the direction and superintendence of the Standing Committee for the Treasury.

That an Auditor-General, and a competent number of Assistants and Clerks, be appointed by Congress, and employed for stating, arranging, and keeping the publick Accounts.

That all accounts and claims against the United Colonies for services or supplies, where the rates or prices have not been ascertained by Congress, shall be presented to the Committee of Claims, liquidated by them, and reported to and allowed by Congress, previous to their being passed and entered at the Treasury Office; that all other accounts and claims, consisting of articles the price or value of which shall have previously been fixed by contract, or otherwise ascertained by Congress, shall be liquidated and settled at the Treasury Office, and reported for the allowance of Congress, by the Committee for superintending the Treasury, and then passed and entered at the Treasury Office.

That all contracts, securities, and obligations, for the use and benefit of the United Colonies, shall be lodged and kept in the Treasury Office of Accounts; and that all persons to whom publick moneys have been or shall be advanced or paid, shall be charged with the same in the books of the said office; for which purpose every warrant on the Treasury, which shall issue after the said office shall be opened, shall, previous to its being paid, be entered at the Treasury Office, and the entry certified on the warrant, by one of the Committee on the Treasury, the Auditor-General, or one of his Assistants or Clerks: Provided, however, That all orders or warrants issued by Committees appointed and authorized by Congress to draw on the Treasurers for particular purposes, shall be paid and charged to the account of the said Committee respectively, until they shall settle and have their accounts passed by Congress, when the debits against them shall be discharged in the Treasury Office, by such credits as Congress shall agree to and allow.

That all Assemblies, Conventions, Councils or Committees of Safety, Commissaries, Paymasters, and others, entrusted with publick moneys, shall, within a reasonable time after being called upon for that purpose by the Committee of the Treasury, produce their accounts and vouchers at the Treasury Office, in order to their being settled and adjusted in the manner before directed.

That the Committee for superintending the Treasury shall be authorized to apply to the Commanding Officers and others, in the Continental service, for such materials and information as the Committee may judge to be useful, for stating, explaining, or checking the publick accounts, in order to their being fairly and justly settled.

That the Auditor-General and his Assistants or Clerks, before entering upon their offices, shall, respectively, take an oath, to be administered by one or more of the Committee of the Treasury Office, (a certificate whereof shall be filed in the Treasury Office,) well and faithfully to execute the trust reposed in them, as Auditor, Assistant, or Clerk, (as the case may be,) of the Office of Accounts, established by Congress, according to the best of their skill and judgment, and to disclose no matter, the knowledge of which shall be acquired in consequence of such their office, which they shall be directed to keep secret.

That the Committee for superintending the Treasury shall be authorized to hire suitable places, and procure books of accounts and other necessities at the publick expense, for the establishing and doing the business of the said office.

*Resolved*, That Major *James Hewes*, a prisoner at *Elizabethtown*, be allowed and ordered to come to *Philadelphia* for the benefit of his health, and there to wait on the Committee for Prisoners, and take their directions with respect to the place of his future residence.

*Resolved*, That *Mr. McKean* and *Mr. Paine* be directed to examine the Jail of *Philadelphia*, and particularly the apartments where *Kirkland*, *Connolly*, *Smith*, and *Cameron*, are confined, and report what is necessary to be done to have them safely and securely kept.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to

confer with *James McKnight*, and examine his Account, and the nature of his claim, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, *Mr. R. Morris*, *Mr. McKean*, and *Mr. De Hart*.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended *Jacob Kemper, Jun.*, to be appointed an Ensign in Captain *Howell's* Company, in the First *New-Jersey* Battalion, in the room of *Cyprus De Hart*, who has resigned,

*Resolved*, That he be appointed, and that a Commission be granted to him accordingly.

*Resolved*, That the President, in his next Letter to General *Schuyler*, desire him to send an account of the Lead at *Ticonderoga*.

A Letter from *Alexander McDonald*, *George Gillespie*, and *J. W. Saunders*, of the 12th of *March*, was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to *Mr. R. Morris*, *Mr. McKean*, and *Mr. De Hart*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, April 2, 1776.

A Petition from *Daniel Duchemin*, praying for a Lieutenancy in the Company of Captain *D. Arundel*, being presented to Congress, and referred to the Delegates of *Virginia*, the said Delegates brought in their Report; which was read.

*Resolved*, That the same be recommitted.

That *Daniel Duchemin* be appointed a Lieutenant of the Artillery Company to be raised in *Virginia*, in consideration of the scarcity of Artillery Officers in that Colony; and that two months' pay be advanced to him to carry him to *Virginia*.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 24th of *March*, with five papers enclosed, was laid before Congress, and read.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of a Commission and Instructions to Commanders of private Ships-of-War, brought in the same; which were read.

The Commission, being agreed to, is as follows:

*Commission.*

"*The Delegates of the United Colonies of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, &c., to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:*

"Know ye, That we have granted, and by these presents do grant, license, and authority, to . . . . mariner, commander of the . . . . called . . . . of the burden of . . . . tons, or thereabouts, belonging to . . . , of . . . , in the Colony of . . . , mounting . . . carriage-guns, and navigated by . . . . men, to fit out and set forth the said . . . in a warlike manner, and by and with the said . . . . and the crew thereof, by force of arms, to attack, seize, and take the ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, or any of them, with their tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading, on the high seas, or between high and low water marks, and to bring the same to some convenient ports in the said Colonies, in order that the Courts which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes, civil and maritime, may proceed, in due form, to condemn the said captures, if they be adjudged lawful prize; the said . . . having given bond, with sufficient sureties, that nothing be done by the said . . . , or any of the officers, mariners, or company thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the usages and customs of nations, and the instructions, a copy of which is herewith delivered to him. And we will and require all our officers whatsoever to give succor and assistance to the said . . . in the premises. This commission shall continue in force until the Congress shall issue orders to the contrary.

"By order of Congress:

"Attest: . . . . . *President.*"

The Congress then took into consideration the draft of Instructions; and, after some time spent thereon,

*Resolved*, That it be recommitted, and that it be an instruction to the Committee to fill up the blanks in said draft as they shall think best.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter of Thanks to General *Washington*, and the Officers and Soldiers under his command, brought in a draft; which was read and agreed to.

*Ordered*, That it be transcribed, signed by the President, and forwarded.

The Committee on Prisoners, to whom the Letter from Monsieur *Belletre*, of the 16th of *March* last, was referred, brought in their Report; which was read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 3400 Dollars be advanced by the Treasurers to M. *Belletre*, on his delivering to them his Bills of Exchange for the like sum, payable in gold or silver, in the Province of *Canada*.

The Petition of *William Lindsay* being presented to Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That Colonel *Wayme* be directed to discharge *Robert*, the son of said *William Lindsay*, who is enlisted in his Battalion.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,  
Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

—  
Wednesday, April 3, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 24th of *March*, with the papers enclosed, be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

A Memorial and Petition from Captain *John Nelson* was presented to Congress, and read: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the sum of 1000 Dollars be advanced to Captain *Nelson* for the use of his Company, he to be accountable.

Also, a Petition from *P. Moore*, in behalf of the owners of the Sloops *Congress* and *Chance*, Privateers, was presented and read.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell said owners four hundred pounds of Powder for the use of their Privateers.

The Committee of Claims, to whom the Account of Messieurs *Price* and *Haywood* was referred, brought in their Report: Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That there be advanced to Messieurs *Price* and *Haywood* the sum of 64,358.6 Dollars, on account of supplies to the Army in *Canada*, to be accounted for on the settlement of their Accounts; and that General *Wooster* be directed to forward the Accounts and Vouchers lodged in his hands.

The said Committee further reported, that there is due,

To the Township of *Montague*, in the County of *Sussex*, in *New-Jersey*, for Sleigh-hire, in forwarding the Prisoners from *Canada*, under the command of Captain *A. E. Brasher*, the sum of 45 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Nicholas Christopher*.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

A Letter from *H. Fisher*, of *Lewistown*, to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, together with a Resolve of said Committee, being laid before Congress, was read.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer of the Battalion raised in *Delaware* Government be directed to send two Companies of said Battalion to *Lewistown*, there to remain in the service of the Continent till further orders.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed and empowered to fit out, with all expedition, two Armed Cutters, for the service of the Continent.

*Resolved*, That blank Commissions for private Ships of War and Letters of Marque and Reprisal, signed by the President, be sent to the General Assemblies, Conventions, Councils or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, to be by them filled up and delivered to the persons intending to fit out such private Ships of War for making captures of *British* Vessels and Cargoes, who shall apply for the same, and execute the Bonds which shall be sent with the said Commissions, which Bonds shall be returned to the Congress.

*Resolved*, That every person intending to set forth and fit out a private Ship or Vessel of War, and applying for a Commission or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, for that purpose, shall produce a writing subscribed by him, containing the name and tonnage or burden of the Ship or Vessel, the number of her Guns, with their weight of metal, the name and place of residence of the Owner or Owners, the names of the Commander and others Officers, the number of the Crew, and the quantity of Provisions and warlike Stores;

which writing shall be delivered to the Secretary of Congress, or to the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Convention, or Council or Committee of Safety of the Colony, in which the Ship or Vessel shall be, to be transmitted to the said Secretary, and shall be registered by him; and that the Commander of the Ship or Vessel, before the Commission, or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, may be granted, shall, together with sureties, seal and deliver a Bond, in the penalty of five thousand Dollars, if the Vessel be of one hundred tons or under, or ten thousand Dollars, if of a greater burden, payable to the President of the Congress, in trust for the use of the United Colonies, with condition in the form following, to wit:

"The condition of this obligation is such, That if the above bounden . . . . ., who is commander of the . . . . ., called . . . . ., belonging to . . . . ., of . . . . ., in the Colony of . . . . ., mounting . . . . . carriage-guns, and navigated by . . . . . men, and who hath applied for a commission, and letters of marque and reprisal, to arm, equip, and set forth to sea, the said . . . . . as a private ship-of-war, and to make captures of *British* vessels and cargoes, shall not exceed or transgress the powers and authorities which shall be contained in the said Commission, but shall, in all things, observe and conduct himself, and govern his crew, by and according to the same, and certain Instructions therewith to be delivered, and such other Instructions as may hereafter be given to him, and shall make reparation for all damages sustained by any misconduct or unwarrantable proceedings of himself, or the officers or crew of the said . . . . .; then this obligation shall be void, or else remain in force.

"Sealed and delivered in the presence of . . . . ."

Which Bond shall be lodged with the said Secretary of Congress.

The Committee to whom the Instructions to the Commanders of private Ships or Vessels of War were recommended, brought in their Report; which being taken into consideration, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, as follows:

*Instructions to the Commanders of private Ships or Vessels of War, which shall have Commissions or Letters of Marque and Reprisal, authorizing them to make captures of BRITISH Vessels and Cargoes.*

1. You may, by force of arms, attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels, belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, on the high seas, or between high water and low water marks, except ships and vessels bringing persons who intend to settle and reside in the United Colonies; or bringing arms, ammunition, or warlike stores, to the said Colonies, for the use of such inhabitants thereof as are friends to the *American* cause, which you shall suffer to pass unmolested, the commanders thereof permitting a peaceable search, and giving satisfactory information of the contents of the ladings, and destinations of the voyages.

2. You may, by force of arms, attack, subdue, and take all ships and other vessels whatsoever, carrying soldiers, arms, gunpowder, ammunition, provisions, or any other contraband goods, to any of the *British* armies or ships of war employed against these Colonies.

3. You shall bring such ships and vessels as you shall take, with their guns, rigging, tackle, apparel, furniture, and ladings, to some convenient port or ports of the United Colonies, that proceedings may thereupon be had, in due form, before the courts which are or shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes, civil and maritime.

4. You, or one of your chief officers, shall bring or send the master and pilot, and one or more principal person or persons of the company of every ship or vessel by you taken, as soon after the capture as may be, to the Judge or Judges of such court as aforesaid, to be examined upon oath, and make answer to the interrogatories which may be propounded, touching the interest or property of the ship or vessel, and her lading; and, at the same time, you shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Judge or Judges, all passes, sea-briefs, charter-parties, bills of lading, cockets, letters, and other documents and writings found on board, proving the said papers by the affidavit of yourself or of some other person, present at the capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subduction, or embezzlement.

5. You shall keep and preserve every ship or vessel and cargo, by you taken, until they shall, by a sentence of a court properly authorized, be adjudged lawful prizes; not selling, spoiling, wasting, or diminishing the same, or breaking the bulk thereof, nor suffering any such thing to be done.

6. If you, or any of your officers or crew, shall, in cold blood, kill or maim, or by torture, or otherwise, cruelly, inhumanly, and, contrary to common usage and the practice of civilized nations in war, treat any person or persons surprised in the ship or vessel you shall take, the offender shall be severely punished.

7. You shall, by all convenient opportunities, send to Congress written accounts of the captures you shall make, with the number and names of the captives; copies of your Journal from time to time; and intelligence of what may occur or be discovered concerning the designs of the enemy, and the destination, motions, and operations of their fleets and armies.

8. One-third, at least, of your whole company shall be landsmen.

9. You shall not ransom any prisoners or captives, but shall dispose of them in such manner as the Congress, or, if that be not sitting in the Colony whither they shall be brought, as the General Assembly, Convention, or Council or Committee of Safety of such Colony shall direct.

10. You shall observe all such further instructions as Congress shall hereafter give in the premises, when you shall have notice thereof.

11. If you shall do anything contrary to these instructions, or to others hereafter to be given, or willingly suffer such things to be done, you shall not only forfeit your commission, and be liable to an action for the breach of the condition of your bond, but be responsible to the party grieved for damages sustained by such malversation.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of *James Mease*, Commissary, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the pay of the Auditor of Accounts be at the rate of 1066 $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars per annum.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Trade of the United Colonies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, April 4, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Treasurers be directed to see that Colonel *Bellestre's* bills be drawn on some of his friends or correspondents in *Canada*, and not upon General *Carleton*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To *John De Hart*, for Provisions furnished by *Archibald Campbell*, the sum of 17.9 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Account be paid.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 100 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers in favour of Mons. *Le Fontaine*, for his services in *Canada*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the trade of the United Colonies; and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter referred to them, and had come to sundry Resolutions, which he was ordered to deliver in.

The Resolutions agreed to by the Committee of the whole Congress, being read,

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

The Committee to whom were referred the Memorial of *James McKnight*, and the Letter from *Alexander McDonald*, *George Gillespie*, and *J. W. Saunders*, brought in their Report, which was read. Whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the County of *Burlington* be requested to make sale of the Sloop *Sally*, whereof the said *James McKnight* was Prize-Master, and which was lately run ashore by him within the said County, together with her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo on board, at publick auction; and after deducting the charges of securing and selling the same, to pay one moiety of the surplus to the said *James*

*McKnight* for salvage, and retain the other moiety thereof for the owner or owners.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Alexander McDonald*, *George Gillespie*, and *J. W. Saunders*, who have lately come into the Colony of *New-Jersey* from the *British West-India* Islands, where, and in *Great Britain*, they have considerable property remaining, be excused from entering into the Militia of the said Colony, and from signing the Association: *Provided always*, That they be in all other respects subject to the like taxes and regulations with the other inhabitants of the said Colony.

The Committee appointed to consider the best ways and means of supplying the Army in *Canada*, brought in a further Report; which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 53 Dollars be advanced to Mons. *St. Aulaire*, to be deducted out of his pay.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Saturday*.

Saturday, April 6, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the Resolution respecting the Sloop *Sally*, passed on *Thursday* last, be reconsidered, and that it be re-committed to the same Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply Captain *Romans* with twenty-four Muskets, for the use of his Company.

*Resolved*, That the said Committee be directed to deliver to Colonel *St. Clair* six pounds of Powder and four pounds of Lead, for the use of the Rifle Company in his Battalion.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the Whole; and the same being twice read, and debated by paragraphs, was agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved*, That any Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, except staves and empty casks, other than shake nor knocked down casks for molasses, may be exported from the Thirteen United Colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the King of *Great Britain*, to any parts of the world which are not under the dominion of the said King: *Provided*, That no vessel be permitted to export any greater number of shaken or knocked down molasses casks than the same vessel is capable of carrying when they shall be filled with molasses.

*Resolved*, That any Goods, Wares, and Merchandises, except such as are of the growth, production, or manufacture of, or brought from any country under the dominion of the King of *Great Britain*, and except *East India* Tea, may be imported from any other parts of the world to the Thirteen United Colonies, by the inhabitants thereof, and by the people of all such countries as are not subject to the said King; liable, however, to all such duties and impositions as now are, or may hereafter be laid by any of the said Colonies.

*Resolved*, That nothing herein contained shall be understood to prevent such future commercial regulations as shall be thought just and necessary by these United Colonies, or their respective Legislatures.

*Resolved*, That no Slaves be imported into any of the Thirteen United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions in the several Colonies, to appoint proper officers, at convenient places in their respective Colonies, to take bonds, in adequate penalties, for observing the regulations made by the Congress or Assemblies, or Conventions, concerning Trade, and for securing the observation of such parts of the Association as are not inconsistent therewith; and that the obligor shall, within eighteen months after the departure of the vessel, produce to such officers a certificate, under the hands and seals of three or more reputable merchants, residing at the port or place where the cargo shall be delivered, that the same was there unloaded; and take manifests upon oath of the cargoes exported and imported, and keep fair accounts and entries thereof; give bills of health when desired; grant registers, showing the property of the vessels cleared out; and sign certificates that the requisites for qualifying vessels to trade have been complied with; and that the fees of the said officers be stated by the respective Assemblies or Conventions: *Provided always*, That no prosecution upon any of the said bonds shall be commenced but within three years after the date thereof



*Resolved*, That all Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, except such as are made prize of, which shall be imported directly or indirectly from *Great Britain* or *Ireland* into any of these United Colonies, contrary to the regulations established by Congress, shall be forfeited and disposed of, agreeable to such rules as shall be made by the several Assemblies or Conventions, and shall be liable to prosecution and condemnation in any court erected, or to be erected, for the determination of maritime affairs, in the Colony where the seizure shall be made.

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution for disposing of and using the Tea now in these Colonies.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *McKean*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster, for *William McCarty's* and *Richard Key's* Teams, to *Virginia* with Powder, each thirty days, and ferriages, the sum of 250.5 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Schuyler*, of the 7th and 19th, and from *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman of a Committee of the Convention of *New-York*, of the 26th of *March* last, were referred, brought in their Report,\* which, being taken into consideration,

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Albany* be desired to examine, state, and settle, the Accounts of expenses incurred in the taking of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*, which shall be laid before them by General *Schuyler*, and report the same to Congress.

*Resolved*, That *Robert Yates* be appointed Secretary to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Northern Department, and be allowed at the rate of 250 Dollars by the year.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Northern Department be desired to assure the *Indians* that Congress will do everything in their power to procure goods for them, and hope they shall soon accomplish it.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the Report be postponed.

A Letter from General *Washington*, of the 27th of *March*, and a Letter from Brigadier-General *Heath*, being received, and read,

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, with the papers enclosed, be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 100,000 Dollars be sent to *New-York*, for the use of the Army there in the service of the United Colonies.

The Committee for Prisoners brought in a Report, which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That the Delegates of *Virginia* be directed to write to their Convention, or Committee, or Council of Safety, to collect and forward to the Treasurers of the United Colonies, what Gold and Silver they can procure, and to draw on the President for the amount thereof, at the rate of eight Dollars for half-Joes, weighing nine penny-weights.

\*The Committee to whom the Letters from Major-General *Schuyler*, dated the 7th and 19th, and from *William Paulding*, Esq., Chairman of the Convention of *New-York*, dated the 26th day of *March* last, were referred, have examined the matters thereof, and come to several Resolutions thereupon, which are as followeth, viz:

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Albany* be desired to examine, state, and settle the accounts of expenses incurred in the taking of *Ticonderoga* and *Crown-Point*, which shall be laid before them by General *Schuyler*, and report the same to Congress.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that Mr. *Robert Yates* be appointed Secretary to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, in the Northern Department, and be allowed at the rate of 250 Dollars by the year.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Contract made the 16th day of *March* last, between the Committee of the Convention of *New-York* and Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, for supplying the Troops employed for the defence of that Colony, with the rations allowed by Congress, and with fuel and other necessities, be confirmed; but that the said Convention be desired to acquaint Mr. *Livingston* if he will have so much of the Contract as concerns the supplying the *Pennsylvania* Battalions serving in the said Colony, it will be for the good of the publick.

The Committee on Applications and Qualifications having recommended *Samuel Checkley* as a proper person to fill a vacancy of an Ensign in the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion:

*Ordered*, That a Commission be granted to the said *Samuel Checkley* accordingly.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Tuesday* next.

Tuesday, April 9, 1776.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 200,000 Dollars be sent to *New-York*, for the use of the Continental forces there.

A list of Prisoners brought from *Canada* by Major *Zedwitz*, and a Letter of the 4th, from *John Nelson*, Chairman of the Committee of *Brunswick*, respecting Prisoners brought to that place; also, a Letter from Colonel *Haslet*, of the *Delaware* Battalion, being laid before Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

A Letter of the 5th, from Captain *Brice*, a prisoner at *Brunswick*, was presented to Congress, and read:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Captain *Brice* be permitted to come to *Philadelphia*, in order to consult a Physician, and there wait the orders of Congress.

A Letter of the 6th of *March*, from Brigadier-General *Wooster*, and a Letter of the 26th of the same month from General *Schuyler*, were laid before Congress, and read.

The Congress proceeded to the election of an Auditor-General, and the ballots being taken and examined, *John Gibson*, Esq., was elected.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on Prisoners:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Captain *Thomas Gamble* be not exchanged, there being no cartel settled.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Duncan Campbell* be permitted to reside with his wife and family in the City of *Burlington*, in *New-Jersey*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Prisoners be directed to write to General *Schuyler*, and take his opinion whether *Allan McDonald*, and the other hostages taken in *Tryon* County, may, consistent with the publick safety, be permitted to return to their respective homes on their parole.

*Resolved*, That a list of the Prisoners of War in each Colony be made out and transmitted to the House of Assembly, Convention, Council or Committee of Safety of such Colonies respectively, and that they be authorized and requested to cause a strict observance of the terms on which such Prisoners have been enlarged, and also to take especial care that none of those confined by order of the Congress be suffered to escape; and also, that the allowance to each Prisoner be punctually paid by the President of the Convention, or of the Council or Committee of Safety of the Colony in which he resides; and where there are no Conventions, by the Speakers of Assembly, which said Presidents or Speakers are hereby authorized, from time to time, to draw for the sums advanced in pursuance of this resolution, upon the President of the Congress.

*Resolved*, That the paragraph respecting *Kirkland* be postponed.

*Resolved*, That Brigadier-General *Prescott*, upon subscribing the parole ordered, be enlarged from his present confinement.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Lewis Nicola*, for repairs done at the Old Jail in this City, fitted up for the reception of Troops, the sum of 226 Dollars;

To *Joseph Page*, for his service in attending the Powder-wagons to *Virginia*, the sum of 55 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Benjamin Harrison*, Esq.;

To *Jacob Garrigues*, for transcribing Minutes, Letters, &c., for Congress, the sum of 48.2 Dollars;

To *John Bruce*, for four hundred and two tin Cartouch-boxes, the sum of 174.2 Dollars;

To *John Armer* and *Samuel Allen*, for bringing Baggage, &c., belonging to Messrs. *Dulhant* and *Gamilli*, from *New-York* to *Philadelphia*, the sum of 21 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Samuel Allen*;

To sundry persons, for Horse-hire, Provisions, &c., in

*New-York* Government, the sum of 12.5 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *John Alsop*, Esq.;

To *Clement Biddle*, for Provisions, &c., for the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments of *British* Troops, who are Prisoners, the sum of 294 Dollars, and for Wampum for the Southern Department, the sum of 59 Dollars;

To *Ludwick Kuhn*, for boarding part of Captain *Romans's* Company of Matrosses, the sum of 59.8 Dollars;

To *William Shepherd*, for two Horses sold by him to General *Lee*, and for sundry articles of Geers, the sum of 175.7 Dollars;

To *Matthias Slough*, for Provisions for the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments of *British* Troops, from the 26th of *February* to the 21st *March*, the sum of 193.3 Dollars.

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Lord *Stirling* having, agreeable to the order of Congress of the 19th of *March* last, appointed persons to value the Boat of *Michael Kearney*, Jun., and transmitted to Congress the valuation by them made, amounting to 725 Dollars:

Ordered, That the same be paid to the said *Michael Kearney*.

The several matters to this day referred, lie postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, April 10, 1776.

Two Letters of the 1st from General *Washington*, were laid before Congress, and read; also, a Letter of the 8th from *John Connolly*.

Resolved, That the Letters from General *Washington* be referred to a Committee of the Whole Congress.

The Committee to whom the Report on *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, and the Petition of Captain *White-Eyes*, were referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, Resolved, That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, or any one of them, be desired to employ, for reasonable salaries, a Minister of the Gospel, to reside among the *Delaware Indians*, and instruct them in the Christian religion; a Schoolmaster to teach their youth Reading, Writing, and Arithmetick; also a Blacksmith, to do the work of the *Indians*, in the Middle Department.

Resolved, That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department be desired to provide, at the expense of the United Colonies, for the entertainment of the *Sachems* and Warriors of the *Indians*, and their attendants and Messengers, with the accustomed hospitality, when they come to *Pittsburgh*, to treat, or give intelligence of publick affairs, or upon a visit.

Resolved, That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs be desired to acquaint the *Indians* in their respective Departments, that Congress have formed a plan for importing goods to supply their necessities.

That the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs be desired to inquire into and report the cause of the discontent of the *Indians* in the Middle Department, what measures may be pursued to restore quiet and harmony, and to use their utmost endeavours, in the mean time, to prevent hostilities.

Resolved, That although the prosperity of *Dartmouth* College, in the Colony of *New-Hampshire*, is a desirable object, it is neither seasonable nor prudent to contribute towards its relief or support out of the publick Treasury.

Resolved, That so soon as conveniently may be, a Treaty be held between the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department and the Nations of *Indians* to the Westward; and that the said Commissioners be desired to appoint the time and place of meeting for that purpose, and give the *Indians* information thereof.

Resolved, That it be referred to Captain *George Morgan*, *Aeneas Mackay*, Esq., and Captain *John Neville*, to adjust and determine all matters of difference between *Coquata-ginta*, or Captain *White-Eyes*, and Messrs. *Bernard Gratz* and *Michael Gratz*; and that the arbitrators, in case either of the parties to whom it is recommended to submit to their award shall refuse to abide thereby, report the reasons of such refusal, with a state of the case, and any other matters they shall think fit, to Congress.

That disputes which shall arise between any of the white people and the *Indians* in their dealings (if the latter will

consent) be determined by arbitrators, chosen, one by each of the parties, and another by the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs, or, when they are absent, by the Agent in the Department where the *Indian* party resides.

Resolved, That that part of the Report relative to *Fort Detroit* be postponed.

The Congress then proceeded to the choice of an Agent for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department; and the ballots being taken and examined, *George Morgan*, Esquire, was elected.

Resolved, That the sum of 300 Dollars be presented to Captain *White-Eyes*.

Resolved, That *George Morgan*, Esquire, the Agent for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, be empowered to purchase for Captain *White-Eyes* two Horses with two Saddles and Bridles, and that the Treasurers be directed to pay to the said *George Morgan* a sum not exceeding 100 Dollars for defraying the expenses thereof.

Resolved, That the following Speech be delivered to Captain *White-Eyes* to-morrow morning:

"BROTHER CAPTAIN WHITE-EYES:

"We have not been unmindful of our promise made to you and your nation, the 16th of *December*. We now thank you for your speech to us the 2d of last month.

"BROTHERS, THE DELAWARES:

"At the Council-fire, at *Pittsburgh*, last fall, and since by our brother Captain *White-Eyes*, who hath been all the winter with us, you requested our assistance to promote peace and useful knowledge among you, particularly the knowledge of the Christian religion. We rejoice, brothers, to find you thus disposed, and will, as early as we can, provide a suitable minister and schoolmaster, and a sober man to instruct you in agriculture. These things we agree to do, brothers, at your request, and to convince you that we wish to advance your happiness, and that there may be a lasting union between us, and that, as you express it, we may become one people. The introduction of useful arts among you will be effected, we apprehend, by encouraging handicraft-men to settle and reside in your country. The method of doing this must be left to your own discretion.

"BROTHERS:

"We desire you will make it known among all the *Indian* nations to the westward, that we are determined to cultivate peace and friendship with them, and that we will endeavour, by making the best regulations in our power, to prevent any of our people wronging them in any manner, or taking their lands; and that we will strive to put the trade between us on such a footing as will secure the peace, and promote the interest of all parties; and we expect that all the wise men, of every *Indian* nation, will use their influence for the same purpose.

"BROTHERS:

"We have named *George Morgan*, Esq., as Agent under our Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, and we desire you will confer with him on whatever business you may have with us. We hope you will inform him of all publick matters. We recommend him to your friendship.

"BROTHERS:

"You tell us that your uncles, our brothers, the *Wyandots*, have given your nation a large tract of country, comprehended between the River *Ohio* on the south, the west branch of the River *Muskingham* and *Sandusky* on the west, *Lake Erie* on the north, and *Presque-Isle* on the east.

"BROTHERS:

"Hearken to our advice. As we are informed that your uncles, our brothers, the *Six Nations*, claim most of those lands, we recommend it to you to obtain their approbation of this grant to you from the *Wyandots*, in publick council, and have it put on record. Such a step will prevent uneasiness and jealousy on their part, and continue the confidence and friendship which subsists between you and them. We wish to promote the lasting peace and happiness of all our brothers, the *Indian* nations, who live with us on this great Island. As far as your settlement and security may depend upon us, you may be assured of our protection. We shall take all the care in our power, that no interruption or disturbance be given you by our people, nor shall any of them

be suffered, by force or fraud, to deprive you of any of your lands, or to settle them without a fair purchase from you, and your free consent. If, contrary to our intention, any injury should be offered to you by any of our people, inform us of it, and we shall always be ready to procure you satisfaction and redress.

“BROTHER CAPTAIN WHITE-EYES:

“We desire you will inform your nation, your uncles the *Six Nations*, and *Wyandots*, your grandchildren the *Shawanese*, and all the other nations, what you have seen and heard among us, and exhort them to keep fast hold of the covenant-chain of friendship, which we have so lately repaired and strengthened. As you are now about to depart, we present you with some money to buy clothes and necessaries, and pay your expenses, and we wish you a good journey, and bid you farewell.”

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, April 11, 1776.

A Letter of the 7th, from General *Putnam*, at *New-York*, with sundry papers enclosed, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 10,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Carpenter Wharton*, Commissary, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Zedwitz*, for expenses in curing a wound received by him in falling from the walls of *Quebeck*, and his expenses from thence to *Philadelphia*, the sum of 255.6 Dollars;

To *John Hales*, for Carriage-hire, &c., for the Commissioners going to *Canada*, the sum of 223 Dollars;

To *Oliver Wolcott*, Esq., for his expenses in attending a treaty with the *Six Nations*, at *Albany*, the sum of 60 Dollars;

To Doctor *Jonathan Potts*, for attending the Prisoners at *Reading*, the sum of 76.6 Dollars; and for Medicines, &c., provided for the Troops in the Middle Department, the sum of 134.6 Dollars, amounting, together, to the sum of 211.2 Dollars.

To the following persons for Boarding, &c., General *Lee's* Guard, viz:

To *Richard Jacobs*, the sum of 6.4 Dollars.

To *William Staddelman*, the sum of 7.4 Dollars.

To *William McDowell*, the sum of 3.4 Dollars.

To *Lawrence Fegan*, the sum of 8.4 Dollars.

To *Jacob Wynkoop*, the sum of 13.6 Dollars.

To *Michael Gallagher*, the sum of 1.8 Dollars.

To *John Kerlin*, the sum of 8.6 Dollars.

To *Charles Stultz*, the sum of 3.7 Dollars.

To Captain *Long*, for so much advanced by him to Captain *John Nelson*, of one of the Rifle Companies, the sum of 10.7 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Claims allow, for the support of the hostages sent by General *Schuyler* from *Tryon* County, the sum of two Dollars per week.

*Resolved*, That two new Members be added to the Cannon Committee, in the room of two who are absent.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Clinton* and Mr. *Whipple*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the Delegates of *Maryland* with one ton of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of the *Eastern-Shore*, in that Colony.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to provide proper Barracks or Quarters for such of the Continental Troops as may be, from time to time, in the City of *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer at *New-York* be directed to discharge the Militia of *New-Jersey* who are in the pay of the Continent.

That the Commanding Officer at *New-York* be directed to discharge the whole, or such parts of the Militia of *New-York* and *Connecticut*, now in the pay of the Continent, as the publick service will permit.

A Petition from *Eliphalet Dyer* and *William Williams*, in behalf of the Colony of *Connecticut*, was presented to Congress, and read, setting forth, that the Colony has advanced

large sums of money for the service of the Continent over and above what have been paid them; that though they used their utmost diligence, they have not yet been able to prepare a full state of their accounts to lay before Congress; and as their Treasury is exhausted, and the Colony and the publick interest in danger of suffering for want of supplies, praying that the Congress would advance to the Colony the sum of fifty thousand Pounds, lawful money, in part of their advances.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 166,666 $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars be advanced to the Colony of *Connecticut*, on account of their advances for the service of the Continent, the said Colony to be accountable.

Captain *White-Eyes* being called in, the speech was delivered to him, and the money paid.

*Resolved*, That the sum of fifty Dollars be paid to *Isaac Stille*, the Interpreter.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Conventions and Committees or Councils of Safety of *Virginia* and *North-Carolina*, to provide for the maintenance and security of such of the enemy as are made Prisoners in their Colonies, agreeable to the regulations of Congress for the support of Prisoners; and that the expense thereof shall be defrayed by the Continent.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the truth of the report respecting Governour *Tryon's* exacting an Oath from persons going by the Packet, and to ascertain the fact by affidavits taken before a Chief Justice, or other Chief Magistrate.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

*Resolved*, That the sum of thirty Dollars be advanced to *John Harkness*, a wounded soldier, who was discharged at *Cambridge* without any pay.

Information being given that Mr. *Hewes*, a prisoner, has been defrauded of a large quantity of Goods,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into the truth of this matter, and report to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Huntington*, and Mr. *Duane*.

The Committee to whom the Petition of *John Secord* was referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety of the United Colonies, to use their best endeavours in communicating to foreign Nations the Resolutions of Congress relative to Trade.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, April 12, 1776.

A Letter of the 21st *March*, from *W. H. Drayton*,\* President of the Convention of *South-Carolina*, with a copy of

\*SOUTH-CAROLINA, CHARLESTOWN, *March* 21, 1776.

SIR: By order of the [Provincial] Congress I have the honour to transmit, through your hands, to the honourable the Continental Congress, the enclosed copy of an act of Parliament, which received the Royal assent on the 21st of *December* last.

A packet just arrived at *Georgia* brought out this act, purporting a declaration of war against the United Colonies; and as it is probable the communication between *England* and the Northern Colonies may be so far obstructed that a copy of the act may not speedily reach *Philadelphia* by a northern channel, and as it is of the highest importance that the Continental Congress should be possessed of one, we have thought proper to transmit to you by express the only printed copy we have.

The act being laid before the [Provincial] Congress, they so much resented the contents of it, that a *West-Indiaman*, which had put in here to refit, loaded with sugars, and being on the point of sailing for *London*, was immediately seized and brought back to the town; and it is ordered that her cargo be sold, and the money arising from the sale, be placed in the Treasury. Indeed, the Congress were disposed to have proceeded, and they certainly would have proceeded to pass a resolution to make prize of all the vessels belonging to *Great Britain*, but they would not anticipate the determination of the *American* Congress upon that important subject.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,  
WILLIAM H. DRAYTON, President.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Continental Congress.

An Act to prohibit all Trade and Intercourse with the Colonies of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, RHODE-ISLAND, CONNECTICUT, NEW-YORK, NEW-JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA, the three lower Counties on DELAWARE, MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, NORTH-CAROLINA, SOUTH-CAROLINA, and GEORGIA, during the continuance of the present rebellion within the said Colonies respectively; for repealing an Act made in the fourteenth

the Act of Parliament prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with the *American Colonies*; also,

A Letter of the 10th instant, from Colonel *John Haslet*, enclosing an account of the engagement between the detachment of the *Delaware Battalion* at *Lewis*, and a Tender of the *Roebuck*; also, informing that another Company is wanted at *Lewistown*, and that he has ordered one to march thither, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the conduct of Colonel *Haslet*, in ordering another Company to *Lewistown*, be approved.

*year of the reign of his present Majesty, to discontinue the landing and discharging, lading or shipping, of Goods, Wares, and Merchandise, at the Town and within the Harbour of Boston, in the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY; and also two Acts, made in the last session of Parliament, for restraining the trade and commerce of the Colonies in the said Acts respectively mentioned; and to enable any person or persons, appointed and authorized by his Majesty, to grant pardons, to issue Proclamations in the cases and for the purpose therein-mentioned.*

Whereas many persons in the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, have set themselves in open rebellion and defiance to the just and legal authority of the King and Parliament of *Great Britain*, to which they ever have been, and of right ought to be, subject; and have assembled together an armed force, engaged his Majesty's troops, and attacked his forts, have usurped the powers of Government, and prohibited all trade and commerce with this kingdom, and the other parts of his Majesty's dominions; for the more speedily and effectually suppressing such wicked and daring designs, and for preventing any aid, supply, or assistance, being sent thither during the continuance of the said rebellious and treasonable commotions, be it therefore declared and enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That all manner of trade and commerce is and shall be prohibited with the Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*; and that all ships and vessels of or belonging to the inhabitants of the said Colonies, together with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, and all other ships and vessels whatsoever, together with their cargoes, apparel, and furniture, which shall be found trading in any port or place of the said Colonies, or going to trade, or coming from trading, in any such port or place, shall become forfeited to his Majesty, as if the same were the ships and effects of open enemies, and shall be so adjudged, deemed, and taken, in all Courts of Admiralty, and in all other Courts whatsoever.

II. *Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted and declared by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing in this act shall extend, or be construed to extend, to such ships and vessels as shall be actually retained or employed in his Majesty's service, or to such ships and vessels as shall be laden with provisions for the use of his Majesty's fleets, armies, or garrisons, or for the use of the inhabitants of any town or place garrisoned or possessed by any of his Majesty's troops, provided the masters of such ships and vessels respectively shall produce a license in writing, under the hand and seal of the Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain* for the time being, or of three or more Commissioners for the time being for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of *Great Britain*, or of the commanders of his Majesty's Fleets or Armies, or of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander-in-Chief of any of his Majesty's Colonies or Provinces not herein-before mentioned, specifying the voyage in which such ship or vessel shall be employed, and expressing the time for which such license shall subsist and be in force, and also expressing the quantity and species of the said stores and provisions on board; and if any goods, wares, or merchandises, other than stores and provisions for his Majesty's use, or provisions for the use of the inhabitants of any town or place garrisoned and possessed by his Majesty's troops, shall be found on board such ships or vessels, (the necessary stores for the ship's use, and the baggage of the passengers, only excepted,) in any or either of those cases, the said goods, wares, and merchandises shall be forfeited, and shall and may be seized and prosecuted in the manner herein-after directed.

III. And, for the encouragement of the officers and seamen of his Majesty's ships of war, *Be it further enacted*, That the flag officers, captains, commanders, and other commissioned officers in his Majesty's pay, and also the seamen, marines, and soldiers on board, shall have the sole interest and property of, and in all and every such ship, vessel, goods, and merchandise, which they shall seize and take, (being first adjudged lawful prize in any of his Majesty's Courts of Admiralty,) to be divided in such proportions, and after such manner, as his Majesty shall think fit to order and direct by proclamation or proclamations hereafter to be issued for those purposes.

IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said flag officers, captains, and commanders, respectively, to cause to be taken, or put on board any of his Majesty's ships or vessels of war, or on board any other ships or vessels, all and every the masters, crews, and other persons who shall be found on board such ship and ships as shall be seized and taken as prize as aforesaid; and, also, to enter the names of such of the said mariners and crews, upon the book or books of his Majesty's said ships or vessels, as they, the said flag officers, captains, and commanders, shall respectively think fit; from the time and times of which said entries respectively, the said mariners and crews shall be considered, and they are hereby declared to belong to, and to be as much in the service of his Majesty, to all intents and purposes, as if the said mariners and crews had entered themselves voluntarily to serve on board his Majesty's said ships and vessels respectively; and also that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said flag officers, captains, and commanders respectively, to detain, or cause to be detained and kept, the masters and other persons, and also such others of the mariners and crews of the said prize ships as shall not be entered upon the books of his Majesty's ships or vessels of war as aforesaid, in and on

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended *James Hunter* as a fit person to fill the oldest vacancy of Second Lieutenant, and *Joel Westcoat* as a suitable person to fill the second oldest vacancy of Second Lieutenant in the Third *Pennsylvania Battalion*,

*Resolved*, That Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the means of supplying the Troops in *Canada*.

board any ship or ships, vessel or vessels whatsoever, until the arrival of such last-mentioned ships or vessels in some port in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or in any port of *America* not in rebellion; and upon the arrival of those ships or vessels in any such port, the commanders thereof are hereby respectively authorized and required immediately to set the said last-mentioned mariners and crews, and also the said masters and other persons, at liberty on shore there.

V. And, for the more speedy proceeding to condemnation or other determination of any prize, ship, or vessel, goods, or merchandises, to be taken as aforesaid, and for lessening the expenses that have been usual in the like cases, *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the Judge or Judges of such Court of Admiralty, or other person or persons thereto authorized, shall, within the space of five days after request to him or them for that purpose made, finish the usual preparatory examinations of the persons commonly examined in such cases, in order to prove the capture to be lawful prize, or to inquire whether the same be lawful prize or not; and that the proper monition usual in such cases shall be issued by the person or persons proper to issue the same, and shall be executed in the usual manner by the person or persons proper to execute the same, within the space of three days after request in that behalf made; and in case no claim of such capture, ship, vessel, or goods, shall be duly entered or made in the usual form, and attested upon oath, giving twenty days notice after the execution of such monition; or if there be such claim, and the claimant or claimants shall not within five days give sufficient security (to be approved of by such Court of Admiralty) to pay double costs to the captor or captors of such ship, vessel, or goods, in case the same so claimed shall be adjudged lawful prize, that then the Judge or Judges of such Court of Admiralty shall (upon producing to him or them the said examinations or copies thereof, and upon producing to him or them, upon oath, all papers and writings which shall have been found taken in or with such capture, or upon oath made that no such papers or writings were found) immediately, and without further delay, proceed to sentence, either to discharge and acquit such capture, or to adjudge and condemn the same as lawful prize, according as the case shall appear to him or them upon perusal of such preparatory examinations, and also of the other last-mentioned papers and writings found taken in or with such capture, if any such papers or writings shall be found; and in case such claim shall be duly entered or made, and security given thereupon according to the tenor and true meaning of this act, and there shall appear no occasion to examine any witnesses other than what shall be then near to such Court of Admiralty, that then such Judge or Judges shall forthwith cause such witnesses to be examined within the space of ten days after such claim made and security given, and proceed to such sentence, as aforesaid, touching such capture; but in case, upon making or entering such claim, and the allegation and oath thereupon, or the producing such papers or writings as shall have been found or taken in or with such capture, or, upon the said preparatory examinations, it shall appear doubtful to the Judge or Judges of such Court of Admiralty whether such capture be lawful prize or not, and it shall appear necessary, according to the circumstances of the case, for the clearing and determining such doubt, to have an examination, upon pleadings given in by the parties and admitted by the Judge, of witnesses that are remote from such Court of Admiralty, and such examination shall be desired, and that it be still insisted on, on behalf of the captors, that the said capture is lawful prize, and the contrary be still persisted in on the claimants behalf, that then the said Judge or Judges shall forthwith cause such capture to be appraised by persons to be named by the parties and appointed by the Court, and sworn truly to appraise the same according to the best of their skill and knowledge; for which purpose the said Judge or Judges shall cause the goods found on board to be unladen, and, an inventory thereof being first taken by the Marshal of the Admiralty, or his deputy, shall cause all such parts of the goods and merchandise as are perishable commodities to be sold by publick sale, for the clear amount of which only the captors shall be answerable to the claimants, and the remainder of them to be put into proper warehouses, with separate locks, of the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs, and, where there is no Comptroller, of the Naval Officer and the agents or persons employed by the captors and claimants, at the charge of the party or parties desiring the same; and shall, after such appraisement made, and within the space of fourteen days after the making of such claim, proceed to take good and sufficient security from the claimants to pay the captors the full value thereof, according to such appraisement, in case the same shall be adjudged lawful prize; and shall also proceed to take good and sufficient security from the captors to pay such costs as the Court shall think proper, in case such ship shall not be condemned as lawful prize, and, after such securities duly given, the said Judge or Judges shall make an interlocutory order for releasing or delivering the same to such claimant or claimants, or his or their agents, and the same shall be actually released or delivered accordingly.

VI. *And it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any claimant or claimants shall refuse to give such security, the Judge or Judges shall cause the captor or captors in like manner to give good and sufficient security to pay the said claimant or claimants the full value thereof according to the appraisement, in case any such capture or captures shall be adjudged not to be lawful prize; and the said Judge or Judges shall thereupon proceed to make an interlocutory order for the releasing and delivering the same to the said captor or captors, or their agents.

VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all books, papers, and writings, found in any ship or vessel taken as prize, shall, without delay, upon the oath of the captor, be brought into the



*Resolved*, That the Treasurers be directed to pay Mr. Price the sum of 16,000 Dollars, in specie, in part of the sum ordered to be advanced to him and Mr. Haywood.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed, and that the Committee who brought in the Report be directed to inform Mr. Price of the Resolution passed.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Chief Engineer, in the Continental Army in *Canada*. The ballots being taken and examined, Major *Elias Wrixon* was elected.

registry of the Court of Admiralty wherein such ship or vessel may be proceeded against in order to condemnation; but that such only of the said books, papers, and writings, shall be made use of and translated, as shall be agreed or insisted upon by the proctors of the several parties, captors or claimants, or, in case of no claim, by the captor or register, to be necessary for ascertaining the property of such ship or vessel, and the cargo thereof, and the destination of the voyage.

VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all such captures as aforesaid, which shall be brought into any of his Majesty's dominions in *America*, in order to be proceeded against to condemnation in any of his Vice-Admiralty Courts, shall, without breaking bulk, stay there, and be under the joint care and custody of the Collector and Comptroller of the Customs, or, where there is no Comptroller, of the Naval Officers of the port or place where the same shall be brought, and all the captors thereof, and their agents, subject to the directions of the Court of Vice-Admiralty, until either the same shall, by final sentence, have been either cleared and discharged, or adjudged and condemned as lawful prize, or that such interlocutory order as aforesaid shall have been made for the releasing or delivering of the same unto such person or persons, and to be so divided and disposed of, as his Majesty, his heirs and successors, shall, by proclamation or proclamations hereafter to be issued for those purposes, order and direct.

IX. *Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no captures which shall be taken by virtue of this act shall be carried into any of the Colonies or Plantations in *America* herein-before particularly mentioned, during and so long time as such Colonies or Plantations respectively shall continue in a state of rebellion.

X. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any Judge or Judges, or other officer or officers, in any of his Majesty's Colonies or dominions abroad, to whom respectively it shall appertain, shall delay the doing, performing, making, or pronouncing any of the several proceedings, matters, or things, for, towards, or relating to, condemning or discharging, releasing, or delivering, of any such capture in manner aforesaid, within the respective times herein-before limited, or as soon as the same ought to be done, according to the tenour and true meaning of this act, all and every such Judge and Judges, and other officer and officers, shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds; one moiety thereof to his Majesty, his heirs and successors, and the other moiety thereof, with full costs of suit, to such person or persons who shall inform or sue for the same, in any of his Majesty's Courts in any of his Colonies or dominions wherein such offence shall be committed.

XI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no Register or Deputy Register, nor any Marshal or Deputy Marshal, of or belonging to any of his Majesty's Courts of Admiralty or Vice-Admiralty whatsoever, shall either directly or indirectly, by himself or themselves, or by any agent or agents, or other person or persons whatsoever, act or be concerned in any manner, either as an advocate or proctor, in any cause, matter, or business whatsoever, that shall be depending in any such Court or Courts of Admiralty, to which such Register, Deputy Register, Marshal, or Deputy Marshal, shall then belong; and that every Register, Deputy Register, Marshal, or Deputy Marshal, who shall be guilty of such offence, (being thereof lawfully convicted, either upon an information or indictment,) shall from thenceforth absolutely forfeit his respective office and employment of Register, Deputy Register, Marshal, or Deputy Marshal, in and belonging to the same Court.

XII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That there shall not be paid unto or among all the Judges and officers of any Court of Vice-Admiralty in any of his Majesty's dominions, for, towards, or relating to, the adjudging or condemning of such capture as aforesaid, as lawful prize, above the sum of ten pounds, in case such prize-ship or vessel be under the burthen of one hundred tons, nor above the sum of fifteen pounds, in case the same be of that or any greater burthen; and that, upon payment of either of the said respective sums, as the case shall require, to the said Judge or Judges, or any of them, to be by him or them disposed or divided, as he or they shall think fit, among the officers of such Court, such Judges and officers, and every of them, shall be liable to all and every of the several penalties hereby imposed for neglecting or delaying to do and perform their several and respective duties or offices in and relating to the several proceedings aforesaid, within the respective times herein for that purpose limited.

XIII. *Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any captor or captors, claimant or claimants, shall not rest satisfied with the sentence given in such Court of Vice-Admiralty in any of his Majesty's dominions, it shall and may be lawful for the party or parties thereby aggrieved to appeal from the said Court of Vice-Admiralty to Commissioners appointed, or to be appointed, under the great seal of *Great Britain*, for receiving, hearing, and determining appeals in causes of prizes, so as the same be made within fourteen days after sentence, and good security be likewise given by the appellant or appellants, that he or they will effectually prosecute such appeal, and answer the condemnation, and also pay treble costs, as shall be awarded in case the sentence of such Court of Vice-Admiralty be affirmed; provided that the said captor or captors, claimant or claimants, do, within six months after sentence passed, give notice to the said Court of Vice-Admiralty that they have appealed from such decree to the said Commissioners.

XIV. *Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the execution of any sentence so appealed from as aforesaid, shall not be suspended by reason of such appeal, in case the

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Wrixon* have the rank of Colonel in the Continental Army.

A Petition from Colonel *James Easton* was presented to Congress, and read:

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

*Resolved*, That the Assemblies, Conventions, and Committees or Councils of Safety of the Colonies respectively, in which Prisoners are or shall choose, or be appointed to

party or parties appellate shall give sufficient security, to be approved of by the Court in which such sentence shall be given, to restore the ship, vessel, goods, or effects, concerning which such sentence shall be pronounced, or the full value thereof, to the appellant or appellants, in case the sentence so appealed from shall be reversed.

XV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That in case any person who was not a party in the first instance of the cause, shall interpose in an appeal from a sentence given in any Vice-Admiralty Court, such person, or his or her agent, shall at the same time enter his or her claim, otherwise such appeal shall be null and void.

XVI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any commander or commanders, officer or officers, seamen, marines, soldiers, or others, shall break bulk on board, or embezzle any of the money, jewels, plate, goods, merchandise, tackle, furniture, or apparel, of or belonging to such prize or prizes so taken, such commander, officer, seaman, marine, soldier, or others, shall forfeit treble the value of all such money, jewels, plate, goods, merchandise, tackle, furniture, or apparel, as he or they shall embezzle; one-third part thereof to be to the use of *Greenwich Hospital*, and the other two-third parts thereof to him or them who shall sue for the same, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any court of record in *Great Britain*, in which no essoin, protection, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

XVII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all appraisements and sales of any ship or ships, goods, wares, or merchandises, as shall be taken as prizes, shall be made by agents, or persons nominated and appointed in equal numbers by the flag officers or flag officer, captains or captain, officers or officer, ship's companies or ship's company, and others entitled thereunto; (that is to say,) that if the flag officers or flag officer of any fleet or squadron of ships as shall take any such prize or prizes, or the majority of such flag officers (if more than one) shall nominate and appoint one or more person or persons, agent or agents, to sell or appraise the same as aforesaid, then the captains and commanders, or captain or commander, entitled thereunto, or the majority of them, (if more than one,) shall nominate and appoint the like number of persons or agents to act for them; and all the other officers under the degree of a captain and commander entitled thereto, or the major part of them, shall also nominate and appoint the like number of persons or agents to act for them; and all the crews of the several ships' companies of the fleet or squadron, or ship's company, and others entitled thereto, or the major part of them, shall likewise nominate and appoint the same number of persons or agents to act in their behalf in such appraisement or sale.

XVIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all and every person or persons who shall be nominated and appointed agent or agents as aforesaid, for any prize or prizes to be taken by any ship or ships, vessel or vessels of war, and which prize or prizes shall be condemned in the High Court of Admiralty in *Great Britain*, or in any of the Courts of Vice-Admiralty in any of his Majesty's dominions where the said prize or prizes, and every of them, shall be condemned, shall exhibit and cause to be registered in the said High Court of Admiralty, or in the respective Courts of Vice-Admiralty in any of his Majesty's dominions where the said prize and prizes, and every of them, shall be condemned, his or their respective letter or letters of attorney, appointing him or them agent or agents for the purposes aforesaid; and if any person or persons so appointed agent or agents as aforesaid, shall refuse or neglect so to do, for the space of six calendar months next after sentence of condemnation of any prize shall be given in the said High Court of Admiralty in *Great Britain*, or in any Vice-Admiralty Court in his Majesty's dominions for the care and distribution of which he or they shall be appointed agent or agents, such person or persons so refusing or neglecting, shall forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds, to be recovered by him or them who shall sue for the same, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any court of record in *Great Britain*, or in any other of his Majesty's dominions, in which no essoin, protection, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

XIX. *Provided always*, That if any agent or agents shall be appointed after the time any sentence of condemnation in any of the said Courts of Admiralty or Vice-Admiralty shall be given, such agent or agents shall, under the aforesaid penalty, register, or cause to be registered, in manner aforesaid, his or their respective letter or letters of attorney, appointing him or them agent or agents as aforesaid, within the space of six calendar months after the date of the said letter or letters of attorney.

XX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That after the sale or sales of any prize or prizes which shall be taken in pursuance or by virtue of this act, publick notification or notifications shall be given and published in such manner as is herein-after particularly mentioned; (that is to say,) if the prize or prizes shall be condemned in his Majesty's High or other Court of Admiralty in *Great Britain*, then the person or persons, agent or agents, to be appointed in pursuance of this act, for the appraisement and sale of such prize or prizes, shall insert and publish, or cause to be inserted and published, such notification under his or their hand or hands respectively in the *London Gazette*, and if condemned in any Court or Courts of Admiralty or Vice-Admiralty in any other of his Majesty's dominions, then such person or persons, agent or agents, as aforesaid, shall insert and publish, or cause to be inserted and published, such notifications, under his or their hand or hands respectively, in the gazette, or some other newspaper of publick authority, of the island or place where the prize or prizes shall be condemned; and if there shall be no gazette or such other newspaper published there, then in some or



reside, be empowered to remove such Prisoners from place to place within the same Colonies, as often as to such Assemblies, Conventions, or Committees or Councils of Safety, respectively, it shall seem proper, having regard to the former Resolutions of Congress concerning Prisoners.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Alexander* be appointed a Member of the Marine Committee, in the room of Mr. *Chase*, who is absent.

A Memorial from the *Scotch* Hostages was presented to Congress, and read.

one of the most publick newspapers of such island or place for the time being; and all persons or agents publishing, or causing to be published, every such notification respectively, shall deliver to the Collector, Customer, or Searcher for the time being, of his Majesty's Customs, residing at, or belonging to the port or place where the prize or prizes shall be condemned, or the lawful deputy or deputies of such Collector, Customer, or Searcher; and if there shall be no such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, then such persons or agents as aforesaid shall deliver to the principal officer or officers of the port or place where the prize or prizes shall have been condemned, or to the lawful deputy or deputies of such principal officer or officers, two of the gazettes or other newspapers in which such notification shall be so inserted and published; and if there shall not be any publick newspapers in any such island or place, when such person or persons, agent or agents, shall give two such notifications, in writing, under his or their respective hand or hands, to the said Collector, Customer, or Searcher, or the deputy or deputies of such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, or, where there shall be no such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, to such principal officer or officers, or his or their deputy or deputies as aforesaid; and every such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, and principal officer or officers, or such deputy or deputies, shall subscribe his or their name or names on some conspicuous part of both the said gazettes, newspapers, or written notifications respectively, and by the first ship which shall sail (after his or their receipt of such gazettes, newspapers, or written notifications respectively) from such port or place to any port of *Great Britain*, shall transmit or send to the Treasurer of *Greenwich* Hospital, or the deputy of such Treasurer for the time being, one of the said gazettes, newspapers, or written notifications, with his or their name or names so subscribed to and upon the same respectively, to be there registered, and shall faithfully preserve and keep the other of the said two gazettes, newspapers, or written notifications, with his or their name or names subscribed as aforesaid, in his or their custody; and that in every such printed or written notification as aforesaid, the said person or persons, agent or agents, shall insert or specify his or their place or places of abode, and the precise day of the month and year appointed for the payment of the several and respective shares of the prize or prizes to the captors; and all such notifications with respect to prizes, which shall be condemned in *Great Britain*, shall be published in the *London Gazette*, three days at least before any part or parts, share or proportion of any such prize or prizes shall be paid to any person or persons entitled thereto; and all such notifications, with respect to prizes condemned in any other part of his Majesty's dominions, shall be delivered to the said Collector, Customer, or Searcher, or principal officer or officers aforesaid respectively, or such respective deputy or deputies, three days at least before any part or parts, share or proportion, of any such prize or prizes, shall be paid to any person or persons entitled thereto; after which several and respective notifications, if any men's shares shall remain in the hands of the persons or agents appointed as aforesaid, either belonging to such men as shall be run from his Majesty's service, or which shall not be legally demanded within three years, then such share or shares so remaining in the persons or agents' hands, or belonging to such men as shall run from his Majesty's service, shall go and be paid to the use of *Greenwich* Hospital.

*XXI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any person or agent, to be appointed for appraisement or sale of any prize or prizes which shall be seized and taken as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to publish, give, or deliver, any notification herein-before directed or required to be published, given, or delivered, before the payment of any part of such prize-money, or in the manner herein-before appointed, or shall not set forth and specify therein the matters and things herein-before directed to be specified and set forth; every such person or agent shall, for every such offence, forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred pounds, to be recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any of his Majesty's courts of record in *Great Britain*, or elsewhere in any of his Majesty's dominions, in which no essoin, protection, privilege, wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed; and if any Collector, Customer, or Searcher, of his Majesty's Customs, or principal officer or officers, or such deputy or deputies as aforesaid, shall neglect or refuse to receive or to attest, or shall not transmit or send any such gazette, newspapers, or written notification, as aforesaid, in such manner as is before directed, every such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, principal officer or officers, or such deputy or deputies so offending, shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds, to be sued for and recovered in the same manner as the above penalty is directed to be sued for and recovered.

*XXII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the notifications in all such gazettes, newspapers, and in writing respectively, as aforesaid, which shall be so transmitted and attested by such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, or principal officer or officers, or such deputy or deputies as aforesaid, and registered at the said Royal Hospital, on proof of the handwriting of such Collector, Customer, or Searcher, principal officer or officers, or deputy or deputies, from time to time, and at all times, shall be good and sufficient evidence in all his Majesty's courts of law and equity, that the person or persons, whose name or names is or are therein set forth and specified as the agent or agents for the prize or prizes therein respectively mentioned, is or are such agent or agents.

*XXIII. Provided always, and be it declared and enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, or exempt any ships, goods, wares, or merchandises, which shall be taken as prize, and brought or imported into this kingdom, or any of his Majesty's dominions, from the payment of any customs or

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee of Claims.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Henry Holler*, for Rifles and Cash furnished to Captain *Nelson's* Company of Riflemen, the sum of 364.8 Dollars, to be charged to said Company; and for Provisions for said Company, the sum of 171.3 Dollars; and for necessities provided for Prisoners at *Reading*, 1203 Dollars; and for his pay as Quartermaster in procuring Provisions, 59 Dollars; for provisions made for receiving the Prisoners from *Johnstown*, the sum of 240 Dollars; for expresses and

duties, or from being subject to such restrictions and regulations to which the same now are or shall hereafter be liable by virtue of the laws and statutes of this realm.

*XXIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any ship, vessel, or boat, taken as prize, or any goods therein, shall appear, and be proved, in the High Court of Admiralty, or Vice-Admiralty Court, to have belonged to any of his Majesty's subjects of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or any of the dominions and territories remaining and continuing in their allegiance to the King, and under his Majesty's protection, which were before taken or surprised by any of his Majesty's rebellious Colonies or Plantations before-mentioned, and at any time afterwards again surprised and retaken from his Majesty's said rebellious Colonies or Plantations by any of his Majesty's ships of war, or other ship, vessel, or boat, under his Majesty's protection and obedience; that then such ships, vessels, boats, and goods, and every such part and parts thereof as aforesaid, formerly belonging to such his Majesty's subjects remaining and continuing under his protection, shall in all cases be adjudged to be restored, and shall be, by decree of the said High Court of Admiralty or Vice-Admiralty Court, accordingly restored to such former owner or owners, or proprietors, he or they paying for and in lieu of salvage (if retaken from the rebels) one-eighth part of the true value of the ships, vessels, boats, and goods respectively so to be restored; which salvage shall be answered and paid to the captains, officers, and seamen, to be divided in such manner as before in this act is directed touching the share of prizes belonging to the flag officers, captains, officers, seamen, marines, and soldiers.

*XXV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no person or persons belonging to any of his Majesty's ships or vessels of war, who shall run away or withdraw him or themselves from the ship or vessel by which any prize or prizes shall be taken, or otherwise, from his Majesty's service, before or after notification shall be given by the persons or agents appointed as aforesaid, of the day appointed for the payment of the several shares to the captors of the said prize or prizes, shall have, or be entitled to have or claim, any interest in or benefit of the said share or shares of the said prize or prizes, or any part thereof, but such share and shares of such prize and prizes shall go and be paid to the use of *Greenwich* Hospital.

*XXVI. Provided always*, That if any person or persons shall or do run away or withdraw him or themselves from any such ship or vessel as aforesaid, after notification given as aforesaid, he and they shall forfeit and lose such part of his and their share and shares of the said prize or prizes as shall be remaining in the said agent or agents hands at the time of his or their running away or withdrawing him or themselves; anything herein-before contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

*XXVII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all and every person and persons, agent and agents, and others, who shall sell or otherwise dispose of any prize or prizes so to be taken as aforesaid, shall, within the space of three calendar months next after the day to be appointed for the first payment or distribution to the captors of such prize or prizes, made in pursuance of such publick notification as aforesaid, make out and transmit or deliver unto the Treasurer of the said Royal Hospital of *Greenwich* for the time being, or to such person or persons as he shall for that purpose depute or appoint, a true state and account in writing, under the hand or hands of such agent or agents, or person or persons so employed, of the produce of all such prize and prizes as aforesaid, together with an account of the payments of the several shares to the captors as shall then have been really and *bona fide* by him or them respectively paid; and also that all and every person and persons, agents, and others, that by virtue of this act shall sell or dispose of any prize or prizes, which shall at any time or times hereafter be taken by any of his Majesty's ships or vessels of war, such person and persons, agents, and others, so selling and disposing thereof, shall, within the space of three calendar months next after the expiration of the term of three years limited by this act, make out an exact account in writing of the produce of such prize and prizes, as also of the payments of the several shares to the respective captors, together with a true and just account upon oath, to be taken before the Treasurer of the said Hospital for the time being, or any other person or persons by him for that purpose deputed and authorized in writing under his hand and seal, (which oath the said Treasurer of the said Hospital, and his sufficient deputy and deputies, authorized as aforesaid, is and are hereby authorized and empowered to administer,) of all sum and sums of money as shall be then remaining in such agent or agents, or persons custody, power or possession, and shall at the same time deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the Treasurer of the said Hospital for the time being, or to his sufficient deputy or agent, the said accounts so attested upon oath as aforesaid, together with all such remaining sum and sums of money then so left and remaining in his or their hands as aforesaid, taking from the said Treasurer, or his proper deputy or agent, his or their acquittance or acquittances for the same.

*XXVIII. And be it further enacted*, That all and every person and persons hereby directed to transmit or deliver all or any the accounts before-mentioned, who shall neglect or refuse to transmit or deliver all or any such account or accounts to the Treasurer of the said Hospital, or his said deputy or agent, within the before-limited and appointed time, in manner and form as is herein-before mentioned, or who shall neglect or refuse to pay over all and every such sum and sums of money as shall remain in his or their hand or hands, power, custody, or possession, after the term of three years, to be accounted as aforesaid, shall, for

incidental charges, the sum of 62.9 Dollars; the whole amounting to 2101 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

*Resolved*, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on General Washington's Letter of the 24th of March.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, April 13, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn

every such offence, forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds, over and above the money then in such agents hands; one-third part whereof shall belong to his Majesty, and the remaining two-third parts to the said Royal Hospital, to be recovered, with costs of suit, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any of his Majesty's courts of record, in which no essoin, protection, privilege, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

XXXIX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That if any fraud, collusion, or deceit, shall be wittingly or willingly made, used, committed, permitted, or done, or suffered, in making, stating, or balancing, any such accounts, then every person or persons who shall be thereof duly convicted, and his and their aiders and abettors, shall forfeit and pay, for every such offence, over and above the penalties and punishments inflicted by this act, the sum of one hundred pounds; one-third part whereof to be to the use of his Majesty, and one other third part to the use of the said Hospital, and the remaining third part to the informer who shall sue for the same, to be recovered, with costs of suit, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any court of record, in which no essoin, protection, privilege, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

XXX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the Register or Registers of his Majesty's High Court of Admiralty, and all other Courts of Admiralty in Great Britain, shall, from time to time, duly enter or register, or cause to be entered or registered, in one or more book or books, to be by him or them kept for that purpose only, all letters of attorney that shall be exhibited by any agent or agents for any prize or prizes which shall be taken by any of his Majesty's ships or vessels of war, within fourteen days after the same shall be so exhibited or delivered to such Register or Registers, at his or their respective offices; which registry shall contain the day of delivery and entry, the dates of the letters of attorney, the names and places of abode of the agents, the names of the prizes taken, together with the names of the ships or vessels by which such prizes shall have been taken; and the said Register or Registers shall, on the 26th day of March, and the 30th day of September, or within forty days thereafter, in every year, transmit or deliver unto the Treasurer of the said Hospital, or to the lawful deputy of such Treasurer for the time being, a true copy or transcript, under his or their hand or hands, of all such entries as aforesaid, within the preceding half year; and if such Register or Registers shall neglect or refuse to make and keep such entries, or to transmit or deliver such copies thereof as aforesaid, within the respective times herein-before limited for that purpose, he or they shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of one hundred pounds, to be recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any of his Majesty's courts of record, in which no essoin, protection, privilege, wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

XXXI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the Register or Registers of all and every the Court and Courts of Admiralty in any of his Majesty's dominions, shall yearly and every year, upon the 23d day of October, or within three calendar months next after the same, make out and transcribe true copies of all and every such letter and letters of attorney as shall be so registered in the said Court or Courts, to which the Judge and Judges of the said Court and Courts shall affix his and their seal of office; and then the said Register and Registers shall transmit the same to the Treasurer of the said Royal Hospital at Greenwich, to be there registered, and to be inspected by any person gratis, the charges of which copies, and affixing the seal or seals thereto, and transmitting the same to the Treasurer of the said Hospital, shall be paid by the said agent or agents at the time of making such registry as aforesaid; and in case such Register or Registers shall neglect or refuse to transcribe and transmit such copy and copies of the said letter and letters of attorney in manner aforesaid, (any ship or ships in that time sailing from such port or place to any port or place in Great Britain,) such Register and Registers so neglecting or refusing shall forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds, to be recovered by him or them who will sue for the same, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, in any court of record in Great Britain, or in any other part of his Majesty's dominions, in which no essoin, protection, privilege, or wager of law, or more than one imparlance, shall be allowed.

XXXII. *And for the more effectual making of such letters of attorney evidence of the agency of the person or persons to whom the same shall be made*, *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That true copies of such letter and letters of attorney, and of transcripts under seal, transmitted by the said Register or Registers of the Court and Courts of Vice-Admiralty within any of his Majesty's dominions, and registered by the said Treasurer of Greenwich Hospital, shall, from time to time, and at all times hereafter, be good and sufficient evidence of the agency of the person or persons to whom such letters of attorney is or shall be made; and from time to time, and at all times hereafter, shall be admitted, without further or other proof thereof, to be legal evidence in all his Majesty's courts of record of law or equity; any law, custom, or usage, to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

XXXIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no agent or agents for prizes shall be liable to be sued, impleaded, or arrested, by any person or persons who shall be made run from his Majesty's service, in the lists to be duly certified of the names of the officers, seamen, marines, soldiers, or others, who shall be actually on board any of his Majesty's ships of war, at the taking of any prize or prizes, until the end of three months next after the expiration of three years, limited by this act for the claiming of prizes, unless the person or persons so

on the Treasurers, in favour of James Mease, Commissary, for the use of the Pennsylvania Battalions, he to be accountable.

Mr. Mease having applied to Congress for advice how to conduct himself in paying the Sixth Pennsylvania Battalion, *Resolved*, That the Queries propounded by Mr. Mease, be referred to the Committee for procuring Fire-Arms.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To Robert Erwin, the balance of his account for Wagon hire, the sum of 436 Dollars.

made run shall, before any action brought, obtain a certificate of his or their R or Rs being taken off, and the forfeiture of his or their share of such prizes being discharged by the Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy, who subscribed the said lists, and shall produce such certificate to the said agent or agents respectively, and unless the said agent or agents, on the producing of such certificate or certificates, shall refuse to pay the said prize-money (in case the same be due and payable, according to the directions in his Majesty's declaration) within two months after any such demand made, and such certificate produced.

XXXIV. *Provided always*, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to restrain his Majesty, his heirs and successors, from giving such further rules and directions to his respective Courts of Admiralty and Vice-Admiralty, as by his Majesty, his heirs and successors, with the advice of his or their Privy Council, shall be thought necessary or proper.

XXXV. *Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any ship or vessel the property of any person or persons residing in the said Colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, or any or either of them, which shall have sailed for Great Britain or Ireland, from any British sugar Colony or Plantation in the West-Indies, on or before the first day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, laden with any goods or commodities which before the passing of this act might be so lawfully transported and carried in any such ship or vessel; nor to any ship or vessel the property of any person or persons residing in the said Colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, or any or either of them, which on or before the first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, shall have arrived at any of the British sugar Colonies or Plantations in the West-Indies, laden with lumber and provisions, or either of them, and, after discharging the same at such sugar Colony or Plantation, shall, on or before the first day of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, lade and take on board there, in order to be transported from thence into Great Britain or Ireland, any goods or commodities which may be lawfully transported from such sugar Colony or Plantation into Great Britain or Ireland respectively, in any other British vessel, upon condition that the master or person having the charge of such ship or vessel which shall have so arrived on or before the said first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and shall have been loaded on or before the said first day of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, shall produce a certificate, under the hands and seals of office of the Collector and Comptroller, or other principal officer of his Majesty's Customs for the port or place where such goods shall be laden, certifying that such ship or vessel did arrive at such sugar Colony or Plantation on or before the said first day of January, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, laden with lumber and provisions, or either of them, as the case may be; and that, after having discharged the same in such sugar Colony or Plantation, she had taken on board the several goods therein laden for Great Britain or Ireland respectively, describing the name and burthen of the ship, with the name of the master, and the contents of the cargo, with the particular marks and numbers of the packages of each sort and species of goods so laden, the port or place where, and the time when laden, and the port in Great Britain or Ireland to which the goods are consigned, and that bond and security has been given for the due landing thereof according to law; which certificate such Collector and Comptroller, or other principal officer of the customs, are hereby required and enjoined to give without fee or reward.

XXXVI. *And it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the certificates before-mentioned for such ships or vessels as shall be bound to Great Britain and Ireland, shall continue in force for six months from the dates thereof, and no longer; and the master or person having charge of such ship or vessel, upon his arrival at the port of his discharge in Great Britain or Ireland, at the time he reports his ship, is hereby required to deliver up such certificate to the Collector and Comptroller, or other principal officer of the customs at such port, on forfeiture of one hundred pounds; and if any officer or officers of the customs shall give or grant any false certificate, for the purpose required or directed by this act, such officer or officers shall forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds, and be rendered incapable of serving his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, in any office whatsoever; and if any person or persons shall counterfeit, erase, alter, or falsify any such certificate, or any license required or directed by this act, or shall knowingly make use of any false certificate or license, or of any certificate or license so counterfeited, erased, altered, or falsified, such person or persons shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds, and such certificate or license shall be invalid and of no effect; which said penalties, if the same shall be incurred in Great Britain or within the British dominions in America, shall, and may be prosecuted, sued for, and recovered, and be divided, paid, and applied, in like manner as other penalties, inflicted by any act or acts of Parliament relating to the trade or revenues of the British Colonies or Plantations in America, are directed to be prosecuted, sued for, or recovered, divided, paid, and applied, by any act or acts of Parliament now in force; and if the said penalties shall be incurred in the kingdom of Ireland, the same shall and may be prosecuted, sued for, recovered, and applied, in such and

Ordered, That the same be paid.

A Petition from the Committees of the Townships of *Walpack*, *Sandstone*, and *Montague*, in the County of *Sussex*, in *New-Jersey*, was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, who are Members of Congress.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolution for the sale and consumption of the Teas now in these Colonies, brought in the same, which was read, and agreed to, as follows:

the like manner, as any forfeiture incurred by the laws now in force in the said kingdom of *Ireland*, against the running or intending to run goods into that kingdom, may, by any act or acts of Parliament now in force there, be prosecuted, sued for, recovered, and applied.

XXXVII. *Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing in this act shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any ship or vessel, or the cargo thereof, which shall have been or may be cleared out from any port in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, before the 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and shall be bound to any of the *British* sugar Colonies in the *West-Indies*, or which hath been, or may be so cleared out from the said *British* sugar Colonies, and shall be bound to *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, in case it shall appear by the register of such ship or vessel that two-thirds at the least of the owners of such ship or vessel are his Majesty's subjects residing in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or in some of the said *British* sugar Colonies; nor to any ship or vessel, or the cargo thereof, which shall be cleared out from any port in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, after the 20th day of *January* one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and shall be bound to any of the *British* sugar Colonies, or which shall be cleared out after the 25th day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, from the said *British* sugar Colonies, and shall be bound to *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, in case it shall appear, by the oath or affirmation of one or more of the owners of such ship or vessel, to be endorsed on the register thereof, to be taken before the Collector or other principal officer of the customs at the port or place where such ship or vessel shall be cleared out, (which oath or affirmation such Collector, or other principal officer of the customs, is hereby authorized and required to administer,) that two-thirds at least of such ship or vessel are the property of his Majesty's subjects residing in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, or in some of the said sugar Colonies or Plantations.

XXXVIII. And whereas many and large debts are now due from the inhabitants of the *North-American* Colonies herein-before mentioned to divers of his Majesty's good and loyal subjects residing in *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British* Plantations in the *West-Indies*, and many of such good and loyal subjects may have estates and effects in some of the said *North-American* Colonies: And whereas goods and merchandise have been or may be shipped or laden in the said Colonies, for and on account of such debts, estates, or effects, and other goods and merchandise may be laden there, and sent from thence in consequence of orders given for that purpose, *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any ship or vessel which shall have cleared out and sailed from any of the said Colonies for *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or any of the *British* Plantations in the *West-Indies*, on or before the 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six; nor shall extend, or be construed to extend, to forfeit any goods or merchandise, or effects which shall be laden or shipped on board any ship or vessel in any of the said *North-American* Colonies, on or before the 25th day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, as a remittance to any of his Majesty's subjects, residing in *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, or the *British* Colonies or Plantations in the *West-Indies*, for or on account of any such estates, effects, or debts, or in consequence of any orders given for that purpose, before the 21st day of *December*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, provided proof thereof shall be made, on oath of the parties to whom such goods, merchandise, or effects, shall be consigned, or otherwise to the satisfaction of the Judge or Court before whom any seizure of such goods, merchandise, or effects, shall be depending, anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

XXXIX. *Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any ship or vessel the property of any person or persons residing in the said Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, or *Georgia*, which, on or before the 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, shall have sailed from any port or place in *Europe* where such ship or vessel might lawfully trade; or which on or before the said 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, shall be actually laden in any such port or place for *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, with such goods and merchandises as such ship or vessel might lawfully so transport; nor to any such ship or vessel as shall, on the said 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, remain in any port of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, anything herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

XI. *Provided also, and it is hereby further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That nothing in this act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any ship or vessel, being the property of any of the inhabitants of the Island of *Nantucket*, employed in the whale fishery only, if it shall appear by the papers on board that such ship or vessel was fitted and cleared out from thence before the 1st day of *December*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five; or if the master, or other person having the charge of any such ship or vessel as aforesaid, shall produce a certificate under the hand and seal of the Governour or Commander-in-Chief of the Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, setting forth that such ship or vessel (expressing her name, and the name of her master, and describing her built and burthen) is the whole and entire property of his Majesty's subjects of the said Island of *Nantucket*, and was the property of one or more of them on or before the 25th day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Whereas by the third article of the Association entered into by the late Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*, on the 24th day of *October*, in the year of our Lord 1774, it was agreed, that, from that day, the inhabitants of the United Colonies "would not purchase nor use any Tea imported on account of the *East-India* Company, or any on which a duty had been or should be paid; and from and after the first day of *March* then next following, they would not purchase or use any *East-India* Tea whatever:" And whereas it has been represented to this Congress, that the time as aforesaid limited for the consumption of the Tea

XLI. And whereas, before the passing this act, and since the commencement of the said unnatural rebellion, divers persons, vessels, cargoes, and other effects, may have been seized, detained, examined, searched, damaged, or destroyed, for the publick service, in withstanding or suppressing the said rebellion, *Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all such acts shall be deemed just and legal to all intents, constructions, and purposes whatsoever; and if any action or suit shall be commenced or prosecuted against any person or persons for or by reason of anything so done, or for or by reason of anything done or acted in pursuance of this act, then, and in every such case, such action or suit shall be commenced within six calendar months next after the fact committed, and not afterwards; and the defendant or defendants shall and may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence; and if the act shall appear to have been done for the service of the publick, or in pursuance of and by the authority of this act, or if any such action or suit shall be brought after the time herein-before limited for bringing the same, then the jury shall find for the defendant or defendants; and upon such finding, or if the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his or their action after the defendant or defendants shall have appeared, or if upon demurrer judgment shall be given against the plaintiff or plaintiffs, the defendant or defendants shall and may recover treble costs.

XLII. And whereas an act was passed in the fourteenth year of the reign of his present Majesty, (intituled, An act to discontinue, in such manner, and for such time, as are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading or shipping, of goods, wares, and merchandise, at the town, and within the harbour of *Boston*, in the Province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *North-America*;) and also an act passed in the last session of Parliament, (intituled, An act to restrain the trade and commerce of the Provinces of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and Colonies of *Connecticut*, and *Rhode-Island* and *Providence Plantations*, in *North-America*, to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British* Islands in the *West-Indies*;) and to prohibit such Provinces and Colonies from carrying on any fishery on the banks of *Newfoundland*, or other places therein mentioned, under certain conditions and limitations;) and also another act passed in the same session, (intituled, An act to restrain the trade and commerce of the Colonies of *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, and *South-Carolina*, to *Great Britain*, *Ireland*, and the *British* Islands in the *West-Indies*, under certain conditions and limitations;) And whereas the prohibitions and restraints imposed by the said acts will be rendered unnecessary by the provisions of this act, *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That from and after the 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, the said acts shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

XLIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That this act, so far as the same relates to the capture and forfeiture of ships and vessels belonging to the inhabitants of the above-mentioned Colonies, shall, except in the cases herein-before mentioned, commence and be in force from and after the 1st day of *January*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six; and so far as the same relates to the capture and forfeiture of all other ships and vessels that shall be found going to trade in or at any of the said Colonies, from and after the 1st day of *February*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six; and so far as the same relates to the capture and forfeiture of all other ships and vessels that shall be found trading in or at any of the said Colonies, or bound and trading from any port or place in the same, from and after the 25th day of *March*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six; and shall continue to be in force so long as the said Colonies respectively shall remain in a state of rebellion.

XLIV. *Provided always nevertheless, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That in order to encourage all well-affected persons in any of the said Colonies to exert themselves in suppressing the rebellion therein, and to afford a speedy protection to those who are disposed to return to their duty, it shall and may be lawful to and for any person or persons, appointed and authorized by his Majesty to grant a pardon or pardons to any number or description of persons, by proclamation, in his Majesty's name, to declare any Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, or any County, Town, Port, District, or place, in any Colony or Province, to be at the peace of his Majesty; and from and after the issuing of any such proclamation in any of the aforesaid Colonies or Provinces, or if his Majesty shall be graciously pleased to signify the same by his Royal Proclamation, then, from and after the issuing of such proclamation, this act, with respect to such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District, or place, shall cease, determine, and be utterly void; and if any captures shall be made, after the date and issuing of such proclamations, of any ships or vessels, and their cargoes, belonging to the inhabitants of any such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces, County, Town, Port, District, or place, or of any ships trading to or from such Colony or Province, Colonies or Provinces respectively, the same shall be restored to the owners of such ships or vessels, upon claim being entered, and due proof made of their property therein, and the captors shall not be liable to any action for seizing or detaining the said ships or vessels, or their cargoes, without proof being made that they had actual notice of such proclamation having been issued.

XLV. *Provided always*, That such proclamation or proclamations shall not discharge or suspend any proceeding upon any capture of any such ship or vessel made before the date and issuing thereof.

then on hand, was too short; whereby many zealous friends to the *American* cause, who had imported large quantities of that commodity, with design not merely to advance their fortunes, but to counteract the plan then pursued by the Ministry and *India* Company to introduce and sell in these Colonies Tea subject to duty, are likely to become great sufferers—the greater part of the estates of many of them being vested in that article, and they, by that means, rendered incapable not only of paying their debts and maintaining their families, but also of vigorously exerting themselves in the service of their country: And whereas it was originally the design of Congress that all *India* Tea, which had been imported agreeable to the tenour of the said Association, might be sold and consumed; but the time limited for that purpose proving too short:

*Resolved*, That all *India* Tea, imported as aforesaid, expressly excepting all Teas imported by or on account of the *East-India* Company, now remaining on hand in these Colonies, be sold and used.

And whereas, from the future importation of Tea being prohibited, some Tea-holders may be tempted to avail themselves of the scarcity which will be occasioned by it, and exact exorbitant prices for an article of little real value in itself, and which owes its worth to a habit, in many respects, pernicious to the inhabitants of these Colonies:

*Resolved*, therefore, That *Bohea* Tea ought not to be sold by retail in the smallest quantities, at a higher price, in any Colony, than at the rate of three-fourth parts of a Dollar per pound; and other Teas at such a price as shall be regulated by the Committees of the Town or County where the Tea is sold; and that all persons who shall either give or take a greater price for it ought to be considered as enemies to the *American* cause, and treated accordingly. And it is earnestly recommended to all Committees of Inspection and Observation, as well to be vigilant in carrying this Resolve into execution as those which prohibit the importation of *India* Tea from any part of the world, it being the desire of Congress to exclude all Teas, except such as make part of the cargoes of prizes taken by ships of war or privateers belonging to these Colonies.

*Ordered*, That the above be published.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley* one quarter-cask of Powder, to repay so much by him borrowed for the use of the Continent.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Letter to the Committee of Safety of *New-Jersey*, brought in a draft, which, being read, was agreed to.

*Ordered*, That the same be transcribed, signed by the President, and transmitted.

The Committee appointed to consider the Representation and Queries of *James Mease*, respecting the Sixth Battalion of Troops commanded by Colonel *Irvine*, brought in their Report, which was read.

Whereupon *Resolved*, That the Certificates of Magistrates, or other respectable inhabitants of the County of *Cumberland*, who have inspected and examined the Companies of the said Battalion, shall, in this instance, justify the Paymaster in paying such Companies, agreeable to the said Certificates, the Mustermaster being absent.

That the supernumerary Privates that have been inlisted, and are armed and clothed, be continued and paid.

That the Officers in the said Battalion be paid for their subsistence since the recruiting service has been over, at the rates used in other Battalions.

That the claim of the Ensign, in Captain *Wilson's* Company, to pay and subsistence from the time of entering into actual service, be allowed.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be empowered to build two Galleys, capable of carrying, each, two thirty-six or forty-two-pounders, to oppose the enemy's Vessels in Bays and Harbours.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for casting Cannon be directed to contract for the casting forty Howitzers, with a sufficient quantity of Shells.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the application of *James Hughes*, late Town-Major of *Montreal*, and now one of the prisoners of the thirteen United Colonies, brought in their Report, wherein they represent,

"That it appears to them that Mrs. *Hughes*, the wife of the said *James Hughes*, on or about the 5th of *February* last, bargained with a certain *Jabez West*, for divers goods and merchandise, in her possession, at *Montreal*, for which the said *West*, as the said *James Hughes* alleges, agreed to pay £905 11 9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, sterling money of *Great Britain*, and £151 1 9, *Halifax* currency, in gold and silver, to said *Hughes*, within eighteen days from that time; upon which payment being made, the goods were to be delivered at *Albany*, to the said *West*, by a certain *John Stevenson*, at *Albany*, to whom they were to be sent at the expense of said *West*; that the said *West* paid to said *Hughes* 240 dollars, in part; but it was, as the said *Hughes* alleges, agreed, that if the residue of the money was not paid within the time limited, then the 240 dollars were to be forfeited, and the goods not to be delivered; that the goods arrived at *Albany*, and were in the possession of Mr. *Stevenson*, who, on the 11th of *March* last, by some means or other, was induced to deliver the goods to *West*, though he paid no money; that the said *West* gave a bond to the said *Stevenson*, payable to the said *Hughes*, for £1609 18 8, Continental currency, on the 9th of *April* instant, without any authority from the said *Hughes*, as he alleges; that the said *West* proceeded with the goods, immediately on the receipt of them, to some of the Eastern Colonies, and, it is apprehended, to *Connecticut*. Upon the whole, the Committee are of opinion, that the said *Hughes* may probably lose his debt from *West*, without the interposition of Congress, or their permission to him to go in pursuit of the said *West*."

Whereupon *Resolved*, That Governour *Trumbull*, of the Colony of *Connecticut*, be desired to direct the most effectual method, according to law, to be taken, for securing the person of *Jabez West*, or his effects, to the value of the debt due to *James Hughes*, if either can be found in his Government; and to see that justice be done in the premises.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday* next.

Monday, April 15, 1776.

A Letter, of the 4th, from General *Washington*, enclosing a Letter from Governour *Cooke*, and an account of the Powder supplied the Army at *Cambridge* by the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, from the 10th of *June* last; also, a Letter, of the 2d, from General *Schuyler*, with eight papers enclosed, being laid before Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That the said Letters, with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *S. Adams*.

*Resolved*, That the intelligence received respecting the *Indians* be kept secret.

The Committee to whom the Petition from the Committees of *Walpack*, &c., was referred, brought in their Report, which was agreed to.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That an Order be drawn, by the Chairman of the Secret Committee, upon *Henry Wisner*, Esq., in favour of the Petitioners, for two hundred pounds of Powder, they paying for the same.

That one thousand Flints be delivered to the Petitioners.

That the Petitioners be desired to send *Garret Broadhead*, Esq., to the nearest *Indian* Settlement, in order to discover whether any uneasiness subsists among the *Indians* in that part of the country; and, if it subsists, from what cause it arises.

That a Letter be written by the President of the Congress to General *Schuyler*, to inform him of the apprehension of the inhabitants on the Western boundaries of *New-Jersey* from the *Indians*, and to request him to direct proper inquiries to be made, whether there be any foundation for such apprehensions.

The Congress, taking into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Petition of *John Secord*,

*Resolved*, That a certified copy of said Petition be transmitted to the Governour of *Connecticut*; that he be requested to cause inquiry to be made into the truth of the facts therein stated; and, if found true, that it be recommended to him to cause restitution to be made to the Petitioner.

*Resolved*, That it be again recommended to the Settlers at *Wyoming* and the *Susquehannah* River, as well those under *Pennsylvania* as those under *Connecticut*, to cultivate harmony, to consider themselves as jointly interested in the event of the *American* cause, and not, by mutual acts of



violence or oppression, to injure that union that happily subsists between all the Colonies, and on which their welfare so much depends.

*Resolved*, That the Committee for fortifying Ports be empowered to write, in the name of the Congress, to General *Washington*, and request him to send a proper person to examine such Ports on the coast of *New-England* as they shall direct, and report thereon.

That the said Committee be empowered to employ proper persons to examine the several Ports and Harbours on the coast between *New-York* and *Delaware Bay*, and between *Delaware* and *Chesapeake Bays*, and to the Southward.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the inhabitants of *Monmouth County*, in *New-Jersey*, with three hundred pounds of Powder, they paying for the same.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, having property in *America*, who assist any of the enemies of the United Colonies in the capture of Vessels or Goods, may be made liable to make good the damages to the sufferers.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

A Petition from *Moses Kirkland*, a prisoner, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on the ways and means of supplying the Troops in *Canada*.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Mr. *R. Morris* be directed to purchase Bills of Exchange to the amount of £3000, sterling, and deliver the same to Mr. *Price*; and that Mr. *Morris* be indemnified for any loss that may arise from endorsing them.

That the sum of 13,333.3 Dollars be advanced to Mr. *Price*, to be employed by him in the service of the Continent, in *Canada*, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Officers of the Rifle Battalion, and Independent Rifle Companies, be authorized and directed to recruit the said Battalion and Companies, and enlist the men as speedily as possible; and that their reenlistment be for two years from the expiration of their present term, liable to be discharged sooner, if the Congress shall think proper, upon receiving a month's pay advance.

A Petition from *Thomas Leaming*, Jun., in behalf of the Committee of Inspection of the County of *Cape-May*, in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, was presented to Congress, and read, setting forth the defenceless state of that part of the country, and praying for a supply of Powder and Lead, and that two Companies of the Continental forces may be stationed there.

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, April 16, 1776.

A Letter of the 9th, from Commodore *E. Hopkins*, enclosing a list of the Cannon and Stores brought from *Providence*; and a Letter of the 14th from the Committee of *Baltimore*, enclosing copies of intercepted Letters from the Secretary of State to Governour *Eden*; also a Letter of the 8th, from General *Thomas*, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary publish an extract of the Letter from Commodore *Hopkins*.

The Congress taking into consideration the Letter from the Committee of *Baltimore*, and the papers enclosed, came to the following Resolutions:

Whereas information has been this day laid before Congress, from which there is great reason to believe that *Robert Eden*, Esquire, Governour of the Colony of *Maryland*, has lately carried on a correspondence with the *British Ministry* highly dangerous to the liberties of *America*;

*Resolved, therefore*, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be earnestly requested immediately to cause the person and papers of Governour *Eden* to be seized and secured, and such of the papers as relate to the *American* dispute, without

delay, conveyed safely to Congress; and that copies of the intercepted Letters from the Secretary of State be enclosed to the said Council of Safety.

*Resolved*, That the Council of Safety of *Maryland* be requested to cause the person and papers of *Alexander Ross* to be immediately seized and secured, and that the papers be sent safely to Congress.

And to prevent the said *Alexander Ross* having any opportunity to escape,

*Resolved*, That the like request be made to the Committees of Observation for *Baltimore* and *Frederick Counties* in *Maryland*, in one of which Counties the said *Alexander Ross* probably now is.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Isaac Melchoir*, for expenses from *Montreal* to *Philadelphia*, including a part of *St. Luke La Corne's* expenses to *Albany*, the sum of 34.7 Dollars;

To *Leonard Melchoir*, for boarding Mr. *McDonald* twenty days, the sum of 16 Dollars;

To *William Chew*, for riding express to *North-Carolina* and back, including ferriages, the sum of 90 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to *Joseph Hewes*, Esq.;

To *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., the sum of 133.3 Dollars, money advanced by Col. *Charles Beatty* to Captain *James Grier*; and that the same ought to be paid and charged to the said *James Grier*;

To *Anthony Tricker*, for boarding *Donald McDonald*, and others of the *Scots* Prisoners taken by General *Schuyler* near *Johnstown*, the sum of 150 Dollars;

To *Pelotiah Webster*, for purchasing goods for the Continent, including some incidental charges, the sum of 66.3 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply the inhabitants of *Monmouth County* with five hundred Flints.

The Congress having proceeded to the election of a Clerk or Assistant to the Auditor-General, the ballots being taken, Mr. *William Webb* was elected.

A Letter of the 15th, from *H. Beaumont*, Surgeon of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee on Prisoners.

*Resolved*, That the sum of 1000 Dollars be paid to Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, in consideration of their extraordinary services in *Canada*.

Whereas much inconvenience may be derived to the publick from Committees, other than the Committees of Safety in each Colony, on the publick post roads stopping and opening the Mails, and detaining Letters from the Constitutional Post:

*Resolved*, That no Committee but the Council or Committee of Safety in each Colony, or such persons as they shall, on extraordinary occasions, authorize, shall stop the Constitutional Post, open the Mail, or detain any Letters therefrom.

*Resolved*, That the President write to Commodore *Hopkins*, and direct him to send a complete list and state of the stores taken and brought from *Providence*, with the sizes of the Cannon, &c.; and in case he should have left *New-London*, that Governour *Trumbull* be desired to order a list of the stores left at *New-London* by Commodore *Hopkins* to be made out, and transmitted to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Cannon and such other of the stores as are not necessary for the fleet, be landed and left at *New-London*, and that such of the Cannon and wheels as Governour *Trumbull* shall direct, may be employed for the defence of that Harbour, during the pleasure of the Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, April 17, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on the Treasurers for 10 Dollars, in favour of *John Avery*, Jun., an express from Commodore *Hopkins*, he to account.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *John Avery*, Jun., for riding express from Commodore *Hopkins* and back again, the sum of 40.7 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.



*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be instructed to recommend to the Congress proper persons for Commission Officers for the Frigates now building, and that the Warrant Officers be appointed by the said Committee; and that they fit said Frigates for sea with all expedition.

That the Marine Committee recommend to Congress proper persons to be Agents for prizes in the several Colonies.

That a bounty of eight Dollars be allowed by the publick to the owner of every *American* vessel for every able seaman that he shall import into the United Colonies, over and above the number the said vessel carried out; and that foreigners importing able seamen, over and above the ship's company, and discharging them in the *American* Ports, shall be entitled to the same bounty.

*Resolved*, That the nomination or appointment of Captains or Commanders of Continental vessels shall not establish rank, which is to be settled by Congress before Commissions are granted.

The Congress having proceeded to the election of Captains for the two Frigates building in *Massachusetts-Bay*, *William Manly* and *Isaac Cozneau*, were elected.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be empowered to give orders for the arming and manning abroad any of the ships or vessels employed in the importation of cargoes for the Continental account; the expenses and charges of such armaments to be paid by the said Committee; they receiving for the publick service, on the arrival of every vessel, all the arms, ammunition, and stores.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be empowered to import cargoes of Salt on the Continental account, in such ships or vessels as they employ to carry outward cargoes, and are obliged to insure on their return.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* be requested to permit *John Young*, Jun., and *Johnson Smith*, to carry to *Virginia* all such Arms as they have already purchased, or shall purchase in *Pennsylvania*, for the use of the Continental Army in the said Colony of *Virginia*, before the 1st day of *May* next; not to exceed one thousand stand in the whole.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to supply Mr. *Thomas Leaming* with two hundred pounds of Powder for the Militia of *Cape-May*, he paying for the same.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer at *New-York* be directed to order two Companies of Colonel *Dayton's* Battalion to march to *Cape-May*, and there to remain till further orders.

*Resolved*, That the Petition of Dr. *Jackson* be referred to the Committee of Claims.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, April 18, 1776.

A Letter of the 15th, from General *Washington*; and A Letter of the 7th of *November*, from the Rev. *Samuel Langdon*, accompanied with a Letter from General *Putnam*, and Colonels *Glover*, *Bridge*, *Frye*, and *Prescott*; also,

A Letter from *James Warren*, Esquire, Paymaster-General, desiring leave to resign, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That the said Letters be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Clinton*, and Mr. *Braxton*.

A Letter from *Elizabeth Seymour*, widow of the late Master of the *Cabot*, was laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Marine Committee.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on *Indian Affairs* be directed to prepare and report a draft of Instructions to *George Morgan*, Esq., Agent under the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department.

A Letter of the 6th, from Brigadier-General *Lewis*, and a Letter of the same date from Major-General *Lee*, being received, were read, and referred to Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Clinton*, and Mr. *Braxton*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. *Samuel Treat*, for Medicine, and for attending the Troops at *Burlington*, the sum of 273.7 Dollars;

To *John Bull*, Esq., for expenses in conducting money to the Camp at *Cambridge*, the sum of 155 Dollars;

To *Jacob Ming*, for Wagonage, the sum of 107.5 Dollars;

To *Robert Kennedy*, for necessities furnished Captain *Morgan's* Company, the sum of 544 Dollars, of which sum 189.2 Dollars, being for Rifles, Shirts, &c., to be charged to the said Company;

To *Thaddeus Burr*, for money paid by him for Horse-hire, &c., the sum of 37.2 Dollars, which ought to be charged to *Jacob Hiltzheimer*, Express-master;

To sundries, on certificates produced by *Thomas Johnson*, Esq., for Provisions, &c., for General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 10.7 Dollars; and for a Rifle delivered to Captain *Cresap's* Company, to be charged to the said Company, the sum of 10.6 Dollars;

To *Jane Allen*, for necessities to several Companies of Continental Troops, the sum of 52.9 Dollars, of which sum 40 Dollars ought to be charged to the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, and deducted from the Commissary's Account;

To Dr. *Hall Jackson*, for his services as Surgeon, the sum of 130 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq.;

To *William Smith*, for Medicines, Instruments, &c., for the *Delaware* Battalion, the sum of 257.4 Dollars.

To *Timothy Shalor*, for expenses in bringing Prisoners from *Egg-Harbour*, the sum of 37.5 Dollars;

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Marine Committee having recommended gentlemen for Captains of the *Hornet* and *Wasp*, the Congress proceeded to an election, and the ballots being taken and examined,

*William Hallock* was elected Captain of the *Hornet*, and ——— *Alexander* Captain of the *Wasp*.

The Committee appointed to consider the propriety of establishing a War Office, brought in their Report; which was read.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, April 19, 1776.

A Letter of the 2d, from Governour *Trumbull*, with a Petition from *Noah Phelps*, being laid before Congress and read,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Committee on Qualifications.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed to examine and ascertain the value of the several species of Gold and Silver Coins current in these Colonies, and the proportions they ought to bear to *Spanish* milled Dollars.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Mr. *Whipple*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Peter Brunner*, for necessities furnished to Captain *Nelson's* Company by himself and *Abraham Vanhorn*, the sum of 25.2 Dollars, which ought to be charged to Captain *Nelson*;

To *Mary Miller*, for Provisions, &c., furnished to General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 16.5 Dollars;

To *Jacob Frantz*, for Horse-hire, in carrying Brigadier-General *Woodtke's* baggage to *New-York*, the sum of 47.5 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

*Resolved*, That Letters which are directed for any General in the Continental service, commanding in a separate department, be carried free of postage by the Constitutional Post.

The Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to *George Morgan*, Esq., brought in a draft, which, being read, was agreed to, as follows:

To *GEORGE MORGAN, Esq., Agent under the Commissioners for INDIAN Affairs in the Middle Department.*

SIR: You are required to provide that the Great Belt presented to the *Indians* last fall at *Pittsburgh*, be forwarded, with all convenient expedition, to the Sachems and Warriors of the Western Nations, and endeavour, to the utmost of your power, to convince them of the good wishes

and good intentions of Congress for and towards them, and to cultivate harmony and friendship between them and the white people; and to give Congress the most early intelligence of any interruption thereof, or of any disturbance which shall arise, and which you cannot quiet.

Acquaint the *Indians* that Congress have formed the best plan they could devise to import foreign goods for their use, and have neglected no probable means to procure them in time; and if they should not be supplied so soon as they may be wanted, the misfortune is to be ascribed to the common enemies of them and us, who, by obstructing our trade, as well as in numberless other instances, are daily injuring and distressing both; but that we have well-grounded hopes of speedy relief, in expectation of which, and of greater advantages in prospect, the present inconveniences are borne more patiently.

All differences and disputes that shall happen between the *Indians* and white people, you will have adjusted and determined in the mode prescribed by a resolve of Congress, of which you have a copy; and you are directed, in a particular manner, to prevent, as much as you are able, any impositions upon the former by those who deal with them. Treat all those people with whom you may meet kindly and hospitably. Inspire them with sentiments of justice and humanity, and dispose them to introduce the arts of civil and social life, and to encourage the residence of husbandmen and handicraftsmen among them. Advise the Congress, from time to time, of all occurrences that may, in your opinion, deserve their attention.

The Committee to whom General *Washington's* Letter, of the 15th instant, as well as other Letters, were referred, brought in their Report; which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That General *Washington* may order as many of the Cannon and Military Stores as are not necessary for the Continental Fleet, and which were lately brought into *New-London*, by the Commander thereof, to any other place he may think proper; having regard only to the permission of Congress relative to the defence of the Harbour of *New-London*, a copy of which ought to be sent to General *Washington*, and also a list of the Cannon and Stores as transmitted to Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Resignation of *James Warren*, as Paymaster-General of the Army, be accepted and entered accordingly; and that he be informed there are Superintendents of the Treasury appointed, to whom he is to render his Accounts and Vouchers.

*Resolved*, That another Paymaster-General be appointed, and that the General be informed thereof.

As it appears from the Certificates of four Colonels of Regiments at *Cambridge*, that the Rev. Dr. *Samuel Langdon* did not only perform the duty of a Chaplain to their several Regiments, for the space of six months, for which no other Chaplain had been appointed, but also to the Army at large:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Dr. *Langdon*, having received no compensation for those services, be paid the sum of 300 Dollars.

*Resolved*, That three tons of Powder be immediately forwarded to *Virginia*, for the use of the Army in the Southern Department.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be made acquainted with General *Lee's* request of a Company of Artillery, and be desired to furnish him with such a Company, if it may be done consistent with the general good of the service.

*Resolved*, That an immediate supply of Arms, Shoes, and Blankets, be furnished for the Troops in *Virginia*, and that some proper persons be appointed to procure them, subject to the orders of Congress already entered into.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Ephraim Blaine* be appointed to purchase a quantity of Blankets, not exceeding five thousand, and also that he be directed to purchase five thousand pair of Shoes, to be sent to *Virginia*, to the Commanding Officer at *Williamsburgh*.

*Resolved*, That *Monday* next be assigned for the election of a Paymaster-General.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Thomas Lowry*, Commissary, be di-

rected to purchase and forward to General *Schuyler*, with all convenient despatch, two thousand barrels of Pork, for the use of the Army in *Canada*, and that he be supplied with a sum not exceeding 20,000 Dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Price* be directed to bring in a resolution to enable Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* to draw for the balance of the money ordered to be paid them by the resolutions of the 3d and 16th of this month.

*Resolved*, That Messrs. *Du Montesson*, *Hevieux*, *La Marque*, *Du Massaux*, *Shemit*, *Giasson*, and *Gamelin*, *Canadian* Prisoners, at *Bristol*, be permitted to come to *Philadelphia*, in order to purchase Clothes and other necessaries, and to remain there ten days, and then return to *Bristol*.

The Committee to whom were referred the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 4th, and the Letter from General *Schuyler*, of the 2d of this month, brought in their Report.\*

The Committee on Prisoners, having collected from the Journals the several resolutions respecting Prisoners, and having made some amendments therein, submitted the same to Congress.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, April 22, 1776.

Sundry Letters, received since the adjournment, were laid before Congress, and read, namely:

One from the Committee of Safety of *Maryland*, dated the 18th;

One from Dr. *Boyd*, of the 19th;

One from the Committee of Inspection of *Lancaster*, of the 11th;

One from the *Canada* Commissioners, dated *Saratoga*, the 13th;

\*April 19, 1776. Report of the Committee on General *SCHUYLER's* Letter of the 2d April, 1776.

The Committee, to whom the Letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, dated the 2d day of this instant, April, was referred, having examined the matter thereof, report, that a letter be written and sent to him, acquainting him that Congress approve the measures he hath pursued for the easy, expeditious, and cheap transportation of the troops ordered to march to *Canada*, with their baggage and the artillery stores and provisions, down the *Sorel* and *St. Lawrence*; and are well pleased with his behaviour towards the *Indians*, and with his message to them, and doubt not that his vigilance, circumspection and influence, will frustrate the attempts of our enemies to disturb us from that quarter: and, also, informing him of the provision made for supplying the Army in *Canada* with pork.

April 25th, 1776. Further Report on General *SCHUYLER's* Letter, &c., of 2d April, 1776.

The Committee appointed to consider the Letters from General *Schuyler*, &c., relating to the Northern Army, beg leave to report the following Resolutions, viz:

*Resolved*, That General *Schuyler*, or the Commanding Officer of the Northern Army, be directed to cause a Laboratory to be erected at such place as he shall judge most convenient, to fix all the necessary Ammunition for the ensuing campaign.

*Resolved*, That fifteen Companies, consisting of a Captain or an Overseer, and thirty men each, be engaged for the *Bateau* service, and be occasionally employed on the highways, and other works in the Quartermaster-General's Department. And that four Companies of Carpenters, to consist of an Overseer and twenty-five men each, be engaged in like manner.

For the better regulating Wagons in the Northern Army,

*Resolved*, That two Wagons be allowed to every Company on a march, and one Wagon to the Colonel, one to the Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, one to the Staff of a Regiment, and one for the particular use of the Director of the Hospital; each Wagon to be drawn by two horses, (except to the Colonel's, which is to be allowed four horses,) and subject to such orders as shall from time to time be issued by the General or Commanding Officer.

*Resolved*, That if any Commissioned or Non-Commissioned Officer shall employ more carriages than are mentioned in the foregoing resolution, he shall not be allowed to make a publick charge of it, but shall pay the customary price himself. And on his refusal or neglect of so doing, he shall be subject to be fined by a Court-Martial in treble the sum, one-third part of such fine to be for the use of the owner of the Wagon or other carriage so employed, and the other two-thirds to the Paymaster, for the publick use. The part adjudged to the owner of the carriage shall be paid to him by a Quartermaster, on the certificate of the President of the Court-Martial, who shall transmit the whole fine to the Paymaster, in order that the same may be deducted from the pay of the delinquent.

*Resolved*, That the Board of War be directed to order sixty tons of Cannon Powder and thirty-four tons of Musket Powder, to be immediately sent to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Northern Army, provided those quantities can be spared consistent with the safety of the several States.

One from General *Washington*, of the 19th;  
 One from General *Schuyler*, of the 12th, enclosing sundry Letters and papers from *Canada*; and  
 One from the Committee of Inspection of *West-Augusta*, with sundry papers enclosed.

*Resolved*, That the four last, with the papers enclosed, be referred to Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Johnson*.

*Resolved*, That the consideration of the Letter from the Committee of Safety of *Maryland* be postponed till to-morrow.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Resolve respecting Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, brought in the same.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood* be empowered to draw Bills of Exchange on the President of Congress, for the sum of 48,358.6 Dollars, payable the 5th of *July* next, in specie; it being the balance of a sum specified in a resolve of the 3d of *April* instant, after deducting 16,000 Dollars, for which they received an Order on the Treasurers the 12th; and they are further empowered to draw Bills as aforesaid for 1000 Dollars, ordered to be paid them by a resolve of the 6th instant.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners gone to *Canada* be desired and empowered to settle the Accounts of Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, to the 5th of *February* last, or to employ proper persons to examine the same, and compare the vouchers with the several articles of said Accounts, and return a certificate to Congress of the balance justly due to Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood*, from the United Colonies, to that date, with the vouchers for expenditures and supplies by orders of General *Montgomery* and General *Wooster*.

*Resolved*, That the said Commissioners be requested to return to Congress a list of such persons as are accountable to the United Colonies for any part of the articles or expenditures comprised in Messrs. *Price* and *Haywood's* Accounts, with the respective sums such persons are chargeable with, and deliver copies thereof to the commanding officers, that the proper deductions may be made from the pay of the officers and men.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *Samuel Fairlamb*, for the use of Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, he to be accountable.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended Mr. *Jacob Weaver* to an Ensigncy, which is vacant, in the Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion;

*Resolved*, That he be appointed, and that a Commission be accordingly granted to him.

The several matters referred to this day being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, April 23, 1776.

A Letter, of the 12th, from Major-General *Ward*, being received and read, repeating his desire for leave to resign,

*Resolved*, That the resignation of Major-General *Ward*, and of Brigadier-General *Frye*, be accepted, and that the President inform them thereof by Letter.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To *Robert Erwin*, for Wagonage, the sum of 873.8 Dollars;

To *John Dunn*, the balance in full due to Colonel *Heard's* Battalion, for their pay, subsistence, &c., on the expedition to *Long-Island*, the sum of 2453.7 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the same be paid.

The Marine Committee having, agreeably to the orders of Congress, recommended gentlemen to be Agents for Prizes in the several Colonies,

*Resolved*, That Captain *John Bradford* be appointed for the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Daniel Tillinghast* for *Rhode-Island*, *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., for *Connecticut*, *Jacobus Vanzandt* for *New-York*, *John Nixon* and *John Maxwell Nesbit* for *Pennsylvania*, *William Lux* for *Maryland*, *John Tazewell* for *Virginia*, *Cornelius Harnett* for *Wilmington*, *Richard Ellis* for *Newbern*, and *Robert Smith* for *Edenton*, in *North-Carolina*, with power, to each, to appoint one or more Deputies, if necessary.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, and the Letters from *Canada* and

*Pittsburgh*, were referred, brought in their Report;\* which was taken into consideration:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the President signify to Colonel *Hazen* the approbation of Congress for his Letter, and attention to the publick good.

*Resolved*, That 300,000 Dollars be immediately sent to General *Schuyler*, for supplying and paying the Army in *Canada*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners of Congress to *Canada* be desired to publish an Address to the People of *Canada*, signifying that Congress has been informed of injuries offered by our people to some of them, expressing our resentment at such misconduct; assuring them of our attachment to their security; inviting them to state their grievances to our Commissioners, and promising ample redress to them, and exemplary punishment to the offenders.

*Resolved*, That Instructions be sent to the Commissioners to cause justice to be done to the *Canadians*, agreeable to the tenour of the above resolve.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer in *Canada* be directed to be very attentive to Military Discipline, and inflict exemplary punishment on all those who shall violate the Military Regulations established by Congress.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be directed to send six Battalions into *Canada* from the Army of *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be written by the President to General *Washington*, requesting his opinion whether any further additional Troops are necessary to be sent for the reduction of *Quebeck*, and for the security of *Canada*; and, if he shall think more Troops necessary, whether they can, with safety, be spared from the Army now in *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That if any of the Troops from *New-Jersey* or *Pennsylvania*, which were raised at 5 Dollars a month, be sent to *Canada*, they shall be allowed at the rate of 6 $\frac{2}{3}$  Dollars a month, from the time they begin their march.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, April 24, 1776.

A Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, was presented Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

\* Report on the Letters received APRIL 16, 1776, relating to Supplies for the Army, and fulfilment of Promises to INDIANS.

*Resolved*, That an expedition against *Detroit* be undertaken.

*Resolved*, That proper measures be taken to send a Schoolmaster, Clergyman, Farmer, and Blacksmith, to the *Delawares*, agreeable to the promise of Congress.

*Resolved*, That no Trader ought to go into the *Indian* country without license from the Agent in the Department, and care to be taken by him to prevent exorbitant prices for Goods being exacted from the *Indians*.

*Resolved*, That a ton of Powder be sent to Mr. *Morgan*, to be distributed to such *Indians* as the Agent shall be convinced are in our interest.

*Resolved*, That measures be immediately taken to procure Goods to supply the *Indians* at the Treaties ordered to be held with them.

*Resolved*, That no surveys, settlements, or encroachments, be made on the *Indian* country.

*Resolved*, That the President signify the approbation of Congress to Colonel *Hazen* for his Letter, and attention to the publick good.

*Resolved*, That 300,000 Dollars be immediately sent to General *Schuyler*, for supplying and paying the Army in *Canada*.

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners from Congress to *Canada* be desired to publish an Address to the People of *Canada*, signifying that Congress has been informed of injuries offered by our people to some of them, expressing our resentment at their misconduct; assuring them of our attachment to their security; inviting them to state their grievances to our Commissioners, and promising ample redress to them, and exemplary punishment to the offenders.

*Resolved*, That Instructions be sent to the Commissioners to cause justice to be done to the *Canadians*, agreeable to the tenour of the above resolve.

*Resolved*, That the Commanding Officer in *Canada* be directed to be very attentive to Military Discipline, and inflict exemplary punishment on all who shall violate the Military Regulations established by Congress.

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be directed to send six Battalions into *Canada* from the Army at *New-York*.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and *New-Hampshire*, and the Governours of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, be earnestly requested to take the most speedy and effectual measures to collect as much hard money in their respective Colonies as possible, send the same, as collected, to General *Schuyler*, and draw upon the President of the Congress for the amount.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Mr. *R. Morris* reported that, in pursuance of the Order of Congress, he has purchased and delivered to Mr. *James Price* Bills of Exchange to the amount of 3000 Pounds, sterling, for which he produced Mr. *Price's* receipt.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 14,800 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *R. Morris*, in full for the above Bills of Exchange.

*Resolved*, That the Committees appointed to confer with Mr. *Price* be directed to draw up Instructions to him, for his government, in disposing and laying out the money put into his hands.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, be directed to provide and forward to General *Schuyler*, two thousand barrels of Pork, with all possible despatch, for the use of the Continental Army in *Canada*; and that the said Commissary be supplied with a sum not exceeding twenty thousand Dollars for that purpose, he to be accountable for the same.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Alsop*, Mr. *Sherman*, and Mr. *Lewis*, be requested to purchase and forward, with all convenient despatch, to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Continental Army in *Canada*, ten thousand pair of Shoes, ten thousand pair of Stockings; and that 15,000 Dollars be advanced to them for those purposes, they to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That a Letter be written to General *Schuyler*, to inform him of the ten additional Battalions lately ordered for *Canada*, and of the four thousand barrels of Pork, and the ten thousand pair of Shoes, and ten thousand pair of Stockings, ordered by Congress to be sent to him; and to desire him to pursue the best means for furnishing such other necessary articles of clothing and food as may be wanting for the Continental Army in *Canada*, having regard to such of these as Mr. *Price*, the Commissary in that Province, can supply there; also, that General *Schuyler* be desired to inform the President what quantity of Gunpowder he has received for *Canada* since the 1st of *January* last; and that he continue, as hitherto, to give the earliest notice to Congress of the occasion for further supplies of this and other necessities that may be wanting, and not in his power to procure.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to forward from Mr. *Wisner's* and Mr. *Livingston's* Powder-Mills, five tons of Powder to General *Schuyler*, to be by him forwarded to *Canada*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *John Gibson*, Agent, appointed by the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs*, for sundry services in the Middle Department, by order of the Commissioners, the sum of 377.9 Dollars;

To *John Davis*, for Wagonage for the Sixth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the sum of 60 Dollars;

To *Furman* and *Hunt*, for Provisions, &c., for the Prisoners at *Trenton*, the sum of 183.8 Dollars;

To *Duncan McDonald*, the sum of 15.8 Dollars, of which sum, 13.6 Dollars ought to be charged to Captain *Hendrick's* Company, and 2.2 Dollars to Captain *Chuggage's* Company, for goods furnished to the said Companies; and that the same ought to be paid to *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq.;

To *Margaret Smith*, for nursing two men in the small-pox, belonging to Captain *Benezet's* Company, the sum of 24 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Convention of *South-Carolina* having appointed Delegates to represent that Colony in Congress, the Credentials of their appointment were presented to Congress, and read, as follows:

"In Congress, Charlestown, South-Carolina, February 16, 1776.

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Lynch*, *John Rutledge*, *Edward Rutledge*, *Arthur Middleton*, and *Thomas Heyward*, Jun., Esquires, be, and they are hereby appointed and fully authorized, to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, for one year next ensuing.

"*March 23, 1776.*—*Resolved*, That the Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress, or a majority of such of them as shall at any time be present in the said Congress, or any one of the said Delegates, if no more than one shall be present, be, and they and he are, and is, hereby autho-

rized and empowered, for and in behalf of this Colony, to concert, agree to, and execute every measure which they or he, together with a majority of the Continental Congress, shall judge necessary for the defence, security, interest, or welfare of this Colony in particular, and of *America* in general.

*Resolved*, That another Delegate be forthwith chosen by ballot by this Congress, to represent this Colony in the Continental Congress, in addition to, and with as full powers, in all respects, as the Delegates already chosen have and are invested with.

"The Congress then proceeded to ballot for said Delegate, and *Thomas Lynch*, Jun., Esq., appearing to be, and being declared, duly chosen,

*Resolved*, That *Thomas Lynch*, Jun., Esq., be, and he is hereby, appointed a sixth Delegate from this Colony, to represent the same in the Continental Congress.

"A true copy: PETER TIMOTHY, Secretary."

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration General *Washington's* Letter of the 27th of *March* last, relative to *Nova-Scotia*, and the petition from some inhabitants of that Colony; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee have had under consideration the Letter referred to them, but not having come to any determination thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Letter from General *Washington* of the 27th of *March*, and the Petition enclosed therein.

The other matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, April 25, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Washington*, of the 22d and 23d, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Hewes*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 2000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *Ephraim Blaine*, Esq., for the purpose of purchasing Shoes and Blankets for the Continental Troops in *Virginia*, he to be accountable.

The Committee on Qualifications having recommended *Thomas Holland* to be a Second Lieutenant in the *Delaware* Battalion, in the room of *James McDonough*, deceased, and *John Corse*, Ensign, in the room of *Thomas Holland*,

*Resolved*, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

The Committee to whom the Petition of *Noah Phelps* was referred, brought in their Report, which was agreed to.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Inspection of the City of *Albany* be requested to adjust Mr. *Noah Phelps's* account of services performed at *Ticonderoga*; and that Mr. *Noah Phelps* be allowed and paid for his further services, including those of Contractor from the time of his joining General *Montgomery*, at the rate of one dollar for each day, until he quitted the service, and an equivalent to a Captain's rations during the said time, provided he has not already received them; the latter account to be settled by General *Schuyler*, who is requested to pay to the said *Noah Phelps* what may appear to be due to him for the whole of his services aforesaid.

The Committee to whom the Letter from Lord *Stirling*, of the 10th of *March* last, with the papers therein enclosed, was referred, brought in their Report; which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

On application from the Committee of *Lower Pennsneck*, in the County of *Salem*, in *New-Jersey*,

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell to the said Committee seventy-five pounds of Gunpowder.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the intercepted Letter from *John Butler*, at *Niagara*, dated the 29th of *February* last, to Mr. *Alexander McGee*, be sent to General *Schuyler*.

*Resolved*, That a copy of the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the truth and foundation of the

story, "that the *Indians* have been invited by Governour *Penn* to come to *Philadelphia*," be sent to General *Schuyler*;\* and that General *Schuyler* be directed to cause the person to be arrested who pretended to have carried such invitation to the *Indians*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

For the expenses of General *Lee's* Guard, the sum of 10.8 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Timothy Matlack*;

On a draft drawn by *Ephraim Blaine*, Esquire, on the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, in favour of *Samuel Semple*, the sum of 77 Dollars, for expenses of the said Commissioners, and that the said sum ought to be paid to *Robert Miller*, Esquire, of the County of *Cumberland*;

For the subsistence of *A. Hill Brice*, Captain of the Seventh Regiment of Foot, or Royal Fusileers, the sum of 39.5 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Thomas McKean*, Esquire, and charged to the said Captain.

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 27th *March* last, and the papers therein enclosed; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee had come to a Resolution on the matter referred to them; which he read and delivered in.

The Report being again read,

Resolved, That the consideration thereof be postponed.

Information being given to Congress, that *Allan Cameron*, who is confined in Jail, is in such a state of health as to require the attendance of a Physician, and that he is desirous of the assistance of Dr. *Cadwallader*:

Resolved, That Dr. *Cadwallader* have leave to attend him.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, April 26, 1776.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to settle and pay to the Colony of *Connecticut* the Powder lent by the said Colony to General *Washington*, for the use of the Continent, and to act as they shall judge best for the publick service, and the benefit of *Connecticut*, in exchanging the Powder which said Colony has in *Philadelphia*, for Powder in the Eastern Ports belonging to the Continent.

Resolved, That the sum of 50,000 Dollars be sent to the Committee of Safety of *Virginia*, and that the President write to the said Committee, and request them to use their utmost endeavours to have it exchanged for Specie, and remit the same to the Continental Treasurers; and, in case they can procure more Specie, that they send it, and draw for the amount on the Paymaster in *Virginia*, who is ordered to pay such drafts.

Resolved, That the sum of 250,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster in *Virginia*, for the use of the Continental Troops, he to be accountable.

A Letter from Dr. *Cadwallader* was laid before Congress, and read, giving an account of *A. Cameron's* state of health. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the said *A. Cameron* be allowed the benefit of air in his room, and of walking an hour every morning in the yard, in company or presence of the Jailer, and that his uncle, Dr. *McClean*, from *New-York*, who is now in *Philadelphia*, be allowed to converse with him in presence of the Jailer.

*Edmund Randolph*, who was appointed Deputy Muster-

\* Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the truth of the report respecting Governour *Penn's* inviting the *INDIANS* to *PHILADELPHIA*.

The Committee to whom Mr. *Deane's* letter to General *Schuyler* was referred, beg leave to report, that they have taken the only step which, in their opinion, could lead to an investigation of the subject therein contained, by waiting on his Honour Governour *Penn*, who has assured them that his name has been used without his consent or privity; that he has sent no message whatever to the Six Nations, nor had he ever a thought of desiring the Six Nations to come to *Philadelphia*.

master-General of the Southern Department, having been chosen by the citizens of *Williamsburgh* to represent them in Convention, and an Ordinance having been passed, excluding all persons holding any military post of profit from a seat therein, begged leave to resign his office:

Resolved, That the resignation of Mr. *Randolph* be accepted.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to take into consideration the state of the Eastern Department, and report thereon.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Johnson*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Harrison*, and Mr. *Duane*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. *Robert Johnson*, for attendance on the Sixth Battalion, and for Medicines, the sum of 53.1 Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Account be paid.

The Committee to whom the Letters from General *Washington* of the 22d and 23d instant, were referred, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the pay of the Aids-de-Camp of the Commander-in-Chief be raised to forty Dollars a month.

Resolved, That none of the Troops already raised be, for the present, disbanded for want of Arms; and that the General apply to the Convention and Committee of Safety of *New-York*, for such Arms as may have been collected under the resolve of Congress for disarming Non-Associators and disaffected persons, or any other Arms they can supply, and that they be delivered to the *New-York* Troops.

Resolved, That Mr. *Baldwin*, the Assistant-Engineer, ordered to *Canada*, be allowed, in consideration of his merit, the pay and rank of Lieutenant-Colonel on the Continental establishment.

Resolved, That the respective Governments from whence Militia have come for the defence of the City of *New-York*, be desired speedily to transmit to Congress authenticated Muster-Rolls, and accounts of Moneys due to such respective Militias, in order to their being immediately settled and discharged.

Resolved, That Congress approve the assistance given by the General to Commodore *Hopkins*.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

The Congress then took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Petition of Colonel *James Easton*: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the claims of the persons concerned in the surprise and reduction of the Fortress of *Ticonderoga*, having already been submitted by Congress to the Committee of *Albany*, the Petitioner be referred to the said Committee of *Albany* for a settlement of his demand on that account.

As from the testimonials produced by the Petitioner, it appears that he and his Battalion behaved with great diligence, activity, and spirit in the successful enterprise against General *Prescott*, and the Vessels and Troops under his command, in the River *Sorel*, in which important service they were joined by Colonel *Bedel* and a part of his Regiment; that to encourage the party employed in that important service, the late Major-General *Montgomery* promised them all the publick Stores which should be taken in the Vessels under General *Prescott's* command, excepting Ammunition and Provisions; and as the Petitioner alleges that no part of those Stores was delivered, nor any composition made to the Troops concerned in the acquisition: Therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the General commanding in *Canada*, to appoint Commissioners to estimate all the publick Stores taken with General *Prescott*, (excepting Ammunition and Provisions,) and pay the value thereof among the officers and men employed in that service, in such proportions as the Commissioners shall determine.

As the Petitioner's account of moneys received, and disbursements made by him for the use of his Regiment, on which he claims a balance, can, for want of proper vouchers and information here, only be adjusted in *Canada*, where the business was transacted,

Resolved, That the same be referred for settlement in such mode as the Commissioners from Congress, in that



Province, shall direct. But as the Petitioner is in want of money,

*Resolved*, That 200 Dollars be advanced to him, in part of his demand against the United Colonies.

With regard to the Petitioner's request that a Court of Inquiry may be called respecting the charge against him and Major *Brown*, for plundering the effects of the prisoners: as Brigadier-General *Arnold*, in his letter of the 1st of *February* last, alleges that the Petitioner and Major *Brown* had been publickly accused of plundering the officers' baggage taken at *Sorel*, contrary to the articles of capitulation, and to the great scandal of the *American* arms; for which reason, he declared it to be his opinion, that it would give great disgust to the Army in general if either of them should be promoted until these matters were cleared up; and as the Petitioner asserts his innocence, declaring that he neither plundered, nor directed, nor was privy to the plundering of any prisoner or other person whatever; considering, therefore, on one hand, the aggravated nature of this charge, which is an impediment to the Petitioner's promotion, and, on the other, the great confidence reposed in him by General *Montgomery*, and the essential service which the Petitioner has rendered to his country:

*Resolved*, That the Commissioners from Congress, in *Canada*, be instructed to cause inquiry to be made, by a Court-Martial or otherwise, into the charge against the Petitioner, giving him an opportunity of making his defence; and that the proceedings thereon be transmitted to Congress, in order that justice may be done to the Petitioner, if he has been accused without sufficient reason.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Saturday, April 27, 1776.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 350 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Mr. *Edy*, of which 250 for himself, and 100 for his attendant, *Isaiah Beaudreau*, for services done.

Sundry Letters and papers from *North-Carolina* were laid before Congress, and read, viz:

An Affidavit of *Thomas Higgins* and *James McClery*, respecting the capture of Captain *W. Ginn's* Brig;

A Letter from *Samuel Johnston*, President of the Convention of *North-Carolina*, dated the 10th instant, enclosing sundry Resolves of the said Convention, of the 9th, 10th, and 13th, of the same month; and an extract of a Letter from Brigadier-General *Moore*.

*Resolved*, That the Affidavit be delivered to the Secret Committee; and that the other papers be referred to a Committee of three:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Sherman*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Paymaster-General, in the room of Mr. *Warren*, whose resignation was accepted; and the ballots being taken and examined, *William Palfrey*, Esquire, was elected.

*Resolved*, That a Mustermaster be elected, in the room of Mr. *Edmund Randolph*, whose resignation was accepted.

The ballots being taken and examined, *William Yates* was elected.

Congress also proceeded to the election of a Deputy Commissary-General, for supplying the Troops in *Virginia* with Rations; and the ballots being taken and examined, *William Aylet*, Esquire, was elected.

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Rodney* and Mr. *Read* be added to the Committee appointed to contract for supplying the Troops in the Barracks at *Philadelphia*, and the Battalion in the Lower Counties on *Delaware*.

A Memorial from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* was presented to Congress, and read.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

— Monday, April 29, 1776.

Sundry Letters and papers being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz:

A Letter of the 25th, from General *Washington*, enclosing a Return of the Army at *New-York*;

A Letter from Major *Wrixon*, declining to accept the Commission of Chief Engineer;

A Letter from the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, with the Examination of *Alexander Ross*, and sundry papers found in his possession.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from General *Washington*, and the Letter from the Council of Safety of *Maryland*, with Mr. *Ross's* papers, be referred to a Committee of five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Goldsborough*, Mr. *Payne*, and Mr. *Rodney*.

Also, a Letter of the 19th, from General *Lee*; one from *Thomas Bullitt*; and a Petition from Dr. *J. Potts*, were read, and referred to the said Committee.

*Resolved*, That Letters be written by the President to General *Schuyler* and the Committee of Safety of *New-York*, desiring them to inform this Congress whether the Continental commissions sent to them for the Officers of the Troops raised by *Connecticut* the last campaign, were delivered or offered to them, or to any, and which of them, and whether any, and which of them, refused, or accepted the same; and particularly, whether commissions were offered to Colonel *Waterbury* and Colonel *Easton*, and whether they refused accepting them.

*Resolved*, That Captain *Peter Adams*, from *Maryland*, under whose custody *Alexander Ross* was brought to *Philadelphia*, be dismissed, and that the said *Alexander Ross* be committed to the care of the Officer commanding the Continental Troops in *Pennsylvania*.

*Resolved*, That a Standing Committee be appointed for *Indian Affairs*; that it consist of five; that the election of the Members be postponed till to-morrow.

*Resolved*, That the Congress, relying on the integrity and honour of Captain *A. McGee*, order that he be permitted to go at large, on giving his parole to the Committee of *West-Augusta* not to engage or be concerned in any measure injurious to these Colonies, by stimulating the *Indian Nations* to make war against them, or otherwise.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Benjamin Marshall*, for tin Cartouch-Boxes, the sum of 465 Dollars;

To *Ephraim Blaine*, Esquire, for Subsistence, Wagonage, and Ferriages of the Sixth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the sum of 2706 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter of the 19th, &c.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the papers from *Fort Pitt* be referred to the Committee appointed to consider the state of *Indian* affairs in the Middle Department; and that the said Committee be instructed to prepare a plan of an expedition against *Fort Detroit*, and an estimate of the expense.

*Resolved*, That no Traders ought to go into the *Indian* country without license from the Agent in the Department; and that care be taken by him to prevent exorbitant prices for goods being exacted from the *Indians*.

*Resolved*, That a ton of Powder be sent to Mr. *George Morgan*, to be distributed to such *Indians* as he shall be convinced are in our interest.

*Resolved*, That measures be immediately taken to procure goods to supply the *Indians* at the Treaties ordered to be held with them.

*Resolved*, That the Councils of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*, and the Governours of *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, be earnestly requested to take the most speedy and effectual measures to collect as much hard money in their respective Colonies as possible, and to send the same, as collected, to General *Schuyler*, and draw upon the President of Congress for the amount.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report, and the several matters to this day referred, be postponed till to-morrow, to which time Congress adjourned.

— Tuesday, April 30, 1776.

A Letter from *Allan Cameron*, and a Letter from *John Smith*, of the 29th, were presented to Congress, and read.

Agreeable to order, Congress proceeded to the election of a Standing Committee for *Indian Affairs*; and the ballots being taken and examined,

Mr. Wythe, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wolcott, Mr. L. Morris, and Mr. Rutledge, were elected.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *Matthew Swan*, for carrying two brass Field-pieces from *Philadelphia* to *Williamsburgh*, the sum of 93.6 Dollars, over and beside the sum of 80 Dollars paid him by *Robert Erwin*, and 13.3 Dollars paid by the Committee of *Williamsburgh*;

For House-rent, Carriage, and other contingent expenses of the Fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the sum of 358.6 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *John Harper*, Quartermaster of the said Battalion;

For Provisions for Captain *Ross's* Company, supplied by *Charles Jackson*, the sum of 9.1 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Timothy Matlack*.

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee to whom was referred the Memorial from the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, praying the advice of Congress whether they ought to continue the exercise of the power of regulating the price of goods in other instances than that of Green Tea, brought in their Report; which, being taken into consideration, was agreed to. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the ninth article of the Association, which enjoined the inhabitants of the United Colonies to sell goods and merchandise at the rates they had respectively been accustomed to do for twelve months then last past, was, in its nature, a temporary regulation, respecting the goods then on hand; but as those goods are nearly consumed, and a further supply must be obtained at an extraordinary risk and expense, and it is reasonable that adventurers should be encouraged by a prospect of gain adequate to the danger which may be incurred in the importation, and a free trade being now opened from the United Colonies to all parts of the world except the dominions belonging to the King of *Great Britain*,

Resolved, That the power of Committees of Inspection and Observation to regulate the prices of goods, in other instances than the article of Green Tea, ought to cease.

Ordered, That the above be published.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter of the 24th of *March*. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Vessels which were left in the Docks and Harbour at *Boston*, by the enemy, and which different persons claim as their property, ought to be restored to their former owners, being inhabitants of these Colonies, on their making proof of their title, unless the said parties so claiming shall have been voluntarily active against the rights of the United Colonies, by affording aid and assistance to the *British* Fleet and Army; and that it be recommended to the Government of *Massachusetts-Bay* to appoint Commissioners to hear such claims, and determine on the sufficiency of the proof thereof;

Provided, That any person apprehending himself or herself to be aggrieved by the adjudication of the Commissioners, may appeal from their sentence to the Congress; such appeal being demanded and lodged with the Secretary of Congress, within the times limited, and the appellant giving security, in the manner prescribed in the case of an appeal from the sentence of a court appointed for hearing maritime causes.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

Resolved, That an Order for 2000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *George Evans*, who has contracted to supply the *Delaware* Battalions with Rations, he to be accountable.

The Delegates for *New-Jersey* having laid before Congress a number of Bills counterfeited to imitate the Continental Bills of Credit,

Resolved, That a Committee of six be appointed to consider of this matter, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *W. Livingston*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Braxton*, Mr. *Duane*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Thursday*.

Thursday, May 2, 1776.

Sundry Letters being received, were laid before Congress

and read, viz. One of the 22d of *April*, from the Committee of Secrecy, War, and Intelligence, of *North-Carolina*, with a list of Prisoners sent by them to *Philadelphia*;

One of the 30th of *April*, from General *Washington*, enclosing a Memorial from Governour *Cooke*; and

One of the 29th of the same month, from the Committee of Safety of *New-York* to the Delegates of said Colony.

Resolved, That the Letter from General *Washington*, with the Memorial enclosed, be referred to the Committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Eastern Colonies.

Resolved, That a Letter be written to General *Schuyler*, desiring him, in case Major *Douglass* declines to take the command of the Vessels on the Lakes, to appoint Captain *Wynkoop* to that command, and inform Congress thereof by the first opportunity.

Resolved, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of *James Mease*, Commissary, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, he to be accountable.

A Letter of the 1st, from *Henry Fisher*, of *Lewistown*, directed to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and by them sent to Congress, was read. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the *Delaware* Battalion be directed to station thirty-five men, with an officer, at the *False-Cape*, till further orders.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to send two hundred pounds of Powder and two hundred pounds of Lead to *Lewistown*, for the use of the Companies stationed there.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To Dr. *William Curry*, for account of Medicine and attendance for the Fourth *Pennsylvania* Battalion, the sum of 58.3 Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Account be paid.

The Committee, to whom were referred the papers laid before Congress by the Delegates from *North-Carolina*, brought in their Report; which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter of the 24th of *March* last; and after some debate,

Resolved, That it be recommitted; and, as the Members of the former Committee are absent, that a new Committee be appointed.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Dickinson*, Mr. *W. Livingston*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

Resolved, That it be recommended to that branch of the Council of Safety of the *Delaware* Government residing in *Kent* County, to furnish the Commanding Officer of the *Delaware* Battalion with as many of the public Arms of that County as may be sufficient for arming the Companies of the said Battalion stationed at *Lewistown*, to be used by them till otherwise ordered by the said branch of the Council of Safety.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, May 3, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to *David Williams*, for Wagon-hire, the sum of 112 Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Account be paid.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to send two hundred pounds of *Peruvian* Bark to the Commanding Officer in *Virginia*, for the use of the Continental Forces in the Southern Department.

A Petition from *Peter Simon* was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *J. Adams*.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell to *Hendrick Vanbrune* and *Thomas Littel*, three hundred pounds of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of the Township of *Shrewsbury*, to enable them to defend their Sea-Coast.

The Committee appointed to prepare an estimate of the

expense of an Expedition against *Fort Detroit*, brought in their Report; which was read.

Whereupon, the Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter of the 19th *April*; and, after some debate, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Letter from Brigadier Lord *Stirling*, dated the 18th of *March* last; which was agreed to.

Whereupon *Resolved*, That the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel *Ogden*, of the First Battalion of *New-Jersey*, was made upon good grounds, the Congress having reserved and frequently exercised the right of promoting men of distinguished merit.

That the Commissary, Mr. *Lowry*, be directed to supply such of the Soldiers of the said Battalion as desire it, with Uniforms, the cost to be deducted from their pay.

That as the Army is now removed from *Cambridge* to *New-York*, the consideration of raising a Regiment of Artillery for the service in that City, as applied for in the said Letter, be postponed till further advice may be received from General *Washington*, or the commanding officer there.

A Petition from Captain *Oswald Eve* was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *Floyd*, and Mr. *Sergeant*.

*Resolved*, That an Order for 20,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *John Haslet*, for the use of the *Delaware* Battalion under his command, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to send three hundred pounds of Powder, and a proportionable quantity of Lead, to *Lewistown*, for the use of the Troops stationed there.

The Committee to whom the Report on General *Washington's* Letter of the 24th of *March* last was recommitted, brought in their Report; which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A motion being made and seconded, for fixing the time for holding a Treaty with the *Indians* in the Middle Department,

*Resolved*, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Saturday, May 4, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due to Dr. *David Cowell*, the sum of 97.4 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Account be paid.

A Letter, of the 3d, from Colonel *Hand*, of the Rifle Battalion, was read.

Whereupon *Resolved*, That an Order for 4000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurers, in favour of Colonel *Hand*, for the use of his Battalion, he to be accountable.

*Resolved*, That the Letter from Colonel *Hand* be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Read*, Mr. *Sergeant*, and Mr. *Huntington*.

The Congress taking into consideration the Letter, of the 29th of *April*, from the Committee of Safety of *New-York*:

Whereupon *Resolved*, That a Major be appointed for the First *New-York* Battalion, in the room of Major *Benedict*, who has resigned.

The ballots being taken, and examined, *Barnabas Tut-hill*, Esq., was elected.

Sundry Letters, just received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz:

One, of the 10th of *April*, from Brigadier-General *Wooster*, at *Holland-House*, before *Quebeck*;

One, of the 28th of said month, from General *Schuyler*, dated *Fort George*, enclosing the examination of *Michael Ryan*;

One, of the 27th of the same month, from Governour *Trumbull*, enclosing a Letter from *N. Shaw*, Jun., with a list of the Cannon left at *New-London*.

*Resolved*, That the Marine Committee be directed to lay on the table, on *Monday* next, the Instructions given by the Naval Committee to Commodore *Hopkins*, upon his leaving this Port.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report on the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 24th of *March*.

Whereupon *Resolved*, That all the Cannon, and other Stores, in *Boston*, which were originally purchased and provided by and at the expense of the Colonies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire* be considered as belonging to the Colony that so purchased and provided them; and that all the other Cannon left in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay* by the *British* Forces, be presented to the said Colony.

The further consideration of the Report, at the request of a Colony, was postponed till *Monday* next.

The Congress then took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 4th of *April*.

Whereupon *Resolved*, That the pay of the Officers and Soldiers of the Militia lately called to *Cambridge*, commence on the day of their march, and cease on that of their return.

*Resolved*, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

Monday, May 6, 1776.

Advice being received that Captain *Young*, who was fitted out at the expense of the Continent by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Alsop*, being arrived at *Egg-Harbour*,

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to give proper orders for landing, securing, and bringing to *Philadelphia*, the Cargo imported by Captain *Young*.

A Memorial of Captain *Herman Allen* was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Committee of Claims.

The Congress resumed the consideration of the Report on General *Washington's* Letter of the 24th of *March*; and, thereupon, came to the following Resolution:

Whereas General *Washington* has requested directions concerning the conduct that should be observed towards Commissioners said to be coming from *Great Britain* to *America*:

*Resolved*, That General *Washington* be informed that Congress suppose, if Commissioners are intended to be sent from *Great Britain* to treat of peace, that the practice usual in such cases will be observed, by making previous application for the necessary passports or safe conduct, and on such application being made, Congress will then direct the proper measures for the reception of such Commissioners.

The Committee appointed to bring in a resolution, whereby persons resident, or having property in *America*, who assist any of the enemies of these United Colonies in the captures of vessels or goods, may be made liable to make good the damage to the sufferers, brought in a Report; which was read.

*Ordered*, To lie on the table.

A Letter of the 24th of *April*, from General *Lee*, was read.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their consideration the state of the United Colonies; and after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that the Committee had taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and had thereupon come to sundry Resolutions, which he was ordered to report when the House should be ready to receive them.

*Ordered*, That the Report be now delivered in.

The Report of the Committee of the Whole being read, was agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved*, That ten millions of Dollars be raised for the purpose of carrying on the War for the current year.

That the *Indian* Goods, said to be at *Fort-Pitt*, be purchased for the use of the United Colonies.

That *Indian* Goods to the value of ten thousand Dollars, be purchased at *Montreal*, for the use of the United Colonies.

That Treaties be held with the *Indians* in the different

Departments, as soon as practicable; and that the sum of ten thousand Dollars be paid out of the Treasury, to the Commissioners of each respective Department, for presents to the *Indians* and the expenses of such Treaties.

Mr. *Harrison* further reported, that the Committee desired him to move for leave to sit again.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of *America*.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of seven be appointed to devise ways and means for raising the ten millions of Dollars.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Hewes*.

*Resolved*, That the Convention or Council of Safety of *Virginia*, be empowered to appoint Surgeons to the Battalions raised in said Colony for the service of the Continent.

*Resolved*, That *John Taylor* be appointed Judge-Advocate to the Continental Troops in the Colony of *Virginia*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Tuesday, May 7, 1776.

Sundry Letters being received, were laid before Congress, and read, viz:

One of the 5th of *April*, from General *Washington*;

One of the 14th, from *John G. Frazer*, enclosing a list of the Vessels, Cannon, and Ordnance Stores, left by the enemy at *Boston*;

One from sundry Prisoners at *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, dated 21st *March*;

One from *L. F.*, of *St. Eustatia*, dated 5th of *April*.

*Resolved*, That the said Letters be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *S. Adams*, Mr. *Braxton*, and Mr. *Duane*.

A Petition from *John Bayard*, *P. Moore*, and *John Patton*, was presented to Congress, and read.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell to the Petitioners six hundred pounds of Powder, for the use of the Privateers they are fitting out.

*Resolved*, That 100 Dollars be paid by the Treasurers to Monsieur *Giason*, a *Canadian* prisoner, upon his giving a bill upon his friend at *Montreal* for the like sum, payable on demand.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Papers laid before Congress by the Delegates of *North-Carolina*:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That another Battalion raised in *North-Carolina*, in addition to the five Battalions already ordered for the defence of that Colony, be taken into the pay and service of the United Colonies.

That a Deputy Quartermaster-General be appointed for the Southern Department, to be employed in *North-Carolina*.

That the Secret Committee be directed to procure and forward twelve Fieldpieces for the use of the Troops in *North-Carolina*.

That the Secret Committee be directed to forward three tons of Gunpowder for the defence of said Colony.

That the Committee on Qualifications be directed to purchase, and forward to *North-Carolina*, a Chest of Medicines and Instruments, equal in value to one of those furnished by the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, for each of the six Battalions raised in the Colony of *North-Carolina*.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Deputy Quartermaster-General for the Southern Department; and the ballots being taken, *Nicholas Long*, Esq., was elected.

*Resolved*, That *Nicholas Long*, Esq., have the rank of a Colonel in the Continental Army.

The Convention of *North-Carolina* having recommended sundry gentlemen for Field-Officers of the six Battalions raised in that Colony, Congress proceeded to a choice, and the following gentlemen were elected:

*Francis Nash*, Esq., Colonel, *Thomas Clarke*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, *William Davis*, Esq., Major, of the First Battalion.

*Alexander Martin*, Esq., Colonel, *John Patton*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, *John White*, Esq., Major, of the Second Battalion.

*Jethro Sumner*, Esq., Colonel, *William Alston*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Samuel Lockart*, Esq., Major, of the Third Battalion.

*Thomas Polk*, Esq., Colonel, *James Thackston*, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel, *William Davidson*, Esq., Major, of the Fourth Battalion.

*Edward Buncombe*, Esq., Colonel, *Henry Irwin*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, *Levi Dawson*, Esquire, Major, of the Fifth Battalion.

*Alexander Iallington*, Esq., Colonel, *William Taylor*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, *Gideon Lamb*, Esq., Major, of the Sixth Battalion.

*Resolved*, That the Letter received yesterday from General *Lee* be referred to the Committee to whom were referred the Letters received this morning.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to purchase Stockings for the Troops in *Canada*, be directed to apply to the General Assemblies of *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, and request them to assist in procuring said Stockings.

The Congress took into consideration the Memorial from the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That twenty of the heaviest Cannon, taken by Commodore *Hopkins* at *New-Providence*, and brought from thence to *New-London*, and since carried to *Newport*, be brought to the City of *Philadelphia*, and delivered to the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, for the defence and protection of said City; to remain there during the pleasure of Congress.

*William Peachy*, Esq., Colonel of the Fifth *Virginia* Battalion, having resigned, the Congress proceeded to elect a gentleman to supply his place; and, the ballots being taken, *Charles Scott*, Esquire, was elected; and *Alexander Spotswood* was elected Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Battalion, in the room of Colonel *Charles Scott*, promoted.

*Resolved*, That such of the iron Cannon as were brought from *Ticonderoga* to *Boston*, and have not been removed by General *Washington*, be lent for the defence of the Town and Harbour of *Boston*, to remain there during the pleasure of Congress.

The several matters to this day referred, being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, May 8, 1776.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due,

To *William Brady* for thirty days' Wagonage in conveying Captain *Stephenson's* Baggage from *Virginia* to *Roxbury*, the sum of 60 Dollars; and that the same ought to be paid to *Daniel McPherson*.

To *James McDonnell*, for Wagonage, in conveying Baggage belonging to Captain *Talbot's* Company of the Sixth *Pennsylvania* Battalion to *New-York*, the sum of 117.9 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

A Letter of the 5th, from General *Washington*; one of the 4th from *William Palfrey*, Paymaster-General; and one of the 2d, from Captain *Delaplace*, a prisoner, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of five.

The Members chosen, Mr. *S. Adams*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Rodney*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Whipple*.

A Petition from Captain *Gideon Warren*, and a Letter from *Joseph Woodward*, Chairman of the Committee of the *New-Hampshire* Grants, were presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of five, who are directed to hear the persons mentioned in the said Letter, and report thereon to Congress.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rodney*, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Alexander*.

The Instructions given by the Naval Committee to Commodore *Hopkins* being laid before Congress, and read,

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of seven; and that it be an instruction to the said Committee, to

inquire how far Commodore *Hopkins* has complied with said instructions; and if, upon inquiry, they shall find that he has departed therefrom, to examine into the occasion thereof; also, to inquire into the situation of the Governour and Lieutenant-Governour of *Providence*, and the other officer brought from thence, and report what, in their opinion, is proper to be done with them.

That the said Committee have power to send for Witnesses and Papers.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Harrison*, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Sherman*, and Mr. *W. Livingston*.

Information being given to Congress, that *Kirkland*, a Prisoner, has broke Jail, and made his escape,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means to have him retaken.

The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Lynch*, and Mr. *Gerry*.

*Resolved*, That whenever it shall appear to this Congress, that any Officer or Officers, bearing Continental Commissions, shall have departed from Orders, an inquiry shall be made.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell to *Aaron Biddle* and *John Helm*, seventy-five pounds of Powder, for the use of the inhabitants of *Upper-Pennsneck*, in *New-Jersey*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the Colonies; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that they have had under consideration the matter to them referred; but not having come to any Resolutions thereon, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the state of these Colonies.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Thursday, May 9, 1776.

A Letter of the 8th, from *Abraham Livingston*, offering to resign the Contract made with the Convention of *New-York* for supplying the Troops in that Colony with Provisions; also, a Letter of the same date from Colonel *James Easton*, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of three. The Members chosen, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *S. Adams*, and Mr. *Wythe*.

Application being made for a safe conduct for Mrs. *Bellew*, wife of Captain *Bellew*, of the *Liverpool*, to pass through the country to her relations in *Marblehead*,

*Resolved*, That it be referred for consideration to Mr. *R. H. Lee* and Mr. *R. Morris*.

The Committee of Claims reported, that there is due, To *William Bedford*, for Cartouch Straps, the sum of 193.3 Dollars;

To Colonel *Joseph Reed*, for Camp Equipage, &c., procured for General *Washington*, the sum of 434.2 Dollars.

*Ordered*, That the said Accounts be paid.

The said Committee having reported on the Petition and Accounts of Captain *Heman Allen*, which were referred to them,

*Resolved*, That the said Petition and Accounts be referred to the Committee on the Treasury.

The Committee on Prisoners, to whom the Letter from *Henry Beaumont*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment of the King of *Great Britain*, which said *Henry Beaumont* is a prisoner of war, was referred, brought in a Report; which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That the said *Henry Beaumont* be permitted to reside with his wife and family at *Elizabeth-town*, in the Colony of *New-Jersey*, he giving to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of the said Borough, his parole, in the form prescribed by Congress.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for raising ten millions of Dollars for the service of the current

year, brought in their Report; which was read and considered:

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That five millions of Dollars be emitted in Bills of Credit, in part of the ten millions voted for the service of the current year.

That the thirteen United Colonies be pledged for the redemption of the said five millions of Dollars, at such periods, and in such manner and proportions, as Congress shall hereafter direct and appoint.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Superintendents of the Treasury, to consider of and report a plan for carrying into effect the before-mentioned Resolution, for emitting five millions of Dollars in Bills of Credit, towards the service of the current year.

The Committee having informed Congress that they have not had time to complete their Report:

*Resolved*, That they have leave to sit again.

Captain *Budden* having been taken by the *Liverpool* man-of-war, and permitted, on his parole, to come to *Philadelphia*, in order to procure a Prisoner to be given in exchange for him,

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to consider the propriety of exchanging Seamen.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Hewes*, and Mr. *Huntington*.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the state of the United Colonies; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported, that they have had under their further consideration the matter referred to them, and have come to a Resolution; which he read and delivered in.

The Resolution of the Committee of the whole Congress being again read, the determination thereof, at the request of a Colony, was postponed till to-morrow.

The Committee to whom the application in favour of Mrs. *Bellew* was referred, brought in a Report; which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That a Passport be granted to Mrs. *Bellew* to come to the City of *Philadelphia*, under escort of a Continental Officer, and that she may reside safely and unmolested in the said City, until her friends in *New-England* come to escort her to *Marblehead*, when a safe conduct shall also be granted to her for that journey, and for her residence there during her pleasure.

The Order of the Day being renewed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Friday, May 10, 1776.

A Letter of the 7th, from General *Washington*, and one of the 3d, from *Thomas Cushing*, were laid before Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to the Committee on the state of the Eastern Colonies.

A Letter from Monsieur *Docaisor*, of the 6th of *April*, being laid before Congress, was read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to the Secret Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of General *Washington's* Letter of the 5th, and the Papers enclosed, brought in a Report; which was taken into consideration.

Whereupon, *Resolved*, That a copy of the Resolutions passed the 1st day of *April* last, establishing the mode of settling the publick Accounts, be transmitted to the General;

That the Resolution of Congress, passed the 17th of *January* last, allowing one Dollar and one-third of a Dollar to the officers, in lieu of expenses for inlisting each soldier, being a general regulation, extends to the Troops raised in the Eastern Department; and that the General be directed to make that allowance for all the Troops inlisted since the time of passing the said Resolution.

That as the road recommended by General *Washington* to be opened between the Town of *Newbury*, on *Connecticut* River, and the Province of *Canada*, will facilitate the march and return of the Troops employed in that quarter, and promote the publick service, the General be directed to prosecute the plan he has formed, respecting the said road;

That ten tons of Gunpowder be sent to *New-York*;



That 400,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General for the use of the Army in *New-York* and the *Massachusetts-Bay*;

That the Commanding Officers in the different Departments and Posts, shall make Monthly Returns to the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, of the number and state of the Troops, and the Military Stores in their respective Departments;

That this Congress has hitherto exercised, and ought to retain, the power of promoting the Officers in the Continental service according to their merit; and that no promotion or succession shall take place upon any vacancy, without the authority of a Continental Commission.

Congress then resumed the consideration of the Resolution reported from the Committee of the Whole; which being read, was agreed to, as follows:

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the respective Assemblies and Conventions of the United Colonies, where no Government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs hath been hitherto established, to adopt such Government as shall, in the opinion of the Representatives of the people, best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, and *America* in general.

*Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare a Preamble to the foregoing Resolution.

The Members chosen, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Rutledge*, and Mr. *R. H. Lee*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to sell to Colonel *David Potter* and Captain *Daniel Maskell* two hundred pounds of Powder and one thousand pounds of Lead, for the use of the inhabitants of *Bridgetown*, *Cumberland County*, in *New-Jersey*.

The Committee to whom were referred the Letter from General *Washington*, of the 25th and 26th of *April*; the case of *Alexander Ross*, and the Letter from General *Lee*; brought in their Report; which was read.\*

\* The Committee to whom was referred General *Washington's* Letter of the 25th and 26th of *April*, and the Letter from General *Lee*, in the case of Mr. *Ross*, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report as their opinion:

*Resolved*, That all Vessels which sailed from the port or harbour of *Boston*, whilst the Town of *Boston* was in possession of the enemy, having on board effects belonging to the enemies of *American* liberty, be liable, together with the said effects, to seizure and confiscation; and that if any of the said Vessels have been already taken, they, together with their said cargo, be decreed forfeited, and be confiscated in the same manner and in the same proportions as have been heretofore resolved by Congress.

That it is essential to the interest of these Colonies that the Continental Agent, in the respective Provinces where no Courts have been established for the trial of captures, have power, and be directed, to dispose at publick sale of such articles, being of a perishable nature, as shall be taken from the enemies of *America*; and that the money to arise from such sale be liable to the decree of the Court, when the said Court shall be established.

That the inventory of the Ordnance Stores taken by Captain *Manly*, be sent down to General *Washington*, and that he be requested to appoint a person on the part of the Colonies, to join one on the part of Captain *Manly* and his crew, who shall, having first taken an oath for that purpose, proceed to value the said stores so taken; and if they cannot agree as to the value, they call in a third person to determine the case. That the report of such persons be made to Congress so soon as may be; and that the value of the shares that shall appear to belong to Captain *Manly* and his crew, be transmitted them.

That the pay of such of the Soldiers at *New-York* as have been enlisted at five Dollars per month, be raised to six and two-thirds Dollars.

That such of the Troops from the *New-England* Colonies as shall reenlist during the war, or for the term of three years, be furnished at the Continental expense with the following articles, viz:

That it is highly inexpedient to order any more Troops from the Colony of *New-York*. That the difficulty and uncertainty of procuring Fire-Arms render it improper to raise any more Regiments at present. That the Commander-in-Chief, for the time being, in the *New-York* Department, have permission and be directed to call to the assistance of that Colony, when necessity shall require it, such of the Militia of that and the neighbouring Colonies of *Connecticut* and *New-Jersey*, as shall be sufficient for the purpose intended.

That letters be written to the Conventions of *New-Jersey*, *New-York*, and the Assembly of *Connecticut*, to afford such assistance to the commanding officer in the *New-York* Department as he shall apply for.

That two of the Companies, of the forces now in this Colony, be ordered to *Cape-May*.

That Dr. *Potts* be taken into the pay of the Continent, and be employed in the *Canada* Department, or at *Lake-George*, as the General shall think fit; but that this recommendation be not considered so as to supersede Dr. *Stringer*. That the pay of Dr. *Potts* be — Dollars per month.

*Agreed*, That they have examined Mr. *Alexander Ross*, and not having found anything in his conduct which will warrant his confinement, recommend that he be discharged.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Eastern Colonies, brought in their Report; which was read.\*

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the United Colonies; and, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported: That the Committee have had under their further consideration the matter referred to them; but not having had time to finish their inquiries, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the state of the United Colonies.

*Resolved*, That the Committee of Secret Correspondence be directed to lay their proceedings before Congress on *Monday* next, withholding the names of the persons they have employed, or with whom they have corresponded.

The Committee appointed to consider the propriety of exchanging Seamen, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Lieutenant *Ball*, of the *Roebuck*, and the three Seamen that were taken with him, and are now prisoners in the lower Counties on *Delaware*, be exchanged for Captain *Budden* and his son, *Seth Davis*, and *Samuel Conyers*.

That six of the Seamen, now prisoners in *Philadelphia*, to be named by the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, may be given in exchange for the following persons, viz: Mr. *Lightbody*, *James Hage*, — *Fortescue*, (a pilot-boy,) *William Martin*, *Jacob Wilson*, and *John Durry*.

That the said exchange of prisoners be conducted by such proper persons as the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania* may appoint for that purpose.

The Committee to whom was referred the Letter from *Abraham Livingston*, offering to cancel the contract he had made with a Committee of the Convention of *New-York*, for supplying the forces in that Colony with Provisions, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, in voluntarily resigning a contract which might have been so profitable to him, has exhibited an example of publick spirit, and Congress accept the resignation of his Contract.

*Resolved*, That the Committee appointed to devise ways and means for retaking *Moses Kirkland*, be empowered to send an express to the southward, and desire the Committees or Councils of Safety of the Southern Colonies to use their utmost endeavours to have him apprehended; and that they offer a reward of one hundred Dollars, in addition to the hundred already offered, for apprehending and securing the said *Moses Kirkland*.

*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to examine into the conduct of the Jailer who had the charge and custody of *Moses Kirkland*; and if they find him culpable, that they have him removed.

*Resolved*, That *George Morgan*, Esq., Agent under the

\* Report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Colonies in the Eastern Department, brought in 10th of *May*, 1776:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the state of the Eastern Department, beg leave to report, as their opinion: That it is necessary, for the general service, that the two Battalions directed by the Assembly of *Rhode-Island* to be raised, be taken into Continental pay; the Battalion ordered to be raised in *November* last, from the time they were armed, clothed, and fit for duty; and the one since ordered to be raised, from the present time, provided they be armed, clothed, and fit for service; and that if it be not so armed and appointed, they be taken into Continental pay as soon as they shall be mustered.

That a recommendation be immediately sent to the Colony of *Massachusetts*, to assist the officers of the five Continental Regiments now in that Colony, in completing their establishment; that they endeavour to prevail on the people to enlist, and those already enlisted to reenlist for three years, unless sooner discharged, and then to receive — pay; and as an inducement thereto, they allow to the Soldiers who shall agree to serve for that term, the following articles: One felt hat, one pair of yarn stockings, and one pair of shoes.

That General *Washington* be desired to send such General Officer as he can spare from the Army at *New-York*, to command in the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

That General *Washington* be desired to continue Mr. *Burbeck*, the Engineer, at *Boston*, for the purpose of fortifying that Fort and Harbour.

Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, be directed to purchase the *Indian* goods said to be at *Pittsburgh*, for the use of the United Colonies.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the case of *Alexander Ross*; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the said *Alexander Ross* be discharged from confinement.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Saturday, May 11, 1776.

A Petition from *John Jacobs*, in behalf of himself and others, was presented to Congress, and read.

*Resolved*, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *J. Adams*, Mr. *Lee*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the state of the Eastern Colonies; whereupon,

*Resolved*, That the two Battalions directed by the Assembly of *Rhode-Island* to be raised, be taken into Continental pay; the Battalion ordered to be raised in *November* last, from the time they were armed, clothed, and fit for duty; and the one since ordered to be raised, from the present time, provided they be armed, clothed, and fit for service; and that if they be not so armed and appointed, they be taken into Continental pay as soon as they shall be armed and mustered.

*Resolved*, That the remainder of the Report be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

*Resolved*, That the Standing Committee for *Indian* Affairs be directed to take measures for carrying into execution the Resolution of the 6th, for holding a treaty with the *Indians*, in the different Departments, as soon as practicable.

That the 20th of *July* be fixed on for holding a treaty, at *Pittsburgh*, with the *Indians* in the Middle Department; and that the Standing Committee be directed to inform the Agent, and desire him to notify the *Indians*, and invite them to attend at the time and place mentioned; and, also, that the said Committee inform the Commissioners, and desire them to attend.

*Resolved*, That *John Harvey* be appointed a Commissioner for *Indian* Affairs, in the Middle Department.

Certain Resolutions of the Board of Officers in *Philadelphia*, and a Petition from the Committee of Privates of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, were presented to Congress and read.

*Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of the whole Congress.

A Memorial from *Caumier de la Berthadure* was presented to Congress and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

*Resolved*, That two sets of Trepanning Instruments be

sent to *Virginia*, for the use of the Surgeons of the Continental Troops there; and that two sets of Trepanning Instruments, and one hundred pounds of *Peruvian* Bark, be sent to *North-Carolina*, for the use of the Continental Troops in that Colony.

The Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colonies in the Eastern Department, and the Resolves of the Officers, and Petition of the Committee of Privates of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

And, after some time spent thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Harrison* reported: That the Committee had taken into consideration the matters to them referred, and had come to a Resolution thereon, which he was directed to report; but that not having come to a conclusion, desired him to move for leave to sit again.

The Resolution reported from the Committee of the whole Congress being read,

*Resolved*, That the further consideration thereof be postponed to *Monday* next.

*Resolved*, That this Congress will, on *Monday* next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Report of the Committee on the state of the Colonies in the Eastern Department, and the Resolves of the Officers, and Petition of the Privates, of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*.

*Resolved*, That the Secret Committee be directed to send five hundred pounds of Powder to the Committee of Safety of *Delaware* Government, for the use of their Militia.

The Committee of Claims reported that there is due,

On account rendered by the Committee for the Upper District of *Frederick* County, in *Virginia*, of expenses incurred by Captain *John Nelson's* Company of Riflemen, the sum of 1415.4 Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Michael Fackler*; and that the said Company ought to be charged with the sum of 1016 Dollars, the amount of Rifles and Goods, &c., furnished for their use, the remainder being for provisions and wagonage, to be charged to the Continent.

To *Andrew McNair*, for attendance and for Candles, &c., the sum of 181.9 Dollars, in full of his account to the 30th of *April* last.

To *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster, for five Teams that went to *Canada*, a balance of 699.6 Dollars.

To *Walter Drummond*, for nursing several persons belonging to Captain *Benezet's* Company, the sum of 27 Dollars.

To *George London*, for thirty-four days' wagonage for the Sixth Battalion, the sum of 117.5 Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Adjourned to ten o'clock, on *Monday*.

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END OF THE FIFTH VOLUME OF THE FOURTH SERIES.

WASHINGTON, April 20, 1844.

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## NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

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7, Letter from the President of Congress to Colonel Winds, - - - - -	99
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7, Letter from Joseph Reed to General Washington: Twenty-five tons of Powder arrived a few days ago. Upon the arrival of the act of Parliament, authorizing the capture of American Vessels, application was made to Congress for Letters of Marque and Reprisal, but they could not feel bold enough, though many of the most timid, who hankered so much after reconciliation, have come off very much from these sentiments, - - -	100
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10,	Letter from Charles Carroll to Maryland Council of Safety: Fears the Powder sent from Philadelphia has been seized by one of the British Tenders. It is the general sentiment of the people in Baltimore that the enemy's Ships should not be supplied with any Provisions, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Colonel Beall to Maryland Council of Safety: Has received at Bladensburg a quantity of Powder and twelve Muskets; will keep his Battalion ready to move till further orders, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Hindman: The Man-of-War has passed by Annapolis, towards Baltimore, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Beall: To hold his Battalion in readiness to march at a moment's warning, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Dorchester County Committee, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Gunby: Cannot furnish him with Arms, - - - - -
10,	Maryland Council of Safety to Charles Carroll: A Flag has been sent on shore from the Otter to Governour Eden, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Governour Eden: The time has been when any of his Majesty's Ships would with pleasure have been supplied with Provisions. Captain Squire, in burning a Vessel in full view of Annapolis, adds insult to the misfortunes already felt by the people of the Province, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Charles Carroll: The hostile Fleet has sailed down the Bay, but will return in two or three days; therefore prepare for the defence of Baltimore, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Dayton, requiring him instantly to get the Third Regiment of New-Jersey Troops in the best possible condition for marching; they must go out of the Province by Tuesday, at farthest, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Lord Stirling to General Schuyler: On the 25th of this month the effective force for the defence of New-York will be reduced to five hundred men. Information has just been received that Great Britain has engaged four thousand Hanoverians and six thousand Hessians, for the American war, - - - - -
	Agreement with a Company of Artificers to be raised for the Continental Service, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: A Packet-boat arrived from England in nine weeks; brings intelligence of the reinforcements to be sent to America in the Spring. Two gentlemen in the Packet will set out for Philadelphia in the morning, and give all the particulars of the intelligence, - - - - -
10,	Letter from James Deane to General Schuyler, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Benjamin Smith to the Massachusetts Council: With a detachment of his Company has captured the Ship Harriet, a store-ship from London, bound to Boston, - - - - -
10,	Letter from Beriah Norton to the Massachusetts Council, - - - - -
10,	Letter from the Camp at Cambridge: We attempted last night to take possession of Nook's Hill, but failed. There is now less appearance of the embarkation of the enemy than for some days past. It is believed they will soon draw off, and that their destination will be to New-York, - - - - -
10,	Proclamation by General Howe, requiring all good subjects to use their utmost endeavours to have all Linen and Woollen Goods removed from Boston, as such articles are much wanted by the Rebels, and would aid and assist them in their Rebellion, - - - - -
	Draft of a Letter found among the Papers of Crean Brush, who was taken in his flight from Boston to Halifax, - - - - -

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Mar. 11,	Letter from Charlestown, South-Carolina: Captain Baker, of the Good Intent, fitted out at Charlestown, has brought in four of six Transports, that were under the convoy of a British Sloop-of-War, - - - - -
11,	Letter from Colonel Dorsey to Maryland Council of Safety: Will, according to order, dismiss his Battalion of Militia, who were in order to march to any part of the Province, - - - - -
11,	Letter from the Elkridge Committee to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -
11,	Letter from Joseph Galloway to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -
11,	Letter from the Council of Safety to the Delegates of Maryland in Congress: Account of the expedition of the British Sloop-of-War, Captain Squire, up the Bay, - - - - -
11,	Salus Populi to the People of North-America: On the different kinds of Government, - - - - -
11,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: Requests Captain Connor, of the Rifle Battalion, may be sent to Philadelphia, Congress having occasion to employ him in the Southern Department, - - - - -
11,	Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress, - - - - -
11,	Letter from Dr. Franklin to General Schuyler: Informs him of the appointment of Commissioners to go to Canada, who purpose setting out this week, - - - - -
11,	Letter from Lord Stirling to General Washington, - - - - -
11,	Letter from Abraham Livingston to New-York Congress: Declines serving further as Commissary of Provisions, - - - - -
11,	Letter from General Greene to General Washington, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Talbot County Committee to Maryland Council of Safety, asking advice as to the Non-Enrollers: The proceedings of the Convention not having been received until the 3d instant, they think it would be extremely rigorous to proceed immediately to levy fines, and seize their Arms, - - - - -
12,	Letter from John McClure to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Committee for Talbot County: Alexander Wickham, apprehended as a person inimical to the liberties of this country, is sent to them for trial, the witnesses on both sides residing on the Eastern-Shore, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Baltimore Committee: The Gunpowder and Arms from Philadelphia, impatiently expected, - - - - -
12,	Letter from the Baltimore Committee to Maryland Delegates in Congress, requesting them to obtain an order from Congress for the Continental Troops in Cumberland and York Counties to march to their assistance, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captains Henry and Kent, detached for special duty to Northampton County, Virginia, - - - - -
12,	Address to the Ladies of Baltimore: Requesting them to supply the Surgeons with Linen Rags, &c., for bandages, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Philadelphia to a Gentleman in England: The present condition of affairs in the Colonies, - - - - -
12,	Cato to the People of Pennsylvania, Letter II: Urges the propriety of receiving and treating with the Commissioners appointed by Great Britain: Many weeks have not elapsed since the first open proposition for Independence was published to the world: It has no countenance from the Congress, to whose sentiments we look up with reverence, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Alexander McDonald and others, to Jonathan Sergeant; requesting they may be excused signing the Association, which has been tendered to them in New-Jersey, - - - - -
12,	Letter from Captain Macpherson to the Continental Congress: Requesting employment in the Navy. If the Congress desire it he will make known his discoveries to as many as they may appoint for that purpose; but the fewer that know them, the less probability of our enemies' knowing them, - - - - -

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Mar. 12,	Letter from New-York Congress to the Continental Congress: Captain Parker, of the British Ship Phenix, is fitting out Vessels to intercept the trade between the Capes of Delaware and Sandy-Hook, - - -
12,	Letter from Samuel Gale to John McKesson: Complains that he is held in confinement; will sue out a habeas corpus to know by what authority he is detained, - - -
12,	Letter from Colonel Lent to the New-York Congress: The Companies under his command are ready for service at a moment's warning, - - -
12,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: It is reported that Sir John Johnson is exciting the Indians against us; before he removes him from Tryon County, he will wait for the opinion of Congress, if he can do so with safety, - - -
	Deposition of Asa Chadwick, that Sir John Johnson told him he had sent for the Indians, and they would be down in six weeks, - - -
	Affidavit of Asa Chadwick, referred to General Schuyler by the Albany Committee: Sir John Johnson lives out of the County, and is under parole to the General, - - -
12,	Letter from the Rev. Mr. Kirkland to General Schuyler, - - -
12,	Letter from General Schuyler to Sir John Johnson: Encloses him a copy of Chadwick's Deposition. It will be inquired into on the 18th instant; when Sir John is invited to be present, - - -
12,	Letter from Winthrop Sargent to General Washington: A prize taken by Manly has been run ashore on the Rocks near Gloucester, - - -
12,	Letter from Meshech Weare to General Washington: The stock of Powder in New-Hampshire does not exceed ten barrels, and he is under the necessity of asking a return of the supply made last summer for the Continental service, - - -
13,	Address of the Mayor, &c., of the City of Cork, in Ireland, to the King: Declare their abhorrence of the unnatural rebellion now carrying on in North-America, by many of his Majesty's deluded subjects; and engage their lives and fortunes to support his Majesty against the Insurgents, - - -
13,	Letter from the Committee of Chestertown to the Maryland Council of Safety: They are destitute of Arms, most of all the small stock of good Arms are supplied to Minute Company, now on duty in Virginia, - - -
13,	Letter from Captain Fauntleroy to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -
13,	Letter from Baltimore Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: From an examination of the Batteries made and making at Whetstone and Fell's Point, it is believed that Baltimore may be secured against the Otter, or any other Frigate that can come up the river, - - -
13,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Harford County Committee, - - -
13,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Virginia Committee of Safety: Enclosing a Narrative of the transactions of the Otter sloop-of-war, - - -
13,	Letter from Richard Henry Lee to General Washington: General Clinton has left Virginia for the Carolinas: General Lee is at Philadelphia on his way to the southward, - - -
13,	Letter from William Hooper to Samuel Johnston: Commissioners have sailed from England, to treat with Assemblies, &c., in America: Heaven grant that America may have virtue to resist their lures, - - -
13,	Letter from the Committee of Safety to the Assembly of Pennsylvania: Submitting the expediency of fixing reasonable rates to be paid by all the American Troops passing through the Province, - - -
13,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to William Hooper, - - -
13,	Mementoes for the Americans, - - -

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Mar. 13,	Letter from Lord Stirling to the Committees of Essex, &c., New-Jersey, requesting men may be sent to assist in fortifying and defending New-York; the King's Army at Boston has actually embarked, - - -
13,	Letter from Lord Stirling to President of Congress: Intelligence of the departure of the British from Boston, and the probability of their coming to New-York, has just been received; all the inhabitants, and every person in town, will be employed in assisting at the works for its defence, - - -
13,	Return of the Troops at New-York, under the command of Lord Stirling, - - -
13,	Letter from Colonel Allen to the President of Congress; enclosing Lord Stirling's orders to him to proceed to New-York with all the Second Pennsylvania Battalion not yet embarked for Albany. It is his business to obey orders, not to judge of the propriety of them, - - -
13,	Letter from Peter T. Curtenius to the New-York Congress, - - -
13,	Letter from General Wooster to General Schuyler: From the movements among the Indians and Canadians, it is likely a descent will be made on Montreal; there are very few men to spare for the Garrison, for there has not yet arrived from the Colonies fifteen hundred men, - - -
13,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Operations of the Army since his last letter, - - -
13,	Council of General Officers at General Ward's Quarters, Roxbury, - - -
13,	Statement of Peter Edes of the cruelties and indignities he suffered from the British, - - -
13,	Letter from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to Colonel Bedel: His Regiment is on the Continental establishment, and all supplies for the Army are furnished by the Continental Congress, - - -
13,	Regulations for the issue of Copper Coin by the New-Hampshire Assembly, - - -
14,	Letter from Captain Barkley and Major Grant to Anthony Stokes: they are surprised to find he and others should be confined by the rulers of the people at Savannah, and authorize him to assure the people, or their leaders, that on the enlargement of the friends of the King, the three Americans in their possession will be released, - - -
14,	Officers of the Royal Highland Regiment, which has been raised under every disadvantage, in an enemy's country, the seat of war, and attended with great trouble, risk, and expense to Colonel Maclean and the other officers, - - -
14,	Letter from Joseph Sim to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -
14,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Daniel Bowly: All the Powder and small Arms obtained in Philadelphia must be forwarded to Baltimore in the safest and most expeditious manner, - - -
14,	Tiberius to Cato: In defence of the Philadelphia Committee, - - -
14,	Plain Hints: On the connexion between the Colonies and Great Britain. The Colonies are not bound by duty or gratitude to continue it, - - -
14,	Report of Committee of Continental Congress, appointed to confer with General Lee, - - -
14,	Letter from the President of Congress to Colonels Shea, Magaw, Irvine, and Dayton: Each is required to march his Battalion to New-York immediately, - - -
14,	Letter from Lewis Ogden to Lord Stirling: A detachment from Essex County, New-Jersey, will march for New-York to-morrow, - - -
14,	Letter from Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, Committee, to Lord Stirling: They have no right to send a detachment out of the Province, - - -
14,	Letter from Colonel Dayton to Lord Stirling: Will use his utmost exertions to put his Regiment in the best order for marching; the scarcity of Arms in New-Jersey will retard him, - - -

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- Mar. 14, Letter from David Matthews to New-York Congress; enclosing Letters from Francis Dashwood, Secretary of the General Post Office, and John Foxcroft, of the Swallow Packet, requesting Clerks may be sent on board the Packet to take an account of the Letters, in order for their immediate delivery, - - - 216
- 14, Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: The quantity of Powder at New-York does not exceed three tons; expecting a visit from the enemy, he has stopped seven tons there on its way to Cambridge, - - - 217
- Regulations agreed to for the defence of New-York between Brigadier-General Lord Stirling, of the Continental Troops, and a Committee of the Provincial Congress, - - - 217
- General Orders issued by Lord Stirling, as Commanding Officer at New-York, from March 13 to March 17th, - - - 218
- 14, Letter from Lord Stirling to Governour Trumbull: Requests the two Connecticut Regiments now at New-York may remain there until they are relieved by others from that Colony, - - - 221
- 14, Letter from Colonel Winds to the President of Congress: Every Officer in the Regiment is dissatisfied with the appointment of Mr. Ogden as Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - 221
- 14, Letter from the Albany Committee to the New-York Congress, - - - 222
- 14, Letter from Lord Stirling to Captain Warner; directing him to take James Boyd, and bring him before the Provincial Congress, - - - 222
- 14, Letter from Abraham Livingston to the New-York Congress: He is deputed to act as Assistant Deputy Commissary of Stores and Provisions until an order is produced from the Continental Congress to the contrary, - - - 222
- 14, Abraham Livingston's Proposals for supplying the Army in the Colony of New-York, - - - 222
- 14, Letter from Jacob Bamber to John McKesson: Desires to be recommended for a Captain's or Lieutenant's Commission, - - - 223
- 14, Petition of William Gandell to the New-York Congress: He has followed the sea, is now out of employ, and offers himself as a proper person for Lieutenant of Artillery, or Master of one of the Vessels on the Lakes, - - - 223
- 14, Letter from General Washington to Lord Stirling: General Howe's Army is certainly about to leave Boston; it is given out they are bound to Halifax, but it is probable New-York is their place of destination, and we must use every endeavour to keep it from them. Reinforcements will immediately be sent from Cambridge, - - - 223
- 14, Letter from General Washington to General Lee, - - - 224
- 14, Letter from General Washington to Meshech Weare: It is impossible at this time to return the Powder; at present the smallest quantity cannot be spared; it shall be replaced as soon as circumstances will admit of it, - - - 224
- 14, Letter from General Sullivan to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Requests Commissions may be sent for the Officers of Colonel Waldron's Regiment; and expresses regret for the ungenerous treatment he has received from some persons in New-Hampshire who have sacrificed much less than he has in the common cause, - - - 225
- 14, Letter from Captain Salter to the New-Hampshire Assembly: Signals have been agreed upon to announce the approach of an enemy, - - - 225
- 15, An American to the People of Virginia: On the treatment the Colonies have received from Great Britain: Independence should be declared, the ports opened to a trade with the nations of Europe, and France called on for assistance, - - - 225
- 15, Letter from G. Mason and John Dalton to the Maryland Council of Safety: They have been appointed by the Committee of Safety of Virginia to fit out three Armed Vessels and two row-Galleys for the defence of the Potomack; but they are out of Powder, and request they may have ten casks until their own is received from Philadelphia, - - - 227

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- Mar. 15, Letter from Benjamin Mackall to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 228
- 15, Letter from James Murray to Maryland Council of Safety: Another visit is expected from the enemy, and the people have no Powder, - - - 228
- 15, Letter from Jonathan Beall to Maryland Council of Safety: The people of Prince George's County, particularly the Potomack part of it, are extremely desirous to procure some Powder, as it is apprehended the enemy may come up the river, as far as Alexandria; a pound for every man would be of great service, - - - 229
- 15, Letter from M. Gist to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 230
- 15, Letter from William Lux to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer: Captain Nicholson has sent to Frederick for twenty Riflemen to add to his Marines, and desires the Council of Safety to furnish the Rifles for them, - - - 231
- 15, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Nicholson; conveying their thanks to him, his Officers, and Men, for their conduct in repelling the late hostile attack upon the persons and properties of their fellow-citizens, - - - 231
- 15, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to their Delegates in Congress: Desiring their assistance in the purchase of all the private adventures of Powder imported in the Wild Duck, at Philadelphia, - - - 231
- 15, Letter from the President of Congress to New-Jersey Committee of Safety: It is feared our implacable enemies are determined to bend their force against New-York; the Congress have therefore authorized the Commanding Officer at that place to call in the aid of the Militia of the neighbouring Colonies, - - - 231
- 15, Letter from the President of Congress to New-York Committee of Safety: Protection and defence of New-York, - - - 232
- 15, Letter from the President of Congress to Lord Stirling: It is the desire of Congress, by all possible means, to provide for the defence of New-York, and that the utmost diligence be exerted in erecting the works and perfecting the defences agreeable to the plan left by General Lee, - - - 232
- 15, Letter from the President of Congress to Governour Trumbull, - - - 233
- 15, Letter from the President of Congress to Lord Stirling: Directs him to send forward the Powder directly to Cambridge, unless he has express advice from General Washington that the enemy have left Boston, - - - 233
- 15, Letter from Joseph Reed to General Washington: Not a syllable yet from our Fleet; it is four weeks to-morrow since they left our Capes. It is said Arthur Lee has written that Commissioners are coming out to settle the dispute. I am more afraid of these Commissioners than of their Fleets and Armies; I am apprehensive they will divide us; there is so much suspicion in Congress, and so much party on this subject, that little is required to kindle a flame. Mr. Deane, of Connecticut, is gone to Europe; his errand may be guessed, though little is said about it, - - - 233
- 15, Letter from John Cadwallader to the Pennsylvania Assembly, declining the appointment of Colonel, second in command; he considers himself entitled to the First Battalion, - - - 686
- 15, Letter from John Smith, a prisoner, to Congress, - - - 236
- 15, Prices of sundry articles established by the Committee of Newark, New-Jersey: Any person who shall demand or receive higher prices, to be published as an enemy to his country, - - - 236
- 15, Letter from the Committee for Essex County, New-Jersey, to Lord Stirling: One Company is now sent, and the three others will follow to-morrow, to New-York, - - - 237
- 15, Letter from Lord Stirling to Colonel Dayton: Requires him to march immediately to New-York, with his Regiment, as soon as his Companies can be prepared, - - - 237
- 15, Letter from Lord Stirling to General Washington, - - - 237



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Mar. 15,	Letter from a Committee of Westchester County, New-York, to the Provincial Congress, -
15,	Letter from Colonel Nicoll to New-York Congress: The Garrison at Fort Constitution, in the Highlands, is destitute of almost every necessary article, -
15,	Letter from Levi Pawling to New-York Congress: Difficulties about Commissions, -
15,	Letter from Colonel Porter to James Warren: Difficulties in raising the Regiment for Canada, -
16,	Letter from the Council of Safety of Georgia to the Council of Safety of South-Carolina; operations of the British Fleet at Savannah, -
16,	Letter from the Georgia Council of Safety to Captain Barkley and Major Grant: They will neither make nor receive any other terms than those already offered, -
16,	Letter from William Ennalls to Maryland Council of Safety: Has been able to collect but about five hundred Pounds, in Specie, in Dorchester County; this may be had immediately by sending the Paper money to give in exchange for it, -
16,	Certificate of Committee of Dorchester County, Maryland, of the election of Officers of the "Buck Company," -
16,	Certificate of the Committee of Dorchester County, Maryland, of the election of Officers of Company called "Friends to America," -
16,	Letter from the Baltimore Committee to the Maryland Council of Safety: They desire to know if the defences commenced on the late appearance of Captain Squire are to be completed, -
16,	Letter from the Baltimore Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: Safe keeping and delivery of the publick Powder, -
16,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Brigadier-Generals: Thanks for their ardour on the late alarm, -
16,	Letter from the President of Congress to Captain Campbell, a prisoner, granting him permission to visit Philadelphia, -
16,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Committee of Reading, Pennsylvania, -
16,	Letter from President of Congress to Captain Nelson: Directs him to repair to New-York with his Rifle Company, -
16,	Letter from Matthew Tilghman to Maryland Council of Safety, enclosing the Resolution of Congress directing all persons to be disarmed who are disaffected to the cause of America, -
16,	Letter from Robert Treat Paine to the New-Hampshire Assembly, enclosing the Resolutions of Congress, recommending the erection of Works for the manufacture of Saltpetre and Gunpowder, -
16,	Field-Officers of the three Battalions raised for the defence of Pennsylvania, -
16,	Recantation of John Webb, of Philadelphia, -
16,	Letter from the New-York Delegates to the Provincial Congress: They were much alarmed at General Lee's imposing a Test on the inhabitants of Queen's County; a similar effort in Rhode-Island had passed over unnoticed; reiterated precedents must become dangerous; they have therefore procured the passage of a Resolution by the Continental Congress, prohibiting it in future, -
16,	Letter from Alexander Carmichael to Lord Stirling: The men to be sent to New-York, from Morris County, New-Jersey, are ready to march; but the Colonels of the Regiments decline going out of the Province without orders from the General of the Militia, -
16,	Letter from William Burnett to Lord Stirling, -
16,	Letter from Lord Stirling to the President of Congress: Preparations for the defence of New-York; the inhabitants have turned out cheerfully to work on the Fortifications, -
16,	Letter from Colonel McDougall to Lord Stirling: Captain Warner can show where a number of Muskets, belonging to the Crown, are secreted by some creatures of Government; they should be taken to-night, -

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Mar. 16,	Letter from David Matthews to Hugh Gaine, -
16,	Letter from Governour Tryon to David Matthews, Mayor of New-York, -
16,	Address of Governour Tryon to the Inhabitants of the Colony of New-York: It is in the clemency and authority of Great Britain only, under God, that we can look for happiness, peace, and prosperity, -
16,	Letter from Committee for Richmond County, New-York, to Provincial Congress: Appointment of Officers, -
16,	Letter from Jecamiah Allen to New-York Congress: Eighty-two of the Guns are unspiked, -
16,	Letter from General Schuyler to Lord Stirling: The moment the Troops, Cannon, and Powder, are embarked on Lake George, he will proceed to New-York, -
16,	Albany Committee prohibit all persons from moving into the city or country, that do not bring with them evidence that they are friends to American freedom, -
16,	Letter from Colonel Varnum to Major Harrison, -

## NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

Feb. 12,	Congress met pursuant to adjournment, 22d of last December, -
	Credentials of the Members from Tryon and Dutchess Counties, not heretofore in Congress, -
	Sundry Letters and Resolutions from the Continental Congress read, -
	Letter from General Schuyler, of February 6, respecting the Regiment ordered to be raised for Canada, -
	Persons to whom Inlisting Orders have been given by General Schuyler, -
	Letter from Elihu Marvin, Chairman of the Committee for Orange County, dated February 9, recommending Officers for three Companies, -
	Committee to consider the recommendations of the Continental Congress, in relation to the ensuing campaign, -
	Robert Boyd, of New-Windsor, directed to send down, immediately, all the Gun-barrels, Bayonets, and Steel Ramrods, he has made, -
	Committee to wait on General Lee, to ascertain if he has anything to propose relative to the publick service, -
	Petition from John Willett and fourteen others, inhabitants of Queen's County, now prisoners, under guard, in the City of New-York, Motion to release them on bonds rejected by a great majority, -
13,	Commissions for Field-Officers of Northern Regiment, in Ulster County, ordered, -
	Letter from Severyn T. Bruyn, resigning his appointment as Adjutant of the Southern Regiment in Ulster County,—read, and referred to the Members from that County, -
	Letter from the Committee of Marbletown, in relation to Officers: Read, and referred to the Members from Orange and Ulster Counties, -
	General Lee's Answer to the Committee: He will avail himself of the services of the Congress, -
	General Committee directed to cause an election to be held for seven Deputies, for the City and County of New-York, in place of that number who have not taken their seats, -
	Permission given to the Members of his Majesty's Council, the Mayor of the City, and the Deputy-Secretary, to go on board his Excellency Governour Tryon's Ship, until the further order of the Congress or Committee of Safety, -
	Blank Commissions sent to Colonel Joseph Drake, -
	Officers chosen by the people of Islip, in Suffolk County, -
	Appointment of Officers at Islip confirmed, -
	Application from Committee of Tryon County for a loan of five hundred Pounds, -

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Christopher Duyckinck attended: The Congress declare him guilty of a contempt, and are of opinion that he acted wrong in taking Mr. Sands's watch, and recommend to him to return it, - - - - -	314
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Reference from the City Committee in regard to Salt, received, and reserved for further consideration, - - - - -	315
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Committee to take examinations on oath relative to Soldiers firing on the inhabitants in boats; and, also, as to the declarations of Colonel Waterbury and Isaac Sears, inimical to this Colony, - - - - -	328
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26,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Baltimore County Committee, - - - - -	505
26,	Letter from Maryland Delegates in Congress to Council of Safety: The Marine Committee are unwilling to take the Defence off our hands; there is no idea of taking her, but in subjecting her to the uncontrolled orders of Congress, - - - - -	505
26,	Letter from Elbridge Gerry to James Warren: Wishes the General Court of Massachusetts would express themselves in favour of Independency; it would turn many doubtful minds, and produce a reversal of contrary Instructions adopted by some of the Assemblies. America has gone such lengths she cannot recede, - - - - -	506

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Mar. 26,	Philadelphia Committee publish Benjamin Sharpless as an enemy to his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of the Colonies, he having been convicted of refusing to receive Continental Bills of Credit, - - - - -	507
26,	New-Jersey Committee of Safety order three Battalions of Militia to be drafted for the assistance of New-York, - - - - -	508
26,	Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to the President of Congress, - - - - -	509
	Articles of Agreement with Abraham Livingston for the supply of the Troops, - - - - -	510
26,	Letter from Isaac Sears to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	511
25,	Testimony of Godfrey Shew, as to the unfriendly disposition of the Mohawk Indians, - - - - -	770
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - -	511
26,	Letter from General Wooster to the Continental Congress, recommending to their notice Major Zedwitz, - - - - -	511
26,	Letter from General Arnold: Condition of the Army before Quebec, - - - - -	512
26,	Letter from Gershom Mott to Captain Goforth: A detachment yesterday, under the command of Major Dubois, attacked and defeated several hundred Canadians; it was not the enemy's main body, - - - - -	753
26,	Letter from Winthrop Sargent to Gen. Washington, - - - - -	512
27,	Letter from John Thomas Boucher to Maryland Council of Safety, for permission to quit the service of that Province, and enter into that of Virginia, - - - - -	512
27,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Magruder, - - - - -	513
27,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to John Yost, contractor for making Muskets for the Province, - - - - -	513
27,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Lieutenant Boucher: Accept his resignation, and wish him success in the command of the Potomack Fleet, - - - - -	513
27,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Charles Carroll, Barrister, - - - - -	513
27,	Cato to the People of Pennsylvania: On the improbability of receiving assistance from foreign powers, and against Independence, - - - - -	514
27,	Letters from the New-Jersey Committee of Safety to the President of Congress: They have ordered three Battalions to march to New-York, - - - - -	517
27,	Letter from Doctor Franklin to Lord Stirling: Request him to engage a Sloop at New-York to take the Commissioners to Albany, on their way to Canada, - - - - -	518
27,	Letter from Lord Stirling to General Washington: Every measure has been taken to meet General Howe should he attempt to land at New-York, - - - - -	518
27,	Committee for Cow-Neck, Queen's County, New-York, enjoin all manner of persons to break off every kind of civil, mechanical, and commercial intercourse with Israel Rogers, who has counteracted the measures carrying on for the preservation of American liberty, - - - - -	518
27,	Letter from William Smith to New-York Committee of Safety: Requesting a number of Troops may be stationed at the east end of Long-Island, which is in a very defenceless condition, and much exposed to the ravages of the Ministerial Army, - - - - -	1413
27,	Letter from Gilbert Livingston to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	519
27,	Letter from General Schuyler to Lord Stirling: To avoid the exceeding high expense of transporting the Prisoners and their Baggage, they have been sent down the North River, - - - - -	519
27,	Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	519
27,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - - - -	520
27,	Petition of the Committee and Militia Officers of King's District, to the Committee of Safety and Protection for the County of Albany, - - - - -	521

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Mar. 27,	Letter from Major Barber to Moses Gill, enclosing a state of the North Battery in Boston, - - - - -	521
27,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: The Men-of-War and Transports, with the Ministerial Troops, sailed this afternoon from Nantasket Harbour, - - - - -	522
27,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - -	522
	Return of the Ordnance Stores left by the enemy in Boston, March 17, 1776, - - - - -	523
	Petition from the Inhabitants of Nova-Scotia to General Washington, praying his assistance that they may be able to give their sentiments publicly, and join with their little strength the other Colonies, in preventing the ensigns of slavery from being set up in any part of this great empire, - - - - -	523
	Detail of Guard in the Cambridge Department, March 21, 1776, - - - - -	524
	Detail of Guard in the Roxbury Department, March 21, 1776, - - - - -	525
	General Orders, from March 25 to March 27, - - - - -	525
28,	Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe, informing him of the additional force he may expect from England this year: The whole, probably including General Clinton's and Sir Peter Parker, will arrive so as to open the campaign in the month of May or June, - - - - -	525
28,	Letter from Lord George Germaine to Sir Guy Carleton: The defeat and repulse of the Rebels at Quebec, on the 31st of December, was a great and happy event; it is hoped so severe a check will deter the Rebels from any other such attempts upon Quebec, - - - - -	941
28,	Americus to the People of England, - - - - -	527
28,	Letter from Robert Treat Paine to the New-York Committee of Safety, recommending the erection of works for the manufacture of Saltpetre, - - - - -	528
28,	The Forester to Cato, - - - - -	529
28,	Committee of Germantown, Pennsylvania, regulate the price of Salt, - - - - -	532
28,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Keeper of the Philadelphia Prison, directing him to confine in separate apartments, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Kirkland, - - - - -	533
28,	Letter from the President of Congress to New-Jersey Committee of Safety, requesting them to exert their utmost endeavours in expediting the march of the Troops to New-York, - - - - -	533
28,	Letter from the Committee of Safety for New-Jersey to the President of Congress, - - - - -	533
28,	Letter from William Burnet to Lord Stirling: John Young, the Professor, who made his escape from the guard at Newark, was taken at Elizabethtown, - - - - -	533
28,	Letter from John Haring to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	534
	Resignation of Colonel Abraham Lent, - - - - -	534
28,	Letter from Colonel Smith to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	535
28,	Letter from Henry Wisner to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	535
28,	Letter from General Schuyler to Lord Stirling, - - - - -	535
28,	Marching Orders to Captain Ebenezer Stevens, of the Artillery, - - - - -	536
28,	Letter from Abraham Livingston to John McKesson, - - - - -	536
29,	Letter from Edward Gaither, Jun., to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	536
29,	Letter from Captain Henry to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	537
	Monthly Return of Captain Henry's Minute Company, from Kent County, - - - - -	537
	List of Captain Henry's Company, - - - - -	537
29,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to John Hanson, for Gunlocks, - - - - -	537
29,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Beall, respecting Gunpowder, - - - - -	538
29,	Letter from Captain Macpherson to Continental Congress, recommending the building row-Galleys, - - - - -	538
29,	Philadelphia Committee Proceedings relating to William Sitgreaves and Peter Ozeas, - - - - -	538
	Concession of William Sitgreaves, - - - - -	539
	Acknowledgment of Peter Ozeas, - - - - -	539



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<i>Mar.</i> 29, Letter from William Elder, &c., Prisoners, requesting they may be heard, - - -	539
29, Address of Massachusetts Assembly to General Washington, - - -	539
General Washington's Answer, - - -	540
29, Instructions and Orders to General Putnam; to proceed to New-York, and take the command there, - - -	541
30, Letter from Nathaniel Smith to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	542
30, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captains Kent and Henry, - - -	542
30, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Charles County Committee, - - -	542
30, Cato's fifth Letter to the People of Pennsylvania: Against seeking foreign aid, - - -	542
30, York County, Pennsylvania, Committee, proceedings on charge against Robert Owings, - - -	546
Declarations of Robert Owings, - - -	547
30, Recantation of Peter Louderback, - - -	547
30, Letter from General Thompson to New-York Congress, requesting they will give directions for the protection of the property of persons who have left the City, - - -	547
30, Letter from Captain Grenell to Thomas Tredwell, - - -	547
30, Letter signed Americanus, to the New-York Committee of Safety: Too many gentlemen are allowed to go to Britain, who convey large quantities of Specie out of the Province, - - -	548
30, Letter from Elihu Marvin to New-York Committee of Safety, - - -	548
30, Letter from John Blackler to New-York Committee of Safety, asking to be released from confinement, - - -	548
30, Petition of Henry Van Rensselaer to the Committee for Albany County, offering to erect a Powder-Mill, - - -	548
30, Letter from General Arnold to Silas Deane, giving him a sketch of the strength, situation, and prospects of the Army: To reduce Quebec, they have a few small Cannon, (sixes, twelves, and one twenty-four Pounder,) little Ball, and less Powder, - - -	549
Return of the Troops before Quebec, March 30th, - - -	550
General Orders before Quebec, prohibiting Inoculation for the Small-Pox, - - -	550
30, Letter from James Warren, Paymaster-General, to the President of Congress: Desires to resign his office, - - -	551
30, Letter from Mark Hopkins to the Massachusetts Council: In the election of Officers for the two Companies in Great Barrington, the Tories outvoted the Whigs, and persons unfriendly to the common cause have been elected, - - -	551
31, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee, - - -	552
31, Letter addressed to Cato, Cassandra, and all the writers on the Independent controversy, - - -	552
31, Letter from Azor Betts to New-York Committee of Safety, - - -	558
31, Letter from Colonel Nicoll to John McKesson, - - -	558
31, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: Twenty-seven Ships, undoubtedly having Ministerial Troops on board, are near, and there are not eight hundred men in the whole Colony, besides the Militia, who are not half armed, - - -	558
31, Letter from General Washington to John A. Washington, - - -	558

## SOUTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

<i>Feb.</i> 1, Second Session of Provincial Congress, held at Charlestown, - - -	561
2, Henry Middleton and John Rutledge, two Delegates to the Continental Congress, presented a manuscript copy of the Journals of the Congress, which were read, - - -	561
3, Resignation of Claudius Pegues, Deputy from the Parish of St. David; not accepted, - - -	562

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Committee for publishing extracts from the Journals, from day to day, - - -	562
Papers from the Continental Congress communicated, - - -	562
Lady and Daughter of John Stuart not permitted to leave his house in Charlestown, which is placed under guard, - - -	562
Committee to wait on Mrs. Stuart, before the guards are placed there, - - -	563
<i>Feb.</i> 5, Return of the Country Militia, now in Charlestown, ordered, - - -	563
Letter to the Committees of St. Bartholomew, St. Helena, and Charlestown, respectively, respecting the Estates and Property of John Stuart and Henry Stuart, - - -	563
6, Bills to the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand Pounds ordered to be stamped and signed, - - -	564
Order for disarming the Insurgents suspended, - - -	564
Committee to inquire into the state of the interior parts of the Colony, - - -	564
7, Members allowed to speak but twice upon one question, - - -	565
Letter to Major Andrew Williamson, - - -	565
Council of Safety to consider the number of Forces necessary to be raised for the service of the Colony, - - -	565
8, Thanks presented by the President to the Delegates of this Colony, for their important services in the American Congress, - - -	565
Committee to take into consideration the Resolution of the Continental Congress, recommending the establishment of a new Government in South-Carolina, if the Convention find it necessary, - - -	567
9, Division of the District between Broad and Saluda Rivers, - - -	567
Flag to be used by the Commander-in-Chief of the American Navy; presented by Colonel Gadsden, - - -	568
10, Report of Committee respecting a form of Government; read and considered, - - -	568
11, Committee to prepare a plan or form of Government, - - -	569
12, Committee to consider on the best method for promoting the manufacture of Saltpetre, - - -	569
Committee to inquire into the present impositions upon the publick, in the high advance in price upon the necessaries of life, - - -	569
13, William Guest, charged with practices inimical to, and destructive of, the peace of the Colony, committed to Prison, - - -	570
14, Prohibition of the exportation of Rice to be continued until the 1st of May next, - - -	571
15, Committee to consider the building of two Frigates for the service of the Colony, - - -	571
Committee to proceed to Savannah, to induce that Colony to co-operate with this in paying the strictest obedience to the Resolves of the Continental Congress, - - -	572
Mr. Rutledge permitted to resign his seat in the Continental Congress, - - -	572
16, Letter to the Colony of Georgia, - - -	573
Delegates to the Continental Congress elected, - - -	573
17, Benjamin B. Boote committed to close confinement, - - -	573
Motion to raise three Battalions of Infantry, on Continental establishment, rejected, - - -	574
18, Committee to consider and report on the best means of raising a sufficient force for the protection of Charlestown, - - -	574
19, Letter to the Committee of Safety for Salisbury, North-Carolina, respecting Mr. Dunn and Mr. Boote, - - -	575
Drafts for one thousand and fifty men, from the Country Militia, ordered for the immediate defence of Charlestown, - - -	575
Letters ordered to be written to the Continental Congress, acquainting them with the present situation of affairs in this Colony, and of the alarming intelligence from Georgia, - - -	576
20, Motion that the Regiment of Rangers be reduced from Horse to Foot, rejected, - - -	576
Other motions, relating to the Rangers, rejected, - - -	576
21, Report of Committee on interior parts of the Colony; read, and postponed, - - -	577

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<i>Feb.</i> 22, Report on the number of Forces necessary to be raised and kept up for the service of the Colony, adopted, - - - - -	<i>Mar.</i> 14, Partial Report on a plan or form of Government in the Colony, until an accommodation shall take place between Great Britain and the British American Colonies, made by the Committee of the Whole, - - - - -
23, Field-Officers for the Regiment of Riflemen elected, - - - - -	The President directed to prepare a declaration of pardon and amnesty to the late Insurgents, - - - - -
24, Keepers of all Ferries directed to give all possible despatch to the Constitutional Post-Riders over their respective Ferries, - - -	Committees for Georgetown and Beaufort respectively authorized to fit out a proper Armed Vessel, - - - - -
Commissioners for procuring Rifles, Muskets, &c., - - - - -	Report on the best mode of encouraging the making of Saltpetre, considered and agreed to, - - - - -
Memorial signed by twenty-one Officers of the Country Militia, now doing duty at Charlestown, presented and read, - - - - -	15, Report of the Committee of the Whole on the form of Government, considered this day, and the 16th, 17th, and 18th, - - - - -
25, Captains of Regiment of Riflemen elected, -	19, Report of Committee appointed to inquire what quantity of Salt is in the Colony, considered and adopted, - - - - -
26, Committee to consider the expediency of immediately raising another Regiment of Riflemen, - - - - -	Continental Bills and Tax Certificates declared legal tenders in all payments whatever within the Colony, - - - - -
Petition of Robert Cunningham, proposing to observe a neutrality, presented and read, -	20, Plan of Government further considered, -
27, Patrick Cunningham, and two others of the late Insurgents, committed to the common Jail, in Charlestown, - - - - -	Committee to report what Salaries are proper for publick Officers, - - - - -
28, Second Regiment of Riflemen, to rank as the Sixth Regiment in the Colony service, ordered to be raised, - - - - -	Committee to confer with a Committee from North-Carolina, to concert measures for mutual defence and assistance, - - - - -
29, Appointment of Commissary-General authorized; his duties, &c., - - - - -	21, Act of the British Parliament, declaring the Colonies in a state of rebellion, just received from Georgia, read, and ordered to be transmitted to the Continental Congress, with all convenient speed, - - - - -
Field-Officers for Second Regiment of Riflemen elected, - - - - -	Ship Port-Henderson, now lying under Fort Johnston, and bound for London, ordered to be seized and the cargo on board landed and sold, - - - - -
<i>Mar.</i> 1, Captains for the Riflemen chosen, - -	Salaries for publick Officers reported and adopted, - - - - -
Committee being returned from Georgia, report that great opposition is made to the measures of Congress in Georgia; and that unless this Colony interfered in a forcible manner, exportation would speedily take place, - - - - -	22, Committee on a proposal of William Bellamy for erecting a Mill for making Paper and cutting Files, - - - - -
Detachments ordered to Greenville County, and to Savannah, - - - - -	Committee for laying Obstructions to the navigable Channels of Charlestown Bar, - -
2, Orders to Colonel Bull, or to the Commanding Officer for the time being, of the South-Carolina Forces ordered to act in aid of Georgia, - - - - -	Henry Felder's proposition for making Gunpowder, accepted, - - - - -
Further Report from the Committee on the state of the interior parts of the Colony, -	Report of Committee to concert measures for mutual support of this Colony and North-Carolina, read and agreed to, - - -
Committee to form a plan of Government, to sit forthwith, and report to-morrow, - -	Committee to consider of a proper division of the Militia, required to report to-morrow, -
3, Committee to consider of ways and means to pay for services already voted, - - - - -	Letter from the Council of Safety of Georgia, with sundry Papers and intercepted Letters, read, - - - - -
4, Report of Committee on a plan of Government, -	23, Commissioners to obstruct the navigation of the Channel over the Bar, authorized to prepare Fire-Vessels, for the most effectual annoyance of any enemy that shall attempt to enter the Harbour, - - - - -
5, Committee to consider the best means of erecting a Powder-Mill, and of promoting the making of Gunpowder, - - - - -	Delegates of this Colony in the Continental Congress authorized to concert, agree to, and execute every measure which they and a majority of the Congress shall judge necessary for the defence, security, and interest or welfare of this Colony in particular, and of America in general, - - - - -
Papers from Georgia received by express, laid before the Congress, - - - - -	Agreements with Joseph Buffington and William Wofford for the establishment of Iron-Works, - - - - -
Committee to prepare Rules and Articles for the better regulation and government of the Navy of the Colony, - - - - -	Report on a proper division of the Country Militia, read and adopted, - - - - -
6, Letter to the Council of Safety for Georgia, -	24, Committee to appraise and value the Houses in Charlestown, that the owners may be recompensed, if, during the present unnatural war, any should be damaged or destroyed, -
State of the Paper currency in the publick Treasury of South-Carolina, - - - - -	Thanks to Colonel Richard Richardson, for the very important services he has rendered to the common cause, by putting a stop to the late alarming insurrection which the enemies of America had excited in the interior parts of this Colony, - - - - -
Report on ways and means for payment of services already voted, considered and adopted, -	25, Rules and Articles for the government of the Navy of the Colony, considered and agreed to, - - - - -
Seven hundred and fifty thousand Pounds, currency, in bills, ordered to be issued, and the publick faith of the Colony pledged for their redemption, - - - - -	26, Committee to examine the engrossed copy of "A Constitution or Form of Government" with the rough draft, - - - - -
Henry Peroneau and Benjamin Dart, joint publick Treasurers, prohibited from issuing any of the publick money in their charge, -	
7, Committee to consider and report the most proper places for Iron Works in the Colony, -	
8, Plan of Government considered, - - - - -	
Letter from William Ewen, President of the Council of Safety of Georgia, dated Savannah, March 4, ordered to be published in a Gazette Extraordinary, - - - - -	
9, Plan of Government further considered, -	
10, Resolution of January, 1775, prohibiting the killing of Sheep, repealed, - - - - -	
Plan of Government under consideration this day, and the 11th and 12th, - - - - -	
13, Committee to inquire and report the quantity of Salt now in the Colony, - - - - -	
Report on the state of the interior parts of the Province, considered and adopted, - - -	
Declaration of pardon and amnesty to the late Insurgents, with certain exceptions, to be published, - - - - -	

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Rank between the Officers of the Land and Sea Forces of the Colony established, -	608
Committee to examine the present state and expense of building Fort Royal, about eighteen miles above Fort Charlotte, on Savannah River, - - - - -	609
Constitution or Form of Government agreed to, and resolved upon, by the Representatives of South-Carolina, - - - - -	609
The Constitution being signed by the President, and attested by the Secretary, the Provincial Congress adjourned to meet as a General Assembly, at five o'clock, P. M., the same day, - - - - -	615

## SOUTH-CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Mar. 26, The General Assembly met, - - - - -	615
Legislative Council elected, - - - - -	615
John Rutledge elected President and Commander-in-Chief, - - - - -	615
Henry Laurens elected Vice-President, - - - - -	615
27, Address of the President elect, - - - - -	615
Chief Justice and Assistant Judges appointed, - - - - -	616
Oath to be taken by the President, - - - - -	616
28, Oath of office administered to the Legislative Council, the President, and the Vice-President, - - - - -	617
29, Various Officers appointed, - - - - -	619
Apr. 1, Address of the Legislative Council and Assembly to the President, - - - - -	624
2, Conference between the two Houses on the Ordinance establishing an oath of office, - - - - -	627
The President, with the advice and consent of the Privy Council, authorized to design and cause to be made a Great Seal of South-Carolina, - - - - -	628
3, Address of both Houses presented to the President, - - - - -	629
President's Answer to the joint Address, - - - - -	630
Message from the Legislative Council, requesting a Conference on the Ordinance making disposition of Moneys for the support of Government, - - - - -	630
Message to the Council, agreeing to the Conference, - - - - -	630
4, Message to the President, with a List of the Civil Officers appointed, - - - - -	632
5, Six hundred Pounds sterling a year allowed to the Delegates from this Colony at the Continental Congress, - - - - -	634
6, Mrs. Sarah Stuart, during the time she may be restrained of her liberty, allowed one hundred Pounds, currency, per month, for her maintenance, - - - - -	635
Commissioners from Great Britain to treat with the several Colonies, shall not, on any pretence, be allowed to land, - - - - -	636
The President requested to communicate this determination to Georgia, North-Carolina, Virginia, and the Continental Congress, - - - - -	636
Message from the Council, requesting a Conference on the Ordinance for altering the time of holding certain Circuit Courts, &c., - - - - -	637
Conference agreed to, - - - - -	638
8, Message to the President, informing him that the House, thinking it necessary that obstructions should be laid on the Bar of the Inlet to Stono, will provide for the expense, - - - - -	639
All the Forces in the service of the Colony to be supplied with Salt, not exceeding one quart per month, each man, instead of one pint, hitherto allowed, - - - - -	641
9, Committee to purchase and ship such commodities as may be necessary for procuring of Clothing for the First and Second Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Rangers, - - - - -	642
Committee to inquire and report what quantities of Rice and other commodities have been purchased or shipped by the Secret Committee and Council of Safety, - - - - -	643
Committee on the Petition of Henry Aitkin, late Master of the Ship Port-Henderson, - - - - -	643
William Parker and Edward Blake chosen Commissioners of the Treasury, - - - - -	645

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Apr. 10, Motion to appoint a Commander of the Navy, subordinate to the President, rejected, - - - - -	645
Report on the Petition of Captain Aitkin, - - - - -	645
Message from the Legislative Council, requesting a Conference on the Bill to empower the Court of Admiralty to have jurisdiction in all cases of capture of Vessels of the inhabitants of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British West-Indies, - - - - -	645
Conference agreed to, - - - - -	646
Petition of Thomas Fletchall and others, principal actors in the late commotions in the interior parts of the Colony, presented and read, - - - - -	646
Committee to inquire and report the names of such persons amongst the late Insurgents as are proper to be excepted in a declaration of pardon or amnesty, - - - - -	646
Clement Lempriere elected Captain and Commander of the Colony ship-of-war Prosper, - - - - -	647
11, Address to the President, requesting him to appoint a day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer, throughout the Colony, - - - - -	647
Chaplains to each of the Regiments allowed a salary of seven hundred Pounds a year, and two rations per day, - - - - -	648
Report of the names of persons among the late Insurgents to be excepted in a general pardon, read and agreed to, - - - - -	650
Speech of the President to both Houses, - - - - -	650
Crown Officers, confined by the late Provincial Congress to Charlestown, permitted, if they choose it, to depart the Colony, - - - - -	652
The President requested to issue a Declaration of Pardon, with certain exceptions, - - - - -	652
The President desired to cause all Publick Papers and Effects, in the possession of all or any of the Crown Officers, to be immediately secured, - - - - -	652
An Act to prevent Sedition, and punish Insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace, - - - - -	652
Assembly adjourned to Tuesday, the 1st day of October next, - - - - -	652

## PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

Feb. 12, Nineteen Members (not a quorum) met this day, pursuant to their adjournment on the 12th of November, 1775, - - - - -	655
14, Quorum present, - - - - -	655
Committee to acquaint the Governour that the House is ready to receive any business he may be pleased to lay before them, - - - - -	655
15, Resignation of Joseph Fox, Barrackmaster, accepted, - - - - -	655
Petition from Henry Hale Graham, respecting the safe-keeping of the Publick Records, - - - - -	655
16, Joseph Reed, elected a Delegate for Philadelphia, qualified as a Member, - - - - -	656
Committee to bring in a Bill for the preservation of the Records in the Counties of Philadelphia and Chester, - - - - -	656
17, Committee of Safety to cause a Powder-Mill to be erected immediately, - - - - -	657
20, Memorial from Managers of the United Company of Philadelphia, for promoting American Manufactures, presented and read, - - - - -	657
Major Lewis Nicola appointed Barrackmaster, - - - - -	658
Message from the Governour, respecting the Connecticut Settlers at Wyoming, - - - - -	658
Letter to the Governour, from Northumberland, relating to the obstruction to the laws by persons residing near Wyoming, - - - - -	658
23, Petition of the Field-Officers of the Association in the County of Berks, praying certain alterations in the Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	659
Petition from the Magistrates, Sheriff, and Coroner of the County of Northumberland: In their attempt to arrest some notorious offenders, they were fired upon by some people near Wyoming, - - - - -	661
Petition from the Committee of Privates of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, - - - - -	662

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Memorial from the Officers of the Military Association of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, - - - - -	665
Remonstrance and Petition from the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the County of Chester, - - - - -	665
<i>Feb. 27</i> , Letter from Dr. Franklin, requesting to be excused from attending the Assembly, - - - - -	666
28, Petitions from the Counties of York, Berks, Bedford, Cumberland, and Northumberland, praying an allowance of more Members to represent said Counties in Assembly—presented and read, - - - - -	667
Committee to revise the Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association, - - - - -	668
Committee to prepare an Answer to the Governour's Message of the 22d instant, - - - - -	668
29, Resolutions of the Congress, laid before the House, - - - - -	668
Petition from John Marshall, Threadmaker, stating his usefulness and services, and praying such bounty or reward as he may merit, - - - - -	670
Committee to consider and report the best mode of encouraging the culture of Flax in the Province, - - - - -	671
Committee to prepare a Resolve, inflicting punishments upon persons who harbour Deserters, - - - - -	672
<i>Mar. 1</i> , Petition from the Committee of Inspection for the County of Bucks: Representing the unequal operation of the law upon Associators and Non-Associators, - - - - -	672
Memorial from the Committee of Safety, - - - - -	673
Answer of the House to Governour's Message, - - - - -	674
5, David Rittenhouse, elected a Representative in place of Benjamin Franklin, resigned, attended, and was qualified, - - - - -	674
Letter from the Governour to the Magistrates of Northumberland County, - - - - -	674
Petition from the Committee of Officers and Privates of Colonel Thomas's Battalion, of Chester County, - - - - -	675
Petition from the inhabitants of the Town of Reading, complaining of the inconveniences they suffer from lodging the Prisoners taken at St. John's, - - - - -	675
Estimate of the Pay and Subsistence of fifteen hundred men for one month, - - - - -	675
6, Petition from divers inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, - - - - -	676
Two Battalions of Riflemen, and one of Musket-men, ordered to be raised, - - - - -	677
7, Petition from the Committee of Correspondence for the County of Bedford, - - - - -	677
8, Petition from the City of Philadelphia, praying a more adequate representation in Assembly, - - - - -	679
Committee to prepare a Bill allowing the City of Philadelphia, and certain Counties, additional Representatives, - - - - -	679
9, Captains in the Rifle Battalions appointed, - - - - -	679
11, Petition from the Privates of the First Battalion of Militia in the County of Cumberland, - - - - -	680
12, Instructions for recruiting Riflemen in the service of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	681
Petition from divers inhabitants of the County of Cumberland, - - - - -	682
Petition from divers inhabitants in and near the Townships of Whitehall and Salisbury, in the County of Northumberland, - - - - -	682
13, Bill to increase the number of Representatives for the City of Philadelphia, passed to a third reading, - - - - -	683
Letter from the Committee of Safety, - - - - -	683
Field-Officers of the three Battalions appointed, - - - - -	683
14, Bill for increasing the number of Representatives passed, - - - - -	684
Rank of the Field-Officers of the three Battalions, - - - - -	684
15, Resolution of the Continental Congress, recommending the disarming of disaffected persons, laid before the House, - - - - -	684
Captains in the Battalion of Musket-men appointed, - - - - -	685
Petition from the Committee of Privates of the Military Association for Philadelphia, - - - - -	685

1776.

First Lieutenants for the Rifle Regiment appointed, - - - - -	686
Letter from John Cadwallader, declining the appointment of Colonel of the Second Battalion; his request was for the command of the First Battalion, - - - - -	686
16, Second Lieutenants for the Regiment of Riflemen appointed, - - - - -	686
19, Third Lieutenants for the Rifle Regiment appointed, - - - - -	686
James Francis Moore appointed a First Lieutenant, in place of Thomas Paxton, represented to be an improper person for the office, - - - - -	687
20, Subalterns for the Battalion of Musket-men appointed, - - - - -	687
21, Samuel Atlee, of Lancaster, appointed Colonel of the Battalion of Musket-men in the place of John Cadwallader, - - - - -	688
26, Persons who harbour deserters to be fined and imprisoned, - - - - -	689
Commander-in-Chief, or the officer commanding Detachments, authorized to administer oaths, - - - - -	689
Court to take cognizance of Vessels captured, Assessors to make Returns of the whole number of Inhabitants, - - - - -	690
Continental and Colonial Soldiers free from arrest for small debts, - - - - -	691
28, Committee report that John Marshall well deserves a reward from the publick, - - - - -	692
Rank of the Captains and Subalterns of the several Battalions of the Pennsylvania Forces, - - - - -	692
29, Committee to prepare Rules and Regulations for the government of the Pennsylvania Forces, - - - - -	693
30, Committee to prepare Resolves directing the mode of disarming disaffected persons, - - - - -	694
<i>Apr. 2</i> , Rules and Regulations for the Military Association, considered, - - - - -	694
3, Rates to be allowed for the entertainment of Troops marching in and through the Province, - - - - -	694
Commissions to Officers of the Associators to be signed by the Speaker of the Assembly, Petition of a considerable number of inhabitants of Philadelphia, respecting the setting Negro slaves at liberty, presented and read, - - - - -	695
4, Committee to collect and consider the several Resolutions of Congress relative to the Wyoming dispute, with the petitions, complaints, and affidavits of the parties, - - - - -	695
5, Rules and Regulations for the better government of the Military Association in Pennsylvania, - - - - -	696
Articles of Association in Pennsylvania, - - - - -	700
Resolutions directing the mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators, - - - - -	703
Rules and Articles for the government of the Pennsylvania Forces, - - - - -	705
6, Resolutions directing the mode of disarming disaffected persons, and procuring the Arms of Non-Associators in the Province, - - - - -	713
Bills of Credit, to the value of eighty-five thousand Pounds, ordered to be emitted, - - - - -	715
Tax levied for redeeming the Bills of Credit, The House refuse, by a great majority, to alter the Instructions given at their last sitting to the Delegates for this Province in Congress, - - - - -	716
Adjourned to Monday, the 20th of May next, - - - - -	716

## PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

<i>Mar. 1</i> , Military Books purchased for the use of the Committee, - - - - -	717
The Contractor for casting Cannon not having performed any part of his contract, is ordered to be prosecuted for damages, - - - - -	717
2, Money lent to Jacob Lorch to enable him to erect a Powder-Mill, - - - - -	717
John Brice appointed First Lieutenant of the armed boat Warren, - - - - -	717
Fire-locks lent to Colonel Shea to exercise his men, - - - - -	717
David Rittenhouse desired to make experiments in rifling Cannon and Musket-Balls, - - - - -	718

1776.	
Mar. 4,	Henry Yelverton Price, charged with declaring himself a Tory, and inimical to the American cause, and not denying the truth of the charge, ordered to be confined in the County Jail, - - - - -
5,	John Mitchell appointed Mustermaster to the Naval Armaments and the Artillery of the Province, - - - - -
6,	Captain Brown ordered to raise fifty able-bodied men, for the Marine service of the Province, - - - - -
	His Instructions, - - - - -
	Second Lieutenants to the different Armed Boats appointed, - - - - -
	Captain Thomas Reed appointed second in command in the Naval Armaments of the Province, and Captain of the armed ship now building, - - - - -
	Survey of the Channel between Reedy-Point and the Pea-Patch, ordered, - - - - -
	Committee to superintend the Provincial Manufactory of Gun-locks, - - - - -
7,	The Commodore directed to order down to Fort-Island three of the Armed Boats, to remain there until they are relieved, - - - - -
8,	Application of the Secret Committee of Congress to lend them arms, cannot be complied with, as the Armed Boats are unprovided with arms; the Association is in a deplorable situation from the like cause, and the Province in general stripped of arms to supply the neighbouring Colonies, - - - - -
9,	Captain Samuel Davidson appointed to command the Floating Battery, - - - - -
	Captains Richards, Falconer, and Reed, authorized to fix Signals for giving alarms at Cape Henlopen, and other proper places on the Bay and River Delaware, - - - - -
12,	Guard ordered for the Jail; the Prisoners there, committed as enemies to the country, having raised a dangerous riot, assaulted the Keepers, and now stand on their defence, threatening to break the Jail and release all the Prisoners, - - - - -
	Guards ordered at the Powder-House, State-House, Fire-Rafts, and Magazine, - - - - -
13,	Officers, prisoners of war, now in Philadelphia, required to repair to the places allotted for their residence by Congress, - - - - -
	The Chevaux-de-Frise, built at Gloucester, to be placed at Fort-Island, - - - - -
	Thomas Forrest appointed Captain of a Company of Marines, to be employed on board the Floating Battery, - - - - -
14,	Advertisement requesting information from all persons of Sulphur Ore, in this or any neighbouring Colony, - - - - -
15,	The Commissary ordered to distribute two hundred and fifteen Provincial Arms between the four Battalions now in Philadelphia, - - - - -
16,	Instructions to Captain Thomas Forrest, - - - - -
	Regulations of Pay and Rations of Officers of the Naval Armament, - - - - -
	Committees in the different Counties requested to suffer Mr. Smith to send the Arms he has purchased to Virginia, - - - - -
	Agreement with Thomas Bidwell for refining crude Saltpetre, - - - - -
18,	Commodore Caldwell directed to send Officers on the Recruiting Service to New-York, - - - - -
19,	Orders with respect to the Ammunition and Arms of the several Battalions in the City, - - - - -
20,	Francis Feauss and Edward Yorke appointed Lieutenants to the Provincial Ship, - - - - -
21,	Pay of Officers on board the Provincial Ship, - - - - -
22,	Certificate to Messrs. Knight & Green, that they are authorized to import from North-Carolina six hundred barrels of Naval Stores, - - - - -
23,	Committee to agree with William Henry for making two hundred Rifles, - - - - -
25,	Thirty stand of Arms furnished the Brigantine Lexington, Captain Barry, in the Continental service, fitting out for the protection of the Trade of the coast, - - - - -
	Henry Yelverton Price discharged from confinement; but if found in the City after three days to be recommitted, - - - - -
	Committee to fix on proper places upon the River Delaware for erecting Fortifications, - - - - -

1776.	
Mar. 26,	William Gamble appointed Captain to the Etna Fire-Ship, and William Greenway Captain to one of the Fire-Rafts, - - - - -
	Provincial Ship-of-War to be called the Montgomery, and the Floating Battery to be called the Arnold, - - - - -
	Information received that a Sloop-of-War with a Tender has entered the Bay, - - - - -
	Orders for the Armed Boats and the Artillery to prepare for the defence of the River, - - - - -
30,	Committee to look out for two Vessels to sink in the passage between the Chevaux-de-Frise, - - - - -
31,	Vessel sent to bring back McBean and Davidson, on their way to the Man-of-War in the Bay, with a Pilot-Boat, - - - - -
Apr. 1,	Mr. McBean brought before the Committee, examined and discharged, - - - - -
2,	Orders for the arrest of Samuel Sample, of Pittsburgh, suspected of a connection with Connolly, a prisoner in Jail, dangerous to the liberty of America, - - - - -
	Committee to procure a Vessel proper to fit out as a cruiser in Delaware Bay, against the Ministerial Armed Tenders now obstructing the commerce of this Province, - - - - -
3,	Application to the Congress for proper Vessels to protect the Trade in the Bay of Delaware, now infested with Armed Vessels of the enemy, - - - - -
4,	Pilot Boats prohibited from going down the River without a permit, - - - - -
6,	Further provision for obstructing the Channel of the River, - - - - -
	Charles Lawrence appointed Captain of one tier of Fire-Rafts, - - - - -
8,	John M. Fatridge appointed Second Lieutenant of the Floating Battery, - - - - -
9,	Mr. Hillegas, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Rittenhouse, added to the Committee of Safety, - - - - -
10,	Matthew Clarkson appointed Marshall to the Court of Admiralty, - - - - -
11,	David Rittenhouse added to the Cannon Committee, - - - - -
12,	Captain Alexander permitted to quit the service, being offered the command of a Continental Vessel, - - - - -
13,	Committee to provide for building a Powder Magazine, - - - - -
15,	Privateer Sloop Congress allowed a Pilot, on condition of his being landed at Cape May, - - - - -
16,	Jacob Hans appointed Captain to one tier of Fire-Rafts, - - - - -
	List of Committees of the Committee of Safety, - - - - -
17,	Parole of Richard Bogar and John Draper, Officers of the British Armed Vessel taken by Captain Barry, - - - - -
18,	John Young permitted to purchase, to be conveyed to Virginia, as many Fire-locks as will complete one thousand stand, - - - - -
19,	Committee to superintend the building of a Floating Battery, - - - - -
26,	Application to the Congress for a few pieces of the heaviest Cannon taken by Commodore Hopkins, at Providence, - - - - -
27,	Rev. David Jones appointed Chaplain to Colonel Shea and Colonel Wayne's Battalion, - - - - -
29,	Captain Read, with the Provincial Ship Montgomery, ordered down the River to join the Commodore with the Armed Boats, to attack the Roebuck man-of-war, - - - - -
30,	Committee to inquire into the cause of the Armed Boats' returning, - - - - -
31,	Sisterhood of Bethlehem present a quantity of Linen Rags for the benefit of such as may be wounded in the service of their country, - - - - -

## CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

Apr. 1,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Charles Beatty, - - - - -
1,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for Talbot County, - - - - -
1,	Letter from Henry Fisher to Pennsylvania Committee of Safety: Several Vessels taken by the King's Ship the Roebuck, and her Boats and Tenders, in Delaware Bay, - - - - -



1776.	1776.
<i>Apr.</i> 1, Letter from Valentine Standley to the Continental Congress: Offers to take the place of Richard Standley, who has sunk himself so far beneath the dignity of a man as to resign rather than fight for his country, -	<i>Apr.</i> 1, Letter from General Washington to General Sullivan: Directs him to march to Providence if the alarm from Rhode-Island is well founded, - - - - -
746	758
1, Letter from John Adams to General Washington, - - - - -	Address of the Selectmen of Boston to General Washington, - - - - -
747	758
1, Letter from the President of Congress to Charles Lee: Directs him to raise a Company of Artillery, - - - - -	General Washington's Answer, - - - - -
747	758
1, Letter from the President of Congress to the Virginia Committee of Safety, - - - - -	1, Letter from Edmund Quincy to Colonel Mifflin: The British Fleet has sailed for Halifax, - - - - -
747	812
1, Letter from Samuel Tucker to the President of Congress, - - - - -	1, Narrative of Captain Daniel Lunt, of the inhuman treatment he and other Americans received from Captain Francis Banks, of the British Frigate Renown, - - - - -
748	759
Return of the First Battalion of New-Jersey Troops, commanded by Lord Stirling, -	2, Letter from George Mason to General Washington: Engaged in providing and equipping Vessels for the defence of the Potomack, - - - - -
748	760
Return of the Second Battalion of New-Jersey Troops, commanded by Colonel Maxwell, -	2, Letter from John Dalton to Maryland Council of Safety: From the scarcity of Sail Duck, Cannon, &c., at Alexandria, it is difficult to fit out the cruising Vessels, - - - - -
748	762
1, Proceedings of the Committee of Observation for the South Ward of New-Brunswick, New-Jersey, on the charges against William Steele, - - - - -	2, Letter from William Lux to Maryland Council of Safety: John Henderson's application for a release, - - - - -
749	762
1, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to the Provincial Congress of New-Jersey, requesting them to recommend sending speedy supplies to New-York, - - - - -	2, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Committee for St. Mary's County, - - - - -
1424	762
1, Letter from Lord Stirling to General Washington: Preparations for the defence of New-York, - - - - -	2, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Thomas, - - - - -
750	762
1, Petition of Abner Briggs to Provincial Congress of New-York, for leave to export a cargo of Provisions to the Island of Nantucket, -	2, Letter from the Maryland Delegates in Congress to the Council of Safety, - - - - -
750	763
1, Petition of Isaac Ryckman, Jun., to the New-York Congress, to appoint him to such vacant commission as they may think fit, -	2, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, communicating to him the thanks of Congress, - - - - -
750	764
1, Letter from Colonel Hasbrouck to the New-York Congress, - - - - -	2, Address of the Committee of Privates of Associators to the Philadelphia Committee, -
751	764
1, Letter from Charles Smith to Captain Vandeput: He is a close prisoner in New-York, -	2, Concessions of Abel Green, of Chester County, Pennsylvania, - - - - -
751	765
1, Letter from General Heath to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	2, Application to Colonel Stark, by the Officers of his Regiment, for pay for his men, -
751	765
1, Letter from Colonel Hazen to General Schuyler: Is intrusted by General Wooster with the command at Montreal. The Clergy in Canada are against the Colonies. The peasantry have no faith in the stability or the solvency of the Congress. The keeping of the country, according to the present appearance of affairs, is entirely against us, -	2, Letter from General Heath to New-York Committee of Safety, requesting to be furnished with guides, for arresting certain persons who are said to furnish the enemy with Provisions and Recruits, - - - - -
751	766
Letter from Gershom Mott to Captain Goforth: Action with a party of the Canadians, -	2, Letter from the Albany Committee to the New-York Congress, for money, without which the Officers cannot raise their respective complements of men, - - - - -
753	766
Letter from John Brogden to Captain Goforth, -	2, Letter from Colonel Nicoll to New-York Congress, - - - - -
753	766
Letter from Captain Goforth: The Canadians have been hardly treated, - - - - -	2, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - -
753	767
1, Proceedings of the Council of Safety of Connecticut, - - - - -	Letter from James Deane to General Schuyler: He has reason to believe the disposition of the Six Nations is not friendly, - - - - -
754	768
1, Letter from J. Waters, Jun., to Governour Trumbull: Intelligence has just been received that twenty-one Vessels were yesterday seen off Newport, Rhode-Island, -	Letter from James Deane to General Schuyler, enclosing a Letter from the Oneidas, -
788	769
1, Letter from Colonel Saltonstall to Governour Trumbull: An express has been received at Westerly, from Colonel Babcock, advising that twenty-one Ships had arrived at Newport, - - - - -	Testimony of Godfrey Shew, and others, of the threats of the Indians to attack the white settlements, - - - - -
788	770
1, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Mr. Eddy, from Nova-Scotia, will lay the affairs of that Province fully before the Congress, - - - - -	General Schuyler's Message to the Six Nations, -
755	771
1, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: In consequence of the alarm from Rhode-Island, General Sullivan and General Greene, with five Regiments, each, have been ordered to Providence, -	Letter from the Rev. Mr. Kirkland to General Schuyler: The Western Tribes of the Confederacy are hostile to the liberties of the Colonies, - - - - -
756	772
Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington, - - - - -	2, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress, - - - - -
756	773
Letter from Governour Cooke to the Officer commanding the four Regiments of Continental Troops on their march to New-York, -	3, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Beall: To discharge James Warren, - - - - -
756	774
General Orders from March 28 to March 31, -	3, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee: Approve of their detaining Mr. Henderson, - - - - -
756	774
1, Letter from General Washington to Joseph Reed: Mr. Temple's account of the favourable disposition of the Ministry does not correspond with their speeches in Parliament. If the Commissioners do not come with full power to treat with the Congress, they come to distract, divide, and create as much confusion as possible, - - - - -	3, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Frederick County Committee, with their decision in the case of Robert Gassaway, -
757	774
	3, Letter from the President of Congress, directing the Officer to whom it shall be produced to furnish a guard to accompany Silas Deane to the Capes, - - - - -
	774
	3, Letter from the President of Congress to the Officer commanding the Continental Troops in Delaware, - - - - -
	774
	3, Letter from the Massachusetts Delegates in Congress, to the President of the Council, on the deficiency of Arms for the Troops, and Cannon for the defence of Boston, -
	774

1776.	
Apr. 3,	Letter from General Heath to the President of Congress: The men are suffering and discouraged for want of pay, - - - 775
3,	Letter from Captain Davis to the New-York Congress: Finds it difficult to recruit, - 776
3,	Letter from the Committee of Suffolk County to the New-York Congress: They are much exposed to the ravages of the Ministerial Army, and request a supply of ammunition and other stores for their defence, - - 776
3,	Letter from Walter Livingston to the New-York Congress: The return of Colonel Warner's Regiment from Canada was not caused by his neglect to forward clothing, - - - 777
	Accounts, duly attested, of the property taken, burnt, and destroyed, by the Ministerial Ships-of-War at Rhode-Island, - - - 777
3,	Munson Jarvis and David Picket published as enemies to their country for signing a seditious paper, by the Committee for Stamford, Connecticut, - - - 779
3,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Has despatched two Companies of Artillery, and if they can be spared will detach four Battalions into Canada, - - 779
3,	Letter from General Washington to General Arnold, - - - 780
3,	Orders and Instructions from General Washington to Major-General Ward, - - - 780
3,	Orders and Instructions from General Washington to Colonel Knox, - - - 782
3,	Orders and Instructions from General Washington for John Parke, Assistant Quartermaster-General, - - - 782
3,	Orders and Instructions from General Washington for Dr. Morgan, Director-General of the Hospital, - - - 783
3,	Message of the Council of Massachusetts to the House of Representatives, respecting the Cannon left on Castle-Island, - - - 784
3,	Petition of the Selectmen of Provincetown to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, for directions as to a vessel there in distress, bound from Boston to Halifax, - - - 784
	Letter from Robert Campbell to the General Court of Massachusetts, - - - 784
3,	Letter from Colonel Andrew Reed to the Massachusetts Assembly, complaining of Colonel James Cargill's conduct, - - - 784
3,	Letter from Miles Powell to Timothy Edwards: Respecting the disorders in the Town of Lanesborough, - - - 808
3,	First division of the Fleet and Transports arrived at Halifax, from Boston, - - - 785
4,	Letter from John Page to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 785
4,	Letter from Ralph Wormley, Jun., to John Grymes, - - - 1007
4,	Plan of the American compact, by "An English American," - - - 785
4,	Letter from General Putnam to the President of Congress: Has ascertained since he arrived at New-York that the Army is in the highest need of an immediate supply of cash, - - - 787
4,	Ulster County Committee, recommend Henry Wisner and Moses Phillips to the New-York Congress, as proper persons to erect Powder-Mills, - - - 787
4,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Thompson: An attack from the Indians is probable, and he is altogether destitute of powder and ball, - - - 788
4,	Letter from William McDermott to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - 788
4,	Letter from Colonel Saltonstall to Governour Trumbull: The account of a Fleet being arrived at Newport is incorrect, - - - 789
4,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Saltonstall, - - - 790
4,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - 790
	Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington, - - - 791
	General Orders, April 2 and April 3, - - 792
4,	Letter from General Washington to Richard Henry Lee: He is preparing to set out for New-York, - - - 792

1776.	
Apr. 5,	Letter from General Lee to General Washington: The Provincial Congress of New-York are angels of decision when compared with the Committee of Safety of Virginia, - - 792
5,	Letter from General Lee to Richard Henry Lee: The Virginia Council of Safety is as incurably infected with timidity as the Maryland Convention or the Pennsylvania Assembly, 793
5,	Letter to the President of Congress: The English Minister at Paris has attached to his interests many French there, who are pretended friends of America; he hopes the Congress will apply to these men to transact their affairs, - - - 794
5,	Letter from Samuel Purviance to Captain Phillips, - - - 795
5,	Letter from Council of Safety to Maryland Delegates in Congress, - - - 795
5,	Letter from Henry Fisher to Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - - - 795
5,	Letter from Captain Brice, of the Royal Fusiliers, to the Continental Congress: He was taken prisoner at Chambly, is now at New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey, and desires permission to visit Philadelphia, for medical advice, - - - 796
5,	General Orders, by Major-General Putnam, at New-York, - - - 796
5,	Letter from General Putnam to New-York Committee of Safety: The service absolutely requires the four Regiments to be raised in New-York should be completed, and the Troops marched to the City without delay, - 1432
5,	Letter from Jeremiah Clarke to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - 796
5,	Return of the First Regiment in Suffolk County, New-York, - - - 797
5,	Letter from the Canada Commissioners to the President of Congress: On their way up the North-River, they landed at Fort Constitution; the fort on the land side is entirely open; there is not one gunner or artilleryman in the fort; the Minute-men work about six hours in the day, with great reluctance, - 811
5,	Letter from John Collins to Admiral Hopkins: Congratulates him on the success of the Continental Fleet, and hopes to see the day when the American Fleets will give laws on the ocean, - - - 1205
5,	Message from the Council of Massachusetts to the House of Representatives: Recommend the stationing of one thousand men for the defence of Boston Harbour, - - - 797
6,	A Planter's Address to the Inhabitants of Virginia: There is now no other alternative than independence or submission, - - - 798
6,	Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: He is taking measures for the defence of Williamsburgh and York, but will soon set out for North-Carolina, - - - 800
6,	Letter from General Lee to Samuel Purviance: Urges him to direct the commanding officer at Annapolis to seize the person of Governour Eden, - - - 800
6,	Letter from the Virginia Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee, - - - 928
6,	Letter from General Lewis to the President of Congress, - - - 801
6,	Committee of Observation for Calvert County, Maryland, to the Council of Safety, - - 801
6,	Letter from Robert Morris to General Gates: It is time to decide on reconciliation or independence; if the Commissioners do not appear soon, we shall quarrel about which of these roads is best for us to pursue, - - 801
6,	Letter from Elbridge Gerry to the Massachusetts Assembly; enclosing Resolutions of Congress opening the American Ports to all nations except such as are subject to the King of Great Britain, - - - 802
6,	Civis to the Inhabitants of Philadelphia, against Independence, - - - 802
6,	Letter from General Heath to New-York Committee of Safety: Objects to the permit granted to Mr. Murray to go on board the Ship Dutchess of Gordon, - - - 804
6,	Letter from Jacob Concklin to Colonel Hasbrouck, - - - 804

1776.	
Apr. 6,	Letter from an Officer at Montreal: The inhabitants and the Garrison at Quebec are suffering for Provisions, - - - - 804
6,	Information from Canada, communicated to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - 805
6,	Letter from the Committee for the Town of Stockbridge to the Massachusetts Council, Votes of the Town of Pittsfield respecting the arrest of persons suspected to be inimical to their country, - - - - 806
	Protest of the Committees of Sheffield, &c., against the Votes and Resolutions of the Committee of Correspondence for Berkshire County, at a meeting held on the 14th and 15th of December, 1775, - - - - 807
	Protest of the Town of Stockbridge, - - - - 807
	Letter from Mills Powell and Francis Gilteau to Timothy Edwards, of Stockbridge, - - - - 808
7,	Letter from London: Great preparations for the campaign; such is the rage against America, that the Administration are determined, at every hazard, to make one desperate push, - - - - 809
7,	Letter from General Lee to Maryland Council of Safety, enclosing intercepted Letters from Lord George Germaine to Governour Eden, - - - - 810
7,	Letter from Captain Barry, of the Lexington, to the Marine Committee: He has taken the Sloop Edward, a tender of the Liverpool Frigate, - - - - 810
7,	Letter from General Putnam to the President of Congress: Has taken the command at New-York; Governour sailed from there on Friday, - - - - 811
7,	Letter from Burnett Miller to the New-York Committee of Safety: A fleet of thirteen vessels discovered off Montauk, - - - - 812
7,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: The Regiments for Canada, which arrived at Albany very incomplete, have, by sickness and desertion, been much more reduced, - - - - 812
7,	Letter from General Thomas to General Washington: He arrived at Albany in five days from the Camp at Roxbury; from what he can learn, the Troops for service in Canada are inadequate for defence in that quarter, - - - - 813
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28,	Letter from Colonel Dayton to the President of Congress: Having begun his march for Canada, he has nominated the Reverend James Caldwell for Chaplain, - - - - -
28,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress, - - - - -
28,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Gridley: Expects and desires he will exert himself in completing the works for the defence of Boston with all possible despatch, - - - - -
28,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: The Army is very deficient in Engineers; none can possibly be spared from New-York to superintend the erection of the works at Newport, - - - - -
28,	Letter from General Washington to Jacob Bayley: Requests him to set about making the Road from Newbury to St. Johns as soon as possible, - - - - -
28,	Letter from Stephen Moylan to General Thompson, - - - - -
28,	Letter from Stephen Moylan to Colonel Nicoll: The General requests the works in the Highlands may be carried on with all possible expedition, - - - - -
28,	Letter from Captain Belknap to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -
28,	Letter from Thomas Palmer to Frederick Rhineland, - - - - -
28,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: General Thompson, with the Troops, arrived at Albany on the 24th inst., - - - - -
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28,	Letter from Admiral Hopkins to Governour Trumbull, - - - - -
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29,	Extract of a Letter from Wilmington, North-Carolina: It is reported that a large Fleet has arrived on the Coast, - - - - -
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29,	Petition of Doctor Jonathan Potts to the Congress, for the appointment of Director of the Hospital in Canada, - - - - -
29,	Address of an Elector to the Free and Independent Electors of Philadelphia, - - - - -
29,	Letter from John Smyth to the Continental Congress; soliciting an enlargement on parole, promising, solemnly, that whatever place or terms may be prescribed, he will most strictly and religiously adhere to, - - - - -
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29,	Letter from the Committee of Safety of New-York to the Delegates in Congress; respecting the command on the Lakes, - - - - -
29,	Letter from General Washington to New-York Committee of Safety; enclosing a Resolution of Congress, directing him to apply to the Committee of Safety for such arms as have been collected from disaffected persons, - - - - -



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30,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Committee of Safety: Regrets to learn that his Letter of the 27th has given umbrage; it was not his most distant idea to give any, - - - 1147
30,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - 1147
	Address of the Assembly of Rhode-Island to the Continental Congress, dated January 15, - - - 1148
	General Orders, April 27 to April 30, - - - 1150
	General Return of the Army at New-York, April 28, - - - 1151
	Return of the Regiments going on command to Canada, - - - 1153
30,	Letter from Colonel Nicoll to General Washington: The garrison in the Highlands is very deficient in arms, and entirely destitute of gun-flints. There are many disaffected persons in Westchester and Dutchess Counties, who, in case of an attack on New-York, might take the garrison by surprise, - - - 1153
30,	Letter from William Bedlow to John Berrien, Commissioner of Fortifications on Hudson's River, - - - 1153
30,	Letter from Captain Belknap to the New-York Committee of Safety, claiming the rank he is entitled to, - - - 1154
30,	Letter from Cornelius Steenrod to the New-York Congress, - - - 1155
30,	Letter from General Arnold to General Schuyler: Our prospects and resources in Canada are very slender, - - - 1155
30,	Letter from Captain Whipple to Esek Hopkins, Commander-in-Chief of the American Fleet: He has been charged with cowardice in the action with the Glasgow, and requests he may be tried by a Court Martial, and either be acquitted with honour, or broken with disgrace; he asks no favours, - - - 1156
30,	Massachusetts to the Freemen of Massachusetts, - - - 1156
May 1,	Order of the King in Council, extending the time allowing bounties for the encouragement of able Seamen to enter his Majesty's service, - - - 1157
1,	Hampden to the People of Virginia, against Independence, - - - 1158
1,	Committee for Northampton County, Virginia, agree to let Captain Duncan Hill attempt to get out of the Capes, - - - 1161
1,	Letter from Captain Smith to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1161
1,	Letter from Lieutenant Campbell to the Maryland Council of Safety: Resigns his commission, as he is about to enter the sea service, - - - 1161
1,	Letter from Colonel Ware to Maryland Council of Safety: The Doctor having advised him to be inoculated for the small-pox immediately, he asks the instructions of the Council thereon, - - - 1162
1,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to William Lux: Owing to the difficulty of square-rigged Vessels escaping the enemy, it has been determined to send small sharp-rigged Vessels to the West-Indies, - - - 1162
1,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to Hugh Young, - - - 1162
1,	Letter from Elbridge Gerry to James Warren: South-Carolina has taken up Government, and North-Carolina has resolved 'to follow the example; so fine a spirit prevails in Virginia, that they may be for declaring Independence before Congress is ready, - - - 1163
1,	Petition of Captain Simon to the Continental Congress, - - - 1163
1,	Letter from General Committee of New-York to General Putnam, requesting that certain prisoners of war may be permitted to go to Burlington or Trenton, in New-Jersey, - - - 1164

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May 1,	Letter from Colonel Snyder to the New-York Committee of Safety: Wants Powder for his Regiment; none is to be procured in Ulster County, - - - - -	1164
	Return of Officers and Privates in the First Regiment of Militia afoot, in Ulster County, - - - - -	1165
1,	Memorial of Dirck Leffertse to the Provincial Congress of New-York, - - - - -	1165
1, <sup>1</sup>	Letter from the Commissioners in Canada to the President of Congress: The Continental credit is so low in Canada, that not the most trifling service can be procured without instant pay in silver or gold; and it is believed we shall be driven out of the Province as soon as the King's Troops can arrive, - - - - -	1166
	Council of War at Head-Quarters, Montreal, April 30, - - - - -	1166
1,	Extract of a Letter from the Rev. John Carroll, associated with the American Commissioners to Canada: Journey of the Commissioners, and their reception at Montreal, - - - - -	1167
1,	Letter from Admiral Hopkins to the President of the Marine Committee: State of the Navy under his command; to keep the Fleet together with credit to himself and the officers belonging to it, he should have the power to dismiss such as are remiss in the performance of their duty, - - - - -	1168
1,	Letter from Admiral Hopkins to General Washington, - - - - -	1168
1,	Letter from Joseph Hawley to Elbridge Gerry: The Tories dread a declaration of Independence more than death, but console themselves with a belief that the Southern Colonies will not accede to it; there will be no abiding union without it, - - - - -	1168
1,	Committee of Correspondence chosen by the inhabitants of Boston, in Town-meeting, - - - - -	1169
1,	Letter from Eleazer Russell to Colonel Wentworth: His reasons for not signing the Association; he has for thirty years doubted the lawfulness of shedding human blood, - - - - -	1169
1,	Cosmopolitan to the Inhabitants of the American Colonies: Letter 10, - - - - -	1169
2,	Proclamation by the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Georgia, - - - - -	1138
2,	Letter from John Baxter to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	1173
2,	Letter from Charles Carroll, Barrister, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	1173
2,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee: They desire that the Schooner Ninety-Two may be no longer delayed, and have ordered her to be despatched immediately for the West-Indies, - - - - -	1173
2,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Smallwood: The case of Christian Castler comes under the Seventh Article of War, and cannot be punished with death, - - - - -	1173
2,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Commander of the Continental Troops in Delaware, - - - - -	1173
2,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: The Magazines are so low that it is not in his power, at this time, to return the Powder lent by Connecticut, - - - - -	1173
2,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel James Clinton, to secure the arms found among the baggage of the Officers who came prisoners from St. Johns, - - - - -	1174
2,	Letter from R. H. Harrison to General Ward: The Regiments on Dorchester Heights and Bunker Hill are to give every assistance in completing the fortifications for the defence of Boston, - - - - -	1174
2,	Letter from Colonel Learned to General Washington: Desires to leave the service, - - - - -	1174
2,	Letter from Francis Lewis to Roger Sherman, - - - - -	1174
2,	Letter from Isaac Sears to General Washington, respecting the price of Tea, and the probability that the holders will violate the resolve adopted by the Congress limiting the price of it, - - - - -	1175
2,	Letter from Captain Delaplace to the President of Congress, respecting his private property left at Ticonderoga, - - - - -	1175

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May 2,	Letter from Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., to Admiral Hopkins, - - - - -	1176
3,	Appointment of Commissioners for granting pardons to such of his Majesty's subjects now in Rebellion in the North-American Colonies as shall deserve the Royal mercy, - - - - -	1176
3,	Return of Captain Shockley's Company by the Committee for Worcester County, Maryland, - - - - -	1176
3,	Letter from Samuel Purviance, Jun., to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	1176
3,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Henry Yost: They are in great want of the Arms made under his contract, - - - - -	1176
3,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to John Unsold: He has failed in his contract to supply Arms, - - - - -	1177
3,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Ware, - - - - -	1177
3,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Frederick County Committee, with Prisoners from North-Carolina, who are to be confined in the publick Prison until the Tory-House is ready, - - - - -	1177
3,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Magruder, directing him to convey the Prisoners from Georgetown to Frederick, - - - - -	1177
3,	Letter from Colonel Hand to Andrew Allen, for Money and Clothing for the Rifle Regiment, - - - - -	1178
3,	Letter from the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety to the President of Congress, with the Petition of Oswell Eve, which is referred to the Congress, - - - - -	1178
3,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Wynkoop, directing him to repair to Albany and report to General Schuyler, - - - - -	1178
3,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: He has detached six Regiments, under General Sullivan, in addition to those under General Thompson, to reinforce the Army in Canada, - - - - -	1179
3,	Letter from Colonel Curtenius to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	1180
3,	Extract of a Letter from New-York: On the state of affairs there, - - - - -	1180
3,	Petition of Henry Dawkins to the New-York Congress: Declares he had no concern in counterfeiting the Continental Money, - - - - -	1181
3,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: They have not ten pounds of Lead in Albany, Ticonderoga, Crown-Point, or Fort George; the want of Money and the scarcity of Provisions and Forage, are sources of inexpressible distress; notwithstanding every exertion, the Army in Canada will suffer, - - - - -	1181
3,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Fourteen batteaus with Troops passed St. Johns on the 28th of April; two Regiments have reached Ticonderoga, and another crossed Lake George to-day, and a fourth is expected to-morrow, which will not be detained a moment, - - - - -	1182
3,	Letter from Philip Shearman to Commodore Hopkins, - - - - -	1183
3,	Letter from General Ward to Colonel Warren, enclosing a Letter from Richard Derby, - - - - -	1183
3,	Letter from General Ward to General Washington: Information was received yesterday from Captain Derby that a large Fleet is on the way from England, supposed to be bound for Boston, - - - - -	1183
3,	Letter from Thomas Cushing to General Washington: Requests a reinforcement of the detachment under General Ward's command, - - - - -	1184
3,	Letter from Thomas Cushing to the President of Congress, with the intelligence brought by Captain Lee, which the General Assembly thinks of too much consequence to the whole Continent, not to be forwarded by express, - - - - -	1184
3,	Letter from Thomas Cushing to the Governments of Connecticut, Rhode-Island, and New-Hampshire, transmitting the intelligence of the expected arrival of a British Fleet at Boston, and requesting them to hold a body of Militia in readiness, - - - - -	1185
3,	Letter from the Massachusetts Council to the Indian Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribe, - - - - -	1304

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May 3,	Letter from Lord George Germaine to General Howe: Every effort has been used to send him such a force and supplies as would secure the possession of Canada and reduce the Southern Colonies to obedience in the course of the summer; the latest intelligence from New-York is sent him because it points out the particulars of the defence the enemy are preparing to make, and may, in that respect, be of use, - - - - -
	1186
4,	Letter from General Lee to General Washington: Will set out for Carolina in a few days; the Troops much in want of Arms, Medicines, and Blankets; indeed some Battalions are wanted, - - - - -
	1187
4,	Letter from the Virginia Committee of Safety to the President of Congress: They will not fail to strain every nerve for defeating the cruel attempts of a despotick and unrelenting Administration, - - - - -
	1187
4,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Sim, requesting him to take charge of the Prisoners from North-Carolina, destined for Pennsylvania, - - - - -
	1188
4,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to George Woolsey, respecting a shipment to the foreign West-Indies, on account of the Province, - - - - -
	1188
4,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler: Desires to be informed if Continental Commissions were offered to Colonel Waterbury and Colonel Easton, - - - - -
	1188
4,	Letter from the President of Congress to the New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -
	1188
4,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: After considering the objections to the promotion of Major Ogden, Congress has confirmed the appointment, - - - - -
	1189
4,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Livingston: Directs him to repair to the Highlands, and take the command of the Forts, if no superior officer is there, - - - - -
	1189
4,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Colonel Nicoll: The General has learned with much concern that the men are so deficient in Arms; he has taken every method in his power to obtain a supply, but without effect, - - - - -
	1189
4,	Letter from William Palfrey to the President of Congress: He has entered upon the duties of Paymaster-General, and desires instructions for the management of his Department, - - - - -
	1190
4,	Petition of William Duer to the New-York Congress, claiming his seat as a Delegate from Charlotte County, to which he was regularly chosen, by a large majority of the Freeholders and Freemen, who have all signed the General Association, and are unfeignedly attached to the cause of American liberty, - - - - -
	1190
4,	Letter from Colonel George Clinton to Richard Van Wyck, directing him to secure the Arms found with the Baggage of the Officers taken prisoners at St. Johns, - - - - -
	1192
4,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: To-morrow there will be sufficient batteaus to carry the remainder of General Thompson's Brigade to Canada, - - - - -
	1192
4,	Letter from General Schuyler to the Committee of Albany, asking their assistance in forwarding General Sullivan's Brigade, now on the way from New-York, - - - - -
	1192
4,	Letter from General Ward to General Washington, with an account of what has been done towards fortifying the Harbour of Boston. The Congress has accepted his resignation, and he desires to be relieved, - - - - -
	1193
	Return of the Division of the Continental Army commanded by General Ward, - - - - -
	1193
5,	Proclamation by General Clinton, Commander of his Majesty's Forces in the Southern Provinces of North-America: Offers pardon to all the Rebels who shall lay down their arms, except Cornelius Harnett and Robert Howe, - - - - -
	1193
5,	Letter from Colonel Magruder to the Maryland Council of Safety: Has sent a Guard for the Prisoners at Georgetown, from North-Carolina, - - - - -
	1195

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May 5,	Letter from Gerard Hopkins to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -
	1195
5,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - -
	1195
	Return of Regiments on command going to Canada, April 28th, - - - - -
	1197
	General Return of the Army at New-York, May 5th, - - - - -
	1197
	Return of the Artillery, commanded by Colonel Knox, - - - - -
	1199
	Court-Martial on Lieutenant Grover, - - - - -
	1199
	Lieutenant Grover's Defence, - - - - -
	1200
5,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, representing the condition of the Troops for the want of Arms, which justice to his own character requires they should know, - - - - -
	1201
	Return of the Garrison at Fort Constitution, - - - - -
	1202
	Return of the Garrison at Fort Montgomery, - - - - -
	1202
	General Orders, May 1 to May 5, - - - - -
	1202
5,	Letter from Colonel Chambers to General Washington; with a prisoner, taken coming from the Asia man-of-war, - - - - -
	1204
5,	Letter from Colonel George Clinton to General Washington, respecting the Arms said to be concealed in the baggage of the British Prisoners, - - - - -
	1204
6,	Presentments of the Grand Jury at Georgetown, South-Carolina, - - - - -
	1205
6,	Assembly of Virginia dissolved, - - - - -
	1206
6,	Instructions of the Freeholders of Buckingham County, Virginia, to their Delegates in Convention: They are, as far as their voices will contribute, to cause a total and final separation from Great Britain, to take place as soon as possible, - - - - -
	1206
6,	Letter from Charles MacIver to Robert Townshend Hooe, soliciting the aid of the Convention in carrying out his plans of emigration, - - - - -
	1209
6,	Letter from Robert Pottens to Maryland Council of Safety, asking for any Commission they may think he deserves, - - - - -
	1210
6,	Letter from Baltimore Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: The Boom is now laid, and the Vessels sunk at Whetstone may be removed, - - - - -
	1210
6,	Letter from George Woolsey to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -
	1210
6,	Letter from the Baltimore Committee to the Maryland Council of Safety, enclosing a list of the Militia Companies formed in the County, which they request may form one Battalion, - - - - -
	1211
6,	Letter from Preston Bowdoin to General Washington: Claiming a Vessel taken by the Lee, privateer, - - - - -
	1211
6,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress, - - - - -
	1212
6,	Letter from General Washington to New-York Committee of Safety, referring for their examination two Prisoners, taken on suspicion of carrying on a correspondence with the King's Ships, - - - - -
	1488
6,	Letter from Colonel McDougall to General Washington: The New-York Battalions claim to be placed on the same footing with the other Continental Troops, - - - - -
	1212
6,	Letter from Colonel Ritzema to the New-York Committee of Safety: For want of pay many of the men are disorderly, - - - - -
	1212
6,	Return of Prisoners in Jail at New-York, - - - - -
	1213
6,	Letter from Colonel Swartwout to Colonel George Clinton: The Arms brought by Ensign Campbell, a British Officer, have been secured, - - - - -
	1213
6,	Letter from Philip Van Rensselaer to General Washington, - - - - -
	1213
6,	Letter from General Thompson to General Washington: Has been detained since the 4th at Fort George; expects in ten days to be in or near Quebec, - - - - -
	1213
6,	Letter from the Commissioners in Canada to the President of Congress: If hard money cannot be forwarded with despatch to Canada, it is better to withdraw the Army and fortify the passes on the Lakes to protect the Frontiers, - - - - -
	1214

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May 6,	Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: The Assembly has passed an act discharging the inhabitants of Rhode-Island from their allegiance to the King of Great Britain; and have given such instructions to their Delegates as will authorize them to vote for Independence, - - -	1214
	Act of the Assembly of Rhode-Island repealing an act entitled "An act for the more effectual securing to his Majesty the allegiance of his Majesty's subjects in this his Colony and Dominion of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations," &c., - - -	1215
6,	Letter from Governour Cooke to Thomas Cushing: The act repealing the act of allegiance, passed the Upper House unanimously, and the Lower House by a vast majority, - - -	1217
6,	Letter from Adam Babcock to General Washington: Requests his Vessel may cruise in company with one fitted out by order of General Washington, - - -	1217
6,	Letter from General Ward to James Warren: Informs him of the reports he has heard that the enemy mean to attack Boston, - - -	1218
6,	Letter from James Warren to Jedediah Preble: Complaints of the Penobscot Indians, - - -	1218
6,	Letter from Colonel Gilman to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: They are neglected with regard to a Chaplain; the men are badly supplied with Arms; and the Troops are mutinous, - - -	1218
6,	Letter from General Lee to Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, President of the Maryland Council of Safety: His reasons for ordering the arrest of Governour Eden, - - -	1222
7,	Extract of a Letter from Captain Dempster, of the Transport Blue-Mountain Valley, giving an account of his capture by the Americans, - - -	1219
7,	Letter from General Armstrong to the President of Congress: State of affairs in South-Carolina and Georgia, - - -	1219
7,	Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: Five of the British Transports with Troops are at Cape-Fear; there are but five thousand Regulars for the defence of the country, of these but three are armed, and to arm them they have been compelled to disarm the Minute-men, - - -	1220
7,	Letter from Joseph Turner, Treasurer for Charles County, to Maryland Council of Safety, for supplies for Captain Beall's Company, - - -	1223
7,	Letter from the Baltimore Committee to the Maryland Council of Safety: Complaint against Alexander Magee as an enemy to the country, - - -	1223
	Statement by William Buchanan, of the sentiments, opinions, and assertions of Alexander Magee, - - -	1224
7,	Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to the Baltimore Committee, respecting the salvage on Mr. Hudson's ship, - - -	1224
7,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, enclosing a Resolution respecting the Commissioners expected from England, - - -	1227
7,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Massachusetts Council: All the Cannon left in the Colony of Massachusetts-Bay by the British, presented to the Colony by Congress, - - -	1228
7,	Letter from James Duane to the Assembly of Massachusetts, requesting a statement of the Accounts of that Colony with the Continent may be transmitted for settlement at the Treasury, - - -	1228
7,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Asks their direction about sending Detachments to Boston; his whole Army is but inconsiderable, and no small part of these are without arms, - - -	1228
7,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel McDougall: He had nothing to do with the four New-York Regiments; they were in a distinct District, - - -	1229
7,	Letter from Whitehead Hicks to John McKesson: Wishes to know if the order about persons who have moved out of Town applies to him, - - -	1229

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May 7,	Letter from Alexander Moncrieff to the New-York Congress: Is under the necessity of resigning his office, - - -	1229
7,	Letter from John McKesson to the absent Members of the New-York Congress, requesting their immediate attendance, - - -	1229
7,	Letter from Joseph Blanchard to the New-York Committee of Safety, denying the truth of the charges against him, and professing friendship to the American cause, - - -	1229
7,	Letter from Colonel Nicoll to General Washington: He has given direction to receive no more Tory Prisoners at Fort Montgomery or Fort Constitution, as the Garrison is so weak; and he doubts, as they are Prisoners, whether they should be put to hard labour, - - -	1231
7,	Letter from Francis Abbot to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - -	1231
7,	Extract of a Letter from General Howe to Lord George Germaine: Present condition of his Troops; he will embark for New-York as early as possible. He gives, as required, a more explicit account of the destruction of Falmouth by Lieutenant Mowat; and also a report of Colonel Grant's expedition to Georgia, - - -	1231
8,	Letter from Thomas Ewing to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	1233
8,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Hindman, - - -	1234
8,	Letter from Colonel Easton to the President of Congress: He is imprisoned for debt, and has no prospect of a release; asks the interposition of Congress, that he may join his Regiment, - - -	1234
8,	Advertisement for the arrest of Moses Kirkland, - - -	1235
8,	Letter from Abraham Livingston to the President of Congress: Is willing to resign his contract, if Congress think it expedient, - - -	1236
8,	Letter from Eve Provost to the New-York Congress: Desires the release of her son, who is a prisoner on board the Asia, - - -	1236
8,	Return of Colonel Malcolm's Regiment, - - -	1236
8,	Letter from the Commissioners in Canada to the President of Congress: Without a speedy supply of hard money the cause of America in Canada will be in a hopeless condition, - - -	1237
8,	Letter from Charles Miller to Joseph Trumbull: The British Fleet and Army is expected to return to Boston with double force, - - -	1238
8,	Letter from Jeremiah Wadsworth to John Brown, Chairman of the Committee in Boston, - - -	1238

## PENNSYLVANIA COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

May 2,	Provincial Rifles furnished to Colonel Miles, Guard-boats to be fitted out to cruise in Cape May Channel, for the protection of the Trade of the Province, - - -	1225
3,	Pay, &c., of the Pilot to be employed on board the Provincial Ship, - - -	1225
6,	Commanding Officer at Fort-Island ordered to prepare for immediate action, - - -	1226
	Officers and men of the Armed Boats directed to repair immediately to their stations on Fort-Island, - - -	1226
	Captain Hazlewood directed to send to Fort-Island the Fire-Vessel and Chains for the Fire Rafts, - - -	1226
7,	The thirteen Armed Boats ordered down the river, two Ships-of-War having been in sight of Port-Penn, - - -	1226
	Captain Wickes ordered by the Secret Committee of Congress to supply the Boats as many volunteers as may offer, - - -	1226
	One thousand Pikes and two hundred Pitching-Axes ordered to be made, - - -	1226
	All persons having Lead, such as window-weights, clock-weights, &c., requested to deliver it up for the use of the publick, - - -	1227
	Robert Hardie appointed Captain of one tier of Fire Rafts, - - -	1227
	The several Battalions of Associators requested to parade to examine their arms and accoutrements, and see that everything is in order for action, - - -	1227

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## MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Mar. 13,	Committee on a Letter from Stephen Moylan,	1239
14,	Committee on transmitting Books and Letters to Philadelphia, and obtaining an account of the Powder lent to the Continental Army,	1239
	Committee to revise the Act for fixing out Armed Vessels,	1239
	Appointment of sundry Officers,	1239
15,	Treasurer authorized to exchange Continental Bills for hard money for the Canadian expedition,	1240
16,	Committee to prepare a Letter to their Delegates in Congress, requesting them to use their influence with the Congress that forces may be left within the Colony for its defence,	1240
	Petition of James Holmes,	1240
	Payments for losses and services, ordered,	1241
	Message to the House of Representatives,	1241
	Payments for losses at the battle of Bunker's Hill,	1242
18,	Officers appointed,	1242
	Selectmen of Boston required to furnish a list of the names of all who assisted the enemy when the Town was in possession of the British Troops,	1243
19,	Act to encourage the fixing out of Armed Vessels to defend the sea-coast of America, repealed,	1243
21,	Committee to take into immediate consideration the best measures to prevent the spreading of the Small-Pox,	1245
22,	Report of Committee appointed to confer with General Washington on the subject of the removal of any or all the Continental Troops now in the Colony,	1246
23,	Petition of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Bristol,	1247
	Payment for losses in the battle of Bunker's Hill,	1248
	Message to the House of Representatives respecting the fitting for sea the Sloop Machias Liberty and the Schooner Diligent,	1248
25,	Committee to wait on General Washington to request that, in the exposed state of the Colony, he will continue there six Regiments of the Continental Troops for its defence,	1249
	Samuel Tufts, of Newburyport, appointed to receive the Saltpetre made within the Colony,	1249
	Committee to take an account of the Estates of the Mandamus Counsellors, and other avowed enemies of their country, who have lately left Boston,	1249
	Petition of Abijah Burbank for a license to erect a Powder-Mill,	1249
	Commissary-General directed to apply to General Washington for his advice relative to removing the property of the Colony from Castle-Island,	1250
26,	Committee on the Petition of Dr. Cooper, a sufferer through the infamous violence and robbery of the British Troops lately driven from Boston,	1250
27,	Committee on the Petition of Richard Derby, Jun., praying for liberty to send three Vessels to the West-Indies,	1250
	Address to General Washington,	1251
28,	Petition of Walter Spooner, of Dartmouth, for Cannon for the defence of that Harbour,	1251
	Committee on a Letter from R. H. Harrison,	1252
	Committee to lay the account of Powder supplied the Army near Boston, since the 10th of June last, before General Washington,	1252
29,	Richard Derby permitted to send three Vessels to the foreign West-Indies,	1252
	Captain William Wood with his crew permitted to return to England,	1253
	Message to the House of Representatives,	1254
	Payment ordered for men on Captain Stewart's Roll, on the expedition to Ticonderoga and Crown-Point,	1254
Apr. 1,	Committee to consider and report what is proper to be done with those persons in Boston who have appeared to be inimical to the United Colonies of America,	1255
	General Washington's Answer to an Address from the General Court, of the 27th ultimo,	1255

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	Payment ordered for losses at the battle of Bunker's Hill,	1256
	Military Officers appointed,	1256
	Payment ordered for fitting out the two Armed Vessels commanded by Captain Obrien,	1256
	Message to the House of Representatives respecting the Cannon left by the enemy on Castle-Island,	1257
	Suits against Officers and Soldiers of the Army, for any entry made by them in houses or lands in the Colony, prohibited,	1257
Apr. 2,	John Rich committed to prison for supplying the enemy when in Boston with Provisions,	1258
	Petition from the Committee of Correspondence for the County of Worcester,	1258
	Report of Committee appointed to inquire of Baron de Woedtke relative to the design the Captain in whose vessel he came, had of going into Boston,	1258
	Petition of Caleb Green for an exchange of some prisoners, whom Captain Wallace threatens to send to England,	1258
3,	Petition of Bartelemy Wassanis,	1259
	Act to prevent the forging of Bills of Publick Credit, passed,	1260
	Report of Committee on the passages there are for Ships to enter the Harbour of Boston, and the defences necessary for the protection of the Town,	1260
	Orders for securing the Estates of the Mandamus Counsellors and other absconders from Boston,	1261
4,	Committee on erecting a Monument to General Warren report that the place where his body was buried has been discovered, and recommend the removal and interment of the remains, so that hereafter the Monument may be erected to his memory,	1262
	Payment ordered for losses at the battle of Bunker's Hill,	1262
5,	Committee to give directions for the fortifying of Boston Harbour,	1262
	Memorial of Committee for building and equipping sundry Armed Vessels,	1263
	Committee to consider what is proper to be done with the effects of persons inimical to the Colonies, who may be imprisoned,	1263
	Order for the arrest of John Lovell, Jun., and others, of Boston, charged with assisting the enemies of the United Colonies,	1264
	Petition of the inhabitants of Boston, praying that proper defences may be erected for the protection of the Town,	1264
	Committee to erect a Powder-Mill in the Town of Sutton,	1265
6,	Act to amend the Act for encouraging the fitting out of Armed Vessels, passed,	1266
	Petition of Israel Stoddard and Woodbridge Little, of Pittsfield,	1266
	Committee to consider and report on General Washington's Instructions to General Ward,	1267
8,	Resolution to prevent fraudulent practices and impositions in procuring the premium for the manufacture of Saltpetre,	1268
9,	Committee on the Deposition of Dr. John Warren, who discovered Arsenick among the Medicines left by the British in Boston,	1269
	Report of Committee on the Fortifications necessary for the defence of Boston Harbour,	1269
	Transferring Vessels to the inhabitants of Nova-Scotia, to carry on the business of Fishing, prohibited,	1270
10,	Committee on a Letter from John Glover, respecting a number of Tories taken on board a Vessel from Boston,	1271
11,	Petition of Jacob Martin and Nathaniel Perley, of Ipswich,	1271
	Sheriff of Barnstable County directed to seize the Tea and British Goods lately arrived there,	1272
	Petition of William King, of Great Barrington,	1272
	Beating Orders to Officers for inlisting the Regiment to be raised to fortify the Town and Harbour of Boston,	1272
	Selectmen of the several Towns directed to give all possible aid to Colonel Knox in removing the Ordnance through the Colony, on the way to New-York,	1273



1776.	Eight Companies to be raised immediately for the defence of Boston, - - - - -	1273
	Committee to apply for pay for Wood and Hay furnished the Continental Army, - - - - -	1274
Apr. 12,	Form of Beating Orders for the Regiment for the defence of Boston, - - - - -	1274
	Pay of Officers and Seamen for the Vessels now building by the Colony, - - - - -	1275
	Officers, Seamen, and Marines, to have the proceeds of one-third of all captures, - - - - -	1275
	Petition of John Ashley and others, of Berkshire County, complaining of Rev. Thomas Allen, of Pittsfield, as unfriendly to the common cause, - - - - -	1275
	Cannon and Carriages directed to be removed immediately from Castle-Island, - - - - -	1276
	Old Ships to be purchased and sunk in the Channel for the more effectual security of Boston, - - - - -	1276
15,	Depositions, respecting the Medicines left in the Hospital used by the British Troops in Boston, ordered to be published, - - - - -	1277
16,	Twelve hundred Pounds to be applied to the purchase of Ammunition, Salt, Corn, &c., for supplying the inhabitants of the Eastern part of the County of Lincoln, - - - - -	1278
	Orders for the disposition of the Troops for the defence of Boston, - - - - -	1278
17,	Petition from a number of Indian proprietors of Gayhead, in Dukes County, - - - - -	1280
	Simeon Sampson appointed Captain of the Armed Brigantine building at Kingston, - - - - -	1281
	The Council desired by the House of Representatives to desist from making out any Commissions, civil or military, for the present, - - - - -	1281
18,	Committee to proceed to Pittsfield to inquire into the causes of complaint subsisting there, - - - - -	1281
	Committee on a Letter from General Ward, - - - - -	1281
	Jonathan Stickney, Jun., committed to the Jail at Ipswich for encouraging sedition and a spirit of disobedience to all lawful authority among the people, - - - - -	1282
	Guardians for the Gayhead Indians elected, - - - - -	1282
	Message to the House of Representatives, - - - - -	1283
19,	Instructions to the Committee appointed to fortify the Harbour of Boston, - - - - -	1283
	Committee to inquire into the importation of certain goods contrary to the Resolutions of the Continental Congress, - - - - -	1284
	Richard Weldon appointed Captain of the Armed Brigantine building at Dartmouth, - - - - -	1284
	Orders given for fortifying Noddle's Island, - - - - -	1284
20,	Report of Committee on the disposal of the warlike Stores lately imported into Dartmouth, - - - - -	1285
	Committee on a Letter from the President of Congress, - - - - -	1285
	Captain Fisk appointed to the command of the Armed Sloop building at Salisbury, - - - - -	1285
	Names of the five Armed Vessels now building in the Colony: Independence, Rising Empire, Tyrannicide, Republick, and Freedom, - - - - -	1285
	Message from the House of Representatives, representing the absurdity of issuing Commissions in the present style, - - - - -	1285
22,	Committee to prepare amendments to the Bill for fixing out Armed Vessels for the defence of America, - - - - -	1286
	Directions given for the more expeditiously making the Fortifications necessary for the defence of the Town and Port of Boston, - - - - -	1286
	Representation of Nathaniel Barber, - - - - -	1287
	Military Officers appointed, - - - - -	1287
23,	Further directions for the defence of Boston, - - - - -	1287
	Committees of every Town in the Colony directed to take possession of, and lease out the Estates of all persons who have joined the unnatural enemies of the United Colonies, - - - - -	1288
	Committees required to return to the General Court the names of all persons who have in any manner acted against, or opposed the rights or liberties of this country, - - - - -	1288
	Adjutants for sundry Regiments appointed, - - - - -	1289
	Sea-Coast men entitled to one-third of the net proceeds of vessels and cargoes taken by them, - - - - -	1290
1776.	Apr. 24, Encouragements offered for raising Hemp and Flax, - - - - -	1290
	Payments ordered for losses in the battle of Lexington, - - - - -	1291
	Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston authorized to employ an additional number of men, - - - - -	1292
	Memorial of the President and Fellows of Harvard College, - - - - -	1292
25,	Further powers given to the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of Boston, - - - - -	1294
	John Hill, an assistant to Crean Brush in his late unwarrantable and highhanded thefts and robberies, to be arrested wherever he may be found, - - - - -	1294
	Provision for the return of the Poor of Boston and Charlestown, - - - - -	1294
26,	Payment ordered for the losses of Colonel Parker, slain in the battle of Charlestown, - - - - -	1295
	Act passed for executing the Resolve of Congress recommending the disarming the enemies of the United Colonies, - - - - -	1295
	Petition of Eleazer French, who was wounded in the engagement on Bunker's Hill, - - - - -	1296
	Shares of Prize-money to the Officers, Seamen, and Marines, of the Armed Vessels of the Colony, - - - - -	1296
	Message to the House of Representatives, recommending the raising of another Regiment for the defence of Boston, - - - - -	1296
29,	Inhabitants of the Seaport Towns in the Colony, recommended to use their utmost endeavours to proceed in the manufacturing of Salt, - - - - -	1298
	Petition of John Stevens, confined in Prison as a Spy, - - - - -	1298
	Further regulations to prevent impositions in obtaining premiums for the manufacture of Saltpetre, - - - - -	1298
	Encouragement to Seamen to enter the Colony service, - - - - -	1299
	Uniform of the Officers in the Sea service to be green and white, - - - - -	1299
	Colours of the Colony Armed Vessels to be a white Flag, with a green Pine-tree, and an inscription, "Appeal to Heaven," - - - - -	1299
30,	John Hill to be examined by the Justices appointed to try Associators and abettors of the Ministerial Army, - - - - -	1299
	Committee to consider some plan of discipline for the Militia of the Colony, - - - - -	1300
	Field Officers for Boston Regiment appointed, - - - - -	1300
May 1,	Timothy Pickering's plan of Military Discipline to be hereafter used and practised in the Colony, - - - - -	1300
	Further authority given to the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of Boston, - - - - -	1300
	Committee to consider and report upon the practicability of cutting a navigable Canal through the Isthmus which separates Buzzard's Bay and Barnstable's Bay, - - - - -	1301
	Act passed for executing the Resolve of the American Congress for disarming such persons as are disaffected to the cause of America, - - - - -	1301
2,	Time for the Premiums for erecting Powder-Mills extended, - - - - -	1301
	Guards ordered to be stationed at some parts of the Sea-coast, near Boston, - - - - -	1302
3,	Encouragements for making Fire-Arms and Saltpetre in the Colony, - - - - -	1303
	Further powers given to the Committee for fortifying the Town and Harbour of Boston, - - - - -	1303
	Letter to the Indian Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribe, - - - - -	1304
4,	Further powers given to the Committee appointed to take possession of the Real and Personal Estates of the Mandamus Counsellors and others, - - - - -	1304
	Report of the Committee appointed to examine the Accounts of the Guardians of the several Indian Tribes in the Colony, - - - - -	1305
	Message to the House of Representatives respecting Prisoners, - - - - -	1305
	Further powers given to the Justices directed to bring before them persons resident in Boston, suspected of aiding the enemies of the United Colonies, - - - - -	1306

1776.

- May 6*, Payment ordered for losses at the battle of Charlestown, - - - - - 1307
- 7, Act passed for fixing out Armed Vessels to defend the Sea-coast of America, - - - - - 1307
- Appraisement of the Fire-Arms left by the British Troops in Boston, - - - - - 1308
- 8, Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston appointed a Committee of War, - - - - - 1309
- 9, Thomas Crane appointed to carry on the manufacturing of Gunpowder in the Colony Mill at Stoughton, - - - - - 1310
- Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston directed to prepare a number of Fire-Ships and Rafts to annoy the enemy's Ships, if they should again return to Boston Harbour, - - - - - 1311
- Committee to fit out two swift-sailing Vessels to cruise on the Coast of America, and give intelligence of the movements of the enemy, - - - - - 1311
- 10, The three Regiments raised by order of the General Court, placed under the direction of the Committee of War, - - - - - 1312
- Payment ordered for losses at the battles of Bunker's Hill, Lexington, and Charlestown, 1313
- Committee of War appointed and vested with all the powers of the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston, - - - - - 1313
- Payment ordered for losses sustained in the battle of Bunker's Hill, - - - - - 1314
- List of the Acts passed during the session, - - - - - 1315
- Assembly dissolved, - - - - - 1316

## NORTH-CAROLINA PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

- Apr. 4*, The Congress met at Halifax, - - - - - 1315
- List of the Members returned for the respective Counties and Towns, - - - - - 1315
- List of those who appeared, subscribed the Test, and took their seats, - - - - - 1316
- Samuel Johnston chosen President, and James Green, Jun., appointed Secretary, - - - - - 1316
- Freeholders of Halifax authorized to elect a Delegate in the place of Willie Jones, appointed by the Continental Congress Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Southern Department, - - - - - 1316
- 5, John Webb, elected in place of Willie Jones, took his seat, - - - - - 1317
- Committee to inquire into and report the quantity of Ammunition in the Province, - - - - - 1317
- General McDonald admitted to his parole on certain conditions, - - - - - 1317
- 6, Letter from Colonel Moore, enclosing general Field Return, and also a Return of the Tories' Property in his possession, - - - - - 1317
- 8, Committee to take into consideration the usurpations and violences attempted and committed by the King and Parliament of Great Britain against America, - - - - - 1318
- Committee on disposing of the Effects of Governour Martin within the Province, - - - - - 1318
- Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Insurgents, and other suspected persons, - - - - - 1318
- Other Members appear, subscribe the Test, and take their seats, - - - - - 1318
- Reverend Mr. Ford appointed Chaplain to the Congress, - - - - - 1318
- 9, The Congress in Committee of the Whole on the present state of the Province, and the expediency of employing a military force for its defence against foreign and domestick invaders, - - - - - 1319
- Two Battalions, of seven hundred and fifty privates each, ordered to be raised, - - - - - 1319
- Committee to form a proper Commission for Privateers, - - - - - 1319
- Committee for the better regulation of the Militia, - - - - - 1319
- Committee of Secrecy, Intelligence, and Observation, - - - - - 1319
- 10, Colonel James Moore and Colonel Robert Howe appointed Brigadier-Generals, - - - - - 1320
- Field-Officers of the First and Second Regiments appointed, - - - - - 1320
- 11, Colonel Allan McDonald admitted to his parole, 1320
- Committee on a Letter from the Committee of Carteret County, - - - - - 1321

1776.

- Apr. 12*, Report on the Petition of Joseph Wood for a remuneration for his losses, from the property of Governour Martin, - - - - - 1321
- Inlisting of Continental or Provincial regular Soldiers into the service of any Armed Vessel or Privateer highly improper, - - - - - 1322
- Report of the Committee on the usurpations and violences of the King and Parliament of Britain against America, - - - - - 1322
- Delegates in the Continental Congress authorized to concur with the other Delegates in declaring Independency, - - - - - 1322
- 13, Any Commissioner appointed by the King, who shall arrive in the Province, and cannot produce a Commission to treat with the Continental Congress, must leave the Province immediately, - - - - - 1323
- Additional Troops voted for the defence of the Province, - - - - - 1323
- Committee to prepare a temporary civil Constitution, - - - - - 1324
- 15, Committee on supplying the Province with Arms, Ammunition, and warlike Stores, - - - - - 1325
- Field-Officers of Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Regiments, appointed, - - - - - 1325
- 16, Company Officers of the four Regiments appointed, - - - - - 1325
- Committee of Secrecy, Intelligence, and Observation, authorized to enforce the attendance before them of all suspected persons, - - - - - 1326
- 17, Arrangement of Officers of the four Regiments, - - - - - 1327
- Committee to draw up Rules of Decorum to be observed in the Congress, - - - - - 1327
- Committee to consider the defence of the Sea-coast, - - - - - 1328
- 18, Resolution, binding every Member to Secrecy, signed by the Members of Congress, - - - - - 1328
- Committee to draw up Instructions for Recruiting Officers, - - - - - 1329
- 19, Commissioners appointed in the several Counties to procure and purchase Fire-Arms for the use of the Troops, - - - - - 1329
- Report on the defences of the Sea-coast, - - - - - 1330
- 20, Instructions for Recruiting Officers, - - - - - 1331
- 22, General and Field-Officers appointed for the Militia of the Province, - - - - - 1332
- Bills of Credit, for two hundred and fifty thousand Dollars, to be emitted, - - - - - 1334
- Committee to superintend the emission, - - - - - 1334
- 23, Petition of certain persons who are bound by conscience not to take up arms, praying relief: Rejected, - - - - - 1335
- 24, Persons appointed to secure the manufacture of Saltpetre, Gunpowder, and common Salt, Muskets and Cannon, - - - - - 1336
- 25, Court of Admiralty appointed to try the Tender-sloop Lilly and cargo, - - - - - 1339
- 26, The President empowered to borrow Moneys on the credit of the Province, - - - - - 1339
- Committee to consider General Moore's Letter respecting a requisition of the Militia, - - - - - 1340
- 27, All Recruits to be inlisted for the term of two years and six months, - - - - - 1340
- Declaration to be published, declaring the reasons for sending the Prisoners concerned in the late insurrection, to other Provinces, - - - - - 1340
- Committee of Secrecy, War, and Intelligence, to remove persons capable of influencing the late Insurgents to take arms against America, from their present neighbourhood, - - - - - 1340
- 29, Officers of the five Independent Companies to be raised in the Province, - - - - - 1342
- Declaration of the Congress respecting their treatment of the Prisoners taken among the Insurgents, - - - - - 1342
- 30, Report of Committee on salvage of an American vessel recaptured, - - - - - 1343
- Joseph Hughs, of Rowan County, permitted to reside in Mecklenburgh County, he giving security not to give assistance or counsel to the enemies of America, - - - - - 1344
- Committee to form a temporary form of Government, until the end of the next Congress, - - - - - 1345
- May 1*, Resolution of April 22, appointing six Brigadier-Generals, rescinded, - - - - - 1345
- Allen Jones appointed Vice President of the Congress, - - - - - 1345

1776.

William Hooper, Joseph Hewes, and John Penn, appointed Delegates to the Continental Congress, - - - - -	1346
Commissioners to take Inventories of the Estates of the Prisoners lately sent out of the Province, - - - - -	1346
Committee to regulate the Militia, - - - - -	1347
Committee to take an Inventory of the effects of the Tories in the possession of Colonel Long, - - - - -	1347
May 2, Troops ordered to march, properly armed, to join General Moore, at Wilmington, - - - - -	1347
Commissioners appointed to receive, procure, and purchase Fire-Arms, - - - - -	1347
Thanks of the Congress to General Howe, presented by the President, - - - - -	1347
General Howe's Answer, - - - - -	1348
3, Members of the Congress allowed ten Shillings per day for their attendance, and their ferriages and travelling, - - - - -	1348
John Daly appointed Captain and Commander of the Fort at Hanging-Point, on Neuse River, - - - - -	1348
Colonel Long requested to receive General Lee at the line of the Colony, and escort him to Halifax, - - - - -	1348
Fifteen hundred Privates of the Militia to be drafted immediately, and marched to Wilmington, on Cape Fear, for the defence of the Province, - - - - -	1348
Names of Prisoners, with the places of their destination, - - - - -	1349
4, Regulations for the Militia of the Province, - - - - -	1350
Six Brigadier-Generals appointed, - - - - -	1351
6, Committee to take possession of the Estate of Thomas Macknight, and of James Parker, - - - - -	1352
Committee to inquire what sum of money will be sufficient to carry on the Military establishment for one year, - - - - -	1352
Report of Committee on procuring and purifying Sulphur, considered and adopted, - - - - -	1352
Committee to procure twenty tons of Lead, - - - - -	1353
7, Bridges destroyed in the late expedition against the Tories to be rebuilt at the expense of the publick, - - - - -	1353
Committee to inquire into the ways and means to prevent the desertion of Slaves, - - - - -	1354
8, Report of Committee on the desertion of Slaves, considered and adopted, - - - - -	1355
Committee to bring in a Plan for the more convenient payment of the Militia, - - - - -	1356
Committee to examine the Proceedings of the late Provincial Council, - - - - -	1356
Committee to attend the Convention of Virginia, to procure their co-operation in the protection of the trade at Ocracocke, - - - - -	1357
Emission of one million of Dollars, in paper Bills of Credit, ordered, - - - - -	1357
10, Forty Shillings advanced to each of the Militia of Pasquotank, - - - - -	1358
11, Militia now to be drafted not to serve longer than three months from the date of their inlistment, - - - - -	1359
Committee to state the accounts of the Province with the United Colonies, for expenditures since the commencement of hostilities with Great Britain, - - - - -	1360
Temporary civil Constitution considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -	1361
Council of Safety for the Province to be appointed, - - - - -	1361
Powers and duties of the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1361
Provincial Council and District Committees of Safety dissolved, - - - - -	1362
Council of Safety chosen, - - - - -	1362
Regulations for the payment of the Militia, - - - - -	1362
13, Regulations respecting persons removing their property or absconding from the Colony, - - - - -	1363
Pay of the Officers and Seamen of the Vessels fitted out for the protection of the Trade of the Province, - - - - -	1363
Persons taking arms against America shall forfeit all their property within the Colony, - - - - -	1364
Appeals from the Council of Safety may be taken to the Congress, - - - - -	1365
Appeals allowed from Committees to the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1365

1776.

May 14, Next Congress to be held at Halifax, on the 10th of November, unless sooner ordered by the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1367
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## NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Mar. 18, Committee met pursuant to adjournment, - - - - -	1367
Elias Nixen, the Port-Master, permitted to take a number of articles on board the Ships-of-War and Governour Tryon's Ship, - - - - -	1367
Letter from the President of Congress: An attack upon New-York may be expected; every preparation should be made for its defence, - - - - -	1368
Letter from the Committee of Easthampton, enclosing a number of Letters taken from a Vessel driven on shore at Montauk, - - - - -	1369
Examination of the Prisoners, taken before the Committee, - - - - -	1370
On the Complaint of John De Lancey, that he had been ill-treated for not attending in his boat, on fatigue, all proceedings against him stayed, - - - - -	1371
Elias Brevoort appointed Captain in Colonel Lott's Regiment, in place of John Gregg, who is confined in the Guard-House for conduct inimical to his country, - - - - -	1375
Oliver Templeton permitted to go on board the Ship Phenix, - - - - -	1377
John Young ordered to be conveyed, under guard, to Philadelphia, - - - - -	1377
Letter to the Philadelphia Committee, respecting John Young, - - - - -	1377
Letter from Jacamiah Allen, informing the Committee of Safety that eighty-two of the Cannon near King's Bridge are cleared and unspiked, - - - - -	1377
Letter to Colonel Lunt, of Orange County, - - - - -	1378
Major Douglass requested to state, immediately, whether he will accept the appointment of Commodore on the Lakes, - - - - -	1378
19, John Griffiths permitted to go on board the Packet, on first being sworn that he will give no intelligence on board the Packet, or the Governour's Ship, or the Ships-of-War, - - - - -	1379
Application of Abraham Lott, for a change in the regulations for sending Supplies on board the British Ships-of-War, rejected, - - - - -	1380
John Murray permitted to send Bread on board the Ships-of-War, - - - - -	1380
Committee to examine all Letters designed to be sent on board the Packet, - - - - -	1380
Colonel Hyer's Regiment of Independent Companies taken into pay, as Minute-men, for two months, - - - - -	1381
Letter from Lord Stirling, with Returns of Cannon and Stores on hand, - - - - -	1382
The Returns, - - - - -	1383
Governour Tryon's Address to the Inhabitants, - - - - -	1385
20, John Clauston permitted to take thirty barrels of Flour to Dighton, in Massachusetts, - - - - -	1386
Abraham Lott permitted to go on board the Asia and Phenix, ships-of-war, to settle his Accounts with the Purser of each Ship, - - - - -	1386
Quantity and description of Artillery Stores to be supplied with the utmost despatch, - - - - -	1387
Agreement with Moses Ogden, of Newark, New-Jersey, for Grape-shot, - - - - -	1388
William Powell's request for permission to go on board Captain Parker's Ship, the Phenix, rejected, - - - - -	1388
Permission given to send thirty barrels of Flour to Berkley, up Taunton River, in Massachusetts, - - - - -	1389
Complaint of Samuel Loudon, that the Committee of Mechanicks had destroyed the whole impression of a Pamphlet he had printed in reply to "Common Sense," - - - - -	1389
One hundred and thirty barrels of Flour permitted to be shipped to Connecticut, on account of the Colony of Connecticut, - - - - -	1389
21, Supplies ordered for the Swallow Packet, - - - - -	1390
Abel Hetfield permitted to go on board the Asia man-of-war, - - - - -	1390
Nicholas Low permitted to send a cargo of Provisions to the West-Indies, - - - - -	1390

1776.

Commissions for the Fourth Regiment in Tryon County, to be delivered to the persons duly elected, by Mr. Moore, on his return from the Committee of Safety, - - -	1391
Letter received from John James Boyd, of Richmond County, who says that he is a steady and warm friend to his country, - - -	1391
Letter from the Delegates in Congress: They have procured the passage of a Resolution prohibiting any Military Officer from imposing upon, exacting, or requiring of any inhabitant of the Colonies, any Oath or Test, - - -	1391
Jonathan Carpenter permitted to take a cargo of Provisions and bar-Iron to Rhode-Island, for the use of that Colony, - - -	1394
Mar. 22, Jacobus Van Zandt and Isaac Sears permitted to export Produce for the Military Stores imported from Amsterdam, - - -	1394
Philip Livingston permitted to export Produce, pursuant to a permission of the Committee of Secrecy of the Continental Congress, - - -	1394
Mr. Deane, of Connecticut, permitted to load a Brigantine with Wheat and Flour, on Continental account, - - -	1394
Patrick Sinclair permitted to go to Britain on parole, - - -	1395
Letter from Colonel Nicoll, respecting the command in the Highlands, - - -	1395
23, The Port-Master permitted to take on board the Ship Dutchess of Gordon certain articles, for the use of Governour Tryon, - - -	1396
Letter from Major Douglass, accepting the command on the Lakes, - - -	1397
Letter to the Delegates in Congress, recommending Captain Wynkoop for the command on the Lakes, - - -	1397
25, Letter from the Committee of Easthampton: Twenty sail of square-rigged Vessels off Montauk, on the 22d, - - -	1398
Gunpowder and Lead sent for the inhabitants of Suffolk County, - - -	1398
General Woodhull authorized to make disposition of the Militia of his Brigade, on any sudden invasion, as he may think best, - - -	1399
The Commissary of Military Stores directed not to deliver out any Ammunition belonging to the Colony, without the order of the Congress, - - -	1399
Application from the Committee of Safety at Philadelphia, for permission to recruit Seamen for the Naval service of that Province, - - -	1399
Letter from James Duane, - - -	1399
Return required of the officers and men at the Fortifications erecting at Hell-Gate, - - -	1400
Sundry persons permitted to go on board Governour Tryon's Ship, and the Ships-of-War in the Harbour, - - -	1400
Permission given to load a Vessel with Provisions for Rhode-Island, - - -	1400
Leads ordered to be taken out of the window-cases of the City-Hall and the Exchange, for the use of the publick, - - -	1401
Armed Vessels, fitted out by the Colony, made subject to the Regulations of the Continental Congress, for the Navy of the United Colonies, - - -	1401
Letter from Colonel A. Hawkes Hay, requesting the Minute Regiment, and not a detachment from his, may be ordered to New-York, - - -	1401
Answer to Colonel Hay: Colonel Cooper will be directed to order down Minute-men, - - -	1402
Letter from the Committee for Dutchess County: The Companies cannot be filled in that County without an augmentation of pay, - - -	1402
Answer to the Committee: The pay cannot be increased, - - -	1402
Letter from John Barnes, respecting Commissions for Charlotte Precinct, in Dutchess County, - - -	1403
26, Committee to report a plan for disarming the Tories, - - -	1404
Letter to Colonel Nicoll: He has the command of all the Troops at the different Fortifications in the Highlands, - - -	1405
Letter to the Continental Congress on the subject of the contract for victualling the Troops, - - -	1406

1776.

Mar. 27, John McDonald directed to examine certain Lead Mines in Orange and Dutchess Counties, - - -	1408
Committees of the several Cities, Counties, Manors, Townships, Precincts, and Districts, recommended, forthwith, to cause to be disarmed all persons who are known to be disaffected to the cause of America, - - -	1410
28, Cornelius Humphrey appointed Colonel of the First Minute Regiment in Dutchess County, - - -	1411
Election of sundry Officers in Fredericksburgh, Dutchess County, - - -	1412
Application from the Committee for Suffolk County, for additional Troops, the east end of Long-Island being much exposed to the ravages of the Ministerial Army, - - -	1413
29, Letter from the Commissioners at the Fortifications in the Highlands, stating their difficulties in prosecuting the works, - - -	1414
30, Colonel Trumbull authorized to take possession of the Cellars of the Hospital, for storing Provisions for the Troops, - - -	1415
Passport for Gerard G. Beekman, a friend to the cause of American liberty, to go to Bristol, in Pennsylvania, - - -	1415
Sebastian Beauman appointed Captain of the Continental Company of Artillery to be raised in the Colony, - - -	1416
Letter to Commissioners in the Highlands, informing them that Colonel Nicoll's powers cannot be abridged, - - -	1416
Committee of Richmond County advised to remove the Stock from Staten-Island to New-Jersey, to save it from the expected depredations of the Ministerial Army and Navy, - - -	1417
Offer of the Committee of Safety to contract for five thousand stand of Arms, to be manufactured in the Colony, - - -	1418
Application from General Thompson for directions for securing the property in the houses of persons who have left the City, - - -	1418
Apr. 1, Return of Colonel Hasbrouck's Regiment, in Ulster County, - - -	1419
Resignation of Colonel Abraham Lent, - - -	1419
Letter from Governour Trumbull, respecting Cannon and Lead-Mines, - - -	1420
Letter from Henry Wisner, stating the progress made in the manufacture of Gunpowder, at his Mill, in Orange County, - - -	1421
Answer to Mr. Wisner: As fast as the Powder is cured it should be sent to Fort Constitution, - - -	1421
Prisoners from Albany, taken at St. Johns, sent to New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey, - - -	1422
Permission given to send Provisions to Barnstable, in Massachusetts, for the inhabitants of Nantucket, - - -	1422
Permission to export Flour to Connecticut, to be thence exported to some foreign Port, - - -	1422
Return by Captain William Jackson, of the men he has enlisted for the Continental service, in Ulster County, - - -	1423
Instructions to each County Committee where Troops are inlisting, - - -	1423
3, Hugh Wallace permitted to go on board his Majesty's Ships-of-War in the Harbour, - - -	1423
Supplies sent to the Governour's Ship and the Ships-of-War, - - -	1423
The Hospital directed to be prepared for Barracks for the Troops, - - -	1424
Captain Hamilton directed to place, and keep a proper guard of his Company, where the Records of the Colony are deposited, - - -	1424
Upper part of Henry Cuyler's Sugar-House to be taken for a Powder Magazine, - - -	1424
Provincial Congress of New-Jersey requested to send what supplies of Hay and Fuel they have, immediately; for all intercourse will probably soon be stopped, as the Ships-of-War in the Harbour are daily committing acts of piracy and depredation on the inhabitants, - - -	1424
Captain Jackson ordered to Fort Constitution, - - -	1425
Committee for the City authorized to permit the exportation of bar-Iron, whenever they think proper, - - -	1425
Letter to Colonel Nicoll: Supplies have been sent to the Posts in the Highlands, - - -	1425

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Apr. 3,	A Member sent to procure three or four guides, requested by General Heath for a particular purpose, - - - - - 1426
	Certificate granted, as a protection for the Brigantine Elizabeth, sailing on Continental account, - - - - - 1426
	Return by Captain Davis, of Suffolk County, and by Lieutenant Marvin, of Captain Griffin's Company, - - - - - 1426
	Supplies ordered for Albany and Tryon Counties, - - - - - 1426
	Albany Committee informed that they cannot expect any further supplies of Gunpowder for several months at the soonest, - - - - - 1427
	John Murray and Michael Conner permitted to go on board the Ship Dutchess of Gordon, - - - - - 1427
	The Companies raised in Suffolk County, for the Continental service, directed to remain there for the protection of the County, - - - - - 1428
	The Mayor of New-York permitted to go on board the Governour's Ship, and the Ships-of-War, - - - - - 1428
	Azor Betts and John Blackler discharged from Prison, on their respectively signing the Association, - - - - - 1428
4,	Conference of Colonel Mifflin, Quartermaster-General, with the Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1429
	City Committee requested to provide, without delay, Barracks for twelve thousand men, - - - - - 1429
	Continental Troops permitted to pass and re-pass the Rivers, without charge for ferriage, - - - - - 1430
	Price of Firewood established, - - - - - 1430
	The College in the City to be used as Barracks for the Troops, - - - - - 1430
	Return of an election of Officers for a Minute-Company, in Brooklyn, - - - - - 1431
	Rev. Samuel Auchmuty permitted to go to New-Jersey and return, - - - - - 1431
	Supplies furnished the Governour's Ship and the Ships-of-War in the Harbour, - - - - - 1431
5,	Letter from General Putnam, urging the completion of the Continental Regiments without delay, - - - - - 1432
11,	Little-Barn Island, belonging to Mr. Montresor, with the Buildings thereon, to be taken for a small-pox Hospital for the Army, - - - - - 1433
	Colonel Hand, with his Regiment of Riflemen, stationed at New-Utrecht, to guard the Shore of Long-Island, - - - - - 1433
	The Members of his Majesty's Council in the Colony permitted to go on board the Ship Dutchess of Gordon, - - - - - 1433
	Letter from Colonel Nicoll: His Regiment is not half full, and not one of them has any arms, - - - - - 1434
12,	Examination of Witnesses on charges against Peter Dubois, - - - - - 1436
	Mr. Dubois reprimanded, - - - - - 1437
	Committee of Richmond County requested to provide Quarters for Lord Stirling's Regiment, ordered to Staten-Island, - - - - - 1439
	Captains appointed for Colonel Ritzema's Regiment, - - - - - 1440
	Permission given Lord Drummond to go to the Island of Bermuda, - - - - - 1440
13,	Memorial of Samuel Loudon, - - - - - 1441
	Letter from President of Congress, enclosing Commissions and Instructions for Commanders of Vessels of War, - - - - - 1443
	Captain Wynkoop directed to enlist the number of Mariners required by General Schuyler, without delay, - - - - - 1446
	Return of Prisoners in Jail, at New-York, - - - - - 1445
17,	William Mercier appointed to fit out the Armed Sloop Montgomery, Mr. Rogers, Commander, - - - - - 1446
	On the complaint of General Washington of the great number of Taverns and Tippling-Houses in the City, tending to debauch the Soldiers, granting further Licenses prohibited, - - - - - 1446
	Application to General Washington to obtain a release of seven citizens detained on board the Ships Asia and Phenix, as prisoners, - - - - - 1447
	Letters from St. Eustatia relating the capture of two Vessels, by British Ships-of-War, - - - - - 1448
	Eleven hundred and fifty Pounds ordered to be paid for the Vessels, - - - - - 1448

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	Resolutions adopted for encouraging the manufacture of Saltpetre in the Colony, - - - - - 1448
	Examination of Edward Tylee; who informs of the frequent intercourse between the shore and the Vessels of War, - - - - - 1449
	Meeting of the Provincial Congress called to be held on the first of May, - - - - - 1450
	Bonds of James Smith, Captain of the Armed Sloop the General Schuyler, of Thomas Cregier, Commander of the Armed Schooner General Putnam, and of William Rogers, Commander of the Armed Sloop Montgomerie, - - - - - 1450
	Letter from twelve disaffected persons in Queen's County, called Tories, requesting to be excused from mustering, as they have been disarmed, - - - - - 1451
	Letter from General Washington, urging the necessity and propriety of putting a stop to any intercourse with the British Ships-of-War in the Harbour, - - - - - 1451
	Continental Delegates and the Deputies to the Provincial Congress, now in the City, summoned to attend the Committee to-morrow morning, to take General Washington's Letter into consideration, - - - - - 1452
Apr. 18,	The Gunsmiths in the City required to fit up all Guns for the publick service, when required by Colonel Curtenius, - - - - - 1452
	Subjects submitted for the consideration of the Committee, by General Washington, through General Gates, - - - - - 1452
	Inhabitants of the Colony prohibited from purchasing any article from a Continental Soldier, without a permission from his Officer, - - - - - 1453
	All intercourse whatsoever of the inhabitants with any Ship or Vessel in the service of the King of Great Britain, prohibited, upon pain of being treated as enemies to the rights and liberties of the North-American Colonies, - - - - - 1453
	Assurances given to General Washington that the Committee will co-operate with him in every measure which they may judge proper, - - - - - 1453
	Marine Committee of the Colony directed to sell the Sloop Hampden, now at Philadelphia, - - - - - 1454
	Letter from the Albany Committee: The Recruiting Officers find great difficulties for want of money, - - - - - 1454
	Commissary of the Colony Stores directed to deliver to Colonel Ritzema, for the use of his Regiment, all the Muskets and Firelocks in his custody, - - - - - 1454
19,	Francis Child, the Deputy Sheriff, referred to the General for directions respecting Derby Doyle, a prisoner, charged with giving aid to the Ministerial Army and Navy, - - - - - 1455
	Letter from the Committee for Goshen Precinct, in Orange County, respecting the Arms purchased for Captain Denton's Company, - - - - - 1455
	Letter to the Committee of Westchester County, requesting to use all means for the discovery of counterfeiters of the Provincial Money lately emitted, - - - - - 1456
	Instructions to Captain Rodgers of the Armed Sloop Montgomery, - - - - - 1456
	Resolutions for the encouragement of the culture of Hemp and Flax, the growth of Wool, and the erecting and establishing Manufactories in the Colony, - - - - - 1457
	Committee of Kingston, in Ulster County, requested to provide for Frederick Kleyn, Timothy Doughty, and Mordecai Lester, prisoners, provided they have not estates to provide for themselves, - - - - - 1458
	Letter to the Committee of Rhinebeck: Their conduct in apprehending persons whose conduct is inimical, is highly approved, - - - - - 1459
20,	Letter to the Committee of Orange, informing them that the drafts on the Treasury have been so great that it is become empty, - - - - - 1459
24,	Captain Wynkoop informed the Committee that he has enlisted the number of Seamen wanted for the Lakes, and is ready to proceed by the first opportunity, - - - - - 1460
	Sloop General Schuyler offered to General Washington on Continental account, at the expense of her purchase and outfit, - - - - - 1460



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Mr. Randall directed to inform the General that the Provost-Marshal cannot continue at the Jail with his Prisoners, - - -	1461
Application of Thomas Vernon for a release, - - -	1461
Letter to the County Committees, requesting them to exert themselves in disarming disaffected persons, - - -	1462
Apr. 25, Complaint of Alexander Moncrief against the Provost-Marshal of the Army, - - -	1463
Colonel McDougall required to make a return of his Regiment, - - -	1464
Letter to General Schuyler, informing him of their proceedings in regard to the Commanding Officer and Seamen for the Lakes, - - -	1464
Letter from the Committee of Safety of New-Jersey: They have just learned that Thomas Gibson, at Fishkill, and Robert Hambleton, of Westchester, have enlisted a number of men for the King's Ships at New-York, - - -	1464
Letter from Colonel Drake to John Morin Scott, - - -	1464
Letter from the Committee of King's District, in Albany County, - - -	1465
Copies of all the late Resolutions of the Continental Congress relative to the Fortifications in the Highlands, directed to be furnished to General Washington, - - -	1465
Affidavit of the Master, Crew, and Passengers of the Vessel procured to convey Lord Drummond and Doctor Peter Middleton to Bermuda, - - -	1466
Letter from General Washington, who desires to know in what manner and how soon two thousand five hundred Militia might be collected on any sudden emergency, - - -	1466
Letter from General Washington, who requests to be informed how many Regiments are raising in the Colony for Continental service, and what their state is as to men and arms, - - -	1467
Letter to General Washington, in answer to his two Letters, - - -	1467
Return transmitted with the Letter to General Washington, - - -	1469
Colonel McDougall directed to have brought to the City the Arms taken from disaffected persons, now in the custody of Alexander Hunt, of Rye, - - -	1469
26, Letter to the Committee of King's District, - - -	1470
Letter read from Governour Tryon to the Mayor of the City, informing him that the Commander of the King's Ships had burnt the Pilot-House near the Light-House, - - -	1470
Letter from Captain Steinrod, - - -	1471
Captain Steinrod promised a Commission, if, within fourteen days, he shall enlist a full and complete Company, - - -	1472
Letter from General Washington, - - -	1472
Report of Generals Sullivan, Greene, and Stirling, upon Signals to be given upon the approach of any number of Ships towards New-York, - - -	1473
Letter from the Committee of New-Brunswick, in New-Jersey, with the examination of Henry Smith, respecting the enlistment of men in New-York for the King's service, - - -	1473
Money advanced to the Companies for erecting Powder-Mills, - - -	1474
Letter from the Albany Committee, - - -	1474
List of Officers recruiting in the City and County of Albany for Colonel Wynkoop's Regiment, - - -	1475
Companies of Colonel Clinton's Regiment, - - -	1476
29, Letter to the Committee of Albany, - - -	1477
Letter to General Washington, - - -	1477
Letter to Delegates in Congress, - - -	1478
Letter from General Washington to the Committee of Safety, - - -	1479
30, Passport to Comfort Sands, a Member of the Provincial Congress, who is about to make a journey to and beyond Albany, - - -	1481
Letter from General Washington to the Committee of Safety, - - -	1481
May 1, Letter from John Jay, one of the Delegates in Continental Congress, respecting the Oath administered to the Passengers in the late Packet, by order of Governour Tryon, - - -	1482
Committee to consider and report on the Letter, - - -	1482

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Complaint by Francis Lewis, that he has been charged with fraud in the execution of a trust to which he is appointed by the Continental Congress, - - -	1482
May 2, Examination of witnesses on the complaint of Mr. Lewis, - - -	1483
Isaac Gidney and Joshua Gidney, of Westchester County, discharged from Prison on giving security that they will do no act inimical to the liberties of the United Colonies, - - -	1484
Application from the Committee of Richmond respecting the supply of Troops, - - -	1485
3, Dirck Wynkoop, of Ulster County, elected Chairman of the Committee, in place of Mr. Paulding, of Westchester, - - -	1485
Certificate to Captain Hunt, who is about to make a journey to South-Carolina, - - -	1486
Return from the Committee of Southold, of two Companies of Colonel Smith's Regiment, - - -	1486
Memorial of Dirck Leffertse, of the City of New-York, Merchant, of his expenses and losses from the Troops, - - -	1486
4, Examination of Henry Smith sent to the County Committees of Westchester and Dutchess, - - -	1487
Committee of Fishkill directed to use their utmost power to seize and take Thomas Gibson and Robert Hamilton, charged with instilling Troops for the King, - - -	1487
Committees of Dutchess and Ulster Counties directed to furnish Arms, out of those collected by disarming disaffected persons, for Colonel Clinton's Regiment, - - -	1487
6, Letter from General Washington, respecting Peter Puillon and Joseph Blanchard, arrested for carrying on a correspondence with persons on board the King's Ships, - - -	1488
Examination of Witnesses against Blanchard, - - -	1488
8, Examination of Thomas Mitchell, of Great Neck, in Queen's County, respecting the conduct of Thomas Wooley, of Cow-Neck, - - -	1490
Captain Sands, of Great-Neck, directed to arrest Thomas Wooley, - - -	1490
Case of Peter Puillon examined into; who is declared entirely innocent, - - -	1491
City Committee request a Magistrate may be appointed to administer an oath to such persons as they shall disarm, - - -	1491
Letter from Captain Varick, for articles required for the Lakes, - - -	1491
Colonel Curtenius directed to forward to Albany, by the first opportunity, the articles requested by Captain Varick, - - -	1492
NEW-YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.	
May 8, The Congress met, many Members having attended since the 1st instant, the day named in Circular Letters from the Committee of Safety, - - -	1492
The Treasury having been empty for three weeks past, Bills to the amount of one hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred Dollars, ordered to be numbered and signed, - - -	1493
Colonel Nicoll relieved from further service in the Highlands, Lieutenant-Colonel Livingston having been sent by General Washington to take the command of the Fortifications there, - - -	1493
9, Committee on the Petition of Joseph Wood, for himself and others, setting forth their loss by the seizure of a Vessel by Josiah Martin, late Governour of North-Carolina, - - -	1495
On the application of General Washington, Prisoners on parole to be sent to Goshen, in Orange County, - - -	1496
Committee on General Washington's Letter to the Committee of Safety on the subject of calling out the Militia on any emergency, - - -	1497
City Committee inform the Congress that John L. C. Rome has refused to take the oath that he has delivered up all his arms, and that others have followed his example, - - -	1497
10, Letter from Charles Friend, giving information that the Continental Money is counterfeited on Long-Island, - - -	1497
Examination of Charles Friend, - - -	1498

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Colonel Malcom ordered to arrest Henry Dawkins and others, suspected of counterfeiting,	1498
Return by the Committee of Newtown of Officers elected for that Township, - - -	1499
Committee to prepare an Amendment to the Militia law, so far as respects the disarmed Non-Associators, - - -	1499
Male inhabitants between sixteen and fifty years of age, who have withdrawn themselves from the City since the 1st of June last, required to return without delay, with their arms and accoutrements, - - -	1499
Directions for Captain Cregier, of the Armed Schooner General Putnam, - - -	1500
Examination of witnesses on the complaint against Thomas Wooley, - - -	1500
Wooley directed to be confined in the Jail of Queen's County, - - -	1502
May 13, Letter from General Washington: The pay of the Militia, and the sale of Tea, - - -	1503
Regulations respecting persons who are disarmed on account of their inimical principles, - - -	1504
Report of Committee on General Washington's Letter, on the subject of having the Militia in readiness in case of any sudden emergency,	1505

## BALTIMORE (MARYLAND) COMMITTEE.

Mar. 6, Letter from the Council of Safety, - - -	1507
Boat sent down to reconnoitre and bring intelligence of the Man-of-War, - - -	1507
Express sent by water and another by land to Elk, to hasten down the Powder and Arms belonging to the Province, - - -	1507
Publick Records of the County to be immediately packed in chests, in order for their removal to a place of safety, - - -	1508
7, Breastwork ordered to be thrown up immediately at the point below Jesse Hollingsworth's, - - -	1508
All the light vessels in the Harbour to be immediately carried down to Whetstone, to be sunk in the Channel to prevent the Vessels of War from coming up, - - -	1508
Information received that the Man-of-War has passed Annapolis, and is standing up the Bay, - - -	1508
8, Return of Arms taken from persons who have refused to enrol as Militia, - - -	1509
Committee to fit out the Schooner Resolution as a tender to the Ship Defence, on the present emergency, - - -	1509
9, Letter to Captain Nicholson: He must not risk an action with all the enemy's vessels; if they prepare to attack him, he must return, to be ready to protect the Town, - - -	1509
Express from North-Point, with information that the Otter, with her tenders and prizes, had left the River and stood down the Bay,	1510
10, Express from the Council of Safety, that the Otter was off Annapolis, and had sent a flag to the Governour, demanding Provisions, -	1510
11, Captain Nicholson ordered to disarm those in Back River Hundred, who shall refuse to enrol and associate, - - -	1510
Council of Safety requests a conference with the Committee on a matter of much importance, - - -	1510
12, Letter to the Delegates in Congress, requesting the Continental Troops in Cumberland and York Counties may be ordered to march to Baltimore on the requisition of the Committee, - - -	1511
Letter from Captain Nicholson, suggesting the immediate necessity of sinking the Vessels in the Channel at Whetstone-Point, - -	1511
Captain Phillips directed to attend immediately to the sinking of them, - - -	1511
Thanks to Captain Nicholson for his resolute defence of Baltimore Town, when invaded by piratical robbers, - - -	1511
13, Committee to value the Vessels to be sunk at Whetstone-Point, - - -	1512
14, Instructions to Nathaniel Smith and John Fulford, Captains of the two Companies of Artillery in the Province, - - -	1512

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Mar. 15, Committee informed by Robert Brown, who had been a prisoner on board the Otter, that Captain Squires said he would burn Baltimore, - - -	1512
List and value of twenty-one Vessels at Whetstone-Point, intended to be sunk there in the Narrows, - - -	1512
18, Return of sundry Arms seized from persons who had refused to enrol in Back River, Upper Hundred, by Captain Benjamin Nicholson, - - -	1513
David Stewart permitted to transport twenty-five chests of Tea to the head of Elk, -	1514
Captain Garritson directed to seize all the fire-arms belonging to non-enrollers of Back River, - - -	1514
22, Arms belonging to George Fitzhugh and Walter Dulany, seized by Captain Bosley, returned to the Committee, - - -	1514
25, Captain Cockey appointed to seize the Arms of the Non-Associators in Back River, Upper Hundred, and Captain Rutter those in Middlesex Hundred, - - -	1515
Apr. 3, Return by Captain Garritson of Arms seized by him from Non-Associators, - - -	1515
Returns of Companies for Baltimore County, certified to the Committee of Safety, -	1516
8, Alexander Lawson, a Non-Associator, permitted to open and retain possession of the publick Records, - - -	1516
14, Letter from the Virginia Convention, enclosing intercepted Letters to Governour Eden, -	1517
Letter to the President of Congress, with the intercepted Letters from Virginia, - -	1518
Committee to wait on the Council of Safety, respecting the advices from Virginia, -	1518
15, All Non-Associators and Non-Enrollers in Middle River, Lower, Soldiers' Delight, and Patapsco, Upper Hundreds, directed to be disarmed, - - -	1518
18, Letter from the President of Congress, requesting the apprehension of Alexander Ross, -	1519
Papers of Alexander Ross secured, - - -	1519
20, The Instructions to Captain Samuel Smith, for the arrest of Governour Eden, declared by Mr. Purviance to have been given by himself, without consulting any member of the Committee, - - -	1520
22, Statement in writing delivered by Mr. Purviance, - - -	1520
Conduct of Mr. Purviance disavowed by the Committee, who declare that at the same time they believe he was actuated by the best motives, - - -	1521
Mr. Purviance, Chairman, and Mr. Lux, Deputy Chairman of the Committee, ordered by the Council of Safety to attend the Council on Monday, the 22d instant, - - -	1522
The Committee agree they may attend, though the Council is not justified in issuing the order, - - -	1522
George Lux, Clerk of the Committee, required to attend the Council of Safety, with certain papers, - - -	1522
23, Letter to the Council of Safety, requesting payment to the persons who fitted out the Schooner Resolution, - - -	1522
May 6, Thomas Constable convicted of offences tending to disunite the good people of the Province in their opposition to the illegal measures of Great Britain, - - -	1524
Captains Bowen and Mercer appointed to disarm the Non-Associators and Non-Enrollers in Patapsco, Lower, and Back River, Lower, Hundreds, - - -	1524

## MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Jan. 18, Council met at Annapolis, - - -	1523
Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer chosen President, and Gabriel Duvall appointed Clerk, - -	1523
19, Registers and Clerks of the Provincial Court, and of Anne Arundel County, required to furnish a list of their Record Books, and to prepare for the removal of the Records, -	1524
21, Committee to prepare a Chart of the mouth of the Severn, - - -	1524

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Jan. 22,	Agreement with Captain Pitt and Captain Middleton, for procuring intelligence, - - - 1525
23,	Gunpowder and Lead sent to Kent and Talbot Counties, - - - 1526
	Charles County Committee required to send Gunpowder and Lead to St. Mary's, - - - 1526
29,	Council met at Baltimore, - - - 1526
	Committee of Baltimore requested to furnish a Chart of the Northeast Branch of Patapsco River, from Whetstone Point, - - - 1526
30,	Information from George Matthews, Cannon-Founder, in the neighbourhood of Baltimore Town, - - - 1527
31,	Letter to the Brigadier-Generals of the Province, requesting a return of the number of Muskets in each Brigade, - - - 1528
	Conference with Mr. Alcock and Mr. Massenbaugh, on the subject of Fortifications, - 1528
	Reports by Messrs. Keener, Messersmith, and Reddrick, of the number of Muskets they had made for the Province, - - - 1528
Feb. 1,	Committees of Observation for Frederick County requested to collect all the publick Arms in their respective Districts, - - - 1529
	Rations for the Marines in the service of the Province, - - - 1529
2,	Committees in the several Counties appointed to collect Gold and Silver for the operations in Canada, - - - 1529
3,	Agreement with the Baltimore Committee for fortifying the Town and obstructing the Channel of the River, - - - 1530
6,	Council met at Annapolis, - - - 1531
8,	Order for the removal of the Records, - - 1532
9,	Baltimore Committee requested to collect all the publick Arms in their County, - - - 1532
10,	Commissions issued to Officers in Dorchester County, - - - 1533
19,	Instructions to the Supervisors of the Saltpetre Works in the Province, - - - 1536
21,	The Treasurers directed to exchange the Bills of Credit of the Province for Gold and Silver coin, lodged with them, to comply with the resolution of Congress, - - - 1537
22,	Records of Anne Arundel County Court to be removed to-morrow, - - - 1538
28,	Petition of sundry inhabitants of Anne Arundel County, against issuing certain Commissions, - - - 1539
29,	Agreement with James Hutchings, for the importation of Salt, - - - 1539
Mar. 1,	Permit to Samuel Purviance, Jun., and others, to export Produce of the Province, agreeable to a Resolution of the Congress, - - 1540
2,	Agreement with Hugh Young, for the importation of Salt, - - - 1540
5,	Intelligence received of a Ship of War making up the Bay, - - - 1540
6,	Captain George Stricker's Company ordered to march immediately to their station at Annapolis, - - - 1541
	The Regular Forces at Annapolis to be armed as quick as possible, - - - 1541
7,	Commissions to sundry Officers issued, - 1541
	Alexander Ross permitted to pass to the Committee of Safety of Virginia, - - - 1542
	Mr. Carroll requested to go to Baltimore, to assist in the preparations there, - - - 1542
8,	Captain Pitt and Mr. Middleton requested to keep a good look-out in the Bay, near the mouth of the Severn, - - - 1542
9,	Colonel Weems directed to march two of his Companies into the City of Annapolis, and to station the rest of his Battalion, and all the Militia in his department, where the enemy is expected to land, - - - 1543
10,	Letter from Captain Squires, of the Otter, to the Governour, with his Answer, laid before the Council, - - - 1543
11,	General Chamberlaine and Colonel Beall directed to discharge their Militia, - - 1544
	Colonel Weems directed to repel any attempt that may be made by the Otter, at Fishing-Creek, - - - 1544
15,	Thanks of the Council to Captain Nicholson, of the Ship Defence, - - - 1545
16,	Thanks of the Council sent to the several Brigadier-Generals, - - - 1546

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Mar. 19,	Ten barrels of Gunpowder to be delivered to George Mason and John Dalton, for Virginia, - - - 1547
	Brigadier-Generals authorized to call out the Militia in cases of emergency, - - - 1547
20,	Proceedings of Anne Arundel Committee, on charges against Stephen Gartrill and James Morris, read and considered, - - - 1548
27,	Resolutions of Congress relative to the disarming Non-Associates, and persons disaffected to the cause of America, sent to the several Committees in each County of the Province, - - - 1552
	All the small Arms in Baltimore, belonging to the publick, ordered to Chestertown for the Companies on the Eastern-Shore of the Bay, 1552
Apr. 4,	Proceedings of the Committee for the Middle District of Frederick County, against Robert Gassaway, - - - 1554
	Robert Gassaway required to ask pardon at the head of Captain Smith's Company, and to pay all expenses attending his arrest, - 1555
5,	Pay of the Naval Officers in the service of the Province, - - - 1556
16,	Committee to wait on the Governour and desire a sight of his Letter of the 27th of August to Lord Dartmouth, - - - 1560
	Report of the Committee, - - - 1560
18,	Alexander Ross brought before the Council, - 1561
	Letter received from John Hancock, Esq., enclosing Resolutions of Congress respecting Governour Eden and Alexander Ross, - 1561
20,	Clerk of the Baltimore Committee required to attend the Council on Monday next, with the Proceedings of the Committee in consequence of the intercepted Letters to Governour Eden, - - - 1562
	Governour Eden's Parole, - - - 1562
	Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Baltimore Committee required to attend the Council on Monday next, - - - 1562
	Alexander Ross examined by the Council, - 1562
	Colonel Smallwood directed to take charge of Alexander Ross's Papers, - - - 1563
22,	Convention called, to meet at Annapolis, on the 7th of May, - - - 1563
23,	Alexander Ross again examined and remanded in custody, - - - 1564
	Colonel Smallwood ordered to arrest Samuel Purviance, Jun., Chairman, William Lux, Deputy Chairman, and George Lux, Clerk, of the Baltimore Committee, wherever they may be found in the Province, - - - 1564
24,	William Lux appeared before the Council and delivered an attested copy of the Proceedings of the Baltimore Committee, as ordered, 1564
	Samuel Purviance, Jun., attended, and was informed of the charge against him, - - 1564
	Instructions to Captain Smith, read, - - 1564
	Endorsement of Major Gist on the Instructions, - - - 1565
	Mr. Purviance examined, - - - 1565
	Captain Nicholson, Major Gist, and Captain Smith, ordered to attend the Council, - 1565
25,	Alexander Ross, with his Papers, and his examination, sent to the Congress, - - - 1565
	Mr. Purviance presented an explanation of some of his answers to the questions propounded to him yesterday, - - - 1565
26,	Captain Nicholson appeared before the Council, who heard what he had to allege as a justification or excuse for the orders he gave to his Lieutenant, - - - 1565
	Captain Nicholson informed that General Lee has no authority within the Province, and that Mr. Purviance exceeded his powers in giving him the instructions, - - - 1566
	Major Gist appeared, and was heard, - - 1566
	Captain Smith appeared, and presented a vindication of his conduct in writing, - - - 1566
	Commissions issued to Officers in Harford County, - - - 1566
	Samuel Purviance required to give bond for his appearance before the Convention on the 8th of May next, - - - 1566
May 8,	Captain Nicholson directed to raise the Vessels sunk at Whetstone-Point, the channel having been secured by a boom, - - - 1570

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May 14,	Commissions issued to Officers in Caroline, Harford, Queen Anne, Frederick, Somerset, Worcester, Talbot, and Dorchester, Counties, - - - - -	1571
22,	Brigs Fortune and Rogers, and Schooner Ninety, ordered to Annapolis, to receive from the Council of Safety Instructions and Sailing Orders, - - - - -	1575
23,	Jesse Hollingsworth and others, requested to raise, with all convenient speed, the Vessels sunk in the channel of Patapsco River, near Whetstone-Point, - - - - -	1576
24,	Commissions to sundry Officers issued, - - - - -	1577
25,	Council dissolved, - - - - -	1588

## MARYLAND CONVENTION.

May 8,	Convention met at Annapolis, - - - - -	1579
	List of the Members present, - - - - -	1579
	Charles Carroll (Barrister) chosen President, and Gabriel Duvall appointed Clerk, - - - - -	1579
	Resolve of Secrecy of last session renewed, - - - - -	1579
9,	Proceedings of the Council of Safety in consequence of the intercepted Letters to Governour Eden, read, - - - - -	1579
	Alexander Wickham, on the complaint of the Committee of Talbot County, committed to the custody of a Guard, - - - - -	1579
	Petition from Francis Baker, of Talbot County, - - - - -	1580
10,	Committee to examine the Papers laid before the Convention by the Council of Safety, relative to the conduct of Samuel Purviance, - - - - -	1580
	Petitions from the inhabitants of Frederick County, and from the Committee for Talbot County, - - - - -	1580
	Report of the Committee on the conduct of Samuel Purviance, - - - - -	1581
11,	Committee on the Petition of Joseph Wood, of Frederick County, - - - - -	1582
	Monday next appointed to consider the Letters of Governour Eden, - - - - -	1582
13,	Alexander Wickham discharged, being a person too insignificant for the further notice of the Convention, - - - - -	1582
	Committee to consider of the further means of defence necessary for the Province, - - - - -	1583
	Remonstrance of the Committee of the Lower District of Frederick County, referred to the next Convention, - - - - -	1583
14,	Yeas and Nays, if required by a County, to be taken upon every vote, - - - - -	1584
	Committee to receive all Proposals relative to the establishment of Manufactories, - - - - -	1584
	Intercepted Letters to Governour Eden, considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -	1584
15,	Oaths to the Government, on taking office, to be dispensed with during the unhappy differences with Great Britain, - - - - -	1584
	Intercepted Letters further considered, - - - - -	1585
16,	Committee to consider the further encouraging the making of Marine Salt, - - - - -	1585
	Committee on Powder-Mills and Saltpetre, - - - - -	1585
18,	Resolutions condemning the conduct of Samuel Purviance, Jun., adopted, - - - - -	1586
20,	Committee on the Resolution of the Congress the 15th instant, recommending to the respective Colonies the adoption of such government as shall best conduce to the happiness and safety of their constituents in particular, and America in general, - - - - -	1587
	Report of the Committee on the Resolution of Congress of the 15th instant, presented and read, - - - - -	1588
	Report considered and unanimously adopted, declaring it unnecessary that every kind of authority under the Crown should be suppressed in the Province, - - - - -	1589
	Delegates to the Continental Congress appointed, - - - - -	1589
	Instructions to the Delegates by the Convention of December repeated; the Province having in view a reunion with Great Britain on constitutional principles, - - - - -	1589
22,	Further Resolutions condemning the conduct of Samuel Purviance, - - - - -	1590
	Mr. Purviance reprimanded by the President in presence of the Convention, - - - - -	1591

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	Reverend John Eversfield discharged; as from his age and infirmities he cannot exert any dangerous influence, - - - - -	1591
	Publick Salt Works ordered to be erected, - - - - -	1591
	Agreement with Henry Hollingsworth for making Gun-Barrels, - - - - -	1591
	Agreement with Elisha Winters for making Muskets, - - - - -	1592
May 23,	Intercepted Letters to Governour Eden further considered, - - - - -	1593
	Report on the Memorial of Alexander McFaddon, of Georgetown, in Frederick County, - - - - -	1594
24,	Intercepted Letters to Governour Eden further considered in Committee of the Whole, - - - - -	1594
	Conduct of the Council of Safety on the subject of the intercepted Letters, approved, - - - - -	1594
	Correspondence of Governour Eden with the Administration declared not to have been with an unfriendly intent, or calculated to countenance any hostile measures against America, - - - - -	1594
	The Governour to be informed that the publick quiet requires that he leave the Province, - - - - -	1595
	Address to the Governour, requesting he will use his utmost endeavours to promote a reconciliation, upon terms honourable to both Great Britain and America, - - - - -	1595
	Committee to devise a proper establishment for a Court of Admiralty, - - - - -	1596
	Field-Officers for the County of Baltimore appointed, - - - - -	1597
25,	Committee to prepare a Passport for Governour Eden, - - - - -	1597
	Court of Admiralty established, - - - - -	1597
	William Hayward appointed Judge of the Court of Admiralty, - - - - -	1598
	Passport for Governour Eden reported, and agreed to, - - - - -	1598
	Prayers for the King in the Book of Common Prayer, to be omitted in all Churches and Chapels in the Province until our unhappy differences are ended, - - - - -	1598
	Further regulations respecting Powder-Mills and Saltpetre adopted, - - - - -	1599
	Report relative to the establishment of Manufactories in the Province adopted, - - - - -	1599
	Report of the Committee on the establishment of a Paper Manufactory adopted, - - - - -	1600
	Committees directed to forbear levying Fines on certain Non-Enrollers, until the end of the next Convention, - - - - -	1600
	Council of Safety elected, to continue until the end of the next session of the Convention, - - - - -	1602
	Committee to revise the Journal, - - - - -	1602
	Convention adjourned to the first Monday in August next, unless sooner called by the Council of Safety, - - - - -	1602

## CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY.

May 9,	General Assembly met at Hartford, - - - - -	1601
	List of the Representatives, - - - - -	1601
	Erastus Wolcott Speaker, and Titus Hosmer Clerk, - - - - -	1603
	Committee to count the votes for the Officers of the Colony, - - - - -	1603
	Jonathan Trumbull is declared Governour, and Matthew Griswold Lieutenant-Governour, - - - - -	1604
	Act for establishing Naval Officers in the Colony, - - - - -	1604
	Act for repealing the Act against High Treason, - - - - -	1604
	Act directing all Writs and Processes shall issue in the name of the Governour and Company of the Colony of Connecticut, instead of his Majesty's name, - - - - -	1605
	Act prescribing the forms of Oaths, - - - - -	1605
	Act altering the form of Proclamation in relation to Riots and Rioters, - - - - -	1605
	Act for further regulating the Militia, and for the encouragement of Military skill, for the better defence of the Colony, - - - - -	1606
	Acts in addition thereto, - - - - -	1607
	Act for more effectually carrying into execution the act relative to the making of Saltpetre and Gunpowder, - - - - -	1607

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Act for raising and equipping a body of Minutemen, to be held in readiness for the better defence of the Colony, - - - -	1609
Act for raising a Regiment of Troops within the Colony to march to Boston, or elsewhere, in the Continental service, - -	1611
Act for raising two Regiments of Troops within this Colony, for the special defence of the same, - - - - -	1612
Field-Officers for the three Regiments appointed, - - - - -	1613
Company Officers appointed, - - - - -	1613
Form of Inlistment, - - - - -	1614
Soldiers of the Continental Regiment, if unable to supply themselves with Arms, to be furnished by the Selectmen of the Towns, -	1615
Governour authorized to fill up any vacancy that shall happen in the three Regiments, -	1616
Sixty thousand Pounds, in Bills of Credit, ordered to be emitted, - - - - -	1616
Tax levied to pay the Bills issued by the Assembly, Continental Bills, or lawful Money, -	1616
Form of Commissions for the Chief Judge and Assistant Judges of the Superior Court, Judges of County Courts and Courts of Probate, and Officers of the Militia, - -	1617
Selectmen in the respective Towns required to return, before the 1st of September, a particular account of all persons, as well Negroes or Slaves for life as White persons, in their respective Towns, - - - - -	1619
Treasurer directed not to enforce the collection of Taxes due from persons abroad in the defence of the United Colonies, - - -	1619
Treasurer directed to take Continental Bills in payment of all dues to the Colony, - - -	1619
Act to prohibit the exportation of West-India produce out of the Colony before the first of November, next, - - - - -	1620
Oliver Ellsworth appointed to receive from General Schuyler the amount advanced by this Colony for the Continental Troops employed last year at Canada, - - - -	1620
Committee of Safety appointed, with the Governour, to order and direct the Militia and Navy of the Colony, - - - - -	1620
The Governour requested to transmit authenticated copies of the Petitions to the King, to the Continental Congress, - - - - -	1620
Committee of Safety requested to complete the Works at New-London, - - - - -	1621
Committee to purchase five thousand pair of yarn Stockings for the Army in Canada, -	1621
Further premium for good Gun-locks made in the Colony, - - - - -	1621
The Governour authorized to fill up commissions for private Ships-of-War and Letters of Marque and Reprisal, - - - - -	1621
Accounts for the support of Continental Prisoners to be forwarded to the Congress for payment, - - - - -	1622
Postmasters employed by the Assembly, directed to settle their Accounts, - - - -	1623
Acts and Resolves for encouraging the manufacture of Fire-Arms and Locks, revised, -	1623
Inhabitants of Saybrook permitted to build a Battery where the old Fort stood, in that Town, - - - - -	1624
Prosecutions ordered against such Soldiers as refused to march to New-York, on a late occasion, - - - - -	1624
Agreement with Thomas Bidwell, of Pennsylvania, for the manufacture of Sulphur in the Colony, - - - - -	1624
Daniel Hill, Peter Lyon, and Samuel Hawley, Officers in Colonel Silliman's Regiment, charged with refusing to march to New-York, to be brought before the Assembly, -	1625
Committee to obtain Specie for Bills, for the use of the Northern Army, - - - - -	1625
Appointment of the Committee revoked, - -	1626
The Treasurer directed to procure and forward eighteen hundred Pounds, in specie, for the Northern Army, - - - - -	1626
Arrest of Captain Hezekiah Brown, ordered, -	1627
Field Officers of the Twenty-Fifth, Twelfth, Eighteenth, and Fifteenth Regiments, appointed, - - - - -	1627

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Robert Fairchild and others, authorized to erect a Powder-Mill in Stratford, - - - -	1628
James Law, of Lebanon, wounded at the battle of Bunker's Hill, allowed fifty Pounds, -	1628
Persons of every rank and denomination, earnestly recommended to furnish themselves with arms, as a further defence against the increasing hostilities and efforts of our unnatural enemies, - - - - -	1629
Assembly adjourned by Proclamation, - - -	1630

## CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Mar. 1, Committee on a Letter and Petition from the Committee of Safety of New-Hampshire, -	1629
Committee on a Petition from the Inhabitants of Falmouth, - - - - -	1629
Committee on a Letter from J. Mease, - - -	1629
Accounts of Massachusetts against the Continent, transmitted by the General Assembly, referred for liquidation to the Committee of Claims, - - - - -	1629
General Lee appointed to the command of the Southern Department, - - - - -	1630
Six Brigadier-Generals chosen, - - - - -	1630
4, Committee on a Memorial from the Merchants of Montreal, - - - - -	1631
Secret Committee directed to send with all expedition, ten tons of Powder to Cambridge, -	1631
Three of the Canadian Prisoners, Officers, permitted to come to Philadelphia, - - - -	1631
Memorial of a number of inhabitants of Northumberland, ordered to be transmitted to the Assembly of Pennsylvania, - - - -	1632
6, Committee on Saltpetre, appointed on the 23d of February, directed to inquire in all the Colonies after virgin Lead, Lead Ore, and the best method of collecting, smelting, and refining it, - - - - -	1632
General Thomas, promoted to a Major-General, appointed to the command in Canada, -	1632
Secret Committee directed to send five tons of Powder to New-York, five to the Southern Department, one to New-Jersey, and one to Delaware; and to return the Powder borrowed of Maryland, New-York, Pennsylvania, and New-Jersey, - - - - -	1632
General Schuyler requested to remain at Albany until further orders, - - - - -	1633
Thomas Bullitt appointed Deputy Adjutant-General in the Southern Department, - - -	1633
7, One hundred thousand Dollars repaid to Connecticut, - - - - -	1633
Isaac Melchior required to attend the Congress for a contempt, - - - - -	1633
8, Field-Officers to the four New-York Battalions chosen, - - - - -	1634
Mr. Melchior appeared, asked pardon of the Congress, and was dismissed, - - - - -	1634
Commissioners to Canada, to inquire into the cause of the imprisonment of the Officers of Militia in that country, - - - - -	1634
Indians not to be employed in the Armies of the United Colonies, without the consent of their Tribes, nor then without the express approbation of Congress, - - - - -	1634
Philadelphia Committee desired to collect all the Gold and Silver Coin they can, for the service in Canada, - - - - -	1634
Committee on the best means of supplying the Army in Canada, - - - - -	1634
Committee on the losses sustained by Colonel Hazen, - - - - -	1635
9, Committee to consider the state of the Colonies in the Southern Department, - - -	1635
Names of the persons appointed to sign the Bills of Credit, - - - - -	1635
No Oath, by way of Test, to be required of any inhabitant of the Colonies, by any Military Officer, - - - - -	1636
11, Patrick Sinclair, Lieutenant-Governour of Michilimackinack, now a prisoner, permitted to return to Europe, - - - - -	1636
Committee to confer with General Lee on the defence of New-York, - - - - -	1636
12, Report on the losses sustained by Colonel Moses Hazen, - - - - -	1637



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Mar. 13,	Secret Committee directed to supply Maryland with Powder for the inhabitants of Cecil County, - - - - -	1637
	Committee on raising the necessary supplies to defray the expenses of the War, for the present year, over and above the emission of Bills of Credit, - - - - -	1637
	Marine Committee directed to purchase the Armed Vessel now in the River Delaware, - - - - -	1638
14,	Eight thousand men ordered for the defence of New-York, - - - - -	1638
	All persons disaffected to the cause of America, in the several Colonies, to be disarmed, - - - - -	1638
15,	Committee to request General Lee to repair immediately to the Southern Department, to take the command there, - - - - -	1639
	Militia of Connecticut and New-Jersey to be held in readiness, at the call of the Continental Commander at New-York, - - - - -	1639
16,	Committee on a Letter from Captain White Eyes, - - - - -	1639
	Resolutions adopted appointing the 17th of May to be observed throughout the Colonies as a day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer, - - - - -	1640
	Baron de Woedtke appointed a Brigadier-General, - - - - -	1640
18,	Field-Officers chosen for the First Virginia Battalion, - - - - -	1641
19,	Secret Committee directed to supply Captain Barry, of the Brig Lexington, with one ton of Powder, - - - - -	1641
	Private Armed Vessels, to cruise on the enemies of the United Colonies, authorized, - - - - -	1642
	Committee to draw up a Declaration respecting the capture of British Vessels, - - - - -	1643
20,	Instructions to the Commissioners appointed to go to Canada, - - - - -	1643
	Commission of the Commissioners, - - - - -	1645
	Committee to examine the Military abilities of Mr. Wrixon, - - - - -	1645
	New-Jersey Committee of Safety requested to remove the Prisoners from Trenton, - - - - -	1646
	Officers, prisoners, who shall refuse to sign the parole ordered by Congress, to be imprisoned, - - - - -	1646
21,	Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, and Committees of the several Colonies requested to promote the culture of Hemp, Flax, and Cotton, and the growth of Wool, - - - - -	1647
	Society for the improvement of Agriculture, Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, recommended to be established in every Colony, - - - - -	1647
22,	Commission granted to William Shippen as Captain of a Privateer, - - - - -	1647
23,	Declaration by the Congress of their reasons for authorizing reprisals on British Vessels, - - - - -	1649
	Committee to consider of the fortifying of Ports on the American Coast for the protection of Cruisers, and the reception of their Prizes, - - - - -	1650
	Commissioners to Canada empowered to raise Independent Companies, and to appoint the Officers, - - - - -	1650
	Sundry motions offered by the Members from Massachusetts-Bay, Maryland, and Virginia, referred to a Committee of the Whole, - - - - -	1651
25,	Thanks to General Washington, - - - - -	1651
	Committee to prepare a Device for a Medal for General Washington, - - - - -	1651
	Report of Committee on Southern Department, - - - - -	1651
	Two Battalions of South-Carolina, and three of Virginia, to be placed on Continental establishment, - - - - -	1651
	General Washington directed to detach four Battalions into Canada, - - - - -	1652
26,	Committee to superintend the Funeral of Mr. Ward, one of the Delegates from Rhode-Island, - - - - -	1652
	Two additional Continental Battalions authorized in North-Carolina, - - - - -	1652
28,	Marine Committee authorized to purchase and fit out another Vessel to join Captain Barry, - - - - -	1652
	Jeremiah Dugan appointed Major, to command a body of three hundred Rangers, - - - - -	1653
Apr. 1,	Treasury Office of Accounts established, - - - - -	1655
	Commission to Commanders of private Ships-of-War, - - - - -	1656

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Apr. 3,	Secret Committee authorized to fit out two Armed Cutters, - - - - -	1657
	Regulations for fitting out private Ships-of-War, - - - - -	1657
	Instructions to the Commanders of private Ships-of-War, - - - - -	1658
5,	Trade with all countries not subject to the King of Great Britain, authorized, - - - - -	1660
	Importation of Slaves into any of the United Colonies prohibited, - - - - -	1660
	Regulations concerning Trade to be enforced by the several Colonies, - - - - -	1660
	Committee on disposing of and using the Tea now in the Colonies appointed, - - - - -	1661
	Report on Letters from General Schuyler, - - - - -	1661
	Delegates of Virginia directed to write to their Convention for what Gold and Silver they can procure, - - - - -	1661
9,	John Gibson elected Auditor-General, - - - - -	1662
	Regulations respecting Prisoners of War, adopted, - - - - -	1662
10,	Regulations for Indian Affairs in the Middle Department, adopted, - - - - -	1663
	Treaty to be held with the Indians to the westward as soon as convenient, - - - - -	1663
	Disputes between Whites and Indians to be settled by arbitrators, - - - - -	1663
	George Morgan chosen Agent of Indian Affairs for the Middle Department, - - - - -	1664
	Speech to Captain White-Eyes, - - - - -	1664
11,	Secret Committee to supply Maryland one ton of Powder, - - - - -	1665
	Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania to provide Barracks for the Continental Troops in Philadelphia, - - - - -	1665
	Commanding Officer at New-York directed to discharge the Militia of New-York and Connecticut, - - - - -	1665
	Payment to Connecticut on account of their advances to the Continent, - - - - -	1666
	Committee to inquire into the truth of a report respecting Governour Tryon, - - - - -	1666
12,	Letter from William H. Drayton, - - - - -	1666
	Act of Parliament, prohibiting all Trade and Intercourse with the Colonies during the present rebellion, - - - - -	1666
	Elias Wrixon appointed Chief Engineer to the Army in Canada, - - - - -	1669
13,	Regulations for the sale and consumption of Tea adopted, - - - - -	1675
	Marine Committee empowered to build two Gallies, - - - - -	1677
	Report on the application of John Hughes, late Town Major of Montreal, - - - - -	1677
15,	Settlers at Wyoming and the Susquehannah River urged to cultivate peace and harmony, - - - - -	1678
16,	Council of Safety of Maryland requested to secure the person and papers of Governour Eden and of Alexander Ross, - - - - -	1679
	Stopping the Constitutional Post and opening the Mails prohibited, - - - - -	1680
17,	Marine Committee to recommend proper persons for Commission Officers for the Frigates now building, and to appoint the Warrant Officers, - - - - -	1681
	Appointment of Captains of Continental Vessels shall not establish rank, which is to be settled hereafter, - - - - -	1681
	William Manley and Isaac Cazneau, appointed Captains of the Frigates building in Massachusetts, - - - - -	1681
	Secret Committee appointed to arm abroad vessels employed on the Continental account, - - - - -	1681
18,	Committee on Indian Affairs to prepare Instructions to George Morgan, - - - - -	1681
	William Hallock, elected Captain of the Hornet, and Mr. Alexander Captain of the Wasp, - - - - -	1682
19,	Committee to ascertain the value of the several Gold and Silver Coins current in the Colonies, - - - - -	1682
	Letters to any General commanding in a separate Department free of postage, - - - - -	1682
	Instructions to George Morgan, Agent for Indian Affairs in the Middle Department, - - - - -	1682
	Report on General Schuyler's Letter of April 2, - - - - -	1684
23,	Resignations of Major-General Ward and Brigadier-General Frye accepted, - - - - -	1685

1776.	Agents for Prizes in the several Colonies, appointed, - - - - -	1685	1776.	Twenty of the heaviest Cannon taken by Commodore Hopkins, at New-Providence, to be delivered to the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	1698
	Report on Supplies for the Army, and the fulfilment of promises to the Indians, - - -	1686	May 8,	Committee on a Petition of Gideon Warren, and a Letter from Joseph Woodward, Chairman of the Committee of the New-Hampshire Grants, - - - - -	1698
	Commissioners to Canada desired to publish an Address to the people of Canada, - - -	1686		Committee on the Instructions of the Naval Committee to Commodore Hopkins, - - -	1698
	The Commissioners to cause justice to be done to the Canadians, - - - - -	1686		Committee to devise ways and means to retake Kirkland, escaped from Jail, - - - - -	1699
	Commanding Officer in Canada directed to be very attentive to Military discipline, - - -	1686		Whenever any Officer, bearing a Continental commission, departs from orders, an inquiry shall be made, - - - - -	1699
Apr. 24,	Credentials and Instructions of the Delegates from South-Carolina presented, - - - - -	1687	9,	Five millions of Dollars, in Bills of Credit, to be emitted, in part of the ten millions voted for the service of the year, - - - - -	1700
25,	Report on the charge that Governour Penn had invited the Indians to Philadelphia, - - -	1689		The Thirteen Colonies pledged for the redemption of the five millions, - - - - -	1700
26,	Secret Committee directed to pay to Connecticut, the Powder lent to General Washington, - - - - -	1689		Committee to consider the propriety of exchanging Seamen, - - - - -	1700
	Committee to consider the state of the Eastern Department, - - - - -	1690	10,	General Washington directed to open a road between Newbury, on Connecticut River, and Canada, by way of St. Johns, - - - - -	1700
	Report on the Petition of Colonel James Easton, - - - - -	1690		Commanding Officers of Departments and Posts to make monthly returns to the Commander-in-Chief, - - - - -	1701
27,	William Palfrey elected Paymaster-General, - - -	1691		Congress will exercise the power of promoting Officers in the Continental service according to their merit, - - - - -	1701
29,	Captain McGee permitted to go at large on giving his parole to the Committee of West-Augusta, - - - - -	1692		Assemblies and Conventions of the respective United Colonies recommended to adopt new Governments, - - - - -	1701
	Committee on Indian Affairs in the Middle Department instructed to prepare a plan of an expedition against Fort Detroit, - - - - -	1692		Report on the Letters of the 25th and 26th of April from General Washington, and the case of Alexander Ross, - - - - -	1701
	Governments of Massachusetts, New-Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode-Island, requested to collect as much hard money as possible for the Northern Army, - - - - -	1692		Report on the state of the Eastern Colonies, - - -	1702
30,	Standing Committee for Indian Affairs elected, - - -	1692		Committee of Secret Correspondence directed to lay their proceedings before Congress, withholding the names of the persons they have employed, - - - - -	1702
	Committees of Inspection are to cease regulating the prices of goods other than Green Tea, - - -	1693		Exchange of certain seamen authorized, - - -	1702
	Committee to inquire into an alleged counterfeiting of Continental Bills, - - - - -	1693		Reward offered for the apprehension of Moses Kirkland, - - - - -	1702
May 2,	Captain Wynkoop to take command on the Lakes, in case Major Douglass declines, - - -	1694		Alexander Ross discharged from confinement, - - -	1703
3,	Expense of an expedition against Fort Detroit reported, - - - - -	1695	11,	The two Rhode-Island Battalions to be taken into Continental pay, - - - - -	1703
6,	Instructions to General Washington, as to his conduct towards the Commissioners said to be coming from Great Britain to America, - - -	1696		Treaty to be held at Pittsburgh with the Indians in the Middle Department, on the 20th of July, - - - - -	1703
	Ten millions of Dollars to be raised for carrying on the War the current year, - - - - -	1696		John Harvey appointed a Commissioner for Indian Affairs in the Middle Department, - - -	1703
	Treaties to be held with the Indians in the different Departments as soon as practicable, - - -	1696		Resolutions of the Board of Officers of Philadelphia, and a Petition of the Committee of Privates, presented, - - - - -	1703
	Committee to devise ways and means for raising the ten millions of Dollars, - - - - -	1697			
7,	Sixth Continental Battalion to be raised in North-Carolina, - - - - -	1697			
	Secret Committee directed to procure and forward twelve Field-Pieces and three tons of Powder to North-Carolina, - - - - -	1697			
	Field-Officers of the six Continental Battalions in North-Carolina elected, - - - - -	1697			

New York April 18<sup>th</sup> 1776

Sir,

Permit me through you, to convey to the honorable Congress the sentiments of gratitude I feel for the high honor they have done me, in the public mark of approbation contain'd in your favour of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup>, which came to land last night. — I beg you to assure them, that, it will ever be my highest ambition to approve myself a faithful servant of the Public; and that, to be in any degree instrumental in procuring to my American Brethren a restitution of their just rights and Priviledges, will constitute my chief happiness. —

Agreeable to your request, I have communicated in General order to the Officers and Soldiers, under my command, the Thanks of Congress for  
their

their good behaviour in the Service  
and am happy in having such an  
opportunity of doing justice to their  
merit — They were indeed, at first  
“a band of undisciplined Husbandmen  
but it is (under God) to their bravery, &  
attention to their duty, that I am indebted  
for that success which has procured  
me the only reward I wish to receive  
— the affection, & esteem of my Countrymen

The Medal, intended to be presented to me by your Honorable Body, I shall carefully preserve as a memorial of their regard — I beg leave to return you Sir my warmest thanks for the polite manner in which you have been pleased to express their sentiments of my Conduct, and am with sincere esteem and respect. — Sir

Yours and their most Obed.  
& most Affectionate

G. Washington